

# The HIGHLANDS Current

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Levenberg



Capalbo

## ‘Shekels’ Remark Mars Assembly Race

*Levenberg seeks re-election  
for second term*

By Leonard Sparks

Michael Capalbo began a debate with state Assembly Member Dana Levenberg at the Ossining Library on Oct. 7 by condemning antisemitism and asking spectators to remember the killing and kidnapping of Israelis a year earlier by Hamas.

But a comment he made 11 minutes later overshadowed that gesture. Responding after Levenberg, who is Jewish, spoke of her support for increased funding and municipal aid in this year’s budget, the Republican and Conservative party candidate said: “They throw her some shekels to do some work in her community.”

On Tuesday (Oct. 15), Capalbo said it was a “clumsy use of words” and that he had Jewish supporters attending the debate who took “no offense to it whatsoever.” But Levenberg, whose name appears on the Democratic and Working Families lines, said she was offended. “Especially following his comment about how he’s against antisemitism, I thought it was so tone-deaf,” she said.

The rest of the nearly one-hour debate, organized by the League of Women Voters for Northwest Westchester County, and subsequent telephone interviews this week gave the candidates opportunities to highlight their other contrasts in the race for the 95th District, which includes Philipstown.

Levenberg, who has a campaign cash advantage (\$88,477 to \$11,814), is a former Ossining supervisor and chief of staff to her predecessor, Sandy Galef, who held the seat for 30 years. During Levenberg’s first term, which began in January 2023, she has supported core progressive issues such as the environment, education funding and efforts to build more housing to drive down costs.

She voted for the Climate Change Superfund Act, which the Legislature passed in

*(Continued on Page 7)*



Joseph Biavati (right) with his son, David

Photo by Ross Corsair

### Part 1: Modern Immigrants

## Why Do They Come?

*In a national survey conducted last month by Marist Poll for National Public Radio and PBS News, 44 percent of registered voters said immigration was a deciding factor in whom they support for president. Another 43 percent said it was an important factor. In this series, we examine what draws Latino immigrants to the Highlands, the process they undergo to stay and the effect on local schools.*

By Joey Asher

Joseph Biavati crossed the Tijuana border into California 32 years ago hiding in a hay truck. He said he did it because his family was starving in strife-torn Brazil. “We were down to

one meal a day,” he said. “It was half of a chicken for me, my wife and my baby. And a bottle of water. That was it.”

After initially settling in Port Chester, he

*(Continued on Page 20)*

## Garrison School Cancels Cakewalk

*Parent expressed concern  
about ties to slavery*

By Joey Asher

The cakewalk at the Garrison School PTA’s annual Fall Festival has been canceled out of concern that it is insensitive to Black people.

This year’s festival is scheduled for Saturday (Oct. 19) from noon to 2 p.m.

While there are many accounts of the origin of cakewalks, most say they date to the 19th century when slaves would dance in a circle in what may have begun as a mockery of the formal dancing of planta-

tion owners. The best dancers won a cake. The cakewalk later became a regular part of minstrel shows, with whites performing in blackface. The phrase “takes the cake” comes from the cakewalk.

In the PTA cakewalk, which had been part of the festival for at least 10 years, participants purchased tickets to walk in a circle, stepping on markers with numbers while music played. When the music stopped, a number was drawn and whoever was standing on that number could select a homemade cake. The game continued until all the donated cakes were taken.

This year, a parent expressed concern

*(Continued on Page 8)*

## Fjord Trail Data Committee Issues Report

*Projects visitation starting  
in 2033*

By Brian PJ Cronin

After 14 months of work, the Visitation Data Committee, an independent group representing Philipstown, Beacon and Fishkill, has approved a report for the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail.

The committee, created by HHFT to review its traffic and pedestrian data and projections for the proposed 7.5-mile linear park between Long Dock Park in Beacon and Dockside Park in Cold Spring, met for the first time in August 2023 at Little Stony Point.

The 11-member committee selected and worked with BFJ Planning to examine

*(Continued on Page 8)*



**WINNING GOURD** — Tim Hetrick, who lives in Fishkill, poses with his winning field pumpkin from judging in August at the Dutchess County Fair. Hetrick also won first place for his white onions and second place for his garlic. The pumpkin will be carved for Halloween, which Hetrick admits will be difficult not only for himself and his children (who attend Rombout Middle School and Beacon High School) but his wife, Kelly, “who’s attached to all our pumpkins.”

Photo by Tayler Smith



5Q

FIVE QUESTIONS: **RICHARD GUERRY**

By Jeff Simms

**R**ichard Guerry founded the Institute for Responsible Online and Cell-Phone Communication, based in Mount Laurel, New Jersey. He spoke last month to students and parents at Beacon High School and Rombout Middle School.

**What challenges do young people face on social media?**

One challenge is their own choices and what they're putting out. If somebody is oversharing and putting out content that might be deemed exploitable, you could think, "If they put *that* on social media, what else are they hiding in the cloud?" The grooming or social engineering of youth is something that happens quite a bit and can start with someone finding something they deem to be damaging. Social media, through its algorithms, will push things to minors, such as self-harm or playing off people's body-image issues. They do it to adults as well. It puts people in an echo chamber and starts them down a rabbit hole. The longer they're there, the more revenue it generates for the platform.

**What can parents or guardians do?**

Think about whether you have an open line of communication with your child. If they see something that upsets them or they receive a message that scares them, do they have a trusted adult to talk to? To put a child into a world connected to billions of people, it's not a question of if but when that child will make a mistake, whether it's going to a website that might affect them negatively or posting something that affects them negatively. An adult saying, "Hey, you don't have to worry about that communication. That's a scam," can minimize the damage. Things can turn catastrophic when we put kids into a world with content that they may not be well versed in, and they have nobody to go to.

**How did this become your cause?**

I owned an interactive marketing agency for a long time. In 2009 a school asked me to come to a health-and-wellness fair and talk about "sexting." I had no idea how they found me and no idea what sexting meant. I said, "I don't do what you're

"To put a child into a world connected to billions of people, it's not a question of if but when that child will make a mistake."

asking. However, I've been in technology for quite some time, so if you'd like me to talk about using it responsibly, I'd be happy to." I saw how little parents, teachers and students understood. We've made technology available to everybody, but did we do any training? We can't just wait for people to get in trouble, put labels like "sexting" on their behavior and then do workshops. We need to give people advice before they purchase devices for their kids. After about a week of research and self-reflection, I left the corporate world, started a nonprofit and here we are, 16 years later.

**Does it sink in for the kids when you do presentations at schools?**

I hear kids talk when they come into the room, especially when it's the same school each year. What I hear afterward is that it wasn't what they were expecting. We give them tips on how to look at technology differently. For example, Snapchat is an app that marketed itself for years around "disappearing content." I bring glasses from Snapchat that have cameras in them, and I ask if anyone finds it ironic that the company that markets disappearing, ephemeral content gave us glasses that can take a photo of someone's screen. Kids appreciate the angles I take, trying to help them navigate this world differently. There are people drinking and driving right now. Everybody knows it's illegal, but people still do it. But there's a difference between making a blind and informed decision. Kids hear the message and realize it helps them make more informed decisions.

**Should we be asking the social media companies to protect children?**

Yes. Meta recently made changes to Instagram so that minors, by default, will have private accounts with parental controls. All social media companies say you should be 13, but the problem is that the child must be honest for the changes to work. You know a child who's either not supposed to have social media or who will have restrictions is not going to be honest about their birthdate. Seventh or eighth graders who want social media can tell their parents, "This is my account," but that doesn't stop them from creating a fake account, and they might be calling the wrong attention to themselves through that account. They're doing it because they don't want to be under the rules of social media.



ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What's your favorite pasta dish?

Cheese-filled ravioli with a nice meat sauce



Lauren Prentice, Garrison

I really like gnocchi. I just baked a very good caprese version.



Fred Merritt, Beacon

I love pasta primavera with garlic olive oil, peas and garlic.



Claire Mitchell, Cold Spring

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## NEWS BRIEFS

## Judge Tosses Law Moving Elections

*Dutchess joined lawsuit by Republican officials*

An upstate judge struck down a state law that moved most county and town elections to even-numbered years to coincide with votes for president and governor, handing a victory to Republicans in Dutchess County and other municipalities.

Judge Gerard Neri of the Onondaga County Supreme Court ruled on Oct. 8 that the legislation approved by the Democratic-led Legislature and enacted by Gov. Kathy Hochul in December violates the rights of local governments to set their own terms of office under the state Constitution.

Under the law, officials in office on Jan. 1, 2025, would complete their full terms, but those elected after Jan. 1, 2025, would have their terms shortened.

Dutchess legislators, who serve two-year terms and were last elected in November, would have run for re-election in 2025, with the winners only serving until 2026. The next election for Dutchess County executive, a four-year position, would have occurred as scheduled, in 2027, before switching to 2030.

The Republican-led Dutchess County Legislature voted in April to spend \$100,000 to join the lawsuit, which names the Legislature and County Executive Sue Serino as plaintiffs.

Will Truitt, who chairs the Dutchess Legis-

lature, said in a Facebook post that the ruling deemed that “local elections are of local concern, not of state concern,” and prevents them from “being tossed to the back of presidential and gubernatorial ballots,” where they would have been “completely disregarded.”



Peter Mullan

*Photo provided*

## Fjord Trail Hires New President

*Architect led High Line redevelopment*

Peter Mullan will become the first president and chief executive officer of Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Inc. on Jan. 1, the organization said on Tuesday (Oct. 15).

Mullan is an architect who served, from 2004 to 2015, as planning and design direc-

tor and executive vice president for Friends of the High Line, which led the redevelopment of the former elevated rail line into a public park. Since 2015, he has served as CEO of Waterloo Greenway Conservancy in Austin, Texas, and chief of architecture and urban design for the Austin Transit Partnership.

Mullan, who has a bachelor's degree from Princeton and a master's in architecture from Yale, will work with Amy Kacala, the HHFT executive director. He called the Fjord Trail, a planned 7.5-mile “linear park” between Cold Spring and Beacon, a “visionary project that provides an opportunity to ensure equity and access to New York State parks, enhance and protect the Hudson River and Highlands ecosystems, and better manage existing tourism to the region.”

## Howland Gets \$25K Grant

*Funding will support programs*

The Howland Cultural Center has received a \$25,000 grant secured by state Assembly Member Jonathan Jacobson, whose district includes Beacon.

“When I can bring money to local nonprofits like this, taxpayers get the biggest bang for their buck,” Jacobson said in a statement. “There’s no bureaucracy and I know that Howland will put the money directly into its programs.”

The funding will support events in the coming year, including children’s concerts, a mural project with Joe Pimentel, theater

performances and a workshop with Clearwater, said Theresa Kraft, the Howland president.

## Dutchess D.A. Secures \$3 Million

*Money will fund five new positions*

Rep. Pat Ryan joined with the Dutchess County executive, district attorney and sheriff on Wednesday (Oct. 16) in Poughkeepsie to announce just over \$3 million in federal funding that will allow the D.A. to create five new positions.

According to the county, \$1 million of the grant will support a collaboration between the D.A. and the Department of Justice’s Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Program. The district attorney’s office will create two positions — a hate crimes analyst and an assistant district attorney — to address bias-related crimes, including those committed online.

Another \$500,000 will expand investigations and prosecutions of cases involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and/or stalking.

Finally, \$1.5 million will bolster the DNA testing of evidence, including post-conviction, by expanding the county’s Conviction Integrity Unit with the new positions of unit chief, assistant district attorney and full-time investigator.

Visit [highlandscurrent.org](https://highlandscurrent.org) for news updates and latest information.

Just in time for the Fall Weather!

## SOUP & SALAD TAKE OUT CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19TH  
BEGINNING AT 9:00AM

Soup & Salad: \$15.00 for soup, salad,  
bread & cookies; \$10.00 per quart of soup.

The Soups: Lemon Chicken Orzo  
& Beef Tomato

Lots of items for sale at our rummage sale!  
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(845) 831-0365

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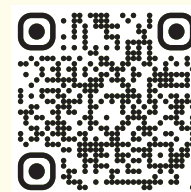
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and creating new parking lots  
does not solve traffic problems.  
It creates them.



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and get involved  
before it's too late.



[ProtectTheHighlands.org](https://ProtectTheHighlands.org)





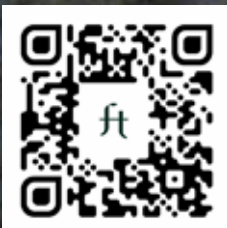




# Excited about the Fjord Trail? *You're in good company!*

“Thoughtful access leads to inspiration. Every second of the time I spend in nature sparks a new idea, a melody, a question. All of these are passed on to the kids I work with in their music lessons and at camp. The Fjord Trail will strengthen youth involvement and commitment through access—making them not only stewards, but ambassadors of the inspiration they feel.”

- Linda Richards



*Read more in HHFT's  
Annual Report!*

**ft** Hudson Highlands  
Fjord Trail

**Linda Richards**  
Founder and Director of the City of Beacon Recreation's Camp @ the Camp and Founder of Sing Like You Mean It. Environmental educator, including decades running the Tideline Program at the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater. At Clearwater, Linda teamed up with Pete Seeger to create Power of Song, an interactive educational program that exposes youth to socially-conscious music.

*portrait by Christine Ashburn*



# Election Guide

## Philipstown/Putnam Races

The Cold Spring, Philipstown and Putnam County candidates on local ballots will be unopposed on Nov. 5.

In Cold Spring, Laura Bozzi and Tweeps Phillips Woods have no challengers to return to the Village Board. Bozzi was appointed and then elected to the board in 2022 and is seeking her second, two-year term. Woods won a one-year term in 2021 and is seeking her second full term. The other board members are Mayor Kathleen Foley, Aaron Freimark and Eliza Starbuck, whose seats will be on the ballot in 2025. Village elections are nonpartisan.

Camille Linson will appear unopposed on the Democratic and Conservative lines for a third, 4-year term as Philipstown justice. She defeated Faye Thorpe in 2016 with 55 percent of the vote and was not challenged in 2020.

There are no other races in Philipstown. The supervisor position occupied by John Van Tassel and two of the four board spots, now held by Judy Farrell and Bob Flaherty, will be on the ballot in 2025. The highway supervisor and town clerk positions, each with four-year terms, will be on the ballot in 2027.

Nancy Montgomery, who represents Philipstown and part of Putnam Valley on the county Legislature, and is its sole Democrat, has no opponent for her third, 3-year term. She defeated former legislator Barbara Scuccimarra by comfortable margins in 2018 and 2021.

Two other county legislative races will be on ballots. In District 7 (Mahopac), Daniel Birmingham is running unopposed on the Republican and Conservative lines to succeed Joseph Castellano, who could not run because of term limits. Birmingham served in the Legislature from 2004 to 2012.

In District 4 (Patterson), there is a three-way race between Randall Mulkins (Democratic), Laura Russo (Republican/Conservative) and Jennifer Bumgarner (Patterson First). The winner will succeed Ginny Nacerino, who also could not run because of term limits.

Wendy Erickson, one of three county coroners, will appear on the Republican and Conservative lines for her second, 4-year term.

## Election Threats

- The Dutchess County Board of Elections in Poughkeepsie shut down for three hours on Oct. 7 after receiving a padded envelope sent by UPS from Europe with a piece of artwork and methamphetamine. The workers who opened the package were wearing protective gear, Commissioner Erik Haight told the *Daily Freeman*. He said the FBI warned boards of elections of potential threats earlier in the year.
- Ulster County Board of Elections employees wear N-95 masks and latex gloves while processing mail after boards of elections in Georgia and on the West Coast received packages containing fentanyl, Commissioner Ashley Torres told the *Daily Freeman* on Oct. 9. "This is something I had never anticipated we would see happen when I started this work," said Torres. The mail is opened in a closed conference room with the air conditioning turned off.
- In Putnam County, Commissioner Cathy Croft told *The Current* there have been no incidents with suspicious mail. She said she and Commissioner Kelly Primavera open all mail and "scrutinize what we receive and who it is coming from."

## Coverage Ahead

- ★ State Senate District 39 (Highlands): Rob Rolison and Yvette Valdes Smith
- ★ Dutchess County Comptroller: Dan Aymar-Blair and Gregg Pulver
- ★ Background on state Proposition 1
- ★ U.S. House, District 17 (Philipstown): Mondaire Jones and Mike Lawler
- ★ U.S. House, District 18 (Beacon): Alison Esposito and Pat Ryan



## Voter Registration Continues to Grow

Rather than turning people away from politics, the contentious battles of the past eight years appear locally to have drawn many to the polls.

The number of people registered to vote has jumped 17 percent in Dutchess and 20 percent in Putnam since 2016, according to data compiled by the state Board of Elections. At the same time, the population of Dutchess and Putnam counties since 2016 has been stable.

Democrats led the charge, with increases of 29 percent in Dutchess, 26 percent in Beacon, 26 percent in Putnam and 33 percent in Philipstown.

Republican registrations jumped 14 percent in Putnam and 7 percent in Dutchess. They fell in Philipstown by 8 percent and in Beacon by 17 percent.

The percentage of independent voters, or those with no party registration, grew by 22 percent in Dutchess and 8 percent in Beacon. In Putnam, they increased by 30 percent countywide and by 16 percent in Philipstown.

The figures below do not include registered voters who did not cast a ballot in the previous two federal elections.

	2016	2020	2024	% CHANGE
DUTCHESS				
Republican	50,841	54,409	54,363	+6.9
Democrat	58,020	72,250	74,535	+28.5
No party	47,061	52,427	57,217	+21.6
Conservative	3,637	3,744	3,820	+5.0
Working Families	765	723	947	+23.8
Total	171,145	194,810	200,430	+17.1
BEACON				
Republican	1,330	1,241	1,099	-17.4
Democrat	4,264	5,259	5,372	+26
No party	2,239	2,307	2,409	+7.6
Conservative	114	99	79	-30.7
Working Families	60	43	73	+21.7
Total	8,495	9,448	9,431	+11
PUTNAM				
Republican	21,193	23,500	24,172	+14
Democrat	17,758	21,697	22,439	+26.4
No party	15,419	17,931	20,064	+30.1
Conservative	1,934	1,812	1,700	-12.1
Working Families	208	188	248	+19.2
Total	60,291	69,409	72,280	+19.9
PHILIPSTOWN				
Republican	1,678	1,696	1,549	-7.7
Democrat	2,762	3,746	3,668	+32.8
No party	1,744	1,842	2,025	+16.1
Conservative	163	141	138	-15.3
Working Families	22	22	36	+63.6
Total	6,724	7,573	7,764	+15.5

Source: Boards of Elections      Totals do not include smaller parties not on ballot.





# Here Are Your Choices

The polls will be open on Nov. 5 from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. For early voting hours, see below.

## FEDERAL

### President/Vice President

Kamala Harris / Tim Walz (D, WF) | Donald Trump / JD Vance (R, C)

### U.S. SENATE

Kirsten Gillibrand (D, WF)\*  
Diane Sare (LaRouche)  
Michael Sapraicone (R, C)

### U.S. HOUSE

#### District 17 (Philipstown)

Anthony Frascone (WF)  
Mondaire Jones (D)  
Mike Lawler (R, C)\*

#### District 18 (Beacon)

Alison Esposito (R, C)  
Pat Ryan (D, WF)\*

### NEW YORK STATE

#### Proposition 1

If approved, this proposal will amend the state constitution, which now protects against unequal treatment based on race, color, creed and religion, to also protect against unequal treatment based on ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy and pregnancy outcomes, as well as reproductive healthcare and autonomy. The amendment allows laws to prevent or undo past discrimination.

### State Supreme Court, 9th Judicial District

There are five open seats for 14-year terms. The district includes Dutchess, Putnam, Orange, Rockland and Westchester counties.

- Brett Broge (D, C)  
private practice, Orange County
- Colleen Duffy (D, C)\*
- Thomas Humbach (R)  
Rockland County Attorney
- Leslie Kahn (R)  
Clarkstown town justice (Rockland)
- Kyle McGovern (D, C)  
Tarrytown judge (Westchester)
- Edward Mevec (R)  
state administrative law judge
- Karen Ostberg (R)  
Minisink town justice (Orange)
- Mary Anne Scattaretico-Naber (D, C)  
Westchester Family Court
- Mark Starkman (R)  
private practice, Orange County
- Rachel Tanguay (D, C)  
Rockland Family Court

\*incumbents

### State Senate (District 39)

Rob Rolison (R, C)\*  
Yvette Valdes Smith (D, WF)

### FOR VOTERS IN BEACON

#### City Council (2 seats)

Amber Grant (At-large)\*  
Pam Wetherbee (Ward 3)\*

#### Dutchess County Comptroller

Dan Aymar-Blair (D, WF)  
Gregg Pulver (R, C)\*

#### State Assembly (District 104)

Jonathan Jacobson (D, WF)\*

### FOR VOTERS IN PHILIPSTOWN

#### State Assembly (District 95)

Michael Capalbo (R, C)  
Dana Levenberg (D, WF)\*

#### Cold Spring Village Board (2 seats)

Laura Bozzi (Good Neighbors)\*  
Tweeps Woods (Service Party)\*

#### Philipstown Town Justice

Camille Linson (D, C)\*

#### Putnam County Coroner

Wendy Erickson (R, C)\*

#### Putnam County Legislator

Nancy Montgomery (D, United Putnam)\*

## Election (from Page 1)

June. The bill, which Gov. Kathy Hochul has yet to sign, requires that companies responsible for the buildup of greenhouse gases help fund infrastructure projects that reduce the impact of climate change.

Levenberg said she is crafting legislation requiring climate risks to be factored in for transit-oriented developments built near public-transportation stops like those along Metro-North's Hudson Line, which is prone to flooding from the Hudson River. The 95th District runs along the river from Briarcliff Manor to Philipstown.

"We have to be cognizant of those issues, particularly in my district," said Levenberg.

In the state budget approved in April, Levenberg and Democrats in the Legislature negotiated for a bigger increase to foundation aid than Hochul originally proposed for local school districts. She also supported spending the \$2 million that is funding the Rockefeller Institute study of the formula the state uses to distribute foundation aid.

In areas like Ossining and Philipstown, data showing high incomes can mask the needs of their school districts, said Levenberg.

In Ossining, "we kept getting knocked down by the formula because there are wealthy pockets that were bringing up the median income," said Levenberg, a former school board member for the district.

She also plans to re-introduce legislation that would require each city, town and village to develop a plan to increase its supply of housing "for everyone." Those plans would be subject to a public hearing and have to be submitted to the state Division of Housing and Community Renewal.

By contrast, Capalbo said during the debate that "hostile laws toward landlords" have left tens of thousands of housing units vacant because their owners "can't get the rent stabilization reviewed" so they can make a profit. "They're sitting there because it's more worthwhile for landlords to do it," said Capalbo, a business analyst who lives in Yorktown.

In addition to calling for lower taxes, and the use of school vouchers, the first-time candidate said the state's renewable-energy goals are too costly and that electric vehicles "are a fantasy."

"The middle class is being robbed of their future, of their wealth and of their grandchildren's future, and if they complain, they are smeared with terms like *racist* or *xenophobia*, or supporting the patriarch or toxic masculinity," he said.

Capalbo also criticized Proposition 1, a ballot initiative supported by Levenberg that would add a number of classes — including sexual orientation, gender identity and "reproductive healthcare and autonomy" — to the state Constitution's guarantee of equal protection.

Calling the language "broadly worded," Capalbo said it pertains to people who "supposedly" face discrimination and "opens the door for men in women's sports."

"It opens up men in women's private spaces — locker rooms, restrooms. It gives illegal aliens the rights of citizens. It allows children to make their own medical decisions without the parents being informed," he said. "This bill is radical."

★ PARTY GUIDE: C = Conservative, D = Democratic, R = Republican, WF = Working Families ★

## Early Voting

### For Beacon

Fishkill Town Hall, 807 Route 52

<b>SAT 26</b> 9a – 5p	<b>THURS 31</b> 8a – 4p
<b>SUN 27</b> 9a – 5p	<b>FRI 1</b> 9a – 5p
<b>MON 28</b> Noon – 8p	<b>SAT 2</b> 9a – 5p
<b>TUES 29</b> 9a – 5p	<b>SUN 3</b> 9a – 5p
<b>WED 30</b> Noon – 8p	

### For Philipstown

North Highlands Firehouse,  
504 Fishkill Road

<b>SAT 26</b> 9a – 5p	<b>THURS 31</b> Noon – 8p
<b>SUN 27</b> 9a – 5p	<b>FRI 1</b> 9a – 5p
<b>MON 28</b> 9a – 5p	<b>SAT 2</b> 9a – 5p
<b>TUES 29</b> Noon – 8p	<b>SUN 3</b> 9a – 5p
<b>WED 30</b> 9a – 5p	

## Registration

The deadline to register to vote is Oct. 26. See [dub.sh/voter-register](https://dub.sh/voter-register). To verify you are registered and locate your polling place, visit [voterlookup.elections.ny.gov](https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov).

## What's Online

For primers about the process from the Associated Press, see [highlandscurrent.org/election](https://highlandscurrent.org/election).

## Results

Check [highlandscurrent.org](https://highlandscurrent.org) after 9 p.m. on Nov. 5 for unofficial results.

## Absentee Voting

The deadline to request an absentee ballot online at [dub.sh/early-ballot](https://dub.sh/early-ballot) or for the Board of Elections to receive a mailed request is Oct. 26. The last day for a request in person at the Board of Elections is Nov. 4.

**Note:** Voters who have been issued an absentee ballot may not vote in person on a machine, regardless of whether the ballot was submitted. However, a voter who requested an absentee ballot but did not return it can complete an affidavit ballot at the polls.





## Fjord Trail *(from Page 1)*

trends in visitation throughout Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve — which includes Breakneck Ridge, Mount Beacon, Denning’s Point, Little Stony Point and Bull Hill — to project how the Fjord Trail might affect visitation. It includes representatives from Cold Spring, Nelsonville, Philipstown, Beacon and the Town of Fishkill.

The Fjord Trail is projected to be completed by 2031, but the report’s projections begin in 2033. The committee considered the first two years the trail will be open as “surge years,” with higher visitation than usual because of the park’s novelty.

The report also differentiates between “visitors” and “visitation.” The former refers to individuals who will use the trail at any time over a year, including locals. The latter refers to the number of visits. As an example, a resident of Cold Spring who walks on the Fjord Trail five days a week, 52 weeks a year, would count as one visitor but 260 visits.

Based on data collected last year, the committee estimated that 55,550 people made 440,400 visits to the trails and parks that make up the Fjord Trail corridor. Notably, visitation at Breakneck Ridge has fallen drastically over the past three years, with nearly 37,000 fewer hikers in 2023 than 2019.

The report projects that the Fjord Trail will add 268,700 visits a year by people who would not normally come to the connected parks and trails. That’s an increase over the HHFT’s projections of 204,900 visits a year.

The visits would not all occur at any one point along the trail, such as Cold Spring, it noted.

With the Fjord Trail, the committee calculated the visitation in 2033 in the corridor at 637,000 (including residents, cruise ship passengers and hikers at Breakneck Ridge and connecting trails and parks).

To project future visitation, the committee looked at numbers over the past several years from similar linear parks, including Walkway Over the Hudson in Poughkeepsie and Pennsylvania’s Susquehanna River Walk and Buffalo Valley Trail. It also looked at the increase of visitors recently to the Hudson Highlands, Palisades and Taconic state parks and weighed the Hudson Highlands State Park’s easy access via mass transit.

This led to the projection that, over the next 10 years, visitation at Hudson Highlands State Park will increase by an average of 3.2 percent per year, regardless of Fjord Trail development.

The report also projects that 225,900 of the 637,000 visits will be hikers using the Fjord Trail to reach nearby destinations such as Breakneck or Bull Hill and not spending a significant amount of time on the Fjord Trail itself — a situation called “captured visitation.”

There’s also “shifted visitation,” which is visits to the Fjord Trail instead of adjacent parks and trails. The report estimates this will be 31,900 annually, a relatively low number because it expects the Fjord Trail will be a different experience than hiking Breakneck Ridge or Mount Beacon.

Reviewing past visitation numbers, the committee determined that the busiest month of the year for the Fjord Trail corridor is October, followed by September and May. The busiest time for hikers to arrive is between 10 and 11 a.m. on weekends, with peak visitation between 2 and 5 p.m.

The studies reviewed and approved by the Visitation Data Committee, including a traffic and visitation report (online at [dub.sh/HHFT-traffic](https://dub.sh/HHFT-traffic)) will be included in the state environmental review of the Fjord Trail, which is expected to be released later this fall. The visitation report can be found online at [dub.sh/HHFT-visitation](https://dub.sh/HHFT-visitation).

## Data Committee Members

Henry Feldman, James Labate (Cold Spring); Phil Cotenec, Jeff Robins (Philipstown); Mayor Chris Winward (Nelsonville); Council Member Amber Grant, Sarah Mencher, Zack Smith (Beacon); Council Member Greg Totino, Planning Board Chair Jon Kanter, Supervisor Ozzy Albra (Fishkill)

## Breakneck Ridge Trail Annual Visitation

YEAR	HIKERS
2016	113,000
2017	123,000
2018	106,400
2019	128,800
2020	126,200
2021	87,700
2022	91,600
2023	91,900

## 2023 Visitation

Long Dock Park	55,100
Madame Brett Park	12,100
Dennings Point	13,100
Little Stony Point	73,700
Dockside Park	53,100
Notch Trail	3,600
Wilkinson Memorial Trail	28,500
Breakneck Ridge Trail	91,900
Washburn Trail	113,300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>444,400</b>

Source: HHFT Fjord Trail Use Projections Report

## Cold Spring Board Begins STR Review

*Significant changes proposed for short-term rentals*

By Michael Turton

The Cold Spring Village Board returned at its Wednesday (Oct. 16) workshop to its oversight of short-term rentals such as those booked through Airbnb.

Regulations were enacted three years ago but have not been enforced.

Chapter 100 of the Village Code was updated in July 2021 under Mayor Dave Merandy. But after a new board, including Mayor Kathleen Foley, was elected four months later, it deemed the STR regulations too cumbersome and beyond the village’s capacity to enforce.

A committee of residents, including some STR operators and chaired by Jennifer Zwarich, made recommendations to streamline the law. But revisions were put on hold while trustees dealt with other issues, including a village parking plan.

The changes under consideration include removing the lottery system for issuing permits; reducing the number of STRs allowed from 49 to 40; requiring operators to live on-site, allowing one rental party at a time at each STR; limiting rentals to two guests per bedroom; and not having police officers handle enforcement.

At the Oct. 16 workshop, chaired by Deputy Mayor Tweeps Phillips Woods, Zwarich outlined issues still to be resolved, such as parking requirements, shared driveways, the legality of requiring STR operators to live in the village, enforcement and repeat offenders, permit fees and fines, inspections, one-time permits such as during West Point graduation week and the impact of paid and permit parking.

A public hearing on proposed revisions to Chapter 100 will be required before any changes are adopted.



**HIGHLANDS CHAPEL**  
*Home of the Highlands Choral Society*

**THIS SUNDAY:**  
**FRED OSBORN III**  
**“FAMILY FABLES OF THE HUDSON RIVER”**  
**OCT 20 @ 11:00AM**  
**FOR WORSHIP REFLECTION & SONG**

**Oct 27** Rev. William Weisenbach  
**Nov 3** Marianne Benjamin

The Highlands Choral Society is a nonprofit organization offering nondenominational services and community.

**216 MAIN STREET COLD SPRING, NY**  
**HIGHLANDSCHAPEL.ORG**

## Cakewalk *(from Page 1)*

that the cakewalk “has historical roots tied to slavery,” said Gregory Stowell, the superintendent. After research, Stowell said “the PTA and the district collaboratively agreed that in its current iteration, we just couldn’t continue it, given what we now know about the history of the cakewalk.”

Stowell added that the district is striving to set an example consistent with its Vision of a Graduate, which includes diversity, equity and inclusion and integrity and empathy. “The district does not want to sponsor any event on our grounds that is, in any way, shape or form, making any of our community members feel like it’s not inclusive and it’s not welcoming,” he said.

In a statement on Thursday (Oct. 17), the PTA said: “The school’s administration brought the controversial history of the cakewalk to the PTA’s attention. We did

our own research on the tradition’s historical ties to slavery and, after discussion, our board was in full agreement with the administration that the cakewalk was not aligned with our school’s and community’s inclusive values.

“We feel we can create a really fun event that builds community and raises money for both the PTA and the eighth grade, while being culturally sensitive, without the cakewalk. We care about the entire Garrison community and want to be thoughtful about the types of events we support.”

The statement also said the PTA had discussed replacing the cakewalk with a cake-decorating contest, “but given the breadth of festivities we already had planned” — including a chili cook-off, touch-a-truck, face painting, an auction, bouncy castle and pumpkin-themed games — “we ultimately decided to forgo it entirely.”

Brandon and Sheila Williams, the parents

of two Garrison School graduates and three children currently enrolled, expressed frustration at the decision. Brandon Williams suggested renaming the cakewalk after diversity, equity and inclusion. “We could call it the DEI Walk,” he said. “Why can’t we just have a Fall Festival without everyone freaking out that we’re hurting people’s feelings?”

Williams argued that the PTA version of the cakewalk is not insulting to anyone. “It’s musical chairs,” he said. “They’re walking around. When the music stops, they freeze. You call the number. If you’re on that number, you win.”

In 2022, *PTO Today*, a magazine for parent-teacher organizations, published a guide on how to set up a cakewalk as a carnival game but noted that “because of the history of the term *cakewalk* and the activities it represented, we have updated this article with the term *musical cakes* instead.”



# Council Considers Tioronda Request

Beacon developer wants to fill apartments, then build more

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon City Council has yet to decide when it will allow a developer to rent 64 apartments he constructed on Tioronda Avenue.

The issue is that Bernard Kohn, the developer of 248 Tioronda Ave., did not follow the conditions of approval for his project, which was to have been a mixed-use campus with two apartment buildings and a two-story, 25,400-square-foot commercial structure on the banks of Fishkill Creek.

There are many factors at play. The Planning Board approved Kohn's 9-acre, mixed-use proposal in 2020, three years after the council enacted a law requiring projects in the Fishkill Creek development zone to include at least 25 percent commercial space, and for the commercial component of a project to be built before or at the same time as the residential.

In 2021, Kohn asked the Zoning Board of Appeals for permission to build the apartment buildings before the commercial structure. At a public hearing, a dozen residents opposed the request. The ZBA adjourned the hearing in August 2021 and Kohn never returned to the board.

In July, Kohn came to the City Council



Sixty-four apartments have been constructed at 248 Tioronda Ave.

Photo by J. Simms

to ask for certificates of occupancy (COs) for the 64 apartments and permission to construct 36 apartments in the third building, which has not been built, and to amend its height from two to three stories. There had been little interest from tenants in filling the commercial space, he said.

The council members made no decision but in September adopted amendments to the development zone that permit COs for residential buildings before commercial with "good cause shown" and with conditions as the council "deems appropriate."

On Tuesday (Oct. 15), Kohn's attorney tried to convince the council that his client had good cause for his request. The COs would make 64 apartments, including six below-market-rate as required by the city,

available to renters; open a 1/8-mile segment of the Fishkill Creek Greenway and Heritage Trail to the public; and generate about \$300,000 in tax revenue for the city. In addition, people living in the apartments will spend money on Main Street, said Brad Schwartz, the attorney.

"It's not one singular reason, but rather a bundle of items that we believe collectively comprise 'good cause,'" he said.

Schwartz said that COs would also give Kohn time to continue marketing the third building to commercial tenants. The developer is using Berkshire Hathaway to advertise the project but "no major anchor tenant has surfaced," Schwartz said.

When Council Member Pam Wetherbee asked why Kohn had not constructed the commercial building first or concurrently, as the law required at the time of his approval, the attorney was unsure.

"I'm not certain of the answer to that question, but the approvals were issued shortly after the pandemic started, so I'm gathering that market conditions changed pretty quickly thereafter," Schwartz said. "The residential proceeded first and the commercial lagged behind until there was a market that had shown it could support that use."

"Did they communicate that with the city, when they realized that years ago?" Wetherbee asked.

That prompted Mayor Lee Kyriacou to note that a developer can typically build a residential project without tenants in place, but "I recognize that on commercial construction that is not the case." He also acknowledged that "our law may not have made a ton of sense written the way it was written."

"I'm afraid that if something is approved, we're setting a precedent," Wetherbee said. "Then the next applicant will come forward and say, 'You allowed it for this.'"

Schwartz reiterated that the pandemic had changed the market after Kohn's project was approved.

"But the law didn't change, and an exception to the law wasn't granted," said Dan Aymar-Blair, a council member.

Kyriacou was more sympathetic. "I'm looking at our law — and I'm a primary author — and nobody at the time thought that the two markets, residential and commercial, would go in absolutely opposite directions, as they have now," he said. "Residential construction is in very short

## Real Estate

### Market Report (September)

#### Beacon Homes

	2023	2024
New Listings	15	13
Closed Sales	9	7
Days on Market	45	30
Median Price	\$602,000	\$425,000
% List Received	99.7	98.1
Inventory	49	29

#### Beacon Condos

	2023	2024
New Listings	4	4
Closed Sales	4	4
Days on Market	219	72
Median Price	\$899,000	\$342,450
% List Received	93.2	95.1
Inventory	10	9

#### Philipstown Homes


	2023	2024
New Listings	14	13
Closed Sales	5	4
Days on Market	48	68
Median Price	\$575,000	\$2,005,000
% List Received	100.1	93.1
Inventory	51	44

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

supply and very high demand, and commercial construction has gone to zero. It's very clear to me, independent of this discussion, that we need to alter the law."

No decision was made, and the council will continue its discussion in a future workshop.

The Depot Theatre presents:



10/25  
thru  
11/10

by David Yazbek  
& Terrence McNally

directed by  
Christine Bokhour

musical direction by  
Todd Hulet

**THE FULL MONTY**

Tickets on sale now!  
[philipstowndepottheatre.org](http://philipstowndepottheatre.org)




Photo: J. Simms

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

### CITY OF BEACON

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE**, that the City of Beacon City Council hereby schedules a public hearing for October 21, 2024 regarding a Proposed Local Law amend Article XII, of Chapter 199, of the Beacon City Code concerning local taxation on hotels, motels, and short-term rentals. The Public Hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtroom at One Municipal Plaza, Beacon, NY 12508, and also via videoconference and teleconference.

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

Benjamin Swanson, Secretary to the Mayor



AROUND TOWN



**SAVAGE WONDER** — The Exit 12 Dance Company performed on Oct. 11 at a festival that inaugurated the former Beacon Savings Bank on Main Street as a performance space for the Veterans Repertory Theater.

*Photos by Ross Corsair*



**FUNNY GUY** — Actor Steve Carell, who was in Beacon for the filming of *The Four Seasons* for Netflix, ate on Oct. 9 at the Yankee Clipper Diner, where he was greeted by, from left, Amy Sellers, Jessica Morrison and Tamara Williams. A co-star, Tina Fey, visited on Oct. 7.

*Photo provided*



**NORTHERN LIGHTS** — Greg Mercurio of Philipstown captured some of the show in the early evening of Oct. 10. For more info, see [dub.sh/aurora-prediction](#).

MUSIC  ST MARY'S



**Elm Chamber Ensemble:**  
Yu-Mei Wei, Piano  
Joel Pitchon, Violin  
Anthony Berner, Viola  
Volcy Pelletier, Cello

Performing Brahms Piano Quartet Op. 60 in C minor &  
Fauré Piano Quartet Op. 15 in C minor

**Saturday, October 19, 2024**  
**@ 2 PM**  
*Free - donations accepted*



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

RE-ELECT

**NANCY MONTGOMERY**

PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATOR  
DISTRICT 1

**VOTE NOVEMBER 5TH**



**EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS**  
PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
25 Old Route 6, Carmel NY 10512  
PUTNAM COUNTY GOLF COURSE  
187 Hill Street, Mahopac NY 10541  
NORTH HIGHLANDS FIRE DEPARTMENT  
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring NY 10516

**EARLY VOTING TIMES**  
Saturday, October 26: 9 am to 5 pm  
Sunday, October 27: 9 am to 5 pm  
Monday, October 28: 9 am to 5 pm  
Tuesday, October 29: Noon to 8 pm  
Wednesday, October 30: 9 am to 5 pm  
Thursday, October 31: Noon to 8 pm  
Friday, November 1: 9 am to 5 pm  
Saturday, November 2: 9 am to 5 pm  
Sunday, November 3: 9 am to 5 pm

[electnancymontgomery.com](http://electnancymontgomery.com)



## The Calendar



Bobby G in his studio

Photo by M. Ferris

# The Beacon Blues

## Bobby G Band returns to the stage

By Marc Ferris

Putting a guitar or a pair of drumsticks into Bobby Ginsberg's hands is like giving rattles to a baby.

He also geeks out over an amplifier's impedance, gushes over the compression in a Don Henley song and explains why he uses a separate power amp with his home stereo setup.

"Without the extra juice, the other components are too weak for those speakers," which are recording studio monitors, he explains, pulling up a photo on his phone of Rush bass player Geddy Lee sitting at a mixing board. He holds the image to eye level: "How cool is that?"

As the owner of an elaborate Philipstown studio, The Loft, filled with screens, consoles, a drum set and a wall of dangling guitars, he would find the photo amusing.

After the pandemic derailed the Bobby G Blues Band, his chief musical outlet, the Brooklyn-born blues boy is reuniting its members to perform a set at the Howland Cultural Center on Oct. 25. Ginsberg sings and plays guitar.

A city boy who loves fishing, Ginsberg came to the Hudson Valley after 9/11 to hang with a friend and liked it so much that he began splitting his time between Forest Hills and Philipstown.

Ginsberg, 62, worked as an engineer for General Electric and now makes fudge at his Cold Spring Candy Co. at 11 Main St. "Someone whose word I trust told me that a candy shop in Cold Spring would be a good addition, and she was right," he

says. "I taught myself how to make fudge and chocolate."

He's known for schmoozing with customers and feeling out if they play guitar because upstairs, in a third-floor nook with a great view of the village gazebo, sit four dozen amplifiers and guitars awaiting buyers at his Vintage Guitars of Cold Spring.

"I've sold a guitar, amp or pedal to just about every player in the area," Ginsberg says. Visiting an event with longstanding scene-makers at the Howland Center a few weeks back, he hugged and mugged, working the room like the mayor of Music Town.

The blues lovers began jamming in the early 2010s at Joe's Irish Pub in Beacon (now Momo Valley, although there's still a shamrock in the sidewalk). The cast rotates, but the mainstays include Andy Rutcofsky on saxophone and bass player Kenny Kaufman.

Ginsberg and his coterie have recorded a dozen studio and live CDs at the Towne Crier and Dennings Point Distillery in Beacon, The Falcon in Marlboro and other venues. One is named *Beacon Blues*, a riff on the Steely Dan song "Deacon Blues."

A civic-minded guy, Ginsberg donated a mixer to the Howland Center, where he co-hosted its long-running open mic with the Thom Joyce for many years. He also loaned a Digital Audio Tape (DAT) machine to the Putnam History Museum to help it access data captured in the antiquated format.

Like many guitarists drawn to classic and progressive rock, Ginsberg discovered the electric guitar-driven blues of the 1940s and '50s (Chicago Blues), although he also appreciates the acoustic pickers from the 1920s and '30s (Mississippi Delta Blues).

Beyond their feeling and technique,  
(Continued on Page 15)



Cast members from *The Full Monty* feel the breeze of a passing train. From left: Jake McGuire, David Filipiak, Dante Nastasi, Randy Donaldson, Alex McCulley and Todd Smith

Photo by Eric Aguayo

# The Full Monty Will Bare All

## Laughs, human drama and, yes, male nudity

By Michael Turton

Fans of live theater in the Highlands will need to choose: Sit close to the stage or as far from it as possible when the Philipstown Depot Theatre unveils its version of the comedy *The Full Monty* on Oct. 25.

While the musical will no doubt generate laughs, it may produce giggles and winks, most notably during its trademark, full-male-nudity scene.

The Depot production parallels the Tony-award-nominated Broadway version mounted in 2000 and adapted from the popular 1997 British film of the same name. The adaptation places the characters in Buffalo rather than Sheffield, England.

The plot is farfetched but emerges from economic realities and human challenges that are believable: A steel mill is closing, and its workers face increasing debt, overdue child support and a loss of self-worth.

The workers have an epiphany when they clandestinely discover how much their wives enjoy the view at an all-male strip club. They envision a way to make quick money — steelworkers meet the Chippendales.

The scheme exposes them physically and emotionally. They must overcome individual fears, self-consciousness and biases. They bond during the journey, giving each of them the strength to do what they must to survive.

Amy Dul, the Depot executive director, says a group from the theater had seen *The Full Monty* performed in Yonkers eight years ago. They thought it would be a great production for the Garrison's Landing space but "we weren't sure we had enough men to pull it off."

In January, Christine Bokhour, a Cold Spring resident who had directed *The Full Monty* at the North Star Theatre in Newton, New Jersey, agreed to take on the local production.

She organized auditions, "and the men showed up!" Dul says.

Bokhour said she relates to the story-

line. "I grew up in the same kind of town in Ohio," she says. "We were supposed to get a steel mill, but it never happened." She recalls experiencing many of the problems faced by the characters, including seeing her dad laid off from his job. "I find the play so satisfyingly human," she says.

When directing a comedy, she says, "you and the actors feel a rhythm, but you don't know if it's right until the audience gets there and the laughs fall into place."

Bokhour admits that nudity "in our little theater" may raise eyebrows. "The intimacy of this space has made people extra curious about how that's all going to go down."

In the end, though, the play isn't about the nudity but rather "victory," she says. "The stripping is fun, but you're rooting for these guys to win — you're just so excited that these average, working-class guys achieve their goal."

Jake McGuire, who lives in Cold Spring, will portray the factory workers' leader, Jerry Lukowski. "I spent about 20 years in the theater, but for the last 10 I've worked in film and TV," he says when asked what drew him to the role. "This is my first musical in 16 years; I've been itching to get back on stage."

McGuire says not working during the Screen Actors Guild strike in 2023 took a financial toll on his family. "I can relate to the characters' forced unemployment, drawing off the dole and not making ends meet."

McGuire, who is on stage for 90 percent of the musical, said stamina and learning and remembering his lines concerned him more than the nude scene, though he admits that's the first thing people ask about. "So many theatrical productions deal with things like suicide, addiction and mental health — things that are a lot more shocking and disturbing than some naked guys."

*The Philipstown Depot Theatre is located at 10 Garrison's Landing. The Full Monty opens Oct. 25 and runs weekends through Nov. 10. Tickets are \$35 (\$30 for students and seniors) at [philipstowndepottheatre.org](https://philipstowndepottheatre.org). The musical is written by David Yazbek and Terrence McNally with musical direction by Todd Hulet.*



# THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

For a complete listing of events, see [highlandscurrent.org/calendar](https://highlandscurrent.org/calendar).

## HALLOWEEN

SAT 19

### Halloween Carnival

BEACON

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
[beaconlibrary.org](https://beaconlibrary.org)

Children ages 12 and younger can play games, participate in a costume contest and enjoy spooky fun. Registration required.

SAT 19

### Costume Sale & Makerspace Open House

COLD SPRING

Noon – 3 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
[butterfieldlibrary.org](https://butterfieldlibrary.org)

Find a gently used children's costume. There will be story time and crafts, too. Proceeds benefit library programs. Also SUN 20.

SAT 19

### Witchlings 3

BEACON

3 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
[stanzabooks.com](https://stanzabooks.com)

Claribel Ortega will read from and discuss the third book in her young adult Witchlings series, *House of Elephants*. RSVP requested.



TUES 22

### Slime Party

GARRISON

6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](https://desmondfishlibrary.org)

Make spooky slime during Family Science Night. Costumes welcome.

THURS 24

### Pumpkin Glow

GARRISON

4 – 7 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](https://desmondfishlibrary.org)

The library grounds will have displays of lit-up, carved pumpkins. There will be a concert with Ms. Stacy at 5 p.m., a bounce house and treats. Come in costume. Pick up a pumpkin to carve for the event through WED 23.

FRI 25

### Spellbound Festival

CARMEL

3 – 9 p.m. Memorial Park  
201 Gypsy Trail Road  
[spellboundfest.com](https://spellboundfest.com)

Shop at the Mystic Market, choose a fright level in an immersive experience and enjoy performances. *Cost: \$15 to \$35*



FRI 25

### Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

COLD SPRING

3:15 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
[butterfieldlibrary.org](https://butterfieldlibrary.org)

This 2001 film, the first in the series developed from the bestselling series, follows Harry, Ron and Hermione at the beginning of their Hogwarts wizarding education.

FRI 25

### Halloween Party

BEACON

6 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
[beaconlibrary.org](https://beaconlibrary.org)

Students in grades 5 to 12 can enjoy spooky games and crafts. Costumes welcome.

SAT 26

### I Spy Halloween Trail

CORNWALL

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Outdoor Discovery Center  
120 Muser Drive | [hnnaturecenter.org](https://hnnaturecenter.org)  
845-534-5506 x204

Enjoy a scavenger “haunt” and meet animals at the Creature Corner. *Cost: \$10 (free for ages 2 and younger)*

SAT 26

### Boo at the Zoo

BEAR MOUNTAIN

10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Trailside Zoo  
3006 Seven Lakes Drive  
[trailsidezoo.org](https://trailsidezoo.org)

Help make treats for the bears at 10:30 and watch them enjoy the offerings. There will be crafts, activities and programs to learn about animals. Rain date: SUN 27.

SAT 26

### Hocus Pocus

BEACON

2 p.m. Main Street  
[dub.sh/hocus-pocus-2024](https://dub.sh/hocus-pocus-2024)

The parade will proceed up Main Street from South Avenue to the post office. Children can collect

stamps for a scavenger hunt from businesses with orange pumpkins in the window.

SAT 26

### Halloween Concert

GARRISON

2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](https://desmondfishlibrary.org)

Mr. Kurt will entertain children ages 2 to 7 with interactive fun.

SAT 26

### Halloween Parade

COLD SPRING

4:30 p.m. St. Mary's Church  
Main and Chestnut  
[facebook.com/coldspringhalloween-parade](https://facebook.com/coldspringhalloween-parade)

Wear your costume, bring a pet and gather on the lawn for the village's 31st annual parade. At 5 p.m., marchers will walk down Main to the riverfront gazebo.

SAT 26

### Night of the Living Dead Dance Party

BEACON

8 p.m. University Settlement Camp  
724 Wolcott Ave. | [compassarts.org](https://compassarts.org)

This Compass Arts fundraiser will keep you dancing all night. Wear a costume and get in the spirit. *Cost: \$40 to \$85*

SUN 27

### Scary Stories in the Barn

BEACON

3 p.m. Mount Gulian  
145 Sterling St. | [mountgulian.org](https://mountgulian.org)

Lorraine Hartin Gelardi will share spooky tales. *Cost: \$15 (\$8 ages 5 to 15)*

SUN 27

### Tales of the Macabre

BEACON

6:30 p.m. Hudson Valley Brewery  
7 E. Main St.

Dimitri Archip presents an annual reading of stories and poems by Edgar Allan Poe by some of Beacon's most talented actors and writers. *Cost: \$5 donation*



Applefest, Oct. 19

## COMMUNITY

SAT 19

### Applefest

PHILIPSTOWN

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Boscobel  
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638  
[boscobel.org](https://boscobel.org)

This annual celebration will include cider press demonstrations, apple and cider tastings, music and games for children and food trucks. *Cost: \$22 (\$11 ages 4 to 18, free ages 4 and younger)*

SUN 20

### Castle to River Race

GARRISON

8 a.m. Philipstown Rec Center  
107 Glenclyffe Dr. | [castletoriver.com](https://castletoriver.com)

Participate in a half marathon that starts at 9 a.m. or a 5K run/walk at 9:30 a.m. Children can wear costumes for the 1-mile run at 10:30 a.m. Proceeds benefit Friends of Philipstown Recreation. *Cost: \$50 (\$35 for 5K, \$5 for fun run)*

SUN 20

### Pumpkin Festival

BEACON

Noon – 5 p.m. Riverfront Park  
2 Red Flynn Drive | [beaconsloopclub.org](https://beaconsloopclub.org)

Enjoy pumpkin pie, vegetarian chili and other food and drinks. Performers will include Arm of the Sea Theatre, Lost Ryders of the Wawayanda and the Judith Tulloch Band. *Free*

SUN 20

### Beacon Flow

BEACON

Noon – 5 p.m. River Center  
8 Long Dock Road  
[beaconflowfallfestival.eventbrite.com](https://beaconflowfallfestival.eventbrite.com)

Bassist and composer Dassi Rosenkrantz will debut *Order of the Flow* at this music and wellness festival, and there will be classes, food, vendors and more music. *Free*

SUN 20

### GVAC 50th Gala

GARRISON

3 – 6 p.m. Highlands Country Club  
955 Route 9D

Celebrate the Garrison Volunteer Ambulance Corps' 50th anniversary with music by Todd Londigan & Band, food and drinks. At 4 p.m., the GVAC will dedicate an ambulance in memory of Louis Lombardo Sr. Donations welcome. *Free*

WED 23

### English Language Class

BEACON

9:30 a.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
[beaconlibrary.org](https://beaconlibrary.org)

This weekly English as a Second Language (ESL) class will be led by

Dutchess BOCES. Register online. The registration fee is \$10. *Free*

THURS 24

### Foundation for Beacon Schools Gala

BEACON

7 p.m. The Roundhouse | 2 E. Main St.  
[facebook.com/ForBeaconSchools](https://facebook.com/ForBeaconSchools)

The nonprofit's annual fundraiser supports its grant programs. Enjoy food and drinks. *Cost: \$85*

SUN 27

### Mid Hudson Reptile Expo

POUGHKEEPSIE

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. MJN Center  
14 Civic Center Plaza  
[midhudsonciviccenter.org](https://midhudsonciviccenter.org)

More than 250 vendors will have reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates, along with supplies, for sale. *Cost: \$12 (\$6 ages 7 to 12, free for ages 6 and younger)*

SUN 27

### Dia de los Muertos

COLD SPRING

12:30 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
[butterfieldlibrary.org](https://butterfieldlibrary.org)

The community altar will honor beloved pets. Contribute a photo or memento on weekdays through FRI 25.

SUN 27

### Repair Cafe

BEACON

1 – 4 p.m. Beacon Rec Center  
23 W. Center St.  
[facebook.com/BeaconRec](https://facebook.com/BeaconRec)

Volunteer fixers will help salvage broken items, including textiles, electronics, jewelry, furniture and bikes. See Page 16. *Free*

## KIDS & FAMILY

SUN 20

### What a Rock Can Reveal

COLD SPRING

10:30 a.m. Split Rock Books  
97 Main St. | 845-265-2080  
[splitrockbks.com](https://splitrockbks.com)

Geologist Maya Wei-Haas will discuss her latest book and share a sampling of cool rocks.

SAT 26

### Be a Bower Bird

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
[butterfieldlibrary.org](https://butterfieldlibrary.org)

Children ages 5 and older can learn about birds that use building skills to create elaborate nests and gather materials from the garden to make their own.



**STAGE & SCREEN****SAT 19****Memorex Lane****BEACON**8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
[howlandculturalcenter.org](http://howlandculturalcenter.org)Justin Possenti and Rooster will host this live video art show and screening. *Cost: \$20***SUN 20****Brian Kilmeade****PEEKSKILL**7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
[paramounthudsonvalley.com](http://paramounthudsonvalley.com)For his History, Liberty & Laughs Tour, the Fox News morning host will share stories from his career and his books. *Cost: \$55 to \$75***WED 23****And the Pursuit of Happiness****BEACON**7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
[howlandculturalcenter.org](http://howlandculturalcenter.org)Ted Swindley, the creator of *Always... Patsy Cline*, will present a stage reading of his new play, set in a small Southern town in 1994, about a football player who becomes a debutante. Also WED 30. Donations welcome. *Free***THURS 24****The Peekskill Riots****BEACON**6 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
[beaconlibrary.org](http://beaconlibrary.org)

Watch Episode 3 of a five-part series that documents racist violence in 1949 against men, women and children who attended a Paul Robeson concert.

**FRI 25****Charlotte Blake Alston****PEEKSKILL**7:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
[paramounthudsonvalley.com](http://paramounthudsonvalley.com)The storyteller will weave African American and African oral traditions and play traditional instruments. *Cost: \$10***FRI 25****The Full Monty****GARRISON**7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre  
10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900  
[philipstowndepottheatre.org](http://philipstowndepottheatre.org)In this comedy, a group of unemployed male friends bare it all to earn money. Also SAT 26, SUN 27. Through Nov. 10. See Page 11. *Cost: \$35 (\$30 seniors and students)***SAT 26****All That Breathes****COLD SPRING**11 a.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
[butterfieldlibrary.org](http://butterfieldlibrary.org)Nadeem Shehzad, featured with his brother, Muhammad Saud, in this 2022 film that was named best documentary at Sundance and Cannes and nominated for an Academy Award, will talk about how he and Saud rescue birds of prey in Delhi, India, and their sudden global fame. The documentary can be seen on HBO Max. Register online. *Free***SAT 26****Don't Kill Yourself Yet****BEACON**7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | [artichokeshow.com](http://artichokeshow.com)Kenice Mobley's stand-up show tracks her impulses, from planning her funeral as a child to having a serious stroke. *Cost: \$25***VISUAL ARTS****SAT 19****Community Print and Steamroll****BEACON**Noon – 6 p.m. The Yard | 4 Hanna Lane  
[beaconopenstudios.com](http://beaconopenstudios.com)

Roll Out, the printmaking collective, and Beacon Open Studios will lead workshops and children's activities and print oversized woodcuts. Also SUN 20.



Natalia Engelhardt, Oct. 19

**SAT 19****Natalia Engelhardt****COLD SPRING**Noon – 3 p.m. Studio Tashtego  
160 Main St. | [studiotashtego.com](http://studiotashtego.com)

The solo exhibit will include the ceramic artist's hand-built works. Through Dec. 1.

**SAT 19****Bridges of Beacon****BEACON**1 – 3 p.m. Beacon Historical Society  
61 Leonard St. | [beaconhistorical.org](http://beaconhistorical.org)

Photos and artworks capturing the spans that connect the city will be on view.

**SAT 19****Maria Yolanda Liebana****COLD SPRING**3 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
[butterfieldlibrary.org](http://butterfieldlibrary.org)

Liebana's installation includes mixed media and light as part of the Diverse Voices: Empowering Narratives program, which promotes inclusivity and honors the LatinX experience.

**SAT 19****Yigal Ozeri****BEACON**4 – 7 p.m. KuBe Art Center  
211 Fishkill Ave. | [ecfa.com](http://ecfa.com)

The artist's photorealist oil

paintings in *Truth of Portrait* depict activists and elected officials dedicated to a just world. Through Jan. 20.**TALKS & TOURS****SAT 19****Cemetery Tour****COLD SPRING**3:30 & 5 p.m. Mountain Avenue  
[putnamhistorymuseum.org](http://putnamhistorymuseum.org)For this program hosted by the Putnam History Museum, meet at the cemetery gate to hear guides discuss some of the oldest local burial sites. Also FRI 25. *Cost: \$20 (\$15 members)***SUN 20****Online Safety****GARRISON**3 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](http://desmondfishlibrary.org)

Parents, teachers and caregivers are invited to learn about tools to support a child's or teen's positive experiences online. Registration required.

**SUN 20****Melissa Joplin Higley****PUTNAM VALLEY**3 p.m. Tompkins Corners C.C.  
729 Peekskill Hollow Road  
[tompkinscorners.org](http://tompkinscorners.org)

The poet will read from her

collection, *First Father*, followed by an open mic. *Cost: \$10***TUES 22****Growing up in Beacon****BEACON**7 p.m. Elks Lodge | 900 Wolcott Ave.  
[beaconhistorical.org](http://beaconhistorical.org)

The Beacon Historical Society has organized a panel of five longtime residents who will share memories.

**WED 23****The Brain Benefits of Meditation****BEACON**7 p.m. Beahive | 6 Eliza St.  
845-418-3731 | [bit.ly/mindmasteryBH](http://bit.ly/mindmasteryBH)Lourdes Laifer will share research and techniques about simple meditation practices with great impacts. *Cost: \$5 to \$15***FRI 25****Donnaville****BEACON**8 p.m. Stanza Books | 508 Main St.  
845-440-3906 | [stanzabooks.com](http://stanzabooks.com)

Michael Bogdanffy-Kriegh will talk with Beacon resident Donna Minkowitz about her debut novel.

**NATURE & OUTDOORS****SAT 19****Bird Walk****PHILIPSTOWN**8:15 a.m. Glassbury Court  
30 Revolution Road  
[putnamhighlandsaudubon.org](http://putnamhighlandsaudubon.org)Members of Putnam Highlands Audubon will lead a hike around Quarry Pond to see ducks, migrating birds and hawks. The event is co-sponsored by Philipstown Rec. Registration required. *Free***SAT 19****Learn About Wildlife Rehab****GARRISON**2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](http://desmondfishlibrary.org)

Maggie Ciarica-Belloni, a licensed state wildlife rehabilitator for 27 years, will discuss her experiences and how to help an injured or orphaned animal. Plus, meet an opossum.

*(Continued on Page 14)*


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THE WEEK AHEAD

(Continued from Page 13)

MUSIC

SAT 19  
**Elm Chamber Ensemble**  
COLD SPRING  
2 p.m. St. Mary's Church  
1 Chestnut St. | musicatstmarys.com  
Yu-Mei Wei (piano), Joel Pitchon (violin), Anthony Berner (viola) and Volcy Pelletier (cello) will play. Donations welcome. *Free*

SAT 19  
**The Fab Four**  
PEEKSKILL  
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
paramounthudsonvalley.com  
The Beatles tribute band will move through history with all the favorites. *Cost: \$37 to \$60*

SAT 19  
**Tom Rush**  
BEACON  
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com  
Celebrating 50 years on stage, the folk singer and songwriter will play music from his latest release, *Gardens Old, Friends New*. *Cost: \$50 (\$55 door)*

SUN 20  
**Scott Beall**  
BEACON  
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Bannerman Island  
845-831-6346 | bannermancastle.org  
Enjoy the singer and songwriter's music as you explore the island. *Cost: \$45 (\$35 ages 11 and younger)*

SUN 20  
**Charles Mokotoff**  
BEACON  
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
howlandculturalcenter.org  
The classical guitarist will perform. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SUN 20  
**Jacqueline Kerrod Trio**  
COLD SPRING  
4 p.m. Chapel Restoration  
45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.org  
Kerrod (harp), Taylor Ho Bynum (cornet) and Ken Filiano (double bass) play jazz, experimental and classical music. Donations welcome. *Free*

FRI 25  
**The Prezence**  
BEACON  
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com  
The tribute band creates the experience of a Led Zeppelin concert. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*



School of Rock, Oct. 27

SAT 26  
**Back to the Garden 1969**  
BEACON  
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com  
Dress in costume for a Hippie Halloween party with the Woodstock tribute band. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SUN 27  
**School of Rock Festival**  
MONTGOMERY  
1 – 10 p.m. City Winery Hudson Valley  
23 Factory St.  
Students of all ages from the Beacon school will show off their skills. *Cost: \$16*

SUN 27  
**Little Lies**  
BEACON  
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com  
The Fleetwood Mac tribute band promises to bring the drama. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

CIVIC  
MON 21  
**Assembly Office Hours**  
COLD SPRING  
1 – 4 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
butterfieldlibrary.org  
Staff members for Dana Levenberg, whose district includes Philipstown, will offer assistance.

MON 21  
**City Council**  
BEACON  
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza  
845-838-5011 | beaconny.gov

MON 21  
**Village Board**  
NELSONVILLE  
7 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St.  
845-265-2500 | nelsonvilleny.gov

WED 23  
**Village Board**  
COLD SPRING  
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.  
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

SAT 26  
**Putnam Early Voting**  
PHILIPSTOWN  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. North Highlands Firehouse  
504 Fishkill Road  
boe.putnamcountyny.gov  
Continues daily through Nov. 4. See Page 7.

SAT 26  
**Dutchess Early Voting**  
FISHKILL  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Town Hall  
807 Route 52 | elections.dutchessny.gov  
Continues daily through Nov. 4. See Page 7.

SCHOOL OF ROCK  
BEACON, NY  
PRESENTS  
FALL MUSIC FESTIVAL '24  
EMO NIGHT  
OZZY VS MAIDEN  
ROCK 101  
BEST OF THE '70S  
INDIE ROCK  
SUNDAY OCTOBER 27 AT 1PM  
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"Anxious Doll"



Chelsea Jones at her booth during a recent Beacon event.

Photo by M. Ferris



"Evil Bitch"

# Light in the Darkness

*Beacon artist celebrates the macabre*

By Marc Ferris

If Chelsea Jones changed her legal name, "Chelsea Juxtaposition Bones" would be ideal," she says. Her brand is "all about embracing the spooky season 365" and she almost always wears black, though acceptable modifications include offbeat logos and "splatters of blood."

The potential middle moniker is apt. Jones splashes her work with color but keeps the subjects dark. Her family raised an adorable white bishon frise that died recently at age 17. Name: Marilyn Manson, after the gaunt hard rocker.

"That was my choice," she says.

Jones, 33, who moved to Beacon in 2017 and works a corporate job, is focused on selling reproductions of her designs on postcards, tote bags and coffee mugs rather than showing at galleries.

Her "dreadfully delightful" postcards combine upbeat sayings with ghoulish drawings that "inject a healthy dose of obnoxious positivity into the gloomy worlds of the macabre," according to her website.

One image features a birthday cake with eight prison-striped candles and a bent green finger with a red stiletto nail tip.

Calling her artistic self "Chelsea Bones" and the resulting creations Bonesie's Monsters, her Instagram (@chelsbones) indicates that she's also "Ms. Bonesie if you're nasty."

The art exudes a cartoonish aura, including watercolors of Black pop culture icons like TLC, Coolio and Martin Lawrence. Jones's original characters favor light greens and powdery blues to leaven the reds and blacks that are usually used sparingly.

She's also leaned into digital design, which "at first I thought would be cheating, but as I got into it, I realized that it's difficult to do well," she says. "It's not a shortcut."

One top-selling drawing, "New Moon Bliss," resembles Michael Jackson with hollow eyes and head cocked at a 45-degree angle. The illustration "Porcelain Planter" and her Morte tote bag, created by manipulating a font, have sunflowers.

For art's sake, Jones spends time on social media drumming up business and setting up booths at fairs and festivals such as Cirque du Creep and The Alchemy Festival at The Yard and the Garden Gallery behind Beacon Bread Co.

Bones's website at bonesiesmonsters.com crackles with wit; she's talking with a publisher about writing and illustrating a children's book.

Some of her designs are coded. The slogan Palo & Sage is recognized by witches and the names Laurie, Ellen, Nancy and Sidney reference the final victims in four iconic horror flicks.

For old time's sake, Jones displays two small early watercolors in her booth, depictions of the evil doll Chucky and two zombies at the beach. Upon closer review, the beach scene depicts a brain at their feet, a spider dangling from an umbrella and a picnic basket stuffed with body parts.

An old soul who is in touch with the history of darkness, including the Pagan antecedents of Halloween and the roots of witchcraft, Jones also creates work inspired by Hudson Valley serial killer Lizzie Halliday (a patient at the Matteawan asylum who died in 1918) and George Denny of Philipstown, who was hanged in 1844 and remains the only killer ever executed in Putnam County.

"I didn't choose the dark side, it chose me," Jones says. "There's no attraction — I tried to reject it, but there I was as a kid in class, drawing pictures of Michael Meyers [the killer in the *Halloween* films] and getting in trouble."



"Porcelain Planter"



A mug with the "final girls"

## Beacon Blues (from Page 11)

lead guitar players seek to develop a signature tone, which starts with the strings, guitar and perhaps a pick, of course, but timbre is also shaped with effect pedals and the amplifier. To dial in a warmer sound, Ginsberg always uses an amp with vacuum tubes rather than a solid-state circuit.

The band's repertoire includes a handful of originals ("Nine O'Clock Blues" and "The Infant Child"), but he mostly mixes up classic rock covers like "Whole Lotta Love," by Led Zeppelin, and "After Midnight," by J. J. Cale, with blues staples "Stormy Monday" and "The Thrill is Gone."

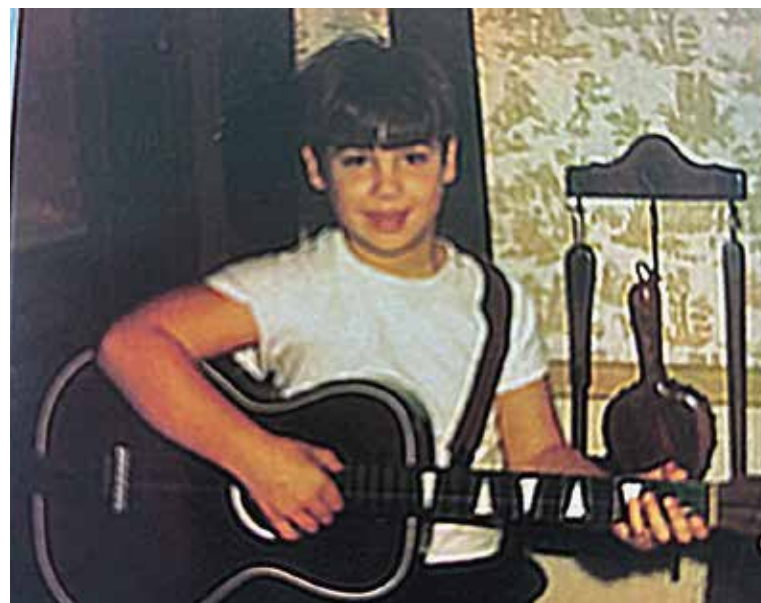
A photo included with one of his discs shows him as a child grinning while holding a guitar. He became proficient in

drums but decided to go with an electric guitar after hearing "Purple Haze," by Jimi Hendrix.

"I knew that day I had to learn to play lead guitar," he says. "Hendrix started playing rhythm and blues in the 1950s and, at heart, he's a blues guitar player. I mean, 'Red House'? Come on."

The genre is appealing because it's expressive and, ironically, gives Bobby G positive vibes. "The blues is so emotional, you just feel it in your gut," he says. "I started playing rock 'n' roll, but my soul settled with the blues."

*The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St. in Beacon. The Bobby G Blues Band will perform at 7 p.m. on Oct. 25, followed by an open mic.*



A young Bobby Ginsberg with his guitar

Photo provided



# Repair Cafes Return to Beacon

*Events aim to keep household items from landfill*

By Jeff Simms

**Y**ou bring it, they'll fix it. That was the goal back in 2016 when Beacon resident Antony Tseng organized the city's first repair cafe at the Howland Cultural Center.

For those unfamiliar with the concept, people may bring a stuffed animal missing an eye or two, garments in need of mending or the most common item, a malfunctioning lamp, to the free event. A team of volunteer "fixers" do their best to restore the items to working condition.

Organizers say the fixers are successful about 80 percent of the time, which keeps most of the toys (or kitchen appliances or electronic items) out of the waste stream. Attendees, no doubt some of them children, leave satisfied, while the city earns points that, over time, make it eligible for climate-resiliency funding from New York State. It's a win-win-win.

The pandemic and a shift in his work schedule slowed Tseng, who last organized a repair cafe in Beacon in 2020. But a new group of organizers was awarded \$1,000 this year by the city through its Community Investment Program, which supports nonprofits and Beacon-centric initiatives.

The team held its first event in June at the Recreation Center, where 14 volunteers repaired 85 items.

The next one is scheduled for Oct. 27, also at the Recreation Center at 23 W. Center St., from 1 to 4 p.m. Residents are encouraged to bring items such as electronics, textiles, furniture, lamps, jewelry and bicycles. Tseng will return as a volunteer "tinkerer," as he puts it, as he did in June.

"People were over the moon," said Jen Clapp, who helped organize the June and October events. "They were leaving with fixed items and smiles on their faces. We had so many volunteers working, it was like Santa's workshop."

The plan is to again hold two events in Beacon in 2025, as well as one in Fishkill.

The primary draw of a repair cafe is resurrecting a sentimental or costly item that no longer works quite right, but the concept's roots are in sustainability. The first one was organized by a journalist in the Netherlands in 2009. Since then, more than 2,500 have been held worldwide.

The local movement dates to 2012, when John Wackman, a Kingston resident who died in 2021, founded Repair Cafe Hudson Valley. Wackman was honored in 2016 by the federal Environmental Protection Agency, which said, at the time, that events in the region had diverted tens of thousands of pounds of solid waste from



Beacon hosted its first Repair Cafe since the pandemic in June at the Recreation Center.

Photo by Leonard Sparks

landfills and prevented tens of thousands of metric tons of carbon emissions.

The Hudson Valley initiative has grown to encompass cafes in 50 municipalities that kept more than 6,000 items out of the waste stream last year.

It's particularly important not to throw away electronics, which made up about 25 percent of the items repaired in Beacon in June, because they contain chemicals and metals, including lead, that should not enter the soil, water or air (through incineration), said Faye Leone, the city's coordinator for the state Climate Smart Communities program.

According to the state's climate scoping plan, manufacturing products and packaging use more than 50 percent of the energy consumed worldwide and is a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions, which cause global warming. The plan names waste reduction among its strategies for combatting climate change.

By holding two repair cafes this year, Beacon will earn points toward renewing its silver certification, which expires next year, in the Climate Smart program. The city has already gained access to grants and technical support on its climate projects by attaining silver, the highest level.



**Sun. Oct 20 - 4 PM**  
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**Sun. Oct 19 - 1-5 PM + Sun. Oct 20 - 1-3 PM**

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**Sat. Oct 19 - 8 PM**  
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**For info & tickets: [bit.ly/memorex-lane](https://bit.ly/memorex-lane)**

Oct 23 + 30 - THE TED SWINDLEY THEATRE stage reading  
Oct 25 - OPEN MIC NIGHT

Oct 26 - ARTICHOKE PRESENTS - Kenice Mobley

Oct 30 - SPOOKY (but not too) SCARY STORIES

Nov 1 - LIT LIT

Nov 2 - VICES & VIRTUES with MATT EDDY

Nov 3 - HCMC's SO PERCUSSION + Classics 4 Kids

Nov 8 - Ruth Danon's LIVE WRITING with Local Poets

Nov 9 - ANNIE & THE HEDONIST

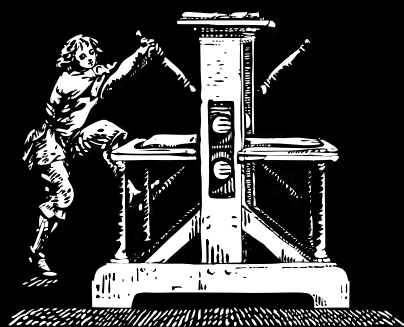
Nov 15 - Hudson Valley NERD NIGHT

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The Artist Next Door

# JASON HERNANDEZ

By Mackenzie Boric

Jason Hernandez is a lifelong artist, but he has taken a turn with his art, from paintings to furniture. Hernandez and his wife, Becky, moved to Beacon from Brooklyn just before the March 2020 pandemic shutdown. He had just signed a lease on a space for his studio, Hendo ([hendomade.com](https://hendomade.com)) when the world closed.

Hernandez got to work. He built furniture “as if I was about to get orders.” The process helped him “understand the physical world a little more.” He did custom work for architects and designers and created pieces for The Bronx Brewery and Hyperbolic Audio, among other clients.

Initially, Hernandez pursued painting, especially murals and signs. But he says that his passion for it began to dwindle. He turned to welding, taking classes at the School of Visual Arts.

The a-ha moment came when he made a coffee table; he later learned that his late grandfather had been a cabinet maker in Spain.

Lately, Hernandez says, he’s been tempted to paint again. “Now that there’s no pressure in feeling like I need to do it to be an artist,” he says. “I can just do it for pleasure.”



Jason Hernandez in his studio

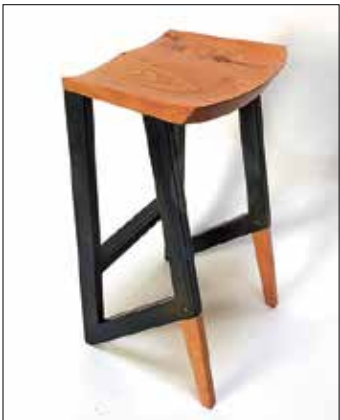


A white oak lobby bench created with Peter Hosier

Photos provided



Shaker-style side table



Curved stool



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A generation from now, let's not look back and ask why we paved over paradise in 2024.



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## Patricia Quinn Moss

Patricia Quinn Moss, age 67, of Croton-on-Hudson, New York, passed away on Oct. 13, 2024, surrounded by family.

Quinn will be remembered as a loving wife, mother, daughter, sister, aunt, and friend, known for her compassion, generosity, gentleness, curiosity, sharp intelligence, adventurous spirit, and courage. Quinn was a longtime partner at the international law firm Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, where she co-headed the Global Private Investment Funds Group before retiring in 2022.

Born on Feb. 2, 1957, in Garrison, New York, Quinn was the eighth of 10 children born to William John Moss and Kathryn Casale Moss. She academically excelled, from Northfield Mount Hermon and Phillips Exeter, to Harvard University and Fordham Law School. As a young lawyer, she practiced law in Japan before joining Orrick, where she led the Funds Group. She was particularly proud of her work championing economic resilience in low-income communities through the firm's Opportunity Zone initiative and its Impact Finance and Investment Group. She was the lead author of "Fundraising Terms and Conditions: Legal Developments in Key Countries" in Private Equity and Venture Capital — Regulation and Good Practice.

Quinn's dedication extended beyond her career, leaving a lasting impact on her community. She served on the Croton-Harmon Education Foundation (CHEF) board, was a member of the Croton Sustainable Energy Cooperative steering committee, and taught Sunday School at Holy Name of Mary Church. She also served as a director and corporate secretary for the High Water Women Foundation, which empowered low-income youth through education and advocated for the economic advancement of women and children.

Quinn was a lifelong athlete and lover of the outdoors. She captained her tennis team at Exeter and rowed at Harvard. She rode horseback across Wyoming and Ireland, trekked through the Himalayan mountains in Nepal, faced off

with a rhinoceros, skied the slopes in Hokkaido, sailed in the Caribbean, and snorkeled in the Aegean Sea. Together with her husband, she nurtured this love for adventure in her children as a devoted soccer/basketball/badminton/cross country mom, avid tennis player, and resolute hockey fan.

A woman of many passions, Quinn had a rare instinct for creating moments of meaning and beauty with all who met her, always sharing stories, songs, recipes, traditions, and dances. Her love of music and dance was vast, from Balkan singing and folk dancing, to organizing trips to the Glimmerglass Opera Festival with family and friends every summer for 26 years. She painted landscapes and won third place in the New York Bar Association's painting exhibit.

Quinn was predeceased by her father, William John Moss, and her sisters, Elizabeth Moss Bradley and Susan Moss Homola. She is survived by her husband of 30 years, Kai Sheng; her children, Sophia Sheng, William Sheng, and Mary Susan Sheng; her mother, Kathryn Casale Moss; her sisters, Mary Moss Appleton, Catherine Moss Warner, Amy Moss, and Barbara Moss; her brothers, John Moss, Gerard Moss, and Hugh Moss; as well as her 18 nieces and nephews.

Together with her husband and children, Quinn created a "Garden of Hope" on the hilltop of her home — a living testament to her love for beauty, family, and her unwavering optimism for a better future. Her laugh lives in the sighing leaves; her voice in the rushing wind and streams. She is treasured and sorely missed.

The memorial service will be held at the Center at Mariandale in Ossining at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 26. Memorial donations to Croton Caring (crotoncaring.org), the Cancer Research Institute (cancerresearch.org), or the American Indian College Fund (collegefund.org) would be appreciated by the family. The family invites all to share their memories of Quinn on her memorial page hosted by Edward Carter Funeral Home (dub.sh/quinn-moss).

PAID NOTICE

# LOOKING BACK IN BEACON

By Chip Rowe

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

## 150 Years Ago (October 1874)

A son of W.H. Rogers threw a ball at Fishkill Landing that hit Alex Mohurter as he drove past. Mohurter stopped his wagon, climbed out and struck the boy with his whip. The boy's father sued for assault, but a jury found no cause for action.

A man who said he was a boatman brought a 13-year-old girl named Mary Jane Clark to John Flannery's hotel at Fishkill Landing and paid for her room and breakfast. The girl said her mother lived in Rondout. The next morning, Flannery telegraphed Rondout and put the girl on the 12:55 p.m. train.

The Fishkill Landing Machine Works cut operations back to eight hours a day.

While students at the Matteawan Free School were playing "snap the whip," a girl named Tiee had her arm broken.

Two men from Newburgh were sentenced to six months in prison for robbing merchant A.P. Geenug at Fishkill Landing. They had asked him to show them shirts, and when he turned, one hit him in the head with a slug shot, knocking him senseless.

A Fishkill Landing hotel badly damaged by fire was sold at auction for \$3,150 [\$87,000] to Lewis Tompkins of the Dutchess Hat Works.

## 125 Years Ago (October 1899)

The Tiger football team of Fishkill Landing announced it would play any squad in Dutchess, Putnam or Orange counties whose players averaged 125 pounds.

The body of Andrew Mihalov, a native of Hungary, was found on the New York Central tracks a mile north of Fishkill Landing. His neck and back were broken, but the bottle of whiskey in his pocket was intact.

An appeals court heard a dispute over the late Thomas Aldridge's brickyard property at Dutchess Junction, valued at \$250,000 [\$9.5 million], that was to be sold and the proceeds divided when his widow died. A son, William, died before his mother, and the question was whether his 1/8th share passed to his children. The court ruled it did.

A police officer shot Harry Owen of Matteawan, who worked as a railroad towerman in Hastings, by mistake. After a holdup, officers had been assigned to watch for the suspects near the tracks. Shortly after 9 p.m., as Owen ran toward the station to catch a train home, he heard a cry, "Hold up your hands!" from behind. Assuming it was highwaymen, he ran faster. An officer fired, striking Owen in the cheek near his ear. Doctors said the bullet

missed killing him by a 1/16th of an inch.

Rebecca Case, 35, had been missing from her home on Davis Street in Matteawan since Sept. 1, although her husband believed his father-in-law, Franklin Mitchell, a jeweler in Newburgh, knew her whereabouts.

Nola Pauline "Polly" Gordon of Matteawan, a local author and poet, published an unusual notice in the local papers announcing that her two-week-old engagement to Harry Theall of Fishkill Landing had ended. The notice was a public letter to his mother, whom she had never met. "Mr. Theall scarcely reaches my standard in affinity socially, or as a gentleman of fine, true principles," she wrote. Gordon told a reporter from the *New York Evening Journal* that she had "given up my literary work because Mr. Theall wished it, but now I shall devote much time to it."

Two weeks later, the gossip page of the *Evening Journal* reported that Gordon had cornered her cousin, James Langman, at a stationery store because he had insulted her the evening before. According to its account, Gordon struck him with a horse-whip she had hidden beneath her overcoat. Because Langman grabbed her arm to stop the attack, she filed a criminal complaint that he had assaulted her.



The details differed in a story the next day in the *New York Journal and Advertiser*. It reported she told Langman: "I'm not going to be scandalized by you or anybody like you." The version in *The World* did not mention a whip, only mutual slaps. The *New York Herald* said the incident involved a revolver in a tobacco store and that Gordon told Langman, "You are no gentleman" before dropping the gun, which fired and shattered a mirror behind his head.

Ella Cable and James Ketchum, both in their late 50s, married and moved into a home on Grove Street. They had known each other since childhood. While Ella lived in Glenham and worked at the General Hospital at Fishkill Landing, James moved out west. The previous winter James was treated for frozen feet and the two were reacquainted, although they initially did not recognize each other.

Grace Ramsey, sent to the Matteawan Insane Asylum after she cut her husband's throat in June while he slept in their New York City apartment, gave birth to a daughter. Her husband was Harvey Ramsey, assistant treasurer at Madison Square Garden. Doctors said that, after the birth, her reason returned.

The steamer James Rogers, while at the  
(Continued on Page 19)



(Continued from Page 18)

Fishkill Landing wharf, was struck by a railroad freight boat at 2 a.m. Loaded with 1,200 barrels of cement, it sank quickly. The crew escaped overboard.

After tying the night watchman to a chair, masked burglars blew up the safe at Leicht's brewery in Matteawan and stole \$1,000 [\$38,000].

### 100 Years Ago (October 1924)

The weekly *Beacon Independent* began publication.

Col. Theodore Roosevelt Jr., the Republican nominee for governor, gave a short address in Beacon from the rear of his train during a stump tour. "Of course, I honor my father and endeavor to follow his ideals," he said. "But there is a belief in my family that every tub should stand on its own bottom."

In response to a deadly explosion that caused \$10,000 [\$188,000] in damage to nearby homes, the Common Council banned the manufacture or storage of fireworks.

John Jakubiel and Alphone Petrowski appeared in City Court after being arrested for selling illegal booze. The evidence was stored in the vault of the Matteawan National Bank because, as the *Poughkeepsie Eagle-News* reported, "liquor taken by authorities in other cities has been known to 'evaporate.'"

Amos Mosher, 80, of Beacon, and Hannah Mosher, 79, of Lucas, Kansas, were married at the Methodist parsonage in Fishkill. Hannah was the widow of Amos' brother, whom she had married at age 59. The romance developed after she came to Beacon in June to visit relatives. The couple planned to live in Lucas.

The Beacon Rubber and Tire Co. closed for the winter, but its owner said it would reopen in the spring as the Keystone Rubber Tire Co.

### 75 Years Ago (October 1949)

The Beacon Junior Social League welcomed seven members, then pledged \$100 [\$1,300] for welfare work, \$100 for an emergency polio drive and \$100 for the St. John's church building fund.

The Beacon Civic Music Association announced it would host four concerts at Beacon High School, beginning with a performance by Phillip Kinsman, baritone of the Metropolitan Opera.

The Republican-controlled City Council



While running for governor in 1924, Theodore Roosevelt Jr. made a stump speech in Beacon.

Library of Congress

approved a request from the City Democratic Committee to string an election banner over Main Street.

The city sold 13 parcels it had seized for unpaid taxes, but the commissioner of accounts told the *Poughkeepsie Journal* "he did not recall" the amounts received.

Traffic on Main Street was stopped for 10 minutes for cleanup after a case of bottled soda fell from a Royal Crown truck making the turn at Teller Avenue.

Stephen Bulmer, a vegetable peddler for over 60 years, died at age 81. He had a two-acre garden where he grew cotton, rice, okra, corn, sorghum, peanuts and Indian coffee.

The City Council added a \$250 [\$3,300] cost-of-living bonus for every city employee to the 1950 budget.

A 17-year-old Kent Street boy was arrested for driving without a license after he ran a car into a light pole on Fishkill Avenue. He and another boy had hitched a ride from a 38-year-old Wappingers Falls man arrested at the scene for public intoxication. The car overturned and burned. The boy was fined \$10 [\$130].

District Attorney W. Vincent Grady said during a speech to the Mount Carmel Catholic War Veterans that a Beacon mother told him that a Communist organizer offered her 16-year-old son "all kinds of inducements" to join the party.

The Beacon High football team played its first night game in school history under the arc lights at Highland Falls.

Main Street was blanketed with flour after Halloween pranksters threw small bags at passersby. Police said they received over 25 complaints.

### 50 Years Ago (October 1974)

The Mays Department Store at Dutchess Mall had its grand opening. "It is an interesting coincidence that the site upon which we stand was used in the American Revolutionary War as the Army's War Supply Depot," said Max Shulman, the president and chairman. "Now, almost 200 years later and under vastly different circumstances, we have erected a modernistic supply depot to service the civilian needs of this great community." The opera singer Patrice Musel sang "God Bless America," said to be the theme song of Mays' late founder, Joe Weinstein.

Beacon High School inaugurated its new electric scoreboard before the Bulldogs defeated Poughkeepsie, 34-6, following a scoreless first half.

The Planning Board voted 4-2 to reject an application from the Hi-Land Gas Co. to build a propane facility on the west end, 300 feet from a cardboard box factory.

Beacon High School announced that the wrong student had given the valedictorian speech at graduation. Principal Edwin Stevens said that, after a final check of grades, Jeffrey Gunn was valedictorian and Beth Pearson was salutatorian, not the other way around.

A 30-year-old Rende Drive man was found guilty of selling \$7 [\$45] worth of marijuana to a co-worker who was a police informant. The jury twice asked the judge to clarify the meaning of "entrapment."

A prisoner at the Fishkill Correctional Facility being escorted by a guard jumped over a half door and punched a Beacon woman who worked there as a secretary in the face. She required 20 stitches.

In response to a question at a City Council meeting from Patricia Lewis, who said she represented West End residents, Mayor Robert Cahill said the abandoned Aero leather goods building would be demolished within six weeks. Lewis complained that the building had become "a haven for winos and dope addicts."

Judith Becker, 26, a psychologist who worked with criminally insane inmates at the Fishkill Correctional Center, was found strangled in her Yonkers apartment. [Two decades

later, in 1995, a serial killer named Ricardo Caputo pleaded guilty to the murder. He and Becker allegedly had a romantic relationship, and she supported his transfer to a lower-security facility, from which he escaped.]

### 25 Years Ago (October 1999)

The Dutchess County Economic Development Corp. announced a plan to convert the former Dutchess Mall into a "small city within a building" known as the Hudson Valley Metro Centre.

The newly created Comite Mi Gente honored four people at a ceremony at the Howland Public Library: Gonzalez Quintana, who founded the school district's bilingual program; Roman Viera Fontanez, a city resident since 1955; and Carmen Constanino and Maria Marrero, choir members at St. John's.

A Poughkeepsie man who parked his car on the Newburgh-Beacon bridge and threatened to jump snarled traffic for five hours and contributed to a three-vehicle crash that killed a New Jersey woman. After being talked down from a steel support, he was charged with reckless endangerment.

A 20-year-old resident pleaded guilty to kicking and punching a man as he left a convenience store on East Main Street until he gave up his 18-pack of beer.

The family of Robert Ray, 39, the special prosecutor assigned to complete Ken Starr's investigations of President Bill Clinton, had a Mount Beacon summer home on stilts beginning in the early 1970s. "I used to run him down the mountain for supplies to Bob's Corner Store," recalled Jim Bopp. "He was a good kid." [In 2020, Ray served on Donald Trump's defense team before the president's first impeachment trial.]

Melissa Holland, a singer, songwriter and flutist, hosted a release party at the Howland Cultural Center for her debut album, *Moving Away*.

The state Job Development Authority sold two former Braendly dye works mills at East Main and Leonard streets to Ron Sauers and Gary Pavlovic for \$1.4 million. Sauers already owned the Braendly roundhouse on the north side of Fishkill Creek.

Every seat on the City Council, including the one held by the mayor, had a Democratic and Republican candidate, including three Republican incumbents.

## Current Classifieds

### AUCTIONS

**ONLINE AUCTION** — Over 200 lots of the contents of George A. Logan & Sons including (of course) gravestone monuments; 1960s green All-Steel file cabinets, desks & chairs; magnificent stained glass window; 19th century Chinese bronze Lotus form planter; large bronze after JJ Jaquet, Adam & Eve; lighting; antique furnishings; rugs; West Point related items; garden urns and planters; magic lantern slides;

antique carriage stone; live plants; and much more! For link, see [blueberryhillgalleries.com](http://blueberryhillgalleries.com).

### SERVICES

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### TAG SALES

**NELSONVILLE** — Oct. 18 and 19. George A. Logan & Sons (at the entrance to the Cold Spring Cemetery). Contents of the Monument Design Office/Antique Shop and the Red Barn. So many interesting items! Need a monument (gravestone)? We have them! West Point-related items? Have them, too! Furniture including mid-century tanker desks, green file drawers, cabinets & flat files. Vintage books, ephemera & framed art. Bronze statuary and

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**TAG SALE? Car for sale? Space for rent? Help wanted? Place your ad here for \$9.95. See [highlandscurrent.org/classifieds](http://highlandscurrent.org/classifieds).**



## Immigration *(from Page 1)*

moved his family in 2004 to Philipstown for the same reason so many others come to the Highlands: the public schools.

When his son David was diagnosed with autism, a doctor told him that Haldane was well-equipped to help children with special needs. David, born in the U.S., didn't speak until age 4 and exhibited curious behaviors like lining up his puzzle pieces in a row like a train. The therapists and teachers at Haldane made great strides with David, teaching him how to communicate and interact with others, his father said. "They were fantastic," he said.

David graduated from Haldane three years ago as an honor roll student.

Biavati's journey is similar to many undocumented immigrants who live in the Highlands but doesn't conform to the hot-button and often racist rhetoric of the political season.

According to state data, recent immigrants from Central and South America have not brought crime to the region. Rather, except for their legal status, they are like new residents who migrate from other U.S. counties and states seeking a better life in the suburbs, affordable housing and quality schools. The difference is that undocumented immigrants usually fill the lowest-paying jobs.

### 49

Percentage of immigrants to the U.S. who are naturalized citizens

### 28

Percentage who are lawful temporary or permanent residents

### 23

Percentage who are undocumented

Source: Pew Research Center, citing U.S. Census Data

A January report by the Immigration Research Initiative, a nonpartisan think tank, said the most common jobs for newly arrived immigrants are domestic workers, janitors, waiters, truck drivers, cashiers, couriers and messengers. After five or 10 years, the most common jobs are home health aide and retail sales.

An estimated 850,000 undocumented immigrants — meaning they do not have work permits or green cards — live in New York state, mostly in New York City, according to the Migration Policy Institute in Washington, D.C. How many have come to the Highlands is unknown. But if immigration court data is indicative, the numbers have risen dramatically over the past two decades. As of August, there were nearly 400 new immigration cases involving Putnam County residents, according to the Transaction Records Access Clearinghouse at Syracuse University (TRAC). In 2004, there were 34 cases filed during the entire year.

The numbers for Dutchess are similar. As of August, there were 779 immigration cases. In 2004, there were 33. About 75 percent of those cases involve immigrants from Central and South America, according to TRAC.

At the same time, there has been a dramatic



Delma Perera

Photo by J. Asher

rise in the Latino population in Putnam and Dutchess counties. In Dutchess, Hispanics comprised 15 percent of the population in 2022 compared to 4 percent three decades earlier, according to U.S. Census data. Hispanics are 20 percent of the population in Beacon; in 1992 they were 14 percent.

In Putnam, the population was 19 percent Hispanic in 2022 compared to 3 percent in 1992. In the U.S., an estimated 13 percent of Latinos are undocumented, while 87 percent are U.S. citizens or legal residents.

Immigrants come to the Highlands and the Hudson Valley seeking "the good life," said Allan Wernick, an attorney who founded CUNY Citizenship NOW, the nation's largest university-based legal assistance program. "Undocumented immigrants are looking for the same thing that all of us are looking for, a safe place where the kids can get a good education and a place where they can find work."

The good life was the reason Renato Saldaña immigrated from Cuenca, Ecuador, where he earned \$300 a month in his chosen trade of embroidering clothing. In 2009 he paid "coyotes" (human smugglers) \$12,500 and left his wife and two daughters to embark on a 2½-month odyssey with stops in Panama, Honduras and Mexico. He crossed the border at McAllen, Texas, hiding in the sleeper of a tractor-trailer.

He wound his way to Philipstown, where he found a small apartment on Route 9D just north of the Appalachian Market. His first job was on a Peekskill garbage truck before finding work at a clothing manufacturer in Yorktown Heights. When his daughters arrived in 2017, he sent them to Haldane High School, where they graduated with honors. Living in Cortlandt, Saldaña is trying to start his own embroidery business.

How does he feel about moving to the U.S.? "It's a good country," said Saldaña, through a translator. "It would be better without the racism. But we also have problems in our own country. We are better off here."

The Saldañas are among the thousands who have come to the area from Ecuador, Guatemala, El Salvador, Mexico and Honduras, the most common countries for immigrants to Putnam and Dutchess counties, according to TRAC. Non-Hispanic immigrants come to the area, as well, but not in nearly the same numbers.

What most of these immigrants do once they're here is clear: low-paying work.

"They're doing the jobs that no one else wants to do, that are the backbone of our economy," said Brahvan Ranga, political director of Make the Road New York, which advocates for immigrants.

One of those low-paid workers was Delma Perera, who earned \$8 an hour when she came to the U.S. in 2002 from Uruguay, overstaying a tourist visa. That was four times what she could make as a teacher back home, she said, adding that her original plan was to earn enough money to return to Uruguay and buy a home.

She settled in Ossining before moving to Peekskill and then Philipstown. What did she do to make money? "Anything," she recalled. "If you wanted me to clean the pool, I would clean the pool. I would clean houses. I was a waiter at a graduation party."

Perera, who recently moved to Wappingers Falls, is now a certified nurse assistant who works as a home health care aide. She earns \$15 to \$25 an hour.

While many take low-paying jobs, one thing immigrants don't seem to do often is commit crimes. In Putnam, the number of recorded violent crimes has remained steady at four to six per 10,000 residents for 20 years, according to federal crime statistics. In Dutchess, they stayed at 20 to 22 per 10,000 residents.

"Immigrants make places safer," said Joseph Lavetsky, an immigration attorney based in Beacon, because the last thing most immigrants want is to attract the attention of law enforcement. Criminal activity can get you deported, he said. Arrests for violent crime, drunk driving or even jumping subway turnstiles undermine attempts to get work permits and green cards, the first steps toward citizenship.

### \$21,000

Median annual income for a newly arrived immigrant in the lower Hudson Valley

### \$35,000

Median income after five years for immigrants outside New York City

Source: Immigration Research Institute, 2021 figures adjusted for inflation

Meanwhile, many undocumented immigrants pay taxes. In 2022, undocumented immigrants paid \$96.7 billion in federal, state and local taxes, according to the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. New York State collects \$3.1 billion in taxes from immigrants, with each paying an average of about \$9,000, according to ITEP.

Renato Saldaña said he started paying taxes in 2014 after learning he could get what the IRS calls an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number. Indeed, attorneys routinely advise undocumented immigrants to pay their taxes and keep careful records as a way of documenting their good faith when they apply for work permits and green cards.

"I pay my taxes every single year," said Perera, who has a work permit. "I follow the rules. But I cannot vote."

Next week: *The path to staying*

## Where are the Asylum-Seekers?

In May 2023, Orange County legislators and activist groups such as For the Many and Beacon Climate Action Now spearheaded donation drives and offered other support for nearly 200 immigrants bused from New York City to two hotels in the Town of Newburgh and the Red Roof Inn on Route 9 in Poughkeepsie.

New York City was struggling to shelter more than 60,000 new asylum-seekers, some of them ordered bused from Texas by Gov. Greg Abbott. The city argued that the law allowed it, "as a last resort," to send immigrants upstate.

Most asylum-seekers come from Latin American countries such as Ecuador and Colombia, and many are from Africa (e.g., Guinea, Senegal and Mauritania), China, Russia and Haiti. Venezuelans fleeing poverty, crime and political repression make up the largest share of immigrants coming to New York City.

Orange County and the Town of Newburgh responded to the New York City arrivals by suing the hotels, and the county executives in Dutchess and Putnam prohibited them from housing asylum-seekers. Dutchess also sued New York City.

None of the immigrants were sent to Putnam County, but on July 5, the Legislature voted 7-1 to ban New York City from using in-county lodging as shelters.

By a second 7-1 vote, the legislators declared Putnam as a "rule of law" county and pledged cooperation with federal immigration officials to identify criminals. The resolution emphasized that Putnam "is not a sanctuary county."

That vote enshrined as policy executive orders issued by County Executive Kevin Byrne, who said they were necessary "to protect life and property" because of a "reasonable apprehension of immediate danger."

Nancy Montgomery, who represents Philipstown and part of Putnam Valley as the Legislature's sole Democrat, cast the two "no" votes.

New York City said in September that it had 61,700 asylum-seekers living at 212 city-funded shelters and hotels. The city is also paying for rooms for 1,437 immigrants outside New York City, down from a peak of 2,263 in February.

In an Oct. 3 court filing, the city said that it plans to resettle immigrants sheltered at upstate hotels by the end of the year. Over the summer, city and state officials said that those individuals and families who are not given permanent housing could be allowed to return to New York City and re-enter the shelter system.



Classic Wheels

1957 Chevy 210

By Michael Turton

**T**he adage “like father, like son” may hold true for certain classic car owners.

The first car Jim Greges owned was a 1957 Chevy that had belonged to his father. The first car he bought, in 1983, at age 19, was also a 1957 Chevy. “I always liked the look of the ‘57,” he says.

Greges paid \$500, or about \$1,600 today, although the car was far from roadworthy. “It had no motor and no transmission, the floors were full of holes and it needed rockers and trunk work,” he recalls.

He did nearly all the restoration, including a fresh coat of original Code No. 76 Daytona yellow paint. He left the fabric and vinyl seats to others.

“I just wanted to leave the car as is,” he says. “There are things I could have added, but that takes away from its history.”

Over the past 40 years, Greges has acquired parts from all over the coun-



try, although most were easy to find. He replaced the chrome bumper ends and the rear taillights. He has the original, stainless steel (not chrome) side trim ready to reinstall.

The replacement engine is a Chevy 283 cubic inch V8, the same power the car rolled off the assembly line with. Chevrolet introduced the engine in 1957 and boasted it was the first to generate one horsepower per

cubic inch when fuel-injected.

The transmission is a two-speed Powerglide automatic with a floor shifter, also true to the car’s origins.

Greges replaced the interior door panels and installed an after-market AM-FM radio replicating the original. He also installed a removable Grant steering wheel for security. “Their motto is ‘No wheel, no steal!’” he notes. A removable steering wheel also makes it easier to clean the dash.

The car is not deluxe; it lacks options available in 1957 such as power steering, brakes, windows and seats that could have been added for \$270 (\$3,000 today), air conditioning (\$565, or \$6,300) or fuel injection (\$480, or \$5,400). “Mine has no power anything,” Greges says. “Everything is old-fashioned manual.”

Parking can be a challenge without power steering, but otherwise Greges feels the car “is a dream,” including the comfortable seats. “It’s nice to drive, good on the highway,” he said, even on longer trips to Kentucky with his wife, Patty, for the annual Hot Rod Power Tour.

He doesn’t recall the odometer reading when he bought the car; he reset it to zero and has driven it 21,000 miles. He esti-

The Specs

- Assembly:** Atlanta, Flint and other plants
- Model:** 210
- Body:** 2-door sedan or hardtop, 4-door hardtop, sedan, convertible or station wagon
- Production:** 1.5 million (2-door sedan, 162,851)
- Engine:** 283 cubic inch V8, 265 cubic inch V8, 235 cubic inch straight 6
- Carburetor:** One four-barrel
- Horsepower:** 220
- Transmission:** Powerglide 2-speed automatic, 3-speed manual, Turboglide automatic
- Weight:** 3,272 pounds.
- Fuel economy:** 17 to 18 mpg
- Cost:** \$2,222 (\$24,932 today)

mates the Chevy gets about 17 miles to the gallon on the highway.

“It has to run on high-test, but I make my concoction with additives to boost the octane, plus lead, which the heads and valves need as a lubricant,” he says.

He and Patty enjoy taking the car to local cruise shows in Fishkill and Hopewell Junction, where the yellow exterior always attracts attention. *Motor Trend* once described the ‘57 Chevy as “arguably the best looking and most well-known Chevy ever built.”

Greges has been asked if he would sell, “but once I tell them I’ve had it since I was 19, they say, ‘Forget it, it’s a family member,’” he says. On average, a 1957 Chevy 210 sells for \$45,000 but has gone for as much as \$120,000. The 150, 210 and Bel Air models are popular with collectors, restorers and hotrodders.

Chevrolet sold the 210 from 1953 to 1957. It was considered a notch above the less stylish 150 but not as glitzy as the Bel Air. In 1958 the 210 was replaced by the Biscayne.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

#### CITY OF BEACON

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE**, that the City of Beacon City Council hereby schedules a public hearing for October 21, 2024 regarding a Proposed Local Law amend Chapter 211 of the Beacon City Code concerning traffic lights and fire lanes. The Public Hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtroom at One Municipal Plaza, Beacon, NY 12508, and also via videoconference and teleconference.

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

*Benjamin Swanson, Secretary to the Mayor*

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Out There

Invasive Language

By Brian PJ Cronin

There's a 13-acre nature preserve at Marist College, where I teach environmental journalism, called Fern Tor.



Most students don't know about it, so last month I took my class to explore the preserve and to illustrate that, when we go into the woods or on the river, we need to be alert for stories. What is the environment telling us?

For example, since *tor* means rocky outcropping, will we see rocky outcroppings? (We did.) Why are those two trees dying? (Proximity to the train tracks.) Is the preserve large and healthy enough to support animals larger than squirrels? (Yes, judging from the wild turkeys.)

Then we came across a corridor of towering white bushes. They were glorious, but the understory is darker. We were in the two-week annual window when Japanese knotweed bloom. It was easy to see why people imported them in the 19th century: They smelled heavenly. The plant was prized for its ability to grow up to 10 feet a year, creating quick privacy fences on gilded estates.

But that rapid growth means that Japanese knotweed shades out native species, which soon die. The roots are strong



Japanese knotweed in bloom at Fern Tor  
Photos by B. Cronin

enough to crack home foundations, and the stalks can rise through sidewalks. Cutting it back encourages the roots to send up more stalks. Even if dug up, the plant can reproduce from a single rhizome.

That's a story. And here's another: How we talk about problematic plants can be problematic.

Many scientists, researchers and journalists would like to change the language we use to discuss invasives. For instance, the preferred scientific name for the gypsy moth is now spongy moth, because *gypsy* is a slur for Romani people. *Spongy moth* was chosen because it describes the egg sacs the moths lay.

That's becoming the pattern: Rename invasives for a distinguishing characteristic. The Asian Carp is now the Bighead Carp, the Asian Giant Hornet (nicknamed the "murder

hornet" because they rip the heads off honeybees) is now the Northern Giant Hornet (because it's from northern Asia).

Japanese knotweed is still Japanese knotweed. But, at a recent symposium of local scientists and researchers, we discussed what names could be used instead. Calling it "knotweed" doesn't work because there are other species with knotweed in their names. "Invasive knotweed" was the best we could come up with, but that isn't specific enough for scientific use.

Journalists can change the language we use more easily than scientists. If we write about Japanese knotweed "eradicating" native species, or even the need to "fight" invasive species, we're establishing a narrative that anything that isn't from here is dangerous and needs to be destroyed. But not every species

that came here only recently causes ecological problems; we use "non-native" to refer to them.

Aggressive language also confers a negative agency to species, as if they came here with the express purpose of laying waste. It's not the plants' fault they're here, they were brought by people. The problem is us.

Even "invasive" has negative connotations, but no one has been able to come up with a suitable replacement ("Colonizing species"?).

What can we do? A scientist I interviewed years ago explained that the problem with invasive species is that they transform thriving and diverse ecosystems into monocultures, making them more vulnerable to outside threats. For an ecosystem, strength comes from diverse species mutually thriving and supporting each other. That's a story worth telling.

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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						59		

- ACROSS
1. Knock
4. Boxer Ali
9. 60 Minutes aier
12. Leading lady?
13. Edmonton player
14. 2016 Olympics city
15. Moisturizer
17. Finale
18. Name
19. Buzzing insect
21. Neglect
24. Steerer's place
25. "So that's it!"
26. QB's goals
28. Nasal partitions
31. Lopsided win
33. Feeling down
35. Tank filler
36. Chef's garb
38. Up to
40. Alice waitress
41. Suffix with "techno"

43. Break fluid?
45. Sentence fragment
47. Overly
48. Wish otherwise
49. Famed Boston desserts
54. Carte lead-in
55. Mountain crest
56. — -mo
57. Orange tuber
58. Did yard work
59. Layer
11. Pop
16. Sch. URL ender
20. Staff symbol
21. TV explorer
22. Denny's rival
23. Baked potato topping
27. Used a chair
29. Conference leader?
30. Body lotion ingredient
32. — Bora (Afghan region)
34. Give orders
37. Daytona 500 acronym
39. Was foreboding
42. — firma
44. Dandy guy
45. Use a rosary
46. Luau dance
50. "A mouse!"
51. WWW access enabler
52. Right angle
53. Tofu source
- DOWN
1. Game caller
2. Glam Gardner
3. Chest muscle
4. Short-horned grasshopper
5. Inflatable sleepers
6. Land in la mer
7. Extract via percolation
8. Fighting forces
9. Ineffectual type
10. Predicament

SUDOCURRENT

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

WORDLADDER

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

FETCH

PORCH

WORDSEARCH

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

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

Answers for Oct. 11 Puzzles

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

MORAL, MODAL, MODEL,  
MODES, NODES, NOSES

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

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## Sports

# VARSITY ROUNDUP

## BEACON

By Nick Robbins

**FOOTBALL** — The wins keep coming for the Bulldogs as they moved to 5-1 on Oct. 10 with a 39-0 road beatdown at winless O'Neill. Jazziah Whitted, who missed Beacon's win at Saugerties on Oct. 4 with an injury, returned as quarterback and went 18 of 24 for 215 yards, including two touchdowns. Jaden Jones had six catches for 102 yards, including a 52-yard TD reception. Kevin Beal led the defense with eight tackles, including four behind the line of scrimmage. The Bulldogs host Liberty (1-5) today (Oct. 18) at 5:30 p.m.

**BOYS' SOCCER** — Beacon won its ninth straight league title with a 6-0 Senior Day victory over Port Jervis on Tuesday (Oct. 15). That followed a 1-0 win on Monday over visiting Byram Hills and a 2-0 victory at Fallsburg on Oct. 10. Tye Elias scored the lone goal against Byram Hills and scored twice against Port Jervis. Craig Seamans' squad, which finished 13-2, with losses to Arlington and Kingston, is idle until the Section IX, Class A playoffs begin Oct. 29. The boys are ranked ninth among Class A schools by the New York State Sportswriters Association.

**GIRLS' SWIMMING** — Beacon wrapped up its season with a 117-53 loss to Cornwall on Wednesday (Oct. 16). Serena Stampleman and Lauren Antonucci each picked up two golds for the Bulldogs, who finished 1-7.

**GIRLS' SOCCER** — Despite falling at John Jay East Fishkill on Oct. 10, 6-1, ending a 13-game win streak, Beacon dominated Liberty on Wednesday (Oct. 16) by the same score to win back-to-back league titles. Reilly Landisi had two goals and two assists. Beacon (14-1) hosts Marlboro at 4:15 p.m. on Wednesday (Oct. 23) to close the



Beacon dominated Liberty on Wednesday to improve to 14-1. Photo by Cadence Heeter

regular season. The girls are ranked 18th among Class A schools by the New York State Sportswriters Association.

**CROSS-COUNTRY** — The Bulldogs competed at the Manhattan College Invitational in the Bronx on Oct. 13. Cecilia Allee and Lily Murr ran personal bests in the 2.5-mile race, finishing in 21:34.5 and 21:46.1, respectively. Travis Dickston was the top finisher for the boys in 15:46.1.

## HALDANE

By Jacob Aframian

**FOOTBALL** — Coming off a bye week and two straight losses, Haldane bounced back on Oct. 12 with a 23-0 home win over Peekskill. David Powlis completed 10 of 15 passes for 165 yards and three touchdowns, Alex Gaugler had 28 carries for 132 yards and Jake Thomas caught four passes for 95 yards and two scores.

The Blue Devils scored in the first quarter on 51-yard and 23-yard passes from Powlis to Thomas. The defense also forced a safety to put Haldane up 16-0. The third TD came in the fourth quarter when Powlis fired a 23-yard pass to Brody Corless. Haldane (3-2) will host Putnam Valley (3-2) at 7 p.m. tonight (Oct. 18) under the lights for homecoming.

**BOYS' SOCCER** — Haldane suffered two tough road losses, falling 6-0 at Peekskill on Oct. 11 and 4-0 at Walter Panas on Tuesday (Oct. 15). The Blue Devils (3-10) hosted Pawling on Thursday (Oct. 17) and travel to Putnam Valley on Saturday.

**GIRLS' SOCCER** — While the boys hosted Walter Panas, the girls traveled to Cortlandt to face the Panthers but also fell, 4-1. After Stella Gretina tied the game for the Blue Devils in the first half, Panas scored three straight. On Wednesday (Oct. 16), Haldane honored its seniors — Amelia Alayon, Josie Foley-Hedlund, Zohra Kapoor, Martha McBride and Gabby Perilli — before hosting Yonkers Montessori Academy. Although YMA scored first, Gretina had the equalizer with 4:42 left in the first half, and a minute later Foley-Hedlund gave Haldane the lead. Gretina and Foley-Hedlund each scored again in the second half, along with Perilli, for a 5-2 win. The Blue Devils (2-11) have one more game scheduled, on Monday (Oct. 21) at Franklin Roosevelt.

**GIRLS' TENNIS** — The Blue Devils won their fourth straight match on Oct. 10 over Westlake, 4-0. Ellie Dubroff and Mary McBride won at singles and Scout Thakur De Beer/Silvia Hardman and Charlie Robohm/Audrey Silverstein at doubles. Against



Haldane's Josie Foley-Hedlund scored twice against YMA.

Photo by Skip Pearlman



The Haldane boys' cross-country team won the league title on Oct. 10 by one point.

Photo provided

Croton-Harmon on Oct. 11, the girls fell, 3-1, with Dubroff winning at singles. Despite a late-season surge, the Blue Devils (7-5) did not qualify for the Section I tournament.

**VOLLEYBALL** — Haldane fell, 3-0, at Yonkers Montessori Academy on Oct. 11 but won at Pawling on Wednesday (Oct. 16), 3-1 (25-20, 25-19, 22-25, 25-20). Elaina Johanson had 11 kills, Liv Holmbo had 11 aces and Savannah Duggan scored 17 digs. The Blue Devils (3-11) host Croton-Harmon today (Oct. 18) at 4:15 p.m., travel to Putnam Valley on Monday and host Pawling at 6 p.m. on Wednesday.

**CROSS-COUNTRY** — The boys edged Putnam Valley on Oct. 10 by one point for the league championship at North Salem. The girls finished second, seven points behind North Salem. Owen Powers won the boys' race, setting a course record in 16:44, Jack Ilian was third in 18:10 and Henry Amadei was 13th in 19:10. For the girls, Ashley Sousa was third in 22:50, Kate Resi was 10th in 24:54 and Hazel Berkley was 11th in 25:08. All six runners received All-League honors. The Blue Devils will race on Saturday (Oct. 19) in the Section I Invitational at Woodlands.



Elijah Epps scores for the Bulldogs against O'Neill.

Photo by Cadence Heeter