**Study: Haldane Plan Would Raise Taxes 10.5 Percent**

*School board considering details of $35.7 million capital project*

By Joey Asher

To move ahead with the first phase of a $35.7 million plan to upgrade and expand the Haldane campus, district residents would have to approve a tax increase of 10.5 percent, according to a study shared with the school board at its meeting on Tuesday (Sept. 5).

That amounts to about $1,100 in new taxes for a Philipstown home valued at $600,000, according to an analysis done by Capital Markets Associates, a consulting firm hired by the district.

If the board decides to go ahead with the project, a referendum on whether to borrow the money to finance it would likely be included on the ballot in May with the annual budget and trustee vote.

Phase I of the master plan includes a range of projects, including a new wing at the high school that would include a student center, science and tech lab, and classroom. Combined with an addition for an existing (Continued on Page 5)

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**Beacon Could Rezone Fishkill Avenue Corridor**

*Healey dealerships depart, and changes expected*

By Jeff Simms

With four substantial parcels on Fishkill Avenue (Route 52) owned by Healey Brothers auto dealerships on the market, the Beacon City Council says it will consider rezoning a portion of the corridor to spur mixed-use development that could include affordable housing.

The council discussed the first draft of a rezoning proposal during its workshop on Tuesday (Sept. 5). A public hearing would be required before any council vote.

There are a number of elements at play in the corridor, which hugs Fishkill Creek as it winds from Beacon toward Hopewell Junction. The first is the four Healey properties. The largest, with a 20,000-square-foot retail building, is listed for $3.2 million. A second, with a 10,200-square-foot showroom, is $1.8 million, and two additional lots, each with buildings, are listed for $1.45 million and $450,000.

The Healey business was approaching its 40th year in Beacon; Bill Healey, the father of the brothers, owned a Chevy dealership in Goshen when he purchased Shaw (Continued on Page 7)
By Michael Turton

Matt Sherman, who lives in Cold Spring, is in his ninth season as coach of the men’s rugby team at West Point and last year led the Black Knights to a Division I-A national championship. As a player, he was a three-time All-American at the University of California and played for three seasons on the U.S. national team.

What did you like about rugby the first time you played?

When I was growing up in Piedmont, California, I joined to like it, and I survived and started scared out of my mind. But never heard of the sport; I was and forced us to play. I’d brothers “kidnapped” us school, and our older were coming home from I was 15, my friends and I basketball, baseball. When I was nervous. It was more about the environment than the I faced the Georgians in Tbilisi. In some places, — cow tongue. It was also hostile when we lost a close game. I do remember breakfast — cow tongue. It was also hostile when we faced the Georgians in ThBilisi. In some places, it was more about the environment than the team we were playing.

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: MATT SHERMAN

By Michael Turton

What was it like to play for the national team?

It was phenomenal. Being able to represent your country — and to play in a World Cup (in 2003) — is always special. I played rugby on every continent except Antarctica. Ireland was special; we played in the storied stadium on Lansdowne Road in Dublin. We played New Zealand’s famous Maori team. Playing Russia in northern Mongolia on the Trans-Siberian Railway was unique — and a very hostile environment. They wanted to beat us, for sure. I don’t remember the score, but we lost a close game. I do remember breakfast — cow tongue. It was also hostile when we faced the Georgians in Tbilisi. In some places, it was more about the environment than the team we were playing.

Rugby requires far less protective equipment than football. Is that more dangerous?

I think the number of injuries works out to be about the same. People argue that less equipment helps promote safer tackling because you’re not going to weaponize your body as much. You’re going to use techniques that protect you. Beginning 10 to 15 years ago, when awareness of concussions in football increased, a lot of football coaches borrowed those safer rugby techniques. You see more of that style in football now.

What do you like about going back to school?

I didn’t hate it, but I was nervous.

What did you like going back to school?

I loved it. Now I’m a teacher!

As a kid, did you like going back to school?

I loved the frenzy of it all.

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All tickets available at www.philipstowndepottheatre.org
Bear Mountain Park Reopens
Most repairs completed after July flooding
The Trailside Museums and Zoo, Bear Mountain Inn and Perkins Memorial Drive at Bear Mountain State Park reopened Sept. 2 following repairs to damage caused by flooding in early July. The Hessian Lake paddle boat rentals, carousel, bathrooms and drinking water fountains and South Entrance also reopened. The picnic grounds and Hessian Lake loop trail opened Aug. 23. Many of the hiking trails will remain closed until repairs can be completed in coming months. See bit.ly/bm-trail-map for updates. The pool bathhouse will reopen for the 2024 season. Parking remains limited.

Putnam to Rehab Firefighter Center
Pandemic aid will pay for most of project
The Putnam Legislature on Tuesday (Sept. 5) approved spending $1.3 million to demolish and rebuild the county’s fire training center because of safety concerns and to help agencies recruit and retain first responders.

In a series of unanimous votes, the nine legislators authorized spending $1 million in American Rescue Plan funds that had been earmarked for police and fire radios; $50,000 from the county Bureau of Emergency Services maintenance account; $50,000 in federal aid; and $200,000 in renovation capital reserve funds, which the county hopes to replenish with grants.

In August, County Executive Kevin Byrne said a training tower at the site in Carmel has not been used in a decade because of its poor condition, and that another facility was often closed for repairs. As a result, local firefighters in Putnam travel to neighboring counties for training, he said. “This is an example of the county giving back to our municipalities, our town fire departments,” said Paul Jonke of Southeast, who chairs the Legislature. The center is expected to open next summer.

East Fishkill: Man Charged With Attempted Murder
Allegedly drove directly at officers in stolen police car
An Oneonta man was arrested on Sept. 1 and charged with four felonies, including attempted murder. He was detained after crashing a stolen car in the south-bound lanes of the Taconic State Parkway near the Route 303 exit in Putnam County. Police said East Fishkill officers responded at 12:15 p.m. to a report of a burglary in progress at a residence on Hortontown Road. When confronted inside the home, the suspect ran and stole an unmarked police car. Officers said he drove directly at them, and one officer fired a single shot.

After the crash, Joseph Gourd, 41, of Oneonta, was charged with attempting murder of a police officer, burglary, reckless endangerment, grand larceny and possession of stolen property. He was arraigned in the Town of East Fishkill court and sent to the Dutchess County Jail.

Sloatsburg: Spa Buys Historic Estate
A company that runs exclusive wellness retreats in California, Colorado and Italy has purchased a 2,000-acre estate in western Rockland County for $11 million, according to The Poughkeepsie Journal.
Known as Table Rock, the estate was built for a grandson of Alexander Hamilton and his wife, a daughter of banker J.P. Morgan. After renovations to the 40,000-square-foot house, The Ranch Hudson Valley is scheduled to open in March.

The mansion is the former home of The Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate, a Byzantine Catholic order. As a resort, the property will have 25 guest rooms; the 2,000-square-foot ballroom will become a gym.

Wappingers Falls: Police Arrest Men After Chase
Allegedly attempted to steal from Home Depot
Wappingers Falls police arrested three men on Aug. 29 who allegedly attempted to steal electrical equipment from Home Depot before leading officers on a chase that ended in Putnam County.
The Home Depot at 1570 Route 9 alerted police at 2:45 p.m. of a larceny in progress: Three men had filled garbage bags with electrical equipment valued at about $1,800. Police said one suspect assaulted a store employee as they fled.
The suspects left the scene in a gray Chevy sedan with Florida plates, leading police on a chase through the Town of Wappingers (where it had a minor collision with a motorcycle) and the Town of LaGrange before taking the Taconic State Parkway south to Interstate 84 in Putnam County. There, the sedan struck a second vehicle and was disabled.

Police arrested three Brooklyn men identified as Trent A. Dance, 20, William M. Harvin Jr., 24, and Mekhi R. Murphy, 25. Each was charged with robbery and grand larceny. In addition, Murphy was charged with criminal conspiracy. Police determined the vehicle had been rented from Hertz with a fake identity.

Dance and Murphy were sent to the Dutchess County Jail with a $50,000 and $25,000 bail, respectively. Harvin was released until his next court date. Police said Dance has numerous arrest warrants; Murphy was issued 60 traffic tickets.

Police believe the men also stole electrical equipment valued at $5,500 to $8,800 from the same Home Depot on Aug. 21. Police in Port Chester and Ulster are also investigating similar larcenies. A Wappingers Falls detective identified the men as members of a Brooklyn street gang known as the Rich Bosses.
The Current welcomes letters to the editor on its coverage and local issues. Submissions are selected by the editor (including from comments posted to our social media pages) to provide a variety of opinions and voices, and all are subject to editing for clarity, length and removal of personal attacks. Letters may be emailed to editor@highlandscurrent.org or mailed to The Highlands Current, 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. The writer’s full name, village or city, and email or phone number must be included, but only the name and village or city will be published. For our complete editorial policies, see highlandscurrent.org/editorial-standards.

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Fjord Trail
How will this committee not be biased since it was formed by the outfit that is trying to push this debacle on residents who vehemently oppose the idea as presented (“Fjord Trail Forms Data Committee,” Sept. 1)? Will this be more “fake science” from the shoreline destroyers?

Tony Bardes, Philipstown

Hudson Hil’s
This is devastating news (“Hudson Hil’s to Close,” Sept. 1). Weekend breakfast at Hudson Hil’s has been a highlight for us since we arrived in Philipstown. Of course, 13 years is a stupendous run — longer than either of us have been in the adult workforce — and Hilary and Bob Hayes should be incredibly proud of what they’ve accomplished. Thanks for all of the fantastic mornings, Hudson Hil’s!

Michael Edgar and Marissa Neiwirth, Nelsonville

Oh no! My favorite Cold Spring place. I’ll miss it.

Catherine Lisotta, via Facebook

What might replace it? How I miss the diners we had back in the day. And a deli? These are the two businesses that would thrive quite well. A quick easy breakfast where I don’t need to take out a mortgage, or a nice deli sandwich.

Jeff Phillips, via Facebook

A place that stays open past 8 p.m. would be great.

Jeannine Malvey, via Facebook

Glenham Mills
I would love to see the land used for a company that wants to bring good jobs to the people who already live in the area (“Former Texaco Site Still on Market,” Sept. 1). We don’t need more residential and children attending the Beacon school district. How about a sports dome so our kids can practice and play indoors in the winter without having to drive a half hour?

Gillian Ramkalawon, via Facebook

Correction
An article in the Sept. 1 issue about tango lessons being offered by Emiliano De Laurentiis at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon identified his longtime collaborator as Dario Moffa, an Italian. In fact, we had the wrong Dario: He is Dario Da Silva, an Argentinian.

ARP Dutchess
Your report on how Dutchess is spending its pandemic relief funds failed to touch on the fact that the Republican leadership in the county Legislature removed 75 percent of the funding it promised to increase accessibility to high-speed Internet for all (“Comp-troller Details ARP Spending,” Sept 1).

John Gorman, via Facebook

The editor replies: The comptroller refers to this and other changes in her report, noting that the county executive made updates on June 30 to the American Rescue Fund spending plan that included reducing the budget for expanding high-speed Internet from $1 million to $270,790. The county also reclassified money it intended to spend on creating a homeless shelter in a building it purchased in Poughkeepsie; it now plans to use the building for office space and re-purpose a former county jail.

Howland Cultural Center
Sat - September 9 - 8 PM
ERIC STARR - A Celebration Of Women In History
Cold Spring composer to celebrate two writers and social campaigners Yrsa Brittain + Winifred Holtby. Actor Andrew Hesler reads their poems. Hannah Holman plays cello and Lara Saldanha is on piano. Tickets $20 or $25 at the door. howlandculturalcenter.org

Sat + Sun – September 9 + 10 – 1-5 PM
REALISM ON THE HUDSON
An exhibition of traditional paintings and drawings. Commemorating the AAPL’s 95th anniversary.

Sat - September 10 - 3-5 PM
HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER TIX
“CLASSICS FOR KIDS - Instrument Petting Zoo”
Eric Starr - A Celebration Of Women In History
Cold Spring composer to celebrate two writers and social campaigners Yrsa Brittain + Winifred Holtby. Actor Andrew Hesler reads their poems. Hannah Holman plays cello and Lara Saldanha is on piano. Tickets $20 or $25 at the door. howlandculturalcenter.org

Sat = Sun - September 9 + 10 – 1-5 PM
“REALISM ON THE HUDSON”
An exhibition of traditional paintings and drawings. Commemorating the AAPL’s 95th anniversary.

Sept 10 - CLASSICS FOR KIDS - Instrument Petting Zoo
Sept 11 - ARGENTINE TANGO - 8 Weeks of Tango Lessons
Sept 16 - THE ARTICHOKE - Storytelling Series
Sept 22 - THE MOMMYHEADS & Per from Eggstone
Sept 30 - STEVE KATZ

Check our website + media for more events, info + tickets
Parents Unhappy With Garrison Bus Routes

District cuts costs but students have longer rides
By Joey Asher

The Garrison School buses generated fumes this week — and not just from their tailpipes.

Eight parents attended the school board meeting on Wednesday (Sept. 6) to vent about the bus service, which has been curtailed for 2023-24 as part of efforts to avoid asking residents to override a state-mandated limit on tax increases.

“What an outrage,” said Katie Cucchiarella, who lives on South Mountain Pass, in southern Philipstown, and told The Current that her first grader’s ride to school changed from 15 minutes to an hour. She is driving him to school but said he misses traveling with his friends. “It’s unfortunate,” she said.

During the spring budget process, Garrison cut its bus service from four 66-passenger vehicles to three large buses and a 20-passenger van. Joseph Jimick, the business administrator, said the move saved $120,000.

“The choice was a bus or a teacher,” he said.

The choice was a bus or a teacher.
~Joseph Jimick, business administrator

While the buses can accommodate up to 300 students, Superintendent Carl Albano said ridership is usually 30 to 40 percent below capacity. The district also offers transportation for its high school students from the Garrison School to Haldane, O’Neill and Putnam Valley.

At the Wednesday meeting, Jimick said that “the routes are longer for everyone.” To make the system as fair as possible, the district is attempting to ensure that if a student has a long ride in the morning, the child will have a shorter ride in the afternoon.

Jimick also said that the buses no longer go through as many neighborhoods, stopping at or near driveways. Instead, the district created “community stops” that are not always within easy walking distance of home.

He said that issues were discussed in the spring when the district was seeking ways to cut costs and avoid a second consecutive request to taxpayers to override the cap. The board adopted a $12.56 million budget that included a 3.3 percent increase, matching its state cap for 2023-24. The year before, residents OK’d an override (which requires 60 percent approval) of 6.6 percent (the cap was 2.2 percent) but only after rejecting a request for a 9.18 percent hike.

Speaking at the meeting, Ned Rauch, who has two children at the school, said that the bus changes are the result of the board’s failure to ask for an override. “We got what we asked for, which was a lousy bus system,” he said.

Rauch, who lives within 2 miles of the school, said that his children have a 10-minute ride in the morning and a 45-minute ride home in the afternoon. As a result, he picks them up after school.

“It’s too long for little kids who are already exhausted at the end of the day,” he said.

Other parents expressed frustration with their community stops. Ryan Quinn, who has one child at Garrison and two at Haldane High School, said that the bus used to stop at her driveway in Continental Village but is now a 10-minute walk to a spot she says is dangerous. “Winston Lane has become a speedway,” she said, although she noted the time her children spend on the bus hasn’t changed much.

Jimick added that bus-route challenges are not unusual during the first weeks of school. “There’s some tweaking that will have to take place,” he said.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

Haldane Plan (from Page 1)

Science lab in the building, it would amount to an increase of 18,946 square feet.

The plan also has extensive infrastructure projects, including changes to vehicular traffic circulation, upgraded fire alarms, improved Americans with Disabilities Act compliance, improved air conditioning and replacement of the school clocks.

Many of these [proposals] address needs that we’ve discussed for years.
~Peggy Clements, Haldane school board

The next step is public comment, said Peggy Clements, who chairs the board. “For good reasons, people will have questions, and the board and district leaders want to answer them,” Clements said.

“The board wants to make sure the community understands that the work we’re considering for Phase 1 consists of projects that the district and members of the community have collectively identified as the most important,” she said. “Many of these address needs that we’ve discussed for years.”

The board is expected to reach a decision on how to move forward by the end of October, said Superintendent Philip Benante. He said that he and the board soon will be meeting with parents and other residents to discuss the project and consider whether to modify it to reduce its cost.

Benante said that a tax increase would likely be phased in over three years. He said that the district is eligible to receive $108 million in capital improvements over 15 years and is designed to bring its facilities in line with districts that are comparable in quality and size.

According to CSArch, the Newburgh architecture firm that drafted the plan, Haldane’s facilities are “undersized,” with only 148 square feet per student, compared with 205 square feet in similar area schools.

The second and third phases of the master plan would add 29,000 square feet of indoor space and include a gymnasium and 350-seat auditorium at the high school and a new fitness and wellness center in the building that houses the elementary and middle schools. After completion of the entire plan, the district would have 208 square feet per student, according to CSArch.

Benante said that additional phases of the master plan could be timed for implementation as the first phase is being completed, minimizing further tax increases.
Seastreak Cruises Still Unresolved

**Damage at West Point leaves no place to dock**

By Michael Turton

Details are yet to be finalized for the annual fall boat cruises that dock at Cold Spring. James Barker, a representative of Seastreak cruises, told the Cold Spring Village Board at its Wednesday (Sept. 6) workshop that damage caused by the severe storms July 9 at the West Point dock has complicated the company’s plans.

As part of its agreement with the village to preserve scenic views, Seastreak has docked some of its boats at West Point after dropping passengers at Cold Spring. The company has been permitted to leave a boat at the Cold Spring dock during its four-hour visit once per weekend.

That arrangement worked well. For the past two seasons, Seastreak added tours of Bear Mountain, which Barker said were popular. However, because of the storm damage, West Point has not allowed Seastreak to dock this year.

Barker said the company has approached Bear Mountain State Park about docking there after dropping passengers in Cold Spring. If that is not an option, the Village Board will have to decide whether all boats can remain at the Cold Spring dock for the duration of each visit.

The village has anticipated more than $46,000 in docking fees from Seastreak from up to three cruises per weekend from Friday to Sunday. If the company can only run one cruise per weekend, the drop in revenue for Cold Spring would be substantial.

“We have to be very pragmatic and realistic,” Mayor Kathleen Foley said, adding that because installation of Main Street parking meters is behind schedule, revenue from that source will also fall short.

“I don’t love having the boats docked there,” she said. “But I am more comfortable with it than I would be under normal circumstances.”

The mayor said while having every Seastreak boat stay at the dock will make some people unhappy, “it’s just real at this point, budget-wise.”

During the public comment period, resident Walter Ulmer questioned increasing the boats’ carbon footprint by making them travel empty to Bear Mountain and back, “for the convenience of folks who don’t want to see boats at the dock.”

Ulmer commented that if the village is seriously committed to environmental responsibility, “let’s take Bear Mountain off the table and just live with a little inconvenience.”

A decision on Seastreak will be made after the board receives more details on Bear Mountain dockings and a proposed cruise schedule. Seastreak boats have typically come to Cold Spring from mid-September through mid-November on Saturdays, Sundays and some Fridays.

In other business...

- Public hearings on revisions to Chapter 126 (Vehicles and Traffic) and Chapter 127 (Residential Parking Program) of the Village Code have been postponed pending Gov. Kathy Hochul’s consideration of a bill that would enable expansion of a parking program to include streets in the upper village. Foley said the process will proceed for the residential parking program on the 11 streets east of the Metro-North tracks previously approved by the state.

- Trustee Laura Bozzi is looking into electric-vehicle charging stations on village-owned properties as part of a Central Hudson installation grant. Sites discussed include Main Street near St. Mary’s Church, the municipal parking lot on Fair Street, the Visitor Center, High Street, Northern Avenue, Market Street and the corner of B Street and Mountain Avenue. Foley noted that the Butterfield redevelopment site plans to add four EV chargers that will be available to the public for a fee, and to Butterfield residents at a discount.

- The agreement with CivicPlus, the company that provides the template for the village website, will be renewed for another year. Foley said the village will look at other providers during next year’s budget discussions.

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Dutchess County Documents Climate Threats

**Will identify risks to bridges, railways, roads**

By Leonard Sparks

As New York State prepares to dole out funding to prevent flooding and protect infrastructure, Dutchess County is busy identifying the bridges, roads and railroad lines most threatened by severe weather.

Storms that cause flooding and landslides pose the greatest risk to infrastructure, including culverts and rail trails, according to the Dutchess County Transportation Council (DCTC).

Its 16 voting members include Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou, Fishkill Supervisor Ozzy Albra and other elected officials, as well as the chairman and CEO of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and a state Department of Transportation commissioner.

Severe storms, such as the one that occurred July 9, have sent floodwaters and debris from eroded embankments onto the tracks of Metro-North’s Hudson Line, disrupting service for residents in the Highlands.

During that July storm, which dropped as much as 2 inches of rain per hour, a Metro-North train filled with passengers became stuck for hours near Manitou Station in Garrison. In 2021, the remnants of Hurricane Ida also inflicted heavy damage to the Hudson Line.

The tracks are sure to be included in the DCTC list. The goal of its study is to help the county, the state Department of Transportation and Metro-North decide which pieces of infrastructure should be prioritized with funding, said Mark Debald, the Dutchess transportation program administrator.

“You could have a [high-risk] bridge that may only get 200 vehicles crossing a day,” said Debald. “How’s that compared to another bridge that’s high-risk but carrying 10,000 vehicles a day?”

One funding source could be New York State’s $4.2 billion Environmental Bond Act, which voters approved in November 2022. Raising and relocating flood-prone roads and other infrastructure, and improving the ability of bridges and culverts to withstand flooding, are among the projects eligible for $650 million of the fund.

The DCTC began its study in December. Four months ago, it released an assessment of the county’s changing weather patterns, including rising temperatures and more-intense storms.

According to that report, July 2020 was the warmest month on record in Dutchess, with an average temperature of 77.8 degrees and a record 17 days above 90 degrees. In urbanized areas such as Beacon, Fishkill and Poughkeepsie, heat is amplified by asphalt and concrete.

The average high temperatures in Dutchess, historically about 60 degrees, are projected to rise to 65 degrees by 2050 and as much as 68 degrees by 2080, according to the DCTC. So is annual precipitation, by as much as 2 inches by the middle of the century and 3.5 inches by 2080.

Debald recalled Hurricane Irene in 2011, when Poughkeepsie residents used canoes to navigate flooded streets after the Fall Kill Creek overflowed. “That was pretty stark,” he said.

The DCTC is hoping residents will identify infrastructure at risk from flooding, landslides and other weather, through their own experiences. An ongoing survey allows people to pinpoint trouble spots and describe the impact on their travel, Debald said.

The survey, along with an interactive map that shows at-risk infrastructure, is available at Resilient Ways Forward (resilientwaysforward.com).
Fishkill Avenue (from Page 1)

Motors, at 365 Fishkill Ave., in 1984 from the retiring William Shaw, who had opened his dealership in 1952. Healey said at the time that Beacon “seems like a good place, a community on the go with good growth potential.”

In addition to considering the uprooting of those longtime occupants, the city has asked Dutchess County to study creating a 13-mile rail trail along Metro-North’s dormant Beacon Line, which runs roughly parallel along the creek from Beacon to Hopewell.

On Tuesday, the City Council discussed the possibility of rezoning about 30 parcels along Route 52 in Beacon’s northeast corner. Combined with the potential rail trail, John Clarke, a city planning consultant, said he hopes Beacon can create a corridor with amenities markedly different from the “low-slung, parking-oriented, automobile-oriented businesses with drive-thrus, gas stations and car lots” that proliferate on stretches of Routes 52 and 9.

“This area can take on a different character that would benefit from additional housing opportunities and access to the rail trail and the creek,” Clarke said.

But “the clock is ticking,” said City Administrator Chris White, who noted that prospective buyers had already contacted the Building Department to inquire about uses that would be allowed on the Healey parcels.

Clarke’s draft of a Fishkill Avenue zoning district stretches from the eastern edge of Memorial Park to the flashing yellow light at Route 52’s intersection with Mill Street. If implemented as proposed, the zone would abut residential districts while including properties zoned for general business and light and heavy industrial uses.

The goal would be to attract a mix of commercial and residential uses that, complemented by the rail trail, would give the area a walkable, Main Street-type feel, Clarke said.

Mayor Lee Kyriacou suggested extending the zone to the Town of Fishkill line, saying the district should include auto-related uses, such as gas stations and car washes. Council Member Dan Aymar-Blair agreed that the zone could be extended but argued that gas-powered vehicles will be phased out as electric vehicle sales increase. Nevertheless, “if the zone is fairly flexible it might be beneficial to have a longer zone, as long as we’re not disturbing the existing uses but offering new ones,” Kyriacou said, “if they’re additional uses that we want.”

Among other types of development, Clarke’s proposal would allow microbreweries, bed-and-breakfasts, fitness centers, museums, hotels, places of worship and grocery stores. Development standards, some of which Clarke said he cribbed from Beacon’s linkage zone, would include the requirement that lot owners provide planters, trees, shrubs or other landscaping to enhance the streetscape.

New buildings would have to be a minimum of two stories with at least 15 percent of a parcel landscaped. Parking lots (or spaces) would have to be behind, underneath or to the side of buildings.

The council would need to amend Beacon’s comprehensive plan so the district would comply with the plan before it can be implemented as proposed. One of the objectives in the comprehensive plan’s section on land use and zoning indicates that growth should be encouraged “in and around the central business district, rather than spreading out along Route 9D and Route 52.”

“It’s very exciting,” Kyriacou said. “It’s probably the most forward-looking area we’ve had to consider for a while. In some respects, it’s shocking that we’re so far along [as a city] and we can think about it.”

152-158 Fishkill Ave.

The Beacon Planning Board will continue its review on Tuesday (Sept. 12) of a proposal to replace an auto detail shop and a multi-family home at 152 and 158 Fishkill Ave. with a three-story building with offices on the first floor and 16 apartments above.

The two lots are in the “transitional” zoning district that abuts Main Street. The new building would feature a rooftop terrace and provide 62 off-street parking spaces and five new on-street spaces.

In 2017, the developer proposed a 59-unit residential and retail project called Beacon Light Condominiums at the site. The Planning Board in July approved a “negative declaration” indicating that the current proposal would not adversely affect the environment.
AROUND TOWN

FINAL WEEKEND

TICKETS AT BOSCOBEL.ORG | USE CODE “BCMFHC” FOR 15% OFF

DANCING FEVER — Aylin Buyaz of Spain danced the flamenco at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon on Sept. 2. She was accompanied by guitarist Raúl Mannola for a performance called “Flamencodanza.”

READY FOR SCHOOL — The Salvation Army Beacon Corps on Aug. 30 provided free backpacks filled with school supplies. Children were also invited to make sundaes with ice cream donated by Stewart’s Shops. The first day for public schools in Beacon and Philipstown was Tuesday (Sept. 5).

SHEEP RESCUE EFFORTS — For the past few weeks, the Woodstock Farm Sanctuary has been attempting to capture a sheep near St. Luke’s Cemetery on Wolcott Avenue in Beacon (named Oracle by neighbors). It appears to have been recently shorn, with some wool still attached. The sanctuary reported on Sunday (Sept. 3) that a volunteer is trying to gain the animal’s trust so it will enter a trailer parked at the cemetery. It asked people not to feed or approach the animal.

CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

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FINAL WEEKEND

Two Performances with 2-time Grammy Winner James Ehnes and the Ehnes String Quartet

SEPTEMBER 9 | 6PM
EHNES STRING QUARTET CONCERT
James Ehnes, violin | Amy Schwartz-Moretti, violin
Brian Chen, viola | Edward Arron, cello
Arnaud Sussmann, viola

SEPTEMBER 10 | 2PM
FAMILY CONCERT
Ehnes String Quartet | Arnaud Sussmann

This interactive concert will give little music lovers and their families the opportunity to engage with the musicians, as well as provide the opportunity for the musicians to discuss with the audience what inspired the composers to write the music being played.
After nearly three years of construction, Magazzino Italian Art in Philipstown on Thursday (Sept. 14) will open the doors of an expansion — all 13,000 square feet of it.

The new pavilion, just south of the 20,000-square-foot museum, is named for Robert Olnick, a developer, philanthropist and collector of post-war art who was the father of Nancy Olnick, who founded Magazzino in 2017 with her husband, Giorgio Spanu.

The building has a cafe and bookshop, a multipurpose room that can be used as an auditorium, and a wing devoted to decorative arts, ceramics and jewelry. It was designed by Alberto Campo Baeza and Miguel Quismondo, both Spaniards. The project also doubled the parking spaces at the museum, which is located on Route 9 near Route 301.

“The programming will include collaborations to highlight the diversity of Italian culture, not just in its visual identity, but also in the realms of music, film, research and performance,” says Vittorio Calabrese, Magazzino’s executive director.

“Magazzino is the perfect place to discuss multi-cross-country dialogues,” he adds. “It’s not really a colony of Italy, but we’re here, opening windows on Italian culture. With the new building, there is space and the opportunity to host and be more active members of the community.”

Calabrese says the idea of expansion wasn’t a thought, “even in our wildest dreams,” in the early days of the museum. “Imagine, we were originally open only by appointment and we showed only works from the collection,” he says. “We picked up so much momentum.”

With the new wing, “we want to attract people who have already come to Magazzino once to come back and see something new, along with the permanent collection,” he adds. “The reopening was especially important for us as we also presented an exhibition, Homemade, featuring work done during the pandemic by a group of Italian artists in New York City that we supported during the worst time.”

The popularity of events held at the nonprofit museum, such as concerts and film screenings, both indoors and outdoors, convinced the Magazzino team that they should host more of them and have an indoor space for times when the weather does not cooperate.

The expansion is “a big testament to the feedback from the community,” Calabrese says. “The message we get, eight years in now, is positive: They would like to see more programming. Nancy and Giorgio understand that people don’t want to come to a mausoleum but to an actual cultural center.”

The museum will continue to focus on the permanent collection of Arte Povera

On Sept. 14, Magazzino will open the first three exhibits in its newly constructed Robert Olnick Pavilion.

Mario Schifano: The Rise of the ’60s, curated by Alberto Salvadori in partnership with the Archivio Mario Schifano in Rome, includes 70 works by the painter, who died in 1998. “Schifano was one of the champions of Italian Pop, and was very important in the Rome of that decade,” Vittorio Calabrese says. Using a variety of media, from monochromes to television, “he opened the window” on the city. It continues through Jan. 8.

Carlo Scarpa: Timeless Masterpieces, curated by Marino Barovier, features a selection of 56 Murano glassworks by Scarpa (1906-1978) from the Olnick Spanu Collection dating between 1926 and 1947. “This is the first time we are branching out into the decorative arts,” Calabrese says. “The message we get, eight years in now, is positive: They would like to see more programming. Nancy and Giorgio understand that people don’t want to come to a mausoleum but to an actual cultural center.”

The museum will continue to focus on the permanent collection of Arte Povera

(Continued on Page 13)
THE WEEK AHEAD
Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)
For a complete listing of events, see highlandscurrent.org/calendar.

COMMUNITY

SAT 9
Hudson Valley Ramble
hudsonrivervalleymarble.com
See the website for details about talks, hikes and tours highlighting nature and outdoor recreation. Through Oct. 1.

SAT 9
Friends of the Library Book Sale
GARRISON
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
362 Glynwood Road | glynwood.org
Find used books of all genres in this fundraiser for library programs. Also SUN 10, MON 11, TUES 12. See website for hours.

SAT 9
Bids & Bites
PHILIPSTOWN
5 – 8 p.m. Glymwood Center
362 Glymwood Road | glymwood.org
This annual auction is a fundraiser to support the regional farming center’s programs. Cost: $75

SUN 10
Out of the Darkness Walk
CARMEL
10 a.m. Social Services Building
110 Old Route 6 | afsp.org/PC
Raise money for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention’s education and support programs.

MON 11
9/11 Memorial Service
FORT MONTGOMERY
6:30 p.m. 9/11 Gardens | 690 Route 9W
This will be the 22nd annual ceremony to remember those lost in 2001.

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 16
Mid-Hudson Comic Con
POUGHKEEPSIE
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. MJN Center
14 Civic Center Plaza | 845-454-5800 midhudsoncomiccon.com
Find comics, graphic novels and figures and meet authors. Also SUN 17. Avoid Ticketmaster fees by calling the box office. Cost: $24 ($18 student, military, senior; $17 ages 7 to 15, free ages 6 and younger)

SUN 17
Catoberfest
BEACON
3 – 7 p.m. Hudson Valley Brewery
7 E. Main St. catoberfest.brownpapertickets.com
This 11th annual fundraiser for Mid Hudson Animal Aid will include beer and other beverages as well as food from The Beacon Daily. There will also be a raffle and live music from Tony DePaolo, Nate Allen and Paul Baratta; The Costellos; Judith Tulloch and Stephen Franchino; The Marsh Kings Daughter featuring Emily Hague, Rafi, Sekaya and Jon Slackman; and The Black Coffee Blues Band.

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 10
Instrument Petting Zoo
BEACON
11 a.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St | howlandmusic.org
The Howland Chamber Music Circle will bring together musicians and music educators to demonstrate instruments and explain how they work.

SUN 17
Car Seat Check
BEACON
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Elks Lodge
900 Wolcott Ave.
Technicians can evaluate your installation to make sure it’s secure.

VISUAL ART

SAT 9
Momentum Manifesto
BEACON
2:30 p.m. Dia:Beacon | 3 Beekman St.
845-231-0811 | diaart.org
Rita McBride and David Reinfurt will “activate” a large-scale poster, "Momentum Manifesto," that chronicles 25 years of activations of her exhibit "Arena Momentum (1997)" at major art institutions, including Dia:Beacon, where it is on display through January. Cost: $20 ($18 seniors, $12 students, visitors with disabilities, $5 ages 5 to 11)

SUN 10
Coulter Young
PUTNAM VALLEY
2 – 4 p.m.
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org
Coulter Young, Sept. 10
The museum’s Robert Olnick Pavilion will open with three exhibitions: paintings by Schifano, glassware by Scarpa and paintings and sculptures by Spalletti. See Page 9. Cost: $20 ($30 disabled visitors, seniors, students; $5 ages 5 to 10)

THURS 14
Bhakti Baxter
BEACON
4 – 6 p.m. Mother Gallery
1154 North Ave. | 845-236-6039
mothergallery.art
Baxter’s latest paintings will be on view through Oct. 21.

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472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020 desmondfishlibrary.org
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1154 North Ave. | 845-236-6039
mothergallery.art
Baxter’s latest paintings will be on view through Oct. 21.
SUN 17
**Stonecrop Artists Invitational**
**PHILIPSTOWN**
2 – 6 p.m. Stonecrop
81 Stonecrop Lane | 845-265-2000
Friedrike Merck curated this show of art created after summer visits to the garden. Through Oct. 30. Cost: $10

**STAGE & SCREEN**
SAT 9
**The Anastasia File**
**BEACON**
6 & 7 p.m. Boats leave dock
845-831-6346 | bannermancastle.org
This staged reading on Bannerman Island with Brian Petti, Emily Clare Zempel and Ron Morehead will explore the identity of the Grand Duchess Anastasia. Cost: $68

**Penelope**
**GARRISON**
7 p.m. Hudson Valley Shakespeare
2015 Route 9 | 845-265-9575
hvshakespeare.org
See the world premiere of this one-person show starring Tatiana Wechsler as The Odyssey is retold through a character on the margins. Nightly except Monday through SUN 17. Cost: $10 to $100

**One-Act Play Festival**
**GARRISON**
7 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org
See plays by regional playwrights at the 17th annual Aery Theatre festival. Also SUN 10, FRI 15, SAT 16, SUN 17. Cost: $25 ($20 students, seniors)

**Celebration of Women in History**
**BEACON**
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org
Eric Starr composed this tribute to British writers Vera Brittain and Winifred Holtby. With Hannah Holman (cello), Katherine Miller (piano) and Brandy Burre (narration). Cost: $30 ($25 door)

FRI 15
**Mirai**
**GARRISON**
7 p.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D
coldspringfilm.org
The Cold Spring Film Society will conclude its summer series with this 2018 Japanese animated film about a 4-year-old boy who makes peace with a new sibling after journeying through a magic garden. Doors open at 6 p.m. for picnics. Free

SAT 16
**Anthony Rodia**
**PEEKSKILL**
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The comedian will perform stand-up in his Totally Relatable Tour. A meet-and-greet is available following the show for $30. Cost: $42.50 to $59.50

**The Artichoke**
**BEACON**
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | artichokeshow.com
The storytellers will include Adam Wade, Carly Ciarrocchi, Maggie Crane, Carla Katz, Mark Pagán and Jake Hart. Cost: $20

SAT 9
**Penelope, Sept. 9**

**SECOND SATURDAY**
SAT 9
**The Magic of Castles**
**BEACON**
4 – 6 p.m. Bannerman Island Gallery
150 Main St. | 845-831-6346
bannermancastle.org
Linda Hubbard’s photographs

(Continued on Page 12)
THE WEEK AHEAD
(Continued from Page 11)

will be on view through Nov. 5.

SAT 9
Slow Glass
BEACON
4 – 7 p.m. Garage Gallery
17 Church St. | garagallery.com
Scott Lerman’s work will be on view through Sept. 24.

SAT 9
The Battle for Dead Beat City
BEACON
5 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery
159 Main St. | clutter.co
Nearly 40 artists were given the same template — a vinyl Kama Bear — to customize and use to face each other as gangs inspired by the film The Warriors. Vote for your favorites on social media.

SAT 9
The Tom and George Show
BEACON
5 - 8 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass
162 Main St. | 845-440-0068
hudsonbeachglass.com
12 p.m. Garage Gallery
4 – 7 p.m. Garage Gallery
3 – 9 p.m. University Settlement Camp
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St.
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org
100 Main St.
facebook.com/littlestonypoint
3011 Route 9D
845-661-8831 or email calig@mindspring.com.

SAT 9
As It Were
BEACON
7 – 9:30 p.m. Distortion Society
172 Main St. | distortionsoociety.com

SUN 10
Open Book
GARRISON
5 p.m. Garrison Institute | 14 Mary’s Way
facebook.com/openbookmusic

SAT 9
In The Pines
BEACON
3 – 9:30 p.m. University Settlement Camp
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org
724 Wolcott Ave. | inthepines.rocks

SAT 9
Putnam Chorale
PUTNAM VALLEY
3 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org
The chorale’s program, Poppin’ Through the Decades, will include hits from the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. Also SUN 17 at St. Joachim’s Church in Beacon. Cost: $25 (seniors, children)

SAT 9
Ehnes String Quartet
GARRISON
6 p.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org
The Chamber Music Festival continues with a performance that will include works by Haydn, Schubert and Mendelssohn. Cost: $65 ($45 ages 4 to 18)

SAT 9
Big Rock Show Hits
PEEKSKILL
7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St.
paramounthudsonvalley.com
Geoff Tate, best known as a member of Queensryche, will play the concept album The Key, with his band Operation: Mindcrime. Cost: $39 to $59

SAT 9
The Kingston Trio
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The band members, who all have ties to the original group, will play its hits. Cost: $50 ($35 door)

SAT 9
The Hoot
PHILIPSTOWN
Noon – 6 p.m. Little Stony Point
3011 Route 9D
facebook.com/littlestonypoint
This annual music festival, which features local and regional performers, will honor longtime volunteer and musician John Teagle. Free

SAT 9
Rod Williams Quartet
COLD SPRING
6 p.m. Chapel Restoration
5 p.m. Garrison Institute | 14 Mary’s Way
845-661-8831 or email calig@mindspring.com.

WED 13
Village Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

FRI 15
Tommy Emmanuel
PEEKSKILL
7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St.
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The guitarist will perform after opening act Larry Campbell and Teresa Williams. Cost: $45 to $63

FRI 15
Stanley Jordan
GARRISON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The guitarist will play the music of Jimi Hendrix. Cost: $45 ($30 door)

WED 13
Town Board
COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Town Hall | 238 Main St.
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com
This workshop will include a discussion about solar-energy options for the town. See Page 1.

Current Classifieds

SERVICES

HELP WANTED
ORGANIZER AND LAUNDRY — Busy Garrison residents looking for a weekly house organizer to do laundry and organize home, home offices, garage and auxiliary spaces. We have a house cleaner who comes once a week, so this is strictly organization; laundry, cleaning. Please email pictures to rooster@artistooster.net. Have a wonderful day!

ART STUDIO — I am looking to find an art studio in a quiet of nature, perhaps on a homestead, a barn on a farm or similar. Ideally, I would like it to be an exchange, for artwork, art lessons, yoga lessons, house sitting, tending to the property, gardening, caring for animals, etc. I am a woman painter. My paintings are abstract and influenced by my experience of a landscape. I am responsible and accountable. I am also a former art teacher, and a mother of two grown daughters. Currently living in NYC. Text 646-808-7938.

VHS, camcorders, security cameras, video mixers, etc. Offering cash and able to pick up your heavy TVs. Please email pictures to rooster@artistooster.net. Have a wonderful day!
Out There

Rocks on My Mind

By Brian PJ Cronin

S

o what did you do this summer? Me, I mostly thought about rocks.

Specifically, those rocks that always seem to be perfectly and evenly spaced, and are at the right height, at places where creeks cross trails.

I had never given much thought to how the rocks got there, although I am sure they did not roll there on their own, equidistant from one another. Surely someone looked around for rocks that were the right size, with a flat side, hauled them to the creek and, using a tape measure, put them in the cold, rushing water one by one.

But I didn’t think much about this until now. I just stepped on them, my thoughts occupied by important matters such as figuring out when, exactly, the Mets’ season was lost.

That all changed this summer when, for a few days here and there, it was my job to restore it. Once washed out, and a group of us spent several days in the early summer restoring it. Once

I did have a growing sense of shame about that, but the longer I went without helping, the harder it was to get started — like when the trash is full but you keep stacking new trash on top like a putrid game of Jenga until one morning you wake up and the kitchen is full of raccoons.

I’ve found that the best antidote to shame is a sledgehammer, which is why I was thrilled when someone put a heavy one in my hands at Minnewaska State Park and told me to start turning big rocks into smaller ones. A section of trail had been washed out, and a group of us spent several days in the early summer restoring it. Once

I had smashed a good quantity of rocks, we

used them as the foundation of the new trail. I was expecting to enjoy smashing rocks. I was not expecting to get so interested in micro-managing a hiker’s experience of the park via rock placement and slope calculations. How steep was too steep? rocky was too rocky? Did this rock look good here? Did it look so good that it was distracting? Is the rock too ostentatious? Would a sledgehammer fix that?

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I came to realize that building a trail was like creating stop-motion animation. It took a lot of us, working hard for days, moving at a snail’s pace, to create a section of trail that will take a hiker five seconds to walk over. If we did good work, no one will notice.

So maybe the fact that I never noticed the ground beneath my feet wasn’t because of my absent-mindedness but because of the excellent work that people who came before me did laying that ground. At any rate, should you find yourself crossing a local creek and suddenly there’s a strangely animated man pointing at the rocks, imploring you to admire their perfect shape, texture and placement, that man will be me. I apologize in advance for interrupting whatever important matter you were thinking about. (The Mets’ season ended, by the way, when Edwin Diaz was injured in March.)

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is always looking for volunteers for trail work in the Hudson Valley. No experience is necessary, which explains why they let me help out. See nynjtc.org.

Magazzino (from Page 9)

(“poor art”), an avant-garde movement that began in Italy in the late 1960s and early 1970s. “That defines Magazzino’s identity; that’s important to us,” Calabrese says. “The pavilion will have the temporary collections. For all of it, we are trying to make our docent program more robust, to transfer so much knowledge.”

After eight years as executive director at Magazzino, a position he says he accepted with little knowledge of the Hudson Valley beyond a few visits to Dia:Beacon, Calabrese is now settled — in fact, he recently became a U.S. citizen. “I want to have the right to vote,” he explains. “I want to be integrated into the community. I’m very happy about it.”

“I come from a small town in Italy which reminds me of Cold Spring,” he says. “Cold Spring is a dimension and a community that is so active. Now I feel full part of it. It feels like home, but also is constantly changing.”

Magazzino Italian Art, located at 2700 Route 9, is open Thursday to Monday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets are $20 ($10 seniors, students, visitors with disabilities, $5 ages 5-10, free for members and residents of Cold Spring, Garrison and Nelsonville). See magazzino.art/visit. A short film about the installation of Homemade in 2020 can be viewed at magazzino.art/view/videos/homemade-video.
COMMUNITY DAY 2023

On Sept. 2, Cold Spring celebrated its annual Community Day on Main Street. For the second year in a row, Christopher Walker of Garrison won the pie-baking contest (Orla Peters was the runner-up) judged by Zanne Stewart, Joe Dizney and Claudio Marzollo (below left). One toddler, having had enough, was spotted playing with his toy truck, oblivious of the crowds. Craig Roffman gamely volunteered for the dunk tank, and at least four youthful entrepreneurs set up lemonade stands.

Photos by Ross Corsair and Mike Turton
Electrified
Gas becomes passé for Beacon resident

By Leonard Sparks

When Thomas Wright and his business partner, Joseph Fretesi, began feeling a heightened sense of urgency three years ago because of the mounting evidence of climate-change’s impact, and decided to go beyond the heat pumps. In addition to replacing on-demand hot-water heaters and the gas-powered heaters in the 10,000-square-foot space where Atlas makes furniture, they subscribed to a community-solar project based in Kingston.

At his home, Wright decided, as part of the addition of a second story in 2021, to replace the gas boiler and radiators with rooftop system for electricity but its board did not like the idea of committing to a 20-year deal. Then, along came community solar.

With the authority’s 245 apartments supporting solar and energy efficiency, “that makes a difference,” said Veronica Schetter, the agency’s assistant director. Although the savings are important, “the bigger issue is being better to the environment,” she said.

 Eventually, we hope to take that 30 percent that we’re covering with community solar and renewable-energy credits and get close to 100 percent of local production by putting solar panels on other facilities that the city has.

~ Chris White, Beacon city administrator

As companies continue to build farms, the state is considering amending the rules for community solar to allow for opt-out agreements between municipalities and developers. Residents and businesses would automatically be enrolled but could choose to receive electricity from their utility company or a third party.

Beacon is among a coalition of communities supporting the change, said Chris White, the city administrator. The City Council declined to rejoin a community-choice aggregation program under which Cold Spring, Nelsonville and Philipstpon are receiving electricity at a fixed rate.

Under Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), the fixed rate can sometimes be higher than the one charged by a utility company, whose prices for energy fluctuate throughout the year. “Sometimes you win, sometimes you lose,” said White. “We wanted to go to a guaranteed-savings model. That’s what community solar does.”

Municipal projects

Beacon is already filling most of its municipal needs with a solar array at Dennings Point that generates roughly 70 percent of the energy it uses, with the rest supplied through the purchase of renewable-energy credits, according to White.

The city, which is mandated to use only renewable sources for electricity under a City Council policy approved in 2021, received a $125,000 state grant to partially fund a 180-kilowatt rooftop solar system at the Highway Department garage. Bidding is expected to take place later this year.

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nity solar and renewable-energy credits and get close to 100 percent of local production by putting solar panels on other facilities that the city has," White said.

Philipstown is also eyeing local production. The town is planning to install panels atop its new Highway Department garage on Fishkill Road, but is also envisioning a solar array at its former landfill on Lane Gate Road.

In March, officials from Philipstown and the Environmental Protection Agency toured the property to assess its suitability as a solar farm. Despite concerns about the steepness of its slopes and its orientation toward the south and east, an assessment concluded that 3.5 acres at the landfill are viable for solar panels generating 875 kilowatts annually.

Martha Upton, Philipstown’s climate smart coordinator, told the Town Board at its Aug. 3 meeting that because the acreage is small, the town should look to combine the landfill with other town-owned parcels. Sustainable Putnam identified a few town properties that could be viable for solar, she said.

They include 10 acres at the New Leaf Restoration town farm, across Route 403 from the Desmond-Fish Public Library; the parking area at the town park, which may be suitable for a solar canopy; and land behind the Highway Department building.

The landfill alone would be “a good start,” but additional properties “would give us a more substantial project and greater potential benefits,” Upton said.

Jason Angell, a member of the Town Board, said the traditional arrangement is for a developer to lease property from a municipality for the installation of an array whose power they sell, but the Inflation Reduction Act, enacted by President Joe Biden last year, has made it easier for municipalities and nonprofits to own solar farms.

“That’s where it could be fairly lucrative to the town because you own the electricity,” said Angell, who is co-founder of the Ecological Citizen’s Project, which is helping Peekskill develop a community-owned solar project.

The Town Board will discuss options for community solar at a workshop on Wednesday (Sept. 13) at 7:30 p.m. at Putnam’s projects include a 12-acre solar farm off Route 9D in Wappinger can produce up to 2.6 megawatts of power.

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NOTICE OF SCHOOL TAX COLLECTION

The Warrant for the Collection of Taxes for the City School District of the City of Beacon, New York, for the School Fiscal Year 2023 - 2024 has been delivered to me. Please be advised of the following:

Payment must be made by Check or Money Order in the full amount of the tax bill and payable to the Beacon City School District. Please be sure to include the Bill No. and a Daytime Phone Number.

In person payments (check or money order only) will be received in the District office, 10 Education Drive, Beacon NY between the hours of 9:00am - 1:00pm Monday - Friday September 5, 2023 to October 4, 2023 only.

Please Note: We strongly recommend that tax payments be mailed to our account at M&T Bank as follows:

Mail Payments to: Beacon City School District
School Tax Collection
P.O. Box 1330,
Buffalo, New York 14240-1330

COLLECTION PERIOD: September 05, 2023 - October 04, 2023 Penalty Free
October 05, 2023 - November 03, 2023 must include the 2% Penalty

Payments will be accepted with a Post Office Post Mark of no later than NOVEMBER 03, 2023.

Payments dated and/or Post Marked after November 3, 2023 will be turned over to the City of Beacon or Dutchess County Commissioner of Finance for collection.

SIGNED: Florence Zopf, School Tax Collector | Beacon City School District
Tel. (845) 838-6900 x2006
Tax Bills/Receipts are available online at: www.infotaxonline.com

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Study Skills & Writing Coach
For Good Grades & Great Communication

Sara Gilbert, MA
Editorial & Educational Professional
Cold Spring, NY

845-265-5295 | saradgilbert@gmail.com

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V рий Roundup: 

**Haldane**

By Jacob Aframian

- **FOOTBALL** — Haldane easily won its first game of the season on Sept. 1, returning from Dover with a 42-13 victory. The Blue Devils relied heavily on the run game, which accounted for 222 of 261 yards. Quarterback Ryan Van Tassel threw the ball only four times and completed one pass for 39 yards, which happened to be a touchdown to Luca DiLello to give the Blue Devils a 14-0 lead. Van Tassel also ran for 135 yards. Despite putting 42 points on the board, Haldane managed only seven first downs (Dover had 22) and converted on third down once in seven tries. However, the defense held the line; Dover didn’t score until it was 42-0, and Jake Thomas returned an interception for a 34-yard score.

On Saturday (Sept. 9) at 1:30 p.m., the Blue Devils (1-0) host Poughkeepsie, a squad that Coach Ryan McConville described as “fast and physical” and “a team of opportunities.”

- **BOYS’ SOCCER** — Haldane began the defense of its Class C state title with a 2-1 win over Yonkers Montessori on Tuesday and host Tuckahoe and Croton-Harmon today (Sept. 8) at 5 p.m., travel to Pleasantville on Monday (Sept. 11) and O’Neill on Tuesday.

- **GIRLS’ TENNIS** — After a strong 10-4 season in which the Blue Devils won the league, Haldane opened its season Aug. 31 with a 5-0 victory at Valhalla.

In singles, Ellen O’Hara (6-4, 6-0) and Elaina Johanson with five. Johanson followed by Emily Tomann with seven aces. Tomann followed with 14 aces and setter Megan Powell had 18 assists.

The Blue Devils (1-0) hosted Briarcliff on Thursday (Sept. 7) and host Keio Academy at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, North Salem at 6 p.m. on Wednesday and O’Neill at 6 p.m. on Thursday.

- **GIRLS’ SOCCER** — Haldane opened the season with a 5-0 thumping of Burke Catholic on Aug. 31 but lost to Kingston, 3-1, on Tuesday (Sept. 5). Beacon (1-1) travels to Fallsburg on Tuesday (Sept. 12).

- **GIRLS’ TENNIS** — Beacon recorded back-to-back 6-1 wins on consecutive days, knocking off O’Neill on Aug. 30 and Kingston on Aug. 31. The Bulldogs host Cornwall today (Sept. 8) at 4:30 p.m. and travel to Hyde Park on Thursday.

- **CROSS-COUNTRY** — The runners had to wait to start their season after a meet scheduled for Wednesday (Sept. 6) at Goshen was canceled because of the heat. Their next meet is the Warwick Wave Mania Invite, scheduled for Saturday (Sept. 9).

- **GIRLS’ SWIMMING** — The Bulldogs competed on Aug. 29 in a “swimnational” at New Paltz and travel to Valley Central today (Sept. 8). Next week the team hosts meets against Marlboro/Highland, Rhinebeck and Lourdes/Red Hook.

- **Volleyball** — Beacon began its season with a win, defeating Liberty on Wednesday (Sept. 6), 3-0. The Bulldogs (1-0) travel to Burke Catholic today (Sept. 8) and host Chester on Monday before visiting Tuxedo on Wednesday and hosting Franklin Roosevelt High on Thursday.

**Current Names Two Sports Reporters**

*Will cover varsity high school athletics*

The Highlands Current has named two reporters to cover varsity high school sports at Haldane and Beacon. They succeed Skip Pearlman, who retired in June but will continue to contribute photography.

Jacob Aframian, a 2023 graduate of Marist College with a degree in communication with concentrations in sports and journalism, covers Haldane athletics. He was most recently a contributor to the Wright Way Sports Network and the SportsGrid in Manhattan. He also covered softball and soccer for Center Field, a sports publication at Marist. He can be reached at jaframian@highlandscurrent.org.

Nick Robbins, a 2023 graduate of the University of Alabama, where he majored in news media with a concentration in sports journalism, covers Beacon athletics. Most recently, he covered high school football for the Alabama Media Group and was a sports writer for the Crimson and White, the university’s student newspaper. He also writes for LA Soccer Press. He can be reached at nrobbins@highlandscurrent.org.