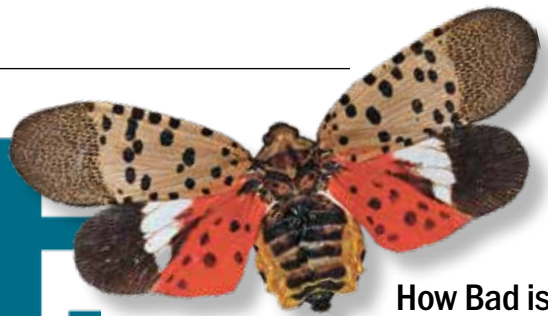


The HIGHLANDS Current



How Bad is
This Bug?
Page 20

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NORTHERN LIGHTS — Alexander Wilcox Cheek captured this view of the Northern Lights at 11 p.m. on May 10 from Garden Street in Cold Spring. “There was a break in the clouds but by 11:30, it got hazy again,” he said. “It didn’t stop about a dozen people from convening down at the pier for a glimpse.” A geomagnetic storm made the aurora borealis visible in New York.

Photo provided

Clearwater Confronts Rough Weather

Venerable environmental organization at risk of insolvency

By Brian PJ Cronin

The Hudson River Sloop Clearwater has had more than its share of setbacks in its colorful 55-year history.

Canceled concerts, economic downturns, mass resignations of board members, rotating executive directors, angry mobs cutting the sloop loose when it was docked overnight in Cold Spring and the deaths of beloved founders Pete and Toshi Seeger in 2014 and 2013, respectively.

But the Beacon-based nonprofit now faces its biggest challenge. Last week, the organization announced that if it cannot raise \$250,000 in the next two months, it will become insolvent.

Executive Director David Toman said he wasn’t sure what would happen if the fundraising drive falls short since he’s never been involved with an organization so close to insolvency. But Clearwater’s income stream isn’t enough to cover its bills, and half the staff has been furloughed.

The organization has always “operated culturally as a week-to-week, poor organization” reliant on small rather than large donations, said Toman.

“We haven’t been able to change that yet,” he said. “The organization doesn’t have cash reserves, investments or an endowment that can bridge those periods when your cash-flow-to-bills ratio gets really bad.”

Toman, the former chief financial officer for Mohonk Preserve, arrived in early 2022 after an extensive strategic planning process that identified the need for a new leader with a strong financial background. “I knew I was taking a big risk,” he said. “Clearwater was in a very bad state when I came on board.”

Among other obstacles, the sloop hadn’t been able to run its sailing trips for Hudson Valley students since 2020 because of the pandemic, losing out on two years of income.

It takes time to turn a big ship. While the organization made numerous structural changes to improve long-term financial health, including repairing its accounting processes and splitting its multi-day

(Continued on Page 20)

A New Choice in Garrison

Eighth graders flock to Putnam Valley

By Joey Asher

Long provided with two public high school choices — Haldane or James O’Neill — eighth-grade graduates of the Garrison School for the last two years have had three.

The latest alternative, Putnam Valley High School, is the top choice for 2024 graduates, according to Carl Albano, Garrison’s interim superintendent. He said 13 will attend Putnam Valley in the fall, which enrolled its first Garrison students in September 2023 under an agreement forged in 2022 between the two districts.

Meanwhile, six Garrison graduates chose Haldane and one chose O’Neill in Highland Falls, said Albano. Haldane will

(Continued on Page 10)

Beacon Police Chief to Retire

Council will vote Monday to promote lieutenant

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon City Council is expected to vote Monday (May 20) on promoting Lt. Tom Figlia to succeed Police Chief Sands Frost, who is retiring next month.

Frost, 61, was tapped to serve as acting chief for four months following the retirements of Chief Kevin Junjulas and Capt. Gary Fredericks in July 2020. He was named chief in December of that year after a search committee selected him from a pool of 30 candidates. His last day will be June 14, leaving him one month short of 41 years with the department that hired him in July 1983 as a patrol officer.

Frost said he plans to work, albeit in a less stressful environment, while waiting for his wife to retire when she is eligible in six years. At that point, the couple may move to the Adirondacks, he said.



Frost



Figlia

Taking over as chief in 2020 was not easy, Frost said this week, with the country in the midst of a pandemic and “defund the police” protests in the wake of George Floyd’s murder at the hands of a Minneapolis police officer.

“A lot of chiefs were bailing all over the country,” he said. “It was a tough time, but the officers became more involved with the community and I thought we were very successful.”

(Continued on Page 11)

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: BENJAMIN LIEBER

By Leonard Sparks

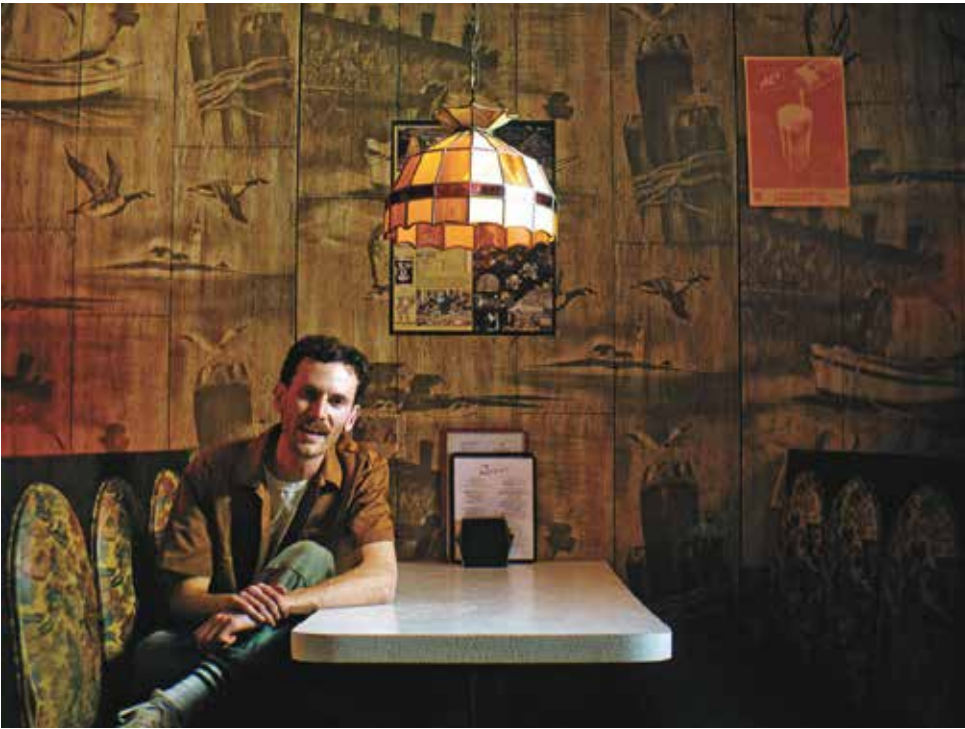
Benjamin Lieber is a Beacon musician whose band Marigold (marigold.band) on Tuesday (May 21) will release a song and companion video shot at Quinn’s bar and restaurant on Main Street.

What drew you to Beacon?

The pandemic. My fiancée and I were living in Brooklyn. COVID hit [in 2020] and New York was not fun. We didn’t know where to go — my family is in Buffalo and her family is split between New Jersey and Boston. The Hudson Valley had intrigued me but I didn’t know a ton about the nuances of each town. She had a gut feeling that I would like Beacon. We actually signed a lease on a place here before I even stepped foot in the city. We rented a place for two years and bought a house a year and a half ago.

How did Marigold form?

I have been a musician my entire life and started playing in bands when I was in middle school. Marigold started as a solo songwriting outlet for me. The one record that’s on streaming platforms, I did everything myself. But fast-forward several years, and I met a group of guys doing the same thing and we all agreed that we were looking for an original project we could write music for.



How do you describe the new song, “Weekends With You?”

The song is about embracing the weekend, embracing that feeling of personal time, embracing time away from work and freeing yourself of the pressure to feel like you need to work more or harder. You know, that Friday afternoon feeling of being off the clock. Nothing’s required of you. You could do what you want to do and feel how you want to feel.

Why did you shoot the video at Quinn’s?

We’ve always loved the vibe there — the community they have — and it’s an epicenter for music and artistic people in Beacon. I’m a sucker for vintage, retro stuff, and when I walk into a place like Quinn’s, my mouth is watering. I think that especially in Beacon now, where there’s so much change

and turnover and new ways of doing things, it’s important that a place like Quinn’s is maintained and celebrated because it tells a lot of the story of this town. I worked primarily with Yukie [Schmitz], the owner. She’s such an awesome person, and was enthusiastic about the project and the place being documented.

What’s next for Marigold?

We’re about to start releasing a bunch of music from a new record that we have finished. A lot of these songs touch on my mental journey through restructuring what the word “work” meant to me and reevaluating how I wanted work to integrate into the rest of my life in a better balance. We’re a five-piece band now, which is what you see in this video and what this whole new record is. And we’re excited because we’ve pushed ourselves musically.

“The song is about embracing the weekend, embracing that feeling of personal time, embracing time away from work and freeing yourself of the pressure to feel like you need to work more or harder.”

HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER

Sat. May 18 – 1-5 PM
RIVERWINDS GALLERY
Exhibit showcasing a diverse group of 19 artists from the HV
Runs thru Jun 2 open most weekends + by appointment + by chance

Fri. May 31 – 7:30 PM
JEREMY SCHONFELD
The Father Who Stayed - Songs. Film. Stories.
Q&A with Scott Ramsey
Tix: bit.ly/jstfws (\$25 adv - \$30 door) door opens 7:00

May 18 - ARTICHOKE Storytelling Series
May 24 - Howland's Open Mic Night
Jun 1 - BUMP collaboration of improv & dance
Jun 7, 8, 9 - 2nd Annual - BEACON LITFEST
Jun 14 - LIT LIT

Check our website + media for more events, info + tickets

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ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What song irritates the hell out of you?

“We Built This City,” by Starship; same lyrics over and over!



Jesus Velasquez, Beacon

“Shape of You,” by Ed Sheeran; it was played way too much.



Sabrina Frisenda, Cold Spring

“Cotton Eye Joe,” by Rednex; it just really annoys me.



David Kinnaird, Philipstown

NEWS BRIEFS

Chamber Presents Annual Awards

Haldane student, businesses recognized

The Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce presented its annual awards on Tuesday (May 14) at Boscobel in Philipstown.

Percy Parker, a Haldane senior, received the Phil and Esther Baumgarten Scholarship, named for the former owners of the Hudson Peddler.

Among businesses, John Lee of Bevel Up Woodworks was recognized as the best new business; the Endless Skein was presented with the Community Project Award for its collaborative Tempestry Project, highlighting climate change through fabric art; and Chapel Restoration was given the Excellence in the Arts Award.

Sammy Smith-Coleman and Lara Shihab-Eldin received the Sustainability Steward Award and Katie Cucchiarella accepted the Community Giant Award on behalf of her family's 40-year-old business, Mid-Hudson Concrete Products.

In addition, Chamber President Nat Prentice presented Jennifer Carlquist, Boscobel's executive director, with a \$1,000 donation to help with the restoration of its library ceiling, which collapsed on April 16.

Beacon Man Released on Bail

Accused of attempted murder

A Beacon resident accused of attempted murder was released on bail on May 8 after prosecutors failed to advance the case within a 90-day deadline.

According to *Mid Hudson News*, Rakim Paulin, 43, was released after posting \$1,350 — the amount in his jail commissary account. The judge ordered him to report to his probation officer five days a week to undergo drug testing and not to leave Dutchess County.

Paulin allegedly pursued a man with a hatchet in Poughkeepsie in August 2023, then struck him with his car. He was charged with attempted murder and assault; his trial is scheduled to begin June 3.

An appeals court ruled on May 7 that, under state law, Paulin had to "be released on bail which he is capable of meeting, or upon his own recognizance."

Putnam Creates General Services Department

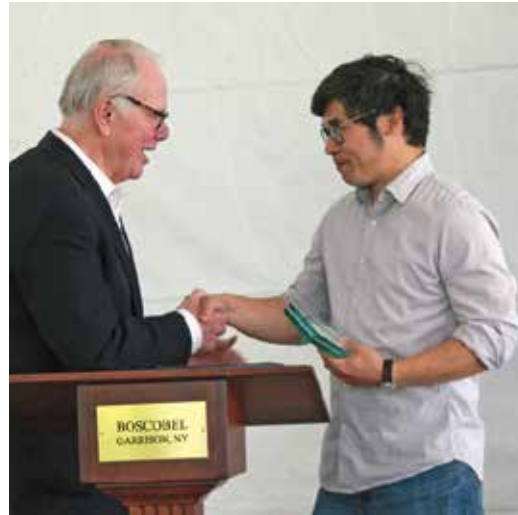
Will oversee purchasing, information technology

The Putnam County Legislature on May 7 approved a merger of the Department of Purchasing and the Department of Information Technology/Geographic Information Systems, fulfilling one of County Executive Kevin Byrne's initiatives.

The new Department of General Services will be led by a commissioner who will oversee the purchasing of supplies and equipment and centralized administrative services, and contain an independent division of IT/GIS headed by a director of information technology.



At the annual Cold Spring Chamber awards, Haldane senior Percy Parker received the Baumgarten Scholarship (left) and John Lee of Bevel Up Woodworks was recognized for best new business (right).
Photos provided



The change, which required amending the Putnam charter, gives the county executive the power to appoint the commissioner of general services and the IT director, with the commissioner's appointment requiring confirmation by the Legislature.

Byrne said that the new department, whose additional duties include identifying grant opportunities and making purchases requested by municipalities, will streamline services and save money at no additional costs to the county.

Kent Man Gets Nine Years

Convicted of selling deadly narcotics

A Kent resident was sentenced to nine years in state prison on Tuesday (May 14) after being convicted of supplying the heroin and fentanyl that killed a Southeast man.

William E. Mancusi III, 47, was convicted of possessing and selling heroin, fentanyl and Xylazine ("tranq"). Investigators tied Mancusi to a combination of drugs used in a fatal overdose in November 2021. During an undercover sting, Mancusi was recorded boasting about the power of his supply and urging a buyer to be careful.

A state judge rejected Mancusi's request to be sent to a drug treatment facility, according to the Putnam County district attorney. He has previous convictions for driving while impaired by drugs and vehicular manslaughter after he struck and killed a bicyclist in 2008.



Mancusi

Beacon to Begin Water Meter Upgrades

Devices will provide real-time data

Beacon residents in Ward 1 will receive a letter in the next week asking them to schedule installation of a radio transceiver for their water meters. The device uses a cloud-based connection to provide residents and property owners with real-time water usage readings. The upgrade, which is mandatory, will be performed by VEPO Metering and should take no more than an hour. Property owners who do not schedule the upgrade within 30 days are subject to a \$250 fine each quarter

until the transceiver is installed. There is no cost to users for the hardware.

Serino Directs Funds to Poughkeepsie Shelter

\$13 million grant will be used

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino announced on May 9 that Dutchess County will use a \$13 million state grant to retrofit a property in Poughkeepsie into a homeless shelter.

The facility, at 26 Oakley St., will allow the county to close temporary structures at the

former county jail that have served as emergency housing since 2020. The transition will be led by Howard Charton, who was hired in December as county shelter director.

The 100-bed facility is expected to open by fall 2026, Serino said. Every individual will go through an intake process before admission and must be willing to engage in a process to identify their needs, such as mental health and substance use treatment, job training and education and other services available on-site.

At the same time, she said, Dutchess plans to open overnight warming centers around the county that can accommodate 15 to 40 people.

Metro-North to Lower Beacon Ferry Fare

Pilot program to encourage commuters

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority on May 10 announced a pilot program to extend the reach of Metro-North into Orange and Rockland counties and lower the fare on the Newburgh-Beacon ferry and bus for at least the next five months.

As of May 25, monthly tickets, when purchased with rail passes, will drop from \$14.50 to \$1 for the Newburgh-Beacon ferry and from \$10 to \$1 for the bus. Metro-North will also begin operating the Haverstraw-Ossining ferry on weekends and the monthly fare for the Hudson Link bus to Tarrytown or White Plains will fall from \$60 to \$30.

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

The response from our customers has been nothing but negative, whether locals or visitors. Cold Spring now looks like every side street in midtown Manhattan, with a thousand signs to read.

Craig Muraszewski, *via Facebook*

I can't believe we let this come to pass. Where were the folks who always say, "Don't change anything in my bucolic town?"

Mahmoud Shahbodaghi, *via Facebook*

Could someone start a bus or trolley service? Although there would have to be a parking lot nearby, would that be cheaper? Or promote taking the train to Cold Spring instead of a car.

Peggy Hill, *via Facebook*

I can't stand how our quaint, historic town is now street signs ad nauseum and blocks of painted color on the asphalt.

Lloyd DesBrisay, *via Facebook*

You can't please everyone. I commend the Village Board for taking on an issue that has been a problem for years. I know it will listen and adjust. I am so happy to be able to park on my street on the weekends. Those resident permits are the best.

Joanne Murphy, *via Facebook*

This is just another tax. It feels like Cold Spring is turning into a city in Westchester County. It changes the vibe.

Monika Kaminski, *via Instagram*

As a former member of the Parking Committee, I am heartened by the constructive tone of the merchants' letter. Hearing the feedback is critically important. The village could indeed lower the hourly rate, expand the number of days subject to enforcement and increase the time allotted from three to four hours. Longer than that may encourage one of the behaviors being discouraged, which is parking on village streets to hike.

It seems inappropriate for employees to get resident permits, and that may not even be workable, given New York State law. But protecting Main Street businesses is vital, as is the need to ensure quality of life for residents. It was said that the initial set of regulations would function as a test case. Now let's review the feedback from having run the test.

Evan Hudson, *Cold Spring*

I've lived in Philipstown for 15 years, and consider Cold Spring to be my hometown. Patronizing Main Street is part of my family's routine, and supporting the businesses on Main Street is important to us.

What is also important is inclusivity. Parking fees of \$4 an hour (\$4.45 with tax), payable only by credit card and smartphone (with cellular data to download and use the app), makes Cold Spring inaccessible to many people. A \$3 coffee date is now a \$7 coffee date. An \$18 yoga class is now a \$24 yoga class. Browsing the books at Split Rock, and visiting with community members on the sidewalk, is now only for those willing and able to pay.

There is free parking available if you're

willing and able to walk. However, not everyone has the ability to make that choice. Try bringing kids and a stroller down the stairs under the train tracks and back up again.

These new high parking fees feel elitist. They are obnoxious and will hurt our local businesses, residents and the diversity of visitors we welcome in our town.

Amanda Amadei, *Philipstown*

It's too bad that the Marathon brownfield Superfund site [on Kemble Avenue] was preemptively rubber-stamped by the Environmental Protection Agency and recently rezoned. It could have been a parking lot. Housing and light industrial doesn't belong on contaminated sites, nor do I trust EPA assessments that the site leaches only negligible amounts of cadmium and other heavy metals into the groundwater. I wouldn't live there for free.

Derek Graham, *Cold Spring*

Fjord Trail

I was born and raised in Philipstown and have lived in the Village of Cold Spring full-time since 2017. When my partner and I left New York City, we moved to the village, instead of Garrison, where I grew up and where my family still lives, because of its walkability and our desire to be more connected to our new community.

We love living here and feel that the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail (HHFT) will add so much to our lives by providing a safe path to walk, jog and bike along the river's edge to Beacon.

The Fjord Trail will:

- Add ecological improvements to the river's edge, long ago de-naturalized by industry and the rocky, manmade shoreline carrying the railroad tracks;
- Create a path accessible to people of all abilities, not just those brave enough to risk their lives walking along Route 9D or healthy enough to traverse the local trails;
- Add much-needed infrastructure improvements, including garbage disposal, public restrooms and shuttle service for visitors and locals alike;
- Spread visitors along the entire 7.5-mile trail by promoting various entry and parking points, and usage of the Metro-North stops at Breakneck and Beacon;
- Connect Cold Spring and Beacon to pedestrians and bike riders, allowing locals to connect in a car-free way they haven't ever been able to do before.

I understand that change is difficult, especially in a village and town as small as this one. I respect everyone's right to their opinions, but I believe there is a vocal minority of residents using scare tactics to convince local elected officials and the community that the majority of residents are 100 percent in opposition of the trail. That is not the case.

Todd Seekircher, *Cold Spring*

Not Dockside, and not little Stony Point, but the Cold Spring train station — that is where the Fjord Trail should begin. Of the alternative routes discussed, I am most in favor of that proposed by resident Jan

Thatcher at the Village Board meeting on May 1. It would begin at the Cold Spring train station and run along the east side of the tracks north to Little Stony Point.

This route is the most elegant design solution to manage overcrowding, especially from surges of people arriving by train. The route would incentivize train travel and make wayfinding to the trailhead as easy as stepping off the train and walking north, eliminating the need for anyone arriving by train to set foot on any village street.

It combines aspects of Alternative Alignment 2 and 6, which were considered by the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail but dismissed because of obstacles posed by Metro-North setbacks and conflicts with private property. The route described here is essentially Alternative Alignment 6, but on the east side of the tracks — call it "Route 7." If we can get Metro-North to budge on its 25-foot setback, Route 7 may be feasible and is worth pursuing as a compromise between Dockside and anti-Dockside advocates.

The Depot Restaurant's terrace is an obstacle, but any conflicts with private property can be overcome with proper consultation, especially when Alternative Route 7 avoids the village and Dockside altogether. I encourage HHFT and our representatives to get Metro-North back to the negotiating table. If it fails, beginning the trail at Dockside is the next best option.

I'd like to thank Cold Spring Mayor Kath-

(Continued on Page 6)

Corrections & Clarifications

- A headline in the May 10 issue indicated the owners of the Cozy Corner Café, at the former site of Hudson Hill's in Cold Spring, had purchased the building. In fact, they are leasing the space.
- In a story in the May 10 issue about school districts installing cameras on buses, we stated that BusPatrol had begun issuing citations with fines. In fact, law enforcement issues the citations.
- In the same story, we reported that a few drivers have successfully challenged citations when camera footage didn't clearly show the school bus was stopped. Last month, Gov. Kathy Hochul enacted a law that established a legal standard that if there are images of an activated stop-arm and an electronic indicator that the flashing red lights were activated, the presumption is that the bus was stopped.
- In a story in the May 10 issue about Daniel Berlin's exhibit at BAU Gallery in Beacon, the titles of two paintings, "Brief Lives #7" and "Scroll #3," were transposed.



**The Haldane PTA
supports the
2024-2025
school budget.**

Vote May 21, 2024
Polls open 7a.m. - 9p.m.
Haldane Elementary School Library



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 5)

leen Foley and the Village Board for hosting comments on the Fjord Trail. I was encouraged by the civility with which the May 1 meeting was run and I learned from the comments made by residents on both sides of the issue.

Malachy Labrie-Cleary, *Cold Spring*

True environmentalists would champion any alternative to cars. Much of the shoreline is not natural and was built by humans to support Metro-North; are you sitting down in the bushes by the tracks and river on weekends? This project has a large environmental component that will make the riverfront stronger and accessible for all ages. If nothing is done it will be an environmental disaster. Are we willing to cough up more taxes to fix the shoreline?

We keep hearing about the problems the Fjord Trail may bring to Cold Spring if connected to Dockside, but aren't the "mobs" of "insurgents" going to come anyway? Won't they continue to walk down Fair Street and Route 9D? Cold Spring taxpayers, rather than the state, are going to pay to manage these crowds and the toilets and garbage. I support the Fjord Trail and appreciate our leaders' thoughtful analysis of its impact on village, but what is the impact if we don't have solutions and only complaints? Be careful what you wish for.

Tom O'Quinn, *via Instagram*

It's insanity to oppose, in the name of "environmentalism," such an amazing alternative that encourages walking, biking and train-taking. If it were up to me, I'd remove all the parking.

Kyra Stoddart, *via Instagram*

I am in favor of the Fjord Trail, but it is well past time for HHFT to outline specifically its proposal on how the Dockside trailhead would function.

With all its public outreach, HHFT has shown virtually every other aspect of the trail in great detail, but when it comes to Dockside it has only mentioned the possibility of timed entry and early morning entry for cyclists. It's no wonder elected officials are throwing in the towel and sent a letter in opposition to a Dockside trailhead. Macro projections of hundreds of thousands of visitors over the year don't add clarity.

HHFT needs to show what happens when a train from New York City arrives and hundreds of people show up at one time wanting to go on the Fjord Trail. How long will it take the Dockside trailhead to absorb those numbers before the next train arrives? It might be useful if HHFT projected how many people who enter Cold Spring via the Dockside trailhead will arrive at one of the other Fjord Trail entry points. This is a new stream of visitors arriving into the village.

It also needs to show how a 10-foot-wide boardwalk at Dockside can handle these numbers with people moving in both directions at different rates of speed. You need to show how cyclists traveling 2 to 5 times faster coexist with hikers and families with wheelchairs or strollers. These are the types of questions that need answering to have any sense of whether Dockside is viable.

I spent 15 years running the public-tour program at West Point and this situation is no different than figuring out how many buses and people can go through the Chapel at one time, be at Trophy Point or get through security at one time. They're different numbers but the exercise is the same. It isn't sexy and doesn't lend itself to PowerPoint presentations and artist renditions, but HHFT has had 10 years to think about this. Until the actual operational plan is presented, HHFT is asking all of us to accept on faith that Dockside will work. This strategy has only solidified opposition, not won converts.

John Schieneman, *Cold Spring*

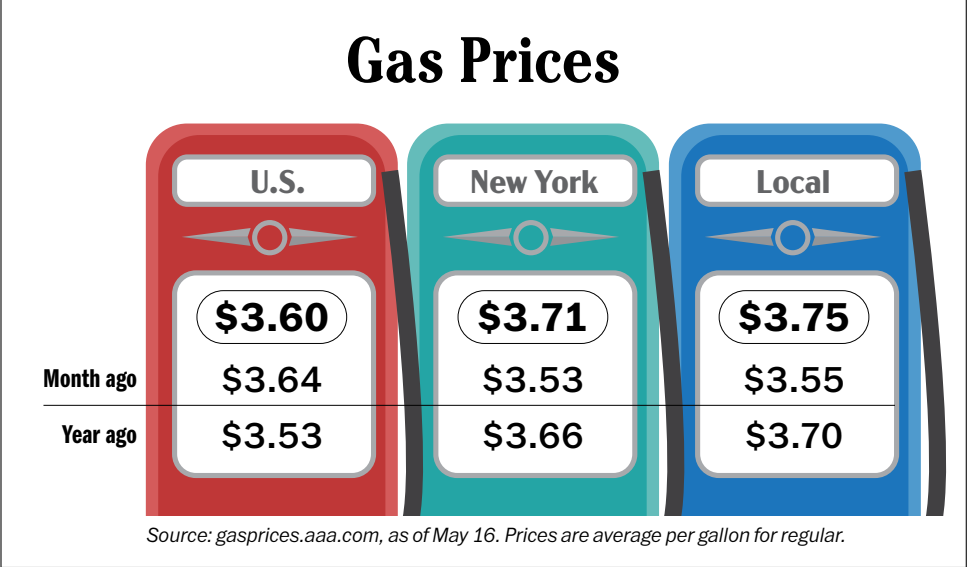
Indian Point

Some people are opposed to dumping wastewater from the Indian Point nuclear power plant into the Hudson River ("New Options at Indian Point?" May 10). Others are opposed to offloading it to another community, or transporting it in general. So what do we do with it?

Deran Soovajian, *Beacon*

Recently, a truck full of gasoline collided with another truck on Interstate 95 near Norwalk, Connecticut. There was a huge fire. Imagine if the truck had contained nuclear waste instead of oil.

Deborah Porder, *Scarsdale*



Arnie Gundersen, a decommissioning expert, presented a solution: store the radioactive waste safely on-site. The wastewater should not be sent to another community to deal with and should not be transported along roads and rails where there could be accidents.

Susan Van Dolsen, *Rye*

The goal of Indian Point decommissioning is the return of the Buchanan riverfront land for other uses. This means restoring the area to natural, background radiation levels. This cannot be done with 1.3 million gallons of tritiated water on-site. Holtec, like Entergy and the New York Power Authority and Con Edison before it, is allowed under federal law to discharge this water. Stop the delay. The plants are shut down and the goal of anti-nuclear groups has been realized.

Michael Spall, *Ossining*

Three-peat

Congratulations to *The Highlands Current* for being named Newspaper of the Year by the New York Press Association for the third year in a row, to Ross Corsair for being named Photographer of the Year and to the talented staff who swept or dominated so many NYPA categories this year.

We are a fortunate community to have such excellent reporters, editors, photographers and artists providing us with world-class local news coverage and an invaluable forum for our own views and creative expression. Hooray for *The Current*!

Jacqueline Foertsch, *Philipstown*

Beacon development

Unfortunately, this seems to be a typical "change" by developers in this community ("Main Street Project Loses Affordable Units," May 10). They promise and promote affordability for less-fortunate citizens and then, at the first chance, alter and never deliver upon the initial promise. Beacon is rapidly losing its proud past as a community where many social and economic classes existed and becoming one of exclusivity for the well-off. Where is our governmental and zoning oversight?

Christopher Sjöholm, *Beacon*

I'm so tired of the lack of affordable housing in Beacon. People love having artists in town, yet they have no clue of what an artist actually earns.

Meghan Spiro, *via Instagram*

Maybe just make the housing affordable without the loan? Radical.

Melissa Buerkett, *via Instagram*

Any developer who uses "affordable" or "artist" to gain approval is full of it — and our city knows it.

Lesly Deschler Canossi, *via Instagram*

It'd be nice to see Carvana, which has proposed taking over the former Healey Hyundai parcel on Fishkill Avenue, consider DC fast-charging for electric vehicles. There's precedent to reduce parking requirements as an incentive. I hope the Beacon Planning Board and the Fishkill Avenue Corridor Committee take it into consideration when they're negotiating parking requirements.

Brett Miller, *Beacon*

Spongy moths

I love nature, but you critters are testing me ("Spongy Moth Caterpillars Hatch En Masse," May 10).

Taina Lo, *via Facebook*

On a positive note, mice and fungus are not alone in preying on "gypsy moths." On Canopus Hill, I recently spotted a pair of yellow-billed cuckoos, which specialize in the caterpillars and regurgitate a pellet of the hairy spines. Many other birds eat them, as well.

David North, *Garrison*

School lawsuit

Everyone is so quick to jump and find the Beacon City School District guilty of discrimination ("Former Beacon Principal Sues School District," May 3). Maybe it was a bad hire? Maybe the employee was not up to the responsibilities of the job? Maybe he couldn't manage the staff? Maybe he avoided speaking to parents when there were disciplinary issues? Who knows? Don't jump to conclusions without knowing all the facts.

Jordan Wright, *Beacon*

NOTICE

The Beacon City School District seeks quotations for the following 2024-25 School Year:

- ELEVATOR PREVENTIVE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES
- BOILER SERVICE AND STANDBY HVAC SERVICES
- STANDBY PLUMBING SERVICES
- AS NEEDED TREE SERVICES

Additional information can be found at:
www.beaconk12.org/Page/2137

Your response by **June 10th, 2024** would be greatly appreciated.
Please send your reply to:

Jesse Morrill, Director of Facilities
10 Education Dr.
Beacon, NY 12508

You may also submit a proposal via email to:
Morrill.j@beaconk12.org

Any questions, please call:
845-838-6900 ext. 2014

Two Trustees Endorse Fjord Trail at Dockside

June board meeting to focus on parking concerns

By Michael Turton

Village of Cold Spring trustees Aaron Freimark and Eliza Starbuck support having the southern end of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail begin at Dockside Park, diverging from the views of the village's mayor and two other elected officials.

At the May 8 meeting of the Village Board, Freimark read a letter he and Starbuck sent earlier that day to Meagan Fitzgerald, deputy commissioner for New York state parks, and Linda Cooper, the regional director, endorsing "a multi-use, accessible trail that begins at Dockside Park."

Three weeks ago, those same state officials received a letter — this one signed by Cold Spring Mayor Kathleen Foley, Philipstown Supervisor John Van Tassel and Nelsonville Mayor Chris Winward — opposing the trail starting in the village.

Like those officials, Freimark and Starbuck acknowledged their position does not reflect the views of every trustee or village resident. They said "we speak for a sizeable group of constituents" who support the Fjord Trail, "even though their voices have sometimes been drowned out in the

contention over this issue."

They also said that although the trail will create traffic and pedestrian-safety problems on Fair Street and Route 9D that need to be addressed, the HHFT planning process to date "makes us confident that the Fjord Trail will provide crucial benefits to the residents of Cold Spring and the surrounding areas."

Freimark and Starbuck went on to suggest that HHFT planners work with the village and the state Department of Transportation to extend sidewalks to Little Stony Point, improve crosswalk safety and reduce the speed limit on Route 9D. They also asked that plans to add more parking north of the village be reconsidered because, in their view, it will increase traffic on Route 9D.

The letter was read into the record but not discussed.

Metered parking

Starbuck acknowledged a letter to the Village Board last week by the Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce Main Street Committee and signed by more than 30 merchants requesting revisions to metered parking rules that went into effect in early April. Business owners asked for a reduction in the \$4-per-hour parking fee, an increase in the time limit from the current

three hours and permits that would allow their employees to park in areas restricted to residents.

"I'm really grateful to the merchants for communicating in such a respectful manner," Starbuck said, adding that 15 of the letter's signatories are village residents and 21 are Chamber members.

Foley said the board's June 5 meeting will be a single-topic session dealing with the merchants' letter. "We are open to hearing concerns," she said. "We will assess, as we said we would, but we need to have the conversation first."

Freimark called for "recognition that the parking plan was in development over a very long period of time, with a lot of public comment," adding that any changes must happen through a process.

In other business ...

■ The Tree Advisory Board has launched its Grand Tree Contest, which runs through May 31. Residents can nominate a village tree they consider notable for its size, age, quirkiness, beauty, rarity, etc. Trees can be nominated at coldspringtree.weebly.com. Winners will receive framed awards.

■ Trustee Laura Bozzi reported that the village food scrap program will begin next

month. Residents can drop off scraps on Tuesdays on Kemble Avenue, adjacent to the free village parking area.

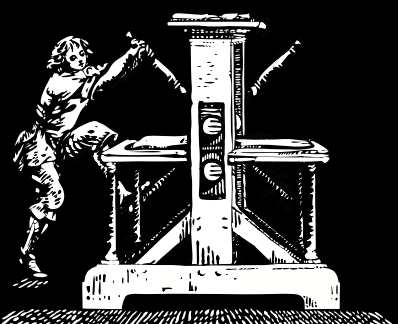
■ The board accepted two resignations: Jeff Vidakovich, who began as the Building Department clerk in 2015 and has served as village clerk since June 2017, and Terence Comiskey, who has been a Cold Spring police officer for 24 years.

■ Officer-in-Charge Matt Jackson reported that the Police Department responded to 123 incidents in April, including 51 traffic stops that resulted in 31 citations, and one arrest. The Cold Spring Fire Co. answered 13 calls in April.

■ The Justice Court received \$3,275 in fines, forfeited bail and civil penalties in April. It also took in \$5,070 from tickets during the first month of metered parking on Main Street and enforcement within the residents-only parking areas.

■ The mayor was authorized to sign applications to the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's Clean Energy Communities Program for two grants totaling \$107,500. The grants would fund an electric pickup truck for the Water and Wastewater Department, two electric-vehicle charging stations, a heat pump for part of Village Hall and electric landscaping equipment for the Roads and Facilities Department.

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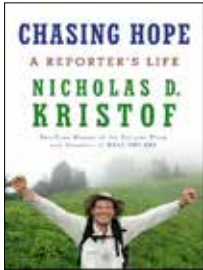
Saturday, June 8, at 7:30 p.m.

The Main Hall of Garrison Institute, 14 Mary's Way, Garrison, NY

This event is a fundraiser to kick off the start of *The Current's* 15th year!



Kristof, known for his coverage of human rights abuses and social injustice, will discuss his journalism with **Christopher Buck**, a Highlands resident and founder and Board Chair of Retro Report, which creates documentary videos on critical news topics.



Tickets at \$65 will include Kristof's new book, *Chasing Hope: A Reporter's Life*.

For tickets and more details, go to highlandscurrent.org/Kristof

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Election Guide: Schools

Budget votes, school board elections set for May 21

Beacon

Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesday. Voters who live in Beacon can cast ballots at Beacon High School, 101 Matteawan Road; district residents in Fishkill and Wappinger can vote at Glenham Elementary, 20 Chase Drive in Fishkill. Applications for absentee ballots are due Monday and completed ballots must be submitted to the district clerk by 5 p.m. on Tuesday.

Beacon is proposing an \$83.9 million spending plan (bit.ly/beacon-24budget), an increase of 3 percent. The tax levy rises to \$47.7 million, a 3.9 percent increase that is the maximum allowed under the state's tax cap.

According to the district, the annual increase for a Beacon resident who owns a home worth \$425,000 about the median value in Dutchess, would be about \$88. For Fishkill and Wappinger residents in the district, the estimated increase would be \$100 and \$106, respectively.

In addition to the budget, voters will be asked to approve \$50 million in spending on an array of capital projects, including heating, ventilation and energy-efficiency upgrades, new roofs on some buildings, an upgraded stage and theater at Beacon High School and new playground equipment at Sargent and Glenham elementaries.

A third proposition would allow the district to purchase a second electric school bus. Voters approved buying one electric bus last year but it has yet to be purchased. The district has received approval from New York State for vouchers providing \$257,250 for each bus, which, including a charger, sells for \$495,000.

The fourth proposition would permit the district to spend \$485,000 to buy three 72-passenger, gas-powered buses.

Garrison

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. in the school gymnasium at 1100 Route 9D. Applications for absentee ballots are due Monday. Completed ballots must be submitted to the district clerk by 5 p.m. on Tuesday.

Garrison is proposing a \$13.4 million budget (bit.ly/garrison-budget24), an increase of 6.4 percent. The levy rises by 4.4 percent to \$11.2 million, the maximum amount allowed under the state's tax cap. Annual taxes on a property valued at \$400,000 would increase \$143.

The district is proposing to add a kindergarten teacher (\$116,700) to meet a projected enrollment increase and spend \$69,000 for an arts-in-education program through Putnam-Northern Westchester BOCES, \$30,000 for a new school sign and \$25,000 for field trips.

High school tuition expenses for 11 additional students in grades nine to 12

will rise by \$168,034, and the district is budgeting \$250,000 to replace the gymnasium roof (to be offset by a \$125,000 grant upon completion) and \$78,073 more for transportation services.

The ballot includes three additional propositions. Two authorize the district to extend through June 2029 its contracts to send eighth-grade graduates to Haldane and O'Neill high schools.

A fourth proposition allows the district to register voters throughout the year instead of on two specific dates. Registration would be cut off five days before an election or vote.

Haldane

Voting will take place from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the elementary school library at 15 Craigsides Drive. Applications for absentee ballots are due by 4 p.m. on Monday and completed ballots must be received by the district clerk by 5 p.m. on Tuesday.

Haldane is proposing a \$29.2 million budget that represents a 3.45 percent increase in overall spending. The levy rises by 2.8 percent to \$22.8 million, and stays within the tax cap. Property taxes on a home valued at \$500,000 will increase by \$203, according to the district.

The budget (bit.ly/haldane-budget24) funds the addition of a second English as a

Questions For Candidates

We asked each school board candidate in Haldane, Garrison and Beacon to answer three questions: (1) What are your qualifications for the school board? (2) How can the board improve students' experience in the district? and (3) What should the board's top priority be in the next year? Their responses are posted at highlandscurrent.org.

New Language teacher (\$100,000) and a third counselor (\$100,000), and allocates \$77,000 to give the district two full-time psychologists.

Voters will decide on two additional propositions: borrowing \$275,380 to purchase two buses (a 65-passenger and a 16-passenger with a lift) and a zero-turn mower; and using \$750,000 in capital reserves to replace the athletic field turf.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

Interim Will Lead Haldane Next Year

District will delay search for Benante replacement

The Haldane school board hopes to have an interim superintendent in place by July 1 and a permanent superintendent by summer 2025, its members announced on Monday (May 13) in an email to district residents.

A search has already started for a temporary replacement for Superintendent Philip Benante, who will leave Haldane for the same role with the Arlington school district.

The search for a permanent replacement will begin later this year and continue into the spring, with a goal of naming a new superintendent by July 2025, according to the board.

Delaying the hiring of a permanent superintendent will give the district "ample time and energy" to prepare for a fall referendum on the \$28 million first phase of its Campus Master Plan, and allow more time to gather community input for the superintendent search, said the board.

Haldane said it is seeking an interim with "proven expertise in overseeing a capital bond referendum" and managing the beginning stages of capital projects.

Phase 1 of the master plan includes a 17,300-square-foot addition to the high school and extensive infrastructure and safety improvements. If approved by voters, the project's cost will raise property taxes by 8 percent.



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High Schools (from Page 1)

still have the most Garrison students next year in grades 9-12 with 51, compared to 27 for O'Neill and 17 for Putnam Valley, according to the district.

How do Garrison eighth graders choose? Although many parents declined to comment, saying that the decision was a private matter, several parents and students agreed to discuss their choice.

Albano emphasized that the key to selecting is to not look at the data or the test scores but to "follow the process." That means attending the information sessions that the schools offer for students and parents. Then, he said, each family should decide "what school is best for your unique child."

The three schools have a lot in common. Each ranks among the top 20 percent of high schools in the state, based on test data, graduation rates and other factors compiled by *U.S. News & World Report*. All offer rigorous academics and a variety of clubs, athletics and art programs.

At the same time, there are differences among the schools in size and diversity, according to state data. Haldane is the smallest of the three with 314 students, and the least diverse (81 percent of students are white). O'Neill has 424 students and is 58 percent white, while Putnam Valley has 507 students and is 65 percent white.

Putnam Valley

Garrison eighth grader Elsa Minkin said she selected Putnam Valley based on several factors, including the school's International Baccalaureate program. The school's IB program "sets us apart," said its principal, Matthew Mello.

The IB is a series of rigorous college preparatory courses divided into six subject groups: Language and Literature, Language Acquisition, Individuals and Society, Experimental Sciences, Mathematics and the Arts.

Unlike Advanced Placement courses that last a semester or two, IB courses span two years and can lead to an IB diploma. While all Putnam Valley students take IB classes, only 10 percent earn the program's diploma, which requires, among other things, six college-level courses, according to Mello.

Vincent DeGregorio, Putnam Valley's IB coordinator, said the program's classes



Elsa Minkin



Clara Gelber

provide "a philosophical shift in how we approach teaching and how we approach learning for students. It's inquiry- and problem-based learning. You're not learning the facts of history; you're learning a method of inquiry."

"You're not learning the facts of history; you're learning a method of inquiry."

~ Vincent DeGregorio
Putnam Valley IB coordinator

But the IB program was not the only factor for Minkin. Some of her friends attend Putnam Valley and she also liked the school's facilities, including the large theater and the indoor soccer field. Theater is one of her interests, and she observed a dress rehearsal for Putnam Valley's production of *Rent*. "It surpassed my expectations by a lot," she said.

Amelia McCarthy, whose mother, Courtney, serves on the Garrison school board, was one of two Garrison graduates to select Putnam Valley in 2023, the first year that the school was an option. While the IB program impressed the aspiring pediatri-



Putnam Valley High School Principal Matthew Mello (left) and Vincent DeGregorio, the school's International Baccalaureate coordinator

Photo by J. Asher

cian, McCarthy said she was also attracted to the school's Science Research program and hopes to do a project related to pediatric medicine.

"Haldane and O'Neill are great," she said. "I just didn't think they fit what I wanted."

Haldane

"I think the reason I chose Haldane is that I knew people who were going there," said Clara Gelber, a ninth grader at the school, whose father, David, serves on the Garrison school board. "I felt more of a community at Haldane."

Indeed, "community" is key at Haldane, said Julia Sniffen, the principal. Many students like the Cold Spring setting and being able to walk into the town, said Sniffen.

As a smaller school, Haldane also specializes in "individual support to reach the goals for each learner," she said. The school's guidance counselor meets with each family to discuss long-term and short-term goals for students, she said.

She noted that Haldane's size allows students to easily find extracurricular activities and clubs, and students who want to play sports can almost always do so without the worry of failing to make a team. Sniffen pointed out that the school offers a broad range of Advanced Placement courses directly or through local colleges.

Gelber was particularly attracted to

Haldane's art offerings and is creating and illustrating a book for a course in studio art. "I'm writing about a little memory I have from when I was younger," she said.

James I. O'Neill

Eleanor Mercurio wants to be an aerospace engineer, said her mother, Jennifer Mercurio. So when Eleanor was weighing which school to attend last year, the "deciding factor" was O'Neill's AP courses in STEM subjects, said her mother. Five of the school's listed AP classes are in math or science.

But students don't just choose O'Neill for academics, said Robin Haberman, its principal. In addition to 13 AP courses, she said, the school offers 34 athletic teams and 34 extracurricular clubs. "We have a tremendous amount to choose from academically, athletically and socially," she said.

One unique choice at O'Neill is the Junior ROTC program. The program isn't necessarily a precursor to entering the military, but focuses on leadership, said Haberman. O'Neill has a number of students whose parents work or teach at West Point, and its graduates regularly apply for admission to the academy, she said.

Jennifer Mercurio said she and her daughter were also impressed by O'Neill's recently completed \$24 million capital project, which included new science classrooms, bathrooms, locker rooms and athletic fields.

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Real Estate

Market Report (April)

🏠 Beacon Homes

	2023	2024
New Listings	24	16
Closed Sales	2	6
Days on Market	10	70
Median Price	\$623,708	\$547,500
% List Received	112.6	92.4
Inventory	41	29

🏠 Beacon Condos

	2023	2024
New Listings	3	4
Closed Sales	0	2
Days on Market	—	59
Median Price	—	\$643,164
% List Received	—	95.4
Inventory	27	9

🏠 Philipstown Homes

	2023	2024
New Listings	2	18
Closed Sales	7	5
Days on Market	79	27
Median Price	\$550,000	\$610,000
% List Received	94.5	95.1
Inventory	17	32

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

Flood on the Tracks

MTA releases climate resilience roadmap

By Brian PJ Cronin

Highlands residents using the Metropolitan Transit Authority's Hudson Line have spent the last year seeing their trips delayed and canceled because the railroad's tracks are submerged under floodwaters and mud from landslides.

But perhaps they can take comfort in the fact that the MTA has taken the next step in addressing those increasing disruptions with the release of its Climate Resilience Roadmap.

The 70 page report at bit.ly/mta-roadmap outlines solutions to the many ways in which the MTA's subways, train tracks, buses and bridges are becoming more vulnerable to the rising sea levels, heavier storms, hotter days and higher tides that New York state is already experiencing.

The agency has yet to start any projects based on the report's recommendations, said Kayla Shults, an MTA representative. More details about specific projects in exact locations are expected to be released in the MTA's upcoming five-year capital plan.

But for local straphangers and commuters who have, just in the last year, experienced service disruptions from floods, mudslides, landslides and a tropical storm, the report offers an invaluable guide to the ways those ever-increasing disruptions will be mitigated.



This Metro-North photo shows flooding near the Garrison Station during high tide after a storm in January. MTA

The very thing that makes the Hudson Line commute so appealing — its proximity to the Hudson River — is also one of its greatest vulnerabilities, as the MTA estimates that over half of the 74-mile-long route is already susceptible to coastal surges.

By the 2050s, the percentage of vulnerable tracks will grow to 80 percent as sea level rises and storms intensify, and one-sixth of the tracks will be flooded every month from high tides.

Raising the tracks is the most obvious solution, but the report details other less-drastic mitigation efforts, such as improved drainage and building platforms to elevate equipment.

Much of the shoreline along the tracks is especially vulnerable to flooding because it consists of riprap and other fill used to create enough land for the railroad. Build-

ing a more stable shoreline with higher rock walls and floodgates is suggested.

On the other side of the tracks, the MTA estimates that 41 percent of its railroad runs next to slopes that are sufficiently steep enough to make them a landslide risk. Retaining walls can be built to mitigate the mudslides caused by heavy storms. But a retaining wall failed during an Oct. 21 storm, dumping over 350 cubic feet of soil and 250 cubic feet of cement wall debris onto the tracks, halting service for Metro-North and Amtrak.

One solution to landslides may be out of the MTA's hands. The report notes that if upland properties, beyond the MTA's right-of-way, reduce runoff, then the risk of landslides would decline. On a list of short-term strategies the MTA recommends under-

taking within the next five years, one of them is to "collaborate with local partners to investigate and mitigate flooding along the Hudson line."

Representatives from the MTA declined to discuss what those collaborations could look like. But the illustrations for shoreline protections in the Climate Resilience Roadmap echo the strategies that the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail is undertaking for its 7.5-mile linear park from Cold Spring to Beacon.

Much of the trail hugs the coastline of the Hudson River, just beyond the Metro-North right-of-way, and is being designed to withstand projected sea level rise and storm surges.

"There are some areas where the existing shoreline will need some targeted repairs," said Matt Carter, a principal at the design firm ARUP, which is working on the Fjord Trail. "The existing riprap has deteriorated in some places. Creating a gentler, more erosion-resistant slope can help with sea level rise and storms." Carter said that planting native vegetation along the artificially fabricated coastline will help bind and stabilize the shore, further reducing flood risk.

The MTA is in discussion with the HHFT about making sure the trail does not interfere with the 25-foot setback from the tracks, a need that becomes even clearer when considering the ample trackwork that may be needed to mitigate the effects of climate change on the Hudson Line.

But if the Fjord Trail does proceed as planned, Carter said it presents an opportunity for the MTA to focus its own mitigation efforts in places beyond the Fjord Trail's scope. "They're very pleased with the opportunities for us to potentially help," he said.

Police Chief *(from Page 1)*

Those challenges led to a number of changes, including the addition of Lashaveous Dicker, a behavioral health specialist placed with the department through a partnership with Mental Health America of Dutchess County. "I'm not sure we would have gotten Lashaveous if we had asked for that a year earlier," Frost said.

The chief notified city officials of his plan to retire earlier this year. Mayor Lee Kyriacou said during the council's May 13 workshop that he, City Administrator Chris White and Human Resources Director Sara Morris had reached a "unanimous conclusion" to recommend Figlia, 41, who is senior among the Beacon Police Department's two lieutenants.

Kyriacou noted the "very clear succession" in the department and said that once Figlia expressed interest in the job, he, White and Morris interviewed him. "Without having to go outside [the department], we concluded that clearly the succession is correct," Kyriacou said.

The City Council met with Figlia in a closed session after its May 6 meeting.

The Police Department at full strength has 36 officers, including the chief. It will have 30 after Frost leaves next month, and will be down to 28 after two sergeants retire in July. White said Wednesday (May 15) that he expects several officers to be promoted the week after Frost's retirement

to fill some of those slots.

Figlia has been with the department since being hired as a patrol officer in 2006. He moved to Beacon with his family in 1989 and attended the city's public schools from first grade through high school. He joked with the council during the May 13 workshop that he is not as popular as his mother, "Ms. Ginny," the children's librarian who retired in 2021 after 31 years at the Howland Public Library.

Figlia acknowledged during the workshop that "the department I came into was a different department than the one we have now," a reference to the U.S. Department of Justice's oversight for more than a decade, through 2016, of the Beacon police following a number of lawsuits against the city. The agency issued nearly a dozen pages of recommendations regarding the use of force, weapons, canines and procedures for processing complaints.

Figlia led the implementation of some of those recommendations. In 2015 he was promoted to patrol sergeant and later became the department's use-of-force instructor. He oversaw the introduction of body cameras for officers in 2018, the same year he was promoted to lieutenant. He is also the department's sexual harassment prevention and de-escalation instructor, and in 2017 spearheaded a more than two-year project to review and rewrite department policies.

"I don't know of anybody who knows our policies better than Lt. Figlia," Frost told the

council this week. "He knows the people in this community; he knows the geography of the city. He knows all of our officers. He knows their strong points and their weak points."

"[Figlia] knows the people in this community; he knows the geography of the city. He knows all of our officers. He knows their strong points and their weak points."

~ Sands Frost
Beacon Police Chief

After Fredericks' retirement, Figlia took over many of the captain's duties, including recruitment and overseeing the selection process for new hires. He was also placed in charge of internal investigations and manag-

ing complaints lodged against officers.

In 2020 Figlia worked with the leaders of Beacon 4 Black Lives and other groups to manage 25 demonstrations — the most in Dutchess County, according to Frost. All took place without injuries or arrests.

If approved by the council, Figlia said he wants "to continue to build on the work we've done over the past four years to consistently strive to improve relations with the community, and to improve the perception and trust that the community has in the Police Department."

He said he hopes to expand the department's social media presence, reinstitute a bicycle patrol and improve communication through consistent news releases.

In addition, officers will continue to participate in community events, walk Main Street and interact with students at Beacon High School. "That's where people build trust, when they get to know each other," Figlia said.

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AROUND TOWN



◀ **MOTHER'S DAY TEA** — Boscobel in Philipstown hosted a tea with live music on May 12.



◀ **BINGO FOR MOMS** — The Girls Scouts organized a Mother's Day bingo night at the Cold Spring Methodist Church on May 10, with prizes donated by local businesses.



▲ **SIGHTINGS** — The coming-of-age play by Cold Spring resident Mona Z. Smith concludes this weekend (May 17-19) at the Philipstown Depot Theatre in Garrison. It's set in the 1980s during a wave of unexplained phenomena in the Hudson Valley.

Photos by Ross Corsair

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Photo: Wendy Heinz, Firefighter, Trustee and Life Member
 © Jay Brenner

The Calendar

'Analog' Viewing

Gallery director stresses 'being with art'

By Marc Ferris

Half a block from Beacon's main drag, Analog Diary's space at 1154 North Ave. can be hard to find, despite the two modest signs.

On-site parking is limited and getting towed is a possibility, according to the gallery's website. Hint: Check out West Church Street.

It almost feels like trespassing to bypass the now-closed Mother Gallery, follow an incline to the rear of the 1884 brick building and enter a satellite of the Manhattan art world.

Close to the train station and featuring visual and sculptural works showcased in a 2,000-square-foot space, Analog Diary is certainly worth a visit.

Established in 2022, the gallery conveys the vision of rising star Katharine Overgaard, 35. She took over in January after three other high-powered founding partners departed amicably.

The deep-purple paintings and solar-burned visual pieces created with a giant magnifying glass by Charles Ross have come down. A new exhibit, *Into a Kind of Quietness*, featuring genre-defying artist Beatrice Modisett, opens Saturday (May 18).

While the "diary" part of the gallery's name is about keeping a record of the exhibits, which typically run from four to six weeks and are cataloged on the gallery's website, "analog" reflects Overgaard's disdain for experiencing art in the digital realm, even though the pandemic made it unavoidable.

"So much information is lost on a screen and it's too detached," she says. "We need to get back to being with art and looking at art."

An administrator, not a creator, Overgaard found a nice niche. In her realm, developing a keen eye for quality, marketability and conceptual cohesiveness is crucial. She started young and the viewpoint is modern.

Raised in western Massachusetts, her mother and grandmother took her on tours to galleries and museums. She then filled her plate at college, double-majoring in art history and studio arts with a minor in arts administration and museum studies.

After graduating 14 years ago, she beelined to an internship at New York City's posh Franklin Parrasch Gallery, located in a townhouse on East 66th Street between Fifth and Madison avenues.

Franklin Parrasch, along with the gallery's two other founding partners, own homes in the Hudson Valley and are familiar with the Beacon scene. Overgaard visited Dia:Beacon over the years as she rose to become the gallery's director.

Her rejection of snobbery and pretense is refreshing, especially since she honed her chops on the Upper East Side.

"I don't expect people to come with a wealth of information in their back pocket," says Overgaard, who commutes from upper Manhattan but hopes to move closer to the area with her human partner and the gallery's mascot, Sadie, who is half Golden Retriever and half something else.

"I'm just as excited when someone walks in the door and is new to a medium or visual art practice and lets the work take them to a new place," she says.

Overgaard revels in visceral art. Ross' paintings seem to glow and emit energy, for example. Modisett also checks the box by creating images with her hands from ash and charcoal culled from the campfires that burned at her off-the-grid property in Summit, near Albany.

For some larger works not included in the Analog Diary show, Modisett used her body as an ersatz brush to press the campfire residue onto the surface of several series.

She also encases some of her images with upstate twigs, making the frames part of the work rather than an accessory. Several sticks surrounding "I Saw a Shadow Touch a Shadow's Hand II," an image exhibited at the new show, are burned.

"I love the charred, woody quality of the surfaces," says Overgaard. "The smudgy, physical process reflects how engaged she is and her fingers conjure images that represent unconventional modes of drawing."

Sometimes, Modisett scratches the surface. "It takes a lot of work to manipulate charcoal on paper, but sometimes she's erasing, not adding, which builds the final image by taking things away," says Overgaard. Less is more.

For Analog Diary's new director, contemporary art is just another link in the chain that stretches back to the ancient caves.

"Magic happens when the viewer finds a point of entry and engagement, then works out the mystery, which could be anything from intent, the emotional meaning behind an abstract or its symbolic significance," she says. "You know it when it hits you."

Katharine Overgaard



Drawings by Beatrice Modisett



"How a Place Comes to Be V"



"How a Place Comes to Be"



"I Saw a Shadow Touch a Shadow's Hand II"

Into a Kind of Quietness opens with an artist's reception from 4 to 6 p.m. on Saturday (May 18) at Analog Diary, 1154 North Ave. in Beacon. The exhibit runs through June 16. Visit analogdiary.art for information.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 18

Sister City Bike Ride

BEACON

9:15 a.m. – Noon. Polhill Park

The Beacon Bicycle Coalition invites everyone to bike from Beacon to Newburgh as part of Let's Bike Hudson Valley. The caravan will stop at Velocipede (the bicycle museum) and Safe Harbors Green in Newburgh, followed by a group ride to Long Dock Park in Beacon.

SUN 19

ARF 5K Run/Walk

BEACON

9 a.m. Memorial Park
Robert Cahill Drive

runsignup.com/Race/NY/Beacon/ARF5K

The Animal Rescue Foundation's annual fundraiser will include a 5K run or walk, a 1K run or walk for kids and a virtual option to do a 5K with your dog. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the races start at 10 and 10:30 a.m. *Cost: \$20 or \$35*

SUN 19

Spring Benefit

GARRISON

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

Everyone Wants to Be Seen is the theme as the Depot raises money for its programs with a party on the patio. *Cost: \$75+*

SUN 19

Meet the Artists

GARRISON

6 p.m. Valley Restaurant
2015 Route 9 | hvshakespeare.org

This Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival benefit will include music, conversation and a reading by actors involved in the upcoming productions. *Cost: \$150*

PLANT SALES

SAT 18

Houseplant Swap

GARRISON

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Trade cuttings and plants with your neighbors.

SUN 19

Philipstown Garden Club

GARRISON

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Philipstown Rec Center
107 Glencllyffe Drive
philipstowngardenclubny.org

The annual sale will include pollinator-attracting plants, annuals, perennials, native species, herbs, vegetables and hanging baskets, some grown by members.



Werner Sun, May 25

NATURE & OUTDOORS

SAT 18

Garden Clean-Up and Planting

COLD SPRING

10 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Drop in during the morning and afternoon to help weed and plant. Registration encouraged.

SAT 18

History Hike: Denny Mine

PHILIPSTOWN

10 a.m. Fahnestock State Park
398 Dennytown Road
putnamhistorymuseum.org

Learn about our area's mining history and geology on a guided hike with the Putnam History Museum. *Cost: \$15 (\$12 members)*

SAT 18

Ecology Presentation

COLD SPRING

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

Haldane student Sophia Kelly will share her presentation from the Youth Climate Summit.

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 18

Sightings

GARRISON

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org

The original play by Mona Z. Smith follows three teenagers in the 1980s who get caught up in the UFO craze. The cast includes Karen Kapoor, Bobby Convertino and Jordan Kaplan. Also SUN 19. *Cost: \$29*

SAT 18

Ragtime

WAPPINGERS FALLS

8 p.m. County Players Theater
2681 W. Main St. | 845-298-1491
countypayers.org

Based on the novel by E.L. Doctorow, the musical portrays the

collision of three families in their pursuit of the American dream. Also SUN 19. *Cost: \$26 (\$23 seniors, military, students)*

SAT 18

The Artichoke

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
artichokeshow.com

Sandi Marx, Bridget O'Neill, Erin Barker, Kevin Allison, Jeff Simmermon and Richard Cardillo will be the featured storytellers. *Cost: \$20*

THURS 23

The Peekskill Riots: Episode One

BEACON

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

Watch the documentary series about racist violence that broke out in Peekskill in response to a 1949 concert by Black activist and singer Paul Robeson. Filmmaker Jon Bennett will answer questions following the screening.

THURS 23

Hip Hop Theater

POUGHKEEPSIE

7 p.m. Bardavon
35 Market St. | 845-473-2072
bardavon.org

Teaching artists Baba Israel, Ken Fury, Drew Drake and Sean Nowell will showcase the work of



Garrison Art Center, May 25

Poughkeepsie sixth graders attending their intensive workshops. *Cost: \$5*

THURS 23

Stand-up Beacon

BEACON

7:30 p.m. Beacon Theater
445 Main St.

Caitlin Reese will headline the show, which also features Michael Agunbiade, Angela Sharp and Jamie Mulligan. *Cost: \$20*

VISUAL ARTS

SAT 18

Prom

BEACON

2 p.m. KuBe Art Center
211 Fishkill Ave. | ecfa.com/kube

Dress in formal wear for the finale of the Back to School show with DJs, performances and dancing. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SAT 18

Cheap Art Show

COLD SPRING

5 – 7 p.m. Create Community
11 Peekskill Road

Find work in all mediums created by kids and adults in the community and priced from 25 cents to \$20.

SAT 25

Werner Sun | Margaret Lanzetta, Niki Lederer & David Packer

GARRISON

5 – 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3960
garrisonartcenter.org

Sun's digital images will be on view in *Rose Window*. In *Travelers, Liars, Thieves*, Lanzetta, Packer and Lederer explore the theme in paintings, sculpture and textiles. Through June 23.

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 18

Studio on the Farm

WAPPINGERS FALLS

10:30 a.m. Common Ground
79 Farmstead Lane | diaart.org

Children ages 5 and older can make art on the farm with a working artist.

SAT 18

Car Seat Check

GARRISON

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

Certified technicians will assess

your child's car seat, its installation and overall safety.

SUN 19

Laurie Berkner

PEEKSKILL

3 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com

The "queen of indie rock" will play a solo set for families. *Cost: \$29 to \$101*



MON 20

College Essay Workshop

COLD SPRING

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

Eric Tipler will talk with high school juniors about what admissions departments look for before students outline and draft essays.

TUES 21

Flight

GARRISON

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

At Family Science Night, create things that soar while learning about why they do.

WED 22

Mini Folding Fans

GARRISON

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

Make and decorate a fan to keep you cool on hot days.

WED 22

Lego Challenge

BEACON

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

Elementary students can test their building skills.

FRI 24

After Hours Art Journaling

BEACON

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

Bring your journal or fill one supplied by the library with words and pictures in your own style. For students in grades 5 to 12.

MUSIC

SAT 18
New Muse 4tet
COLD SPRING
3 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St. | stmaryscoldspring.com
Gwen Laster (violin), Melanie Dyer (viola), George Crotty (cello) and Andrew Drury (drums) will play new songs and music from their recording, *Blue Lotus*. Donations welcome. *Free*

SAT 18
The Sixties Show
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
Enjoy an immersive experience in music from the 1960s. *Cost: \$37 to \$53*

SAT 18
Shemekia Copeland
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The blues, soul and Americana singer will play music from her latest release, *Done Come Too Far*. *Cost: \$35 (\$40 door)*

SUN 19
Rolf Schulte and James Winn
COLD SPRING
4 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.org
Schulte (violin) and Winn (piano)

will play works by Stravinsky, Ravel and Debussy. Donations welcome. *Free*



FRI 24
Jonah Smith Band
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Smith (keys, guitar, vocals) will perform with band members Andy Stack (guitars, vocals), Manuel Quintana (drums) and Brandon Morrison (bass). *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SAT 25
Faded Rose
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The alternative band with a '90s flair will play with Roots Reverie. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SUN 26
The Bob Cats
BEACON
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The Catskills band will play the music of Bob Dylan. *Free (\$20 minimum for food and drinks)*

TALKS & TOURS

SUN 19
Linda McCauley Freeman
PUTNAM VALLEY
3 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org

The poet will read from her collections, *The Marriage Manual* and *The Family Plot*. An open mic will follow. *Cost: \$10*

CIVIC

MON 20
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-5011 | beaconny.gov

MON 20
Village Board
NELSONVILLE
7 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St.
845-265-2500 | nelsonvillenyny.org

TUES 21
Budget Vote and Board Election
BEACON
6 a.m. – 9 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road | 845-838-6900
beaconk12.org
City of Beacon residents vote at the high school and Wappinger and Fishkill town residents vote at Glenham Elementary.



Faded Rose, May 25

TUES 21
Budget Vote and Board Election
COLD SPRING
7 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Haldane Elementary Library
15 Craigsides Drive | 845-265-9254
haldaneschool.org

TUES 21
Budget Vote and Board Election
GARRISON
7 a.m. – 9 p.m. Garrison School Gym
1100 Route 9D | 845-424-3689
guys.org

WED 22
Village Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

THURS 23
Office Hours: Kevin Byrne
COLD SPRING
8:30 – 10:30 a.m. Pier/Bandstand
Intersection of Main and West streets
The Putnam County executive will answer questions until 9:30 a.m. and then participants are invited to walk with him until 10:30 a.m.

MUSICST MARY'S



New Muse 4tet

featuring
Gwen Laster, Andrew Drury,
Teddy Rankin-Parker, Melanie Dyer

Saturday, May 18, 2024
3 PM
Free - donations accepted

St. Mary's Episcopal Church • Corner of 9D & Main Street • Cold Spring, NY



New Muse4tet are 2024 recipients of the Chamber Music America Performance Plus Award.

Philipstown Garden Club

ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Native Plants
Annuals
Perennials
Member Garden Plants
Vegetables and Herbs
Hanging Plants
Kids Corner

philipstowngardenclubny.org

May 19, 2024
10 am - 2 pm
**Philipstown
Rec Center,
Route 9D,
Garrison**



Consigli and About the Work Volunteer Day

Riverkeeper Sweep

Yale Club of Mid-Hudson Valley Day of Service

Thank you,
Volunteers!

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who joined us and our community partners in helping to steward Breakneck Ridge and Dockside Park this spring!

We are so grateful for your enthusiasm, time, and hard work.

Want to volunteer with Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail?
Scan this QR code to join our list!



 Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail









PAID NOTICE

The Artist Next Door

rooster

By Marc Ferris

Retro video artist Rooster arrived in the world too late.

Either that, or he's a prophet from the future here to remind us humans that our data storage methods are fleeting and that "digitizing anything degrades reality."

The Beacon resident is no doomsayer, just a purveyor of common sense concerned with complacency. "People think their phone pictures are permanent, but a lot of things could happen to take down the internet, like a virus or a solar flare," he says.

The stated goal on his 1990s-style website (artistrooster.net) is to explore "the relationship between humanity and machinery, offering a peek into the post-digital future."

An analog throwback in a digital world, Rooster enjoys tinkering with bicycles, spinning records on a turntable and watching VHS tapes (no DVDs, cable or streaming allowed). His main artistic medium is old tube televisions with concave screens.

His displays using old TVs have enlivened the picture window of Distortion Society on Main Street since the gallery and tattoo parlor opened last year. The current exhibit consists of a security camera trained on passersby, shown live on four small monitors, like fleeting selfies that move.

"People who only know flat screens are amazed, like 'Why is this thing so wide?'" he says, standing in front of a 7-foot-high wall of a dozen old-fashioned sets in his home. In total, he owns around three dozen bulky units.

A local friend gave Chris Loers, 32, the nickname Rooster, which he's turned into a brand. The moniker had nothing to do with his roots in Omaha, Nebraska, he said, but "could be the hair," a brown Mohawk crested with a blond streak.

After studying computer engineering at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy, he got a job at IBM and lived in Poughkeepsie, but ditched the white collar world



Beacon artist Chris Loers, aka "Rooster," with one of his installations

Photos provided

and moved to bohemian Beacon in 2017.

Loers embraces the persona, sporting a rooster tattoo on his bicep. His sartorial style combines clashing colors, like purple high-top sneakers matched with dark brown pants and shirt.

For a Cannabis Day event held April 20 at The Yard in Beacon, he rode in on a bicycle wearing a trucker hat, a skeleton suit and sneakers with neon green shoelaces.

He might pull up in the mustard-yellow Art Van, which once belonged to the Vermont Department of Transportation. The side doors swing open wide so he can show a display without unloading; black lights animate the orange interior and crazy-patterned carpet.

Loers views vintage tube TVs in the same

way many audiophiles contend that vinyl records convey a superior sonic experience compared to the format's digital counterparts, in part because mp3 files compromise reality by omitting portions of the original recording.

Old TVs display "a depth of perception that you can't get with a flat screen," he says. "To me, they look different — and better."

Sometimes he works construction to pay the bills, but got a nice break when Reid Ballard came into Distortion Society to inquire about the video display in the window. His father, Norman Ballard, helms the Manhattan-based Shigeko Kubota Video Art Foundation, which maintains an archival and preservation presence in Beacon.

Rooster has installed pop-ups at many

other venues and his video wizardry augments local DJ sets and other live shows. At a recent performance at Quinn's by avant-garde jazz band Modulus Now, snowy white static swirled around the saxophone player's head like a swarm of bees.

Rooster also creates content, including *Wheels*, a full-length verite film shot with a VHS camcorder manufactured in 1989. The film dotes on stationary round objects around town and follows Beaconites driving, skateboarding, bicycling and zooming on motorcycles down Main Street.

"I want to incorporate people who are obsessed with seeing themselves on a screen into the art, if it even is art," he says.

At The Yard, Rooster placed four monitors on a wooden stand covered with faux Rasta-patterned Baja hoodies and showed videos of four friends sitting around talking, each one filmed with a different camera.

The construct attempted to replicate the original conversation as if in real time, says Rooster, who also set up a television and video cassette player so visitors could watch some of his VHS tapes.

But the crux of his work is video feedback and distortion, which can only be achieved with vintage gear. He likens it to a guitarist with a tube amplifier fiddling around with overdrive to cause feedback that can be harnessed, but not controlled. Some people assume he is using software, but their "brains short circuit" when they find out he is not, says Rooster.

"Paintings are considered to be the pinnacle of fine art and then you get to video, which is often dismissed," he says. "There's only a few of us out here and we're pushing the envelope on what art even is."



"Reception Perception"



A Rooster installation in the window of the Premium Roots skateboard shop in Beacon

LOOKING BACK IN PHILIPSTOWN

By Chip Rowe

150 Years Ago (May 1874)

The town and village excise boards met to receive applications for liquor licenses. The only applicant was Mr. Washburn, for his Garrison hotel. *The Cold Spring Recorder* noted that “temperance people” had been pressuring the boards to refuse all applications.

John Van Buskirk, who had received \$75 [about \$2,000 today] in an estate settlement, came to Cold Spring and, after getting drunk and waving around his cash, waited at the station for the Poughkeepsie train. Depot employees took him inside for his own safety, but Van Buskirk took offense and punched the baggage master. He gave up \$10 as a fine and spent the night in jail.

A resident reported snowbanks on a mountain road on May 9 as high as his axle.

William Wood was taking down the front of his blacksmith shop to rebuild it with a mansard roof, Ladue was adding a story to Boyd’s building and George McCabe was having a brick barn constructed behind his Stone Street store.

A German strolling band with three brass horns performed in Main Street, with a woman on the baritone.

Sands Morrison, 26, died of pneumonia.

An anonymous correspondent chastised Continental Village residents in *The Recorder*: “The people of this place have rendered themselves despicable and conspicuous solely on account of their utter want of interest in church matters. They allowed their little, white, neat, respectable church to remain empty without even so much as a prayer meeting.”

Another anonymous resident complained about the vegetable hawkers who left at the

end of the day “not looking to the right or left for fear they might be tempted to leave a little money in the town where they made it.”

Isaac Baxter, who grew up in Nelsonville, was a suspect in the robbery of \$32,000 [\$877,000] from a safe in the Grand Central office of the Hudson River Railroad Co. His alleged accomplice was a clerk there.

By a 30-2 vote, Philipstown residents rejected a proposal, to raise taxes by \$313.50 to pay a bill from the county Board of Health. *The Recorder* editor noted the bill had to be paid one way or another.

John Gallagher had been looking all over the village for Arthur Thompson to settle a score. He found him and pulled a knife but got a severe beating.

A 22-year-old sorrel mare that Richard Denney of North Highlands had sold two years earlier in Dutchess County showed up at her old stable.

A group of 10 women, working in pairs, went from door to door in Cold Spring and Nelsonville to circulate a Total Abstinence Pledge.

A wildfire broke out on Sugar Loaf, filling the Highlands with smoke.

Elmore Mekeel drowned while night fishing at Lake Surprise. He was pulled “cramped” from 3½ feet of water, suggesting he had a seizure.

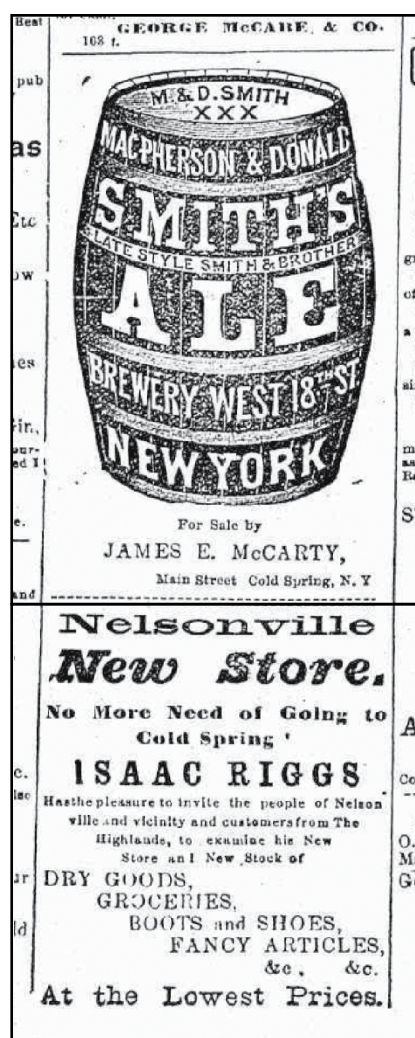
Two Cold Spring men who went to Newburgh to see Barnum’s Hippodrome began to fight on the train home. The conductor put them in separate cars and locked the doors. They were arrested upon arrival and fined \$8 [\$220] each.

The Recorder noted that while May 30 was widely accepted as the proper time to decorate the graves of Union soldiers, “there are no remains of the Union dead in our cemeteries, therefore the day has not been observed here.” Cold Spring’s brass band instead traveled to Yonkers.

On a Saturday evening, a woman with bloody hands appeared at the district attorney’s office. *The Recorder* reported that her husband had been abusive, “but as we hear no more of the case we presume that the formality and delay of the law caused the woman to abandon her complaint.”

Carl Braasch sold his boot and shoe store on Main Street and returned to Germany.

A load of household goods being transported down Main Street went out of



From *The Cold Spring Recorder*, May 1874

control and “a general smashup was anticipated” by bystanders. Instead, the first item to fall off was a sawhorse that wedged in front of a wheel and stopped the wagon.

125 Years Ago (May 1899)

Villagers observed Dewey Day to honor Admiral George Dewey, who destroyed the Spanish fleet at Manila Bay during the Spanish-American War.

Joe McCarthy, formerly of Cold Spring, was elected president of the newly formed Jersey City Water Supply Co.

The mercury hit 96 degrees on May 3.

S.L. Barriett, owner of the new electric works, said he would supply the Cold Spring firehouse at no charge.

Abner Merritt sold his milk route.

Prof. Treat’s Canine Paradox performed twice at Town Hall.

At a meeting of the Cold Spring board, Trustee Farrell asked if penalties collected with back taxes belonged to the village or the treasurer, who collected them. The treasurer, who arrived late, said he had been advised he could charge penalties at his discretion — generally 1 to 5 percent — and keep the proceeds.

William Ladue, the well-known bicyclist from Cold Spring, competed in Savannah, Georgia, where the *Morning News* reported that he easily won the half-mile, mile and five-mile races.

For more than a month, William Woods had left lumber in front of a building he was constructing on Church Street. He was warned to add a light after dark, but failed to do so and visitors from Fishkill ran their horse into the pile.

John Young of England stopped in Cold Spring to visit his uncle, Dr. William Young,

before continuing to Idaho to investigate the gold mines.

Officer McCaffrey, while inspecting a junkman’s wagon, found five brass valves worth about \$200 [\$7,500] that had been stolen from the Cornell works.

Dr. John Fillebrown, accompanied by his attorney, asked the Cold Spring Village Board to reduce his personal property assessment from \$5,000 to \$1,000. When the attorney asked how the tax was calculated, Village President Dyos said that it was understood that Fillebrown’s wife had received a large amount of money from her brother. Dyos said the only way the board could know if that was true was to issue a large assessment and have the parties appeal. Mrs. Fillebrown was summoned and swore she had never received any money from her brother.

The single and married men of Garrison faced off in a baseball game at Osborn’s Oval.

The Hill Country House in Philipstown, a former stagecoach stop, was purchased by a New York City developer who planned to convert it into a first-class hotel.

Frank Pelham of Cold Spring, who worked for a hospital in Albany, broke his arm when his ambulance collided with a street car.

The Cold Spring fire company wrote to the Village Board to suggest a second exit for Town Hall and a water line to the auditorium.

Justice Martin Keogh, after finishing court in Carmel at 3 p.m., was able to make the 5:36 southbound train at Garrison because of Sheriff Donohue’s fast team of horses, which covered the 24-mile country route in 2 hours and 15 minutes.

Neighbors formed a bucket brigade and used a garden hose to put out a fire in Grant Wright’s hennery on Church Street, but the 60 chickens were lost.

The Village Improvement Society placed wire scrap baskets throughout Cold Spring and benches at the corner of Main and Chestnut streets.

The Recorder noted that fishermen were catching trout in Foundry Brook using set lines, which was illegal.

The light globes on the new electric street lights were being broken by boys using them as targets.

The topmast of a flagpole to be erected at the Cragside estate [now the Haldane campus] was dropped into the river by a passing steamer and towed ashore behind a rowboat.

A violinist and a banjo player came into town to play street corners but left after receiving only pennies.

Laura deRham died at her home at 24 Fifth Avenue in New York City at age 71. She and her husband, Charles, had a summer home for more than 40 years on the Garrison Road. Her father had been the longtime consul general in New York City for Prussia, Saxony and Baden.

Robert Patterson, who had spent two months in the hospital in Yonkers with water on the knee, returned home.

The Cold Spring Hose Co., at its annual meeting, reported that it had purchased 100 feet of 2½-inch linen hose and now had 300 feet, as well as 400 feet of rubber

(Continued on Page 19)

GARRISON ART CENTER

1964 • CELEBRATING 60 YEARS • 2024

The Garrison Art Center logo, designed by the renowned graphic artist Ivan Chermayeff in 2010, reflects his exceptional creativity. In addition to his notable achievements in graphic design, Chermayeff’s talents extended to collage art and illustration, which he showcased in exhibitions hosted in our galleries.

Garrison Art Center

Join us throughout 2024 as we celebrate 60 years of memories, milestones, and art-making on the banks of the Hudson River.

www.garrisonartcenter.org
#GAC60



The Garrison-on-Hudson Volunteer First Aid Squad debuted its new ambulance in 1974.

(Continued from Page 18)

hose. It had the full quota of members, 30, allowed by law.

An unusual five-masted schooner passed by Cold Spring.

The young adult group of the Methodist Episcopal Church held its annual Young Ladies' Single Blessedness Debating Society gathering at Town Hall, in which "old maids" were transformed into "beautiful maidens."

Professor Makeover demonstrated his invention, the Remodelscope, at Town Hall, turning three young single women into teenagers.

Kendrick Pierce of the Fould's Milling Co. of Cincinnati, stopped in the village to promote its breakfast cereal, the Wheat Germ Meal.

The Cold Spring Chowder Club held its first monthly outing of the season at Stony Point.

Robert Barrows, 37, who was staying with his brother-in-law in Cold Spring, was found dead in bed with a half-emptied bottle of cocaine. Two empty bottles and a full bottle were found in his trunk. Friends said Barrows suffered from neuralgia and was in constant pain. During his stay, Barrows had led art classes and was preparing an exhibit of his watercolors.

A chicken with four legs was born at the George Miller farm.

John Moser, 10, was playing in the barn at his home near Lake Surprise when he was kicked in the face by a horse, losing three teeth.

The Recorder reported that a wife on Market Street left her husband for another man, and that "a young lady became infatuated with a married man; an elopement was stopped by the arrival of the girl's mother."

Hannah Rhodie celebrated her 91st birthday on Market Street. Her hearing was splendid and she read and sewed without glasses.

Herman Dean, editor of the *Fishkill Village Times*, visited Cold Spring on his new Columbia chainless bicycle.

Harry D. Elwood, a champion long-distance walker on his way from San Francisco to New York City, stopped in Cold Spring. An automobile traveling from Cleveland to New York also passed through on a Friday afternoon.

John Homer of Garrison, while cleaning his bicycle, caught his hand in the wheel and lost the top of a finger.

S.E. Selleck moved from the corner of Main and Furnace streets to the Wood

Building opposite Depot Square but was still selling Fussell's ice cream.

The town highway commissioners purchased signboards for every corner of town, giving directions and distances.

Fred Secor broke his collarbone when, while helping Louis Monroe remove a coffee mill at his brother's store, he fell through a hatchway into the cellar.

Mr. and Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish and four guests left on their private train car for a month's trip to Yellowstone Park.

The Village Board instructed Officer McCaffrey to stop baseball playing in the streets.

Cold Spring agreed to allow Nelsonville residents to tap into its water mains if they paid 150 percent of the standard rates.

100 Years Ago (May 1924)

Cold Spring voters narrowly approved propositions to widen the proposed state road through the village by 2 feet for \$6,000 [\$110,000]; widen the pavement on Main Street from 18 feet to 38 feet between Chestnut and Fair streets for \$25,000 [\$460,000]; and construct a \$19,000 [\$347,000] storm sewer.

The six-piece Cold Spring Syncopators played at a dance at the Bella Vista Hotel.

The rear axle of John Lowry's car snapped in half as he drove on Main Street.

A cake and candy sale at Haldane raised \$25 [\$456] for the Junior Red Cross to provide milk to undernourished children at the school.

While watching the Haldane-Carmel baseball game at Kemble's Field, young Rudolf Meyer was struck in the mouth by a bat that slipped from a player's hands. Dr. Hall sewed the wound.

Members of the Putnam County Republican Club were surprised when Mrs. William Boardman Reed arose to express admiration for Democratic Gov. Al Smith. "All the best political material is not in the Republican Party," she said.

The Rev. Dr. Elbert Floyd-Jones reported that automaker Henry Ford had ordered a copy of his book, *A Relic of the Highway: The Origin and Use of Mile-Stones*.

Louis Hale, while tightening bolts at the Harmon shops, came in contact with the third rail and burned his hands badly.

75 Years Ago (May 1949)

Upper Station Road in Garrison was

blocked off for a Recreation Bazaar, including booths devoted to gardening and baking, a tag sale and games of skill.

The Garrison Fish and Game Club selected four boys to attend a 10-day state Conservation Department camp in Sullivan County.

The Beacon Savings Bank named Dorothea Pintel's kindergarteners at Haldane as the Honor Thrift Class of the Year. The award was based on the average number of children who made a deposit each week at the bank.

The Walter Ranch at Manitou held its first rodeo of the season, including performances by "Diamond" Ted Lewis, the rifle-shot artist, and Bill Stanfield and his trick roping. Bill Butler, who broke his leg during practice, was recovering at Butterfield Hospital.

New York Telephone Co. workers were replacing the phone dials in 22 communities, including Cold Spring and Garrison, from numbers to letters and numbers to prepare for a two-letter and five-number system.

50 Years Ago (May 1974)

A change in the state aid formula increased the funds expected by the Haldane district for 1974-75 from \$2,000 [\$12,700] to \$57,584 [\$365,000].

The Haldane and Spackenkill baseball teams played to a 17-17 tie after Haldane scored 13 runs in the sixth inning and the game was called for darkness.

The Garrison-on-Hudson Volunteer First Aid Squad debuted its new ambulance.

No one filed a nominating petition by the deadline for a vacant seat on the Haldane

school board, but Judith Culbert won with 136 write-in votes.

Because of overcrowding, the Haldane school board voted to lease Marist Hall on Route 301 for its first- and second-grade classes.

25 Years Ago (May 1999)

The Philipstown Recreation Center ended its after-school care center at Haldane. It noted there were now many more options for parents than in 1988, when the program began.

Perks Plaza on Route 9 and a section of Route 301 in Putnam Valley were shut down for a video shoot by Carmin Turco, a Cold Spring-based musician who was making a video for "The Car Won't Start," from his album, *Angel*.

The Philipstown Town Board passed a law regulating the harvesting of timber. Minor operations of 2 to 10 acres had to be approved by the wetlands inspector and anything larger by the Planning Board.

A Garrison resident veered off Route 9D and hit a stone wall. She said she lost control when she sneezed.

The Haldane softball team defeated Croton-Harmon, 41-5.

A Putnam Valley real estate agent was charged with grand larceny after she allegedly removed the contents of a mobile home before repossession proceedings had begun.

Bob Galligan caught a 37½-pound, 40-inch-long striped bass off the Cold Spring Boat Club dock.

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Clearwater *(from Page 1)*

annual Riverfest concert into a separate nonprofit, the consequences from years of what Toman called “errors and bad managerial judgment” caught up with them.

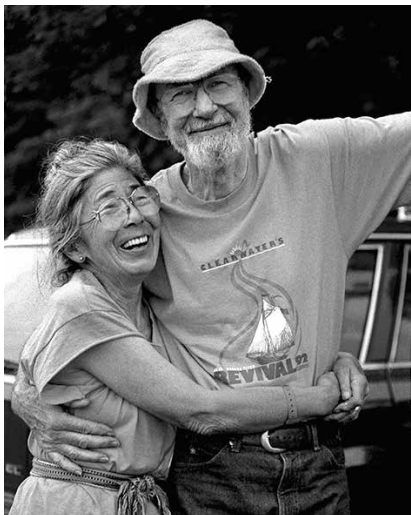
As of Wednesday (May 15), the group had raised \$150,000 of the \$250,000. Samantha Hicks, a former Clearwater captain who serves as president of the board of directors, said that while the swell of support is heartening, she knows it comes with a mandate from donors to “restructure in a way that prevents this from happening in the future.”

Then again, making tough decisions is what Clearwater is all about.

“He was a sailor, right?” said Hicks about Seeger. “He could have taken a number of different avenues to raise people’s awareness of the environment, but he was a sailor. And making sound decisions is the core of how sailors function and survive.”

A river reborn

Pete Seeger’s story embodies not only everything that made the Clearwater such a powerful symbol of environmental justice, but the obstacles the organization would encounter for decades. A folk icon with millions of fans around the world, he had also been accused of being a Communist by the House Committee on Un-American Activities and found in contempt in 1955 for refusing to answer its questions.



Toshi and Pete Seeger in 1992

Photo by Steve Sherman

In 1966, with the battle underway to save Storm King Mountain from being turned into a power plant by Con Edison, Seeger approached the fledgling environmental organization Scenic Hudson with an offer to join them and put on a fundraising concert.

While some were keen on the idea, the overriding fear was that Seeger’s far-left politics would alienate the conservative donors, corporations and foundations that the nascent organization was attracting to build its financial foundation. The group also worried that Seeger’s involvement would complicate its court case against ConEd.

Seeger’s offer was declined, but he had another idea. His friend Vic Schwartz of Cold Spring had lent him a battered copy of the 1908 history book *The Sloops of the Hudson*. Seeger read the book in one evening at his home on the southern slopes of Mount Beacon and then stayed up until 3 a.m. banging out a seven-page letter to



The Clearwater visited Cold Spring for a sail earlier this month.

Photo by Ross Corsair

Schwartz that doubled as a manifesto.

It proposed that they get together with a band of locals and build their own sloop. Schwartz spent the next few months passing Seeger’s letter up and down the cars of commuter trains until he amassed enough support to start building.

What purpose the yet-to-exist sloop would serve was still up for debate. Some envisioned it as a living maritime museum, complete with sailors in period costumes. But during an early discussion with a wealthy Hudson Valley resident who Seeger described as having the capacity to single-handedly fund the construction, the organization’s mission snapped into focus.

The prospective donor questioned the idea of building such a beautiful boat only to put it into the filthy Hudson River, and then mentioned that he did all of his own sailing in the Virgin Islands.

“My fingers clenched in anger, but I didn’t say anything,” Seeger wrote in a June 1984 Clearwater newsletter. “He had just given us our best reason for building the boat. Cleaning up the river was a cause worth fighting for. We had allowed some people to make a profit from the Hudson, after which they went somewhere else to enjoy clear water.”

In May 1969, the Clearwater sloop launched from a shipyard in South Bristol, Maine, where it had been built. Thirty-five days later, with a full crew and a band of musicians — some of whom had never been on a boat before — the Clearwater pulled into New York City and received a hero’s welcome from the mayor and throngs of admirers.

But not everyone was happy to see Seeger, who had been blacklisted from television for a decade after being grilled by Congress in 1955. When the sloop stopped in Cold Spring in 1970, locals cursed at Seeger, threw beer cans at him and threatened to set the ship on fire unless the crew left.

In 1978, Cold Spring’s village trustees voted to bar the Clearwater from taking part in a music festival because of Seeger. It was around this time that the sloop had to dock in Cold Spring because of rudder problems. The crew woke in the middle of the night to find themselves adrift on the river. Someone had cut the moorings while they slept.

Clearwater spent the 1970s introducing

thousands of people, including students, to the Hudson River through educational sails and dockside concerts, all while fighting for a cleaner river.

But while the sloop was on its way to becoming an icon, the organization’s leaders struggled with its direction and the possibility that they would be more capable of securing funding without the controversial Seeger. At least two executive directors quit during the 1970s, one after attempting to remove Seeger from the organization.

The Hudson River “is an issue that engenders a lot of passion in people,” said Hicks, the current board president. Seeger, she said, was a visionary who made people “think that we can do anything. But the question is, can we do all that stuff right now? Do we have the resources to do that? Not all of us can pull out a banjo, start playing and then the money comes pouring in.”

In 1976, after taking part in the parade of tall ships in New York Harbor to celebrate the nation’s bicentennial, Clearwater entered a new period of relative stability. Over the next two decades, people began to see the effects of Clearwater’s advocacy. And memories of Seeger as a Communist sympathizer faded as he continued to win over people with his music, optimism and endless charm. No longer a liability, Seeger became the group’s biggest asset.

Clearwater thrived. Its annual Great Hudson River Revival concert, aka Riverfest, raised money each year to keep the organization going, and a second sloop was leased to keep up with the demand for student trips. But Clearwater was soon caught up in global currents beyond its control.

Stormy seas

The roots of the current crisis began in 2007 with the global financial downturn, which led schools that booked annual trips with the sloop to cancel, never to return. Toshi Seeger, whose organizational acumen was one of Clearwater’s secret assets, died in 2013, and Pete died a year later. Suddenly the organization lacked someone who could raise thousands of dollars at the drop of a hat.

Peter Gross, who was hired as executive director after the Seegers’ deaths, quit after 18 months. The organization put Riverfest on hold while it concentrated on a Coast Guard-

mandated overhaul of the ship that cost over \$500,000. Riverfest returned, along with the sloop, but years of rainy weekends led to reduced ticket sales and huge losses.

It was then, according to current executive director Toman, that Clearwater made its biggest mistake. After its annual, voluntary third-party audit revealed that the nonprofit was in danger of collapsing, the organization stopped its annual audits in order to concentrate on fundraising.

“Without that information, it’s hard to assess and judge where you are as well as provide the information you need to other people,” he said.

Then the pandemic struck in 2020, ending Riverfest, public sails and the group’s income. Losing the programs was “gut-wrenching,” said Hicks, who had returned to Clearwater and joined the board just weeks before the pandemic shutdown.

After Toman was hired, a donor made a large gift for the sole purpose of getting Clearwater’s accounting back on track. Several years worth of audits were completed in 14 months. But the damage was done. Clearwater temporarily lost its nonprofit status and its accessibility to government grants.

“We didn’t open up to that market again until late last year,” said Toman. “So it’s going to take us a good year to build back into that type of funding stream that can help support our programs.”

The irony of the current funding gap is that it comes at a time when Clearwater managed to finally steer itself back toward calmer seas. A few members spun off the Riverfest concert into a separate nonprofit that hopes to return next year.

If it does, it will be another opportunity to showcase the sloop. But if the concert fails again, Clearwater won’t be on the hook for the loss. A version of the apprentice program that brought Hicks on board in the 1990s is back, with training programs aimed specifically at young women, young men, and its new “Queerwater” programming aimed at LGBTQIA+ youth.

In addition, schools are booking trips again, although Hicks notes that the statewide post-pandemic shortage of school bus drivers has proven to be an obstacle.

Toman said that about 15,000 people now sail on the sloop each year. They’re looking to increase that number with new “pay-what-you-can” sails to get people out on the river who could not otherwise afford it. The group is reaching out to local businesses to sponsor the sails, whose first series took place last weekend at the Kingston Earth Fair.

Jen Benson, a former Riverkeeper employee who last year became Clearwater’s education director, said the organization has “good forward momentum” but is at a difficult point.

There was some trepidation within the organization about addressing the predicament so publicly, but to do otherwise would be against the spirit of a group with a reputation for being honest, she said.

“The Hudson Valley is a great community for a lot of reasons, but one of them is that people here come together in times of challenge,” said Benson. “And that’s what we’re starting to see.”

Roots and Shoots

How Bad Is That Bug, Really?

By Pamela Doan

For weeks I've been fielding texts and calls about the gardener's apocalypse of spongy moth caterpillars and maple seedlings. Mass quantities of pretty much any species freaks people out, and I've been talking friends and clients down from reaching for pesticides and herbicides.

My worst fear is that harmful chemicals are deployed against threats that aren't really threats at all. As reported in *The Current* last week, research shows that trees don't suffer long-term damage from spongy moth caterpillars. While maple seedlings are a nuisance in the lawn, they don't survive mowing and can easily be pulled from flower beds while they are small, or repeatedly cut down if they develop stronger roots.

With this in mind, I jumped at the chance to learn, during a Cornell presentation, more about the spotted lanternfly, another insect that inspires panic and certainly unnecessary pesticide use.

When the spotted lanternfly was first reported in New York in 2020, there was justifiable fear about its impact on forests. Native to Asia and first documented in the U.S. in 2014 in Pennsylvania, the brightly colored insect sucks the sap from trees and plants, reducing available starches and sugars.

Fortunately, the insect's feeding has been shown to be negligible on trees, which is very good news. While the sight of a maple trunk covered in sap-sucking insects is alarming and gross, they aren't doing long-term damage.

There's still cause for concern, though. The agricultural impacts have been greater than the forest impacts. So far, the spotted lanternfly has been known to feed on more than 100 types of plants and trees. Its Top 5 species are ailanthus (aka tree of heaven),



black walnut, willow, red maple and grapes.

With nearly 500 wineries in New York, grape growers are especially vulnerable. The lanternfly feed in swarms and have decimated vineyards in a single season. As the insect's population continues to increase here, Hudson Valley growers are on alert to monitor closely and try to control outbreaks.

The instars, which hatched recently, are small black bugs with white polka dots. They can't fly and feed on vegetables. Cucumbers seem to be a favorite, along with squash and cantaloupe.

The action items here are to take caution when it comes to preventing the spotted lanternfly from moving into new territory. It's amazingly good at hitchhiking because it is able to lay eggs on any type of surface — rock, wood, fabric, plastic, metal and rubber, as in tires.

It can stow away on your car in the crevice of the trunk, or in the trunk or wheel well. Then we unknowingly give it a lift to another location.

With this superpower, it has spread through 23 counties in New York and 15 states, as far away as Indiana and Tennessee, with the aid of humans. Learning to identify the egg masses, checking equipment like chairs and tents that you move from place to place, and knowing how to remove and kill the egg masses all will help reduce its spread.

Then there is the issue with the tree of heaven, a difficult-to-manage species that spreads rapidly and can't be cut down without making the problem worse. Tree of heaven and the lanternfly are ecosystem friends. It is the top species the insect feeds on, and having it in your yard increases the likelihood of having lanternflies.

If you come upon a cluster of trees of heaven (there is never just one), they are sharing the same root structure. Cutting it down provokes the tree into sending up



In June and July, the spotted lanternfly will look like this.



Adult spotted lanternfly

dozens of new shoots from the connected root. You might have started with five and now there could be 20 to deal with.

It also grows quickly, up to 8 feet in a season, reaching up to 100 feet at maturity. It's a high priority for invasive species management, and more of a threat to forests than the spotted lanternfly.

For more information, Cornell's website has identification and management tools about the spotted lanternfly (bit.ly/cornell-lanternfly) and the Penn State Extension has a comprehensive guide about ailanthus control (bit.ly/psu-tree-of-heaven).



This is the nymph stage of the spotted lanternfly and what you might find in your garden now.

Bugwood.org (3)



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Current Classifieds

HELP WANTED

CARE COORDINATOR — The Community & Crisis Care Coordinator is a new position at the Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub, reporting to the executive director and working with other care coordinators. The Hub runs on passion: You have a passion for helping people to help themselves and/or their families through crises. Specifically, you are interested in and have experience with mental-health issues and experience with the challenges facing individuals battling addictions. See philipstownhub.org/carecoordinator.

POOL MANAGER, LIFE GUARDS — Small environmental and recreational organization that is working to keep the Hudson River clean and provide safe swimming opportunities is looking for a pool manager and certified lifeguards for small wading pool in Hudson River in Beacon. Part-time - Pool Certified, \$18 to \$25 per hour, weekend availability, in-person. Contact info@riverpool.org.

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BEACON — Professional private office in quiet and bright corner office available off Main Street in Beacon. Professional building with adjacent parking lot on Rombout Avenue. 250 square feet with a private bathroom. Amenities include a lobby for customers or clients. Utilities included heat, air conditioning and WiFi. All inclusive \$1,250 monthly. 1-year lease available. Email info@rocpilates.net.

TAG SALES

GARRISON — Multi-family yard sale on Sunday, May 19, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 385 Old West Point Road West (at the intersection with Butter Hill Road)

FOR SALE

FAT WOOD — Get ready for winter now before the price goes up. I have a 35-pound box of LL Bean Fat Wood, unopened, for sale. Selling now online at LL Bean for \$65 plus \$7 shipping. So you can pay them \$71 or me \$40. Email nancyhome2014@gmail.com.

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

NOTICE

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF THE TENTATIVE ASSESSMENT ROLL PURSUANT TO SECTION 506 AND 526 OF THE REAL PROPERTY LAW

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned assessor for the Town of Philipstown, County of Putnam has completed the tentative assessment roll for the current year. A copy will be available May 1, 2024 at the Office of the Town Clerk, Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY, where it may be examined by any person interested until May 28, 2024. On that day, the Board of Assessment Review will sit at the Town Hall, Cold Spring, NY between the hours of 4:00PM - 8:00PM to hear and examine all complaints in relation to such assessments.

The Real Property Tax Law requires that all grievances be in writing. Forms for written submission are available in the Assessor’s Office, Town Hall, Cold Spring, NY.

Dated this 22nd day of April 2024 Brian Kenney, Assessor



Stephanie Doucette (1971-2024)

Stephanie Ann Doucette, born on Nov. 17, 1971, unexpectedly passed away on May 6, leaving behind her adoring husband, Mark Robohm, their three amazing children, Wilson Carmel Robohm (16), Maxwell Peter Robohm (13) and Charlie Anna-Maria Robohm (13); her sister, Crissy Doucette, her father, Alex Walter Doucette, and she now joins her mother, Carla Anna Maria Doucette (d. Nov. 10, 2022).

Stephanie was the rarest of unicorns. Standing tall (in heels) with morality and glamour, she was a guiding light for so many: constantly offering sound advice, a caring ear, impeccable fashion guidance, ever-present music, late arrivals, stunning spreads of hors d’oeuvres, bottomless bubbles, honesty, laughter and deep, sincere connections to both friends and strangers.

Her life was full, exciting, fun-loving, creative and inspiring. Her gravity was undeniable, her love tangible, her generosity excessive, her cooking excellent, her style unique and epic, her talents exceptional, her honesty intimidating.

Her beauty served only as a distraction from her golden character.

In her wake, Stephanie leaves inspiration, full hearts, a lot of well-dressed women and a well-built family. Everyone she touched will deeply miss one of the most caring, loving, bright and beautiful souls.

Friend. Fashionista. Best big sister. Wife. Mother. Icon. And now Loving Legend.

A gathering in her memory was held at Boscobel in Garrison on May 15. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Cold Spring Fire Company No. 1 (coldspringfireco.org).

Funeral Arrangements are under the direction of Clinton Funeral Home- Cold Spring



Cory Cates (1974-2024)

Cory James Cates, of Cold Spring, New York, passed away from cardiac arrest on Monday, May 6, 2024. He was 49.

Cory was born on June 11, 1974, in Santa Rosa, California, to Dick and Barbara Cates. He was the oldest of three boys and excelled as both a student and athlete in high school. He attended Oklahoma Baptist University as an honors student, where he studied physics and math. In 1996, Cory married his high school sweetheart and the love of his life, Kari Jo Harris Cates. For 28 years, she was his best friend, adoring wife and ever-present companion. Being Kari Jo’s husband and the father of their children — Nathan (25), Henry (21), Caroline (19), and Betsy (18) — was Cory’s greatest privilege in life.

Cory and Kari Jo moved to New York City for graduate school, where Cory earned a Ph.D. in applied physics at Columbia University. After 25 years in the city, the Cates family moved to Cold Spring, New York, full-time in 2020.

Cory was a devoted follower of Jesus Christ. He generously shared his time and talents at both St. Philip’s Church in the Highlands in Garrison, New York, and Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City, where he served as a long-time elder and community group leader.

Cory was a deep thinker and a patient listener, making him invaluable to friends seeking counsel. He loved and served his neighbors well, whether by helping someone in his community move apartments or bushwhack a local hiking trail. Children of all ages were drawn to his calm, quiet spirit; Cory coached West Side Soccer and Little League and was counted on as a problem solver. He had a brilliant mind and a humble heart.

Professionally, Cory had been the Chief Information Officer of Longevity Holdings since 2013, responsible for technology and analytics. Prior to joining the firm, Cory worked at Credit Suisse for eight years. He was a man of the highest integrity and was deeply respected by his colleagues.

In addition to his wife and children, Cory is survived by his mother, Barbara, and brothers, Danny Cates (Stacy), of Kansas City, Kansas, Lieutenant Commander Jacob Cates (Morgan), of Honolulu, Hawaii, and his adoring nieces and nephews: Austin, Audrey, John and Joey. Cory was preceded in death by his father, James Richard “Dick” Cates.

The Cates family will hold a service to honor Cory in New York City at Redeemer Presbyterian Church’s West 83rd location on June 1, at 1 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to City Seminary of New York, P.O. Box 5536, New York, NY 10027 (cityseminaryny.org).

PAID NOTICE

PAID NOTICE

Puzzles

CROSSCURRENT

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16. Blue Angels events
18. Australian red wine
20. Fedora feature
21. Medicinal plant
23. PC key
24. Schubert compositions
28. *Monopoly* cubes
31. Misery
32. Barbs
34. *Science Friday* network
35. Adjoining
37. Sweeten
39. Rocker Nugent
41. Minnesota —

42. Penniless one
45. Fearsome fly
49. Relaxing time on the slopes
51. Equitable
52. “Understood”
53. Lucy’s TV pal
54. Forearm bone
55. Minus
56. Season opener?
57. Some July babies
10. Hacks with an axe
11. Postpaid enc.
17. Mexican Mrs.
19. Sleep like —
22. Treble clef lines
24. Bristle
25. Caviar base
26. Fabric features
27. Calming drug
29. Tax pro
30. Mess up
33. Bygone jets
36. Prairie homes
38. Of service
40. — Moines
42. Beach bucket
43. Church area
44. Invitation notation
46. Story
47. China (Pref.)
48. Historic periods
50. White wine cocktail

SUDOCURRENT

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WORDLADDER

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

RACER

WAFER

MICRO
CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1. “This neck massage is so calming...”
4. ____ Collection (New York City art museum)
7. Suburb of Boston
8. Van Gogh’s “Starry Night Over the ____”
9. Just released

- DOWN
1. Miles away
2. Curved entrance

1	2	3		
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3. Make a pass at
5. Gelato holder
6. Homophone of 9-Across

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C	U	B	I	C		U	P	S	H	O	T	
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7	4	9	8	3	5	6	2	1
4	1	7	5	9	6	2	8	3
5	6	2	4	8	3	9	1	7
9	8	3	2	7	1	4	6	5

H	A	B	L	A
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PEDAL
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Answers for May 10 Puzzles

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Sports

VARSITY ROUNDUP

HALDANE

By Jacob Aframian

BOYS' LACROSSE — On Monday (May 13) Haldane easily beat the North Salem Tigers, 17-4. The Blue Devils came out firing on all cylinders, taking a 13-0 lead going into the second half. Senior Frankie DiGilio led the team with four goals, Fallou Faye had three goals and two assists, and Evan Giachinta had two goals and two assists in a win that saw every player get playing time.

"It's always nice when you can play every single kid," said Coach Ed Crowe. "Every kid gets meaningful playing time. It's an amazing feeling."

The Blue Devils closed out the regular season on Tuesday with a second straight win, 19-3, over Yonkers. Giachinta, with three goals and eight assists, broke the school record with 271 career points. "He's a great kid to be around. It's been an absolute pleasure to coach not only him but his whole entire senior group," said Crowe. Senior Ryan Van Tassel led the team with five goals; DiGilio added three.

In the first round of the Section I, Class D Tournament, the fifth-seeded Blue Devils will face off today (May 17) against the 12th-seeded Rye Neck Panthers. Haldane beat Rye Neck, 12-1, on April 24. If the Blue Devils win today, they'll take on the fourth seed, the Croton-Harmon Tigers, in the quarterfinals on Monday.

GIRLS' LACROSSE — In their last home game of the season on May 9 against the Rye Neck Panthers, the Blue Devils won, 15-6. Sophomore Kayla Ruggiero led the team with eight goals and senior Ellen O'Hara had four. However, the 12th-seeded Blue Devils ended their season on Wednesday (May 15) with a loss, 15-3, to the fifth-seeded Briarcliff Bears in the first round of the Section I, Class D tournament.

BASEBALL — The Blue Devils lost to the Westlake Wildcats, 13-3, on May 9 in Haldane's third game in three days. With the score tied 3-3 in the sixth inning, Haldane pitchers appeared to run out of gas and the Wildcats piled on runs. The Blue Devils lost their 12th straight game, 6-2, to the Irvington Bulldogs on Monday (May 13), but broke the losing streak the next day with a 10-8 win over Alexander Hamilton.

Haldane's next game will be a big one. On Tuesday (May 21) the team will play the Leffell Lions in the semifinals of the Section I, Class C tournament. The Blue Devils are the



Evan Giachinta notched three goals and eight assists to set a school record with 271 career points in a 19-3 win over Yonkers.

Photo by Skip Pearlman

third seed while the Lions are seeded second. If Haldane wins, it will play the winner of the Tuckahoe-North Salem matchup in the finals on May 23 at Purchase College.

SOFTBALL — The Blue Devils won their last home game of the regular season against the North Salem Tigers, 14-6, on May 9. Junior catcher Callie Sniffen stayed hot, going 3-for-4 with six RBIs and three runs while hitting her 10th and 11th home runs of the season. Eighth grader Lainey Donaghy was 2-for-4 with a double and two runs scored.

"When we have those two hitting, we have a good chance of beating anybody," said Coach Jeff Sniffen. Pitching for the Blue Devils was Allegra Clementson, who struck out 12.

Their next game will be on Monday (May 20) in the Section I, Class C tournament, as the two-seeded Blue Devils take on the No. 3 seed, Alexander Hamilton. If they win that game, the Blue Devils will play the winner of Tuckahoe-North Salem at North Rockland High School on May 23.

TRACK AND FIELD — Haldane participated in the Middletown Invitational on May 11. For the boys, 1,600-meter runner Owen Powers came in fourth with a time of 4:39.39, and Jack Ilian took sixth with a time of 4:42.19. Jake Thomas placed 11th in the shot put; and Merrick Williams and Rhys Williams finished 14th and 16th in the 200-meter dash.

On the girls' side, Hazel Berkley and Kate Resi finished 18th and 19th in the 400-meter dash with times of 1:25.25 and 1:32.01. Shayla Ochoa and Molly Bernstein placed 13th and 15th in the long jump.

On Tuesday (May 14), the Haldane boys took second place and the girls finished third in the league championship against North Salem, Croton-Harmon, Putnam Valley and Pawling.

Thomas finished first in the javelin with a personal record of 134-11, break-

ing his own school record. Thomas, who also finished third in the discus, is now ranked 20th in the state. Rhys Williams took second in the 100-meter dash with a time of 11.67. He also finished second in the 200-meter run at 23.86.

Merrick Williams finished first in the 110-meter hurdles at 17.24 and placed second in the high jump. Powers was third in the 1,600 meters with a 4:47.06 time. He then finished second in the 3,200-meter run at 10:18.35 and James Frommer took third in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:10.88.

For the girls, Eloise Pearsall finished third in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:10.84. She was second in the 800-meter run at 2:44.06. Ashley Sousa finished second in the 1,500-meter run at 5:21.36, a season-best time for her. Berkley was second in the 3,000 meters with a time of 15:23.61, a personal record.

BEACON

By Nick Robbins

BASEBALL — Beacon honored its six seniors — Jack Antalek, Liam Murphy, Ronnie Anzovino, Jackson Atwell, Anthony Borromeo and Mikey Fontaine — on May 9 with a 1-0 win over Red Hook. All six will play baseball in the fall, with Antalek at Mercy College, Murphy at SUNY Rockland and Anzovino, Atwell, Borromeo and Fontaine at SUNY Orange.

Against Red Hook, Ryan Landisi threw $5\frac{1}{3}$ shutout innings and Derrick Heaton picked up the save. Mercer Jordan was 2-for-2, plating Ryan Smith in the second inning for what was the game-winning run. The Bulldogs took on Cornwall Thursday (May 16) and await a playoff matchup announcement.

SOFTBALL — The Bulldogs finished with a 6-11

record after splitting the final two games of the season. Goshen thrashed Beacon, 19-0, on Monday (May 13) but the team recorded a 13-6 win over Sullivan West on Tuesday. The Bulldogs await a potential playoff berth and opponent.

TRACK AND FIELD — Beacon competed at the Middletown Invitational on May 11. Damani DeLoatch continued his great season, picking up first-place medals in the long jump (20-9.25) and triple jump (48-0.25). Jayden Mihalchik placed third in the shot put at 37-0 and fifth in the pole vault at 10-6. Noah Spiak placed third and Henry Reinke placed fifth in their respective 400-meter dash heats, with Spiak running 52.06 and Reinke racing 50.72, season bests for both.

The girls finished strong in their relays, placing third in the 1,600-meter relay at 26:37.75 and fourth in the 800-meter sprint medley relay at 2:01.43. Khloe Franklin placed third in the long jump at 13-4. The team will compete today (May 17) at the OCIAA Championships hosted by Warwick.

GOLF — The boys wrapped up their season with an 8-5 record. Will Martin represented the team at the OCIAA qualifier on Monday (May 13), placing fifth, which advanced him to the first round of sectionals competition on May 21.

The girls finished 10-10. They picked up two wins in a row, knocking off Pine Plains, 159-165, on May 8 and then beating Minisink Valley, 161-168, the next day. They wrapped up the regular season with a loss to Lourdes, 175-168, on Monday (May 13) and a win over John Jay, 138-172, on Tuesday and hope to have golfers selected for OCIAA qualifiers.

BOYS' TENNIS — Beacon wrapped up its season with a 7-9 record and is awaiting a possible selection to the playoffs.