

The HIGHLANDS Current



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Creep
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Schools Wary of Formula Change

Beacon especially faces uncertain funding

By Jeff Simms

When Superintendent Matt Landahl spoke to the Beacon school board in January, two weeks after Gov. Kathy Hochul's State of the

State address, he reported that funding in the governor's proposed 2024-25 budget was "not great for a lot of local school districts." On the surface, Hochul's proposal to increase foundation aid — the unrestricted funds for general operations sent annually to each of the state's 673 public school districts — by \$507 million was impressive. But that was only about half of what

districts expected for 2024-25. More important for the long term, Hochul also suggested rethinking the formula used to determine allocations, which could mean the end of a provision that, for many districts, including Beacon, guaranteed they wouldn't receive less aid than in the previous year. "We were shocked, especially since the previous year [2023-24] was the first time foundation aid had been fully funded," i.e., districts received what they had expected to

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Dog Owners Have a Complaint

Residents lobby officials for accessible parks

By Michael Turton

Having a physical disability is a challenge. Having a physical disability, owning a dog and finding an accessible park presents an even greater challenge. Cali Gorevic, 80, who lives in Philipstown, has difficulty walking. She has two "country dogs" — a golden retriever and a German shepherd — that would benefit from running free and meeting other canines at the town's North Highlands Park on Route 9 at Glassbury Court. The problem, she said, is that the dog



A gravel path leads to a town dog park behind a pond at Glassbury Court. Photo by M. Turton

park is located more than 100 yards from the parking area. Fabiola Gomez, 62, a New Hamburg resident who suffers from post-polio syndrome, would also like to exercise her giant schnauzer at North Highlands Park. In addition to the distance from parking, she said the

gravel and grass path leading to the park is unsuitable for the devices she uses to improve her mobility, such as forearm crutches or a wheelchair. Gomez and Gorevic each complained to the Town of Philipstown but said they were

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Reporter's Notebook

Jogging with Jimmy

By Joey Asher



Jimmy Carter has met countless reporters in his life. But I suspect I'm the only one to ever barf in front of him.

The former president, a peanut farmer and governor elected in 1976 who left office after losing the 1980 election to Ronald Reagan, celebrated his 100th birthday on Tuesday (Oct. 1) in Plains, Georgia. In November 1984, I was a 23-year-old cub reporter on the health and education beat for *The Gainesville Times*, a tiny daily an hour north of Atlanta. The editors asked me to drive down to write about a health care policy conference that Carter was leading at Emory University. The conference, titled "Closing the Gap," was aimed at preventing premature death. The dozens of speakers seemed incredibly boring, at least to me, a recent college graduate. So, when the organizers asked who I'd like to interview, I requested a meeting with the only person not being offered — Jimmy Carter. The next morning, I went to a basement classroom. I was dressed in a coat and tie. At the precise moment of the appointment, Carter walked in with two handlers. "I'm Jimmy Carter," he said. I introduced myself. We shook hands.

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SCHOOL ADD-ON — An architectural firm on Tuesday (Oct. 1) presented the Haldane district with renderings of an addition to the high school that is part of a proposed \$28.4 million capital plan. In this image, the current building and entrance are shown on the left. The 17,300-square-foot addition would begin at the roofline; the section at the center would house a science and math center and student support services, and the structure at the right would be a student center. If the capital plan is approved by voters on Nov. 19, the addition should be ready by 2029, according to the firm. CSArch

Couple Guilty in Beacon Disappearance

Convicted of killing wife's ex-husband

By Leonard Sparks

A federal jury found a former Beacon couple guilty on Sept. 27 of killing the wife's ex-husband, who disappeared in April 2020 after dropping off his two teenage daughters following a custody visit. After a two-week federal trial in White Plains, Jamie Orsini, 38, and Nicholas Orsini, 36, were each found guilty of carjacking resulting in death and conspiracy to commit carjacking in the disappearance of Steven Kraft. The court has not set a date for sentencing. Kraft, who lived in Marlboro, has not



Kraft

been seen since April 28, 2020, when he returned his daughters to their mother's home on West Church Street. More than three years later, on June 15, 2023, police arrested the Orsinis in Amsterdam, the city near Albany where the couple had moved. Each faces a maximum penalty of life in prison on the carjacking resulting in death charge and five years on the conspiracy charge. "For more than four years, Kraft's family has waited for justice," said Damian Williams, the U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York. "Their wait is now over." Kraft's body has not been found, but prosecutors allege the couple began plotting his murder before he disappeared, buying items that could be used to dismember and burn a body. Police recre-

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5Q

FIVE QUESTIONS: CARRIE PRESTON

By Chip Rowe

Carrie Preston, who has a home in Philipstown, will be honored by the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival at its Oct. 13 gala. She stars on CBS in *Elsbeth*, which begins its second season Oct. 17.

How did you end up in the Highlands?

My sister and brother and I always dreamed of having a place outside of New York City. My brother is also an actor and my sister, Leslie, works at the Fashion Institute of Technology. We would do short-term rentals in the area and fell in love with it, particularly Main Street in Cold Spring, which is so charming. After we bought a property together in 2019, my brother, John, immediately moved into the guest house! We're up there every chance we get. We closed on the sale in February 2020, a month before the pandemic shut-down, and ended up living there together. We also get our mom up from Georgia, where we grew up. It's such a great area.

When did you get the acting bug?

John started doing community theater [in Macon] when he was 11 or 12, and I wanted to do it, as well. By the time I was 12, I had started my own little street theater company with all the neighborhood kids. I took acting very seriously. During the

summer after my freshman year of college [at the University of Evansville], I interned with Georgia Shakespeare. We did the tiny parts, worked in the box office, helped build sets. During other summers, I worked at Shakespeare festivals in Utah, Santa Cruz and Alabama. The Shakespeare role I have the most fondness for, of course, was my Broadway debut with Patrick Stewart in *The Tempest*. I trained at Juilliard to do classical theater, but there's not much classical theater, and certainly not a lot of Shakespeare, on Broadway.

Elsbeth is a quirky lawyer whom you first played on *The Good Wife*. Are you like her in any way?

We're both good at multitasking, but she's genius-level brilliant, so I wouldn't dare compare my intellect! We both have a sense of wonder and positivity. Living with a glass-half-full attitude has served me well. If I were a lawyer, I would be a litigator, to use my performing skills.

You're also a director. What's an early lesson you learned?

I directed independent films before television, where you have more control because it's your project, soup to nuts. With television, it's a collaborative

effort that largely happens before the actors arrive. I never fully appreciated that because it's not a process that actors are privy to. We arrive once all the decisions have been made. And, of course, once the actors arrive, everything gets multiplied by 1,000 percent.

You were recently a guest on *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*. Can you take us behind the scenes?

Sure. About a week or two before you appear, you get a call from a producer and have quite a lengthy conversation so they can pitch topics to the host. I arrived about 30 minutes before the show taping began. You wait in a dressing room; I had my team with me, such as my publicist. The producer comes by to review possible questions — you don't go out there cold, but you don't know specifically what the host will ask. Because *Elsbeth* always carries tote bags, I suggested I could give Stephen a tote full of Southern treats as an icebreaker. Stephen came over while I was in the wings and was so kind. He complimented me on *The Holdovers* [in which she played a teacher, Lydia Crane] and he went and sat down and, boom, I was on. It's a little like being shot out of a cannon. I was so nervous. I haven't done a play in a long time, but when I walked onto the stage, I looked up at the audience and thought, "OK, I know this feeling."





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ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What emotion does October evoke in you?

A bit of melancholy because both my parents died in October. But I love the season.



Jackie Burgos, Beacon

At peace with the change in seasons.



James Athos, Visiting from NYC

Happy and cozy; the weather energizes me!



Jessika Martinez, Cold Spring

NEWS BRIEFS

Beacon Police Make Arrest for Graffiti

Poughkeepsie man suspected of Main Street vandalism

Beacon police said on Sept. 27 they had arrested a Poughkeepsie man on suspicion of spray-painting businesses on Main Street a week earlier.

Richard Bulson, 40, was charged with three counts of criminal mischief and three counts of making graffiti, all misdemeanors.

Police said that a suspect spray-painted the buildings on Sept. 21, and that they identified a vehicle. An officer pulled the vehicle over on Sept. 27 and arrested Bulson, who was given a ticket to appear in Beacon City Court.



Beacon police arrested a Poughkeepsie man who allegedly vandalized several Main Street buildings. Photo by Jeff Simms

Teenager Stabbed in Beacon

Assault happened during Spirit of Beacon

Beacon police are investigating the stabbing that occurred on Sunday (Sept. 29) on Main Street as Spirit of Beacon ended.

Police said a 16-year-old suffered a superficial wound to the leg during a fight at South Brett Street at about 4 p.m. The victim was taken to St. Luke's-Cornwall Hospital in Newburgh.

Putnam Legislators Expand Power to Fire Attorney

Change comes amid ethics complaint

A charter change giving Putnam County legislators the ability to fire the county attorney at will was approved on Monday (Oct. 1) but excludes the current attorney, who filed an ethics complaint against Legislator Toni Addonizio.

Addonizio voted with five colleagues to remove a restriction that allowed six of the nine legislators to dismiss the county attorney, but only if their interests and the executive's conflicted and the attorney refused to represent the Legislature. They can now fire the attorney for any reason.

Legislators who supported the change were accused of targeting Compton Spain because of his complaint. Spain will also be exempt from new language that will bar the county attorney from working outside county government.

Under the charter, the county executive names the attorney and the Legislature approves the appointment. The charter allows the executive to fire the attorney with approval by two-thirds of the lawmakers.

Checking the Books

The Dutchess County Comptroller's office on Monday (Sept. 30) released the latest of three audits it has completed this year:

- The Dutchess County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (DCSPCA) is an independent, nonprofit agency that receives funding from the county. In an audit of its books for 2023, the comptroller's office found that the organization had not followed its corporate bylaws in one case in April 2022 when it awarded a contract for construction management and general contracting to a firm owned by a board member without a formal bidding process. The firm was paid \$275,785 without a signed contract, but the comptroller found "no explicit evidence of intentional wrongdoing."
- The comptroller audited the Dutchess County District Attorney's Office books for 2021 to 2023. In a report released on Sept. 23, it identified a transaction under former D.A. William Grady in which the office gave \$5,000 in 2022 to support a youth program from its asset-forfeiture funds. However, the grant did not follow state guidelines that require the money to be distributed "to support public safety initiatives." It also found that the office under Grady did not have written policies or procedures related to financial administration, including the use of asset forfeiture funds.
- The comptroller audited the books of the nonprofit Dutchess Tourism for 2018-2022. In a report released March 22, it "found minor areas for improvement, but no major discrepancies." Dutchess Tourism returned \$2,120 to the Department of Planning and Development because of a bookkeeping error.

In addition, the New York State comptroller released an audit on Sept. 20 of the Putnam County Golf Course in Mahopac that covered January 2022 through September 2023. It concluded that the course, which is owned by the county, inexplicably did not retain records for June, July and August 2022 and that 30 percent of the pro shop cash did not match daily deposit reports and 97 percent of the daily cash reports were inaccurate in June, July and August 2023.

The comptroller recommended the county adopt a written collections policy and require reconciliations. In response, County Executive Kevin Byrne said the county has addressed the deficiencies.



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Tell us what you think

The *Current* welcomes letters to the editor on its coverage and local issues. Submissions are selected by the editor (including from comments posted to our social media pages) to provide a variety of opinions and voices, and all are subject to editing for accuracy, clarity and length, and to remove personal attacks. Letters may be emailed to editor@highlandscurrent.org or mailed to The Highlands Current, 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. The writer's full name, village or city, and email or phone number must be included, but only the name and village or city will be published. For our complete editorial policies, see highlandscurrent.org/editorial-standards.

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Cookies

Homestyle Desserts offering the likeness of both presidential candidates on cookies celebrates the democracy we cherish ("Cookie Backlash Turns to Boon," Sept. 27).
Alan Brownstein, *Philipstown*

Good for Homestyle! The bakery was busy and the cookies are good! It makes a good cappuccino, too.

Susan Girola, *via Facebook*

Nobody comes out of this story looking good.

Lloyd DesBrisay, *via Instagram*

So glad that Homestyle saw a boon in sales; folks have made a hell of a lot of money selling MAGA hats, as well. But I'll never spend another dime there. What's next: a Marjorie Taylor Greene torte and a Jeffrey Epstein pineapple-upside-down cake?

"Normalizing" felons and sexual predators by putting their likenesses on bakery goods makes our community less safe. I'm glad to read that my Facebook post caused so many to call and express their disgust at the bakery's decision.

Russ Cusick, *via Instagram*

Make cookies great again!

Jack Ward, *via Instagram*

Fjord Trail

While I admire Teddy Roosevelt's sweeping vision of grand parks, accessible to large numbers of the world's citizens, access to a small area like the Highlands should not be placed above the ability of local towns to support and manage it (*Letters and Comments*, Sept. 27). This isn't the Grand Canyon. This is a narrow strip along the Hudson, which already offers plenty of access to people of all ages and abilities in parks nearby.

Before you cry "NIMBY!," I don't believe any resident would be against a more modest trail, a solution that will ameliorate traffic issues and create a safe zone for hikers. However, careful and thoughtful consideration must be given to a project that is proving to be as large and unwieldy as this.

Before we allow developers, like Scenic Hudson and Chris Davis, to build a theme park, it is right and reasonable that the people who live and work in our communities be given all the respect, time and consideration they deserve.

Mary Fris, *Beacon*

I'd like to clarify information on HHFT's pause on a decision to implement the full Shoreline Trail to include Dockside Park ("Cold Spring Continues Fjord Trail Debate," Sept. 27).

Corrections

• In the Sept. 27 issue, we reported that the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival's new outdoor theater in Philipstown will cost \$50 million. In fact, the theater will cost \$30 million, including landscaping. The additional funds raised will be used for other projects on the HVSF campus and financial reserves.

• In the Sept. 27 issue, we reported that a development proposed for the former Automar site on Route 9 would include an 8,000-square-foot "flex" building. In fact, the building would be 18,000 square feet.

The "preferred alignment" in the Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (DGEIS) is the Main Trail from Dockside Park to Long Dock Park. The plan includes extending sidewalks on Fair Street to Little Stony Point. Multiple routes — an accessible Main Trail and a narrower meander — will provide more options and disperse people and reduce congestion in the Village of Cold Spring during peak days. And the trail will be a resource that locals can enjoy year-round.

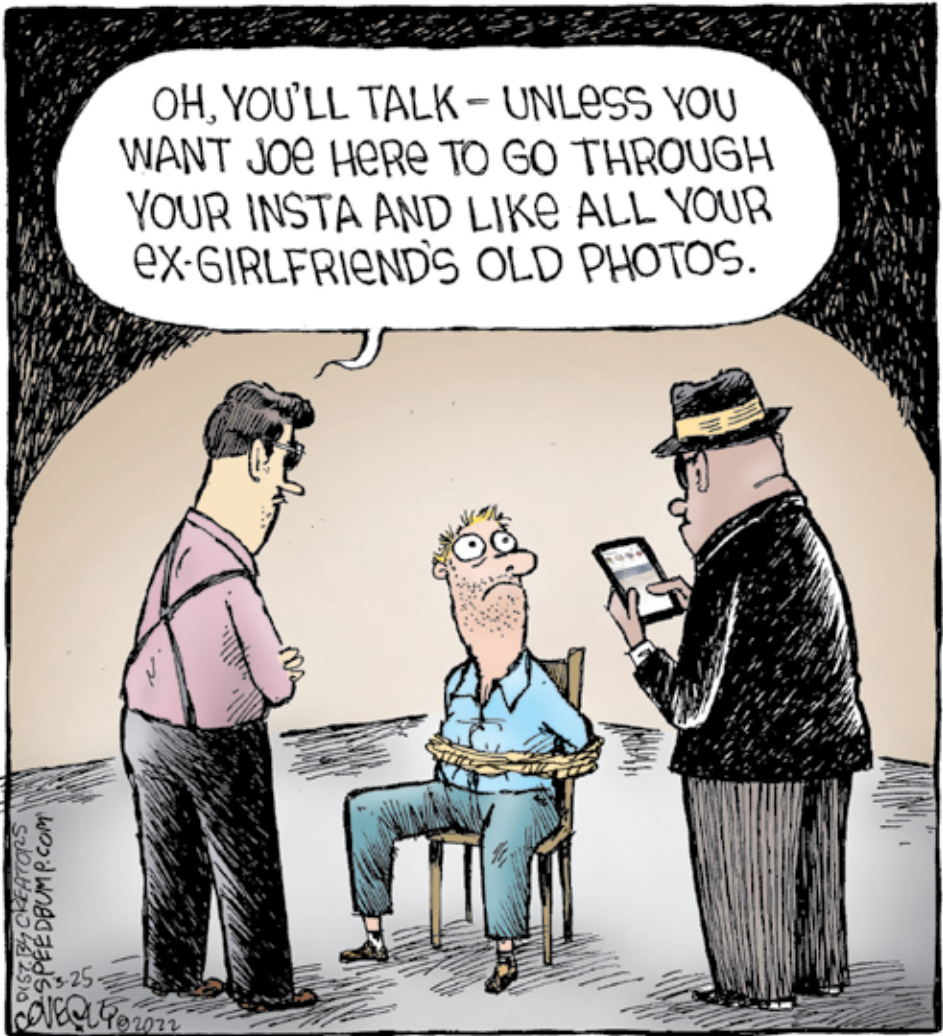
"Feeder trails" alone (Fair Street and Route 9D) will not solve existing pedestrian flow and safety issues, nor will they improve accessibility. Analysis by visitation management experts shows that an additional accessible route for pedestrians and cyclists is needed for the greatest relief of existing and future conditions.

The Fjord Trail is being planned and opened in a phased approach over a decade. The project is subject to a thorough New York State environmental review process. No construction on proposed improvements can advance until that is complete. The DGEIS is conducted on the preferred route, per the master plan, but will include all evaluated alternatives, including the newly identified "west of tracks" route. The DGEIS looks at all potential impacts and includes an opportunity for public comment.

Conversations with the elected leaders from the three Philipstown communities occurred in the spring, seeking a compromise responsive to concerns about a Cold Spring entry and logistically feasible and fair to the wide range of opinions on that final half-mile. After careful consideration, HHFT sent a letter on Aug. 16 offering to pause our decision-making about the Shoreline Trail from Little Stony Point to Dockside Park until after the opening of the Breakneck Connector and the Dutchess Manor Visitor Center (anticipated in 2027). This one-year pause will allow us to gather data to review before making a final decision — together with the communities — about Dockside.

Over the past five years, the project goals

(Continued on Page 5)





Current Names Student Journalists

Ten will participate in 2024-25 program

The Highlands Current accepted a record class for its Student Journalists Program for 2024-25, naming 10 high school students from Beacon and Philipstown. Now in its fifth year, the program

provides students with an opportunity to be mentored by professional journalists while they serve as paid correspondents and photographers for the nonprofit newspaper and website. The students will primarily cover their high schools and issues related to young people. The program is funded by gifts from the DJ McManus Foundation and Current members.

Two Philipstown students return for 2024-25: Jude Morrison, a senior at St. Regis High School in New York City, and Clara Tripp, a senior at the Ethical Culture Fieldston School in the Bronx. They are joined by juniors Nadeen Ahmed, Annabelle Notarthomas and Kayla Selander and sophomores Charlotte Bowen and Ash Marcus from Beacon High

School and sophomore Lincoln Wayland from Haldane. In addition, Aron Li of Beacon and Leo Grocott of Haldane, both juniors, will contribute photography.



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

have become increasingly focused on visitation management. So, we've expanded our consultant team to ensure that the Fjord Trail will be a best-practice example. While 64 percent of visitors to Cold Spring are not hikers, the project includes infrastructure and services to help ease the strain of impacts from both hikers and non-hikers. HHFT remains committed to collaborating with the village to address these long-standing issues.

Nationally recognized experts in ecology, architecture, engineering, transportation and visitor management, as well as the diverse opinions of community members and municipal leaders, continue to guide this project. Our goal is to improve conditions for residents and create a resource that everyone can access and be proud of.

Amy Kacala, *Poughkeepsie*
Kacala is the executive director of Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Inc.

Cold Spring Trustee Aaron Freimark says Fjord Trail opponents "have produced mostly noise and emotion rather than constructive discussion" (*Letters and Comments*, Sept. 27). Is the pro contingency any different?

Derek Graham, *Cold Spring*

Gas station

I live close to the former Automar location being proposed for development ("Gas Station, Solar Farm Eyed for Route 9," Sept. 27). I am worried, along with some of my neighbors, about a gas station located there, given that there is a curve just south that could become treacherous when trucks, especially the large trucks that bring gas and diesel, are entering and leaving.

There is a BP station and convenience store and deli less than a half-mile north that has two entrances and sits on a stretch of Route 9 that has plenty of visibility, as well as a stoplight.

Perhaps the parcel owners will consider something else to do with the property — something less treacherous and perhaps something the community lacks and would benefit from having.

Leslie Nowinski, *Philipstown*

Dog Park (from Page 1)

not satisfied by the response. Gorevic wrote Supervisor John Van Tassel in August to suggest two handicapped spaces adjacent to the dog park. Van Tassel responded that a lot isn't possible at that location because Glassbury Court's septic field lies beneath it.

Van Tassel expanded on his response in an email to *The Current* on Wednesday (Oct. 2), writing that "due to terrain and other physical boundaries we cannot make the dog park fully accessible" and that the town had problems in the past when visitors were able to drive closer to the park and added a gate to prevent it.

"I'm sympathetic to her wishes to be able to utilize the dog park; it's just not feasible for that area of the park to be handicapped-accessible," Van Tassel wrote.

Gomez said she contacted the town in June and also reached out to Disability Rights New York, a nonprofit that provides free legal and advocacy services to people with disabilities. In response, DRNY wrote to the Philipstown Recreation Department stating that the federal Americans with Disabilities Act "requires that services and programs provided by local governments be readily accessible to individuals with disabilities," although the ADA qualifies that requirement, saying that when full compliance is impractical because of terrain, "the service must be made accessible to the greatest extent that is

structurally feasible."

DRNY also noted that the ADA requires public facilities, including dog parks, to provide accessible parking and a "stable, firm, level and slip-resistant" path that is the shortest accessible route to the dog park.

Van Tassel said he would ask the town attorney for a legal opinion.

Marilynn Glasser, the president of Dog Park Concept and Consulting in Patterson and author of *Dog Park Design, Development and Operation*, has worked with dozens of communities across the U.S. She said the ADA "absolutely" applies to municipal dog parks but municipalities, especially in the Northeast, often create parks with little or no thought to making them accessible. She noted that while "a disabled person needs to be able to get inside a dog park," they don't necessarily need access to the entire area where dogs are free to run.

She said a path to a park should be wheelchair-friendly and that long paths are also more difficult for people on crutches. Shorter, easier paths also benefit people with heart conditions and other health issues, she said.

The lack of accessibility at North Highlands Park is not unusual. A survey of local municipalities found no ADA-compliant dog parks in Peekskill, Kent, Fishkill, Putnam Valley or Nelsonville. County parks in Westchester and Dutchess also lack facilities.

In Putnam County, Chris Ruthven, the director of parks and recreation, said a

dog park being developed with Guardian Revival at Veterans Memorial Park in Carmel will be ADA-compliant.

In Beacon, Friends of Beacon Dog Park operates its facility at Memorial Park. While parking is nearby, the site is not fully ADA-compliant. Dog owners pay a \$55 annual fee toward maintenance.

In Cold Spring, the Recreation Commission is planning a dog park at Mayor's Park on Fair Street but a grant application to AARP to help cover the cost of making the facility accessible was turned down.



Philipstown operates a dog park at North Highlands Park on Route 9. Photo by M. Turton



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School Funding *(from Page 1)*

get, said Flora Stadler, the president of the Beacon school board. “This is going to be a challenge across the state moving forward. We have to make it clear that schools aren’t just about academics, that they provide an ecosystem of services to students that need funding to be implemented.”

In Beacon, property taxes cover about 60 percent of the district’s \$84 million budget. Foundation aid takes care of about 25 percent. Under Hochul’s proposal, Beacon would have seen its foundation aid cut by 6 percent, or about \$1.3 million. By the time the governor and state lawmakers agreed on April 20 to a final budget that raised foundation funding by \$935 million, Beacon’s aid had been restored to \$21.3 million, the same amount the district received in 2023-24.

Even so, costs rise each year, and the district was forced to implement a policy to determine, case-by-case, whether to replace staff members who resigned or retired.

The state budget also included \$2 million for the Rockefeller Institute of Government, a public-policy think tank in Albany, to study whether the foundation aid formula should be revised. The institute is expected to issue its report by Dec. 1 and, as Landahl said this week, “every single superintendent and business official in the state is going to be reading it that night.”

Beacon is one of many districts that could be in trouble if it can no longer count on predictable foundation aid while staying within the state property tax cap, which



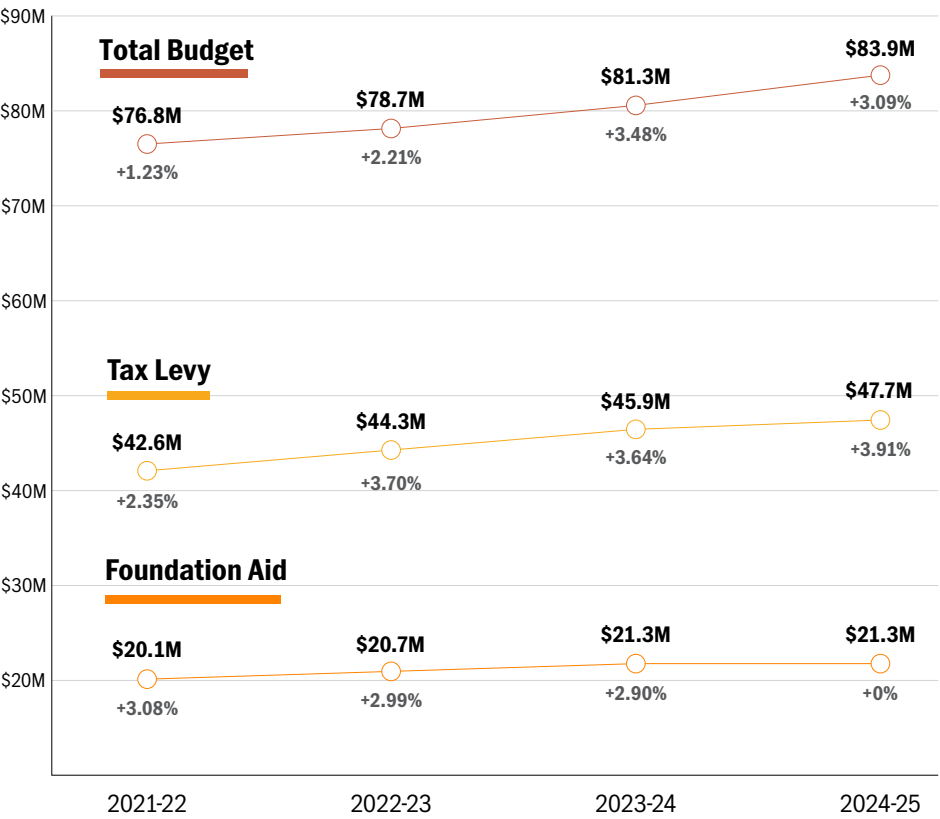
Beacon Superintendent Matt Landahl spoke at a forum in August hosted by Assembly Member Jonathan Jacobson.
Photo by Meredith Heuer

limits tax-levy growth to 2 percent per year or the rate of inflation, whichever is less.

Because they are smaller and wealthier, the Garrison and Haldane districts receive far less foundation aid than Beacon. Garrison will get about \$600,000 in 2024-25, or 4.5 percent of its \$13.4 million budget, and Haldane will receive \$2.9 million, or 10 percent of its \$29.2 million budget.

Although they are less dependent on state aid, budgets are always tight and the superintendents at the two districts are equally concerned about potential changes to the formula. “Any decrease in foundation aid, combined with the tax cap, is

Crunching the Beacon Numbers



The district also received \$822,000 through the CARES Act, \$2.6 million from the CRRSA Act and \$4.2 million through the American Rescue Plan Act, all federal pandemic-relief programs, during these years.

problematic,” said Carl Albano, the interim superintendent at Haldane. “It could really negatively impact children.”

Gregory Stowell, the superintendent at Garrison, said the formula needs to better account for the rising costs of special education, mental health services, transportation and building security.

Foundation aid dates to 2007, when New York State began to distribute funds to districts using a highly complex formula that measures enrollment, regional costs, local taxes and census data on poverty, among other factors (see Page 7). It was meant to add \$5.5 billion in additional state funding, with the most aid going to the neediest districts, while providing more stability to everyone.

The timing was terrible. In 2008, the national economy collapsed. By 2021, the state was \$4 billion behind in its phased-in increase.

Brian Fessler, the director of governmental relations for the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA), said the formula has long needed revision. Specifically, it relies on 20-year-old income data that the U.S. Census Bureau no longer collects and fails to accurately reflect the cost “to educate a successful student,” Fessler said. The formula needs to be “torn down to the studs,” he said.

Since the formula was implemented, school districts have been asked to do much more. They must educate more English-learning students, and special education services have expanded to include nearly one of every five pupils. In addition, public schools began hiring mental-health professionals even before the pandemic multiplied that need, Fessler said.

Schools also must account for state

mandates that don’t come with funding, such as the introduction of electric school buses or a bill being considered in the Legislature that would establish a maximum temperature allowed in classrooms.

With the state-aid formula in flux, “long-range planning now for us is holding onto what we’ve gained,” Landahl said, citing full-day pre-K, smaller elementary class sizes and increased afterschool clubs. “We feel like we’ve got some good things going, and we’re clinging to that as much as we can.”

Fixing the formula

NYSSBA argues that foundation aid cannot be repaired without addressing the cap that limits how much districts can raise from property taxes.

The cap was enacted in 2012 and, according to the Rockefeller Institute, had saved taxpayers as much as \$25 billion by 2019. By 2018, voter approval of school budgets had increased to nearly 100 percent.

Despite those successes, Fessler told the Rockefeller Institute in August that the relationship between the tax cap and state aid is inefficient as public policy because “it limits the ability of a district to reach the expected local contribution portion of the [foundation aid] formula.” This disconnect “also ignores the fact that districts must lean more on property taxes when foundation aid and other state aid is insufficient,” he said.

Landahl agreed, noting that while Beacon has become wealthier — its median household income in 2022 was \$97,000 annually, a \$4,000 increase from the year before and more than \$14,000 higher than statewide — “we are not allowed to take advantage of that wealth without going over the cap.” He considers the 2024-25 budget “a reality check” for the district. “The state is measuring our

(Continued on Page 7)

Community of Giving

Blood Drive

St. Mary's Episcopal Church in-the-Highlands

1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
Parish Hall

Tuesday, October 15, 2024
12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Make an appointment to donate at
RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code: ColdSpring

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(Continued from Page 6)

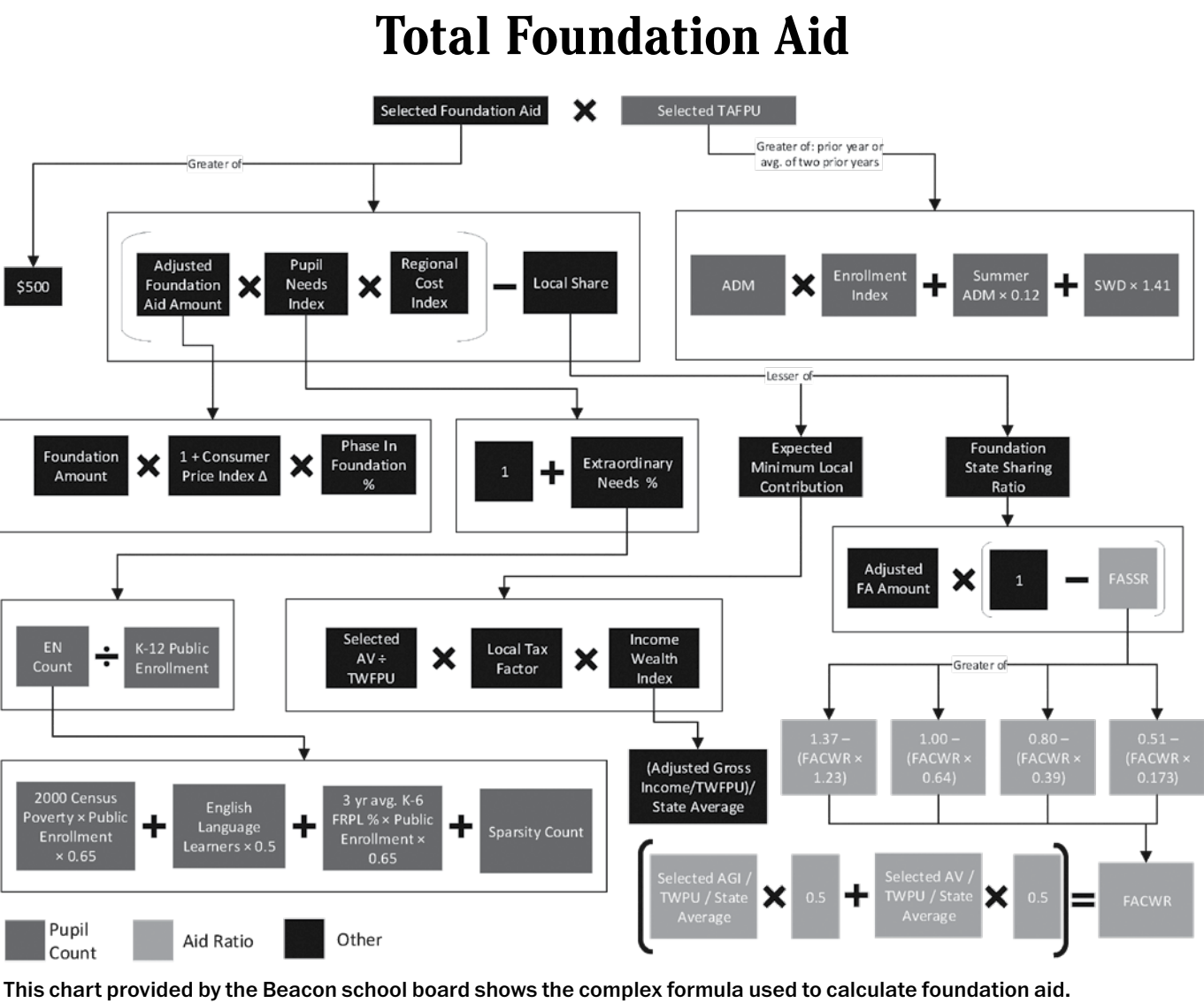
wealth [through the formula] without taking the tax cap into consideration,” he said.

Beacon’s growing wealth is reflected by higher-priced development. State law recognizes the impact of new construction and affords districts what’s called a “tax-base growth factor” when calculating the property tax levy, or the total value of the real estate it can tax. Beacon’s is the highest in Dutchess County.

In 2023-24, new construction allowed the Beacon district to add \$721,620 to its levy. In 2024-25, it will add \$793,795. If the district increased the levy by any more, it would require voters to allow an override of the tax cap — a tall order that requires 60 percent approval. (In 2022 Garrison voters rejected a 9.18 percent increase but a month later approved one for 6.6 percent.)

Over the summer, the Rockefeller Institute hosted public forums to gather feedback for its report. None were scheduled in the Hudson Valley, so state Assembly Member Jonathan Jacobson, a Democrat whose district includes Beacon, held his own in August.

Jacobson said he is concerned that the institute’s report, prepared on a tight deadline at the governor’s request, will be used to justify cuts in foundation aid. He said superintendents who attended his forum in Newburgh shared the same concern. “They don’t want to be left at the last second to make up shortages in their budgets,” he said. “They want fairness and predictability in funding.”



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Guilty *(from Page 1)*

ated their movements using GPS and cell-phone data and surveillance video from public and private cameras.

Security footage and a store receipt from April 8, 2020, from the Home Depot on Route 9 in Fishkill showed that Jamie Orsini bought a 10-foot-by-100-foot tarp, duct tape and a Tyvek suit and boots, according to prosecutors. Video from the parking lot captured Nicholas Orsini helping load the supplies into the couple's GMC Envoy.

That same day, according to the complaint, the pair drove to Newburgh to determine how to dispose of Kraft's car. Data from their phones and video footage tracked the couple traveling from West Church Street over the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge to Newburgh. The next day, according to prosecutors, Nicholas Orsini visited the Walmart on Route 9 in Fishkill and purchased a "burner phone," which can be activated without the user having to open an account using personal information.

Prosecutors said that Kraft, a former U.S. Marine who was 34 when he disappeared, had custody of his daughters from 4 to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and every other weekend.

On the day he disappeared, Kraft picked up his daughters from his ex-wife's home in Beacon at 4 p.m., drove them to a Sonic restaurant in the Town of Newburgh and



Nicholas Orsini



Police found Steven Kraft's car abandoned in the City of Newburgh.

Photo provided

then to his apartment in Marlboro, before returning them to Beacon at 7 p.m. Police said they used location data to confirm that Jamie and Nicholas Orsini followed him to the restaurant.

The next day, Kraft failed to show up to his job at a deli in Marlboro, and on May 4, investigators found his 1999 Camry abandoned at Third Street and Carpenter Avenue in the City of Newburgh.

One of the earliest pieces of evidence was surveillance footage showing Kraft's car crossing the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge on April 28. Nicholas Orsini was accused of being the driver. He parked the car, walked a mile to

a Sunoco station on Route 9W, discarded one of Kraft's phones along the way (another was left in the car) and used the burner phone to call a taxi to take him back to Beacon.

In the days following Kraft's disappearance, the Orsinis traveled "extensively" between Beacon and Amsterdam, where Nicholas Orsini's family owns farmland, prosecutors said, before eventually moving there. Nicholas Orsini drove to Amsterdam the day after Kraft disappeared, according to court documents, stopping at the Walmart in the Town of Newburgh to buy a new burner phone.

That same day, Jamie Orsini sent a text to

Kraft's phone, asking about their children's report cards "to create the impression that she did not know he was dead," according to police and prosecutors.

Over the next few days, Nicholas Orsini searched Google using the term "is galvanized steel fireproof" and the couple rented space at a storage facility in Middletown, according to court documents.

Nicholas Orsini also bought from the Home Depot in Fishkill two 31-gallon galvanized steel trash cans, an angle grinder and ax, three bottles of charcoal lighter fluid, a flame lighter and 16 bundles of firewood, prosecutors said.

"These two murderous individuals allegedly deliberately took the life of another person and will now be held accountable for their actions," said Steven Negrelli, acting superintendent for the state police, at the time of the couple's arrest.

Dean Kraft, Steven's father, who lives in Illinois, told the *Poughkeepsie Journal* in June 2023 that he was "flabbergasted" by the arrests. "I couldn't believe two people could have that much hate for another person," he said.

Kraft said that, since his son disappeared, the Orsinis had not responded to his phone calls or letters when he reached out to his granddaughters, then 15 and 13. He told the *Journal* he wanted his granddaughters to know "I've never forgotten them, and I'll always love them."

He added: "It's long overdue, but I believe justice will prevail. I want justice for Steven."

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HOWLAND
CULTURAL
CENTER





Joey Asher (right) jogs with former President Jimmy Carter in Atlanta in 1984. UPI

Jimmy Carter (from Page 1)

He couldn't have been kinder to a terrified and awed young reporter, patiently answering the questions I'd written on my yellow legal pad.

People always talk about Carter's smile, but I was most impressed by his eyes. He looked at me with intensity and seemed interested in every word.

When the interview was over, he asked me questions. He had met my father and knew several of his friends. He seemed genuinely interested in this unknown reporter from a Gainesville newspaper. I remember thinking that this was why he became president. It seemed like anyone who met the man would love him.

As we finished, Carter said he planned to jog in Piedmont Park, near downtown. He invited me to join him at 5:30 p.m. at Colony Square, a block from the park.

I arrived wearing a sweatshirt, shorts and running shoes. I wasn't the only person he invited. There was also a member of the Atlanta Track Club and a United Press International (UPI) reporter wearing street clothes and heels.

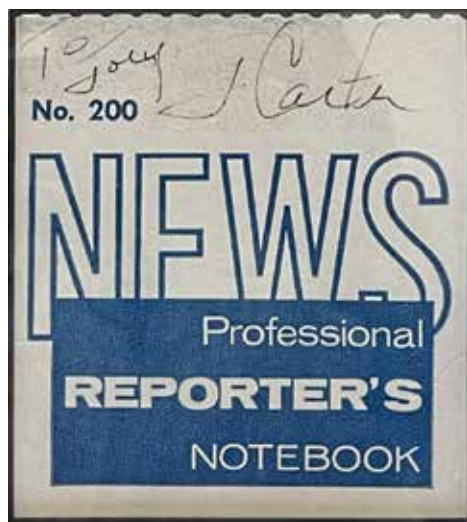
At exactly 5:30, Carter left his hotel wearing a long gray T-shirt, orange jogging shorts and a pair of red, white and blue Nikes. He was with a U.S. Marine, an overweight Atlanta police officer and a Secret Service agent riding a motorcycle.

He smiled and asked, "Are you ready?"

Off we went. The UPI reporter and police officer made it less than a quarter-mile before dropping off.

As we ran, Carter held forth on world leaders he had run or walked with, including Egyptian leader Anwar El Sadat and French President Giscard d'Estaing. A more experienced reporter would have brought a tape recorder. I tried to take notes while running. I still have the notebook, which the president signed.

Carter ran fast. While serving in the U.S. Navy, he said he once outran a Korean mili-



The former president signed Asher's notebook.

tary platoon.

"Would you like to do some hills?" he asked.

I don't recall how I responded, but I'm certain I didn't want to do any hills. I was feeling woozy. I ran cross-country in high school and was in decent shape, but this 60-year-old man was killing me. I told myself, "Please don't throw up. Please don't throw up."

A moment later, I said, "Excuse me, Mr. President" and leaned against a tree and barfed. Carter kept going. I wiped my mouth with my sleeve and scurried to catch up.

"Are you all right, Joey?" he asked.

"Yes, Mr. President. I'm fine," I said. And I was.

After 3 miles, we returned to the hotel. It was dark by then, and Carter began pointing out constellations.

I didn't know it, but the UPI reporter had brought a photographer. A photo of me running with the president while taking notes ran in newspapers nationwide, including in Miami, where my editors were at a conference.

For months, I received comments and calls from friends who had seen the photo. When they asked what the 39th president was like, I said he was in great shape and charming, even after I threw up on that poor tree.

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encouragement **SEARCH** for Truth &
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AROUND TOWN



SPIRIT OF BEACON — After a bit of drizzle, the rain held off on Sept. 29 for the annual celebration on Main Street in Beacon, which included a parade, hot food, community booths, dogs, babies and strolling. *Photo by Aron Li*



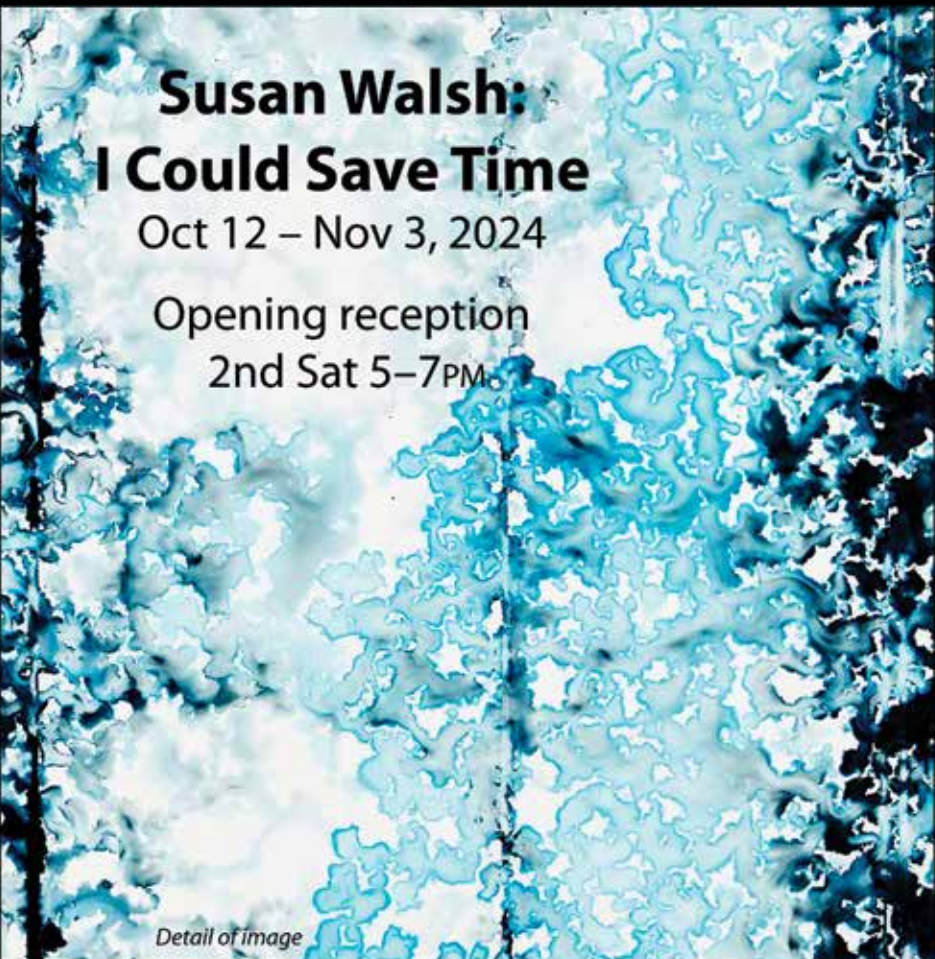
BIG HARVEST — The Glynwood Center for Regional Food and Farming in Philipstown raised \$440,000 at its annual auction and benefit on Sept. 14. More than 250 people attended the event, which honored the Perkins family, who founded Glynwood a century ago. *Photo provided*



BREAKNECK RESCUE — First responders brought a hiker with an injured ankle down from the Undercliff Trail on Breakneck on Sept. 20. The Cold Spring Fire Department used its new Cascade Rescue litter, created with a mountain bike tire and brakes. *CSFD*

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Susan Walsh:
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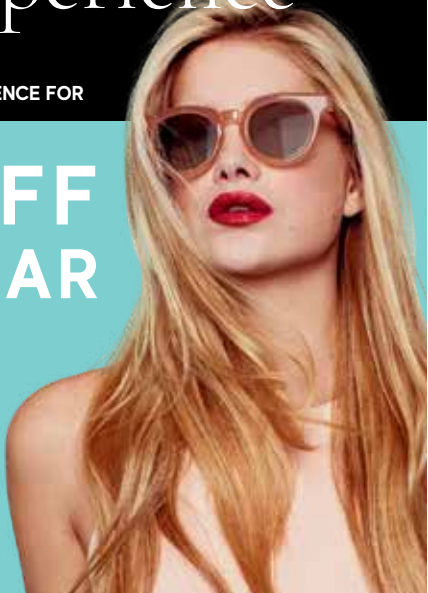
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The Calendar



Chris Meyer, the founder and artistic director of VetRep, stands outside its new home in the former Beacon Savings Bank building.

Photo by M. Ferris

VetRep to Host First Beacon Show

Savage Wonder set for Oct. 11-13

By Marc Ferris

The Veterans Repertory Theater, a performing arts nonprofit that is pouring six figures into renovating the 1929 bank building at 139 Main St. in Beacon, will host its first event in the space on Oct. 11, the Savage Wonder Festival of Veterans in the Arts.

VetRep's work "is not art therapy,

although I am all for art therapy," says founder and artistic director Chris Meyer. "We're not here to help veterans — we're here so that veterans can help American theater, not necessarily with war stories or wallowing in pity, but with world-class, public-facing productions that could be about anything and are informed by the veteran perspective."

For the company, *veteran* is a broad term that includes first responders, law enforcement, intelligence services, foreign service and Department of Defense employees, along with their immediate family members.

The performers on Oct. 11 range from opera singer Jesus Daniel Hernandez to live painters. Work by Beacon artists Matt Kinney and Michael Isabell will be on display.

Meyer says the event is intended to represent the "ferocity and the creativity" of veterans. "We're looking to present the entire spectrum of the arts with a broad aperture." The company's pillars are intimacy, absurdity, whimsy and jarring stories.

Meyer, who enlisted in the U.S. Army after 9/11, began staging readings, producing plays, hosting art shows and holding multimedia festivals in 2021 after returning from deployment in Afghanistan.

"I feel like we're 10 minutes old," says Meyer, the scion of a thespian family.

A donor helped underwrite the renovation project to transform the cavernous 12,000-square-foot space into a vaudeville room in the back, a basement art gallery and a theater with a modular stage, 53-foot ceiling and seating for 125 people.

VetRep signed a favorable lease-to-own agreement for the building in March. For 60 years, the building housed Star of Bethlehem Baptist Church, a historic Black

(Continued on Page 14)



Justin Possenti at home with his dog, Olive

Photo by M. Ferris

Analog Dreams

Filmmaker and poet will host a night of shorts

By Marc Ferris

Justin Possenti's cozy rooms in a Beacon house are a paean to the past. The informal museum of technological antiquities includes a metal fan, a folding Murphy bed, 10 typewriters and a rotary wall phone.

Most of it belonged to his family, which collected artifacts and handed him a heap of mental baggage that "I'll still be dealing with when I'm on my deathbed," he says.

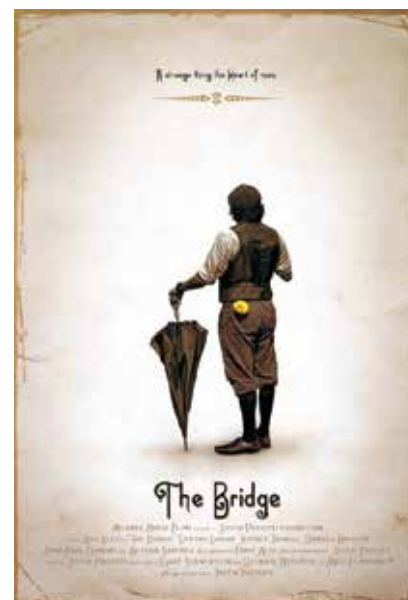
So it's no surprise that he made *The Bridge*, a 13-minute film that pays homage to Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin. Screened at the 2011 Cannes Short Film Corner, it will be shown with other TV, film and video works on Oct. 19 at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon.

"The night is about honoring old things and old people, which are discarded in our society," he says. "We're exploring the tension between the latest technology and humanity."

The show, *Memorex Lane*, will also feature analog video art by Possenti's roommate, Rooster. It is named for the audio and videotape company best known for the "Is it live or is it Memorex?" ads. One spot featured Ella Fitzgerald shattering a wine glass with her voice, another showed a man listening to a stereo as the lampshade tilts.

Besides making short films, Possenti, 51, camps with a typewriter outside the cultural center and at other events, offering to write poetry on demand. He once made \$600 over three days upstate at Hudson Bascilica.

The writer calls himself the Hudson Valley Haikuist, but many of his poems are in the Senryu vein, dealing with human nature rather than the physical world. "I talk with you for 10 to 15 minutes, write something up, if you like it, you can pay



The film poster for *The Bridge*

me anything you want," he says. "If you don't like it, you don't have to pay."

The prose began to pour out "when I learned [at age 9] that my stepmom was not my real mom," he says. She had died eight years earlier of cancer after a four-month hospital stay.

In a spleen-venting piece called "My Mother's Name is Millie," Possenti writes about a parade of caregivers staring into his crib. His father, whom he says was abusive, remarried and blended seven children in a family that resembled a "dysfunctional Brady Bunch," he says.

A native of Hopewell Junction, Possenti lived in Rome and Los Angeles before returning to the Hudson Valley. His house, across the street from a cemetery, contains a "haunted" old radio in the attic.

He learned filmmaking in part by working as a stand-in for actors while the crew sets the lighting and cinematography. "I observe and absorb," he says. An early stand-in gig in the 1999 film *Office Space* gave him a coveted speaking line, enough to get into the union.

(Continued on Page 14)

Savage Wonder 2024

FRIDAY (OCT. 11)

- Noon – 5 p.m. Art gallery open with works and live painting by Kat Furrow, Delvin Goode, Lani Hankins, Gina Herrera, Angelo T. Robinson and Beacon artists Michael Isabell and Matt Kinney
- 2 p.m. Ben Fortier (music)
- 3 p.m. Lois Hicks-Wozniak + Hot Wrks (music)
- 5 p.m. Exit 12 Dance Company with guitarist Michael Bard and opera singer Jesus Daniel Hernandez

SATURDAY (OCT. 12)

- Noon – 5:30 p.m. Art gallery
- Noon. Ben Fortier
- 2 p.m. Lois Hicks-Wozniak + Hot Wrks
- 5:30 p.m. Scott Arcangel & Hexatonic

SUNDAY (OCT. 13)

- Noon – 6 p.m. Art gallery
- Noon: Ben Fortier
- 2 p.m.: Lois Hicks-Wozniak + Hot Wrks

Tickets are free.

See bit.ly/vetrep-savage-2024.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 5

Thrift Sale

COLD SPRING

10 a.m. – 6 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St.

Find clothes for adults, coats, jewelry, handbags, belts and shoes at this popular sale. Also SUN 6. Proceeds benefit St. Mary's and the Philipstown Food Pantry.

SAT 5

Twin Forts Day

FORT MONTGOMERY

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Historic Site
690 Route 9W | parks.ny.gov

The Fort Montgomery Battle Site Association commemorates the 246th anniversary of the battle for Forts Montgomery and Clinton with camp-life demonstrations, reenactors, children's activities, cannon firing and fife-and-drum music. Performances at noon and 2 p.m. will tell the story of Hugh Morrison, an 8-year-old boy present at the battle. *Free*

SAT 5

Harvest Fest

WAPPINGERS FALLS

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Stony Kill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane | stonykill.org

Enjoy music, food, children's activities and demonstrations while enjoying the farm. Rain date: SUN 6. *Free*

SAT 5

Open House

BREWSTER

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Tilly Foster Farm
100 Route 312
putnam.cce.cornell.edu/events

There will be pony rides, food, games, archery and visits with animals. *Free*

SAT 5

Modern Makers Mart

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St. | hopsonthehudson.com

Dozens of artisans and artists will be selling their work. Find original jewelry, art and crafts along with food trucks. Rain or shine. Also SUN 6.

SAT 5

Lions BBQ

PHILIPSTOWN

3 – 7 p.m. Taconic Education Center
75 Mountain Laurel Lane
coldspringlions.org

The Cold Spring Lions will host this annual fundraiser with live music, a raw bar, BBQ chicken and drinks. *Cost: \$85*



Twin Forts Day, Oct. 5

SUN 6

Palestinian Ahzumè

BEACON

5 & 7:30 p.m. Beacon Bread Co.
193-195 Main St. | bit.ly/ahzume-2024

This benefit for humanitarian aid to Gaza will feature a traditional Palestinian meal. *Cost: \$100*

WED 9

Flu Shot Clinic

PHILIPSTOWN

2 – 6 p.m. Firehouse | 1616 Route 9
putnamcountynyny.gov/fluclinic

Putnam County residents can make an appointment online. *Cost: \$30 (free for ages 65 and older and Medicare cardholders)*

THURS 10

Job Fair

POUGHKEEPSIE

3 – 6 p.m. DoubleTree by Hilton
40 Civic Center Plaza | dcrccoc.org

Local employers will have booths at this event organized by DC Works and the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce. *Free*

FRI 11

Savage Wonder Festival of Veterans in the Arts

BEACON

Noon. VetRep | 139 Main St.
bit.ly/vetrep-savage-2024

The Veterans Repertory Theater will host this annual festival of music, dance and art at its new home in the former Beacon Savings Bank building. The art gallery will be open, and Ben Fortier, Lois Hicks-Wozniak + Hot Wrks, Scott Arcangel & Hexatonic and the Exit 12 Dance Company will perform. Also SAT 12, SUN 13. See Page 11. *Free*

FRI 11

Cirque du Creep

BEACON

5 p.m. The Yard | 4 Hanna Lane

Vendors at this “alternative night market” will celebrate the macabre. Candles will be burned and tarot cards will be read. Costumes are encouraged. See Page 15. Although children will be admitted, there may be material displayed that is appropriate only for adults. *Cost: \$10 cash (children free)*

SAT 12

Record & CD Fest

BEACON

9 a.m. – 5 p.m. VFW | 413 Main St.

More than 20 vendors will showcase music in all styles, as well as ephemera and media. Early admission at 8 a.m. is \$5. *Free*

SUN 13

HVSF Gala

PHILIPSTOWN

4:45 p.m. The Garrison
2015 Route 9 | hvshakespeare.org

The Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival's annual fundraiser will celebrate its new home and honor actor Carrie Preston (see Page 2) and board member Patricia King. *Cost: \$350+*

SUN 13

Florence Northcutt Memorial

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org

The longtime leader and board member will be celebrated with music, stories and the creation of a new fund.

NATURE & OUTDOORS

SUN 6

Create a Meaningful Meadow

PHILIPSTOWN

8:45 a.m. – 4 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638
boscobel.org

Landscape professionals Erin Muir, Bryan Quinn, Janis Butler and Toshi Yano will speak at this seminar, which includes a visit to Boscobel's meadow. *Cost: \$50*

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 5

Halloween Costume Swap

BEACON

11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

Drop off gently used children's costumes, then come again to choose one that is new to you. Also SUN 6.

TUES 8

How to Write with Power and Authenticity

COLD SPRING

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

Eric Tipler will lead this college-essay workshop for students and parents. Registration required.

TUES 8

Jack-o-Lantern Dress-Up

GARRISON

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

At this Creators Workshop, design and build accessories for your carved pumpkin. Registration required.

SAT 12

Car Seat Check

GARRISON

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

Technicians will check your installation.

SAT 12

Halloween Reptile Experience

BEACON

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

Children ages 2 to 12 can meet “not-so-creepy crawlies.” Registration required.

SUN 13

Learn about Slime Mold

GARRISON

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

Children ages 7 and older can learn about these fascinating creatures.

VISUAL ARTS

SAT 5

Susan Magnus

GARRISON

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

The center's visiting artist will talk about her work on view in *ImageAfter*.

TALKS & TOURS

SAT 5

Archtober

NEWBURGH

Noon – 6 p.m. Various | thefullerton.org

This annual festival explores architecture, restoration and historic buildings with speakers, tours, films and demonstrations. Also SUN 6.

SAT 5

Jeff Golden

GARRISON

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

The author of *Reclaiming the Sacred: Healing Our Relationships with Ourselves and the World* will read from his book and lead a meditation.

SAT 5

Mekeel's Corners Chat

PHILIPSTOWN

2 p.m. Chapel | 321 Route 301
putnamhistorymuseum.org

Historian Mark Forlow will talk about the historic church and lead a tour of its cemetery. *Cost: \$15*

TUES 8

Sign Language for Teens and Adults

BEACON

6:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

Learn the basics of American Sign Language from Rachel Koch. Registration required.

TUES 8

Build a Smartphone Microscope

BEACON

6:30 p.m. Beahive | 6 Eliza St.
bit.ly/beahive-microscope

The co-working space relaunches the Renaissance Person series with Gina McCann to build a functional Foldscope paper microscope that pairs with a smartphone. Register online. *Cost: \$25 (\$15 members)*



THURS 10

Rescue Board

GARRISON

6:30 p.m. Via Zoom
desmondfishlibrary.org

In this program organized by the Desmond-Fish library, Rebecca Erbeling will discuss with history professor Carl Bon Tempo her account of “the untold story of America's efforts to save the Jews of Europe.”

SAT 12

The Star Horse

PHILIPSTOWN

10 a.m. Topfield Equestrian Center
115 Stonecrop Lane

Sarah Maslin Nir, a *New York Times* reporter, will discuss her book about a horse that prefers working with disabled riders over Hollywood actors.

SAT 12

Lessons from the Foothills

GARRISON

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

Gretchen Dykstra will discuss her book about Berea College, a tuition-free school in Appalachia.

SECOND SATURDAY

SAT 12

Dennis Cornetta

BEACON

5 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery
139 Main St. | clutter.co

The artist's spooky toys will be on view. Through Nov. 1.

SAT 12

I Could Save Time

BEACON

5 – 7 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass
162 Main St.
hudsonbeachglassshop.com

Susan Walsh's solo show will include drawings, photos and sculptures created with natural elements. Through Nov. 3.

SAT 12

Form + Dysfunction

BEACON

6 – 9 p.m. Super Secret Projects
484 Main St. | supersecretprojects.com

Laura Holmes McCarthy's sculptural ceramic vessels explore the limits of functionality. Through Nov. 2.



SAT 12

Nataliya Hines | Ilse Schreiber-Noll

BEACON

6 – 8 p.m. BAU Gallery | 506 Main St.
845-440-7584 | baugallery.org

In Gallery 1, Hines' exhibit focuses on religious iconography. In Gallery 2 and the Beacon Room, Schreiber-Noll's works examine violence and conflict. Through Nov. 3.

SAT 12

Pink and Blue

BEACON

7 – 9:30 p.m. Distortion Society
155 Main St. | distortionsociety.com

Bradley Silver's sculpture exhibit dissects cultural ideas about gender and raising kids. Through Dec. 7.

MUSIC

SAT 5

Boots by the Hudson

POUGHKEEPSIE

3:30 – 8 p.m. Upper Landing Park
83 N. Water St.

This fourth annual country music festival will include line dancing

led by CJ McIntyre and Frank Alexander, music by the Thunder Ridge Band, food trucks and games. Rain or shine. *Free*

SAT 5

Songs in the Key of Resistance

BEACON

4 p.m. First Presbyterian | 50 Liberty St.

Join song leaders from social justice organizations at this concert hosted with the Beacon Rising Choir and Beacon Climate Action Now. *Cost: \$5 donation*

SAT 5

Doansburg Chamber Ensemble

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. St. Mary's Church | 1 Chestnut St.
doansburgchamberensemble.org

Alexander Negruta (clarinet), Joy Plaisted (harp) and Christine Smith (flute) will perform works by Blake, Bizet and Piston. *Cost: \$17 (\$14 seniors, students)*

SAT 5

Out to Lunch

PUTNAM VALLEY

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

The band, formed in 1980, will play a range of music, from bluegrass to jazz. *Cost: \$25*

SAT 5

Swing!

BEACON

8 p.m. VFW Hall | 413 Main St.

Dance to the Bottoms Up Dixieland Jazz Band following a beginner's lesson at 7 p.m. *Cost: \$25 (\$20 veterans)*

SAT 5

Tom Chapin

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The Grammy-winning singer and songwriter will perform. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SUN 6

ArcoStrum

BEACON

5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | howlandmusic.org

The violin and guitar duo's



Alash, Oct. 6

program will include a diverse selection of international works. *Cost: \$35 (\$10 students)*

SUN 6

Alash

BEACON

7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The Tuvan throat singers add modern style to traditional songs. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

FRI 11

Transmissions

BEACON

7:30 p.m. Southern Dutchess Country Club
1209 North Ave.

Stephen Clair, the owner of Beacon Music Factory, will celebrate the release of his 11th album.



FRI 11

Minstrels in the Gallery

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The tribute band plays the music of Jethro Tull. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SAT 12

The Alchemy Festival

BEACON

2 – 8 p.m. The Yard | 4 Hanna Lane
bit.ly/alchemy-fest-2024

Make a jar of fire cider, enjoy a massage or yoga, and listen to music by More Horse. *Cost: \$12 (\$20 with cider, free for ages 18 and younger)*

SAT 12

Natalie Forteza

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org

The vocalist and songwriter will perform with Pat Firth (piano), Anthony Candullo (bass) and Erik Perez (drums). *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SAT 12

Top of the World

PEEKSKILL

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

The tribute band plays hits by the Carpenters. *Cost: \$40 to \$57*

SAT 12

Stephane Wrembel Band

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The jazz guitarist will play music from his new project, *Triptych*, with pianist Jean Michel-Pilc. *Cost: \$35 (\$40 door)*

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 5

Soon is Now

BEACON

1 – 4:30 p.m. Long Dock Park
23 Long Dock Road | soonisnow.org

The Climate Arts Festival will include art and live performances with the restored park as a stage. Rain date: SUN 6. *Free*

SAT 5

CP2 Series Readers Theatre

WAPPINGERS FALLS

2 & 8 p.m. County Players Theater
2681 W. Main St. | 845-298-1491
countypayers.org

The mini-festival will feature readings of "Eleanor," by Mark St. Germain, followed by "Underneath the Lintel," by Glen Gerber. Also SUN 6. *Cost: \$15*

SAT 5

Brian Regan

PEEKSKILL

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

The standup comedian, known for his character on the series *Loudermilk*, will perform. *Cost: \$60 to \$75*

SAT 12

A Maroon Tale

BEACON

7 p.m. KuBe Art Center
211 Fishkill Ave. | bit.ly/maroon-tale

Damon Banks wrote and composed this multimedia project about an African teen who is enslaved, revolts and becomes a leader on a Caribbean island while his alter ego moves through contemporary times, enduring incarceration and the judicial system. The New Muse4Tet will perform at 6 p.m. *Cost: \$20*

CIVIC

MON 7

City Council

BEACON

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

WED 9

Village Board

COLD SPRING

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

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RICK BRAZILL
ABSTRACTIONS

OCT. 4 - OCT. 27, 2024
RECEPTION FOR THE ARTIST: Friday, OCT 4, 6-8pm
GALLERY HOURS: Sat. | Sun. 12:00pm - 5:00pm

VetRep (from Page 11)

congregation that sold the property in 2021 and moved to a new location in Fishkill.

Meyer foresees many shows in the round and lauds the location. “This is what ‘right’ looks like,” he says. “It took six weeks to get the contract completed after we visited the site.”

Expect a dizzying 48- to 50-week programming schedule, along with public access to the art gallery. “We own the rights to a huge backlog of material,” says Meyer. “It’s going to be a circus.”

VetRep is adding a wine bar to the art gallery and a full bar for the main stage and vaudeville room, located in the

old bank’s vault and created by cutting through the back wall to build a tunnel between the rooms.

By year’s end, the troupe is relocating its offices from Cornwall, in Orange County, to 6 Commerce St., steps from the theater’s back door. The building will also provide housing for actors and apprenticeships and internships for veterans and their families.

Meyer’s construction crew tells him that all but the main stage should be completed by year’s end, “but even I’m a little skeptical,” he says. The goal is to have the soaring theater space ready for a new season in March.

“We want this to be the mecca for veterans and the arts,” he says. “There’s a big wellspring of untapped talent out there.”



Rooster with one of his installations Photo provided

Possenti (from Page 11)

Possenti learned to work the lenses filming a documentary about eating disorders. His videos for the bands Fuzzy Crystals and Human Barbie will air at the *Memorex* event.

After winning some money on the game show *Deal or No Deal*, Possenti bought lights, cameras and other gear. He spends much time in the editing room and learned to be creative with limited budgets.

A flip phone user who bemoans TikTok’s

toll on attention spans, he tries to read a book for a half-hour each morning after waking up.

The past is there to learn from, not fetishize. “Old cigarette commercials from the 1940s [which will air in silence on Oct. 19] told people, ‘Smoking is good for you,’” he says. “What is the bullshit they’re pushing on us now?”

Memorex Lane will begin at 8 p.m. on Oct. 19 at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., in Beacon. Tickets are \$20 at bit.ly/memorex-lane or at the door.

The Fjord Trail is not a done deal.

Learn more, sign up, and get involved before it’s too late.

 ProtectTheHighlands.org



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Circus of Horrors

Beacon preps for another creepy 'night market'

By Marc Ferris

For “creepsters,” this is the most wonderful time of the year, when art and performance celebrating the macabre emerges from the shadows leading to All Hallow’s Eve.

The second iteration of the home-grown “alternative night market,” Cirque du Creep, will take place at The Yard in Beacon on Friday (Oct. 11). The statistics reveal momentum: vendor applications doubled to 150 from its June debut. Booths and stations are up 25 percent, to 80. The first show, free for all, attracted about 700 people. This time around, admission is \$10.

“Let’s see where it goes,” says Kailey McEneany, 29, who executed the concept with feet planted firmly in the DIY (do-it-yourself) ethos of hardcore punk. “So far, so good.”

Matthew Montleone of Honorable Ink on Main Street and other tattoo artists will provide flash sheets with smaller designs. DJ Shredder is building a six-hour goth rock, dark wave and dark electro music set. Artist Chelsea Bones will share her monsters and ghosts.

Oddities include “taxidermy, wood-burned bones and preserved bugs and butterflies,” says McEneany. “One artist makes rings with animal teeth.”

Many horror devotees revere Europe’s Gothic and Victorian eras. Ghosts are visitors from the past.

“I love old architectural stuff like that,” McEneany says, along with “vintage Halloween decorations and creepy dolls you found in your grandma’s basement that you think are possessed.”

Period clothing and weather-beaten leather jackets are popular, she says. Candles will be burned, tarot cards will be read and a jeweler who specializes in mock Gothic styles will be on hand.

Dark but colorful vendor names include Toxic Dreams, Ghouls Jewels, Wake the Devil, The Happy Headstone and Cursed Objects Vintage.

An artist herself, McEneany moved to Dutchess Junction two years ago to participate in the local scene. Her medium is epoxy resin ghosts, caskets and portraits, which she sells at street fairs and a Punk Rock Flea Market in Waterbury, Connecticut.

But she figured that instead of standing out in the everyday, why not bring fans of the morbid arts together?

McEneany and her fiancé train in Brazilian jiu-jitsu, but really, she’s a softie who invited Hudson Valley Animal Rescue & Sanctuary to set up a booth with adoptable dogs and cats at the event where a butcher might be more appropriate to the theme.

Also, her palm-size ghosts are more cute than scary. She handcrafts tiny pink and black hats for them out of clay. Like the caskets, some are adorned with flowers.

She credits her spooky soul to her Uncle Doug, who babysat often and he fed his nieces and nephew a nonstop diet of horror



Kailey McEneany, the organizer of Cirque du Creep, with her ghosts

Photo by M. Ferris

films and hard rock before they could walk. Her parents listened to heavy metal.

“I’ve done some self-analysis,” McEneany says. “He created who I am today, but I’m in tune with a wide spectrum.”

She drifted toward emo bands like Avenged Sevenfold and My Chemical Romance, but her portraits depict iconic horror characters. The works, which reflect like glass, are created by “drawing a sketch and then sculpting an outline of the portrait from polymer clay,” she explains. “Then, I paste it down to create a mold, but from clay, then pour the epoxy resin when it’s dry so it’s all hand-sculpted, poured and painted.”

McEneany wanted to call her ghoulish

event Creepshow after the 1982 film but because of a potential copyright issues translated the name to French. Cirque du Soleil’s legal department has yet to reach out.

“I’d love to do this on a more regular basis,” she says. “Maybe we can expand with punk bands and other edgy artists and performers. No butchers, though: We love animals.”

The Yard is located at 4 Hanna Lane in Beacon. Doors open at 5 p.m., and costumes are encouraged. Admission is \$10 cash. Although children will be admitted free, there may be material displayed that is appropriate only for adults. The event will return to The Yard on Dec. 21.



Fashion by Hiranor



Cookies by Home Baker LLC

NOTICE

PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD

Public Hearing – October 17th, 2024

The Planning Board of the Town of Philipstown, New York will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 17th, 2024 at the Planning Board’s regular monthly meeting starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St. Cold Spring, NY 10516 to consider the following application:

Hudson Highland Reserve, Route 9 & Horton Road, Cold Spring, NY 10516
TM# 17-1-76.112, 17-1-77.2, 17-1-39, 17-1-76.21, 17-1-76.111 & 17-1-48

Horton Road LLC sought and received approval for a conservation subdivision consisting of 24 residential lots and dedicated open space on 210 +/- acres called Hudson Highlands Reserve. As an additional approval, Horton Road LLC is now seeking grant of a special permit allowing the disturbance of slopes greater than 20% on certain portions of the property under Town Code §175-36(B)(7).

At the Public Hearing, the Planning Board will accept comments from the public regarding the application for a special permit allowing the disturbance of slopes greater than 20% under Town Code §175-36(B)(7). The application materials on the project are available in hard copy format at the Office of the Planning Board at the Building Department, 2 Cedar Street, Cold Spring, NY. Prior contact with Cheryl Rockett is required to arrange access to the documents, at (845) 265-5202. The most recent materials may also be viewed in electronic format on the Town of Philipstown’s website at the following link:

<https://sites.google.com/philipstown.com/planningboard/september-2024>

At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. There will be a 3-minute time limit on all speakers.

Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 19th day of September, 2024, Neal Tomann, Acting Chair



Sat. Oct 12 – 8 PM
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Small, Good Things

Season’s Eatings

By Joe Dizney

Please excuse me if this column often seems like a meteorological report. It’s hard for our emotional, physical, spiritual and culinary lives not to be influenced by the vagaries and humors of the seasons. We react to variations in climate and light in the kitchen and at the table, and I’m sure this is not driven strictly by what’s available at the market.

Now that the season for summer produce and herbal grace is over, the pantry is heartier — kale and its brethren, earthy roots and the first “winter” squash, and it feels right.

The seasonal MVP is butternut squash. Relatively inexpensive, low-calorie, high-fiber and adaptable, it is a superfood. It can be roasted for stews, soups, salads or curries, or included in risottos or pasta dishes. A personal favorite is modified Bolognese ragù that substitutes roasted butternut squash for the usual tomatoes.

Among its other characteristics is an affinity for spices (dried and ground seeds, roots, barks, berries) that can wake the senses as the days get darker. Butternut squash plays well with other cold-season staples: root vegetables like carrots, pars-

nips, sweet potatoes and onions; earthy nuts, particularly hazelnuts and chestnuts; and fall fruits like pears, quinces and apples.

The genesis of this recipe was my dream of a puréed spiced butternut, apple and chestnut soup. But, as the gods of corporate food distribution have decreed that chestnut availability be limited to a tight holiday window, compromises must be made.

Japanese yams (aka Japanese sweet potatoes or *satsumaimo*) are tubers with purple-red skin and firm white flesh that are creamy when cooked and have an appealing sweetness. Despite the name, Japanese yams are mainly grown in South America and are available at Nature’s Pantry in Fishkill. Nutritionally, they are a winner, featured prominently in the lore of the “blue zone,” where people are thought to live longer. (Note to self: Remember these for the traditional holiday parsnip and/or pear and potato purée.)

As for apples, green varieties such as Granny Smiths are preferred to lighten up the squash and yams. Milk or cream adds creaminess to what I’m calling a bisque.

The main departure is freshly ground cardamom instead of the cinnamon commonly suggested for butternut squash and apples. Because I was planning to share the test batch with my dairy-free neighbor, I substituted Elmhurst Milked Hazelnuts (also found at Nature’s Pantry), and unsweetened almond milk would do nearly as well.

A final grating of nutmeg is probably unnecessary but seems ritually appropriate for this opening salvo of feasting season.



Spiced Butternut Squash & Apple Bisque

Makes about 1½ to 2 quarts; serves 4 to 6

- 1½ to 2 pounds butternut squash, peeled and seeded, cut into 1-inch dice

Olive oil

Salt and pepper

3 tablespoons unsalted butter

4 large shallots, peeled and chopped roughly

2 large Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored and quartered, cut into about ¼-inch slices

1 quart organic chicken or vegetable broth
- 1 to 1½ pound Japanese yams, peeled, cut into 1-inch dice

1 to 1¼ teaspoon freshly ground cardamom

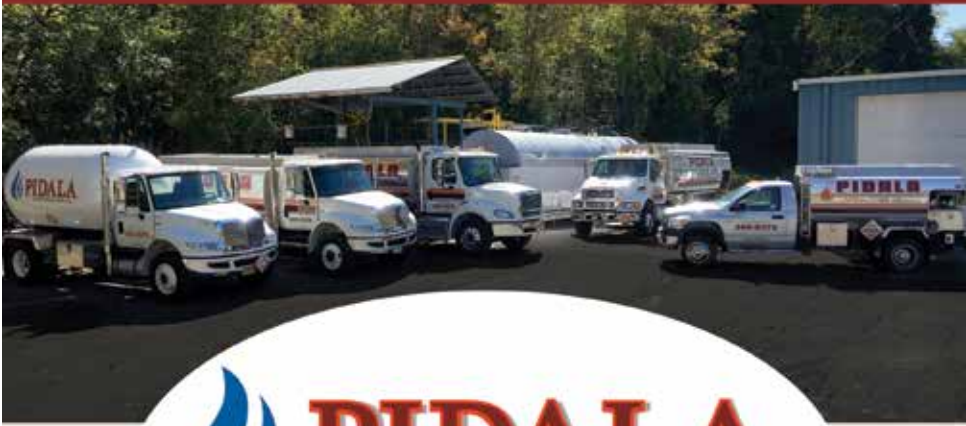
½ to 1 cup milk, heavy cream or non-dairy substitute (nut-based milks or creams suggested)


(Optional crème fraîche for finishing)

¼ teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg

Snipped chives and roasted pumpkin seeds for garnish

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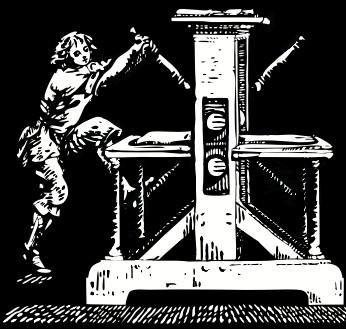
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1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees; set rack in top third of oven. Grease or line a half-sheet pan with parchment paper. In a large bowl, toss the butternut squash with a couple of tablespoons of olive oil. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Toss again and spread evenly on the prepared sheet pan. Roast in the hot oven for 40 to 45 minutes, tossing about halfway through, until fully cooked and lightly browned. Reserve.

2. Melt butter in a large saucepan or Dutch oven over medium heat. Sweat and sauté the shallots until softened; add the sliced apples and cook until just soft. Add the stock and when it comes to a low boil, add the cubed yams. Once the pot boils again, reduce to a simmer and cook for 10 minutes. Add roasted squash and cook for another 20 minutes.

3. Remove from heat and allow to cool long enough to process in batches in a blender or food processor, reserving purée in a large bowl. Once the bisque is processed, return it to the (cleaned) saucepan or Dutch oven. Reheat and add the cardamom; cook 5 minutes longer. Add milk, cream or non-dairy substitute and heat for a few minutes.

4. Finish with freshly grated nutmeg. Serve in individual bowls, with a dollop of crème fraîche if desired. Garnish with snipped chives and toasted pumpkin seeds. Enjoy with warm crusty bread.

Excited about the Fjord Trail? *You're in good company!*

“We are excited for the Fjord Trail to benefit all park users and our community in several ways, including safer access, parking management, and multiple points of entry. This opportunity for seniors, people with disabilities, and multigenerational families to improve their experience in the Hudson Highlands State Park is fantastic. Additionally, increased facilities and infrastructure will help address our community's visitor management challenges and help maintain the beauty of our parks.”

- Brian Grahm & Maki Parsons
HHFT Annual Report

**Maki, Brian,
and their daughters**
Cold Spring Residents,
owners and operators of
Hudson River Expeditions;
Brian volunteers as the
Vice President of the
Little Stony Point Citizens
Association and Maki
volunteers as the Treasurer
of the Haldane PTA and
with the Cold Spring
Chamber of Commerce's
Advocacy Committee

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ft Hudson Highlands
Fjord Trail

portrait by Christine Ashburn

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COLD SPRING — Office space at Philipstown Square, 3182 Route 9, 200 to 1,500 square feet, private bathroom, parking, security, furnished or unfurnished. Call Ron at 914-490-9606.

HELP WANTED

GALLERY ATTENDANT — A critical member of the Magazzino Italian Art protective staff, this position has as its primary responsibility the safety and security of works of art on view at the Philipstown museum. They represent the museum to its visitors both assuring the safety and security of works of art and as an occasional relief contact at the Visitor Information Desk. They also will be assigned

duty during events that occur outside regular public hours. See magazzino.art/about/our-team/career-opportunities.

BUSSER/FOOD RUNNER — Bussers at Café Silvia at Magazzino Italian Art in Philipstown ensure that daily operations run seamlessly by supporting the wait staff and preparing the dining areas. Responsibilities include running food orders from the kitchen to customers’ tables quickly and accurately and acting as the point of contact between front-of-house and back-of-house staff. This full-time position pays \$18 an hour. See magazzino.art/about/our-team/career-opportunities.

DISHWASHER — Dishwashers for Café Silvia at Magazzino Italian Art in Philipstown are responsible for ensuring the kitchen’s cleanliness and organization according to state code and the cafe standards. This full-time position pays \$18 an hour. See magazzino.art/about/our-team/career-opportunities.

TAG SALES

GARRISON — Multi-family: Clothing, household, decor, jewelry, books, art, curios and so much more. Sunday, Oct. 6, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. 89 Frazier Road.

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

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NOTICE

The Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Wednesday, October 16th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.** at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY.

If you are unable to join in person but would like to watch, the meeting will be livestreaming on youtube.com, search for Philipstown Zoning Board October 2024.

NOTICE

The Philipstown Planning Board will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Thursday, October 17th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.** at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY.

If you are unable to join in person but would like to watch, the meeting will be livestreaming on youtube.com, search for Philipstown Planning Board October 2024.

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Puzzles

CROSSCURRENT

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

- ACROSS
1. Buddy

4. Rm. coolers

7. Bashes

12. Epoch

13. Speck

14. Mowing sites

15. Goal

16. Handel compositions

18. Author Harper

19. Purse part

20. Trudge

22. Mess up

23. Prejudice

27. Mardi Gras VIP

29. Borneo beasts

31. Pocket breads

34. Harley rider

35. Delphi figure

37. In shape

38. Title for Helen Mirren

39. Gorilla

41. Wild guess

45. Cornell and Yale, e.g.

47. E.T.'s craft

48. Citrus drink

52. Carnival city

53. Sal of *Exodus*

54. Just out

55. Rage

56. Croc's kin

57. Hosp. areas

58. Homer's neighbor

17. Tropical tuber

21. Preprandial prayer

23. Entices

24. Pen filler

25. Get older

26. Old map letters

28. Immigrant's subj.

30. Hitter's stat

31. Group of seals

32. Nest egg acronym

33. Highland hat

36. Roof overhang

37. Birdseed holder

40. Steinway product

42. Shroud city

43. Blazing

44. Greeted a bully

45. Borodin's *Prince* —

46. Gives a darn?

48. Texter's "Heavens!"

49. Estuary

50. Busy insect

51. Opposite of paleo-
- DOWN
1. Daily trio

2. Disney mermaid

3. Star's bit part

4. Big fusses

5. Brain layer

6. Fab Four drummer

7. Dud

8. Hearing thing

9. Prefix with night

10. Rock producer Brian

11. Snake's warning

SUDOCURRENT

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

WORDLADDER

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

CAUSE

NORSE

WORDSEARCH

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

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

Answers for Sept. 27 Puzzles

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

SHAKE, SHAPE, SHADE,
SPADE, SPATE, SKATE

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

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Beacon's Cash Jackson looks for an opening.



Jazziah Whitted fires a pass in the Sept. 27 game.



Jaden Jones makes a diving tackle to stop a Port Jervis receiver.

Photos by Cadence Heeter

Sports

VARSITY ROUNDUP

BEACON

By Nick Robbins

FOOTBALL — The Bulldogs suffered their first loss on Sept. 27, falling at home to Port Jervis, 49-12. Quarterback Jazziah Whitted was 10 of 16 passing for 58 yards and two touchdowns to Giovanni Browley and Jaden Jones. On defense, Elijah Epps had eight tackles. Beacon (3-1) will travel to Saugerties (3-1) on Saturday (Oct. 5).

BOYS' SOCCER — Beacon, undefeated and ranked third among Class A teams by the New York State Sportswriters Association, lost at home to unranked Arlington on Sept. 26, 2-0, and dropped to eighth. However, the team followed with three straight wins without conceding a goal, over Burke (7-0), O'Neill (6-0) and Port Jervis (7-0). Beacon (7-1) hosts Fallsburg at 4:30 p.m. today (Oct. 4) before traveling to Kingston on Saturday, Newburgh on Monday, Liberty on Wednesday and Fallsburg on Thursday.

GIRLS' SOCCER — Beacon moved to 10-0, knocking off O'Neill, 2-0, on Sept. 26 and Port Jervis twice, 8-0 and 6-0. The Bulldogs have conceded only six goals. They battle tunnel rivals Haldane today (Oct. 4) and host Kingston at 4:30 p.m. on Monday (Oct. 7) before traveling to Burke on Tuesday and John Jay East Fishkill on Thursday. The Bulldogs are ranked 12th among Class A teams by the New York State Sportswriters Association.

VOLLEYBALL — The Bulldogs moved to 8-2, including a spirited comeback over Port Jervis on Monday (Sept. 30). Down 2-0, Beacon battled back to win, 3-2 (22-25, 21-25, 25-17, 25-17, 17-15). Lila Burke and Daveya Rodriguez had 17 and 15 kills, respectively. Beacon, which fell to Pine Bush, 3-0, on Tuesday (Oct. 1), will play in an eight-team tournament on Saturday, host Liberty at 6 p.m. on Monday and travel to Fallsburg on Wednesday.

GIRLS' SWIMMING — Although Beacon lost twice on Sept. 28, falling to Valley Central, 83-18, and Marlboro, 67-26, Serena Stampleman set school records in the 200-meter freestyle (2:12.14) and the 100-meter backstroke (1:07.59). Beacon (0-4) will host Rhinebeck on Monday and Red Hook on Wednesday.

GIRLS' TENNIS — The Bulldogs had two losses and a win this week, falling to Cornwall and Monroe-Woodbury by 6-1 scores but topping Monticello, 7-0. Beacon (5-6) travels to Minisink Valley on Monday (Oct. 7) before hosting Kingston at 4 p.m. on Tuesday and visiting Franklin Roosevelt on Wednesday.

CROSS-COUNTRY — In a meet at Monticello on Tuesday (Oct. 1), Caellum Tripaldi finished second followed by Travis Dickston in third and Theo Concepcion in seventh. For the girls, Lily Murr was third, Elise Moran was fourth and Cecilia Allen was fifth. The

Bulldogs will host Goshen and Port Jervis at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday (Oct. 8).

HALDANE

By Jacob Aframian

FOOTBALL — Haldane came up short on Sept. 28 at Tuckahoe, losing 12-6 for its second straight loss. The Blue Devils struck first in the second quarter on a 1-yard touchdown run by Alex Gaugler but missed the extra point. Tuckahoe answered in the third quarter with a 10-yard rushing TD but also missed the extra point. In the fourth, Tuckahoe scored on a 2-yard run to take the lead. The Blue Devils struggled offensively, recording only 130 yards. Haldane is off this week before hosting Peekskill on Oct. 12.

BOYS' SOCCER — The Blue Devils snapped a five-game losing streak on Sept. 26 with a 1-0 win at Franklin Roosevelt on a goal by Thiago Pluas. On Sept. 28, Haldane played Croton-Harmon for the second time in three days, losing 2-1. Matthew Silhavy had the goal. On Tuesday (Oct. 1), the squad came up short at Pawling, 5-2, with goals by Silhavy and Samuel Cardona. Haldane (2-7) hosts Putnam Valley at 3 p.m. on Saturday (Oct. 5) and travels to North Salem on Monday.

GIRLS' SOCCER — After losing to Putnam Valley, 2-1, on Sept. 24, Haldane had a chance for payback two days later when it hosted the Tigers. But in another defensive battle, Putnam Valley prevailed, 1-0. On Monday (Sept. 30), the Blue Devils hosted North Salem, losing 6-1. Miley Pena-Rider scored for Haldane 12 minutes into the second

half on a booming free kick. On Wednesday, Haldane lost to Croton-Harmon, 10-1. The matchups will not get easier: The Blue Devils (1-7) host undefeated Beacon at 4:30 p.m. today (Oct. 4) and Croton-Harmon at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday. They travel to Edgemont on Wednesday.

GIRLS' TENNIS — Playing for the first time in 11 days because of rainouts, the Blue Devils were on the road on Monday (Sept. 30) at Tuckahoe. The Tigers prevailed, 4-1; Sophie Koch and Silvia Hardman won at third doubles. Haldane turned the tables on Wednesday, defeating Woodlands, 4-1. Ellie Dubroff and Mary McBride won at singles and Charlie Robhom/Alice Stevenson and Koch/Lorelai Luoma at doubles. The team travels next week to O'Neill, Port Chester and Valhalla before hosting Croton-Harmon on Thursday (Oct. 10).

VOLLEYBALL — The Blue Devils dropped their third straight on Sept. 26, to John Jay (25-19, 25-13, 25-17). Liv Holmbo had four kills and Savannah Duggan recorded six digs. Haldane lost 3-0 on Monday (Sept. 30) hosting Putnam Valley (25-11, 25-11, 25-7) and on Tuesday at Croton-Harmon (25-22, 25-9, 25-20). Elaina Johanson led the team with five kills and nine digs. Haldane (2-9) travels to North Salem on Wednesday (Oct. 9).

CROSS-COUNTRY — Haldane competed in the 18-team Bowdoin Classic on Sept. 28 in Wappingers Falls. For the girls, Ashley Sousa placed 93rd of 153 runners in 24:14.5. For the boys, Owen Powers was 31st of 268 runners in 17:18.10 and Henry Amadei was 68th in 21:22.1. The Blue Devils travel to North Salem on Thursday (Oct. 10).