

The HIGHLANDS Current



Mmmm, Chili
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OCTOBER 20, 2023 NYPA Newspaper of the Year Support our nonprofit: highlandscurrent.org/join



Garrison native Frank Gallagher
Photo provided

Reporter's Notebook

The Garrison Hunter

By Michael Turton



I love maps and place names, including Oldcastle, the Ontario hamlet where I grew up. I was happy years ago to find, via Google, four other places by that name: two in Wales, one in England and one in Ireland.

Frank Gallagher has taken that kind of search far beyond Google.

As curator of the Joan Winchell collection of Oscar Wilde literature in Las Vegas, he visited Antipodean Books on Garrison's Landing in September looking for Wildean materials.

Gallagher, 71, grew up in another Garrison, a village in County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, population 411. It has four landmarks: a church, a school, a pharmacy and a Scott's Irish Whiskey distillery.

About 25 years ago, Gallagher realized there are 17 places called Garrison in the U.S. His love of America, his home for the past 43 years, motivated him to visit each of them. After coming to New York, he has six left.

He had made mail-order purchases from Antipodean Books years ago, but his September visit was a revelation. "I didn't know the business was in Garrison," he says. "It was like, 'Holy moly, this is a Garrison I haven't been to. I killed two birds with one stone!'"

Gallagher believes exploring the American landscape requires objectives. "You can cross the country in a straight line, but seeing all the Garrisons brings me from place to place," he explains.

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Beacon Council Member Seeks Raises for Colleagues

Says it would offset inflation, encourage participation

By Jeff Simms

A departing Beacon City Council member has proposed adding salary increases for the council to Mayor Lee Kyriacou's 2024 budget. Justice McCray, who represents Ward 2 but is not seeking re-election next month,

asked Monday (Oct. 16) during the council's workshop if the members' \$9,000 salaries could be adjusted for inflation. Doing so, McCray said, would help remove one of the barriers that may keep some candidates from running for the office. "I will not be sitting in this seat next year, so this proposal will not impact me," said McCray, who was elected in 2021 to a two-year term. "Looking at our budget over the last 10 years, that [salary] number hasn't

increased but the cost of living has. There are a lot of people in the city who are passionate about making Beacon better. I was in a position where I had the privilege of being able to manage my finances with what this offers, but I would love to see this number increase." If there is consensus about the increases, the council could vote to amend Kyriacou's budget proposal, or Kyriacou could voluntarily add them. The council must approve
(Continued on Page 9)



PUMPKIN SEASON — The Beacon Sloop Club held its annual Pumpkin Festival on Sunday (Oct. 15) at Pete & Toshi Seeger Riverfront Park with solar-powered music stages, a solar-powered miniature merry-go-round and free sails on the Woody Guthrie. And pumpkins. For more photos, see highlandscurrent.org.

Photo by Ross Corsair

Study: Merger Would Raise Garrison Taxes by 33%

At the same time, Haldane taxes would drop 20%

By Joey Asher

School property taxes in Garrison would jump at least 33 percent if the district were to combine with Haldane, according to an analysis conducted by the administration.

The increases would be three times that if the district were to merge with the Putnam Valley or Lakeland districts, the study concluded. As a result, board members appeared largely disinterested in a merger feasibility study, which would be the next step toward combining with another district. "My gut tells me this is an absolute dead end," said Trustee David Gelber at the

board's Wednesday (Oct. 18) meeting. Sarah Tormey, the board president, said that "paying more to give our kids less does not make sense." Tormey said that when combining with another district, the students would likely lose public high school choice (they can now attend Haldane, O'Neill or Putnam Valley), have fewer sports opportunities and lose classes such as environmental education.
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5Q

FIVE QUESTIONS: ANTHONY AMATO

By Michael Turton

Anthony Amato, a 2001 Beacon High School graduate, is a submarine commander for the U.S. Navy stationed at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii.

You're the command master chief for Squadron 1. What are your duties?

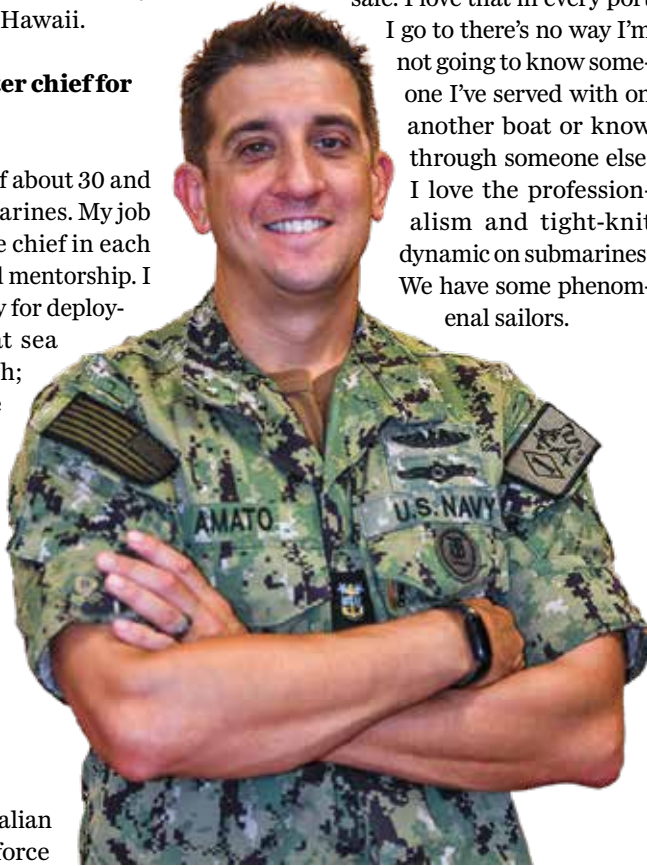
I'm responsible for a staff of about 30 and seven nuclear-powered submarines. My job is to motivate and inspire the chief in each boat and provide training and mentorship. I help get the submarines ready for deployment. Sometimes I'm out at sea for seven to 10 days a month; the next month I may not be home at all. When at sea, I do evaluations and provide feedback to the command team, the triad, the chiefs and the officers. If you want to make a difference and be somewhere that allows you to develop, Pearl Harbor is the place.

Do you like working on submarines?

I grew up in a close-knit Italian family, and the submarine force

is a fraternity unlike any other. Every day you go out to sea, you're dependent on every single person to do the right thing, make the right decisions, to make sure you get home safe. I love that in every port

I go to there's no way I'm not going to know someone I've served with on another boat or know through someone else. I love the professionalism and tight-knit dynamic on submarines. We have some phenomenal sailors.



How self-sustained are today's submarines?

The only reason a submarine has to pull into port is to replenish food; we average about a three-month supply. We make our own oxygen and water and purify our air. The limiting factor is always food; we can stay submerged until we run out. And the food is phenomenal. Everything is fresh because prepackaged food takes up a lot of space. You get fresh bread and meals every day. When the food is good, you look forward to it and it raises the morale. Our crews average 150 sailors. For recreation there's movies, audiobooks, reading, treadmills, rowing machines, bikes and free weights. People get into workout routines. And people on subs play a lot of cribbage.

What are your memories of Beacon High School?

I made many lifetime friends. I was on the wrestling and soccer teams. We had a pretty bad soccer team but I played with a lot of great guys, good friends, growing up together along the way. I took Dana Cabrera, a friend of mine from Newburgh, to the prom. My brother still lives in Beacon and my wife's family is from there, so we visit.

Why did you join the Navy?

I'm fourth-generation Navy: My great-grandfather was a boatswain mate, my grandfather was a gunner's mate during World War II and my father was a hull maintenance technician on an aircraft carrier. I was 17 when I went to boot camp in July 2001, two months before the terrorist attacks. I think 9/11 solidified that I was in the right place, at the right time, doing what I wanted to do. Not everyone had a cellphone; we didn't know what was going on. They shut down the base, then allowed people from New York to make phone calls. It was a scary moment but, at the end of the day, it was: 'All right, man, this is why you joined, the possibility of things like this.'

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What TV show should they bring back?

The X Files. Good acting and science fiction based on science.



Bob Witty, Philipstown

227. It was on for five years; funny, interesting neighborhood, good content.




Terry Daniels, Beacon

Cheers! I loved the humor, the song, the characters, the bar.



Dan Connell, Cold Spring



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Gordon Stewart (1939 - 2014)

EDITOR

Chip Rowe

editor@highlandscurrent.org

SENIOR EDITOR

Leonard Sparks

BEACON EDITOR

Jeff Simms

ARTS EDITOR

Alison Rooney

arts@highlandscurrent.org

REPORTERS

Jacob Aframian

Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Joey Asher • Celia Barbour

Brian PJ Cronin • Joe Dizney

Pamela Doan • Deb Lucke

Nick Robbins • Michael Turton

STUDENT CORRESPONDENTS

Cadence Heeter (Beacon)

Una Hoppe (Beacon)

Jude Morrison (Regis)

Rachel Thorne (Beacon)

Clara Tripp (Fieldston)

Lily Zuckerman (Masters)

LAYOUT DESIGNER

Pierce Strudler

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Michele Gedney

For information on advertising:

845-809-5584 | ads@highlandscurrent.org
highlandscurrent.org/ads

MEMBERSHIP

Emily Hare

membership@highlandscurrent.org



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NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR (2021, 2022)
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Tell us what you think

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 accuracy, clarity and length, and to remove 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

Gena Wirth, the architect for the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, said in your Oct. 13 article ("Can the Landscape Change Behavior?") that the addition of trail stewards and the Nimham Trail have led to a reduction in emergency calls to Breakneck. The numbers bear this out. The Cold Spring Fire Department made an average of 15 calls (including a rope rescue) to Breakneck and Bull Hill in 2019, 2020 and 2021 but only nine in 2022 and only three this year to date, according to a log we keep at the park. In addition to these calls, which mostly involve injured hikers, the park staff, park police and state police handle the vast majority of lost hiker incidents all over the Hudson Highlands, which average about one a month over the course of a year. Many are resolved by guiding hikers to trails and out of the woods over the phone.

We have done a tremendous amount of work over the past several years re-blazing trails, establishing designated hiking loops at Bull Hill and Breakneck, and increasing our presence at the trailheads and on the paths. I am hopeful that the recent drop in rescue calls is attributable to these efforts and not just a statistical anomaly.

Evan Thompson, *Philipstown*

Thompson is the manager of the Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve.

You must be receiving quite a few responses to your long front-page article about the proposed Fjord Trail. The article's credulous embrace — hook, line and sinker — of a massive public relations campaign is stunning. Words fail. In what way is this journalism?

Rather than addressing each of the

depressingly Panglossian points in the article, I'll select one, a comment by Fjord Trail Executive Director Amy Kacala:

"Kacala said that most of the trail will have a lighter touch, and is being designed to feel invisible. She said a Fjord Trail board member compared it to the aisle of a cathedral: You don't notice the aisle when you're walking down it, because you're too busy looking at everything around you."

Unmentioned here, as in all Fjord Trail literature, is the more than 2½-mile stretch of "trail" from Dockside Park to Breakneck Ridge. No land exists there for a footpath, so a 10- to 14-foot elevated bike and pedestrian walkway is planned, on concrete pilings and surrounded by an 8-foot chain link fence. Think Sing Sing, not cathedral.

There are no drawings of this trail section on the HHFT website. Eyesores are omitted — that's marketing, baby. Differentiating truth from propaganda falls to us as citizens. It's not an easy task, especially when information is deliberately withheld.

Hope Scott Rogers, *Cold Spring*

The fact that *The Highlands Current* continues to publish these Fjord Trail fluff pieces rather than dig into the environmental impact, approval process or funding of the trail speaks volumes about the journalistic integrity of *The Current* in 2023. It's far removed from the paper that Gordon Stewart founded.

Michael Bowman, *via Facebook*

The Fjord Trail says [in an advertisement] that "accurate information is critical to productive conversation." I couldn't agree more, but I am going to harp on cost until our elected officials pay attention, and

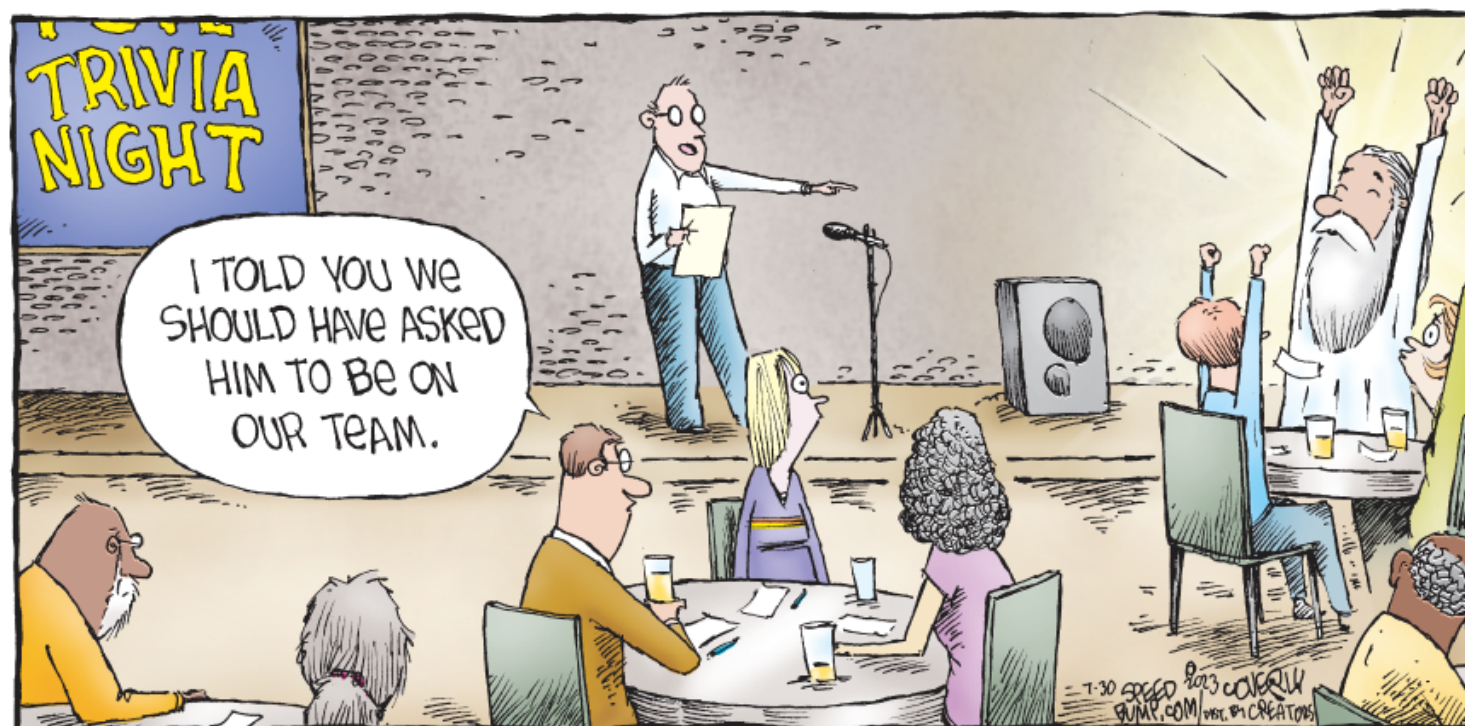
the HHFT and Scenic Hudson come clean. How much is this going to cost to build? Who is going to pay for cost overruns? How much is needed to maintain it? And what's the strategy for raising those funds?

HHFT says parking and shuttle fees and an endowment will pay for annual maintenance. But then why sign a contract that says HHFT can raise money by commercializing the trail? Without knowing what the annual budget is, we, the public, have no way of knowing how robust their commercial activities will need to be. Bryant Park gets rent from all the holiday stalls. Do we want holiday stalls at Dockside to compete with Main Street businesses? How else will they raise enough money?

We turned to other public-private partnerships for cost estimates. Hudson River Park pays \$7 million a year for liability insurance and that does not include indemnifying the city or state. The Hudson River Park has budgeted \$10 million for 2024 for incidental repairs, saying that the pilings that hold up their esplanade are expensive; the esplanade is on land and is hardly a boardwalk 25 feet west of the railroad tracks. The Mario Cuomo Bridge has four security guards who respond to accidents or problems which they spot on cameras or from golf carts. How much do you think that costs?

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority has told HHFT that it will not guarantee access across its tracks to the boardwalk if the boardwalk is damaged. If the tracks are damaged will the HHFT allow Metro-North to gain access to the tracks? If so, who will pay for the replacement of that section of the boardwalk? How is HHFT calculating staff costs and benefits? Staff costs are already in the tens of thousands. Barry Diller paid

(Continued on Page 5)



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

\$260 million to build his Little Island and then was forced to cough up another \$120 million to maintain the island for 20 years, but after that who will pay? No one knows.

Build a modest trail and many locals would support it, but please don't tell us that "accurate information is critical to productive conversations" and then not tell us who will pay for what for how long. That is both cynical and dishonest.

Gretchen Dykstra, *Cold Spring*

One line with no follow up: "The trail will take on the problems of visitor management to keep the village of Cold Spring from being overwhelmed." This is the story you should be covering.

Judith Rose, *Cold Spring*

I have been watching and participating in the democratic process in Philipstown community development since we arrived in 1992. There are so many entry points: Philipstown task forces, PTA, school referendums, biodiversity assessment training by Hudsonia Ltd, 2020 Comprehensive Plan, volunteering at nonprofits (Manitoga, iterations of a therapeutic equestrian center) and open Town Hall meetings, to mention a few. Foundational concerns are always: What is the value added to the community, the environmental impact and the funding for sustaining a community project?

I am an avid hiker and appreciate the collective approach to stewardship of our area trails. I have been following the HHFT project, which our community is wrestling with in open meetings, social media and print advertising campaigns, as well as home and street corner conversations.

This past weekend I attended the Walk & Talk at Dutchess Manor — built on Lenape land in 1868 for the Wade family — to hear about a portion of the HHFT project. I was so impressed with the creative resourcing of a financial grant for restoration of the only Second Empire public building in Philipstown. It will be the keystone of the HHFT, which sits on a rise south of the historic site of Timoneyville and the Melzingah dam.

Kudos to the creative and collaborative efforts of the HHFT team. There is a lot of oral history and physical history in the walls (of local brick) of Dutchess Manor

Correction

In the Oct. 13 issue, we reported that the Beacon City Council planned to give each city employee a one-time, \$1,000 retention bonus. In fact, the budget proposal is to increase each employee's annual salary by \$1,000.

that the HHFT staff respectfully shared and continue to gather.

I hope our community can continue to benefit from the collaborative vision and efforts of the HHFT committee. Community members can continue to attend Q&A forums about the Fjord Trail as it moves forward. I also encourage neighbors to get out and "forest bathe" on our unique highland trails.

Julie Corbett, *Philipstown*

Your article is a complete dereliction of balanced journalism and instead a nauseating display of unvarnished favoritism. *The Current* is solidly in the deep pockets of Chris Davis and Ned Sullivan [of Scenic Hudson]. Shameful!

Pete Salmansohn, *via Facebook*

Such a beautiful spot for a walk! Great idea, great location.

Doug Whelan, *via Facebook*

To the chorus of incredulous replies, I'll add that also going unmentioned here are the roughly 1,000 new and reallocated parking spaces, including 400 new spaces at the foot of the Notch trail. We don't need more parking for more cars. No matter how many consultants are hired, you can't argue with "induced demand." More parking means more cars and more traffic.

Also unmentioned is that all of this infrastructure will require lighting, blighting a rare dark spot on the lower Hudson with the cool dim glow of countless LED lights shining into the night.

Let's come together and scale back this project: Remove the boardwalks, remove the lighting, scale back the parking, ensure accessibility at key points, save Dockside and double down strategically on bike/pedestrian safety along Route 9D. Pair this

with sensible and strategic trail maintenance throughout the Hudson Highlands (and Nelsonville Woods) and this project will be a success for locals and visitors alike.

Ethan Timm, *Nelsonville*

As the community and visitor relations manager at HHFT, I would like to share information and allay confusion on some of the numbers mentioned.

A thousand "new and reallocated parking spaces" is not in any part of the Fjord Trail plan. The number being discussed is 500 spaces, 320 of which already exist or are being relocated. Included in that 500 are 120 spots at Notch, not 400.

Parking is still being explored and shaped so that it is set to optimal levels and doesn't contribute to existing overcrowding. HHFT's visitation management partners are working on these numbers. They are estimates and will be solidified in the site-planning phase.

Per the draft master plan, lighting will be minimally applied and consider light pollution impacts on adjacent towns and undeveloped landscapes. The Fjord Trail will be open from dawn to dusk, but street and parking lot lighting may be required for safety. Lighting will be environmentally sensitive and generally down-facing to minimize light pollution impacts. You can find this info on page 440 in the master plan flipbook at hhft.org.

Lighting and parking are areas where community input is still being gathered. Feel free to send thoughts and ideas to me at rramirez@hhft.org so I can share them with the team.

Rebecca Ramirez, *Cold Spring*

St. Mary's

There was an interesting exchange Oct. 5 at the Cold Spring Zoning Board of Appeals meeting about the recently updated Village Code now having a "scenic viewshed overlay" that specifically protects St. Mary's lawn [Section 134-14]. Does the overlay protect the buildings as well?

Kelly House, *Nelsonville*

Editor's note: At the meeting, Zoning Board Chair Eric Wirth, who served on the Ad Hoc Committee on the Code Update, noted that St. Mary's and its lawn are among a dozen sites that "cannot be degraded" without a variance. "If you attempt to put condos on the lawn, it would run directly afoul of the scenic viewshed

provision," he said. However, John Martin, a Zoning Board member, pointed out that, because St. Mary's is private property, the designation could be challenged as a "taking" — in which government illegally seizes private property for public use — because St. Mary's wouldn't be able to generate the same value from its property if it can't be developed.

I find it interesting there is no mention of the businesses that are renting space in the former rectory to give income to the church. This article reads as if there is no income from these sources.

Christine Peterson, *via Facebook*
The Rev. Steve Schunk, rector at St. Mary's responds: "Currently there is one business and one artist letting space in the rectory, for a grand total of \$1,450 of monthly income, or less than half of our monthly fuel bill. Our Parish Hall rentals are dramatically down because people have not held as many public events, even after the pandemic officially ended. If every room was rented in the rectory, our annual projected income would be \$65,000, or enough to cover the recent loss of a significant donor. But Parish Hall rentals need to double. We also now charge for use of the great lawns, such as for the Modern Makers Market and the Community Day event. Whatever the source, our income is down while our operating expenses have exploded."

Byrne budget

I was pleased to see our Putnam County
 (Continued on Page 6)

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

A nonprofit organization in Putnam Valley, NY is seeking sealed bids for the installation of an entrance barrier gate, prefabricated guard shelter, and access control. Selection criteria will be based on knowledge of security protocols, installation experience, and adherence to preferred schedule.

Specifications and bid requirements can be obtained by contacting rpf@edenvillagecamp.org.

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

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executive, Kevin Byrne, make good in his first budget on his intentions to watch out for the interests of taxpayers ("Putnam Executive Proposes \$195M Budget for 2024," Oct. 6). This includes crafting a budget that keeps the property tax levy flat while reducing the tax rate to its lowest point in 15 years.

Rather than rely on borrowing and putting off financial responsibilities, his budget finds ways to utilize money in the general fund for \$8 million worth of infrastructure projects. At a time when inflation and the cost of living continue to impact our lives, Byrne is working to place the county on a financially responsible track. Further, he has created a path forward to partner with local governments and nonprofit organizations with the proposal of several programs that provide financial assistance to worthy projects.

Residents on the western side of the county often feel like they may be forgotten. I'm impressed with the effort that Byrne has made to ensure our needs are met. Additionally, his executive budget focuses on filling critical needs for the public, like the newly proposed director of mental health.

In only 10 months, Byrne has shown multiple times that he is committed to addressing what has been a lack of support for members of our community in need. I look forward to seeing the key parts of Byrne's vision become reality as the Legislature reviews his budget.

Christopher Lyons, *Philipstown*

Town taxes

The Philipstown Town Board's plan to raise taxes for 2024 far more than the state-mandated 2 percent cap places an unfair burden on many homeowners ("Philipstown Proposes 8.4% Tax Increase," Oct. 13). This increase will have to be made up by families somehow. Perhaps many people will eat out in restaurants five to six times fewer, or maybe they will not attend any of the craft fairs that are held during the year. Surely people will find many ways to recoup the money lost to such an onerous tax increase. This lost revenue from business will only further burden local municipalities.

Anthony Stropoli, *Cold Spring*

Hamilton Fish

I applaud Russell Pyne's eloquent and persuasive letter providing context and biographical insight about the career and opinions of his late grandfather, Hamilton Fish III, co-founder of the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison (*Letters and Comments*, Oct. 13).

Within the extended Fish family and within the larger Garrison community of my childhood 70 years ago, what MSNBC's Rachel Maddow reported in her podcast, *Ultra*, was the oldest of old news. I understand why she did her usual effective (if somewhat slanted) work with this archaeology, documenting a period of past national dissension that prefigures today's riven country and the rise of authoritarianism

at home and abroad, and Trump's cry of "America First!" It must have been a surprise to listeners how largely isolationist the U.S. population was in the late 1930s.

As the ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, it was not inappropriate for Hamilton Fish to take whatever position he felt was in the nation's best interest at the time. Nevertheless, as an elected representative of a largely rural and conservative district, he could be expected to reflect in his speeches and votes the convictions of his constituents. Sometimes this is a tricky needle to thread; but there can be little doubt that in the 1930s the electorate in his congressional district was overwhelmingly isolationist.

The ill-considered optics of one or two public appearances and his inattention to the management of his office surely became for him a source of regret, but to infer from this that he was antisemitic and in thrall to Nazi racism is entirely wrong. In the years that I saw a good deal of him in private situations beginning in the 1960s (I served on the Desmond-Fish Library board for its first 25 years), I never heard the slightest word suggestive of such thinking. The film *Men of Bronze*, a documentary, including interviews, about the Harlem Hellfighters of World War I, illuminates the mutual feelings of respect and admiration between Fish and Black veterans. He was too serious a political campaigner to ever discount or deprecate the opinion of a voter, whatever his or her

race, ethnicity or political inclination.

The divisions within the nation in those days were evident in the Fish family, as well. By the time the European war began in 1939, Fish's four sisters (two of whom, Helena Forster and my grandmother, Rosalind Cutler, were Garrison residents) and my mother had entirely broken with him over his vehement opposition to FDR's gradualist policies leading to preparedness and aid to Britain.

And, of course, he made the inevitable about-face when the war came that he had not wanted. Following his death at 102, I remember at his funeral, at the West Point Cadet Chapel, hearing a recording of a portion of his speech before a Joint Session of Congress immediately following FDR's address asking for a declaration of war. Fish was thunderously seconding the motion.

As Russell Pyne suggests, fairness, understanding and perspective are needed in assessing the actions of a public servant 85 years in the past.

J. Winthrop Aldrich, *Albany*

Now is not the time for nuanced debates and gray areas and trying to imagine what it was like for a congressman 100 years ago. It's 2023 and Jews continue to be targets of violence and bigotry. Why would a community contort itself to try to defend any historical figure who had Nazi sympathies (even if it was because he really didn't like

(Continued on Page 7)

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 6)

Communism, or really didn't know what Hitler was going to end up doing)?

What happened in Israel this month and the resounding threats to Jews across the world make it clear that we must stand united to do all we can to promote peace and inclusion.

Kim Chirls, *Cold Spring*

It disturbs me greatly that so much of today's so-called journalism fails to put things in historical context. Or, more importantly, doesn't want to — just make a stir to gain viewers or readership. The Fish family served the country with distinction and honor for decades and their contributions to their hometown of Garrison were immeasurable.

Garrison was my home for 30 years, where I raised my three sons. The library was a blessing and a gift to the community. People seem to forget that Alice Desmond was the one with the real money who endowed it. This re-naming, to be so-called "politically correct," in today's seeming culture, is a pig-in-a-poke.

Jackaline Ring, *Albany*

It is misguided to tear down statues, change names and try to rewrite history in terms of modern culture unless there is an overwhelming need. It would be better to educate people by adding more information to plaques, biographies and history books. For example, don't erase Thomas Jefferson's

many contributions but add that he had children from a slave relationship. Benjamin Franklin was amazing but a womanizer who didn't always treat his wife and daughter well.

Educate, don't erase. A hundred years from now, we will be judged by new thinking. Erasing history is the quickest way to forget the lessons we should have learned. Should we tear down all the churches because they used to murder "witches" and non-Christians? Should we tear down the schools because they used to inflict corporal punishment, punish those with learning disabilities and promote racism?

Stephanie Hepburn, *Beacon*

I may not be Jewish, but in 74 years on this Earth I've learned enough to know antisemitism when I see it, and I see it plain as day in the continued defense and hand-wringing over this man.

People should visit the library they're so adamantly against renaming and read a little about Mr. Fish, a man who "accidentally" found himself among more people affiliated with the Nazis than you could shake a stick at. Every page seems to pop up a new one — what a coincidence. Didn't know what they were doing? I smell something, ahem, fishy. Let's do our Jewish neighbors — and all our neighbors — a favor and stop making excuses for him.

Sylvia Wall-Brighton, *Garrison*

Enough already. Few of us have thought

things, felt things, said things or done things that we don't years later regret. The man is long dead. He helped fund the library in a major way. Keep the name.

Charles Dizenzo, *Cold Spring*

Family by design

What a beautiful and heartwarming story ("My Turn: Designing Connections," Oct. 6). Good luck, Christine, in your business venture. Your personality will draw crowds.

Roseanne Myers, *Richmond Hill, Ontario*

What a lovely essay! Memories of family absolutely are what make a home.

Anita Prentice, *Garrison*

Contraceptives

The representative of "a religious organization" should not be included in implementing a plan within a public school district ("Beacon Students Seek Contraceptives in School," Oct. 13).

Becky Fifield, *via Instagram*

A religious representative is part of the community. Diversity is crucial to avoid past mistakes when inclusion was not allowed.

Jorge Rodriguez, *via Instagram*

My high school had condoms in the nurse's office in the early 1990s. I'm surprised Beacon does not already do this.

Kyra Stoddart, *via Instagram*

Who wants to ask the nurse for condoms? Leave them in the bathroom or give them out at lunch.

Sean Breault, *via Instagram*

Narcan has become readily available and free in multiple ways in Dutchess County. At age 21, people can legally carry up to 3 ounces of marijuana. It's pathetic that this state would make anything like this difficult.

Patrick O'Dell, *via Instagram*

Contraceptives are not the business of teaching institutions. Their only business is to educate. A child's emotional, therapeutic and personal issues are the responsibility of their families.

Fern Sartori, *Wappingers Falls*

Leafblowers

A leaf-blower ban would be unenforceable ("Wide Angle: Dirty and Loud," Oct. 6). You'd turn every neighbor who spots someone using a gas-powered blower into a snitch. We have noise ordinances on the books for motorcycles but how many tickets have been written for that in the past decade? Further, do you plan to regulate and dramatically change how lawn services conduct business?

I understand the desire to be more environmentally friendly. I switched to a battery-powered string trimmer that has gone well, with less mess and lower noise. But creating local ordinances is futile.

Doug Donaldson, *via Instagram*



HOCUS POCUS

PARADE & EVENTS

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27 & 28, 2023

ALL ARE WELCOME! COME IN YOUR FAVORITE COSTUME.

BLACK CAT SCAVENGER HUNT - GHOST TOURS & STORIES - MONSTER JAM - COMEDY SHOW

AND SO MUCH MORE IS IN STORES, SHOPS, MAIN STREET AND MEMORIAL PARK!

Friday

Main St. Trick-or-Treating, Black Cat Scavenger Hunt, PLUS: Ghost Tours & Stories!

Pick up scavenger hunt passports at participating stores. Get your passport stamped for every Hocus Pocus black cat you find in participating businesses. Prizes for the more you find! Ghost stories presented by Beacon Walking Tours! More details on the website (listed below) and social media!

Saturday

Black Cat Scavenger Hunt Continues!

Parade!!!!!! (meet at Beacon Welcome Center, Main Street, to Memorial Park!)

Monster Jam After Party (Memorial Park)

Food & beverages, special treats, music, vendors and games

Costume Contest - with prizes! "G-HOSTED" near Memorial Park Pavilion.

Comedy Show (for Adults)

For updated times and events, as well as becoming a sponsor of the Hocus Pocus Parade and Events, and or being a participating Black Cat Scavenger Hunt Business on Main Street (free to participate) Please go to www.HocusPocusBeacon.com or Scan the QR Code Above!

More: HocusPocusBeacon.com Beacon Chamber Of Commerce Event Want To Be A Sponsor? We Want You To Be One TOO!



CELEBRATING

250

1770 - 2020 years

ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH

IN THE HIGHLANDS

SUNDAY, OCT. 22, 2023

10 AM Worship Service with The Right Rev. Allen Shin

11:30 AM Dedication of 250TH Anniversary Lych Gate Stone

12 PM Reception in Parish Hall

1 PM Tour of Church and Churchyard

ALL ARE WELCOME. CHILDCARE PROVIDED.

RSVP: OFFICE@STPHILIPSHIGHLANDS.ORG

Please join us as we mark the beginning of our Celebration of the 250TH Anniversary of St. Philip's Church in the Highlands Garrison, NY



ANOTHER SUMMIT

**Outdoor adventure activities across New York & The Northeast:
walking, hiking, kayaking, canoeing, outdoor skills, fishing, snowshoeing, and more!**

Free & open to Veterans, Active Military, Law Enforcement, Fire & Rescue, and EMS.



Difficulty levels range from wheelchair accessible nature walks and beginner kayaking outings to multi-day High & Epic Adventures in the backcountry.



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Educational outings like our fieldcraft survival skills series, backpacking, and canoe camping 101 trips will help you learn & hone outdoor skills.

QUESTIONS? GET IN TOUCH

Want to organize a unique trip for your department or organization?
hello@guardianrevival.org



START YOUR ADVENTURE

Sign up for events:
anothersummit.org

NEWS BRIEFS

All Indian Point Fuel in Casks

Radioactive wastewater remains

The Indian Point Closure Task Force on Monday (Oct. 16) announced that Holtec, the company decommissioning the nuclear power plant near Peekskill, had

moved all spent fuel to dry-cask storage. The fuel had been stored at the plant, which closed in 2021, in cooling pools. The task force said 3,998 “spent fuel assemblies” are now contained in 127 reinforced concrete and steel casks on the site. The casks are expected to remain on-site for at least 10 years. Since the federal government has not yet made good on a

1998 promise to build a facility capable of safely storing radioactive waste for up to 300,000 years, the casks have nowhere to go. Holtec is in the process of attempting to obtain approval to construct an interim site in New Mexico. Although the cooling pools have been emptied of spent fuel, the radioactive wastewater remains. Its fate is unclear after Gov.

Kathy Hochul in August enacted a law that prevents Holtec from discharging the water into the Hudson River. Buchanan, the village where Indian Point is located, has passed local legislation preventing the long-term storage of the wastewater in tanks at the site. Holtec has said it is considering “multiple options” about what to do with the wastewater, but has released no further information.

Garrison Hunter *(from Page 1)*

Besides New York, he has been to a Garrison in Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Texas, Utah and West Virginia. Minnesota, Nebraska and Pennsylvania are yet to come, as well as return visits to New Mexico and North Dakota, which have two each. Emblazoned souvenirs are hard to come by. Gallagher gets a letter with a Garrison postmark wherever possible, “but some places don’t even have a post office,” he says. “Some are just a few shacks, like Garrison near the Idaho-Montana border or the one in Colorado, a one-horse town.” He speaks highly of Philipstown’s Garrison. “Truthfully, it’s the most beautiful,” he said. “That view across the river to West Point is gorgeous.” Gallagher usually travels in his Jeep. In the past, it often provided shelter, although he now relies on motels. “I’d never fly,” he says. “There’s too much to see.” He mostly travels alone, although his

U.S. Bucket Lists

COLD SPRING (28)

Alabama
Colorado
Kentucky
Massachusetts (3)
Minnesota
Missouri
Montana
New Jersey
Nevada
New York (3)
Pennsylvania (5)
South Carolina (2)
Tennessee (3)
Texas
Vermont
Virginia
Wisconsin

NELSONVILLE (9)

Alaska
Arkansas
Kentucky
Missouri
New Jersey
New York
Ohio
Texas
Wisconsin

NORTH HIGHLAND(S) (9)

Alabama
California
Georgia (4)
Indiana
New York
Oregon

CONTINENTAL VILLAGE (2)

Arizona
New York

BEACON (6)

Alabama
Iowa
Michigan
New York
Tennessee
Texas

Source: U.S. Geological Survey, Geographic Names Information System, populated places

Though he left in his 20s, he returns to Garrison in Ireland to visit his brother and sister.

Asked what his family thinks of his Garrison pursuit, Gallagher says: “They probably don’t think I’m the full shilling since I started wandering about, but they understand me.”

As a young man, he was a painter, studied fine art in England, and traveled extensively in Europe. He moved to the U.S. at 27 and now lives in Los Angeles.

When he speaks of the residents of his Irish hometown, he describes them as the most hospitable people in the world.

“They’re the old Irish,” he says. “If you knock on the door and they’re eating their dinner, they’ll want you to come in and eat with them.”

My last question was about my 5-star rating for Tullamore Dew Irish whiskey. “Oh my god,” Gallagher says. “I love Tullamore Dew.” He dispatched his buddy Tommy Conway to deliver a bottle of the Dew to my attention care of an undisclosed location in Garrison (New York).

Beacon Raises *(from Page 1)*

the 2024 spending plan by Dec. 31 and is expected to vote Dec. 11, after several more workshops. Dan Aymar-Blair, Wren Longno, Molly Rhodes and Paloma Wake, who are all running unopposed for re-election, said Monday that they support McCray’s proposal. Kyriacou and George Mansfield, who is not running again after 14 years on the council, did not commit. While the part-time council members are paid \$9,000 annually, the mayor, who is considered the city’s chief executive, receives \$25,000. The last time their benefits were adjusted was in 2017, when the council voted to amend Beacon’s charter to give members the option of a \$2,500 payment if they choose not to enroll in the city’s health insurance plan. (The city has offered health insurance to council members since at least 1988. If they accept, the council member pays 20 percent of the premium.) On Monday, City Administrator Chris White said that council members’ salaries, if adjusted for inflation, would rise to \$11,000, in addition to the health insurance option, and the mayor’s would increase to \$30,000.


If there is agreement to go forward, City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis said a public hearing would be required. A “permissive” referendum might also be necessary, he said, and would require the approval of a percentage of the city residents who voted

in the most recent election. If necessary, the referendum would have to happen within 90 days of the council’s budget vote. If no referendum is required and the budget is adopted before Dec. 31, the salary increases would be effective Jan. 1, when council members are sworn in. If a referendum is needed, the increase would be deferred until after the next election, in 2025. Ward-Willis said he would report back to the council on the next steps. Aymar-Blair, the Ward 4 representative, asked if current council members could vote for the increase but — to avoid a conflict of interest — not take the money. “It feels a little iffy being up here and asking for more money,” he said. That scenario is not a likely option, Ward-Willis explained, because — aside from the mayor — the council members must all receive the same base compensation. McCray also suggested creating a fund to reimburse volunteer committee members for costs such as child care and travel. “I don’t mean traveling from New York City to here, but if you don’t have a car and you live on the east side of Beacon and it’s the cost of an Uber,” McCray said, noting that such a provision would “eliminate as many barriers to participation as possible.”


Ward-Willis said he would investigate the legality of compensating some committee members differently than others versus offering them all a flat stipend. However, “you have to be careful when you’re paying volunteers because that’s the point —

they’re volunteering,” said Susan Tucker, the city’s finance director. Any payment could potentially elevate the volunteers to employee status, creating another legally complex scenario, Ward-

Willis added. “That’s not a ‘no,’ and I’ll take it,” McCray said. “It could be a ‘no’ later on,” Ward-Willis replied. “But you’re right, not today.”




Real Estate



Market Report (September)

	Beacon		Philipstown	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
New Listings	15	6	9	14
Closed Sales	6	8	8	5
Days on Market	40	30	40	48
Median Price	\$533,000	\$465,500	\$605,000	\$575,000
% List Received	99.1	101.2	102.5	100.1
Inventory	26	19	34	45

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



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Garrison Taxes *(from Page 1)*

Superintendent Carl Albano, who retired last month but was appointed by the board on Oct. 4 as the interim for the remainder of the 2023-24 school year, said that doing a feasibility study would create instability in the district. “You run a big risk,” he said. “Resumes will go out.”

After the discussion, Tormey said there seemed to be no consensus to move forward with a feasibility study. The board did briefly discuss conducting a demographic study to analyze enrollment, as well as a five-year financial plan.

Garrison studied the tax issue in light of its budget challenges in recent years. Several members of the community who had spoken in favor of a feasibility study attended the meeting Wednesday but left without comment after hearing the results of the tax study.

In 2022, the district proposed a budget that would have raised taxes by 9.18 percent. That plan failed to get approval from at least 60 percent of voters to override that year’s state-mandated tax cap of 2.2 percent. Voters then approved a spending plan that included a 6.6 percent tax increase. (The increase for 2023 was 3.3 percent, making the state cap.)

“You end up with less aid than you would get if the districts were separate.”

~ Joseph Jimick, district business administrator

The Garrison and Haldane districts have the lowest school property tax rates in Putnam County. For 2022-23, Garrison had a rate of \$9.75 per \$1,000 of market valuation, while Haldane’s was \$16.97 per \$1,000. By contrast, the Brewster school district has the highest in the county, at \$25.58.

At the meeting, Joseph Jimick, the district business administrator, explained how the administration calculated the potential tax increase by adding the Garrison and Haldane levies and subtracting an estimated \$1 million in savings from shared costs to arrive at a \$31.86 million levy for a combined district.

Jimick determined that, in the event of a merger, property taxes for residents of the Haldane district would drop by 20 percent for Philipstown residents and 25 percent for Fishkill and Putnam Valley residents.

Because of one-time state aid, the increase for Garrison residents would be slightly lower during the first year of the merger, at 27 percent, Jimick said. But after that year, the combined state aid for a new district would be a net loss.

“You end up with less aid than you would get if the districts were separate,” he said, noting that the calculations were consistent with a Haldane merger study conducted in 1999 by Bernard P. Donegan Inc.

If the Garrison district were to combine with Putnam Valley, the tax increase would be 98 percent for Philipstown residents and 76 percent for Putnam Valley residents, Jimick said. If the district were to combine with Lakeland, the increase would be 101 percent for Philipstown residents and 100 percent for Putnam Valley residents, he added.

Condos Proposed for Brockway Site

Fishkill project requires bridge over MTA tracks

By Leonard Sparks

In a letter to former Gov. George Pataki in 1998, then-Metropolitan Transportation Authority Chair Virgil Conway listed “potential actions” the agency could take to improve access to the Hudson River.

One was to collaborate with Fishkill developer Thomas Perna and his company, RPA Associates, on a bridge allowing cars to cross over Metro-North’s Hudson Line tracks to access a riverfront property that once housed the Brockway brickyard.

A quarter-century later, Perna hopes to convince the MTA to grant approval for a span across its tracks, which in a previous plan for the property was built as an extension of Brockway Road.

At stake, he told the Fishkill Town Board on Wednesday (Oct. 18), is the viability of Fishkill Landing at the Waterfront, a development that would bring 116 condominiums to the town and tax revenue to it and the Beacon school district.

In addition to the condominiums — with 10 percent of the units at “entry-level” prices — Fishkill Landing at the Waterfront would include a donation of 10 acres of waterfront property to the town, as well as the rights to 100 acres of underwater land.

The Rivercrest apartments and Overlook Pointe townhomes, which also straddle Brockway Road, sit across the tracks from the property.

With approval from Fishkill’s town and planning boards, construction would start during the first half of 2026, with the bridge and a 2,000-foot road completed by 2028, according to RPA. The company says the completed project would increase Fishkill’s tax base by up to \$100 million.

Perna said that research turned up a 1929 deed covenant that requires the MTA to allow a bridge to access the property at a specific location, which he did not identify, but connecting the development there would require crossing private property.

He said his firm has contacted the MTA about the bridge and, after wait-

ing months for a response, “we’re in the process of scheduling a meeting.” RPA has also applied for state funding to construct the bridge and road.

“We are asking for your support because this is the only way it’s going to get built,” Perna told the Town Board. “I don’t believe the railroad folks are going to be looking kindly upon a 1929 agreement.”

Fishkill Supervisor Ozzy Albra said on Thursday (Oct. 19) that “there’s going to be nothing like this on the Hudson River.”

A section of the 10 acres donated to the town could be used for a commercial venture, like a restaurant, and the rest as a town park, he said. The project would also include a promenade, said Albra, and 100 underwater acres would be preserved instead of being developed.

“We’re going to do what the residents want.”

~ Fishkill Supervisor Ozzy Albra

Albra and some members of the Town Board expressed concerns during Wednesday’s meeting about traffic and said they wanted to hear from residents in the area. “We’re going to do what the residents want,” said Albra.

Other ideas have been proposed for the Brockway property. A nonprofit called Hudson River Aquarium Inc. announced in 2000 that it had planned to buy the property from RPA and build a \$50 million aquarium. By 2003, Perna was touting a proposal combining 78 townhomes with two-car garages, a restaurant and retail shops, and a marina with a boat launch.

Any development would bring people back to a property, roughly 2 miles north of Beacon, that was once a thriving brickyard that employed in the late 1800s and early 1900s many Blacks who migrated from the south.

The brickyard, which closed in 1931, also gave its name to the surrounding community, which was largely Black and included a school built for the children of Brockway’s employees.

Fire Districts Draft 2024 Budgets

Garrison and North Highlands detail spending

The Garrison and North Highlands volunteer fire companies held public hearings on Tuesday (Oct. 17) to discuss their tentative 2024 budgets.

The Garrison Fire District commissioners have proposed \$782,500 in spending, which represents a 2 percent increase over 2023. The budget includes spending \$30,000 from reserves. It anticipated no revenue other than property taxes.

The Philipstown North Highlands commissioners proposed spending \$964,000, or a 7 percent increase. The district expects to receive \$902,500 from property taxes and \$18,000 in revenue (such as through donations and grants) and spend \$43,500 from reserves.

Cold Spring Opens Parking Hearing

Written comments accepted through Oct. 25

The Cold Spring Village Board on Wednesday (Oct. 18) held public hearings on changes to Village Code Chapter 126 (Vehicles and Traffic) and Chapter 127 (Residential Parking Program).

At the meeting, a number of residents provided comments in person or via Zoom. The board will post its response to all public comments after its Oct. 25 deadline for written submissions.

The parking program update includes implementation of metered parking on Main Street and expansion of parking permits issued to residents. Vehicles and traffic revisions include reducing the speed limit from 30 to 25 mph, limiting vehicles left on streets to a maximum of 14 days and limiting the number of streets accessible to tour buses. A slideshow summarizing the updates is available at coldspringny.gov.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

A nonprofit organization in Putnam Valley, NY is seeking sealed bids for the installation of an outdoor campus PA system throughout the physical campus. Selection criteria will be based on experience, competitive pricing, and adherence to preferred schedule.

Specifications and bid requirements can be obtained by contacting rfp@edenvillagecamp.org.

Bids will be accepted until January 31, 2024 and installation must be completed by April 20, 2024 at the latest.



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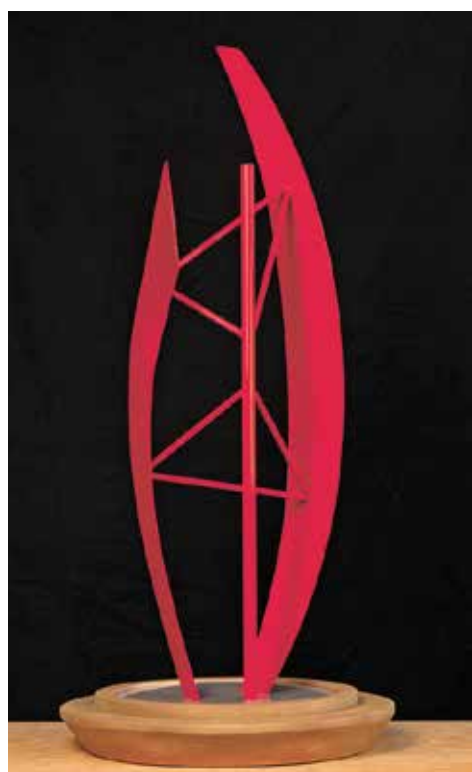
"Core Logic"



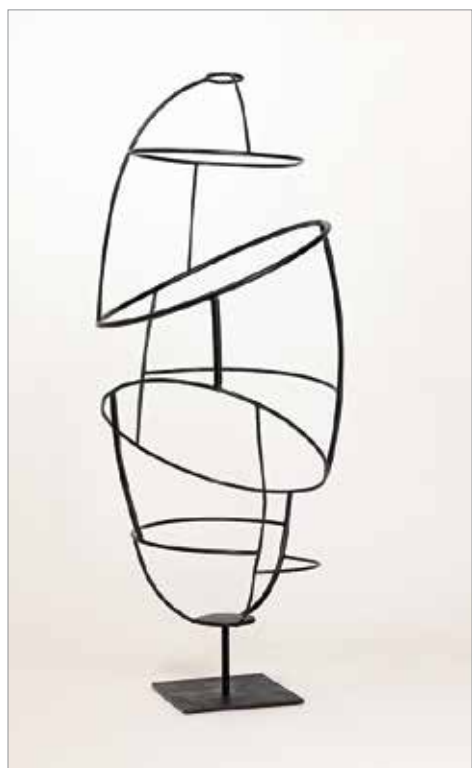
"Breath"



Cobalt on porcelain



"Bliss Wish"



"Related Space"

The Calendar

DualNature

Philipstown sculptor inspired by yin yang

By Alison Rooney

David Provan, the visiting artist at the Garrison Art Center, says his first encounter with the Hudson Valley came from looking at Hudson River School paintings.

"I thought: 'This must be artistic license, because it looks like heaven,'" he says. In 2007, the vision was confirmed when he moved from Brooklyn to Philipstown, where he and his wife, Ann, also an artist, have studio space.

Barely Not Impossible, a solo exhibit of Provan's sculptures, drawings, paintings and mosaics that continues at the art center through Nov. 5, is not a retrospective, he notes, but a selection of work from the past decade, as well as two new pieces.

Provan's work has been shown in galleries and museums in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, London and South Korea. He has completed several public art projects, including a permanent sculpture installation for the Herald Square subway station in New York City in 1996.

He works in various media but primarily makes abstract sculpture in welded steel, bronze, wood and clay. He will present two workshops — one for families on Oct. 21, and one for adults on Oct. 28, both with waiting lists — to demon-

strate how he creates maquettes, which are cardboard sculptures that he finds helpful in figuring pieces out, particularly when he's planning on making a piece in metal.

In his artist's statement for *Barely Not Impossible*, Provan writes that he has, through his art, "tried to construct objects that model and resonate with that world that lies just beyond our understanding."

This quest can be traced to his youth. He grew up in Northern California and graduated from high school during the war in Vietnam. He joined the U.S. Navy, flying on electronic reconnaissance missions, at the back of the plane. Four years later, when he was discharged, he stayed the summer in Japan, working as a carpenter, "reading about Buddhism, taking yoga, no longer eating meat and questioning my decision to go to Vietnam. I needed a new way of living."

When a clerk told him the Navy would fly him either to California or New Delhi, everything changed. "I went to India and Nepal for two-and-a-half years, including a year in a Tibetan monastery."

From there, Provan traveled overland through the Middle East and Europe

(Continued on Page 15)



David Provan

Photos provided



"Diplasmic Contraction"



"Slo Mo Explo"

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 21

Heritage Applefest

GARRISON

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638
boscobel.org

Learn about how apples are grown, harvested and processed and enjoy live music, games, history and crafts. *Cost: \$24 (\$21 seniors, \$13 ages 4 to 8)*

SAT 21

Filling Empty Bowls

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St. | fareground.org

Enjoy a lunch donated by local restaurants and take home a bowl made by local potters. The event benefits individuals and families in the community who are experiencing food insecurity. *Cost: \$35 (\$75 per family)*



SAT 21

Butterfield Cocktail Party

COLD SPRING

3 p.m. West Point Foundry
Bed and Breakfast | 10 The Boulevard
butterfieldlibrary.org

To mark the 200th anniversary of Julia Butterfield's birth, the Butterfield Library and the Putnam History Museum will host this talk about Thomas Rossiter's painting, "A Picnic on the Hudson." *Cost: \$25*

SAT 21

Common Ground Auction

BEACON

5:30 p.m. Prophecy Hall
1113 Wolcott Ave.
commongroundfarm.org

Bid on artwork, services, travel packages and other items to support Common Ground Farm. *Cost: \$25*

SUN 22

Castle to River Run

GARRISON

8 a.m. Philipstown Recreation
107 Glenclyffe Dr. | 845-424-4618
friendsofphilipstownrecreation.org

Choose a half marathon or 5K in the scenic area around the Rec Center that includes Osborn's Castle and the river. The races begin at 9 a.m. and 9:30 a.m., followed by a 1-mile children's fun run at 10:30 a.m. *Cost: \$50, \$35 and \$5*



Butterfield Cocktail Party, Oct. 21

SUN 22

Cocktail Benefit

GARRISON

4 p.m. Private residence | hhl.org

The Hudson Highlands Land Trust will host its annual fundraiser. Register online. *Cost: \$200 to \$500*

TUES 24

West End Story

BEACON

7 - 8:30 p.m. Beacon Historical Society
61 Leonard St. | beaconhistorical.org

View the society's new exhibit on urban renewal and a short film featuring the recollections of local residents. Light refreshments will be served.

THURS 26

Rummage Sale

BEACON

9 a.m. – 3 p.m. St. Joachim's Church
51 Leonard St.

Find treasures and values. Also
FRI 27, SAT 28.

THURS 26

Community Bike Ride

COLD SPRING

6 p.m. Foodtown | 49 Chestnut St.

Ride through the village to an informal BYOB picnic. Costumes and decorated bikes welcome.

THURS 26

Foundation for Beacon Schools Gala

BEACON

7 p.m. The Roundhouse | 2 E Main St.
facebook.com/forbeaconschools

The masquerade-themed event will include food, raffles and the presentation of Innovation in Teaching awards. *Cost: \$85*

TALKS & TOURS

SAT 21

Electric Heat Pumps

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Learn about financial incentives and cost savings, efficiency increases

and lower carbon emissions from using heat pumps. Organized by the Climate Smart Task Force and the Village of Cold Spring.

SAT 21

Trail Talk From an Old Dirt Kicker

PHILIPSTOWN

2:30 p.m. Hubbard Lodge
2880 Route 9 | hhl.org

J. Robert Harris, the author of *Way Out There: Adventures of a Wilderness Trekker*, will share stories and photos in this program hosted by the Hudson Highlands Land Trust. *Cost: \$10*

SAT 21

Autumn Walk & Sunset Toast

GARRISON

4 p.m. Manitoga | 584 Route 9D
845-424-3812 | visitmanitoga.org

Take a guided walk to the Boulder Osio and enjoy the beauty of the season. *Cost: \$100*

SUN 22

Discover Your Natural Self Through Song

COLD SPRING

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

Francesca Genco will lead the group in exercises in making sound and singing. Registration required.

SUN 22

Annual Meeting and Social

PHILIPSTOWN

3 p.m. Little Stony Point
3011 Route 9D | littlestonypoint.org

The Little Stony Point Citizens Association invites anyone to become a member of the nonprofit volunteer organization.

SUN 22

Fall Fundraiser

PUTNAM VALLEY

3 p.m. Fahnestock State Park
1498 Route 301
philipstowndemocrats.org

Meet local candidates at this annual Philipstown Democrats event held at the Pelton Pond picnic area. The

entrance is about a half-mile south of the park address. *Cost: \$30 suggested*

THURS 26

The Future of New York City

GARRISON

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

Daniel Doctoroff, a former deputy mayor for economic development, will discuss major projects with author Thomas Dyja. Registration required.

FRI 27

Nature's Best Hope

MILLBROOK

7 p.m. Cary Institute
2801 Sharon Turnpike | caryinstitute.org

Douglas Tallamy, author of *Bringing Nature Home*, will explain his proposal to shrink lawns, plant natives and increase connections in ecosystems. Attend in person or watch online. *Free*

SAT 28

A Conversation with Ben Patton

GARRISON

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

Patton, a filmmaker, psychologist and author who runs a nonprofit that works with veterans, will discuss growing up with a father and grandfather who were major generals. Registration required.

SAT 28

Sandra Proto

COLD SPRING

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

The writer will read from her collection of poetry, *Wrapped Up In Life with Omniscient Eyes*, and answer questions about her work.

VISUAL ART

SAT 21

Hope is a Mother

NEWBURGH

3 – 7 p.m. Grit Works Gallery
115 Broadway | grit-works.com

See Caroline Harman's 35-foot painting of the world she observed during the pandemic lockdown, along with others that reflect species loss. Through Dec. 17.

SAT 28

Pavilion Tour

PHILIPSTOWN

Noon. Magazzino Italian Art
2700 Route 9 | magazzino.art

Miguel Quismondo will lead a tour of the new Robert Olnick pavilion, which he designed. *Cost: \$10*

KIDS & FAMILY

TUES 24

Inspired Parent-Teen Art Series

GARRISON

6:30 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing
covecarecenter.org

Students in grades 6 to 12 and a caregiver can make art together

at this event hosted by Cove Care. Registration required.

FRI 27

Teen Night Hike

PHILIPSTOWN

7 p.m. Little Stony Point
3011 Route 9D | butterfieldlibrary.org

Students in grades 9 to 12 can join this guided hike through the park after dark. Registration required.

SAT 28

Touch a Truck

COLD SPRING

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Haldane Playground
15 Craigsides Drive

The fundraiser to support the junior class trip will include a 50/50 raffle, face painting, food and drinks, as well as trucks. *Cost: \$10 donation*

SAT 28

Draw Cartoon Animals

COLD SPRING

10:30 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Cartoonist Rick Stromoski, the author of *Schnozzer & Tatertoes Take a Hike!*, will lead drawing exercises for children ages 6 to 10. Registration required.



SUN 29

Monsters and Marvels

GARRISON

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

Alysa Wishingrad will read from her latest book for middle-school readers and answer questions.

MUSIC

SAT 21

Doansburg Chamber Ensemble

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St. | stmaryscoldspring.com

The trio of piano, French horn and flute will have a program that includes Duvernoy, Ewazen, Bonis, Piazzolla and Schocker. *Cost: \$17 (\$14 students and seniors)*

SAT 21

Corner House

PUTNAM VALLEY

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

The quartet will play music from its latest release, *How Beautiful It's Been*. *Cost: \$20*

HALLOWEEN

SAT 21
Repo Man

BEACON
7 p.m. Beacon Music Factory
333 Fishkill Ave.
storyscreenpresents.com
The Beacon Horror Show, organized by Story Screen, presents the 1984 sci-fi black comedy starring Emilio Estevez and Harry Dean Stanton. *Cost: \$10*

SUN 22
Pumpkin Glow

GARRISON
5 – 7 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
The library grounds will be decorated with artistic pumpkins. Come in costume and enjoy the spooky fun.

WED 25
Zombie Painting

BEACON
4 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
Children ages 4 to 10 are invited to paint a zombie — along with a brain for it to devour. Registration required.

THURS 26
Young Frankenstein

BEACON
7 p.m. Hudson Valley Brewery
7 E. Main St. | storyscreenpresents.com
The Beacon Horror Show, organized by Story Screen, presents the 1984 comedy starring Gene Wilder. *Free*



Pumpkin Glow, Oct. 22

FRI 27
Scavenger Hunt

BEACON
3 – 6 p.m. Main Street
hocuspocusbeacon.com
Get your passport stamped by finding black cats at local businesses. Also SAT 28.

FRI 27
Scary Stories in the Barn

BEACON
5:30 p.m. Mount Gulian
145 Sterling St. | mountgulian.org
Storyteller Lorraine Hartin Gelardi will spook and delight kids ages 5 to 15 in the historic barn. *Cost: \$15 (\$8 children)*

FRI 27
Trunk or Treat

GARRISON
6:30 – 8 p.m. Philipstown Recreation
107 Glenclyffe
facebook.com/philipstownrecreation
Children can practice their trick-or-treating skills. Costumes welcome.

SAT 28
Hocus Pocus Parade

BEACON
1:30 p.m. Main Street
hocuspocusbeacon.com
Line up at the Welcome Center and walk to Memorial Park, where there will be a Monster Jam from 3 to 5 p.m.

SAT 28
Halloween Parade

COLD SPRING
4:30 p.m. St. Mary's Lawn
1 Chestnut Street
facebook.com/coldspringhalloween-parade
The 29th annual parade to the bandstand kicks off at 5:30 p.m. Costumes, pets and costumed pets welcome.

SAT 28
The Howling Comedy Show

BEACON
5 – 8 p.m. Memorial Park
198 Robert Cahill Drive
hocuspocusbeacon.com
This adult event will feature comedians and treats.

SAT 28
Dance Party

BEACON
7 p.m. University Settlement
724 Wolcott Ave. | compassarts.org
This party, sponsored by Compass Arts with a *Night of the Living Dead* theme, will include jams and drinks. Wear your best costume. *Cost: \$30*

SAT 28
Nosferatu

POUGHKEEPSIE
7:30 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St.
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org
Watch the 1922 silent horror film on the big screen accompanied by Juan Cardona Jr. playing his original score on the theater's Wurlitzer organ. *Free*

SAT 28
Hudson Valley Boo Ball

POUGHKEEPSIE
8 p.m. MJN Center
14 Civic Center Plaza
midhudsonciviccenter.org
The Hype will perform, and there will be beer trucks. *Cost: \$15*

SAT 28
Rocky Horror Picture Show

PEEKSKILL
9 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The 1975 cult classic, with Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry and Barry Bostwick, returns for the holiday. Costumes welcome. *Cost: \$23.50*

SUN 29
Storytime

COLD SPRING
11 a.m. Tot's Park
4 High St. | splitrockbks.com
Frances Cha will read from her book, *The Goblin Twins*, followed by a craft and snacks. Costumes welcome.

SUN 29
Frankenstein

PEEKSKILL
7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
To celebrate the 200th anniversary of Mary Shelley's novel, watch a film of the National Theater's performance of the classic story. *Cost: \$27*

SUN 29
Night of the Living Dead

BEACON
7 p.m. The Yard | 4 Hanna Lane
storyscreenpresents.com
The Beacon Horror Show, organized by Story Screen, presents the unrated 1968 fright classic. *Cost: \$10*

SAT 21
Yellow Brick Road

PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The tribute band will play the hits of Elton John. *Cost: \$37 to \$47*

SAT 21
Van the Band

BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The tribute band will play the music of Van Morrison. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SUN 22
Total Mass Retain

BEACON
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
This Yes tribute will include classics and rarities. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SUN 22
Salon Séance

BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | howlandmusic.org
The Howland Chamber Music Circle presents this concert based on Olivier Messiaens' work that combines storytelling, music and origami. See Page 20. *Cost: \$35 (\$10 students)*

FRI 27
Ace Frehley

PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The former KISS guitarist will perform songs from his latest release, *Origins II*. *Cost: \$55 to \$90*

FRI 27
Slaid Cleaves & Robbie Fulks

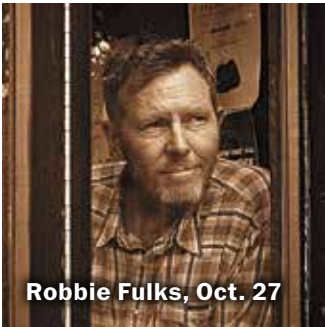
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Cleaves will play music from his new album, *Together Through the Dark*, and Fulks from his project, *Bluegrass Vacation*. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SAT 28
Back to the Garden 1969

BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Dress as a hippie to truly enjoy the Woodstock tribute band. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SUN 29
American Brass Quintet

NEWBURGH
3 p.m. St. George's Church
105 Grand St. | 845-534-2864
newburghchambermusic.org
The program, part of the



Robbie Fulks, Oct. 27

Newburgh Chamber Music series, will include 17th-century dance music as well as new work by Timothy Higgins. *Cost: \$35 (\$30 seniors, \$10 students)*

SUN 29
Tret Fure

BEACON
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The singer and songwriter returns to the folk music of her youth after more than five decades of recording and playing. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 21
Dead Man Walking

POUGHKEEPSIE
1 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St.
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org
Enjoy a livestream of the

Metropolitan Opera performance. *Cost: \$30 (\$28 members, \$23 ages 12 and younger)*

SUN 22
Our Town

PUTNAM VALLEY
3 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org
Actors from the White Pond Community Arts Center Stage will read the Thornton Wilder play. *Cost: \$10*

THURS 26
Tape Face

PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The mime will perform his funny and dramatic show with tape over his mouth. *Cost: \$30 to \$50*



FRI 27
Blippi

POUGHKEEPSIE
6 p.m. MJN Center | 14 Civic Center Plaza
midhudsonciviccenter.org
The popular preschool character has a live show. *Cost: \$46*

FRI 27
Brush Strokes

GARRISON
7 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org
Jim Semmelman's new musical deals with love, loss and lawyers. See Page 15. Also SAT 28, SUN 29. *Cost: \$30 (\$25 students, seniors)*

CIVIC

MON 23
City Council

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

WED 25
Village Board

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

WED 25
Town Board

PHILIPSTOWN
7:30 p.m. Recreation Center
107 Glenclyffe | philipstown.com
The board will hold a budget hearing that covers proposed spending by the Recreation and Highway departments and the Continental Village park and water districts.

Accurate information is critical to productive conversation.

- ✓ **Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, Inc. (HHFT) is a subsidiary nonprofit of Scenic Hudson, whose excellent record of stewarding the Hudson River Valley spans 60 years.**
The Fjord Trail represents the inclusive, forward-thinking, community-focused conservation initiatives that are the hallmark of Scenic Hudson's work. The proof is right here in our communities: West Point Foundry Preserve, Foundry Cove, Long Dock Park, and Mt. Beacon Park.
- ✓ **HHFT's Staff and Board live here.**
Two staff members live in greater Philipstown and one lives in the Village of Cold Spring. More than half of HHFT's board members live in Philipstown. *You know us.* We are residents who care deeply about our community.
- ✓ **Nearly half a million people already visit Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve annually.**
With better infrastructure to meet demand and smart visitation management tools, the Fjord Trail will help solve the visitation problems the community faces today and manage future challenges proactively.
- ✓ **Hikers need a direct route to the trails.**
The Village of Cold Spring will benefit from increased public parking, an improved Breakneck Ridge train station, a Visitor Center at Dutchess Manor, and new trailhead entries – **all north of the Village.** These will strategically draw hikers away from Cold Spring.
- ✓ **HHFT's proposal for Dockside Park is simple.**
We plan to add public restrooms, a trailhead entry point to move hikers off Village streets faster, and work with local groups, like the Cold Spring Film Society, to make sure beloved community activities at the park continue. Any additional ideas for the park would be led by community input and interest.
- ✓ **The Fjord Trail plan is undergoing rigorous environmental review through the SEQRA process.**
HHFT will follow all guidelines for habitat protection and mitigation, as outlined by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the Department of Environmental Conservation.
With Scenic Hudson as our lead partner, environmental integrity is central to all of our work.
- ✓ **The cost of doing nothing is too high.**
The weekend congestion problems in Cold Spring and the serious safety concerns along Route 9D won't go away simply because we want them to. **We must take action.**

Want to learn more or share your ideas for the trail?

Join the grassroots group that is fostering collaborative conversation about how the Fjord Trail can best serve our community.
Reach out to PhilipstownAdvocatesForTrails@gmail.com

Join our next Sunday Afternoon Chat:
October 29 from 2-4 PM at Hubbard Lodge
Email us: info@hhft.org
Visit: hhft.org



PAID ADVERTISEMENT

A Production of Pivots

For new musical, lyricist ends up as director

By Alison Rooney

Jim Semmelman knows how to increase dramatic tension: Enter as a lyricist, then write a play, then rewrite it. Cast the play, then cast it again after one of the leads lands an off-Broadway job. There's been a whole lot more since the Garrison resident originally was brought in to write the lyrics for what was then someone else's project.

The project was a play called *Last Chapter, Best Chapter*, by Stephen Chinlund. Feeling that there was "not enough there, there," Semmelman says he asked if he could "create a backstory with more meat to advance and inform the story." He eventually rewrote nearly all of the story, "showing how we got there, giving the characters' history, tension, problems to overcome and movement."

He even altered the title, to *Brush Strokes*. (One of the main characters is a painter.)

All this was unfortunately followed by the deaths of Chinlund and the original composer. Nevertheless, Semmelman stayed with the work, particularly after a well-received reading of the first act at the Philipstown Depot Theatre last winter.

The plan was to do a reading of the second act, but the Depot suggested going with the entire production, which is scheduled for a two-week-end run beginning Oct. 27. (In another of what Semmelman calls a series of "curveballs," the director had to withdraw for medical reasons, so Semmelman has assumed that role, as well.)

Brush Strokes, with music by David Shenton, is "a three-character romantic musical 'dramedy' dealing with great loss, love and sacrifice," Semmelman says. "There is a widowed artist, her millennial granddaughter and the divorce lawyer who realigns, recalibrates and rejuvenates all of their lives."

"It is essentially a love story, but in this case the protagonists are in their 70s and they have all the same issues as lovers in their 20s but with a lot more baggage," he says. "There are so few love stories out there for people of a certain age." There are also "frank discussions about end-of-life choices."

The musical was created largely through Zoom, during and after the pandemic shutdown. "David created a wide-ranging score encompassing classical, jazz and more standard musical theater," Semmelman

says. "Each of the characters has their own sound. Virginia, the main character, is more classical, while her granddaughter, Mitzi, is quirkier and jazzy. Eric, who is pursuing Virginia, is more bombastic and standard musical theater."

Melding the words and cadences of his characters to match their musical counterparts was new for Semmelman. "I didn't realize at first how the dialogue would be, coming out of the voice of that character," he says. "I had clear voices in my head, because I would write the dialogue for each. I instinctively knew all three of these characters. Then your actors bring different things to it: They'll ask questions, you'll explain it, they interpret it in a different way. I love the collaboration."

The actors are Mark McGrath, Lynne Wintersteller and Rachel Fairbanks, who recently appeared in *Camelot* at Lincoln Center. When Semmelman had to re-cast the play, he thought of McGrath, a fellow graduate of the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music.

He then remembered that McGrath's wife, Wintersteller, was a past nominee for a Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Actress in a Musical. "I realized, 'Oh my God, here are two Broadway veterans who will already have a short cut, because they're married.' Getting a husband and wife to play the love interests is fun and exciting."

"I sent them the script, and they read it that afternoon, then called me at night," he says. "They hadn't even heard the music. They jumped in full force, and had some suggestions. They did a sing-through, with their amazing voices. I couldn't be more thrilled."

Semmelman, who grew up in Dayton, Ohio, and initially wanted to be a performer, has long been a stage manager for professional theater and television, most often for NBC,

where he worked at *The Today Show* for 13 years.

All that experience has left him well-prepared for the rehearsal process. "I'm constantly changing hats," he says. "I have a pretty good knowledge of all aspects of a production and a strong vocabulary, which is great because I can communicate in each person's language."

The Philipstown Depot Theatre is located at 10 Garrison's Landing. Tickets for Brush Strokes, which will be performed Oct. 27 to 29 and Nov. 3 to 5, are \$30 (\$25 for students and seniors) at philipstowndepottheatre.org.



Jim Semmelman



Lynne Wintersteller



Rachel Fairbanks



Mark McGrath



Baby and Dog

This feature is designed as a counterweight to all the bad news in the world that weighs people down. We could share a photo of a baby, or a photo of a dog, but we are giving you both. How many newspapers can say that? Dana Ferine and Brendan Murphy of Beacon shared this photo of their daughter, Fiona, with Nutmeg. If you have a photo of a baby and a dog, submit it for consideration to editor@highlandscurrent.org.

Dual Nature (from Page 11)

before returning to the U.S. to enroll at Yale, where he earned a degree in painting and architecture. He later earned a master of fine arts from the Royal College of Art.

"During my last year in London, I developed my own voice," he says. "I still use some traditional elements, like color theory and application, but other than that my invention comes from outside of art school."

Nearly all of his work deals with yin yang and the duality of the universe. "Two things come together and produce a third; that pattern goes through all of my work," he says. "For instance, a series called *Life Continuity* diagrams a person's life from

birth to death. Doing this diagrammatically is a way to visualize someone's life, and also the continuity of life, generation to generation. Another called *The Great Ongoingness* is modeled on a Tibetan knot."

Provan likes making "succinct, structurally contained objects, things like little icons or altars to the great mystery. I make these objects as acknowledgment and homage. Sometimes I have an idea of where I want to wind up. Once I see it in three dimensions, I can enhance it."

The Garrison Art Center, at 23 Garrison's Landing, is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. For more of Provan's work, see davidprovan.com.



ROC PILATES

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www.rocPilates.net

Small, Good Things

One for the Ladies

By Joe Dizney

In the wake of both harvest season and Indigenous Peoples' Day, one can't help but be grateful for our native agricultural and culinary heritage, and the Northeast Native American — in particular, the Iroquois — traditions.

The Iroquois were a matrilineal society, and their major crops (squash, beans and corn) were thought to be imbued with female energy and known collectively as the Three Sisters.

Mohawk women cultivated the three crops symbiotically: Beans were planted at the base of budding corn stalks and their vines climbed the growing stalks to catch the sun, while broad-leaved squash plants nestled in at the base to shade, cool and keep the roots moist, benefiting all.

Nutritionally, they are equally symbiotic with corn and squash providing complex carbohydrates, the beans providing excellent vegetable protein (especially in concert with the corn), and the beans and squash supplying healthy vitamins and minerals.

In the kitchen and on the tastebuds, they



are equally welcomed as a trio, and with the cooler, and unseasonably wet weather upon us, I recently lit upon the idea of a Three Sisters Chili, meatless, but hearty and redolent of chiles — warm and comforting in the best way. I initially thought to use the last of the market corn, thickening the pot with a couple of tablespoons of masa harina (or yellow cornmeal) at the end, which is traditional, at least in my house, for chili.

And then ... I remembered another singular corn product that has a great many uses and is well worth seeking out and exploring for your winter larder and table: John

Cope's Dried Sweet Corn. Founded well over a century ago in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, Cope's uses supersweet varieties such as Silver Queen, Silver King and Natalie that are harvested in the early stages, stripped and air-dried at a low temperature for about eight hours. That preserves their color and nutrients, intensifying a sweet, nutty, caramelized and corny flavor.

A final step — cracking the corn into smaller bits — makes for a unique texture and quick cooking time. It also adds a slightly chunky texture that is much welcomed in this surprisingly hearty chili. I have yet to find an acceptable substitute.

I would say Cope's is hard to find, but in this day of internet commerce, the dreaded Amazon is a reliable source, as is Zingerman's, or even a couple of Amish and Pennsylvania Dutch suppliers also now online. But you have to love a shelf-stable product that lists only one ingredient on the label: dried sweet corn.

I like to add it to a pot of polenta when cooking Italian braises, for an extra corn kick, or for elevating Charleston/New Orleans shrimp-and-grits, and it's great for amplifying corn puddings, custards or cornbread for holiday or everyday feasts.

For the chili shown here, I confess to the addition of a cup or so of fresh tomatillos gifted to me from a friend's garden, making it perhaps a Four Sisters Chili, but one hard-to-source ingredient per recipe is only fair. The sisters won't mind, I'm sure.

Three Sisters Chili

SERVES 6 TO 8

Olive or peanut oil	1 large yellow onion
1½ cups butternut squash cut into a ½- to ¾-inch dice	4 to 5 cloves garlic minced
2 teaspoons ground cumin	1 quart vegetable stock
4 teaspoons chile powder	1 cup John Cope's Dried Sweet Corn
2 tablespoons light brown sugar	2 cups cooked chili beans (black, pinto, cranberry) and reserved cooking liquid
Salt and pepper	2 tablespoons masa harina or yellow cornmeal
1 teaspoon ground chipotle pepper	
1 teaspoon ground ancho chilies	

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees with the rack in the upper position. In a large bowl, toss the squash cubes in 2 tablespoons oil and dust evenly with 1 teaspoon cumin, 1 teaspoon chile powder and the sugar. Spread evenly in one layer on a parchment-lined sheet pan. Sprinkle a little salt and grinds of black pepper over all and roast for 25 to 30 minutes. (Remove from oven and reserve when done.)

2. Heat 2 tablespoons oil in a large (2 quart) saucepan or Dutch oven over medium-high heat. When oil shimmers add onion and sauté until it just begins to color. Add garlic and cook 30 to 45 seconds. Add remainder of cumin and chile powder, the oregano, plus powdered chipotle and ancho peppers and cook for a minute or two. Add the vegetable stock and lower heat to a simmer. Cook for 10 to 15 minutes and add the Cope's dried corn. Let simmer for about 30 minutes.

3. Add the beans and reserved squash and bring back to a simmer for 20 minutes. If it's too thick add some of the reserved bean-cooking liquid or more stock or water. Five minutes before serving, stir in the masa harina or cornmeal and stir to thicken.

4. Serve over rice or some other grain (wild rice or a wild rice blend would be nice) and garnish with the usual chili accompaniments: sour cream or cheese, scallions, cilantro or avocados.

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Diandra Riley, the proprietor of the Butterfull Convenience Store in Beacon

Photo by Valerie Shively

TACOS & BUTTER

Two new eateries open in Beacon

By Marc Ferris

LA BARBIRRIA

The opening of a new Mexican cantina is likely to elicit more ho-hum than gung-ho, but this isn't just another taco joint.

For a couple of months, locals knew it as the place without a liquor license. Now, a full bar serves the requisite tequila drinks along with Victoria, Mexico's oldest beer brand.

Yet here, the food is the feature. Unlike many other Mexican restaurants, it divides the menu into appetizers, soups and salads, house specialties and street tacos. There are no sections for burritos, fajitas, quesadillas or enchiladas (although it offers fajitas as an entrée).

After working as a chef for 34 years, Patricio Patino, a native of Ecuador, opened Soltano, a northern Mediterranean spot in Fishkill, five years ago. Now, he turns his attention to well-crafted Mexican fare.

Patino enjoys the jumble of spices and flavors in Mexican cuisine, which he likens to Indian fare. Here, everything is fresh, there is no microwave oven and the small freezer is

“Patino enjoys the jumble of spices and flavors in Mexican cuisine, which he likens to Indian fare.

only used for desserts. And, someone is always on duty to make the corn tortillas by hand.

Seafood offerings include aguachile, a dish akin to ceviche that is scarce on Mexican restaurant menus in the area, said Patino. Pescado marinado showcases sea bass and there are shrimp, mahi mahi and blackened salmon tacos, none of which exceeds \$5.

Birria, the house specialty and restaurant's namesake, is a method of slow-braising meat and vegetables that originated in the state of Jalisco. In addition to two entrees that mix in several cuts of meat (and shrimp in the La Barbirria Moca-jete), it is also served in tacos.

The daily agua fresca comes in cucumber and lime flavor along with a tangy beet-red version made by soaking dried hibiscus flowers in water.

La Barbirria is located at 389 Main St. See labarbirria.com or call 845-440-7508.

BUTTERFULL

Proprietors up and down Beacon's Main Street sell plenty of candles, but only one makes them from butter. Even the wick is edible.

According to Diandra Riley, butter is life. “It's such a versatile food and we use it on everything,” she said. Riley opened Butterfull Convenience Store on Oct. 7; a flow of visitors jammed the space and grooved to reggae music. Riley and several helpers offered a steady stream of butter-based food samples, along with prosecco and mimosas.

The goods at the sliver of a store are displayed with precision. The museum-worthy lighting makes things pop and taking something off the shelf feels like disturbing an art exhibit.

Inside the door, the vegan items are on the right. Organic selections and rows of \$4.99 cookbooks are to the left. Climb four stairs to the household and personal care section and a microcosm of typical convenience store food items. When the small kitchen in the back is operational, Riley will offer charcuterie boards.

Near the register sits a refrigerated case full of the *raison de etre*, homemade whipped butter. Riley, whose business card identifies her as a “butter chef,” makes numerous concoctions, including sweet, savory and vegan. Colors include purple, green and bright orange.

Riley, a former nurse, decided to follow her passion and earned a degree at the Culinary Institute of America. She lives in Wappingers Falls, but hails, like so many potential customers, from Brooklyn.

The convenience aspect of the business is to provide hard-to-find items and other staples at a reasonable price, she said. She plans to stay open until 8 p.m. and perhaps later on weekends.

“Food is the staff of life,” she said at the opening, wearing a white embroidered chef's coat. “Everyone has to eat to live and it's so gratifying when people's eyes get big as they enjoy my creations.”

Butterfull is located at 428 Main St. See shopbutterfull.com or call 845-661-8436.

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 is in session.

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 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 prices.

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.

LOOKING BACK IN BEACON

By Chip Rowe

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

150 Years Ago (October 1873)

The creditors of Caleb Knapp, whose shoe store at Fishkill Landing was \$2,647 in debt [\$68,000 today] when he disappeared, gathered at the Court of Bankruptcy to see what they could recover.

Two men who were seriously injured in an explosion of nitroglycerine during blasting near Sylvan Lake were placed on a train at Dutchess Junction bound for Bellevue Hospital in New York City.

James Welsh, a laborer at the Mott Brick Co., near Dutchess Junction, was killed while pushing a carload of bricks along the tracks when he slipped under the wheels.

An empty train car came loose at Glen-

ham and rushed through Matteawan "like a spectral car with Satan for an engineer," according to *The Cold Spring Recorder*. Informed by telegraph that the car was coming, officials at Dutchess Junction stopped it with a barricade of railroad ties.

Because of a national financial crisis, the Schenck's machine shop at Matteawan closed and 100 men were dismissed. At the Matteawan Hat Shop, which employed 282 men, a manager said: "If this thing keeps on 10 days longer, we shall close. The most our employees can stand is a stoppage of one to three months." The Seamless Clothing Co., which made druggets, hoop skirts and linings for arctic shoes, robes and blankets, had been running 24/7 with 500 employees but had reduced that to daytime with 350 workers.

While fishing at Lake Levenon, 5 miles from Monticello, Dr. H.C. Wilson and Lyman Moses of Matteawan caught 150 pounds of pickerel that weighed from 8 ounces to 4 pounds each.

125 Years Ago (October 1898)

Herman Inman of Matteawan broke his collarbone while bicycle racing at Peattle's when a person ran in front of him on the track.

William Woods of Cold Spring purchased some of the frame tenement buildings at Glenham owned by the Hiltons and tore them down to sell the timber.

The residence of Reuben Knapp in the Highlands burned to the ground on a Wednesday afternoon. Knapp and his wife



Heavyweight champion John L. Sullivan visited Matteawan in 1898.

and their hired hand were in the field husking corn when they were astonished to see the home ablaze. A neighbor had spotted the flames and sounded the alarm, but the house and everything in it was lost. Working with neighbors in a brisk wind, they did manage to save the barns and other buildings.

The Matteawan Journal boasted that the introduction of electric light and an excellent water supply kept the village on par with other progressive villages.

Frank Howard received word that his

brothers, Fred and Irving, had drowned when their small boat capsized while crossing the Hothen Inlet in Alaska. They had gone to search for gold in the Yukon.

John L. Sullivan, the first heavyweight champion of gloved boxing, visited the Matteawan State Hospital for the Criminally Insane when his exhibition tour brought him to Fishkill for one of only three bareknuckle fights of his career, against Jake Kilrain. He and Kilrain, who came along, wore their "ring costumes" and gently sparred for the 600 patients, who jumped on chairs, shouted, clapped and cheered for five minutes. "When I meet you again I hope it will be under more favorable conditions for yourselves," Sullivan said.

The following week, the Matteawan inmates performed a musical comedy, *For Love and War*, accompanied by the Matteawan Asylum Orchestra. The cast consisted of prisoners and three guards. In the front row sat the infamous triple murderer, Lizzie Halliday, and Oliver Curtis Perry, the train robber who blinded himself.

The Fishkill Herald printed this notice: "Will the person who surreptitiously abstracted the 1897 5th District registration book from the Town Clerk's office at Matteawan and left an 1896 book in its place, please return the same."

The Warm Springs of Fishkill Landing, a baseball team of Black players, hosted the Lone Stars, a team of Black players from

(Continued on Page 19)



Meet Democratic candidates for local offices.

**Robert
Flaherty**
TOWN COUNCIL

**Tara
Percacciolo**
TOWN CLERK

**John
VanTassel**
SUPERVISOR

**Judy
Farrell**
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Newburgh, winning 71-18. After the game, the teams marched through the streets with a fife and drum, then held a cake walk and a hop.

100 Years Ago (October 1923)

John Pendleton went to City Court to complain that the principal of the Matteawan School had cut his son's hair without permission. The principal said the boy's hair, usually combed in a pompadour style, had fallen over his eyes, and he cut it as an act of kindness.

Work on the Melzingah dam site was becoming hazardous because of the number of copperheads, rattlers and other snakes, including a nest with eight inhabitants.

St. John's Catholic Church sold a piece of its property on Willow Street for \$6,500 [\$117,000]. It planned to use the funds to build a convent.

Fifty boys tried out for the first soccer team at Beacon High School.

A hatter named Roy Annan with a wife and 6-year-old child in Beacon was arrested on a charge of bigamy. He allegedly married Wife No. 2 in New York City in 1922 and had a 4-month-old baby with her. It was later determined that Wife No. 2 was actually Wife No. 3; to marry Wife No. 3, Annan had shown the priest a fake death certificate for Wife No. 2.

Rep. Hamilton Fish was treated to dinner at the Holland Hotel by Beacon residents to welcome him back from a trip to Europe. Before the event, the congressman visited the Mase Hook and Ladder Co.

75 Years Ago (October 1948)

Eight slot machines were seized at the Elks Lodge, and a Beacon man pleaded guilty to owning and operating them. He paid a \$50 fine [\$1,500] and the machines, valued at \$2,000 [\$25,000], were destroyed. The \$119 inside was given to the Department of Public Assistance. The slots were discovered by an inspector from the Dutchess County Alcohol Beverage Control Board in a room off the bar.

During a campaign address in Beacon, the Democratic nominee for the state Assembly dismissed the chairman of the Republican County Committee as a "machine boss and dictator."

A group of 35 Beacon High School students started a school newspaper.

Durisol Inc., which made roofing planks, announced it would construct a \$250,000 [\$3 million], 10,000-square-foot plant at the former Dennings Point brickworks site. Its innovative planks were made from mineralized wood chips combined with cement and reinforced by steel bars.

50 Years Ago (October 1973)

Frank Moore, the Republican challenger for mayor, vowed that, if elected, he would end urban development projects such as the Tompkins Terrace apartment complex.

Col. William Few, the signer of the Declaration of Independence who had been buried in a vault behind the Reformed Church, was re-interred in Augusta, Georgia.

Few died in Fishkill Landing in 1828 while visiting his daughter. A member of the Fishkill Historical Society and Georgia Gov. Jim Carter took part in the ceremony.

The Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps asked the Planning Board for an access road from Fishkill Avenue to Asylum Road on the Matteawan State Hospital grounds, where it planned to build a new headquarters.

The National Shakespeare Co. performed *As You Like It* at Beacon High School.

Dave Eraca, who played third base for Beacon High School and had a .500 batting average during the spring season, was named the outstanding senior high school player in Dutchess County by the Old Timers Baseball Association.

Dr. Solon Wolff, a retired physician in Beacon, shared a ghost story with the *Poughkeepsie Journal*: "A former New York City fire chief trained horses on the grounds of the present Matteawan hospital. When one of the famous trotters died, he had the horse buried on the estate. Since that time, many people have reported hearing a mysterious horse which gallops about the grounds at night."

25 Years Ago (October 1998)

Beacon officials were hopeful that a Façade Improvement Program that offered low-interest loans to property owners to restore their storefronts would return Main Street to its former glory, particularly on the west end. Owners could apply for loans

of up to \$7,500 at 0.5 percent below the prime rate, which was 8.25 percent.

For the first time, the state parks department allowed artists to visit Pollepel Island to create paintings for a benefit organized by the Bannerman Castle Trust.

James Yanarella, 60, was shot and killed by his wife in Poughkeepsie. He had taught on Saturdays for years at the Yanarella School of Dance in Beacon, which was owned by a relative, and served as master of ceremonies at recitals.

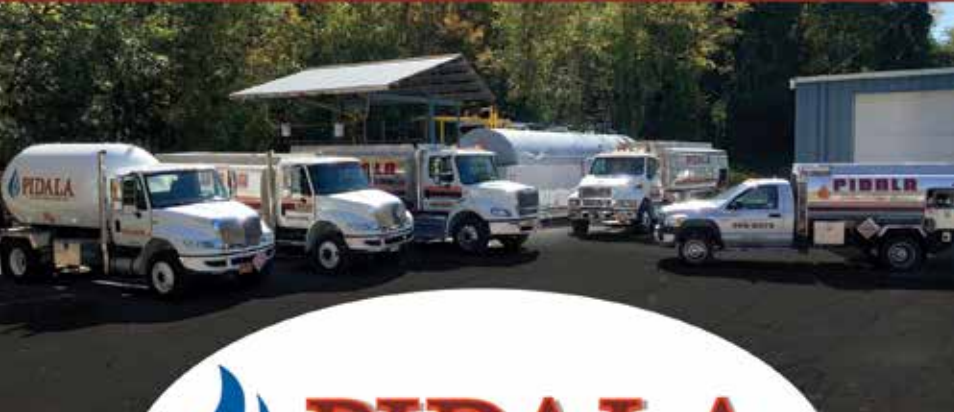
City Administrator Joseph Braun presented a proposed budget to the City Council that included a 6.5 percent tax increase. "We had no tax increase last year," he said. "This year we have to pay the piper."

Two new stores opened: Billy's Cafe at 422 Main St. and Beacon Wine Shoppe and Liquors at 344 Main St., formerly Ritter's Liquor Store.

Evelyn Merritt died at age 90. From 1954 to 1982, she and her husband ran Dutchess Publishing in Beacon, which printed the *Beacon Light*, *Fishkill Standard* and *East Fishkill Record*.

The Beacon school board hired a Rhinebeck architectural firm to draw plans for a new high school. "Because we design buildings that are tools in the educational process, we have to determine what a high school education in Beacon will mean in the new millennium," said Louis Turpin, the firm's founder. The building was expected to cost \$30 million [\$57 million today].

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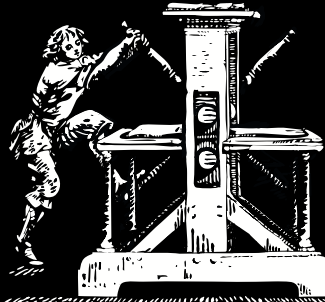
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Howland Music Circle Tries a New Approach

Introduces tiered pricing to draw new faces

By Alison Rooney

At orchestral concerts, solo recitals and chamber music performances, a common denominator is that most attendees are middle aged or older and largely white. How, then, do organizers open the doors more widely?

These concerns are front and center for the Howland Chamber Music Circle, which has been presenting concerts at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon since 1993. Its longevity has been forged by being able to attract a strong roster of musicians, drawn by the reputation of the Music Circle and the venue, which is architecturally appealing and acoustically revered. (The two nonprofits operate independently of each other.)

The concerts often sell out, and the audiences continue to be enthusiastic. But the Music Circle board members recently decided to focus on the issue of diversity. The early results are promising but there is more work to be done, reports Paul Stoddard, the president, and Jinny St. Goar, a board member.

"We're still struggling to get the youngsters across the threshold," St. Goar says, although the Music Circle does have a long-time series, Classics for Kids, in which a visiting group performs during the day before the later usual performance. There are also a program at Arlington High School and a residency program in the Beacon elementary schools.

Young adults are trickier to attract, Stoddard says. "A lot of them find us while they're walking in the neighborhood; they love the architecture and they come in to check it out and learn what's happening."

Still, a formalized approach was needed. "The board has been thinking about how to



The Juilliard String Quartet performed at the Howland Cultural Center last month.

Photo by Carl Gutowski

make concerts more accessible to a broader audience," St. Goar says. "There's been a lot of talk in recent years about diversity, equity and inclusion. There was a way for us to increase all these things."

One strategy is to make the shows affordable to everyone. "Last year, for one concert, we experimented with a form of 'pay what you wish,'" she says. "We reserved some of our tickets and a week before the concert we sent out a mailing letting people know they could buy tickets at whatever level they chose. We set a minimum of \$5, then increments of \$5 up to \$35. Our thinking was that if you give them away for free, it cheap-

ens the whole thing."

This year the Music Circle has extended pay-what-you-wish pricing — which has been adopted in various ways by entities such as Mostly Mozart, the Minnesota Orchestra and many museums — to all of its programming.

"The last 10 tickets have been selling at the reduced prices," St. Goar says, and buyers told the Music Circle they would not have attended at full price. "We have pretty clear results from our first concert, which was the Juilliard String Quartet," she says, at which six tickets sold for \$5 and the others for \$10 or \$20 each.

Stoddard adds: "We wrote to our regular subscribers and got enthusiastic responses. One donated more money. It's a tricky problem to solve, and it will take a long time to make a big difference."

In another innovation, the Music Circle has been sponsoring new works. "When the Juilliard String Quartet performed here in September, it played a newly composed piece," St. Goar says, with the composer, Tyson Gholston Davis, an undergrad at Juilliard, in the audience. The Music Circle is co-commissioning a composition by Davis, who is Black, that will be presented during its 2024-25 season.

The board has also looked at other ways to "stretch" the audience, St. Goar says, by "going beyond the canon and enlivening people." On Sunday (Oct. 22), about a week before Halloween, it will present an experiential concert by Salon Séance.

The group will perform *The End of Time*, which combines music, Olivier Messiaens' 1941 *Quartet for the End of Time*, storytelling and origami, to channel the spirits of four prisoners "who transformed an ending into a new beginning, focused on the notion of hope in a horrible circumstance."

On Nov. 12, violinist Arnaud Sussman and pianist Michael Stephen Brown will present a program called *Jewish Voices*, with works by composers whose lives were impacted by World War II. The concert draws inspiration from the survival of Sussman's grandfather at the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp.

The Music Circle's more traditional programming will include piano concerts in January, February and March with Jonathan Biss; Alessio Bax and Lucille Chung; Conrad Tao and Ying Li; followed by performances by the Brasil Guitar Duo (Douglas Lora and João Luiz), the Merz Trio, the Isidore String Quartet and the Escher String Quartet.

For tickets and more information on the Music Circle, see howlandmusic.org.

EVENTS

HALLOWEEN BIKE PARTY — On Thursday, Oct. 26, leave your cars at home and join our Halloween night Bike Ride to promote human-powered mobility. We'll meet up at Foodtown at 6 p.m. and together we'll make our way through the spooky decorations of Cold Spring. This is a family-friendly ride — costumes are encouraged, but not required, and we'll have some fun stuff to dress up your bike.

HELP WANTED

LIBRARIAN — The Putnam Valley Library seeks an enthusiastic and creative full-time children's programming librarian/library assistant. Duties will include purchasing books and running programs for children and teenagers, staffing the children's reference desk, collaboration with the school district, conducting the summer reading program and social media advertising.

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Out There

Following the Forest

By Brian PJ Cronin

The stretch of South Highland Road in Putnam Valley that the Appalachian Trail crosses doesn't look too different from the rest of the road as you zoom past in your car. But when I recently walked the patch of road with Cory Tiger of the Hudson Highlands Land Trust, I began to see it in a different light.



Using a worksheet created by an initiative called Follow the Forest, Tiger showed me how unusually favorable this short stretch is for wildlife crossings.

There were no guardrails to slow down deer, no 90-degree curbs to stop newts. The trees on either side of the road are tall enough to form an interlocking canopy, which is handy if you're a flying squirrel whose habitat range is drifting north because of climate change and you need a safer way to cross the street. Even the harmful invasive plants such as barberry, knotweed and tree of heaven that filled the rest of the street were absent here, making it more enticing to native wildlife.

There is also what lay beyond our vision. The north side of the street was a 1,439-acre protected section of Fahnestock State Park with no roads running through it. The south side consisted of 400 protected acres surrounding the Appalachian Trail.

The parcels are what Follow the Forest considers "core forests," and the section of road is a potential habitat linkage. But without enough features to facilitate safe wildlife crossings, it could be potentially deadly for animals as well as the humans who hit them with their cars.

In the western U.S., the features include multimillion-dollar, grass-covered bridges over highways. In the Highlands, the interventions would probably be far more modest: gaps in fences, slanted curbs, conservation easements, planting of native species. Follow the Forest has selected hundreds of potential habitat linkages in the Northeast, stretching from the Bear Mountain Bridge into Canada, which can be found on an interactive map at bit.ly/FTF-hudson, but each needs to be examined in person.

That's where local residents come in. The Hudson Highlands Land Trust is partnering with the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) to host a community science workshop in Garrison on Friday (Oct. 27) to train people to assess potential linkages. (Register at bit.ly/FTFworkshop.)

"We can only gain so much information from behind our computers," says



A map created by Follow the Forest shows potential habitat linkages in the Hudson Highlands.



Cory Tiger of the Hudson Highlands Land Trust discusses habitat linkage at the edge of Fahnestock State Park.

Photo by B. Cronin

Julia Rogers of HVA. "It's the people in our communities who are driving the roads every day that see the wildlife patterns."

Rogers worked for the land trust before joining HVA in 2021. The two nonprofits have a similar mission: Protect large parcels and find ways to connect them. The larger the parcel, the more drinking water it can filter, the more resilient it can be to climate change and the easier it becomes for wildlife to move around. But climate change is increasing migration as former habitat areas become inhospitable and wildlife must hit

the road to find new homes.

It's also changing migration in surprising ways. Decades ago, the Hudson River froze solid, allowing people to walk between West Point and the Highlands. What sort of animals made that crossing? What are they doing now instead?

Since every land trust covers only so much ground, HVA developed Follow the Forest for conservation groups in the Northeast to work together. Connecting the core forests through linkages not only prioritizes what parcels should be protected but identifies where it makes the most sense to build housing, roads and other infrastructure.

"How do we as communities fit within this bigger picture?" Rogers asks. "We tend to think of ourselves as separated, yet we are influencing these ecosystems."

The project is also an act of interspecies empathy. How would you cross the road you live on if you were a fox or a salamander? What would make it safer?

These potential connections and their obstacles became all too clear to me the day after I spoke with Tiger and Rogers when, as I drove on Red Schoolhouse Road at dusk, a bobcat darted in front of me, missing my car by a whisker. It was the first bobcat I've seen in 16 years of living in the Highlands, and I almost ran it over.

When I got home, I went to the Follow the Forest map online and zoomed in on the spot where the encounter took place. The bobcat had been running from the Muller Pond trail to the Sierra Trail. I knew those trails well, but as the map confirmed, neither the meadows surrounding Muller Pond nor the woods surrounding Sierra Pond were anywhere near large enough to be a core forest.

Zooming out, I looked at the intertwined network of dense roads and how far they were from a landscape that wildlife might consider safe. I thought about how many roads that bobcat still had to cross as it headed north. Would its luck run out?



Elizabeth (Betty) Zenz (1928-2023)

Elizabeth (Betty) Zenz passed away peacefully in her home in Cold Spring, New York, on the evening of October 10th, 2023.

Born Elizabeth Belekis in 1928 in New York City to Greek immigrant parents, she was one of seven children. She grew up in a Brooklyn tenement with her father passing away when she was only 7 years old. Growing up, she worked hard to support her family and studied diligently in order to earn a better life for herself. She was an avid Brooklyn Dodgers fan, catching glimpses of the games from rooftops.

Despite being awarded a scholarship to college, she instead entered the workforce to support herself and her family. She soon met her future husband Frederick who was fresh off his participation in the Manhattan Project. They married in 1949 and had four children. She dedicated her life to her children, grandchildren and pets, all while working long hours restoring their historic homes (The William Cullen Bryant Estate in Roslyn Harbor, New York, and the Colt Estate in Garrison, New York).

One of her greatest passions was collecting antiques; spending countless hours at auctions with her sister Olga. She always enjoyed gardening, taking great pleasure in mowing her own lawn until the last year of her life. Some of her favorite times were those spent on vacation in the Bahamas (1979-2008), especially when her grandchildren came to visit. Betty and Frederick moved to Garrison in 1973 and to Cold Spring in 2002, where they spent their remaining years.

She is survived by three of her four children: Dennis Zenz, Jonathon (Donna) Zenz, and Terese (Jim) Olsen; her nine grandchildren: Annie Zenz, Eileen (Bruno) Dantas, Matthew Zenz, Jennifer (Rich) Ross, Joseph (Alexa) Zenz, Elizabeth (Timothy) Abel, James Olsen, Julia Olsen, and Olivia Olsen; and her five great-grandchildren: John Paul, Luke, Patrick, Charles, and Maura Dantas. She was preceded in death by her husband Frederick (2018) and her son Fredric (2005). Her one surviving sibling, Olga Mans, resides in Florida.

Funeral arrangements, under the direction of Clinton Funeral Home, will be private.

PAID NOTICE

“How do we as communities fit within this bigger picture? We tend to think of ourselves as separated, yet we are influencing these ecosystems.

~ Julia Rogers of HVA



Beacon's Henry Reinke finished 13th of 160 runners at the Manhattan Invite on Oct. 14.

Photo provided



Beacon's Rachel Thorne raced against Port Jervis on Tuesday (Oct. 17).

Photo by Cadence Heeter



A Beacon swimmer competes in the backstroke against Warwick Valley on Oct. 13.

Photo by Una Hoppe

Varsity Roundup (from Page 24)

CROSS-COUNTRY — Henry Reinke took home some hardware on Oct. 14 at the Manhattan Invite in the Bronx, finishing 13th of 160 entrants in the 2.5-mile race in

13:36. For the girls, Rachel Thorne was the top finisher, placing 94th in the 2.5-mile race in 20:06. The boys' and girls' teams also defeated Port Jervis in a home meet on Tuesday (Oct. 17).

GIRLS' SWIMMING — Beacon on Oct. 13 lost its final meet of the year, falling to Warwick Valley, 117-63. The Bulldogs (2-10) won the 200-meter medley relay in 2:08.46 and Meara Kumar finished first in the 100-meter fly in 1:10.16.

Recent Deaths

Philipstown

- Harriet Dickey-Chasins, 63
- Greta Graham, 89
- Elizabeth Killeen, 91
- Holly Mackin, 58
- Bub Harvey, 88
- Joseph Monteleone, 78
- Donald Teff, 81
- Betty Zenz, 95

Beacon

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Judy Alvarez, 67 | Ann LoSasso, 85 |
| Joseph Arnold, 80 | Gary Maneri, 61 |
| Elvira Ayala, 77 | Joe Montesano, 97 |
| Frank Baxter, 69 | Maria Morales, 82 |
| Ann Currier, 71 | Eugene Newman, 74 |
| Elizabeth DeLuca, 94 | Grace Ostrander, 67 |
| Evelyn Diefendorf, 99 | Millie Raymond, 91 |
| Catherine DiFalco, 69 | George Santa Maria, 67 |
| Kathy Foley, 81 | Douglas Switzer, 64 |
| Carol Fudge, 85 | John Valentino, 80 |
| Doug Kearney, 77 | Pat Voght, 88 |
| Joseph Kovacs, 85 | Jerry Williams, 91 |

For obituaries, see highlandscurrent.org/obits.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

A nonprofit organization in Putnam Valley, NY is seeking sealed bids for the installation of street and perimeter lighting throughout the physical campus. Selection criteria will be based on experience, competitive pricing, and adherence to preferred schedule.

Specifications and bid requirements can be obtained by contacting rfp@edenvillagecamp.org.

Bids will be accepted until January 5, 2024 and installation must be completed by April 20, 2024 at the latest.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

A nonprofit organization in Putnam Valley, NY is seeking sealed bids for the installation of new commercial windows. Selection criteria will be based on installation experience, competitive pricing, and adherence to preferred schedule.

Specifications and bid requirements can be obtained by contacting rfp@edenvillagecamp.org.

Bids will be accepted until January 5, 2024 and installation must be completed by April 20, 2024 at the latest.

CITY OF BEACON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the City of Beacon City Council hereby schedules a public hearing for October 23, 2023 regarding the 2024 Community Development Block Grant Program. The Public Hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtroom at One Municipal Plaza, Beacon, NY 12508, and also via videoconference and teleconference.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that the public can view and/or listen to the meeting (1) in-person in the Courtroom, or (2) live on YouTube or Zoom by visiting beaconny.gov/events. Members of the public can comment during the public hearing in-person or by joining Zoom via phone or computer.

Benjamin Swanson, Secretary to the Mayor

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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			

- ACROSS
1. Apple tablet
5. Dispensed candy
8. 1980s Chrysler line
12. — bene
13. King, in Cannes
14. British noble
15. Diner employee
16. Gerund ending
17. Pub potables
18. Candy bar nut
20. Stoic philosopher
22. Baseball film starring Robert Redford
26. Kathmandu’s land
29. Census stat
30. Chemical suffix
31. Exploits
32. LPs’ successors
33. Air outlet
34. — de mer
35. Before
36. Rodeo rope

37. Baseball film starring Kevin Costner
40. Hawaiian island
41. Phase
45. Quick look
47. Extended lunch?
49. “Doing my best”
50. *Vogue* rival
51. Brit. record label
52. April forecast
53. D.C. insiders
54. Squealer
55. North Sea feeder
9. Dieters count them
10. “Right you —!”
11. *Kidnapped* monogram
19. Stanley Cup org.
21. Paris summer
23. Consumer crusader Ralph
24. Curry and Landers
25. Jared of *Panic Room*
26. Feeling no pain
27. Birthright barterer
28. Helter-skelter
32. Squad car
33. Dracula, for one
35. College URL ender
36. Vegas lead-in
38. Minnesota’s 10,000+
39. Custom
42. List-ending abbr.
43. First bed
44. Emmy-winning Daly
45. Zing
46. “Xanadu” band
48. Ms. Thurman

- DOWN
1. Bygone Peruvian
2. Betting group
3. Teensy bit
4. Stately duo?
5. A deadly sin
6. Long time
7. Slaloms
8. Reeves of *Speed*

SUDOCURRENT

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

WORDLADDER

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

WARTS

LOADS

MICRO
CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1. Stockpile, as toilet paper
6. Happen next
7. Sudden contraction
8. Chicago Symphony conductor Georg
9. Summers abroad?
- DOWN
1. *Siddhartha* author
2. Stoned
3. Make ____ (do business on eBay)

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

4. Autumnal colors
5. “Tell Me You Love Me” singer Lovato

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

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

L	U	A	U	
I	N	S	P	O
B	I	T	E	S
E	T	O	N	S
L	Y	N	D	A

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Answers for Oct. 13 Puzzles

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Haldane's Ellie Mahoney and Liv Holmbo attempt to block a Putnam Valley shot. For more photos, see highlandscurrent.org.

Photos by Skip Pearlman



Eliana Johanson sends the ball back over the net at Putnam Valley on Tuesday (Oct. 17).



Beacon's Reilly Landisi (1) handles the ball against Port Jervis.

Photo by Cadence Heeter

VARSITY ROUNDUP

HALDANE

By Jacob Aframian

FOOTBALL — On Oct. 13, the Blue Devils traveled to Valhalla to take on the Vikings. Amid a raucous atmosphere, and without a working scoreboard to keep time, the Blue Devils prevailed with a gritty 15-6 win.

Valhalla nearly scored first in the initial quarter but a touchdown with 7:16 left was called back on a penalty. The drive ended when Haldane's Erik Stubblefield intercepted a Vikings pass. (Stubblefield wreaked havoc throughout the game; along with his interception, he finished with 12 tackles and a sack.) At the start of the second quarter, the Blue Devils defense forced a fumble inside its own 20-yard line, ending another long Valhalla drive.

With 8:53 left before the half, Haldane quarterback Ryan Van Tassel opened the scoring with a 41-yard scramble. After stopping another Valhalla drive, Haldane had the ball at midfield with a second left in the half. A long throw from Van Tassel was caught for a touchdown but called back because of a false start.

Valhalla scored in the third quarter on a 10-yard pass on fourth down but the 2-point conversion failed, leaving Haldane up, 7-6. In the fourth, with 12 minutes left, Evan Giachinta took a pass from Van Tassel 26 yards into the end zone. The Blue Devils completed the two-point conversion.

"We play tough, we play fast, we play physical and run to the ball," said Coach Ryan McConville. "Those are kind of our core

values and our core beliefs, and the kids are doing an outstanding job with that."

On Saturday (Oct. 21), Haldane (5-1) travels to face undefeated Westlake.

BOYS' SOCCER — In their last home game of the season on Oct. 13, the Blue Devils dominated Pawling, 6-2, behind five goals from Clem Grossman and one from Samuel Cardona.

On Oct. 14, the team traveled to Blind Brook and came home with a 2-1 victory. The Blue Devils struck first on a goal by Brandt Robbins, but Blind Brook equalized with two minutes left in the game. Grossman scored the winner in extra time.

The Blue Devils (9-6), seeded No. 2 in the Section I, Class C tournament, will host No. 3 North Salem (9-6-1) at 2 p.m. on Wednesday (Oct. 25). The teams split their regular-season meetings.

GIRLS' SOCCER — The Blue Devils had no answers at North Salem on Oct. 13, losing 8-0, and fell short against Edgemont the next day at home, 5-2. Marisa Peters and Anna-Catherine Nelson scored for Haldane.

As the fourth seed in the Section I, Class C tournament, the Blue Devils (6-8) will travel to face No. 1 seed Leffell (9-2-1) on Thursday (Oct. 26).

VOLLEYBALL — After a week's layoff, Haldane had three away games in four days. The Blue Devils visited Pawling on Oct. 14, where they fell in three sets (25-10, 25-17, 25-8). On Monday (Oct. 16), they were at Croton-Harmon, where they lost in four sets (19-25, 25-19, 20-25, 21-25). Megan Powell was 10 for 12 at service with an ace; Liv Holmbo

went 16 for 18 on serves with two aces; and Emily Tomann went 13 for 16 on serves with an ace and led the team with 19 digs.

On Tuesday, Haldane visited Putnam Valley, losing 3-0 (25-14, 25-5, 25-4). The busy schedule continued on Thursday at home against Putnam Valley, and today (Oct. 20) the Blue Devils (1-12) are on the road again at Somers to finish their regular season. On Thursday, Haldane will take on Leffell in the first round of the Section I, Class C tournament.

CROSS-COUNTRY — The girls' team finished third and the boys' team was fourth in the league championships at North Salem on Oct. 18. Penelope Andreou finished ninth for the girls in 27:55 and Owen Powers was eighth for the boys in 18:37. Both earned All-League honors, as did Hazel Berkley and Kate Resi. Tyler Schacht and Silias Emig were honorable mentions.

On Saturday (Oct. 21), the Blue Devils will compete in the Coaches Invitational at Bowdoin Park in Wappingers Falls, and on Monday they'll host Hendrick Hudson at the Highlands Country Club in Garrison.

BEACON

By Nick Robbins

FOOTBALL — Due to a lack of healthy players on its relatively small roster, Beacon forfeited its game at Cornwall Central on Oct. 13. Its next game, at Liberty on Saturday (Oct. 21), will determine if the Bulldogs (1-6) receive a berth in the Section IX playoffs.

GIRLS' SOCCER — The Bulldogs made history on Tuesday (Oct. 17), winning their first league title since the school moved to Section IX in 2021 with a 4-0 home win over Port Jervis. The squad earlier defeated Wallkill, 3-1, behind a Reilly Landisi hat trick. The Bulldogs (11-2-1) now await their seeding in the Section IX, Class A playoffs.

BOYS' SOCCER — Like the girls, the boys won the league title — their eighth consecutive in Sections I and IX — on Monday (Oct. 16) with an 8-0 win over Liberty. The Bulldogs' defense achieved 11 shutouts in 14 games, conceding only seven goals behind captains Liam Murphy and Avery Davis. The Bulldogs (10-2-2) now wait to see whom they will play in the sectional tournament.

VOLLEYBALL — Beacon, which had lost only once this season, went down twice in three games this week, falling to Franklin D. Roosevelt and O'Neill but defeating Goshen.

Against Roosevelt, the Bulldogs lost in three sets (25-21, 25-23, 25-19); Lila Burke recorded 16 kills and Pearl Kirigi had seven digs. On Wednesday (Oct. 18), O'Neill beat Beacon 3-2.

Against Goshen, Beacon won in four sets (19-25, 25-16, 25-21, 25-15); Burke had 11 kills and five blocks and Daveya Rodriguez had eight kills and four blocks.

Beacon (12-3, 6-0 league) travels to Seward today (Oct. 20) before finishing the regular season hosting Valley Central at 6 p.m. on Wednesday.

(Continued on Page 22)