

The HIGHLANDS Current

DECEMBER 15, 2023

NYPA Newspaper of the Year

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Two-Day Cassoulette
Page 16

State Judge: Cell-Tower Firm Can't Dig *But allows other changes to Nelsonville road*

By Chip Rowe

A state judge on Monday (Dec. 11) ruled that Homeland Towers cannot dig up an access road to bury utility lines for a planned 95-foot cell tower overlooking the Cold Spring Cemetery in Nelsonville.

But she said the company can make other changes to the road, subject to a building permit Nelsonville issued in 2020 to settle a federal lawsuit.

Judge Gina Capone discounted claims by neighbors that the right-of-way shared by property owners only allows the company to enter and exit its 9.6-acre parcel at 15 Rockledge Road, and that the commercial use of the property is incompatible with a residential subdivision.

Neighbors have battled Homeland and its partners, Verizon and AT&T, for more than three years over the proposed tower,

(Continued on Page 22)



In March 2021, Homeland Towers began cutting down trees on its Rockledge Road parcel.
File photo by Ross Corsair



Carl Hansen's VA-provided marker at Cold Spring Cemetery (below) was installed on Veterans Day, 11 years after his death. His daughter, Lillian Moser, is at far right.
Photos by M. Turton

Deceased Veteran Gets a Marker *But many other memorials were never installed*

By Michael Turton

Carl Hansen, who served as a private first-class in the U.S. Army, died in 2012, but a bronze marker honoring his military service was not added to his grave in Cold Spring Cemetery on Peekskill Road until Veterans Day (Nov. 11).

"Dad always told my mother and I that we wouldn't have to worry about a grave marker," said his daughter, Lillian Moser, who lives in Cold Spring. She added that her father had assumed the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs would take care of the marker and expenses.

That was a reasonable assumption. The VA provides markers for veterans at no cost, but it only covers the installation fees for burial in a national or military



cemetery such as Arlington, not at private ones. Moser said the family had enough money for a funeral but was not aware of the additional fee, which at the Cold Spring Cemetery is \$500.

Last May, while placing flags on veterans' graves for Memorial Day, Aaron Leonard realized Hansen's grave was unmarked. Leonard is president of the Cold Spring Fire Co., where Moser is a fire-

(Continued on Page 22)

Can Everyone Shop Main Street?

*Disability access lacking
at many stores*

By Joey Asher

When Lisa Tarricone rolled down Main Street in Cold Spring in her wheelchair recently, she became upset at how few stores she could access.

"It's discrimination," said Tarricone, a Fishkill resident who is executive director of Taconic Resources for Independence, which advocates for the disabled in Dutchess County. "Would you discriminate against someone who is of color? It's the same issue. We are invisible."

Tarricone has been irritated on many Main Streets; she said small businesses in Cold Spring and Beacon are like many others in the historic villages of the Hudson Valley, in the widespread failure to provide access to the disabled as required under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.

The ADA, enacted in 1990 by the first President George Bush, requires that any business open to the public, including retail stores and restaurants, provide "reasonable accommodations" for the disabled, including wheelchair users. Among other requirements, this typically means providing a ramp if the entrance is not at sidewalk level.

(Continued on Page 21)



Lisa Tarricone and Eliza Starbuck outside Flowercup Wine in Cold Spring
Photo by J. Asher

Two More Big Buildings for Beacon?

*Mixed-use project proposed
for congested intersection*

By Jeff Simms

A developer has submitted plans to build two four-story, mixed-use buildings at one of Beacon's busiest intersections, the corner of Wolcott Avenue (Route 9D) and Beekman Street.

If the project is approved, the developer would demolish a three-story commercial building — the former site of the Beacon

Popmart, an art event space — and merge its lot with two vacant parcels. The two buildings would include 14,000 square feet of commercial space and 65 one- and two-bedroom apartments.

The project also includes 89 parking spaces, some of which would be located beneath one of the buildings.

The site is almost entirely within Beacon's Linkage District, a zone that the 2017 comprehensive plan says should promote residential development that reinforces connections between the Main Street and

waterfront areas. Specifically, it instructs mixed-use development to be allowed adjacent to the intersection of Route 9D and Beekman Street to create "a more inviting and active pedestrian gateway between the Linkage District and Main Street."

Developments such as the River Ridge townhouses, The View condominiums and the West End Lofts have been added to the area in recent years. A year ago, the Planning Board also approved the Beacon Commons, a 62-unit building that will be constructed at the corner of West Main and Bank streets, and the 246-apartment Edgewater complex is under construction a few blocks away.

(Continued on Page 6)

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: JAMES YAP

By Joey Asher

James Yap is the director of innovation and learning for the Garrison school district.

How did you get into teaching?

At age 13, I began working summers at a camp for the deaf near my home in Toledo. I earned my master's degree in deaf education at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., where I was one of only a handful of hearing students. All my classes were taught in American Sign Language. Once, my twin brother visited me from law school and he said it was harder than studying law. My first job out of school was teaching English and social studies at the American School for the Deaf in West Hartford, Connecticut.

What are your responsibilities in Garrison?

I help students and teachers with technology instruction, data and anything to do with the curriculum. That includes everything from enhancing online registration for new students coming into the district to improving communicating with other districts where we send students, such as Haldane, O'Neill and Putnam Valley. We have also done a lot of technology upgrades and installed more security on campus, such as key fobs and cameras.



Does your experience with deaf students translate at all here?

I taught a professional development class in American Sign Language for the teachers. Many of them use it in different ways in the class. For example, the sign for "I agree" or "same thing" is to make a fist and extend your pinky and thumb. It's a quiet way for students and teachers to agree with each other without interrupting the speaker. At the lower elementary level, teachers are using the "bathroom" sign, where you make a fist with your thumb tucked under your index finger and wag your fist from side to side. When the teacher sees the sign, he or she can dismiss the student to go to the bathroom instead of interrupting the class.

What new tech is being used in classrooms?

One thing new this year is a program called

Reflex Math, which helps students learn how to quickly and automatically answer simple math problems so that they can get to more complex and higher-level ideas. It teaches addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. It's not "drill and kill." It's fun and interactive.

Another example is the Hatch Learning Table, which helps pre-K and kindergarten students with executive function and social-emotional learning. It's like a large iPad where the students play games. One is a farming game where they interact with the tablet by planting a seed, watering a seed, harvesting the carrot and putting it in the barrel. It's a four- or five-step process in which they learn to follow directions.

What's the latest technological trend impacting schools?

Artificial intelligence tools such as ChatGPT are huge. I'm constantly showing teachers software and websites and how to use the technology appropriately. AI can be helpful, especially in lesson planning. You can go to ChatGPT and ask, "Can you give me a lesson plan on the American Revolution?" And it will give you a plan immediately, written in easy, readable prose. Then you can refine it through conversation with the tool. Eventually you have to take it offline and customize it for your students. And, of course, nothing can replace the excellent Garrison teachers!

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

Do you enjoy the holiday chaos?

I enjoy this time of year, but not the consumerism.



Susan Osberg, Beacon

Yes, and it's even more chaotic with a newborn!



Jesse Wildrick, Cold Spring

Every day's a holiday, all year round!



Karen Michel, Beacon

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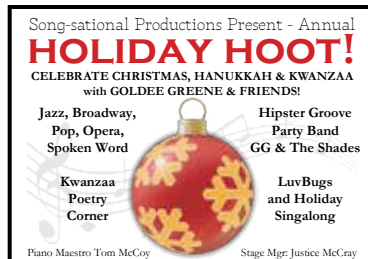
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NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR (2021, 2022)

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NNA* Winner: 109 Better Newspaper Contest Awards

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* New York News Publishers Association, 2017 - 22

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

Santa's best friend

Thanks for featuring ARF Beacon on the front page of the Dec. 8 issue, and for the adorable photos online ("Kiss for Santa"). Hopefully, it will remind everyone how lucky we are to have ARF Beacon and Mid Hudson Animal Aid serving the homeless animals of our communities, and to "adopt, don't shop" this holiday season.

Shelley Simmons-Bloom, *Beacon*

Cold Spring parking

This is a business killer for sure ("In Cold Spring, A Price on Parking," Nov. 17). It's sad for the antique-store and boutique owners who built Main Street and put Cold Spring on the map. Why would anyone pay \$4 an hour and risk a ticket so easily when they can shop online? I hope residents will be happy with a ghost town on Main Street.

Jessica Dieckman, *Croton*

Fjord Trail

Hope Scott makes good sense in her Dec. 1 letter citing the Federal Access Board's regulations and the proposed Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail boardwalk and other assaults on the natural beauty of the Hudson Valley.

However, in the past several years we have seen laws and regulations flagrantly disre-

garded by activist, politicized judges in myriad instances to satisfy the bizarre plans of progressives run amok. There is no reason to believe that existing regulations or laws will have any effect limiting power to overcome the new oligarchs (HHFT, Scenic Hudson, et alia, ad nauseam) in their disregard of what is right and wrong for the Hudson Valley and those of us who live in it. We live in sad times.

It would not surprise me if they come up with a plan for an escalator to take the disabled up Breakneck. (I would oppose any such thing and I'm disabled myself.)

Steven Sohn, *Cold Spring*

According to Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail's press release (which was glossed over in *The Current's* "article"), Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services Deputy Commissioner Ralph Falloon noted that the Breakneck trailhead was closed for half the 2023 season ("Fewer Rescues on Breakneck Ridge," Dec. 8).

It's just another example of HHFT picking stats that fit its narrative. I bet the traffic stats gathered during this same time (when, again, the biggest draw was closed for half the year) will be shared next.

Michael Bowman, *via Facebook*

Read our full press release with quotes from local emergency response personnel

[which were not included in the news brief].

Lori Moss, *via Facebook*

Moss is the communications manager for the Fjord Trail. We have added a link to the press release to our story online.

Beacon rents

This is ridiculous. Renters need protections, because everywhere the rent is too damn high ("Beacon's 'Good-Cause' Law Struck Down," Dec. 8).

Donna Minkowitz, *via Instagram*

This is a real bummer. The cards are heavily stacked against renters trying to live their lives in their homes without fear.

Martin Fowler, *via Instagram*

Maybe there should be buildings that apply to be good-cause buildings as a marketing tactic, but the law was government overreach.

Nancy Drew, *via Instagram*

Newburgh-Beacon Bridge

The Newburgh-Beacon Bridge isn't as bad as the Throgs Neck ("Q: Why is One Lane Always Closed on the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge?" Dec. 8). Daytime, nighttime, weekends — I've never crossed it with all lanes open. Sometimes there are a bunch of trucks parked in the closed lane and not a human in sight. Will they ever finish it?

Patricia Kennedy, *via Facebook*

If they closed one lane on the George Washington Bridge, you'd have traffic backed up from Connecticut to halfway down the turnpike.

Zep Thomaselli, *via Facebook*

The lane is closed because they don't want to wear it out!

Glenn Smith, *via Facebook*

That lane should not be closed. There is a very heavy merge coming down from Route 9D. Tons of accidents happen there from vehicles trying to merge. With the lane open, there is no merge required.

Steven Saltzman, *via Facebook*



Corrections

A story in the Dec. 8 issue reported that the Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub was moving from Stone Street in Cold Spring to a location on Route 9 in Philipstown. In fact, the Hub plans to open a second location on Route 9.

A Facebook comment printed in the Dec. 8 issue was misattributed to Joe Hyatt. In fact, it was a response by Woody Turbeaux to a comment posted by Hyatt.

NEWS BRIEFS

Former Garrison Resident Charged

Accused of holding up two gas stations

A former Garrison resident has been accused of two armed robberies in the Town of Poughkeepsie.

Julie E. Marcinak, 28, of Highland Falls, was arrested Dec. 4. She was charged with first-degree robbery, first-degree attempted robbery and second-degree criminal possession of a weapon, all felonies.

Town of Poughkeepsie police said in a news release that officers received reports on Nov. 29 of robberies involving a handgun at Mobil and Speedway gas stations on South Road about 10 minutes apart. The suspect was disarmed by employees at the Speedway, police said.

After detectives identified Marcinak as a suspect, she was arrested in Newburgh and sent to the Dutchess County Jail on \$50,000 bail, \$100,000 secured bond or \$200,000 partially secured bond.

Beacon Budget Adopted

Hearing on compensation scheduled

The Beacon City Council unanimously adopted the city's 2024 budget, a \$35 million spending plan, on Monday (Dec. 11).

The budget was approved with an amendment that added \$4,000 from city savings

to the police budget for an electronic speed-tracking sign that will be placed on Washington Avenue near Liberty Street.

The council will hold a public hearing on Monday (Dec. 18) on another potential amendment, to increase the council's compensation by a total of \$17,000 (\$5,000 for the mayor and \$2,000 each for the six council members).

Howland Public Library Names Director

Former Cold Spring leader will join Beacon

The Howland Public Library this week named Gillian Murphy as director. She succeeds Kristen Salierno, who left in July after five years in the position.

Murphy was director of the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring for 21 years, until 2021, when she took the top job at the Elting Memorial Library in New Paltz. She began in Beacon on Dec. 4.

Murphy holds a master's degree in library and information science from Syracuse University and a bachelor's in elementary and middle school education from Old Dominion.



Gillian Murphy



Q: Why Does Cold Spring Fire Have So Many Elevator Rescues?

Earlier this year, the Cold Spring Fire Co. reported to the Village Board it had completed 10 elevator rescues in the previous month. Could that possibly be true?

A: Blame the Metro-North elevator. Chief Jeff Phillips said that an influx of calls in July was caused by an ongoing electrical problem that would cause the car to get stuck between floors. He said a firefighter typically would go to the elevator room at the station and flip a switch to reset the power and get it running again.

While there were 10 elevator rescues in July, the number fell off in August after Metro-North fixed the elevator, Phillips said. There are 10 to 15 other elevators in the fire district; most rescues take about 15 minutes and none this year have involved medical emergencies.

In Beacon, the fire department has averaged about four elevator rescues annually since 2017, according to Chief Tom Lucchesi, who said they account for less than 1 percent of calls.

Have a question we can answer?
Email: question@highlandscurrent.org



The Philipstown Food Pantry

The Philipstown Food Pantry is extremely thankful this year for our local farmers and businesses. With your generous donations and support we can provide healthy nutritious food to over 70 families in our community.

- Angie's Bake Shop – Angie and Ken & their team
- Davoren Farm – Stacey, Peter, Max, Lauren & their team of volunteers
- Citrine Cafe – Brad & his team
- Glynwood Farm – Kathleen, Leah, Ryan & their entire team
- FoodTown – Mike, Jessica, Mackenzie, Kristin, Dan, Deb & Shane
- Longhaul Farm – Jason, Jocelyn & their team
- Second Chance Foods - Martha, Ellen & their team
- Signal Fire Bread – Erin, Liz & their team

We are especially grateful for our drivers who pick up the bread, food from the Food Bank, the milk run, veggie run and all the volunteers who have helped with the setup and distribution; whether you were there once, twice or every week your hard work is truly appreciated.

Allison, Andrea, Andy & Sandy, Andy & Laura, Ann Marie, Candace, Christine, Carolyn, Cary, Chris, Danny, David, Debbi, Delaney, Diana, Dion, Elizabeth, Ellyn, Jean, Jeff Barbara & Leo, Jessi, John, Johnny & Theo, Josh, Julie, Karen Kathy, Kelley, Matty, Pat, Patricia, Patrick, Peg, Peter, Rick, Ron, Sally, Sara, Sue, Susan and the Girl Scouts and Brownies.

Thank you everyone!

NEWS BRIEF

Dutchess Bus Routes to Change

Beacon Free Loop to become Main Street shuttle

Dutchess County Public Transit on Dec. 8 announced plans to make changes to its bus routes, including the Beacon Free Loop, beginning March 30.

The Beacon Free Loop (Route G), which now runs throughout the city and to Fishkill/Poughkeepsie, will become a Main Street shuttle Monday through Saturday and add Sunday service from 10 a.m. to 5:50 p.m.

Route B (Fishkill/Poughkeepsie to Beacon) will increase to hourly service, with eight additional trips on each route, which are the most traveled in the system, according to the agency.

The hours of Route F (Beacon to Hopewell Junction), which serves stops such as a new Amazon facility and iPark in East Fishkill, the Dutchess Community College campus on Route 9 in Fishkill and the Beacon train station, will be expanded to 10 p.m.

For more information, see dutchessny.gov/publictransit or call 845-473-8424.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

Notes from the Cold Spring Village Board

By Michael Turton

■ Cold Spring has submitted three grant applications, totaling \$25,000, to the state to pay for four electric-vehicle charging stations, a food-scrap recycling program and 10 shade trees to plant on village-owned properties.

■ The annual reorganization meeting scheduled for Dec. 13 was postponed until Wednesday (Dec. 20).

■ Drawdowns of the upper and lower reservoirs were completed in November,

enabling Tectonic Engineering Consultants to conduct inspections for repairs.

■ Kelly Pologe was hired as the full-time deputy clerk at a rate of \$24 per hour.

■ Cold Spring police answered 64 calls for service in November, and officers issued 112 parking and four traffic tickets. There were no arrests.

■ The Historic District Review Board will soon recommend candidates to the Village Board to fill vacancies created by the resignations of Lloyd DesBrisay and Andrea Connor. DesBrisay's term was set to expire

and Connor, who has served on the board since 2015, is moving out of the village.

■ The Recreation Commission will soon begin fundraising through the nonprofit Friends of Philipstown Recreation to build a dog park in the northwest corner of Mayor's Park.

■ The village will again enter into an agreement with the Town of Philipstown for snow removal.

■ Highlands Architecture will prepare bid documents for upgrading security at Village Hall.

Beacon Buildings (from Page 1)

However, on weekday afternoons the area is also easily Beacon's most congested, as vehicles leaving the Metro-North station routinely back up almost to City Hall waiting to get to Interstate 84. A traffic consultant for the project acknowledged to the Planning Board, which began its review of the application on Tuesday (Dec. 12), that "there's some issues there," and suggested adding a traffic signal at Wolcott (which is known as North Avenue in that area) and Tompkins Avenue. A light would have to be approved by the state Department of Transportation.

The consultant also suggested timing modifications for the existing signal at Wolcott and Beekman to better handle the



This building will be demolished if the 45 Beekman St. project is approved. Photo by J. Simms

traffic flow.

Planning Board members were cautious. Kevin Byrne noted the importance of the intersection as one of the entrances to Beacon. "The city has an opportunity here to repair some of the damage done" decades ago by urban renewal, "which was significant," he said. "There's a real public interest in making this a significant building."

One of the proposed buildings will also adjoin High Street, which "has a collection of some of the most stately Victorian homes" in Beacon, said Len Warner. "It's a gem of a street."

"So don't mess it up," said John Gunn, the Planning Board chair.

Cell tower approved

The Planning Board on Tuesday approved an application by Verizon to erect a 120-foot

cell tower in the Fairview Cemetery, about 400 feet from residences on Helen Court. Approval was granted despite protests from neighbors, who cited health concerns and its effect on property values.

A Verizon attorney, David Brennan, told the board that the structure is necessary because a tower on Mount Beacon that provided coverage in the 1990s, when few people used cellphones, is no longer feasible. "It's too far away, it's too high up and it's too far from the population it's serving," he said.

The new tower will have three "sectors," each with an antenna, plus three boxes that include overvoltage protectors and other equipment. Other wireless carriers could install antennas on the tower if there is a need, Brennan said.

Verizon's lease on the site is for five years and will automatically renew, unless canceled by the company, for up to 25 years.

409 Fishkill Ave.

Soka Gakkai International, a Buddhist organization, has submitted plans to repurpose 409 Fishkill Ave., a parcel owned by the Healey Brothers auto dealership, as a worship center that would accommodate up to 200 people. The parcel is one of four being vacated by Healey, which moved its Ford dealership to Route 9 and is building a Hyundai facility on Route 52 in Fishkill.

Project officials told the Planning Board on Tuesday that they are leasing the site from Healey. SGI is not planning new construction, only a new facade on the one-story building. The group also plans to add lighting and landscaping.



Penelope

with Christine Bokhour

December 17 at 4pm

CINEMA DEPOT

Irving Berlin's
White
Christmas

December 22 at 7:30pm

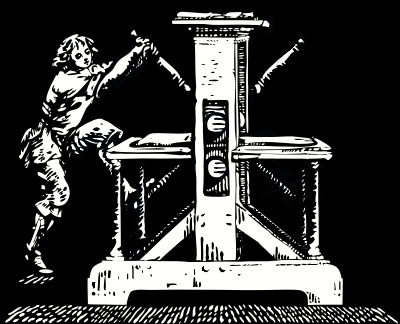
DEPOT DOCS

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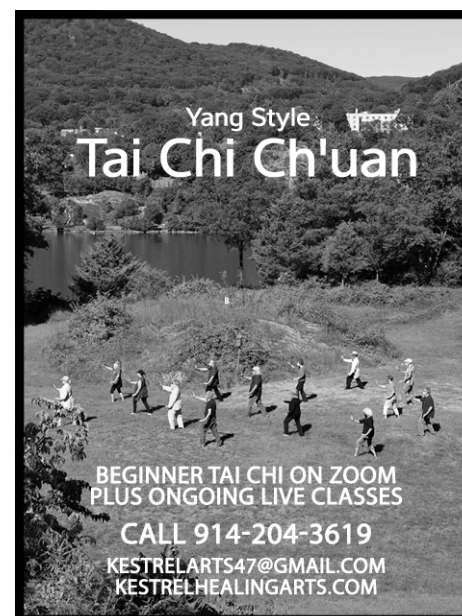
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Budget Ideas, Round Two

Beacon students return with participatory pitches

By Jeff Simms

For the second year, Beacon High School students from Participation in Government classes have made suggestions to the City Council on how to spend \$10,000 in “participatory budgeting” money.

The council last year included funding in its budget for the initiative, which asks students to craft detailed presentations on “how to improve Beacon.” Students made their pitches to the council on Dec. 4, and on Monday (Dec. 18), in their final meeting of the year, council members will discuss how to divvy up the money.

“The students are seeing it work,” said Erin Haddeland, a teacher who is one of the organizers of the program. “Last year’s ideas were so tangible. That’s good for us as a program because they can see it directly in front of them.”

The 2022 proposals saw two basketball backboards and rims installed at South Avenue Park and water-bottle refilling stations added at Memorial and Green Street parks. The city did not financially support an idea to clean up the African American Union Burial Ground cemetery on North Walnut Street, but staff from the Department of Public Works have assisted as volunteers.

Implementation of the fourth idea, repairs to the municipal swimming pool, will be completed in the spring.

Every senior at Beacon High School takes Participation in Government, so all 180 members of the Class of 2024 had

the opportunity to submit ideas. Teachers received about 100 pitches, Haddeland said, and from there it was up to the students to “see who would be willing to put in the time and effort to complete the project.”

Here are the ideas that students proposed on Dec. 4:

■ Jaidev Galvin and Vanessa Murphy asked the council to make improvements to the skateboard park at Memorial Park. The concrete foundation is filled with cracks, which can cause accidents, they said, and the placement of ramps is disjointed and pushes skaters or BMXers in a linear direction, rather than a square or circular path.

If the council chooses to fund the repairs, it will show “that we care for the kids, our youth — it shows a lot,” Galvin said. Murphy included a list of materials needed to repair the foundation and estimated it would cost \$1,550.

■ Isabella Amundson asked the council to consider emergency blue-light phones in places where people may feel isolated, such as Memorial Park and where the Klara Sauer and Dennings Point trails meet near the Hudson riverfront. “More secluded” neighborhoods, parking lots and other trails were also mentioned as possible sites.

The 9-foot poles can be connected to phone service or automatically alert first responders if a button is pushed. “Not that Beacon is an unsafe place, but there are places where it would make people more comfortable,” said Amundson, who estimated the cost between \$5,000 and \$10,000, depending on whether phone service is added.

■ Ella Cason proposed a pollinator garden with three to four native flowering plants near the Recreation Department offices at 23 West Center St. Cason noted that pollinator gardens at Glenham and JV Forrestal elementary schools have thrived, and the Recreation Department would be a good site

because the Green Teens program already has an established vegetable garden there.

“It’s important to start teaching kids at a young age to get interested and take part in their community,” she said, noting that members of the public would be more likely to help tend the garden in a well-known, open space. She estimated the cost of the plants, chicken wire to keep animals out, compost, mulch and materials for a gate at \$2,000.

■ Mia Nelsen-Cheyne presented an idea that she and Cason also pitched to the Beacon school board: making contraceptives available to the community. (The students asked the school board in October to allow the Beacon High School nurse to distribute condoms to students. The board has not acted yet.)

Nelsen-Cheyne spoke about the growth of sexually transmitted infections and teen pregnancy and said that sexual health “shouldn’t be taboo. It is something we should be working toward making safer.”

She suggested the Recreation Department as a possible site for a vending machine that would provide free condoms. That would cost between \$1,400 and \$2,000, though a cart or bins “would be just as effective,” Nelsen-Cheyne said. She said the high school’s Students for Gender Equality club could help with maintenance.

Two thousand condoms would cost about \$140, “which is something that a bake sale can take care of,” she said.



The Season of Advent & Christmas 2023 at
First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown
The Church of the Open Door
REV. BRIAN MERRITT, INTERIM PASTOR

DECEMBER 10

Second Sunday of Advent

Worship service at 10:30 a.m. and a luncheon in celebration of the 195th Anniversary of our church’s founding! Also on December 10 at 3:00 p.m. join our friends The Dream Choir for their Concert and Sing-Along. Directed by Cat Guthrie and accompanied by our own Tom McCoy!

DECEMBER 16

Jazz Nativity

5:30 P.M.

Tom McCoy will be at the piano and has invited some of our favorite musical guests — vocalist Goldee Greene, instrumentalists Richard Charney and Dale DeMarco on sax, Lew Scott on bass, and Mike LaRocco on drums. Join our spirit of Christmas Joy — and stay for a festive reception to follow! In person only.

DECEMBER 17

Third Sunday of Advent

Worship service at 10:30 a.m. includes Our Intergenerational Christmas Pageant! Don’t miss it!

DECEMBER 21

Longest Night Service

7:00 P.M.

Join us as we observe that some have a need for shared silence, readings, prayers, music, and meditation amid the activity of the Season. In person only, in our candle-lit sanctuary.

DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve

10:30 A.M. & 7:00 P.M.

Fourth Sunday of Advent worship service at 10:30 a.m.

Candlelight Christmas Service at 7:00 p.m. Lessons, Carols, and guest musicians!

DECEMBER 25

Merry Christmas!



DECEMBER 31

New Year’s Eve

Sunday morning service at 10:30 a.m. and Labyrinth Walk. In person only.

(Zoom available for services except where noted.)

PAID NOTICE




Real Estate

Market Report (November)

	Beacon		Philipstown	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
New Listings	5	10	5	5
Closed Sales	6	7	7	8
Days on Market	55	73	63	125
Median Price	\$487,500	\$525,000	\$590,000	\$620,000
% List Received	91.2	96.5	97.6	99.1
Inventory	24	26	34	32

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



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HIGHLANDS CHAPEL

Home of the Highlands Choral Society

THIS SUNDAY: LESSONS



CAROLS

DEC 17 @ 11:00AM

FOR WORSHIP REFLECTION & SONG

The Highlands Choral Society is a nonprofit organization offering nondenominational services, fully-staffed Children’s Hour, youth choir, and community.

216 MAIN STREET COLD SPRING, NY

HIGHLANDSCHAPEL.ORG



Dutchess Passes Contentious Budget

Elected officials to receive healthy pay boosts

By Leonard Sparks

The Dutchess County Legislature on Dec. 7 adopted a \$601 million budget for 2024 that lowers property taxes, raises hotel and sales taxes, and boosts pay significantly for the county executive, legislators and other elected officials.

The 15-9 vote ended with three Republicans joining six Democrats in opposing the budget, an unusual level of disunity in a Legislature where the 17 Republicans and eight Democrats often split along party lines. The disunion represented the conflict over the increases in salaries and sales taxes.

With the raises, which were not part of outgoing County Executive William F.X. O'Neil's original budget but passed as an amendment proposed by the Legislature's Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee,

incoming Executive Sue Serino will receive \$185,500 next year, instead of the current \$157,424.

County Clerk Brad Kendall will be paid 26 percent more (\$150,000 versus \$119,330) and the Legislature's chair 56 percent more (\$54,500). The budget also contains a 68 percent increase for legislators (\$27,500) and an 81 percent boost for the majority and minority leaders (\$45,500).

Assistant party leaders would receive a pay hike of 76 percent, to \$36,500. Committee chairs, currently unpaid, would receive \$3,000 stipends beginning next year.

Dutchess legislators also passed a resolution requesting state approval to raise its portion of the sales tax to 4 percent from 3.75 percent beginning in June 2024. Only six counties, including Dutchess, have sales taxes below 4 percent, according to the state Department of Taxation and Finance. Putnam raised its sales tax in 2007 from 3.5 to 4 percent.

The higher tax will reap an estimated \$8.3 million for the county and \$1.7 million for Beacon and other municipalities, which receive a share of what the county collects. The increase will not affect purchases of clothing and footwear of up to \$110, which will continue to be exempt from sales taxes in 2024.

"We cannot do this [raise sales taxes] at the same time we have just proposed raising salaries for officials here in Dutchess County," said Legislator Yvette Valdes Smith, a Democrat whose district includes Ward 4 in Beacon and is the minority leader.

Visitors staying at county hotels will pay more under the budget, which raises the tax on lodging to 5 percent from 4 percent. The change is expected to generate \$4.8 million in 2024, O'Neil said in a statement on Dec. 8.

O'Neil, who will leave office on Dec. 31, highlighted cuts in the property-tax rate and levy. Property owners will pay 26 cents less (\$2.23) per \$1,000 of assessed value next year, and the overall levy of \$99.4 million is the lowest in 15 years, he said.

"This is a reasonable budget that not only

takes into consideration the needs of all our residents, but funds them in the most responsible manner possible," he said.

Along with the tax proposals, O'Neil said the budget includes cost savings and new spending. He said the new county jail in Poughkeepsie, the Justice and Transition Center, will save \$1.8 million in overtime and another \$5.5 million through "staffing efficiencies" and policies adopted by Sheriff Kirk Imperati.

O'Neil also said the county would save more than \$265,000 on its public bus service by making changes to routes. (See Page 6.)

The budget adds eight positions for a planned homeless shelter and two deputy sheriffs trained as "community resource officers" to work in the City of Poughkeepsie.

The county will support Hudson River Housing with an additional "housing navigator" and a vehicle for outreach to homeless people, and create a \$200,000 grant program to expand composting by residents, with a matching grant program to help municipalities install and operate composting equipment.

Retail Pot Coming to Newburgh

State reviewing other Highlands applications

By Leonard Sparks

A firm in Newburgh received approval on Dec. 8 to sell recreational marijuana while the state reviews more than 1,850 applications to open cannabis businesses, including at least two from Beacon and one from Cold Spring.

Curaleaf, which is located adjacent to the Alexis Diner on Route 32 in the Town of Newburgh, was one of six medical-marijuana dispensaries approved by the state Cannabis Control Board last week to sell recreational cannabis. The company has 152 medical-marijuana dispensaries in 19 states.

While the six approved firms can begin

selling recreational marijuana as of Dec. 29, Curaleaf must first receive a special-use permit from the town Planning Board, which is awaiting a review of the application by Orange County.

A Curaleaf representative told the Planning Board in October that the company planned to sell marijuana grown in Albany County and be open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday.

The state Cannabis Control Board also issued recreational cannabis licenses to medical-marijuana firms based in White Plains, Brooklyn, Farmingdale, Albany and Purchase.

After the vote, Damian Fagan, chief equity officer for the state Office of Cannabis Management, said the agency is reviewing nearly 1,500 applications for retail dispensaries and more than 350 for

microbusinesses, which can grow, process, distribute and sell cannabis at retail.

Kamel Jamal, who owns the Beacon Bread Company and Ziatun, said he is one of the applicants applying to open a dispensary in the city, as is Grant McCabe, who owns The Leaf, a store on Main Street that sells cannabidiol and hemp products.

Another applicant, Pleasant View Harvest in Brewster, notified Cold Spring's Village Board that it has applied for a license to open a microbusiness at 137 Main St.

Fagan said that applicants have been assigned a random number that determines the order in which they will be reviewed over the next few weeks. After a 30-day period in which applicants can correct problems with their applications, the agency will resume issuing licenses, he said.

Since New York legalized recreational cannabis in March 2021, fewer than 40 dispensaries have opened for business,

largely because lawsuits seeking to expand eligibility delayed the issuing of licenses. The first retailer in the Mid-Hudson region and Westchester, Elevate in Mount Vernon, opened Monday (Dec. 11).

"We are truly on the verge of establishing the most equitable, diverse and representative legal cannabis market in the country," Fagan said.

With hundreds of licenses expected soon, the Office of Cannabis Management on Jan. 1 will end its approval of dozens of pop-up "showcases" in which growers sell their products.

One opened in Beacon in September at 463 Main St., a former police station owned by Jamal. Sales in Beacon and other locations selling legal cannabis totaled \$5 million through Nov. 26, according to the state, which receives 9 percent tax on each sale. Another 4 percent goes to the municipality where the business is located.

Highlands Districts to be Redrawn

Court ruling affects Lawler, Ryan, Rolison

By Leonard Sparks

New York's highest court first gave a gift to Republicans, ruling in 2022 that legislative districts approved by Democrats for Congress and the state Senate constituted gerrymandering and allowing a special master to draw new boundaries.

On Tuesday (Dec. 12), the court handed a present to Democrats, ruling 4-3 that the maps used for the 2022 election were valid for one-time use only, rather than through 2030, when the next federal census is conducted.

The Court of Appeals decision means the Independent Redistricting Commission must submit, no later than Feb. 28, new congressional and state Senate district

boundaries for the 2024 elections.

The decision affects the districts represented by Rep. Mike Lawler, a Republican, and Rep. Pat Ryan, a Democrat. Both were elected in 2022. Lawler's district includes Philipstown and Ryan's includes Beacon.

The district boundaries used in 2022 were credited with helping Republicans flip four seats held by Democrats (including by Lawler, who narrowly defeated Sean Patrick Maloney) and retake control of the U.S. House. The redrawn boundaries could reverse those gains by Republicans and harm Lawler's re-election prospects.

The decision also may shape the prospects of state Sen. Rob Rolison, whose district includes Beacon and Philipstown.

"This politically motivated decision is just the beginning of this process, not the end," Lawler said on Tuesday. "As Albany

and Washington Democrats seek to gerrymander the congressional lines in the coming weeks, there will undoubtedly be further legal action."

The decision on Tuesday upheld a 3-2 ruling in July by a state appeals court. That ruling, in turn, had reversed a decision in September 2022 by a judge in Albany who dismissed a lawsuit filed by five voters seeking redrawn districts before the 2024 elections.

Those voters, in addition to challenging the validity of the maps drawn by a special master, argued that the state Constitution requires the Independent Redistricting Commission to submit a second plan if state legislators reject its initial submission.

Gov. Kathy Hochul and Attorney General Letitia James, both Democrats, issued a joint statement on Tuesday that the decision "will ensure all New Yorkers are fairly and equitably represented by elected officials."

Partisanship has shadowed what was supposed to be a nonpartisan process for

nearly two years. In 2021, the Democrat and Republican appointees to the 10-member Independent Redistricting Commission, which redraws boundaries after every census so that every elected official represents about the same number of people, failed to agree on new maps.

Democrats in the state Legislature then created their own maps, which were approved by Hochul. But several Republican voters sued, and in March 2022, a state judge in Steuben County invalidated the maps.

The Court of Appeals upheld that decision, and a special master was appointed to redraw the boundaries. He estimated that his work increased the number of competitive congressional seats from three to eight and competitive state Senate seats from six to 15.

The maps Democrats created for the state Assembly were not challenged in court. They were used for the 2022 elections but redrawn this year and approved by Hochul.

Still No Plan for Indian Point Wastewater

Holtec says it didn't think legislative ban would pass

By Brian PJ Cronin

A month after announcing an eight-year delay in the decommissioning of Indian Point, the company doing the work said at a Dec. 6 meeting that it is no closer to determining what to do with the nuclear plant's radioactive wastewater.

Holtec representatives who attended the meeting of the Indian Point Decommissioning Oversight Board blamed the delay on recent state legislation that prevents it from discharging radioactive wastewater into the Hudson River. They said the firm has not ruled out suing the state.

The legislation was sponsored by State Sen. Pete Harckham and Assembly Member Dana Levenberg, whose district includes Philipstown. Both sit on the oversight board.

Companies decommissioning other nuclear plants have found ways to dispose of wastewater besides discharging it into a body of water, but those solutions have encountered pushback with Indian Point.

Boiling the water away, as was done at Three Mile Island, would transfer the radioactive material, specifically tritium, into the air. Shipping it off-site, as was done at the Yankee Pilgrim plant in Vermont, is consid-

ered to be an environmental justice issue since the region would simply be dumping its problem into someone else's backyard. And storing the wastewater in tanks on-site for 12 years — the time it would take for the tritium to decay to half its current potency — has been criticized because the tanks are notoriously leaky, and would have to be vented, allowing some of the tritium to escape.

Theresa Knickerbocker, the mayor of Buchanan, where Indian Point is located, has refused to grant the permits required to store the wastewater on-site because of fears of leakage, evaporation or accidents. Knickerbocker has criticized the anti-discharge legislation for delaying the decommissioning and when the site will be given to the village.

She also criticized members of the board for not discussing the legislation with her while it was being developed, although she noted that before Gov. Kathy Hochul signed the bill in August, she called Knickerbocker to hear her concerns.

Knickerbocker also asked why, if the discharge of tritium into the Hudson is so problematic, the issue hadn't come up during the time that the plant was operational and discharged into the Hudson on a routine basis.

"I have been saying for the past 20 years that the nuclear plant has been discharging

to the air and the water," said activist Marilyn Ellie during the meeting. "And nobody really took that seriously."

Holtec has begun examining other options. A company called Viola has proposed using a modular detritiation system to remove the tritium, although the technology has not been used at a commercial site in the U.S., would require an enormous amount of energy and take 10 years. Holtec also entertained a proposal from a company offering to use the water to irrigate hemp grown on-site, which would suck up the tritium.

Holtec is not seriously considering this option, as they would need clearance from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to grow hemp at the plant, and because the tritiated hemp would then have to be disposed of. Presumably, the tritiated hemp would also release tritium into the air while photosynthesizing.

Until the wastewater issue is resolved, Holtec said that its work will be severely hampered because it can't determine which buildings on the site can be taken down since it's not known which ones may be needed. When asked why the company did not have a backup plan for the wastewater, Holtec's Frank Spagnuolo said it "did not believe this law would pass because it's unreasonable."

Levenberg said that, between the public opposition to the discharge in the Hudson Valley as well as opposition to discharges in Cape Cod and at the Fukushima plant in Japan, the company should have prepared alternatives. "Within the world of nuclear power plants, you always have to have those backup plans," she said.

"There are 500,000 people who have signed a petition in New York State about this," added Harckham. "This was not Pete and Dana and a couple of tree huggers. This was something bigger than all of us."

Later in the meeting, while discussing the process of segmenting the reactor heads, the topic of the plant's refueling water storage tanks came up. Holtec said the tanks do not leak and are built to withstand seismic activity.

"If you can store this contaminated water for many years in these tanks that don't leak, why can't we do that with the spent fuel pool water?" asked Levenberg.

"Because you wouldn't fully be able to decommission the facility," said Holtec's Patrick O'Brien.

The next meeting of the Decommissioning Oversight Board on Feb. 29 is scheduled to include a presentation by Arnie Gundersen, a former nuclear engineer and nuclear industry executive turned whistleblower who proposes storing the wastewater in tanks but with a balloon-like apparatus over the vents to trap the tritium that escapes.



200
JULIA L. BUTTERFIELD
BICENTENNIAL
1823 • COLD SPRING, NY • 2023

HAPPY 200th
JULIA L. BUTTERFIELD!

19 DECEMBER 2023 | 3:30 - 5:30 P.M.

Join the Butterfield Library and Putnam History Museum on December 19 at 3:30 PM as we celebrate Julia L. Butterfield's 200th Birthday (with a special guest appearance by Julia & Daniel Butterfield)!

Starting at 3:30 pm at the Butterfield Library, there will be cake, crafts, and small bites for all ages. As part of the festivities, create 19th-century seasonal ornaments that harken back to the Victorian Era when Julia lived in Cold Spring.

Then, at 4:30 pm, take an optional stroll to the Putnam History Museum for a champagne toast and to see the exhibition, "In Her Footsteps: Julia L. Butterfield's Life & Legacy in Cold Spring," featuring rarely seen historic Butterfield documents and photos.

This program is part of the Julia L. Butterfield Bicentennial Celebration brought to you by the Butterfield Library & Putnam History Museum.

You can also celebrate Julia's 200th Birthday with delicious specials at local restaurants, bars, & eateries from December 19 - 24!

VISIT **BUTTERFIELDLIBRARY.ORG** FOR FULL MENU DETAILS!



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1 Furnace Street, Cold Spring
845-265-3238

Buon Natale & Buon Anno!

AROUND TOWN



▲ **MOVING ALONG** —Rachel Evans of Garrison (violin), Gareth Guest of Cold Spring (clarinet), Eva Gerrard of Beacon (viola) and six other musicians performed *Carnival of the Animals*, by Camille Saint-Saëns, at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring on Dec. 9. The music accompanied scenes on a “crankie” theater, a box with a moving, illustrated scroll, a backlight and shadow puppets.
Photo by Ross Corsair



▲ **WINTER CONCERT** — Students at Rombout Middle School in Beacon performed their annual show on Dec. 7 at the school.
Photo by Una Hoppe



◀ **ORATORIO** — The Highlands Choral Society (including Michael McKee, shown here) and Highlands Chamber Ensemble performed *Oratorio de Noël*, by Camille Saint-Saëns, at the Highlands Chapel in Cold Spring on Dec. 10.
Photo by Ross Corsair

Riverview

RESTAURANT

Christmas Eve

12 pm - 7 pm

Closed Christmas Day

845-265-4778

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45 FAIR STREET COLD SPRING

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Located in the historic district and heart of Downtown Poughkeepsie the Cast Iron Building was built in 1872. The historic building's central location is perfect for any new or existing business. The high ceilings and natural light make it the perfect artist studio space for all artisans. Area restaurants include King's Court Brewing Company, Brasserie 292, and Mill House Brewing Company. Located in Dutchess County's Central Business District, there are community happenings such as The Chance Theater, Mid-Hudson Civic Center, Middle Main, and Walkway Over the Hudson, to name a few. Neighboring offices, for example, The Poughkeepsie Journal, NY State Offices, Poughkeepsie City Court, and Dutchess County Court House are in close proximity as well. 3 Minutes away is the Metro-North Train Station, Hudson Line to Grand Central Terminal is 1 hour and 50 minutes Poughkeepsie Amtrak to Penn Station is 1 hour and 25 minutes.

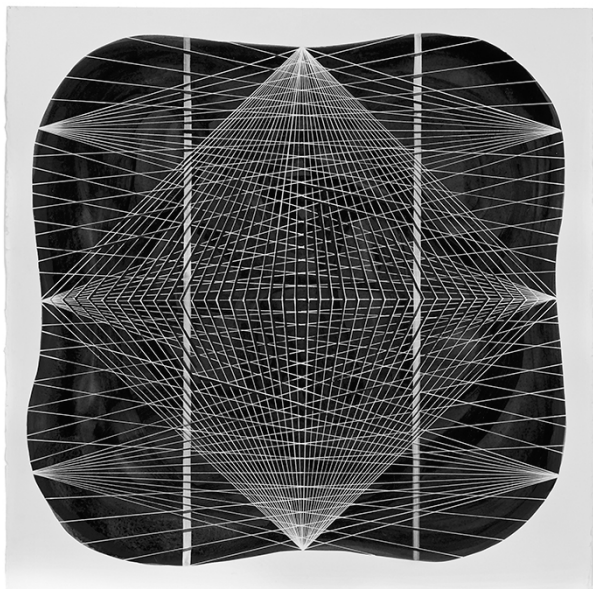
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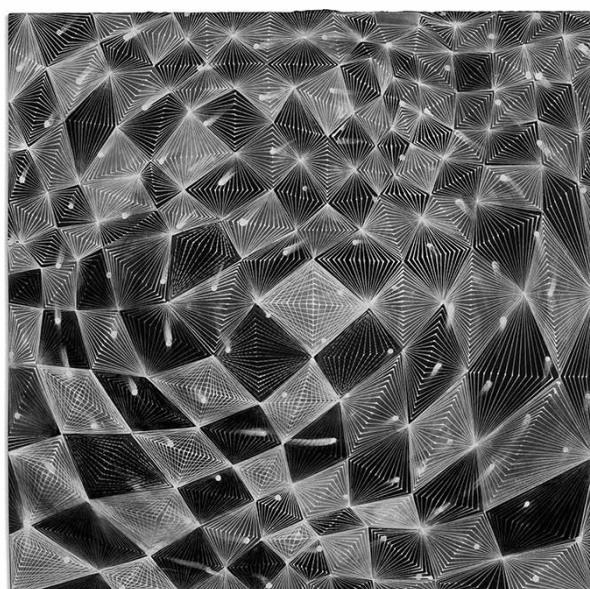
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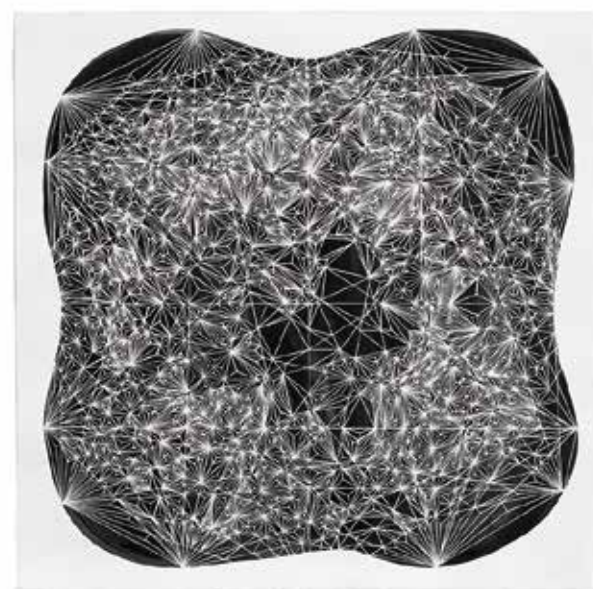
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"Almost Breaking Even"



"Delirium Disco"



"Recall Pinball"

The Calendar

THE BLEMISH IN THE PATTERN

Former scientist searches for 'Aha!' moments

By Alison Rooney

"How do we deal with irregularities within a generally orderly system?"

"Why does our mind try to fix the thing that's wrong?"

Those questions have dogged artist Sky Pape for years. "Patterns can grab your eye or elude your perception," she notes.

Looking at Pape's body of work, particularly her latest, gathered together under the banner *Beauty Marks, and Blemishes* at the Garrison Art Center, one might perceive symmetry and repetition. That's not what Pape is seeing. "Blemishes and anomalies are always part of the process of the work," she says.

Pape, whose work is owned by many museums, including the Guggenheim and the Museum of Modern Art, started off as a painter, working primarily with oil. After a period of "extreme loss and difficulty," she switched to drawing, and from representational work to abstraction on paper. "Something about the new materials, plus starting to use repetitive actions, helped me understand things emotionally and provided me with a different way to interpret the world around me."

Her art is informed by a parallel career as a scientist — she spent 14 years conducting research in schizophrenia, genetics and traumatic brain injury. "I'm drawn to cross-pollination of disciplines, including math, physics, biology, astronomy and social sciences — all things I'm always looking at," she says. "Art and science art give me a

way to understand a lot of things.

"I begin a piece by starting with paper on the floor and getting down for this body of work; I don't map the whole thing out," she explains. "I start with some idea or repetitive mark, and as that's happening things get off-kilter, and some irregularity in the pattern will start leading the dialogue I have with the piece."

"If the pattern gets disrupted, will this bring it to a tipping point? I begin from a place of not knowing and I try not to jump to conclusions. There are also intentional decisions on where to break a pattern, using intention and intuition. I will start seeing unexpected connections. That's the 'Aha' moment: Will it completely fall apart? It's a period of peril."

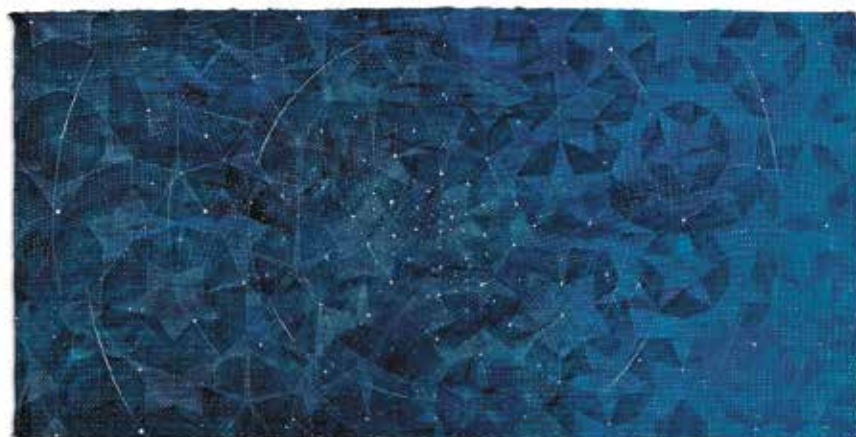
When is it finished? "Tickling a work to death stays in my mind," she says. "My creative path is spiral, needing a period of gestation of weeks to years, and some works take me over 10 years to complete. I set them aside, then bring them out again, repeatedly. There's finally a do-or-die moment when you're like: 'I would rather go all the way with the piece or ruin it and come out of the process.' If it's mediocre, I'd rather destroy it, so I run with it and bring it to fruition or set it aside."

The Garrison Art Center, located at 23 Garrison's Landing, is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except Monday. Beauty Marks, and Blemishes continues through Jan. 7. See garrisonartcenter.org and skypape.com.



Sky Pape at work in her Manhattan studio

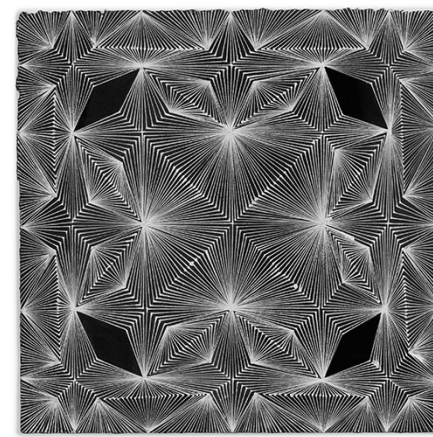
Photos provided



"The Passenger"



"The Making of a Poet"



"Jesters Escape"

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 16
Wreaths Across America
FISHKILL
2 p.m. Fishkill Rural Cemetery
801 Route 9
wreathsasscrossamerica.org

As part of a national campaign, Libby Funeral Home is organizing volunteers to place more than 600 wreaths on the graves of veterans and say each name aloud. Events will also take place at noon at St. Philip's Church in Garrison and West Point.

TUES 19
Narcen Training
BEACON
12:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

Learn how to recognize the signs of an overdose and administer the opioid antidote. Registration required.

TUES 19
200th Birthday Celebration
COLD SPRING
3:30 – 5:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

The library and the Putnam



History Museum will host this all-ages party with cake, games and a craft, followed by a walk to the museum at 63 Chestnut St. to view its exhibition about Julia Butterfield and share a champagne toast.

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 16
Teen Hike
COLD SPRING
10 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Students in grades 8 to 12 are invited to take a guided hike on the short loop of Bull Hill. Registration required.

TUES 19
Escape Room
BEACON
3:45 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

Children and teens ages 11 to 18 can use clues to get out in an hour or less. Registration required.

WED 20
Winter Picture Frame Craft
BEACON
3:45 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

Children ages 4 to 10 can decorate seasonal crafts to take

home. Registration required.

VISUAL ART

SAT 16
Maren Hassinger
BEACON
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Dia:Beacon
3 Beekman St. | 845-231-0811
diaart.org

The artist's 1983 work, "Field," made of 182 components, will be exhibited for the first time in its entirety. *Cost: \$20 (\$18 seniors, \$12 students and people with disabilities, \$5 ages 5 to 11, Beacon residents free)*

STAGE & SCREEN

SUN 17
Little Women
COLD SPRING
12:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Watch the 2019 version of the film in honor of library namesake Julia Butterfield's 200th birthday. Registration required.

SUN 17
Penelope
GARRISON
4 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org

Christine Bokhour will star in this one-person show; she was the understudy for the 2023 performances at the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival. *Cost: \$35*

MUSIC

SAT 16
A Celtic Christmas
POUGHKEEPSIE
7:30 p.m. Bardavon
35 Market St. | baradavon.org

A Taste of Ireland's tour includes music and dancing as star-crossed lovers find their way to each other. Also SUN 17. *Cost: \$45 to \$65*

SAT 16
A Very Slambovian Christmas
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The Slambovian Circus of Dreams will perform its annual holiday show. *Cost: \$35 (\$40 door)*

SAT 16
Joe Fiedler
POUGHKEEPSIE
8 p.m. Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center
12 Vassar St. | joefiedler.eventbrite.com

The trombonist and composer will play music from his latest recording, *The Howland Sessions*. *Cost: \$15 (\$20 door)*

SUN 17
Holiday Hoot
BEACON
6 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | howlandculturalcenter.org

Miss Willa Bugnon and Tom McCoy will host this celebration of Hannukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa

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with music by G.G. and the Shades, the X-Tremes and the LuvBugs, as well as poetry and a sing-a-long. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door, \$10 children)*

SUN 17
The Costellos
BEACON

8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Lynn and Bob will be joined by Scott Ramsey, The Flurries and Dimitri Archip for their annual Christmas show. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

WED 20
A Starry Night Holiday Cabaret
BEACON

7 p.m. Reserva 173 Main St. | reservabeacon.com
Broadway performers Jen Malenke, Nicole Tori, Chris Ams and Will Reynolds will bring cheer with holiday music. *Cost: \$55 (includes a glass of wine and appetizer)*

THURS 21
Solstice Spectacular
BEACON

7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. | howlandculturalcenter.org
The Wynotte Sisters will celebrate the return of light on the longest night of the year. *Cost: \$20*

CIVIC

MON 18
City Council
BEACON

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

MON 18
Dutchess Legislature
POUGHKEEPSIE

7 p.m. Legislative Chambers 22 Market St. | 845-486-2100 dutchessny.gov
The meeting will include the budget override and adoption of tax levy.

MON 18
Village Board
NELSONVILLE

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

TUES 19
School Board
COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Auditorium | 15 Craigsides Drive 845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

WED 20
Village Board
COLD SPRING

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

TALKS & TOURS

SAT 16
The Bear Mountain Bridge at 100
PEEKSKILL

2 p.m. Lincoln Depot Museum 10 S. Water St.
Frank Goderre will discuss the suspension bridge that became the first vehicle crossing of the river south of Albany when it opened in 1924. *Cost: \$10 (members free)*

HOLIDAY EVENTS

SAT 16
Visit from Santa
GARRISON

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Boscobel 1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638 boscobel.org
Santa will visit the back porch of the mansion to greet children and pose for photos. Free with grounds admission. *Cost: \$14 (\$12 senior, \$4 ages 4 to 18)*

SAT 16
Holiday Gift Show & Sale
BEACON

Noon – 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. howlandculturalcenter.org
Find crafts, jewelry, ceramics and artwork by regional artisans at this annual sale. Also SUN 17, FRI 22.

SAT 16
Holiday Tours
BEACON

Noon & 1 & 2 p.m. Mount Gulian 145 Sterling St. | mountgulian.org
Tour the historic mansion, which has been decorated for the holidays. Also SUN 17. *Cost: \$12 (\$10 seniors, \$6 children)*

SAT 16
It's A Wonderful Life
PUTNAM VALLEY

2 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center 729 Peekskill Hollow Road tompkinscorners.org
A cast of nine actors and musicians will perform the classic story as a radio broadcast. *Cost: \$20*



SAT 16
Winter Solstice
CORNWALL

3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center 120 Muser Drive 845-534-5506 x204 | hhn.org
Celebrate the longest night of the year and the return of the light. *Cost: \$12 (\$10 children, members \$10/\$8)*

SAT 16
Twilight Tours
GARRISON

4 – 6:20 p.m. Boscobel 1601 Route 9D | boscobel.org
Experience the house and gardens lit by candlelight and decorated for 19th-century holidays, with live music, mulled cider, hot chocolate and cookies. *Cost: \$30 (\$25 seniors, \$18 children, member discount)*

SAT 16
Jazz Nativity
COLD SPRING

5:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church 10 Academy St. presbychurchcoldspring.org
Tom McCoy, Goldee Greene, Richard Chaney, Dale DeMarco, Lew Scott and Mike LaRocco will perform.

SUN 17
Holiday Tea and Music
GARRISON

1 p.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D 845-265-3638 | boscobel.org
Mark Rust will perform multi-cultural holiday music while guests enjoy tea. *Cost: \$65 (\$55 children)*

FRI 22
Songs of Peace and Cheer
COLD SPRING

4:30 p.m. St. Mary's Church 1 Chestnut St. | stmaryscoldspring.com
Dar Williams will lead this community sing-a-long of traditional songs followed by popular songs of cheer.

FRI 22
White Christmas
GARRISON

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre 10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900 philipstowndepottheatre.org
Watch the 1954 classic starring Bing Crosby, Rosemary Clooney, Vera-Ellen and Danny Kaye. *Cost: \$15*



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

SUN 24
Our Lady of Loretto
COLD SPRING

4 & 8 p.m. 24 Fair St. 845-265-3718 | ladyofloretto.org
Mass will be held at 8:30 a.m. and noon on Christmas Day.

SUN 24
St. Joachim's
BEACON

4:30 p.m. & Midnight. 51 Leonard St. stjochaim-stjohn.org

SUN 24
St. John the Evangelist
BEACON

4:30 p.m. 35 Willow St. stjochaim-stjohn.org
A Spanish-language mass is scheduled for 6 p.m. On Christmas Day, Mass will be held at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

SUN 24
United Methodist Church
COLD SPRING

5 p.m. 216 Main St.
The service will be hosted with the Highlands Chapel.

SUN 24
St. Mary's Episcopal
COLD SPRING

5 p.m. 1 Chestnut St. 845-228-4167 | stmaryscoldspring.org

SUN 24
First Presbyterian
COLD SPRING

7 p.m. 10 Academy St. presbychurchcoldspring.org

SUN 24
St. Philip's Episcopal
GARRISON

10 p.m. 1101 Route 9D stphilipshighlands.org
A pageant is scheduled for 4 p.m.

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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 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.

Community Calendar

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

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.

SINGULAR

Super Secret Projects in Beacon is revealing a few secrets in its latest group show, which opened last week in the gallery at the back of Hyperbole at 484 Main St.

The twist for *Where Art Finds a Home*, which runs through Jan. 7, is that the artists are sharing a piece that might not otherwise be seen because it is a one-off, experimental or part of a series in progress.

We asked some of the artists involved to provide a quick explanation of their work that appears in the show. The gallery is open daily from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.



"Sketch Vessel," by Laura Holmes McCarthy, "represents an experimentation with bringing drawing into my ceramics work."



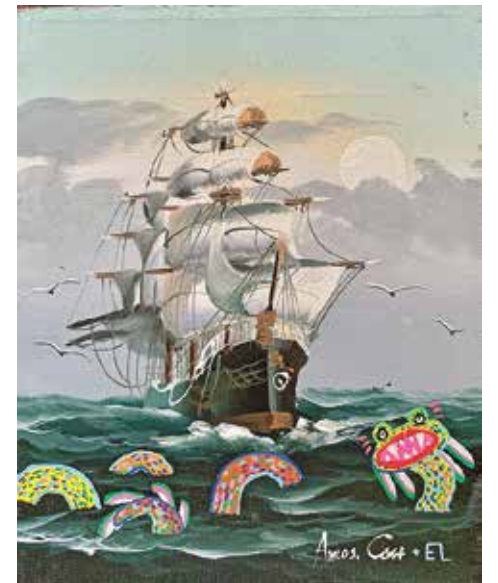
For "Rooted," by Kohar Minassian, a "local family of trees was cast on film, then handprinted — an ethereal reminder of how to thrive in community."



"I Didn't Know I Needed That," by Ian Wilson Clyde, is about "the volume of products consumed every day."



"Haystacks," by Alyssa Follansbee, is "about the private world you create within a relationship."



In "Baba Lost at Sea," Elin Lundman "upcycled art, adding a radical new layer to a traditional maritime scene."



In "Black Sand Lovers," Tom Stringer "composed the photo — made on my honeymoon to Iceland — just as the couple in the right side of the frame began holding hands."

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Small, Good Things

Pork & Lamb & Duck & Beans

By Joe Dizney

I can't remember the first time I had cassoulet, the storied southern French casserole of beans, duck (or goose), seemingly every form of pork known to man and (in some fiercely debated cases) lamb, but I did know it wouldn't be my last.



I remember the first time I made it: It was during a cold, wet early winter on a New Hampshire lake, and I had too much time on my hands, i.e., the three days the recipe I had at the time (now lost to time) insisted it took to make an authentic cassoulet. The first day was reserved for cooking the beans, with clove-studded onions, carrots, bouquet garni and some fumbling around with salt pork that had to be poached and drained before being first added to the pot and later discarded.

Day Two was reserved for processing the various meats — fresh and smoked, pork sausages, pork belly, chunks of lamb shoulder and, of course, duck confit, all ultimately stewed in wine and stock, with vegetables (onions and lots of garlic, carrots and tomatoes) that would be strained out, pureed and returned to the pot and combined with Day One's beans to rest overnight in the refrigerator.

Day Three was spent bringing the cassoulet (named for the traditional, slightly conical earthenware casserole pot, *le cassole*, it was baked in) to room temperature, baking it in a low oven for a couple of hours, topping with a layer of bread crumbs and drizzling with more duck fat, placing in a hot oven to brown and crust over, the crust being "broken" with a spoon and returning to the hot oven to crust again — up to seven times, depending on the authority you consult — before being pronounced "Done!"

Was it worth it? You bet. But I wasn't about to do it again any time soon. It was way too much effort for a dish of ostensibly humble peasant origins, and I had to content myself with sporadic restaurant sightings that only

Cassoulette

Serves 4 to 6

- 1¼ pound dried white beans (tarbais or cannellinis), soaked overnight
- 2 onions, peeled, cut in half, one half reserved, the remainder cut into a large dice
- 6 whole cloves
- 2 bouquet garni (each containing 1 bay leaf, ¼ teaspoon thyme, 5 sprigs parsley and 10 black peppercorns)
- 2 carrots, peeled, cut into rough ½- to ¾-inch chunks
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 6 to 8 cloves garlic, peeled and smashed
- ½ pound lamb shoulder, cut into a 1-inch dice
- ½ pound pork, cut into a 1-inch dice
- 1 piece duck confit (about 5 or 6 ounces)
- ½ cup rendered duck fat
- 1 quart rich chicken stock
- 1½ pound garlicky pork sausage (in one piece)
- ¾ cup panko or toasted breadcrumbs
- ½ teaspoon sweet paprika
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper

served to remind me how great it could be.

The recipe presented here is by no means authentic in that it is a shameless attempt to shortcut the process while preserving the flavors of what some pithy food writer once called "the best pork-and-beans you ever had."

The beans cook while the meats are prepared in a shorthand version. This "cassoulette" (so as not to defame the original) would ideally be prepared over two days, as the overnight refrigerator rest does meld the flavors, and the final cooking in a low oven includes merely a single breaking of the crust.

It's worth noting that most recipes for authentic cassoulet, of necessity, serve 16 to 20 people, while this diminutive version serves 4 to 6. Plus, with an early start and ingredients in hand, you could condense the process to a day, as I did more than once, serving it to expectant but unsuspecting friends who unanimously pronounced it completely satisfying.



1. Soak beans overnight in cold water. To cook: In a pot large enough to fit, add the beans and their soaking water, one half of an onion (in one piece, studded with the cloves), 1 bouquet garni, ½ of the carrots and 3 smashed cloves of garlic. Add additional water to cover by about 1½ inch. Bring to a medium boil for 15 to 20 minutes, skimming off any foam. Lower heat to a simmer, add 1 tablespoon salt. Cook until the beans are not quite done, which could take from 40 minutes to 1 hour, depending on the beans and their condition. Add more hot water as necessary to maintain level.
2. While beans cook, in another large saucepan or Dutch oven, heat 3 tablespoons duck fat over medium high. Brown the lamb cubes in individual batches, salt to taste and add duck fat if necessary. When browned, remove with a slotted spoon to a bowl.
3. In the same pan, saute the diced onion until barely colored. Add remaining garlic and saute for 1 minute. Add 1 teaspoon thyme and carrots; cook for another minute. Add tomato paste and sauté, stirring to incorporate for about 2 minutes. Add 2 cups of the chicken stock and the remaining bouquet garni. Bring to a low boil. Add the browned meats and their juices, the whole piece of garlic sausage and the confit. Add enough stock to just cover, reduce to a simmer and cook for at least 1 hour, and up to 1½ hours.
4. When the beans are not quite done, remove and discard the clove-studded onion and bouquet garni. When the meats are done, take off heat, remove bouquet garni and discard. Remove confit and garlic sausage from the pot and reserve to a bowl to cool. With a slotted spoon, add beans and their cooking vegetables to the pot with the lamb and pork. Return pot to a low simmer.
5. When cool enough to handle, clean the duck meat from the confit and shred or cut into bite-sized pieces. Slice the garlic sausage into ¼-inch slices and halve each slice. Add the duck and sausage to the beans, lamb and pork; stir all to incorporate. Add more stock or bean cooking liquid to achieve a slightly soupy consistency. Maintain simmer for another 5 to 10 minutes, then remove from heat.
6. Transfer everything to a cassole or a large deep casserole, cover and refrigerate 2 hours to overnight, depending on whether you're eating it today or tomorrow.
7. When ready to cook, bring the cassoulet to room temperature. Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Combine breadcrumbs, paprika, ¼ teaspoon salt and ½ teaspoon ground black pepper in a small bowl. Heat remaining duck fat (about 5 tablespoons). Sprinkle breadcrumbs evenly over the cassoulet; drizzle with duck fat. Bake about 2 hours on a rack in the middle of the oven. After 2 hours, roughly break the breadcrumb crust with a spoon and return to the oven for another ½ hour. Serve hot.

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Remembering Julia

Butterfield Library sponsors essay and poetry contest

By Alison Rooney

As part of a series of programs honoring the 200th anniversary of the birth of Julia Butterfield, whose bequest funded the Cold Spring library built in 1925 that bears her name, the staff decided to hold a poetry and essay contest for students.

Rena Corey, an author and historian who is on the bicentennial planning committee, came up with the idea of a writing contest.

Katherine Latella, the head of children's services, and Director Johanna Reinhardt decided on an essay contest for older students and a poetry contest for younger ones.

Latella, a former middle school English teacher, suggested using a painting as a prompt for the poem: specifically, an 1863 Thomas Rossiter canvas, "A Pic-Nic on the Hudson," that hangs in the library and shows prominent citizens of the time posing on Constitution Island.

The younger students were asked to imagine they had attended and what they would have talked about, seen and eaten. Older students were asked: "Imagine you

were Julia and you were presented with a world problem today. How do you think she would handle it? Consider her character, values and accomplishments."

The judges were Corey; Latella; Reinhardt; Kimberly Sabatini, a writer who lives in Garrison; Cassie Ward, director of the Putnam History Museum; and me.

The middle/high school winner was sixth grader Ysabella Jung (Haldane) and the elementary winner was fifth grader Jesse Pirraglia of the Garrison School. Each received \$100. Second place among the elementary students went to Pippa Daisley and third place to Zephyr Wayland, both fifth graders at Haldane; each received a library swag bag.

All of the writers were honored at a reception at the library on Dec. 8 in which the winners read their work, without coaxing. Maybe it was the lure of hot cocoa and treats served afterward.

The proceedings concluded with historic songs sung by young carolers who then made their way down Main Street to perform at Cold Spring Aglow.

My Race to My Special Place

By Zephyr Wayland

I hear the laugh of the mayor's daughter
As I rush ever closer to the water,
I feel the wind against my face,
But I will continue to race,
I can smell the fresh bread in the clearing,
I am nearing, nearing, nearing
I can almost taste the tea,
Then finally
I can see
The water grounds
Filled with mounds and mounds
Of food—all free.
And I can see
The mayor's daughter
Sitting next to the water.
The Hudson River's rush
Fills my ear,
Everything else a hush,
Because I am here
I have completed my race
To the picnic place.

A Future Changed

By Ysabella Jung

Although the world is big and bright, poverty is always there. It plagues people, making them not even have the necessities needed to help them, causing them to fall into despair. Children can't even experience the childhood they deserve and have to work as hard as their parents do. Many are unable to receive a proper education.

This shows that even though just waking up in the morning and going to school seems normal enough, it is a privilege that some people do not have. Though you might be tired of your parents saying it, it is a sad truth. We need to help the people who are affected by poverty and there are so many people that could help with this situation. However, one stands out from them all: Julia Butterfield.

Julia Butterfield was a dedicated, faithful and highly influential woman who contributed to building the Butterfield Library. What she would do to fight poverty is to gather all the neighborhood together to her house. It is said that she loved to host parties and once invited the Duke of Russia and the Count of Paris to her gorgeous house. She would also tell about the situation to the Putnam Historical Society. Even though her neighbors and people might shrug it off, at least some people would know and would be willing to stand up for this cause.

It is also said that Julia contributed tons of money to her community, and once, she built a hospital, when there were so few in the rural areas. She would donate and have different charities that would support and help the people. She would probably try and make as many shelters as she could, giving the poor a space where they can actually live. Additionally, she would give the children a school so that they could receive an education. At last, their futures would be changed for the better.

In conclusion, Julia would use her high status to her advantage. She would bring attention to the issue, donate to charities, make shelters and provide education to the children. This shows that she cares about the people and her community. Even if this only helps at least a few people, to them, it's like a miracle.



"A Pic-Nic on the Hudson," by Thomas Rossiter, hangs at the Butterfield Library.

Gathering on the Hudson

By Pippa Daisley

The sun peeking through the trees as I reach for another strawberry
my horses for my carriage neigh and whinny as they impatiently wait for food.
I run over and gift them a sugar cube that was meant for tea.
I am sweating in all these layers of my dress.
It takes an effortful amount of time just to get dressed in the morning.
Meanwhile all the men laugh and clank beer glasses together.
The other ladies gossip and fan themselves but I just sit with my friend and read my book
It's about a girl who can fly.
I don't usually like fantasy but I'll make some exceptions once in a while.

Georgiana's Lament: or, Why I'm Preoccupied

By Jesse Pirraglia

I hate my cat, I hate my dog, I hate my dress, I want a frog!
Julia is well-to-do, my father wishes I was too.
I want to go out and play, at this picnic I'd rather not stay.
The marsh, it calls me, with insect trills, much finer than these fancy frills.
The river, it calls me, with a burbling spring. I shall never hear a sweeter thing.
I hoist up my dress, I start to run. My shadow grows long under the sun.
The water flows around me as I play. For another day like this, I will pray.

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LOOKING BACK IN PHILIPSTOWN

By Chip Rowe

150 Years Ago (December 1873)

A monster gun that required 37 tons of molten iron, the weight of which had “burst the [molding] box” in November, was cast on the second try at the West Point Foundry. In an operation that took 12½ minutes, two-man teams carried the molten material in hand ladles suspended between them from the cupolas to the reservoir.

After a national financial crash, business at the foundry was picking up, with a federal order for 1,000 projectiles for 300-pound Parrott guns made during the Civil War and mortars for stations on the coast to shoot lifelines to vessels stranded near the shore.

The Cold Spring Recorder reported that a traveling parlor opera had a rough time of it. During a preview, Miss Cattini, accompanied on the piano by Otto, sang a few pages of operatic music in Italian but the audience dispersed before she could perform two songs in English. Then, at the show, twice delayed by bad weather, the audience included boys who were “a great annoyance,” according to the paper.

Children in the audience at a banjo minstrel at Town Hall also were a nuisance, the paper said.

James Swan, a Philipstown papermaker, lost a judgment of \$178.35 [about \$4,600] by default when he failed to appear in court. He had not paid two rag dealers. When the plaintiffs took the court order to the mill, Swan settled by giving them a ton of paper.

The Charles Spear, traveling south on the river to New York City, was delayed in thick fog, and when the passengers awoke in the morning they found themselves docked at the West Point Foundry. Some came ashore and took the 7:58 train.

Marvin Wilson was selling 25 acres of “choice building land” in Philipstown opposite West Point and offered “a circular with full particulars.”

A federal court held an auction to dispose of the stock and tools of the bankrupt Putnam Paper Mill in Putnam Valley.

The Recorder published an advertisement from an Indiana company offering by mail its “painless opium cure.”

At a meeting of the Putnam Board of Supervisors, a motion to remove \$17 [\$435] from a bill submitted by the jailer for nursing sick prisoners was approved. However, a motion to strike \$18 from his bill for policing services was defeated, as were motions to remove \$12, \$10, \$6, \$12 and \$18, before it was set aside.

In other business, the supervisors approved a bounty of \$3 [\$76] for every wildcat killed and 50 cents for every fox, to be paid with presentation of the carcass to the supervisor of the town where it was killed, who would cut off the right ear to send to the county.

The Recorder described Main Street as “in dry weather an ash bed and on rainy days the Slough of Despond” — a reference from *The Pilgrim’s Progress* — that had been “top-dressed with clay and loam from cellar excavations” and sand and silt from the gutters.

During a moment of inattention, Alexander Turner lost the ends of the fingers on his left hand while cutting feed at Breakneck Hollow Farm.

The ladies’ auxiliary of the Methodist Episcopal Church held a tea party to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the throwing of tea into Boston Harbor to protest British taxes.

Train carloads of cut evergreens passed by daily, bound for New York City.

Sixty chances were offered at \$2 [\$50] for the raffle at the Pacific Hotel of a Singer sewing machine with a steam motor.

Stephen Davenport was spotted Dec. 13 plowing his field.

Between the end of the Christmas Eve service and the early Mass on Christmas Day, burglars stole every valuable from the sanctuary of the Catholic church.

On Dec. 31 and Jan. 1, the Watson Brothers gave a gymnastics and pantomime performance at Town Hall.

Leonard Denney transported a load of iron ore on his sled that weighed 5.3 tons.

The Recorder noted a pair of pants had been found on Market Street and could be claimed at its office for the cost of the notice.

The Ladue stables on Stone Street purchased a machine powered by compressed air to shave its horses, leaving them resembling “smooth mice,” according to *The Recorder*.

125 Years Ago (December 1898)

An engraved gold ring lost nearly 50 years earlier by a member of the Conklin family was discovered on its farm in Putnam Valley while digging potatoes.

The state superintendent of public instruction sent a circular to school trustees alerting them that smallpox was spreading in central New York and noting that no child could attend school unless vaccinated.

Through the efforts of Rep. John Ketcham, an iron mailbox was installed outside the Garrison post office.

In Continentalville, Ebenezer Pratt sold one of his cows and William Scofield installed a heater in his home.

The Haldane Debating Club met to address the question, “Resolved: That New York State should be divided into two states, with the northern boundaries of Putnam and Orange as the dividing line.”

The Recorder noted that “there seems to be no doubt that the seasons have perceptibly changed within the past 30 or 40 years,” with summer weather continuing into the fall and fall weather into the winter.

Haldane High School received a full-size skeleton for its physiology class.

Etta Jaycox opened a store opposite her father’s in Nelsonville that sold holiday goods, notions, fruits, candies and nuts.

The electric streetlights installed below the railroad tracks were turned on.

Isabella Boyd, the widow of druggist Charles Boyd, who had taken over the pharmacy 10 years earlier following her husband’s death, died at age 76.

To celebrate the birth of his child, barber Raymond Lorentzen offered free shaves and haircuts.

Mrs. Nicholas Fish, the mother of Sgt. Hamilton Fish, who was killed in action in Cuba during the Spanish-American War, presented each man who had been under his command with a pearl-handled knife inscribed “Las Guasima, June 24, ’98” and “Souvenir of Sergt. Hamilton Fish to his comrades in Troop I, R.R.R.,” or Rough Rider Reserve.

75 Years Ago (December 1948)

Osborn “Ossie” Mekeel, a former shopkeeper and postmaster in Nelsonville, died at 70. He lived with Mr. and Mrs. Robert

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COLD SPRING — For a place to stay when you can’t stay at home, (or when you have an overflow of visitors!): A charming fully furnished space in Cold Spring, 500 square feet, bi-level studio with pine-paneled ceilings, dressing room, laundry, good kitchen, private garden patio, in center of Village with nearby shopping, restaurants; easy walk to train, to river & hiking. Off-street parking (!). Supplies & utilities all in \$1550 monthly fee. Email villagevisits23@gmail.com.

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TAG SALE? Car for sale? Space for rent? Help wanted? Place your ad here for \$9.95. See highlandscurrent.org/classifieds.

Fleming on Morris Avenue.

After its Christmas concert, the Philipstown Chorale made a tour of Cold Spring and Nelsonville to sing carols, ending at Butterfield Memorial Hospital.

A memorial for the veterans of Nelsonville was dedicated at the corner of Division and Adams streets.

The water board installed a 12-inch line on The Boulevard and a 6-inch line and hydrant on B Street.

The Hudson Theatre on Main Street changed its movie every two days: In December it screened *Lost Horizon*, with Ronald Coleman and Jane Wyatt; *The Luck of the Irish*, with Tyrone Power; *Julia Misbehaves*, with Greer Garson, Walter Pidgeon, Peter Lawford, Cesar Romero and Elizabeth Taylor; *Big City*, with Margaret O'Brien and Danny Thomas; *That Lady in Ermine*, with Betty Grable and Doug Fairbanks, in a double feature with *Night Time in Nevada*, featuring Roy Rogers and Trigger; *Luxury Liner*, "M.G.M.'s nautical musical"; and *Four Feathers*, starring "3,000 fighting men and a girl."

The Haldane cheerleaders hosted a basketball game in the auditorium with faculty and students riding donkeys. The event included the "world-famous" donkey known as Honey Pot.

Among the advertisers in *The Philipstown Times*: W.A. Scullion Funeral Home at 30 Morris Ave.; Collins' Restaurant & Bar at 187 Main St.; the Haar Agency at 159 Main St.; Zahner's Bar & Grill at 129 Main St.; Rose's Luncheonette at 120 Main St.; Nathan Glick's store at 93-97 Main St.; Purity Market at 92 Main St.; Coleman Funeral Home at 4 Rock St.; Southard and Covert Insurance at 73 Main St.; and Strickland's Liquor Store at 62 Main St.

Joseph Percacciolo purchased a lot adjoining Kemble's Field and planned to build four homes.

The Cold Spring Drum & Bugle Corps hosted a chicken dinner at Scalzo's for the girls of the Minstrel Show Troupe to thank them for a benefit performance.

A broadcasting club at Haldane produced a 15-minute, weekly show for a new station at Peekskill. Chapman Robinson was the announcer for the program, which aired Fridays at 3 p.m.

The Hudson Theatre hosted its third annual free holiday movie for children under 12, the 1933 Laurel and Hardy feature, *Sons of the Desert*.

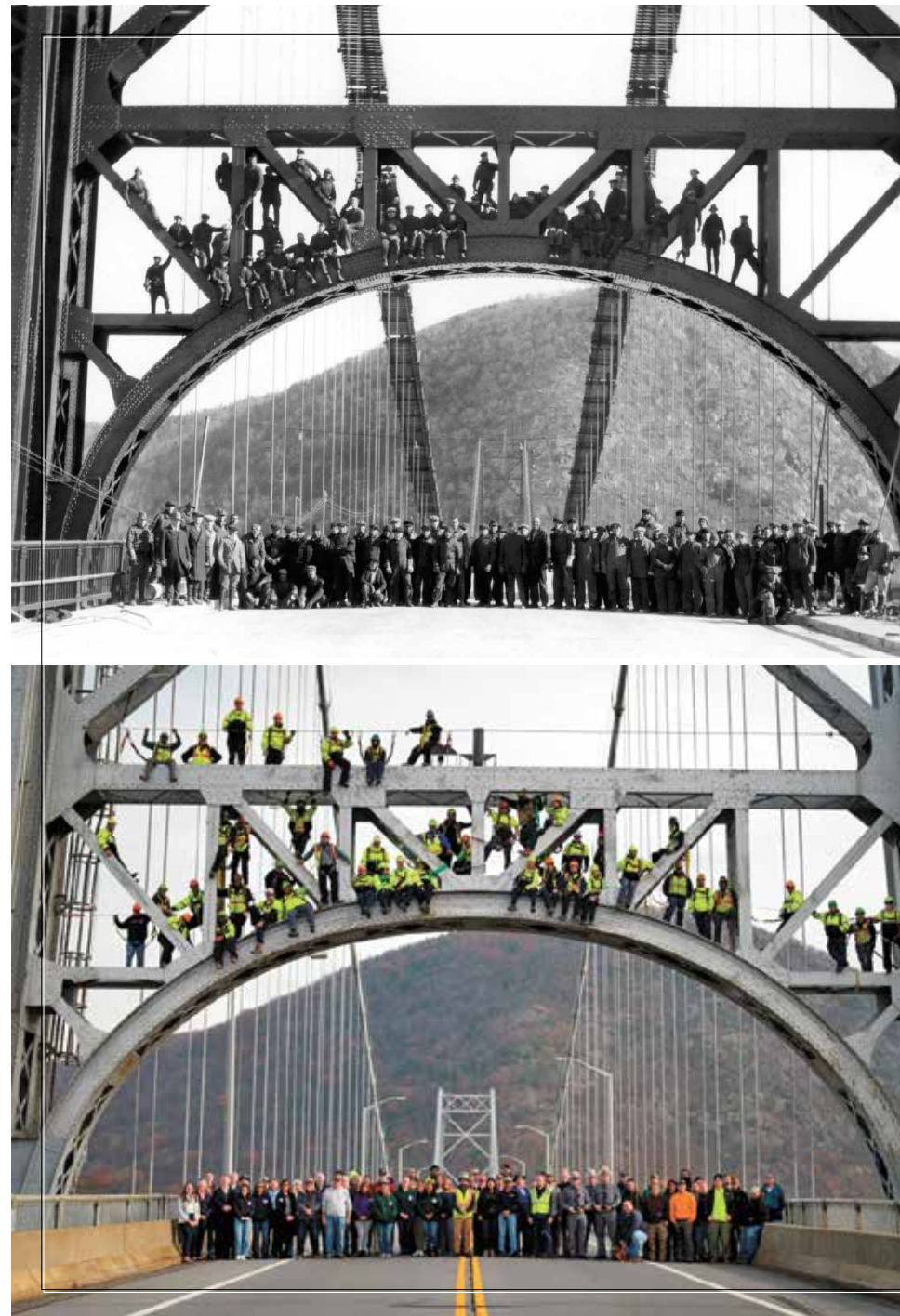
Our Lady of Loretto formed a boxing team; members planned a "smoker" with bouts and sandwiches to raise money for gym equipment.

On his national morning radio show, *Talent Scouts*, Arthur Godfrey read a letter from Viola Rundell of Cold Spring.

50 Years Ago (December 1973)

Anthony Benecasa, a lifelong resident of Cold Spring, was appointed postmaster. He had worked at the post office since 1948, including 10 years as clerk and 14 years as assistant postmaster.

Nathan Glick, who operated the home-furnishing store at 93 Main St. that had been opened by his father, Jacob, in 1906, died at age 68. As a young man, Glick was



a standout baseball player for Haldane and the Poughkeepsie Jewish Center.

The Fishkill National Bank broke ground for a branch at Chestnut and Oak streets.

The Haldane wrestling team opened its season with a 60-12 victory over Dover Plains in which Blue Devils won 10 of the 13 bouts, including nine by pins.

Samuel Scalzo, a plumber for the Capuchin Monastery in Garrison who later operated the Riverview Inn on Fair Street, died at age 66.

Bertha Selleck of Cold Spring visited with elementary teachers at Haldane during a workshop to share what was described as her "unique reading technique."

Adrian Haar, who moved to Cold Spring from Ohio and joined the James E. Bailey & Son insurance agency, died at 64. The business became known as Bailey & Haar and then, in 1945, as Haar Insurance Agency. Haar was a director of the National Bank of Cold Spring and the first president of the Philipstown Rod & Gun Club.

25 Years Ago (December 1998)

Five Philipstown authors held a joint signing at the newly opened Salmagundi Books: David Landay, the founder of Broadway Cares (*Be Prepared*); Sara Dulaney (*The Complete Idiot's Guide to Single Parenting*); Gail Reichstein (*Wood Becomes*

Water: Chinese Medicine in Everyday Life); Michael Kahan, a professor of political science at Brooklyn College (*Media as Politics*); and Elizabeth Kimmel (*Stone Circle*).

Michael Semo, a member of the Putnam County Legislature for 16 years, resigned as its chair four weeks before his term was to end after he damaged a county-owned car. The Patterson resident sideswiped a utility pole on Route 301 while returning from a Putnam Women's GOP dinner at the Plumbush Restaurant in Philipstown. He said he lost control while reaching for an item in the back seat.

The Trust for Public Land and the Open Space Institute announced the preservation of 800 acres of woods straddling Patterson and Kent. Known as Wonder Lake, it had been the summer home of actor Elizabeth Montgomery, star of the television series *Bewitched*, who died in 1995, and her father, actor Robert Montgomery.

After taking off from Goshen, a two-person balloon made an emergency landing in a parking lot in Nelsonville. The flight nearly ended on the Haldane campus before the pilot spotted what he thought was a better spot to land.

Following complaints about speeding, the Cold Spring Village Board voted to install stop signs on Bank Street at its intersections with Parrott, Parsonage and West Bank.

The Village Board enacted a "pooper-scoo-

Then & Now: Bear Mountain Bridge

To celebrate the 99th anniversary of the opening of the Bear Mountain Bridge, more than 100 people gathered on its deck on Nov. 17 to pose for the recreation of a recently discovered 1924 photo taken of the workers who constructed it.

The more recent photo was taken by Scott Snell of SDS Imagery, a Beacon film production company hired by the nonprofit Historic Bridges of the Hudson Valley. Snell has been working with HBHV on a documentary about the bridge's history. Traffic was stopped for about 15 minutes.

The bridge opened to the public on Nov. 27, 1924 (Thanksgiving Day), after being dedicated the day before, according to HBHV. It was the first vehicular bridge over the Hudson River south of Albany and the first suspension bridge with a concrete deck. For a brief period, it was also the bridge with the longest suspended span in the world.

For more information on the centennial, see bmb100.com. HBHV is creating a database of laborers who worked on the bridge; email kburke@hbhv.org with names.

Photos courtesy of Frank Goderre and Scott Snell

per" law with fines of \$50 to \$150 for failing to clean up after dogs or allowing them to run unleashed. The law also gave police officers the ability to ticket the owners of "nuisance" dogs who habitually barked or howled, caused property damage, chased or harassed pedestrians or barked at or chased cars.

Despite pleas by Mayor Anthony Phillips to put aside its "issues" with Nelsonville, no member of the Cold Spring Village Board would offer a motion to waive a \$750 fee for Nelsonville to hook up water to its new pocket park at Main and Pearl.

Delmar Karlen, acting superintendent of the newly created Garrison's Landing Water District, told the Philipstown Town Board that the low bid to clean, reline and replace sections of pipe and reline the cement reservoir was \$226,625, or \$100,000 more than the town had budgeted. There was urgency because the temporary pipes were above ground and could freeze in cold weather.

Haldane High School received a \$53,693 donation from Lucio Petrocelli and his family to buy equipment and supplies for the environmental science, meteorology, earth science and biology classes.

A 39-year-old Hopewell Junction man who was stopped for speeding in Cold Spring was sent to the Putnam County Jail after officers found he had 30 active suspensions on his license from 11 different days.



December 5, 2023

Village of Cold Spring Board of Trustees
85 Main Street
Cold Spring, NY 10516

Dear Mayor Foley and Village of Cold Spring Trustees,

I am writing to clarify some points about the proposed Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail plan as it relates to Dockside Park and the Village of Cold Spring. I have been specifically authorized by the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, Inc. (HHFT) Board of Directors to write this letter.

As you know, we have stated in various public forums that, whatever the final routing of the Fjord Trail, HHFT will defer to the Village of Cold Spring in regard to what, if any, programming and events occur at Dockside Park.

Should the final routing of the trail include Dockside, HHFT would build the actual trail, as well as public restrooms, and may also build and maintain a visitor information kiosk to help orient hikers and provide essentials, like maps and a water refilling station. The design for this phase of the plan is still in the conceptual stage. As part of HHFT's ongoing operations, Fjord Trail stewardship staff would then maintain the park, and manage trash and recycling collection and maintenance of the restroom facilities.

Some residents of Cold Spring have expressed concern that Fjord Trail revenue generating activities could occur at Dockside and adversely impact the Village—as one resident put it in a recent letter, "holiday stalls at Dockside to compete with local businesses." They have suggested that we formally confirm in writing the assurances previously made on this subject, which I am pleased to do.

HHFT has no intention to plan or allow commercial activities or events (including by Fjord Trail concessionaires, sponsors, or donors) in Dockside Park.

Additionally, there has been much public comment on a rumored traffic circle, or roundabout, at the intersection of Routes 9D and 301, being a part of the Fjord Trail proposal. **I'd like to clarify that HHFT has never proposed such an idea and has no intention of recommending or advocating for a traffic circle at the 9D intersection, nor do we have any jurisdiction to do so.** As you know, such a plan would be up to the NYS Department of Transportation in collaboration with you, the Village of Cold Spring Board of Trustees, and Putnam County.

As the Fjord Trail plan continues to be refined, we look forward to updating you on our progress, and hope that you and local residents will continue to share your input on the plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Amy Kacala', is written over a light green circular background.

Amy Kacala
Executive Director

Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail
85 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 300 Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
hhft.org +1 845.473.4440 info@hhft.org

Accessibility (from Page 1)

A survey by *The Current* found that 42 percent of 66 storefronts on Main Street in Cold Spring (including the newspaper's office) are inaccessible to wheelchair users. In Beacon, 41 percent of 214 storefronts are inaccessible. Usually the problem is a step or two acting as a barrier.

Despite a popular conception, renting or owning a building that dates from before the ADA does not exempt or "grandfather" businesses open to the public. Instead, they must do whatever is "readily achievable" to remove barriers, explained Michael Hellmann, a disability rights attorney based in Hartsdale.

Many business owners fail to provide access, he said, in part because there is no enforcement. The U.S. Department of Justice could enforce the ADA but lacks the resources to pursue millions of noncompliant small businesses, said Michelle Uzeta, deputy legal director of the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund, based in Washington, D.C. Often a building is updated only when it is built or being renovated, when it must comply with state building codes, which require disability access.

At the local level, "the village cannot force business owners to make their entrances ADA-compliant," noted Eliza Starbuck, a Cold Spring trustee who owns Flowercup Wine at 82 Main St. Chris White, the Beacon city administrator, added: "We're not making people change elevations to building entrances."

The lack of enforcement has led many people to dismiss the ADA as toothless, said Uzeta. Disabled individuals can bring federal lawsuits citing the law, but that's uncommon. "The average person with a disability doesn't have the resources or strength to file a lawsuit," she said.

As a result, enforcement sometimes falls to self-appointed "civil-rights testers" who identify small businesses that are out of compliance. That's what happened in *Acheson Hotels, LLC v. Laufer*, a case decided last week by the U.S. Supreme Court. Deborah Laufer, a Florida resident who uses a wheelchair, filed more than 600 federal lawsuits against small hotels and bed-and-breakfasts that failed to say on their websites if they were accessible to the disabled.

The issue before the court was not the validity of the allegations but whether Laufer could



Lisa Tarricone enters The Olive Tree in Beacon, which provides an ADA-compliant alternative entrance with a ramp.

Photos by J. Asher



Subway in Beacon has an ADA-compliant entrance.

sue even if she never intended to stay at the hotels. The court last week left the issue unresolved, dismissing it on technical grounds.

Another reason for non-compliance is architectural challenges. Installing ADA-compliant ramps can be difficult, said Justin Kacur, a Cold Spring architect. "It's all dependent on the building," he said. "Every foot of elevation requires 12 feet of ramp. Where are you going to put that ramp?"

Two years ago, the length of an ADA-compliant ramp complicated plans for the Cro' Nest Wine Bar in Cold Spring when its owners planned to open in a renovated

storefront at 15 Main St. The required length would have put the end of the ramp on the sidewalk, which is village property. The conflict was resolved when New York State approved an exemption to the building code that allowed the ramp to be slightly steeper and shorter.

Stable, portable ramps are OK when other options aren't "readily achievable," said Uzeta. Ideally, they should have railings and a non-slip surface.

Flowercup has a step that blocks wheelchair users. When Tarricone arrived outside during a visit, Starbuck immediately brought out a small plastic ramp. Tarricone said she appreciated that but urged Starbuck to consider a sturdier, foldable "suitcase ramp," readily available on Amazon and other sites. (*The Current*, which has a 4-inch-high step, purchased a 4-foot suitcase ramp this week for \$125.)

While local officials cannot compel businesses to comply with the ADA, they can enforce the state building code, said Hellmann, the Hartsdale lawyer. As an example, the new Edgewater apartments in Beacon provide access for wheelchair users, said White, the city administrator. In Cold Spring, in addition to the wine bar, Starbuck said that local officials oversaw wheelchair access to the building that houses The Endless Skein when it was constructed in 2018.

Local officials said they are improving

ADA FAQ

What disabilities are covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act?

All disabilities, mental or physical, temporary or permanent, severe or mild.

Who must provide access?

Any person who owns, leases or operates a place of public accommodation, including most places of lodging, recreation, transportation, education and dining, stores, care providers and places of public displays.

Are any businesses open to the public exempt?

No. All businesses must remove barriers when it is "readily achievable," meaning compliance is "easily accomplished without much difficulty or expense."

Are historic properties exempt?

No. Historic properties are required to remove barriers to access where it is readily achievable and must comply with the ADA's alteration requirements to the "maximum extent feasible."

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice, Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund

access in other ways. White said Beacon has replaced 60 sidewalk curb ramps over the last three years and Starbuck noted that Cold Spring has improved sidewalk ramps, added ADA-compliant parking and exempted cars with disability stickers from upcoming restrictions.

But she acknowledged there is work to do. "We are a teeny-tiny village with a budget that is tiny and we don't have the funds to make the entire village ADA-compliant," said Starbuck, adding that she believes many business owners fail to comply only because it's not "on their radar. With any issue where it's serving a smaller portion of the community, it becomes a low priority, which is absolutely unfair."

During her visit to the Highlands, Tarricone said she would like to see access become a priority. "If you want to include people with disabilities and not discriminate, you can do that," she said. "You can work with your business community toward compliance, instead of saying it is up to them."

WANTED

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED IN PHILIPSTOWN/COLD SPRING

Putnam County OSR and the Putnam SeniorCorps Volunteer Program needs your help in the Philipstown/Cold Spring area. If you are over 60 and enjoy driving, Putnam SeniorCorps is looking for volunteers to drive seniors to local doctor appointments.

As a volunteer driver in Philipstown/Cold Spring, you will pick up a county car at the Philipstown Friendship Center. The driver transports the client to and from their appointment and returns the County car back to the Friendship Center location. Trip times vary and are extremely flexible based on your availability.

You will be inspired to help others after just one trip! Please contact Irene Pawliczko of Putnam SeniorCorps at (845)808-1734 to volunteer.

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Cell Tower *(from Page 1)*

which would be disguised to look like a fir but rise over the tree line.

“Our argument is that the scope of what Homeland proposes for the right-of-way is necessary only because it’s a commercial activity,” which shouldn’t be allowed, said Mark Blanchard, an attorney who represents the neighbors. “If Homeland were building a single-family home, it wouldn’t have to do anything to the road.”

Blanchard said that the issue may come down to whether Nelsonville’s building inspector decides that overland commercial electric infrastructure requires Homeland

to submit a new site plan to the Planning Board, or if he simply revises the permit to allow the utility lines over the right-of-way or over or under private property with a neighbor’s consent.

Kelly Aran, an attorney for Snyder and Snyder, which represents Homeland, did not immediately respond to an email or phone call seeking comment.

After hearing arguments from the Rockledge neighbors, state Judge Thomas Davis issued a preliminary injunction in February 2022 that prevented Homeland from altering the right-of-way, such as widening or paving it to bring in construction equipment. On Monday, Capone kept that

preliminary injunction in place for 30 days to allow challenges to her decisions with the state appeals court.

Nelsonville initially refused to grant a building permit for the tower. But after Homeland sued in federal court, the village in 2020 issued one as part of a settlement. The permit allows Homeland to widen the driveway, remove trees and resurface the road. Before Capone’s decision, it also allowed Homeland to dig trenches for cables and conduits.

As Davis had ruled in 2022, Capone said the legal definition of “right-of-way” is over, not under, land.

The neighbors also charged in their

lawsuit that Homeland trespassed and created a nuisance, and that a surveying company spray-painted and drilled boring holes on their properties in January 2020. And they claimed that Nelsonville’s permit was obtained fraudulently because the former landowner, Doug Logan, did not tell the building inspector he was not the road’s owner. Capone dismissed those claims.

The judge noted testimony affirming past changes to the right-of-way “in a manner consistent with permitting construction, utility and large delivery trucks to access the properties” and to allow for emergency vehicles, which she said should be able to reach every address on the road.

Veterans *(from Page 1)*

fighter. He is also the executive director of Another Summit, a branch of the Beacon-based Guardian Revival, which supports veterans and first responders who are dealing with post-traumatic stress syndrome.

Guardian Revival and the American Legion Post 275 Auxiliary in Cold Spring teamed up and quickly raised the \$500; Hansen’s marker was dedicated in a ceremony on Veterans Day. “It was very nice, really nice,” Moser said.

She and her mother were fortunate because Hansen’s VA marker had been stored for all those years at the Clinton Funeral Home in Cold Spring. “We promised the family we’d hold onto it until it was installed,” said Anthony Calabrese, the funeral home’s manager.

Although VA markers are typically ordered by funeral homes, Doug Logan, who managed the Cold Spring Cemetery for decades, had markers delivered directly to the cemetery, where they were stored awaiting installation. However, many were never installed, and in 2018, the cemetery placed an ad in the *Putnam County News & Recorder* listing the names of 27 veterans whose markers were waiting at the cemetery. Many of the markers went unclaimed and were returned to the VA.

Several calls to two members of the Cold Spring Cemetery board, Paul Kinkel and Donald Hustis, to ask about the cost of installing the markers and the reason for sending them back to the VA, were not returned.

Calabrese said Clinton’s will store a marker if the family requests it but that the funeral home currently has none that are unclaimed. He said he recently had to reorder one from the VA that had been sent back by the cemetery years ago.

“We tell families upfront that the cemetery, not the funeral home, requires a \$500 fee,” Calabrese said. Most families accept it as part of the burial cost.

He said that for a funeral, Clinton’s handles the VA paperwork for the family.

A spokesperson for the VA said that in addition to receiving a marker, some families may be eligible for a financial allowance toward other expenses such as the funeral, cemetery plot and burial. Claims for a non-service-connected burial must be filed within two years of the interment. There is no time limit for filing a service-related claim.

Service-connected burial allowances range from \$1,500 to \$2,000, depending on the year of death. For non-service-connected deaths, the allowance ranges from \$734 to \$948 for burial and for the plot. Marker or headstone allowances range from \$199 to \$290.

Marker List

In May 2018, the Cold Spring Cemetery compiled a list of 27 veterans whose bronze markers had been requested by funeral directors and received from the VA but not yet installed. It asked the families to contact the cemetery before the markers were returned to the agency. The names are below, although some may have had their markers installed in the five years since..

Martin R. Adams (1948-2004), Navy, Vietnam
James W. Austin (1921-2003), Army, WWII
Thomas F. Bradley Sr. (1941-2008), Army
Christopher J. Burggraf (1948-1997), Army, Vietnam
Robert R. Colbert Jr. (1935-2003), Army
Anthony Constantino (1916-2003), Army, WWII
Frederick E. Cunningham (1914-1994), Army, WWII
Robert L. Daniels (1921-1970), Army, WWII
William Daniels (1920-1996), Army, WWII
Paul M. Fazio (1921-2005), Army Air Forces, WWII
Robert L. Ford (1927-1996), Navy
Charles E. Hustis Sr. (1921-2003), Marines, Korea
Homer A. Jaycox (1921-1997), Army, WWII
William Kent (1916-2003), Army, WWII

William Koinis (1904-2000), Army
John A. LePore (1912-1990), Army, WWII
David Lyons (1934-2011), Army, Korea
Helen Adams Marcheterra (1918-2004), Army, WWII
Daniel P. Mooney (1918-2013), Navy, WWII
Joseph Papula (1925-1997), Army, WWII
Andrew Patinella (1913-2004), Army, WWII
Damiano Perpetua (1924-2012), Army, WWII
Frank Ruzich (1926-2002), Navy, WWII
Edward Somers (1925-2014), Army, WWII
Malcolm Stevenson (1911-2001), Army Air Forces, WWII
Lawrence J. Turner (1945-2012), Navy, Vietnam
Mario R. Valenti (1931-2005), Army, Korea

In Beacon, St. Joachim Cemetery includes the graves of more than 1,000 veterans dating back to the Civil War. Ed Archer, who retired recently after serving as manager there for more than 10 years, said he knows of no markers ever being returned to the VA. The cemetery itself does not install markers;

the funeral homes handle the paperwork, collect the fees and work with the installer.

Fairview Cemetery in Beacon uses the same approach. The cemetery was established in 1894 and a spokesperson said the only time a veteran’s burial plot might be unmarked is if the grave is extremely old.

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- ACROSS

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8. Oodles

12. Writer Kingsley

13. As well

14. Capri, e.g.

15. Souvenir seller

17. Move like a butterfly

18. Tours season

19. Snaky fish

20. Ceases

21. Solidify

22. Twitch

23. Shroud city

26. He can hold his head high

30. “Dream on!”

31. Zero-star review

32. Santa’s runway

33. Old English Sheepdog feature

35. Skilled

36. Tramcar contents

37. “— the season ...”

38. Poker ploy

41. Fish propeller

42. Spa sounds

45. Protracted

46. Decorative paper

48. “There!”

49. Santa’s helper

50. Penne — Vodka

51. Uppity one

52. Ambulance initials

53. Lunch hour
- DOWN

1. Leaf

2. Skip

3. Biography

4. Ballpark fig.

5. Lucy’s pal

6. “Neato!”

7. “Alley —”

8. Prepaid stocking stuffers

9. Capital on a fjord

10. Radar image

11. Collections

16. Beheld

20. — Lancelot

21. Eloquent person’s talent

22. Can metal

23. Indent key

24. GI entertainers

25. Tease

26. Cowboy’s sweetie

27. Nemesis

28. Dandy guy

29. Newt

31. Bakery purchase

34. Canine cry

35. — *Misbehavin’*

37. Squabbles

38. Diner orders

39. Cash advance

40. Loosen

41. Motion picture

42. Folksinger Guthrie

43. Saintly ring

44 Bridge

46 “My word!”

47 Pallid

SUDOCURRENT

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

WORDLADDER

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

PILLS

HULKS

MICRO
CROSSWORD

- ACROSS

1. Far from colorful

5. ____ McCall (Queen Latifah’s role on *The Equalizer*)

7. Emanate

8. Distributes, with “out”

9. Steakhouse staple
- DOWN

1. Whiskey measure

2. “Miss Julie” composer Ned

3. “Take ____!” (“Try this cake!”)

4. One way to travel

6. Hatchling’s haven

1	2	3	4	
5				6
7				
8				
	9			

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

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

	C	A	M	
C	A	V	E	R
P	R	I	D	E
R	O	L	E	X
	B	A	A	

STORE
STONE
ATONE
ALONE
ALONG
AMONG

Answers for Dec. 8 Puzzles

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Sports

VARSITY ROUNDUP

BEACON

By Nick Robbins

WRESTLING — After starting its season with a home loss to Valley Central, 46-24, on Dec. 6, Beacon fell at Kingston on Wednesday (Dec. 13), 45-19. Jude Betancourt won at 152 pounds (10-1), Aiden Buggs at 160 pounds (6-1) and Nixon Salinas Jr. at 190 pounds by pin.

Earlier against Valley Central, Betancourt won by pin at 152 pounds and Charles Flynn won by pin at 285 pounds. The Bulldogs open league play on Monday (Dec. 18), hosting Goshen.

BOYS' BASKETBALL — After winning their home opener on Dec. 4 over Washingtonville, the Bulldogs have lost three in a row on the road, defeated at Lourdes, 95-33, and New Paltz, 74-69, last week and at Port Jervis, 50-47, on Tuesday (Dec. 12). Beacon (1-3) will travel to Monroe-Woodbury on Thursday (Dec. 21) before heading to a tournament at Lourdes on Dec. 27.

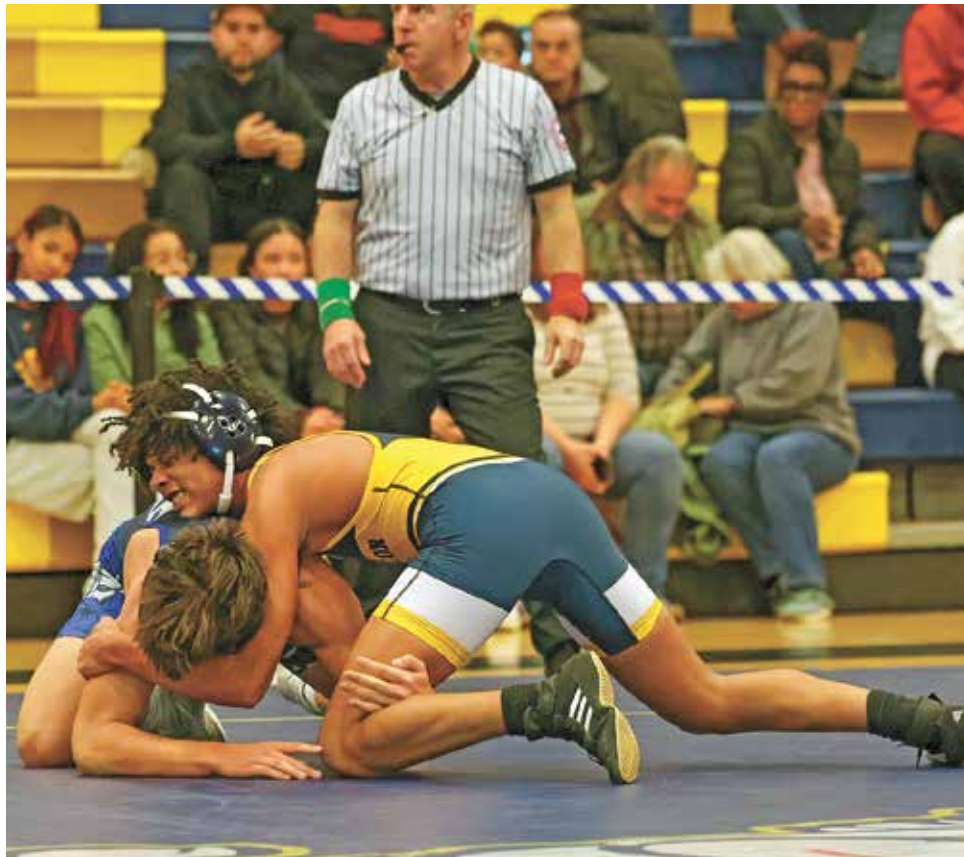
GIRLS' BASKETBALL — Beacon moved to 3-0 on the season behind strong defense. The Bulldogs knocked off Burke Catholic, 62-19, on Dec. 8 behind 14 points from Reilly Landisi, followed by Shadaya Fryar (10), Rayana Taylor (10, plus 10 rebounds) and Rory LaDue (8).

On Monday (Dec. 11), Beacon won at Cornwall, 53-33. Landisi had 17 points and five steals; Daveya Rodriguez added 12 points, 10 rebounds and five steals. The girls will host Chester on Tuesday (Dec. 19) and Sullivan West Central on Thursday. Both games start at 4:30 p.m.

WINTER TRACK — It was a productive day at West Point for the Bulldogs as they competed Dec. 9 in a meet organized by the Orange County Interscholastic Athletic Association. For the girls, Kyla Richardson placed third in the high jump, reaching 4-6, and Isabella Migliore placed seventh in the 600 meters in 1:50.67.

For the boys, Zachary Schetter was sixth in long jump at 18-5.5 and seventh in triple jump at 36-9.5. In the pole vault, August Wright and Alex Young placed sixth at 9-0 and ninth at 8-0, respectively. The top boys' runner was Rubio Castagna-Torres, who finished eighth in the 55-meter hurdles in 8.66 seconds. The Bulldogs will compete Dec. 22 in the Section IX Holiday Classic at The Armory in New York City.

BOYS' SWIMMING — The Bulldogs had back-to-back wins, defeating Rhinebeck, 110-51, on Dec. 7, with first-place finishes by Bryce Manning in the 200 freestyle in 2:07.91; Ronnie Anzovino in the 50 freestyle



Aiden Buggs won at 160 pounds for Beacon against Valley Central. Photo by Cadence Heeter

in 24.45; Imroz Ali in the 100 freestyle in 55.72; Anzovino in the 100 backstroke in 1:14.43; and Alistair Cunningham in the 100 breaststroke in 1:14.49.

Beacon followed that by beating Lourdes, 96-60, at home on Tuesday (Dec. 12), with top finishes by Cunningham in the 200-meter individual medley in 2:44.43; Manning in the 50 freestyle in 26.16 and the 100 breaststroke in 1:09.92; Anzovino in the 100 freestyle in 56.38; and Fionn Fehilly in the 500 freestyle in 6:02.85.

The team hosted Red Hook on Thursday (Dec. 14) and will host Newburgh on Tuesday (Dec. 19).

HALDANE

By Jacob Aframian

BOYS' BASKETBALL — Haldane opened its season on Dec. 7 with a home win over Pleasantville, 62-51.

After falling behind, 16-11, at the end of the first quarter, the Blue Devils got a spark from Ross Esposito, who came off the bench to score 11 of Haldane's 15 second-quarter points, giving his team a 26-25 halftime lead.

Despite a hounding press by Pleasantville, Haldane pulled away in the third quarter and went into the fourth with a 49-35 lead that never shrunk below 10 points. Esposito finished with 19 points, Matt Nachamkin had 16 and Michael

Murray scored 12.

On Monday (Dec. 11), Haldane hosted Blind Brook and trailed most of the game before losing, 67-62. The Trojans led by 14 at half-time and increased their lead to 19 before Haldane mounted a comeback, cutting the deficit to two early in the fourth quarter before Blind Brook went on a 10-0 run.

Nachamkin led all scorers with 31 points and Fallou Faye added 15, but it wasn't enough to counter Blind Brook's accuracy from long range; the Trojans hit 14 three-pointers, accounting for 42 of their 67 points.

Although Esposito didn't play because of illness, the Blue Devils had an easier time at Briarcliff on Wednesday, winning 56-40. Haldane pulled away with a 12-0 run that began late in the third quarter; Nachamkin finished with 17 points.

Haldane (2-1) will host Irvington on Tuesday (Dec. 19) at 6:15 p.m. before traveling to Valhalla on Thursday.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL — Haldane went to Carmel on Dec. 8 for the Louis Larizza Jr. Memorial Tournament, defeating the hosts in the first of two games, 44-33. Camilla McDaniel led the team with 19 points and five rebounds and Kayla Ruggiero finished with 13 points, seven rebounds and five steals. Marisa Peters contributed 11 points.

The next day, the Blue Devils won the title game over Port Chester, 49-39, led by Ruggiero, who scored 10 points and grabbed 16 rebounds on her way to being

named the tournament MVP. Peters added 22 points, five rebounds and three steals. Elaina Johanson had five points and 10 rebounds. McDaniel was named with Ruggiero to the All-Tournament team.

"We made a concerted effort to get inside more and get to the foul line," Coach Charles Martinez said after the game. "We did a good job of communicating on defense, containing their shooters and their best player."

On Tuesday (Dec. 12), Haldane traveled to Briarcliff Manor, where, with 5:58 left in the game, the Blue Devils found themselves down by 20 points. But the team went on an 11-0 run behind back-to-back threes by McDaniel, another by Peters and a floater by McDaniel. It wasn't quite enough and the Bears held on to win 43-36.

Haldane (3-3) played Rye Neck on Thursday (Dec. 14) in a tournament at Croton that continues on Saturday. Next week the team travels to Irvington on Monday (Dec. 18) and Brewster on Tuesday before hosting the Barack Obama School for Social Justice of Yonkers on Thursday at 6:15 p.m.

WINTER TRACK — Haldane competed in a Section I tournament on Dec. 10 at The Armory in New York City. For the boys, the top finishers were Merrick Williams, who was seventh in the 55-meter dash in 7.08 seconds and eighth in the long jump at 16-11.75; Milo Pearsall, who was 12th in the 300-meter dash in 41.20; and John Illian, who was sixth in the 1,600-meter run in 4:59.74. For the girls, Ashley Sousa placed 16th in the 1,500 meters in 5:53.78.

The Blue Devils return to The Armory for a meet today (Dec. 15) and will compete in the Pearl River Holiday Festival on Dec. 27 in Suffern.

FALL HONORS — A number of athletes were recognized for their play during the fall season. Ronan Kiter was an All-Section pick for the boys' soccer team, and Clem Grossman received an honorable mention. Kiter, Grossman, Matt Nachamkin, Brandt Robbins, Max Westphal and Ty Villella were named to the All-League team. For the girls, Josie Foley-Hedlund, Finola Kiter, Ruby Poses and Ashley Sousa were named to the All-League team.

In cross-country, Penelope Andreou, Hazel Berkley, Owen Powers and Tyler Schacht were named to the All-League team, and Silas Emig was an honorable mention. In tennis, Ellie Dubroff, Camilla McDaniel, Ellen O'Hara and Julie Shields were All-League, and in volleyball, Emily Tomann received the honor.



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