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# The HIGHLANDS Current

NOVEMBER 1, 2024


NYPA Newspaper of the Year

Support our nonprofit: [highlandscurrent.org/join](https://highlandscurrent.org/join)


## 15 YEARS Covering and Connecting our Communities




Gordon Stewart, Founder and Publisher




Award-winning photography by Ross Corsair




Resources are dedicated to in-depth projects localizing national issues, like our first series, on the opioid crisis.



Membership launched and digital delivery of Friday paper begins



Student Journalists Program introduced with the help of a group of local donors.



First summer interns hired through a partnership with Marist College

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019


2020

2021


2022

2023


2024




First Virtual Paper  
**Philipstown.info**




First print issue published June 1 and named **The Paper**




Celia Barbour's **Mouths to Feed** nominated for James Beard Award



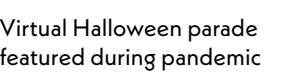
**The Paper** broadens coverage to Beacon and becomes  
**The HIGHLANDS Current**




**How Hot? How Soon?**  
Climate change in the Highlands




Special reports win significant awards



Virtual Halloween parade featured during pandemic



**NYFA**  
**The Current** is named NY Newspaper of the Year and repeats in 2023 and 2024

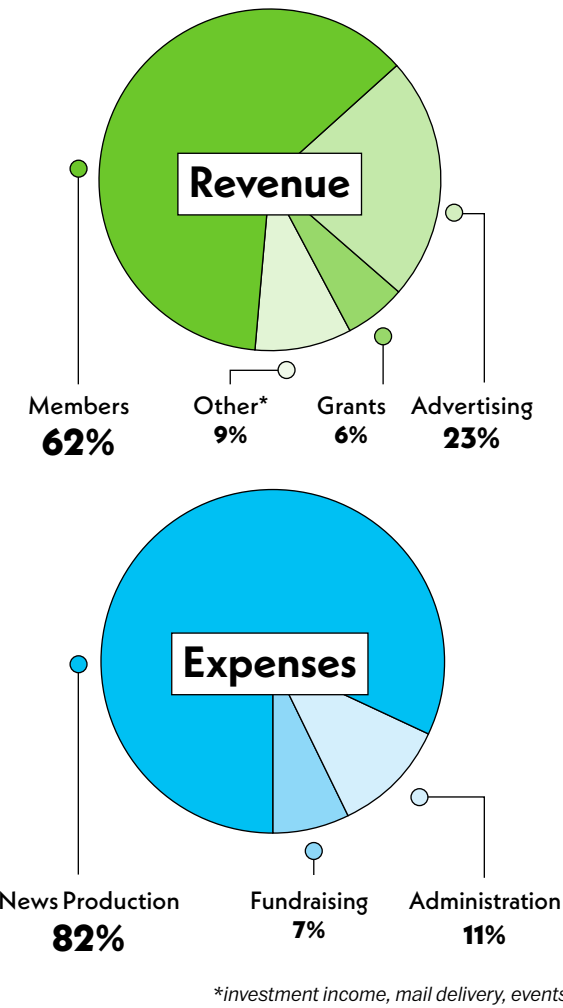


A fundraiser celebrating our 15th year features actors Kathryn Grody and Mandy Patinkin

And We Are Just Getting Started...

# We Need You

As has been the case since our membership program started in 2019, members provided the largest portion of support for *The Current's* news operations in our fiscal year 2023-24.



The first event of *The Current's* 15th year featured *New York Times* Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Nicholas D. Kristof.



Community newspapers are sometimes better at covering good things that are happening in the community as well as the bad things. I'm so glad that all of you come together and support *The Current* and are behind it. You are not only benefiting *The Current* but keeping the social fabric of the community vibrant and alive in ways that will yield a real return.

~Nicholas D. Kristof

# Dear Valued Readers,

As the crisp autumn air paints the Hudson Highlands in stunning hues, we at *The Highlands Current* enter an exciting new chapter. This year marks our 15th year serving the vibrant communities of Beacon and Philipstown, and I'm thrilled to join you on this journey as the new Growth Director.

*The Current* has chronicled the stories that shape our unique corner of the world. From the triumphs of local businesses and our students to the challenges we navigate together — be they government issues, environmental concerns, tourism challenges or more — *The Current* has been a constant presence, striving to be a platform for honest, insightful journalism.

## Your Voice Matters

At *The Highlands Current*, we believe in taking community engagement to the next level. In a world saturated with information, delivering high-quality local news is just the beginning. **My primary focus as Growth Director is to foster a deeper connection with you, our valued readers.** We want to hear your voices, understand your needs and deliver the content that matters most to you.

## Here's How You Can Get Involved:

- **Letters to the Editor:** Share your thoughts on local issues by submitting a Letter to the Editor. We encourage diverse viewpoints that spark respectful conversation. email: [editor@highlandscurrent.org](mailto:editor@highlandscurrent.org)
- **Community Events:** Whether it's a town hall meeting, a panel discussion or a member event, we intend to be there, bringing you in-depth coverage and providing a platform for your voices to be heard. Find events here: [highlandscurrent.org/highlands-calendar](https://highlandscurrent.org/highlands-calendar)
- **Social Media:** Share your stories, questions and photos!



## Celebrating 15 Years and We're Just Getting Started:

These 15 years have been possible thanks to your unwavering support. However, the world of journalism is evolving rapidly. As a nonprofit organization, we rely on your generosity to maintain our commitment to strong, independent journalism.

**Join our growing community** of dedicated readers by becoming a member. Membership is our primary means of support and helps us cover the costs of reporting, printing and maintaining our online presence. You can find membership options and benefits on Page D of this special section, or go to [highlandscurrent.org/membership](https://highlandscurrent.org/membership) and become a member today!



In addition, when you join or renew your membership between now and Dec. 31, we have a very large match in effect from a national journalism program and a group of local supporters who strongly believe in our community journalism. **Gifts totaling \$75,000 will mean \$150,000 for our newsroom!**

## The Future We Build Together:

Looking ahead, *The Highlands Current* envisions itself as an even more vibrant hub for our community. With your continued support, we aim to:

- **Provide more in-depth reporting:** We're dedicated to delving more deeply into issues that matter most to you, giving context, analysis and a platform for diverse perspectives.
- **Enhance reader engagement:** We'll develop more interactive features and events to foster community dialogue and participation.
- **Embrace digital innovation:** We'll continue to explore new digital tools to deliver an exceptional reader experience.

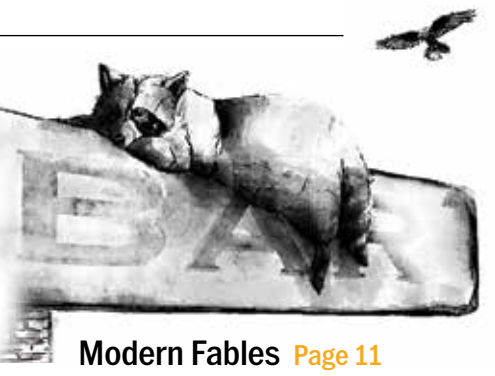
Together, we can build a strong future for *The Highlands Current*. As Growth Director, I look forward to working with you, our readers, to ensure *The Current* remains the trusted source of local news and community engagement for years to come.

Thank you for being a part of our journey.  
Warmly,

Lauren Cook  
Growth Director, *The Highlands Current*



# The HIGHLANDS Current



Modern Fables Page 11

NOVEMBER 1, 2024 NYPA Newspaper of the Year Support our nonprofit: [highlandscurrent.org/join](https://highlandscurrent.org/join)

## Comptroller Candidates Clash Over Spending

*Beacon council member challenging Dutchess appointee*

By Jeff Simms

The Dutchess County comptroller job is on the ballot in what has become a heated political battle. The comptroller is the county's chief accounting officer and is responsible for auditing its departments and outside agencies funded by the county. Only eight counties in the state, including Dutchess, have elected comptrollers. The position is open because Robin Lois,



Aymar-Blair, a Democrat, resigned Dec. 30 to become the state's deputy comptroller for local government and school accountability. The race will determine who holds the position through Dec. 31, 2025, when her four-year term was set to end. It will again appear on

the November 2025 ballot. The incumbent is Gregg Pulver, a Republican from Pine Plains, a town of about 2,300 people in northern Dutchess, who was named comptroller by then-County Executive William F.X. O'Neil to succeed Lois. Pulver served 10 years in the county Legislature, the last six as its chair, before losing his re-election bid two weeks before the appointment. He is being challenged by Dan Aymar-Blair, a Democrat who is serving his third term representing Ward 4 on the Beacon City Council. Aymar-Blair began his career with Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley before moving into the public sector. He has worked for the New York City Department of (Continued on Page 7)



Part 3: Modern Immigrants

## Learning the Language

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 drew recent immigrants to the Highlands, the process they undergo to stay and the effect on local schools.

By Joey Asher

When Renata Saldaña was 17, she and her younger sister showed up at the Garrison School seeking to enroll. It was 2017 and they had just come from Ecuador, overstaying tourist visas and moving to their parents' Philipstown apartment. As Renata recalls, it took a week to realize that they were at the wrong school, that Garrison only goes through eighth grade and that they needed to enroll a few miles up Route 9D at Haldane High School. "We spoke no English," she said, adding that the schools sometimes relied on Spanish-speaking janitors to translate. "It was hard." That year Renata and her sister were two of 11 English Language Learners (ELL) at Haldane and the only two enrolled at the high school. The district had one ELL teacher. Seven years later, Haldane has 20 English Language Learners among its 800 students and has added a second ELL teacher, said Carl Albano, the district's interim superintendent. What's happening at Haldane is happening at schools across the Hudson Valley. (Continued on Page 17)



**TRADING UP** — The Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison held its annual Pumpkin Glow on Oct. 24, and the guests included Izod from Hudson Valley Paws for a Cause in a lion costume. Izod's human is Alissa Phillips of Yorktown Heights, who adopted him as a puppy after he developed allergies which disqualified him from being a guide dog. For more Halloween photos, see [highlandscurrent.org](https://highlandscurrent.org). Photo by Ross Corsair

## A New Home for Beacon Firefighters

*State-of-the-art central station opens*

By Jeff Simms

One minute ahead of schedule, at 7:59 a.m. on Monday (Oct. 28), firefighter Eric Jensen raised the U.S. flag above the new Beacon fire station at 1140 Wolcott Ave. Dennis Lahey Sr., 91, a 64-year volunteer who was the fire chief for two stints in the 1970s, and Pat Kelliher, a volunteer who retired in March after 54 years of

service, held the flag as Jensen attached it to the pole. Ten firefighters and Chief Tom Lucchesi lined the sidewalk, saluting the flag beneath blue skies streaked with clouds. Although a few punch-list items remain, firefighters moved into the \$14.7 million City of Beacon Fire Department this week, marking the completion of the city's largest-ever capital project. A ribbon-cutting is scheduled for 11 a.m. on Nov. 16. "I'm really happy with how this came out," said Lucchesi, who was named chief in April 2023, two months before construction began. (Continued on Page 16)

## Philipstown to Pave Sections of Two Roads

*Also, tentative 2025 budget raises tax rates*

By Leonard Sparks

The Philipstown Town Board on Oct. 23 approved paving sections of Indian Brook and Lane Gate roads and began revising a draft 2025 budget that would stay within the state-mandated tax cap while lowering tax rates. Supervisor John Van Tassel and Board Members Megan Cotter and Robert Flaherty approved an environmental impact review and resolution to pave a section of Indian Brook Road at the Route 9D underpass and Lane Gate Road between Eden Park and 115 Lane Gate. Van Tassel said the Indian Brook section spans less than 1,000 feet and gets "completely washed out" from storms. He also said Lane Gate will remain untouched for now because it needs substantial drainage work before paving. The labor and materials costs for maintaining dirt roads are "astronomical," said Van Tassel. On Avery Road, which has sections that are paved and unpaved, the town pays 15 cents per foot for the covered sections and \$10.78 per foot for the dirt portions, he said. Indian Brook Road between Route 9D and Route 9 costs \$2.24 per foot. The town average is 68 cents for paved versus \$6.95 for unpaved, said Van Tassel. Board Members Jason Angell and Judy Farrell did not arrive until after the vote, but (Continued on Page 18)



5Q

FIVE QUESTIONS: **RICHARD OCEJO**

By Brian PJ Cronin

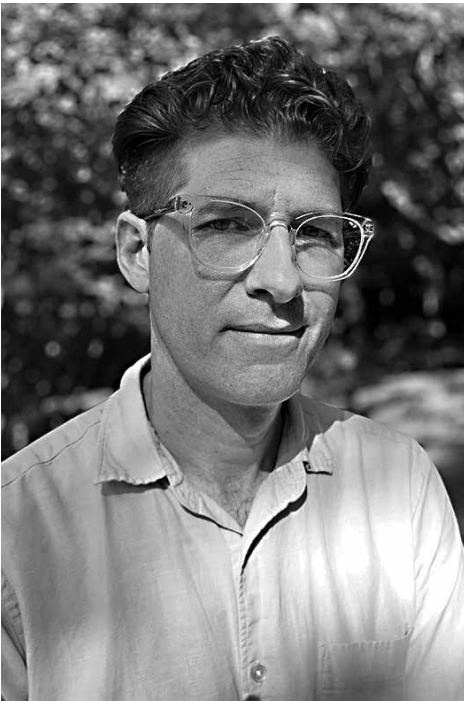
**R**ichard Ocejo, a sociology professor at the City University of New York, is the author of *Sixty Miles Upriver: Gentrification and Race in a Small American City*, a portrait of Newburgh.

**What drew you to write about Newburgh?**

I moved to the Hudson Valley from New York City in 2016 with my family. I'm an urban sociologist. I needed something new to do, and with Newburgh being nearby, I started hanging out there and got interested in the idea of what a small city undergoing revitalization looks like and how it impacts people who live there.

**What are scholars who study gentrification missing by only looking at New York or Detroit?**

They're missing the important role of scale and intimacy. When you have smaller scale and greater housing affordability, you get more people who are homeowners and property owners and investors and business owners right from the start of a gentrification process. You have people with greater opportunities to get involved in their neighborhoods and city government and play vital roles in making decisions on



the direction the city goes in. That's not an outcome that we typically see in large cities.

**At what point did you realize that you couldn't write about gentrification in Newburgh without talking about race?**

Within the first year of a four-year process. It was obvious that race had a role,

simply because of the racial differences between most of the newcomers and most of the existing residents, and also the ways people spoke about race. The mostly white gentrifiers and newcomers were aware of the racial differences. The existing residents, most of whom are people of color, would talk about race in much more upfront and conscious ways. It was right there in my face. They were telling me that it was an important part of what was happening.

**Is there such a thing as gentrification that benefits everyone?**

I'm not familiar with it. It's a complicated process. Gentrification is a subset of a larger affordable housing crisis. Scarcity can make an unequal housing market worse. So how can you address residential, social or political displacement in a manner that's equitable? When you're dealing with these inherent power disparities, it's remarkably challenging. It's an extreme version of what we see with power disparities in neighborhoods and communities across the country, even non-gentrifying ones. Within schools, for example. I don't provide many answers in the book, because I wanted the ideas behind what is happening in a small city to serve as takeaways for people who try to come up with solutions.

**Has the book changed how you interact with your community?**

At the heart of my book is: What do we owe to the communities that we move to when we're newcomers? What obligations do we have to neighbors who have been calling this place home for much longer than we have? Do we disrupt or enhance? That's universal for anybody moving into any community, which guided me in my actions toward my neighbors as I got more involved. It's helpful to remember that there's an order here that's existed before me and will outlive me. How can I insert myself into that in a way that's not disruptive or harmful but respectful and generative?

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

**What was your high school hangout?**

**The Bronx YMCA; they looked out for me.**



Walter Chadwick, Cold Spring

**Laura's Corner in South Plainfield, New Jersey, although I didn't hang there.**



Jean Andre, Cold Spring

**The basketball court and game room at the Newburgh Salvation Army; everyone went there.**



Al Frazier, Beacon



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

**THIS SUNDAY:**  
**MARIANNE BENJAMIN**  
**"MY FATHER THE MAGICIAN"**  
**NOV 3 @ 11:00AM**  
**FOR WORSHIP REFLECTION & SONG**

**Nov 10** Richard Gerber & Kevin Byrne

**Nov 17** Jan Anderson

**Nov 24** Aurora McKee

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

**216 MAIN STREET COLD SPRING, NY**  
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**MainStage presents:**  
**The Full Monty**  
Nov 1-10

**Depot Docs presents:**  
**Union**  
Nov 22

**Youth Players present:**  
**The Day the Internet Died**  
Dec 6-8

[www.philipstowndepottheatre.org](http://www.philipstowndepottheatre.org)

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## NEWS BRIEFS

## Hiker Killed by Falling Tree

### Man struck at Anthony's Nose

A 51-year-old hiker was struck and killed by a falling tree on a trail at Anthony's Nose in the Hudson Highlands State Park on Oct. 26, according to the New York State Police.

Police identified the victim as Fabian Gomez Nino, of Queens. He was a native of Colombia. A funeral Mass was scheduled for Thursday (Oct. 31).

A witness told *The Current* that he and his friends heard a tree cracking and saw it hit Gomez Nino. They called for help, and a group of eight hikers were able to lift the tree. One hiker went down the mountain to guide first responders to the scene, but Gomez Nino was pronounced dead.

## Police Arrest Shooting Suspect

*Putnam Valley schools closed for search*

Putnam Valley schools closed on Tuesday (Oct. 29) while police searched for a suspect in the shooting of a woman and her two sons in Somers.

The suspect, Fernando Jimenez, 40, was taken into custody at 11 a.m. He was known to be in the area of Peekskill Hollow Road, which police shut down along a 5-mile stretch.

The state police said the shooting occurred at 11:35 p.m. on Monday. A 10th-grade boy

was killed, and his mother and brother, an eighth grader, were taken to hospitals with gunshot wounds.

Police located Jimenez after Patricia Schiller, a real estate agent who is a retired New York City detective, came to check on her office and noticed the blinds were drawn and the air conditioner removed from the window, she told TV news reporters. The office is about 10 miles from the site of the shooting.

ABC News reported that Jimenez was dating the mother but is not the boys' father.

Jimenez was arraigned on murder and attempted murder charges and sent to the Westchester County Jail without bail.

## Water Restrictions Continue

*Cold Spring reservoirs drop to 67 percent*

Mayor Kathleen Foley reported at the Wednesday (Oct. 30) meeting of the Cold Spring Village Board that due to continued drought conditions the reservoirs that supply drinking water to Cold Spring and Nelsonville are at 67 percent capacity and expected to drop to 60 percent within a week.

The Village Board declared a Stage 1 water emergency on Oct. 4, which bans the washing of vehicles or buildings and restricts watering lawns to 7 to 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

"Please do everything you can to conserve water," Foley said.

## Putnam Issues Temporary Burn Ban

*Lack of rainfall causes dangerously dry conditions*

Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne on Monday (Oct. 28) signed an order temporarily banning most outdoor burning because of drought conditions that contributed to a 33-acre brush fire in Kent.

"Even though we had some light drizzle last night [Oct. 29], our region remains

under a high fire danger rating" from the state Department of Environmental Conservation, Byrne said.

The order, which continues through today (Nov. 1) but can be renewed, prohibits burning combustible material in an outdoor area or engaging in any outdoor activity that could create flames or sparks. Cooking within a contained gas or charcoal grill is allowed.

New York State on Oct. 25 released a tool at [nysmesonet.org/weather/firewx](http://nysmesonet.org/weather/firewx) to monitor wildfire risks.

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



## ARTY MARTINI PARTY

SAT., NOVEMBER 9,  
5-7 PM

PUT ON YOUR PARTY HAT  
AND CELEBRATE OUR 60TH  
BIRTHDAY WITH US AT OUR  
FALL FUNDRAISER!



For tickets visit our  
website  
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or use QR code



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[garrisonartcenter.org](http://garrisonartcenter.org)  
845-424-3960

FRIDAY  
NOV. 15  
7:30PM

RESTORATION ROADHOUSE PRESENTS  
**Martha Spencer and  
The Wonderland Country Band**  
Tickets: \$25

SUNDAY, NOV. 17, 4:00PM

SUNDAY MUSIC PRESENTS  
**Amy Yang, Piano**  
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

SAT.  
NOV. 23  
7:00PM

JAZZ AT THE CHAPEL PRESENTS  
**Sheila Jordan and Cameron Brown**  
Tickets: \$25

45 Market Street, Cold Spring NY

For tickets and info on these and  
other Chapel events please visit  
[chapelrestoration.org](http://chapelrestoration.org)

Highlands Choral Society  
PRESENTS

**LANA  
KOLLATH**

**PIANO  
RECITAL**

Featuring works by  
Brahms, Bach, and  
Mendelssohn

**NOVEMBER 3, 2024**  
**3:00 PM**  
Donations gratefully accepted

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

**216 MAIN STREET COLD SPRING, NY**  
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**Philipstown Garden Club**

**BULB  
SALE**

**Sun Nov 3 2024**  
**10 am - 2 pm**  
**Philipstown Rec Center**  
**Route 9D, Garrison**  
**Bring Your Own Bag!**  
**Browse the Catalog at**  
**[philipstowngardenclubny.org](http://philipstowngardenclubny.org)**







## LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

Good job, Trumpers, and best to all of you.  
You are making America great again.

Richard Shea, *Cold Spring*

## Cold Spring parking

Every week, I read *The Current* with growing trepidation to learn about the latest decisions made by the real estate agents, developers and associated capitalists who run this town that will negatively impact the quality of local life.

In the Oct. 25 issue, in a report on the Cold Spring Village Board, it was Mayor Kathleen Foley saying that Our Lady of Loretto parishioners will lose their essential Fair Street parking "on busy fall weekends" so long as we get 24 hours notice.

I got to Loretto 10 minutes before Mass began on Oct. 27 — a good bit earlier than usual. The lot was full, but the church was half-empty. I assume that the several dozen people who later filled the pews parked, at their own expense, somewhere much farther from the church. If they were elderly using walkers or canes, they made it somehow.

As we all know, faith life has its communal expression on weekends for the most part, and as everyone who lives here knows, Loretto's location lower in the village means that parking sprawl is as impossible as it is undesirable. Its postage-stamp-size lot cannot accommodate all Sunday worshippers, who greatly appreciate the city's willingness to open a side street one day a week.

I suppose that, in a few months, the

## Correction

A story in the Oct. 25 issue reported that buildings proposed by Hudson Valley Shakespeare to house its actors would have gray metal rooms. In fact, they would have gray metal roofs.

mayor will announce that the village is taking away Fair Street parking on busy spring weekends and busy summer weekends, at which point the only time it will be OK for Loretto parishioners to park there is when the snow is a foot deep at the curb.

After that, people will stop attending, and another vital, meaningful, substantive layer of village life will be allowed to die away so that the tchotchke-tourist layer can thrive. That would be a real shame. I hope the mayor and Village Board will open Fair Street to the Sunday morning Loretto community once again.

Jacqueline Foertsch, *Philipstown*

## Stolen signs

Where's the rest of this story ("Cold Spring Man Accused of Stealing Campaign Signs," Oct. 25)? What signs were being stolen? Isn't this country based on freedom of speech? Who is this hater and what party is he affiliated with? If *The Current* knew this and failed to report it, the bigger question is, why?

John Landolfi, *Cold Spring*

*The editor responds: The Putnam County Sheriff's Department did not indicate in*

*its news release what signs were allegedly taken. Does it matter? No one should be stealing signs, regardless of party.*

Yes, it does matter. Any reporter should find out and provide that information. I don't want to vote alongside the party stealing signs on Nov. 5, so that information should be made public. The information could help me make my voting decision. I agree that nobody should be stealing political signs. That's why I'm interested in knowing what side is stealing signs.

Luke Junjulas, *Philipstown*

Why was the photographic evidence of the actual larcenies removed from the site comments? I guess it does matter, huh?

Kevin Junjulas, *Philipstown*

*The editor responds: No photos were posted or removed from our comments.*

As a volunteer for my party, I have placed many election signs around Philipstown and have had numerous signs tampered with or stolen. My colleagues have had multiple similar experiences.

We have had to spend a great deal of time returning to check on signs, propping them up again when they are taken down or searching for them. Theft is a significant and costly problem for the campaign (a sign typically costs around \$20). This season, I placed 24 signs and had seven stolen, five removed and dumped elsewhere, and seven put down on the ground, some multiple times. When

my signs were removed, I contacted the Sheriff's Department and received immediate help locating dumped signs. I just wish we could have identified the culprit(s).

It would be good if our local papers, town and Sheriff's Department would make statements or run ads before elections alerting the public that tampering with or stealing election signs is a crime and the law will be enforced. Regarding my small contributions to my chosen candidates, I am frustrated and angered but undaunted. I will continue to replace my signs whenever I am able.

Cory Ethridge, *Philipstown*

## Immigrants

There are many stories these days about how local journalism is dying. Anyone who thinks that hasn't been reading Joey Asher's superb series in *The Current* on immigrants, legal and otherwise, who live in the Highlands.

Asher's series is well-reported and vivid enough to be published in our best national journals. They have the added advantage of introducing many of us to neighbors who often live invisibly in our midst. Asher tells us about some who came across the border hidden in vans and are now enriching our community.

It's fair to infer from his reporting that if Donald Trump has his way and deports millions of these immigrants, we will all be infinitely poorer. Congratulations to *The Current* and Joey Asher for first-rate journalism.

David Gelber, *Philipstown*

(Continued on Page 6)



Last Day of School  
acrylic on canvas  
2' x 4'

# LOCAL ARTIST FRED SCHLITZER

## NEW WORKS: PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS

McCaffrey Realty  
140 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY

**OPENING RECEPTION (WINE & CHEESE):**  
November 9, 2:00–5:00pm

**RUN DATES:**  
November 9 – 30

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### Brian Dickerson |

Constructed Paintings & Drawings  
November 2 - 24, 2024

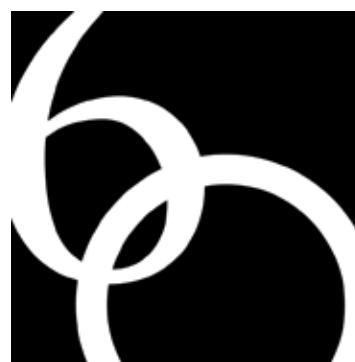
Opening Reception: Sat., Nov. 2, 5 - 7  
Artist Talk: Sat., Nov. 16, 3 - 4 pm



### smallWORKS | 60 Years & 60 Works

International Biennial Juried Exhibition  
November 2 – 24, 2024

Opening Reception: Sat., Nov. 2, 5 - 7

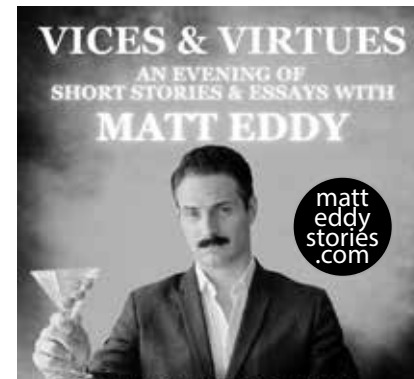


23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison, NY  
[garrisonartcenter.org](http://garrisonartcenter.org) 845-424-3960



Garrison Art Center's programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

## Come join the frivolity at our beautiful historic venue!



**Sat. Nov 2 – 7:30 PM**

### MATT EDDY'S – VICES & VIRTUES

Collection of ten whimsical stories that highlight the good and evil in each of us through the lives of animals  
**For info & tickets: [bit.ly/MattEddyHCC](http://bit.ly/MattEddyHCC)**

**Sat. Nov 2 – 1-5 PM**

### LATTIMORE STUDIO EXHIBITION

Andrew Lattimore and 24 of his students' work  
**Exhibit & Art Sale - Thru Nov 17 most weekends**

**Sun. Nov 3 – 1 PM**

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Innovative percussion music - Kids are FREE  
**For info & tickets: [howlandmusic.org](http://howlandmusic.org)**

Nov 1 - LIT LIT

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

Nov 9 - ANNIE & THE HEDONIST

Nov 10 - CLEARWATER "CHOPPING WOOD" PARTY

Nov 15 - NERD NITE HUDSON VALLEY new series

Nov 16 - ARTICHOKE

Nov 20 - HIT HOUSE PERFORMED READING new series

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CULTURAL  
CENTER**



Visit, website + social media for more events, info + tickets



## LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 5)

My objection to the word *undocumented* is that there certainly are cases where documentation exists. It's just that it could be yours or mine that's being used.

David Baylis, *New Windsor*

## Roundup

Roundup should be banned in this country, but the corporate-captured Environmental Protection Agency has given its blessing ("Roots and Shoots: Is Roundup OK?" Oct. 25). Bayer, the maker of Roundup, instills everything that is wrong with Big Agriculture, which is damaging our environment and our health. I hope those committed to creating native meadows in our community will shun expediency and seek ethical, ecological and sometimes more difficult alternatives.

David North, *Garrison*

To provide context, Boscobel worked extensively with the Philipstown Conservation Board to ensure our meadow reflects stringent environmental standards. We also consulted other stakeholders, including the Constitution Marsh Audubon Center and Sanctuary, Davoren Farm and Cornell Cooperative Extension Putnam.

Site preparation began by installing a filter sock around the pond and applying aquatic-safe, non-soluble herbicide to targeted areas. Considering all other options (solarization, goats, soil disturbance, etc.), this plan was the most effective way to treat non-native grasses

and invasives in Boscobel's unique site conditions. While the lawn turns brown above ground, its roots remain intact to prevent soil erosion. There's more info at [boscobel.org/meadow-restoration-project](http://boscobel.org/meadow-restoration-project).

Abby Addams, *Philipstown*

*Addams is the communications and marketing manager for Boscobel.*

Just a note: Most Roundup sold in the U.S. does not contain glyphosate anymore.

Kyra Stoddart, *Beacon*

*The editor responds: Beginning this year, Bayer began using a combination of chemicals — diquat, fluazifop and triclopyr — instead of glyphosate in some (but not all) Roundup products. The EPA says that, based on its research, glyphosate poses no risk to human health if used according to label directions.*

## Proposition 1

As New Yorkers, many of us might feel safe, even complacent about our ability to access the full range of reproductive health care options, including abortion and in vitro fertilization. Depending on where we live in the state, we also might feel that our vote doesn't count, so why bother?

In 2024, nothing could be further from the truth. This year, New York must pass the Prop 1 ballot referendum to safeguard reproductive rights, health care access and protections against discrimination for all — including women, immigrants, LGBTQ+

individuals, seniors and those with disabilities — in our state constitution.

These protections might not seem necessary today, but they will provide a critical firewall in case conservative extremists ever gain control in Albany. That's why a billionaire extremist dropped more than \$6 million to blitz the airwaves with misinformation in a cynical effort to defeat it.

We don't know a lot about the shadowy political action committee behind the negative ads, but we do know and trust the organizations who are supporting Prop 1, including Planned Parenthood Empire State Acts, the National Institute of Reproductive Health, the New York Civil Liberties Union, NAACP New York and powerhouses of organized labor, including 1199SEIU and New York State United Teachers.

We've seen this playbook before. Let's ensure we and everyone we know turns out to prove New York voters won't be taken in by fearmongering and lies.

Let's make a commitment to equality and freedom by voting yes on Prop 1.

Julie Shiroishi, *Beacon*

*Shiroishi is the executive director of Eleanor's Legacy, which supports pro-choice Democratic women candidates in New York state.*

## HVS housing

I don't understand why Hudson Valley Shakespeare actors need special housing built just for them ("Shakespeare Unveils

Actor Housing," Oct. 25). Put the actors up in B&Bs, motels or local colleges, or ask patrons to house them. This particular "cottage" building frenzy is crazy expensive, of dubious plausibility and will be expensive to maintain. I'm sure the cost will be added to the price of tickets, which many people can't afford.

Peggy Hill, *via Facebook*

It is difficult to find work as an actor, and you often must travel far from your home base. Also, the hours for rehearsals and work are long, and it is difficult to travel home. By offering housing, Hudson Valley Shakespeare can draw from a larger pool of actors. A lot of seasonal jobs offer housing to workers.

Cassima Nova, *via Facebook*

## Jan. 6

These are the enemy within ("Former Beacon Man Convicted on Jan. 6 Charge," Oct. 25).

Ian Japal, *via Facebook*

## District 17

Anthony Frascione is not our candidate ("Lawler, Jones List Same Issues as Urgent," Oct. 17). Mike Lawler and Rockland Republicans hope to confuse voters, but don't let them. You can vote for Working Families Party-endorsed candidates on Row A/Democrat line.

Noah Gitta, *via Instagram*

*Gitta is vice chair of the Westchester-Putnam chapter of the Working Families Party.*

# LET'S GREEN OUR HALLOWEEN!

## 2nd Annual Pumpkin Smash!

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Refreshments will be served Free

SAT., NOV. 9, 7:30 PM

**Back At It**

Sam Krugman, Wolfgang Lagomarsini, and Timothy E. Pitt  
Opening will be Linda Thornton

SUN., NOV. 10, 3:00 PM

**Poets' Corner Open Mic**

Featuring Jim Garber

FRI., NOV 15, 7:30 PM

**The Peekskill Riots: Episode Three**

Up On The Hillside, Down In The Hollow  
The Third Episode of a Five-Part Docu-Series by Jon Scott Bennett

SUN., NOV. 17, 3:00 PM

**Bread And Roses**

Short Plays by Local Women Playwrights

SAT. NOV. 23, 7:30 PM

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## Comptroller (from Page 1)

Education for 15 years and oversees business operations for its special education program.

Aymar-Blair has been endorsed by state Comptroller Tom DiNapoli. He said he would resign from the City Council if elected.

He is a co-founder of the Article 20 Network, a nonprofit that “defends and advances the right to freedom of peaceful assembly worldwide,” and was among the founders of Grannies Respond, which provides care for asylum-seekers and other immigrants. In 2017, before his City Council election, Aymar-Blair was an organizer for the People’s Committee on Development, which questioned the pace and scale of construction in Beacon.

Pulver is a grain farmer who was the Pine Plains supervisor for 12 years before his election to the Legislature. He says he has been “in the municipal finance world for my entire adult life.” He cited an audit of Family Services, a nonprofit that provides behavioral health and other services in Dutchess, Ulster and Orange counties, as a key accomplishment of his year in office. The investigation revealed that \$825,000 in federal pandemic relief had been incorrectly claimed by the agency, resulting in an overpayment by Dutchess County.

While Aymar-Blair said Pulver lacks the financial experience for the job, Pulver countered that his knowledge of government operations, coupled with his ability to solve problems, “brings a great balance to the office.”

Aymar-Blair said he is running for the position based on his experience in operations and finance. “Wherever I go, people are telling me that they cannot afford to maintain their quality of life,” he said. “As comptroller, I will call attention to any time county decisions raise costs for people, because that’s not appropriate now.”

Referring to the nonprofits Aymar-Blair helped create, Pulver alleged that “one of them is to defund the police” while another supports “illegal aliens.” He called Aymar-Blair “an extremist” and noted that the Mid-Hudson Valley Democratic Socialists of America endorsed his City Council candidacy in 2021.

Pulver also criticized the challenger for voting to increase Beacon’s property tax levy in each of the last four years.

### NOTICE

The Philipstown Conservation Board will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Tuesday, November 12th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.** at the **Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY.**

If you are unable to join in person but would like to watch, the meeting will be livestreaming on [youtube.com](https://youtube.com), search for Philipstown Conservation Board November 2024.

## Beacon Races

There are three races that Beacon voters will see on their ballots in which the candidates are running unopposed.

For the Beacon City Council, Amber Grant, who was appointed in January as an at-large member to fill a vacancy created when Pam Wetherbee was shifted to the Ward 3 seat, is seeking a one-year term. Grant served from 2018 to 2019 as the Ward 4 representative and in 2020 and 2021 as an at-large member.

Ward 3 residents will see Wetherbee’s name on their ballots. She was elected last year as an at-large member but shifted to Ward 3 to fill a vacancy created when Wren Longo resigned two months into her second term. Wetherbee, who served as the Ward 3 representative from 2014 to 2017, also seeks a one-year term.

The other members of the City Council are Mayor Lee Kyriacou, Molly Rhodes (Ward 1), Jeff Domanski (Ward 2), Dan Aymar-Blair (Ward 4, and a candidate for Dutchess County comptroller) and Paloma Wake (at-large).

Six of the seven seats will appear on the November 2025 ballot for two-year terms. The mayor, who serves a four-year term, will be on the ballot in 2027.

In the state Assembly, Jonathan Jacobson, a Democrat, is running for his fourth, 2-year term representing District 104, which includes Beacon.

Aymar-Blair said that mandatory payments to the state pension system led to the levy increases, “not a conscious decision by the council to spend more money. Look at my record and tell me if I’m an extremist or a socialist. It’s a boring argument that they make to scare people away from Democrats.”

Democrats took issue with a last-minute, \$25 million allocation approved by the Republican-led Legislature in 2022 to fund upgrades at Dutchess Stadium (now known as Heritage Financial Park), as well as amendments to O’Neil’s 2024 budget that significantly increased salaries for some elected officials. Aymar-Blair emphasized that Pulver, as a legislator, twice voted to increase Dutchess Community College tuition and, after losing the election last year but before he left office, voted to increase the county sales tax from 3.75 percent to 4 percent.

Dutchess County and Beacon have each lowered property tax rates over the past decade, and the county’s 2024 levy of \$99.4 million is the lowest in 15 years. Pulver said the sales-tax increase was in this year’s budget but never enacted because state Senate and Assembly members representing Dutchess never “carried it to the state.” Regarding the salary increases, “I had no position,” Pulver said. “I was not going to be a legislator, and Robin Lois had not resigned yet.” The raises were necessary because “we want to get good people to run” for elected office.

# 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)

### 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)

### 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*

#### State Senate (District 39)

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

PARTY GUIDE: C = Conservative, D = Democratic, R = Republican, WF = Working Families \* incumbent

## Early Voting

### For Beacon

Fishkill Town Hall,  
807 Route 52

**FRI 1, SAT 2, SUN 3**  
9:00a – 5:00p

### For Philipstown

North Highlands Firehouse,  
504 Fishkill Road

**FRI 1, SAT 2, SUN 3**  
9:00a – 5:00p

## Registration

The deadline to register has passed. To verify you are registered and locate your polling place, visit [voterlookup.elections.ny.gov](https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov).

## What’s Online

For explainers 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 Tuesday (Nov. 5) for unofficial results.

## Mail Ballots

The deadline to request a mail (absentee) ballot has passed except for in-person requests at the Board of Elections in Poughkeepsie (for Dutchess County) or Carmel (for Putnam) through Monday (Nov. 4). Mail ballots must be postmarked by Nov. 5 and received by the BOE by Nov. 12.

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.



VOTE

Whom Does the Highlands Support?

Individuals may give up to \$2,800 per federal candidate per election (primary and general) and \$3,300 to candidate committees, as well as annual contributions of up to \$5,000 to political action committees (PACS), \$10,000 to local and state party committees and \$35,500 to national parties. (So-called “Super PACs” can accept unlimited money.)

The chart below includes candidates and PACS that received at least \$1,000 in contributions in 2024 from Highlands

residents. The number of donors is in parentheses following each total. Money given to PACS that support specific candidates is included in the totals for that candidate.

Rep. Mike Lawler, a Republican whose U.S. House seat includes Philipstown, and Alison Esposito, the Republican challenger in the House district that includes Beacon, do not appear on the list because FEC records show they raised less than \$1,000 in the Highlands.

CANDIDATE	RACE	PARTY	PHILIPSTOWN	GARRISON	BEACON
Nikki Haley	President	R	\$535 (5)	\$783 (2)	\$30 (2)
Kamala Harris	President	D	\$80,738 (89)	\$105,083 (78)	\$72,143 (112)
Robert F. Kennedy	President	Ind.	\$361 (2)	\$352 (2)	\$856 (3)
Dean Phillips	President	D	\$1,000 (1)		
Donald Trump	President	R	\$4,209 (12)	\$1,467 (6)	\$10,056 (17)
Pete Aguilar	U.S. House (CA-33)	D	\$1,000 (1)		
Diana DeGette	U.S. House (CO-1)	D	\$3,300 (1)		
Mike Waltz	U.S. House (FL-6)	R	\$1,000 (1)		
Jake Auchincloss	U.S. House (MA-4)	D		\$3,000 (1)	
Maggie Goodlander	U.S. House (NH-2)	D	\$1,000 (1)	\$25 (1)	
George Latimer	U.S. House (NY-16)	D	\$6,600 (2)	\$500 (1)	
Jamaal Bowman	U.S. House (NY-16)	D			\$1,000 (1)
Mondaire Jones	U.S. House (NY-17)	D	\$28,910 (9)	\$20,075 (13)	
Pat Ryan	U.S. House (NY-18)	D	\$5,200 (2)	\$11,650 (7)	\$270 (3)
Josh Riley	U.S. House (NY-19)	D	\$5,000 (1)	\$1,000 (1)	\$645 (1)
Sarah Klee Hood	U.S. House (NY-22)	D	\$3,300 (1)		
Janelle Bynum	U.S. House (OR-39)	D		\$2,000 (1)	
Chris Deluzio	U.S. House (PA-17)	D	\$2,900 (1)		
Colin Allred	U.S. House (TX-32)	D	\$750 (1)	\$875 (2)	
Don Beyer	U.S. House (VA-8)	D	\$3,300 (1)		
Ruben Gallego	U.S. Senate (AZ)	D	\$2,500 (1)	\$150 (1)	\$118 (1)
Adam Schiff	U.S. Senate (CA)	D	\$6,675 (2)	\$210 (3)	\$119 (1)
Debbie Mucarsal-Powell	U.S. Senate (FL)	D	\$2,500 (1)		
Gary Peters	U.S. Senate (MI)	D	\$6,600 (1)		
Amy Klobuchar	U.S. Senate (MN)	D		\$2,200 (3)	
Lucas Kunce	U.S. Senate (MO)	D	\$1,750 (1)		\$140 (1)
Jon Tester	U.S. Senate (MT)	D	\$125 (1)	\$2,022 (4)	
Jacky Rosen	U.S. Senate (NV)	D	\$2,500 (1)	\$100 (1)	
Sherrod Brown	U.S. Senate (OH)	D	\$12,450 (7)	\$3,650 (4)	\$710 (2)
Bob Casey	U.S. Senate (PA)	D	\$1,300 (2)	\$1,500 (1)	
John Fetterman	U.S. Senate (PA)	D		\$2,000 (1)	\$30 (1)
Tammy Baldwin	U.S. Senate (WI)	D	\$800 (1)	\$100 (1)	\$5 (1)
Glenn Elliott	U.S. Senate (WV)	D	\$1,000 (1)		
John Barrasso	U.S. Senate (WY)	R	\$2,082 (1)		
Cynthia Lummis	U.S. Senate (WY)	R	\$1,041 (1)		

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEES (PACS)	PARTY	PHILIPSTOWN	GARRISON	BEACON
314 Action Fund (Scientists)	D			\$1,500 (1)
Act Blue	D	\$78,532 (439)	\$60,959 (297)	\$117,856 (945)
Democratic Grassroots Victory	D		\$1,000 (1)	
Emily's List	D	\$270 (3)	\$2,155 (3)	\$25 (1)
Equality PAC (LGBTQ)			\$5,000 (1)	
Fight Like Hell PAC	D	\$10,000 (1)		
Green Senate 2024		\$10,000 (1)		
Movement Voter PAC	D	\$13,000 (7)		\$10,250 (2)
Natl Comm Pharmacists Association		\$1,000 (1)		
Pro PAC	D		\$1,000 (1)	
State Government Citizens' Campaign	D		\$6,000 (2)	\$900 (1)
Way to Lead PAC				\$2,500 (1)
WinRed	R	\$8,412 (46)	\$3,336 (39)	\$12,516 (66)
PARTY COMMITTEES				
Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee	D	\$500 (1)	\$5,015 (2)	\$3,775 (6)
Democratic National Committee	D	\$5,288 (8)	\$24,625 (6)	\$2,610 (4)
Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee	D	\$10,170 (3)	\$100 (1)	\$207 (2)
National Republican Congressional Committee	R			\$1,195 (1)
National Republican Senate Committee	R	\$489 (1)		\$3,382 (3)
NYS Democratic Committee	D	\$1,700 (1)	\$3,300 (1)	\$250 (1)
Pennsylvania Democratic Party	D	\$1,000 (1)		
Republican National Committee	R	\$271 (1)	\$56 (1)	\$1,627 (4)

Views on Economy and Border Divide Ryan and Esposito

District 18 House candidates take up key voter concerns

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong





Alison EspositoPat Ryan

Ryan backs efforts to make abortion legal nationwide. “I risked my life in combat for freedoms for fellow Americans,” he said.

**Economy, taxes, housing**

“Americans are less prosperous because Bidenomics is a failure,” Esposito said at the debate, referring to President Joe Biden. “We have to become more prosperous and we have to lower regulations. We’re over-taxed, we’re over-regulated and there’s just no availability of affordable housing because everything is expensive.” She said taxes must come down and “out-of-control spending” reined in. “It’s not just Social Security” that adds up in the federal budget, Esposito said, “it’s all these other social programs. And it’s the millions and billions of dollars now being funded on illegal immigrants.”

Ryan said that, as the Ulster county executive, he reduced property and gas taxes and, in the House, pursued bipartisan legislation to cut grocery costs, authored four bills to increase housing options for those of modest income and wants safeguards “to make sure that Wall Street speculators coming into our community in the Hudson Valley jacking up prices” face obstacles so “we stop them and prevent that” escalation.

Likewise, he said, referring to the Federal Reserve bank, “I called on the Fed — and they listened — to lower interest rates, bringing down mortgage costs and rents.”

Ryan mentioned his membership in the bipartisan congressional SALT caucus, focusing on the limit imposed by then-Pres-

The contest for U.S. House District 18, which includes Beacon, pits ex-Army officer Pat Ryan against ex-police officer Alison Esposito.

Ryan, the Democratic incumbent, was born in Kingston and graduated from West Point in 2004. After serving two tours in Iraq, he earned a master’s degree in security studies at Georgetown University and was elected Ulster County executive.

Esposito, a Republican from Orange County, studied at SUNY Delhi, the City University of New York and the FBI National Academy. She served in the New York City Police Department for 25 years, rising to precinct commander, before joining the ticket of gubernatorial candidate Lee Zeldin in 2022.

An Emerson College/Pix11/*The Hill* poll of 450 likely voters in District 18 conducted Oct. 24 to 26 showed Ryan drawing 51 percent and Esposito 42 percent, with seven percent undecided. The poll had a 4.6 percent margin of error. It also found Donald Trump with 49 percent support in the district and Kamala Harris with 48 percent.

According to the poll, the top issue for District 18 voters is the economy (32 percent), followed by immigration (19 percent), housing affordability (14 percent), threats to democracy (11 percent) and crime (8 percent).

Those topics took the stage in a candidate debate hosted by Pix11 on Oct. 9.


**Abortion**

Esposito believes the U.S. Supreme Court “did the absolute right thing” in its decision in 2022 to overturn *Roe v. Wade* and let states regulate abortion. She claimed in early October that Ryan “lacks the integrity to tell voters the truth” and “would love to make this entire election about abortion.”

(Continued on Page 9)

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*(Continued from Page 8)*

ident Donald Trump on the amount someone can claim, when submitting federal income taxes, as an exemption for paying state and local (SALT) taxes. The caucus is “working aggressively to eliminate what is double taxation,” Ryan said.

“Donald Trump has said himself he is going to remove the SALT cap” Esposito said. Claiming Democrats in the House declined to cooperate with the Republican majority in resolving the problem, she said “that SALT cap could’ve been raised” already.

### Border security

At the Oct. 9 debate, Esposito faulted Ryan for not backing legislation by House Republicans to boost funding for border policing and rejecting a move “which would have required illegals — people — to show proof of residency, citizenship, to vote.”

Esposito also advocated “holding criminals accountable for their actions. We have to deport gang members” along with “people committing crimes” and “people preying on our innocent Americans.” She said she and others “welcome immigration the correct way, but that’s not what’s being done right now.”

Calling Ryan “a man who’s not serious about border security,” she blasted him for supporting a Senate immigration bill that “would have codified reckless and dangerous Biden policies” and went nowhere.

Ryan described himself as “an independent representative and a moderate Democrat” and “one of the very few Democrats — proudly so — who from Day One called out President Biden for failing to secure our border.” Moreover, he said, he and other Democrats urged Biden to decrease the number of asylum-seekers allowed entry and Biden “finally listened to us. The numbers have come down 80 percent.”

He said he worked on bipartisan measures to augment the border police force and stop drug trafficking. In addition, he defended the Senate bill that Esposito castigated, noting that it was crafted by a conservative Senate Republican but “got torpedoed for political reasons” because Trump repudiated it.

### Gun control

Esposito emphasized that she would not support a ban on assault rifles. She also said she opposed banning or restricting ammunition clips that carry more than 10 rounds and bump stocks, used to make rifles deadlier.

“You do not accomplish any rule or safety by taking guns out of legal, lawful people’s hands,” she said. Instead, “we have to punish criminals for their actions. We have a heart problem in this country and a mental health problem. We don’t have a gun problem. We do not remove a Second Amendment right from our citizens simply because someone else committed a crime.” She depicted Ryan

as “a defund-the-police guy.”

“I know these weapons,” Ryan responded. “I carried them in combat for 27 months. These are weapons of war. They should not be in our streets. We absolutely should” adopt an assault weapons ban, like the one in place from 1994 to 2004, “which dramatically brought down gun deaths and saved lives.”

### Democracy and Trump

The debate moderator observed that Esposito had “made a career out of arresting bad guys” but supports and is endorsed by Trump, “a convicted felon” awaiting more criminal proceedings.

When asked if she feels any qualms, Esposito downplayed Trump’s legal problems as rigged. “The American public can see through this, that these are political prosecutions aimed at a president,” she said. “We need to be holding criminals accountable for their actions, but we also shouldn’t be attacking our political opponents using the criminal justice system.”

Ryan called Trump’s attempts to discredit the 2020 presidential election and the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol as “a dark and damaging moment. And it, honestly, pissed me off, as someone that put my life on the line for this country, that President Trump did that and that those traitorous individuals did that. I’m glad they’re being held accountable.” Trump “should never be anywhere, ever, near the White House again,” Ryan added. “He’s unfit for office.”

### Israel

“Israel is our greatest ally,” Esposito said. “This war could end tomorrow if Hamas would lay down its weapons and surrender” and release hostages seized on Oct. 7, 2023. “Israel has every right to defend itself right now and they are doing so as carefully as they possibly can to avoid any further loss of human life,” she said.

Ryan called Israel a “critical ally” and said that “we need to increase the pressure and rigor in deterring Iran and stand strongly with Israel, and, of course, do everything we can to try to stop the loss of innocent civilian lives in these conflicts.”

When asked if there was “anything or any action Israel could take that would make you lose support for the Jewish state,” Ryan replied: “Not — not that I can think of.”

Pro-Palestinian activists such as No Votes for Genocide have campaigned for voters to leave the District 18 line blank on their ballots. The group said in a statement on Tuesday (Oct. 29) that it has been critical of Ryan but not Esposito “because he claims to be a progressive Democrat and should be able to take a clear position in support of basic human rights and against genocide” by supporting an embargo on weapons supplies to Israel. “We do not support Esposito and would prefer to vote for Ryan,” it said.

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

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AROUND TOWN




**HOCUS POCUS** — Beacon hosted its annual Halloween parade on Oct. 26, followed by a First Responders Trunk or Treat organized by the Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Beacon Police Department, Beacon and Dutchess Junction fire departments and Ambulnz. For more photos, see [highlandscurrent.org](https://highlandscurrent.org). *Photo by Deborah Cortes/BVAC*



**SCHOOL GALA** — The Foundation for Beacon Schools held its third annual gala on Oct. 24 at the Roundhouse and honored five teachers with Innovation in Teaching awards: Erica Hughes and Edmund Trad of Rombout Middle School and Kelly Hamburger of Beacon High School, shown here, and Allison DeLisi of Rombout and Matthew Carpenter of Sargent Elementary. For more photos, see [highlandscurrent.org](https://highlandscurrent.org). *Photo by Meredith Heuer*



**STILL GOING STRONG** — Four years ago, we wished George McKie of Beacon a happy 99th birthday. On Oct. 26, he celebrated 103 at his home on Melio Bettina Place. The Georgia native moved to New York as a boy and served in France with the U.S. Army during World War II. A caregiver said that while his hearing could be better, McKie is in good health, uses minimal medications and is mobile with a walker. He is fond of TV news and police procedurals. *Photo provided*




# 2024 Capital Project Bond ReferendumVote

SAFETY & SECURITY UPGRADES

INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIRS

HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION

NEW STUDENT PROGRAMMING



Scan or visit [haldaneschool.org](https://haldaneschool.org) to learn more, sign up for a tour, or request an absentee/early voter ballot.

November 5	6:30pm	Q&A with the Board of Education
November 7	6:30pm	Campus Tour via RSVP
November 8	8:45am	Campus Tour via RSVP
November 12	6:00pm	Campus Tour via RSVP

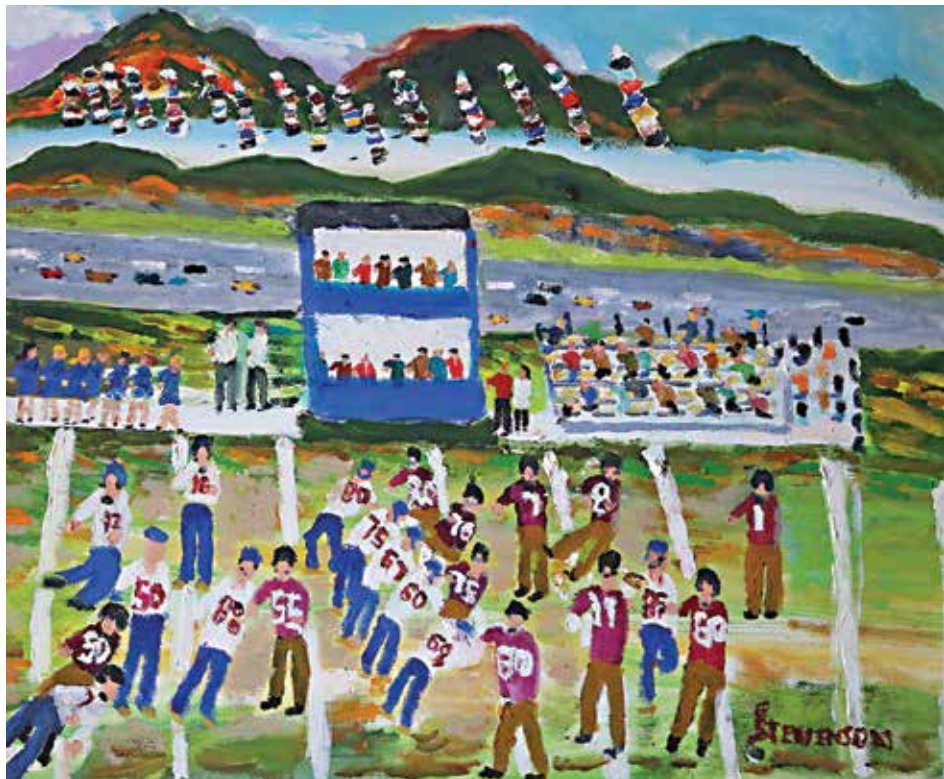


COMMUNITY VOTE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19 7:00AM – 9:00PM  
HALDANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY



## The Calendar



"Haldane Football"

# Fire Company to Honor Artist with Show

*George Stevenson is veteran, former star athlete*

By Michael Turton

George Stevenson, well known across Philipstown for his athletic prowess, military service and talent as a folk artist, will be honored by the Cold Spring Fire Co. at a reception on Nov. 8 and with an exhibition and sale of his paintings the following day.

Stevenson, 79, served as a Cold Spring firefighter as a young man and is now a life associate member of the company. He was awarded the Purple Heart for his service in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, where he survived malaria. Nearly a year after his return home, he suffered a stroke and lost the use of his right arm and leg and the ability to speak.

Art was vital to his recovery; learning to paint with his left hand, he became prolific. Initially, many of his paintings reflected the brutality of war. But as time passed, his subjects became more peaceful, with rural landscapes, farm scenes, sports and the riverfront among his favorite themes. A quirk in many of Stevenson's paintings is the inclusion of his boyhood pets, Lucky and Snoopy.

Now a resident at the New York State Veterans Home in Montrose, Stevenson excelled in baseball, track and football at Haldane High School and set the season record for pass receptions.

"George embodies the values that the Cold Spring Fire Co. No. 1 represents:



"Vietnam"

volunteerism, leadership, community service and protection and care for our neighbors," said CSFC president Aaron Leonard. "We're proud to present this historic exhibit of the art that is such an important part of his life."

Stevenson is expected to attend the Friday reception, scheduled for 6 to 9 p.m. at the Cold Spring firehouse at 152 Main St. The evening will include a cash bar and light refreshments. Tickets are \$65 at [dub.sh/george-stevenson](http://dub.sh/george-stevenson).

On Nov. 9, from 2 to 5 p.m., many of Stevenson's paintings will be offered for sale at

the firehouse, with prices starting at \$75.

Funds raised at both events will go toward a scholarship established in Stevenson's name to be awarded to a Haldane High School senior who plans to study art in college.

CSFC members who are veterans plan to purchase and donate a painting depicting a scene from Vietnam to the local American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts.



Stevenson in 2012

# Modern Fables

*Beacon writer reimagines Aesop's*

By Marc Ferris

If he excelled on the high school certification exams in his native Australia, Matt Eddy planned to become a lawyer. With middling results, he would pursue journalism. A real screw-up might lead to an acting career.

Somehow, Eddy worked all three gigs. After a short stint as a reporter, he graduated from law school and flexed his thespian muscles in court as a criminal defense attorney.

But he burned out and now helms the U.S. branch of a tech startup whose clients are corporate lawyers.

To accommodate the creative bent, he turned to fiction, jazzing up *Aesop's Fables*. At 7:30 p.m. on Saturday (Nov. 2), he will read from a new collection, *Vices & Virtues: Animal Stories for Adults*, at the Howland Cultural Center with actor Amy White.

The characters in *Vices & Virtues* include a gambling badger, a raccoon with a drug problem and a dog stuck in a loveless marriage, each of whom confronts moral and existential quandaries. In a YouTube video in which Eddy reads "The Rat & the Squirrel," his hands augment a debonair, deadpan delivery.

When mellow mood music kicks in, Eddy pours a three-olive martini without missing a beat. Though 37, his persona, dapper dress and the setting evoke 1930s Art Deco.

The online magazine *The World's Faire* first published "The Badger," which centers on a poker game at an independent living facility. After drinking bootleg grappa, the group discusses ethical lapses.

Coyote stole clothes, money and canned goods from a church to allay his family's poverty. Fox, a storeowner who worked with cash, never paid taxes. A contractor, Wolf, huffed, puffed and blew up a building to receive an insurance payment so his wife could be treated for a debilitating illness.

The melancholy tale ends with Badger, a widower, lying in bed as a paint chip breaks free from the ceiling and drifts down, "spinning and falling gracefully in its final dance." After "feeling its soft tickle on his cheek," Badger let it "lay alongside him, rejected and alone."

In "The Crow," which appears on the website Half and One, the hepcats dig instrumental improvisation and



"Raccoon," by Holly Dormor, which Eddy sells as a coaster

wear zoot suits. Raccoon is a trumpet player addicted to heroin and "living the jazz life," though he gets clean and walks away from the scene.

Crow, Raccoon's bass player, is a junior lawyer bored by "the three Fs: filing, fetching and photocopying." Reflections on rehab, a character's "breath smelling like vomit" and a musician who "leaned on the microphone stand like a crutch" add an edge.

The author met his wife, Andrea Bombino, in a West Village dive bar. They lived in Australia before moving to Jersey City but disliked the concrete confines. "In Melbourne, we're 20 minutes to the beach, 30 minutes to the mountains and 40 minutes to wine country," Eddy says. "Sometimes it took a half-hour to get through the Holland Tunnel."

They knew Beacon from road trips, but during one visit, Bombino discovered Notions & Potions on Main Street and he found Max's on Main, where he watched the Green Bay Packers while their daughter doodled.

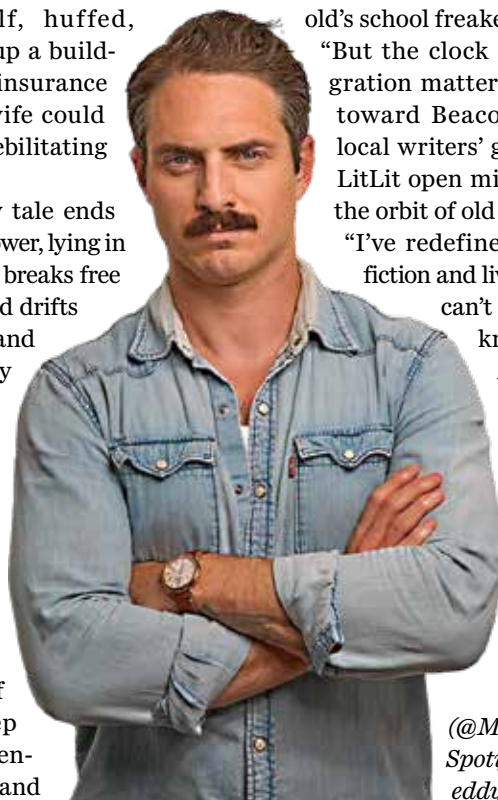
"We figured, 'We can live here,'" he recalls.

They moved in 2023, and on Oct. 6, a son joined the family. Bombino still views Australia as an escape hatch.

"The active shooter drill at our 4-year-old's school freaked her out," Eddy says. "But the clock is ticking [on immigration matters], and we're leaning toward Beacon." He discovered a local writers' group, fell in with the LitLit open mic and gravitated into the orbit of old souls under 40.

"I've redefined myself, turning to fiction and live readings," he says. "I can't resist the urge, so who knows where it goes?"

*The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St. in Beacon. Tickets are \$20 (\$25 door) or \$40 for VIP at [dub.sh/matt-eddy-howland](http://dub.sh/matt-eddy-howland). Eddy's readings will be posted on YouTube (@MattEddyStories) and Spotify ([dub.sh/spotify-eddy](http://dub.sh/spotify-eddy)) on Nov. 2.*





# THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

## COMMUNITY

SAT 2

### Glass, Pottery, China & Accessories Show

BEACON

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Memorial Building  
413 Main St.

Vendors will offer 20th-century items. *Cost: \$5*

SAT 2

### Harvest Fair and Thrift Sale

GARRISON

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. St. Philip's Church  
1101 Route 9D

Shop for home goods and children's items. There will also be a goat-petting pen, games and activities. *Cost: \$3 donation*

SAT 2

### Rabies Clinic

CARMEL

10 a.m. – Noon. Memorial Park  
201 Gipsy Trail Road  
[putnamcountynyny.com/health](https://putnamcountynyny.com/health)

Have your dog, cat or ferret vaccinated. Bring proof of prior rabies shot and residency. Pets must be leashed or in carriers. *Free*

SAT 2

### Closing of the Fields

WAPPINGERS FALLS

11 a.m. Common Ground Farm  
79 Farmstead Lane  
[commongroundfarm.org](https://commongroundfarm.org)

Bring work gloves and help put the fields to rest. There will also be singing, reflection and community.

SAT 2

### Taproots Festival

BEACON

2 – 5 p.m. The Yard | 4 Hanna Lane  
[dub.sh/taproots-2024](https://dub.sh/taproots-2024)

This Beacon Climate Action Now event will focus on resources for community care. Bring canned goods for Fareground, seeds to share and a mug for soup. *Free*

SUN 3

### Daylight Saving Ends

Turn your clocks back one hour.



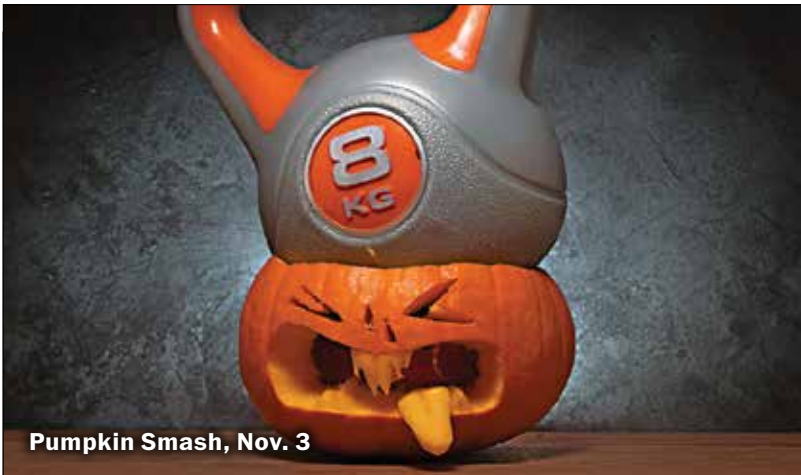
SUN 3

### Bulb Sale

GARRISON

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Philipstown Rec  
[philipstowngardenclubny.org](https://philipstowngardenclubny.org)

Browse the catalog online for the Philipstown Garden Club sale. Bring bags.



Pumpkin Smash, Nov. 3

SUN 3

### Pumpkin Smash

PHILIPSTOWN

12:30 – 2 p.m. Graymoor  
40 Franciscan Way  
[atonementfriars.org](https://atonementfriars.org)

Keep your Halloween pumpkins out of the landfill at this second annual event by composting them at the Picnic Pavilion. There will be live music by the Mike Risko Band and cider and donuts.

SAT 9

### Modern Makers Market

COLD SPRING

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. St. Mary's  
1 Chestnut St. | [hopsonthehudson.com](https://hopsonthehudson.com)

More than 50 artisans and artists will showcase their work. Also SUN 10.

SAT 9

### Arty Martini Party

GARRISON

5 p.m. Garrison Art Center  
23 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3960  
[garrisonartcenter.org](https://garrisonartcenter.org)

This fall fundraiser celebrates the center's 60th anniversary. *Cost: \$50*

SUN 10

### Train & Hobby Show

POUGHKEEPSIE

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. MJN Center  
14 Civic Center Plaza  
[midhudsonciviccenter.org](https://midhudsonciviccenter.org)

The show and sale will include a ride-on train for kids, model train layouts, raffles and promotions. *Cost: \$10 (\$15 families, \$5 kids)*

## SECOND SATURDAY

SAT 9

### Atomic Fury

BEACON

5 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery | 139 Main St.  
212-255-2505 | [clutter.co](https://clutter.co)

This group show celebrates the 70th anniversary of the legendary Godzilla. Paso will also have a solo show. Through Dec. 6.

SAT 9

### Ian Clyde

BEACON

6 – 9 p.m. Super Secret Projects  
484 Main St. | [supersecretprojects.com](https://supersecretprojects.com)

Clyde's show, *Touch Grass*, features paintings and sculptures

that explore nature and technology. Through Dec. 7.

SAT 9

### Linda Lauro-Lazin and Kejoo Park

BEACON

6 – 8 p.m. BAU Gallery | 506 Main St.  
845-440-7584 | [baugallery.org](https://baugallery.org)

Lauro-Lazin and Park's works on paper and paintings are featured in *Joining Sky and Earth*. In Gallery 2, Pamela Vlahakis's photos show hidden beauty in *Apparitions*. Jebah Baum's drawings in the Beacon Room, *Fishing with Matisse*, are inspired by his residency in France. Through Dec. 8.

## KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 2

### Coco

GARRISON

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

Children are invited to celebrate Día de los Muertos with this 2017 animated film about a boy who enters the Land of the Dead to find his great-great-grandfather.

SUN 3

### Sō Percussion

BEACON

1 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | [howlandmusic.org](https://howlandmusic.org)

The percussion quartet will perform as part of the Classics for Kids series. *Cost: \$15 (children free)*

TUES 5

### Gnomevember Craft

COLD SPRING

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

Students in grades 5 and up are invited to make a gnome. Registration required.

SAT 9

### Witchlings 3

GARRISON

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

Claribel Ortega will read from the third book in the popular middle-

grade series, *House of Elephants*, and receive the library's Excellence in Children's Literature award. Books can be purchased at the event.

## VISUAL ARTS

SAT 2

### Re-Materialization of Language

PHILIPSTOWN

Noon. Magazzino Italian Art  
2700 Route 9 | [magazzino.art](https://magazzino.art)

In this talk, curator and critic Cristiana Perrella will discuss the catalog for a 2022 "re-activation" of *Materializzazione del linguaggio*, a 1978 exhibit by Mirella Bentivoglio mounted in 1978 and revised in 2022.

SAT 2

### Susan Walsh

BEACON

3 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass  
162 Main St.

[hudsonbeachglassshop.com](https://hudsonbeachglassshop.com)

In this artist's talk to close her solo exhibit, *I Could Save Time*, Walsh will discuss her drawings, photos and sculptures created with natural elements.

SAT 2

### Matt Vega

BEACON

3 – 5 p.m. The Lofts at Beacon  
18 Front St. | 845-202-7211

Vega's show, *Entropic Anamnesis*, will be on view through Jan. 15.

SAT 2

### Brian Dickerson | smallWorks

GARRISON

5 – 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center  
23 Garrison's Landing  
[garrisonartcenter.org](https://garrisonartcenter.org)

Dickerson shares portals that reflect "what has been discovered, what has been lost and what history is yet to be written," while the curated small-works exhibit features music, politics and people around the theme "60 Years & 60 Works."



SUN 3

### Beata Beach Porter

PUTNAM VALLEY

1 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center  
729 Peekskill Hollow Road  
[tompkinscorners.org](https://tompkinscorners.org)

This retrospective includes paintings from 1911 to 2006.

FRI 8

### George Stevenson

COLD SPRING

6 – 9 p.m. Firehouse | 154 Main St.  
[dub.sh/george-stevenson](https://dub.sh/george-stevenson)

The folk artist and fire company member will be honored before an exhibit from 2 – 5 p.m. on SAT 9. See Page 11. *Cost: \$65*

SAT 9

### Fred Schlitzer

COLD SPRING

2 – 5 p.m. McCaffrey Realty | 140 Main St.

New paintings and drawings by the artist will be on display through Nov. 30.

## TALKS & TOURS

SAT 2

### Art in Flower

PHILIPSTOWN

3 p.m. Manitoga | 584 Route 9D  
845-424-3812 | [visitmanitoga.org](https://visitmanitoga.org)

Lindsey Taylor will read from her book and create arrangements with plants taken from the grounds. *Cost: \$50*

SAT 2

### Vices & Virtues

BEACON

7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
[howlandculturalcenter.org](https://howlandculturalcenter.org)

Matt Eddy will read whimsical stories from his collection of "animal stories for adults." See Page 11. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door, \$40 VIP)*

SAT 2

### Toby Dunne

BEACON

8 p.m. The B House  
Fishkill and Verplanck  
[facebook.com/bhousegarageshack](https://facebook.com/bhousegarageshack)

The Beacon author will read from his novel, *Western Starlands*, about a road trip across the U.S. in the 1990s.

SUN 3

### Life in the Eastern Woodlands

COLD SPRING

1 p.m. Putnam History Museum  
63 Chestnut St.  
[putnamhistorymuseum.org](https://putnamhistorymuseum.org)

Drew Shuptar-Rayvis will lead an interactive presentation about the lives of Indigenous people as part of the museum's Native American Heritage Weekend. *Cost: \$5 (children free)*

THURS 7

### Feeding Friends with Dietary Restrictions

GARRISON

6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](https://desmondfishlibrary.org)

Learn tips for making delicious food for vegan and gluten-free guests.

THURS 7

### Fiction Workshop Reading

BEACON

7:30 p.m. Stanza Books | 508 Main St.  
845-440-3906 | [stanzabooks.com](https://stanzabooks.com)

Gloria Beth Amodeo, Hang Li Goodwin, Natalie Hardaker, Jon Roth, Jeffrey Seitz and Jeremy Wall will read their work.

FRI 8

### Inside/Outside Readings

BEACON

6 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
[howlandculturalcenter.org](https://howlandculturalcenter.org)

Inside/Outside presents poets Andrea Talarico, Andrew Levy, Joanne McFarland, David Groff and Deborah Davidovits. *Cost: \$15*



**SAT 9**  
**Lenape People in the Hudson Valley**  
**BEACON**  
1 p.m. Mount Gulian  
145 Sterling St. | [mountgulian.org](http://mountgulian.org)  
Harv Hilowitz will discuss the first inhabitants of the area and their diaspora. *Cost: \$12 (\$10 seniors; \$5 ages 5 to 15)*

**SAT 9**  
**Donna Minkowitz**  
**BEACON**  
3:30 p.m. KuBe Art Center  
211 Fishkill Ave. | [donnaminkowitz.com](http://donnaminkowitz.com)  
The Beacon author will read from her novel, *Donnaville*.

**SAT 9**  
**Kristen Holt-Browning**  
**BEACON**  
8 p.m. Stanza Books | 508 Main St.  
845-440-3906 | [stanzabooks.com](http://stanzabooks.com)  
The Beacon author will read from her novel, *Ordinary Devotions*.

**SUN 10**  
**Jim Garber**  
**PUTNAM VALLEY**  
3 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center  
729 Peekskill Hollow Road  
[tompkinscorners.org](http://tompkinscorners.org)  
The founding member of the Poet's Corner series will read his work, followed by an open mic. *Cost: \$10*

STAGE & SCREEN

**SAT 2**  
**The Full Monty**  
**GARRISON**  
3 & 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 SUN 3, THURS 8, FRI 9, SAT 10. *Cost: \$35 (\$30 seniors and students)*

**SAT 2**  
**Jordan Jensen**  
**BEACON**  
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | [townecrier.com](http://townecrier.com)  
The comedian and podcast host, who lives in Brooklyn, will do stand-up. *Cost: \$35 (\$40 door)*

**SUN 3**  
**Omnium Circus**  
**PEEKSKILL**  
3 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
[paramounthudsonvalley.com](http://paramounthudsonvalley.com)  
This accessible performance will include disabled and BIPOC artists and integrated American Sign Language. *Cost: \$44 to \$58*

**SUN 3**  
**Mutts Gone Nuts**  
**WEST POINT**  
3 p.m. Ike Hall Theatre | 655 Pitcher Road  
845-938-4159 | [ikehall.com](http://ikehall.com)  
Watch nine rescue pups (and four humans) dance, prance, flip and skip in this "comedic canine extravaganza." *Cost: \$33 or \$45*



**FRI 8**  
**Man of La Mancha**  
**BEACON**  
7 p.m. Beacon High School  
101 Matteawan Road  
[beaconplayers.com](http://beaconplayers.com)  
The Beacon Players will stage the musical based on *Don Quixote* about a play within a play and an epic journey. Also SAT 9, SUN 10. *Cost: \$15 (\$8 students and seniors)*

**FRI 8**  
**The Big Parade**  
**POUGHKEEPSIE**  
7:30 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St.  
845-473-2072 | [bardavon.org](http://bardavon.org)  
In this Salute to Veterans, watch the 1925 silent film about World War I with live musical accompaniment. *Free*

MUSIC

**SAT 2**  
**Motown to Stax and Beyond**  
**PEEKSKILL**  
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
[paramounthudsonvalley.com](http://paramounthudsonvalley.com)  
Thirteen touring musicians will perform hits from "the great American soulbook." *Cost: \$40 to \$57*

**SUN 3**  
**Sweet Honey in the Rock**  
**POUGHKEEPSIE**  
3 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St.  
845-473-2072 | [bardavon.org](http://bardavon.org)  
The African American women's music collective and a capella group will perform music from its latest album, *#LoveInEvolution*. *Free*

**SUN 3**  
**Lana Kollath**  
**COLD SPRING**  
3 p.m. Highlands Chapel | 216 Main St.  
[highlandschapel.org](http://highlandschapel.org)  
The pianist will perform works by Brahms, Bach and Mendelssohn. Donations welcome. *Free*

**SUN 3**  
**Sō Percussion**  
**BEACON**  
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | [howlandmusic.org](http://howlandmusic.org)  
The quartet will play works by Olivier Tarpaga and Bryce Dessner, plus an original composition by a quartet member. *Cost: \$35 (\$10 students)*

**THURS 7**  
**Air Supply**  
**PEEKSKILL**  
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
[paramounthudsonvalley.com](http://paramounthudsonvalley.com)  
Graham Russell and Russell Hitchcock, the founding duo, will be joined by a band to perform their hits. *Cost: \$80 to \$110*

**FRI 8**  
**Joni Mitchell's Birthday**  
**BEACON**  
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | [townecrier.com](http://townecrier.com)  
Anne Carpenter and Peter Calo, joined by Paul Adamy (bass) and Gary Schreiner (piano), will perform songs by Mitchell to celebrate her 81st birthday. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

**SAT 9**  
**Back At It**  
**PUTNAM VALLEY**  
7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corners C.C.  
729 Peekskill Hollow Road  
[tompkinscorners.org](http://tompkinscorners.org)  
Sam Krugman (vocals, piano), Wolfgang Lagomarsini (bass) and Timothy Pitt (guitar) will debut as a band with original music. *Cost: \$25*



**SAT 9**  
**Annie and the Hedonists**  
**BEACON**  
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
[howlandculturalcenter.org](http://howlandculturalcenter.org)  
The band plays music by female blues artists of the 1920s to '40s. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

**SAT 9**  
**Chris O'Leary Band**  
**BEACON**  
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | [townecrier.com](http://townecrier.com)  
The blues artist who fronted The Barnburners plays with his band. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

**SAT 9**  
**Classic Stones Live**  
**PEEKSKILL**  
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
[paramounthudsonvalley.com](http://paramounthudsonvalley.com)  
The tribute band plays the music of the Rolling Stones. *Cost: \$44 to \$59*

**SUN 10**  
**Dionne Warwick**  
**PEEKSKILL**  
7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
[paramounthudsonvalley.com](http://paramounthudsonvalley.com)  
The six-time Grammy winner will perform her hits. *Cost: \$75 to \$100*

**SUN 10**  
**The British Rock Show**  
**BEACON**  
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | [townecrier.com](http://townecrier.com)  
This tribute band covers hits

from the golden age of rock. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

CIVIC

**SAT 2**  
**Putnam Early Voting**  
**PHILIPSTOWN**  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. North Highlands Firehouse  
504 Fishkill Road  
[boe.putnamcountyny.gov](http://boe.putnamcountyny.gov)  
Also SUN 3. See Page 7.

**SAT 2**  
**Dutchess Early Voting**  
**FISHKILL**  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Town Hall  
807 Route 52 | [elections.dutchessny.gov](http://elections.dutchessny.gov)  
Also SUN 3. See Page 7.

**MON 4**  
**City Council**  
**BEACON**  
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza  
845-838-5011 | [beaconny.gov](http://beaconny.gov)

**TUES 5**  
**Election Day**  
6 a.m. – 9 p.m.  
Visit [voterlookup.elections.ny.gov](http://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov) to find your polling site.

**TUES 5**  
**School Board**  
**COLD SPRING**  
7 p.m. Middle School | 15 Craigside Drive  
845-265-9254 | [haldaneschool.org](http://haldaneschool.org)  
The board will answer questions at 6:30 p.m. about the capital project bond.

**TUES 5**  
**Putnam Legislature**  
**CARMEL**  
7 p.m. Historic Courthouse  
44 Gleneida Ave. | 845-208-7800  
[putnamcountyny.com](http://putnamcountyny.com)

**WED 6**  
**Village Board**  
**COLD SPRING**  
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.  
845-265-3611 | [coldspringny.gov](http://coldspringny.gov)

**THURS 7**  
**Town Board**  
**COLD SPRING**  
7:30 p.m. Town Hall | 238 Main St.  
845-265-5200 | [philipstown.com](http://philipstown.com)



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**Saturday, November 9 @ 2:00 pm**



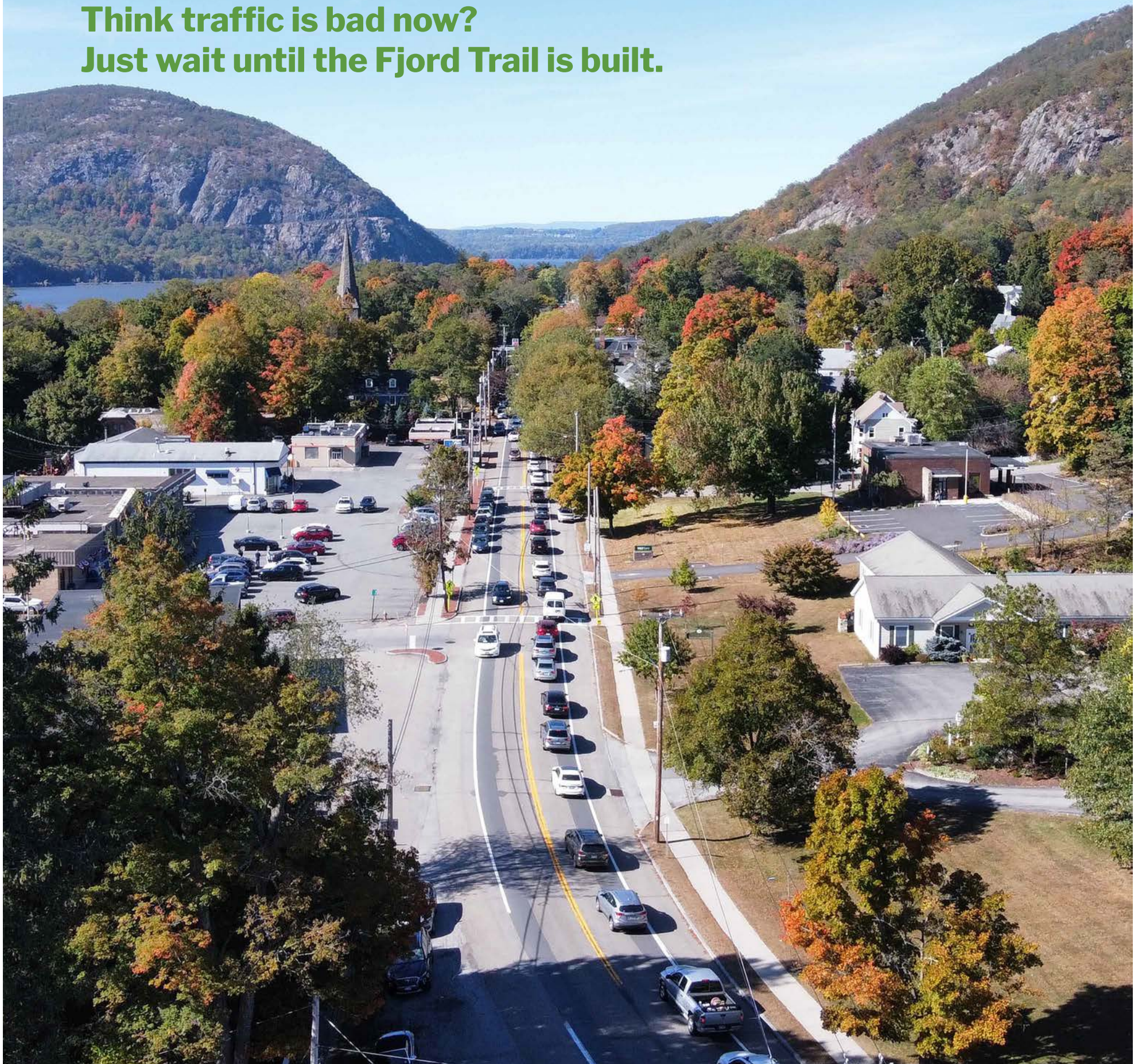
Join us as we present NYT best-selling author of *Witchlings*, *Frizzy*, and *Ghost Squad* with the Alice Curtis Desmond Award for Excellence in Children's Literature. The program will also include a reading from *Witchlings: House of Elephants*, and free tasty treats for all!





# Don't be Fjooled

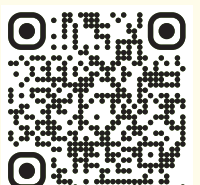
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HHFT expects up to 1 million visitors per year, with most driving north from Bear Mountain Bridge on Route 9D. New and expanded parking lots north of Cold Spring will make traffic worse, not better. This is about regional transformation (their words), not a nice walk for local families.



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Small, Good Things

The Great Escape

By Joe Dizney



Sugo scappato is a vegetarian Tuscan ragù rooted in the tradition of cucina povera, the so-called “peasant” cooking of central and southern Italy. It is said to have originated with rural cooks aiming for the chunky heartiness of a meaty red sauce — I immediately think of Marcella Hazan’s luscious classic Bolognese, containing as it does, beef *and* pork, as well as white wine, butter and milk (!) — while avoiding the expense of the meat and other luxurious ingredients.

Sugo scappato translates as “escaped” or “runaway” sauce and consists of chunks of vegetables (onion, carrot and celery) that traditionally provide the body — as opposed to the beef, which escaped — while red wine and tomatoes give it color and depth. This easy staple is colloquially (derogatorily?) known as sugo finto, or “fake sauce.”

Where Marcella’s unctuous Bolognese takes three hours to cook, a simple vegetable-forward sugo scappato and pasta can be on the table in an hour.

I’ve tried here to push the scappato further toward the meatier end by adding a chunky dice of cremini mushrooms, along with flavoring from a broth of dried porcini mushrooms, a secret umami weapon in the



Sugo Scappato (Escaped Sauce)

search for vegetable alternatives.

Simple white button mushrooms or (better) cremini — infantilized as “baby bellas” — benefit from a 20-minute dry-roast in a 350-degree oven before being chopped and sautéed.

For this sauce, in my imagination the animal that “escaped” was a wild boar, leading to a herb and spice mix of sage and juniper berries. For the pasta, I recommend Sfoglini’s organic Durham wheat rigatoni, better identified as scorzasellari. It’s larger in diameter and shorter than rigatoni, lined with ridges and possessed of a coarser texture that encourages the sauce to cling.

Serve topped with pangrattato (grated bread, or the poor man’s Parmesan) mixed with parsley, chopped walnuts for crunch and more of the sage and juniper, plus a little Parmesan (or nutritional yeast) for more umami. This “fake” pasta dish is not faking anything.

Serves 4

For the porcini broth

¼ to ½ cup dried porcini mushrooms  
1 stalk celery, roughly chopped  
1 large carrot, roughly chopped  
10 black peppercorns  
1 bay leaf  
2 tablespoons soy sauce  
4 cups water

For the ragù:

Olive oil  
1 large onion, chopped fine  
1 pound mushrooms (cremini or white button), chopped into ½-inch dice  
4 cloves garlic, minced  
1 teaspoon oregano  
2 carrots cut into ¼-inch dice  
2 stalks celery cut into ¼-inch dice  
1 teaspoon crushed juniper berries  
½ teaspoon red pepper flakes  
3 tablespoons tomato paste  
1 cup red wine  
14 ounces canned cherry tomatoes  
1 cup porcini broth  
2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar  
1 pound rigatoni (or other pasta)

For the pangrattato:

½ cup breadcrumbs  
½ cup chopped walnuts  
½ cup Italian parsley leaves, chopped  
15 to 20 fresh sage leaves, chopped  
10 to 12 dried juniper berries, crushed fine  
¼ cup grated Parmesan or 3 tablespoons nutritional yeast (optional)  
Olive oil; salt and pepper to taste

1. For the porcini broth: Place the ingredients in a saucepan and bring to a low boil; reduce to a simmer and cook for 30 minutes. Strain and reserve the broth. You can do this up to a week in advance and refrigerate. (Alternatively, you can use vegetable, beef or chicken stock or make a quick mushroom stock from a Better-Than-Bouillon base.)

2. Heat three tablespoons of olive oil in a large saucepan or Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Add ¼ cup of the onions and sauté for 3 to 5 minutes until translucent. Add chopped mushrooms and cook for 8 minutes until browned. Add garlic and oregano and cook, stirring for 2 minutes until fragrant. Season with salt and pepper. Add the tomato paste and stir, cooking for 2 minutes until fragrant. Reserve to a bowl.

3. In the same pot, heat ¼ cup olive oil. Add the onions, carrots and celery; cook, stirring frequently until soft (about 8 minutes). Add juniper berries and red pepper flakes and cook for 2 minutes. Return the reserved mushroom mixture to the pot and stir in the wine. Cook for 5 minutes until the wine is mostly evaporated and add the canned tomatoes and 1 cup of the broth. Bring ragù to a bubble, reduce to a simmer and cook for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally.

4. While the ragù cooks, bring water to boil for the pasta. Prepare the pangrattato by mixing the ingredients in a bowl using your fingertips. Moisten the mixture with a drizzle of olive oil and season to taste with salt and pepper. Salt the pasta water and prepare as per package instructions. Reserve a cup of the water before draining the pasta.

5. Add the two tablespoons of apple cider vinegar to the simmering ragù and stir to incorporate. Combine the drained pasta and ragù, adding reserved pasta water to thin the sauce as needed. Stir gently to mix. Serve in bowls and top each with a healthy spoonful of pangrattato.

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# Fire Station *(from Page 1)*

“It’s been a big morale boost, everyone working toward this day to finally be here.”

South Avenue, a one-way street during construction, will return to two-way traffic today (Nov. 1). The municipal parking lot next to the station has been paved and striped for 52 spaces, with eight reserved for firefighters. It is now outfitted with electric-vehicle charging stations and opens to the public today.

The road to get to the new station was not always straightforward. The city paid for consultants beginning in 2006 to study what could be done with its three aging fire stations — the Beacon Engine facility on



Longtime volunteers Pat Kelliher (center) and Dennis Lahey Sr. (right) hold the U.S. flag as firefighter Eric Jensen prepares to raise it for the first time.

*Photo by Anthony Sarcone*

East Main Street, Mase Hook and Ladder on Main and the Lewis Tompkins Hose Co. station on South Avenue.

Memorial Park and the Sargent Elemen-

tary School campus were among the sites considered for a new central station until, in 2020, a month before the pandemic shut-down, the City Council voted to close the 130-year-old Beacon Engine facility. The plan was to rehab the other stations, but with neither meeting modern firefighting standards, the city pivoted by early 2022 to a plan to gut, refurbish and enlarge Tompkins Hose, which was built in 1979.

During construction, firefighters worked from Mase and the Highway Department garage on Camp Beacon Road, where a construction trailer was converted to sleeping quarters and a fire truck was stored inside the garage.

The newly completed, 16,400-square-foot, two-story brick structure on Wolcott reverses the orientation of the former Tompkins Hose station. It has three bays on Wolcott, eliminating the tight squeeze for trucks entering the station via South Avenue. Three bays that face South Avenue have been reduced to two, one for a spare

truck and the other for Ambulnz, the city’s paid ambulance service provider.

Behind the Wolcott Avenue bays are decontamination facilities, which did not exist in the old stations. There’s a stabilization unit for firefighters’ air packs, showers and industrial washers for uniforms. The “hot” decontamination zone is designed to keep ultra-fine toxins that firefighters are exposed to through smoke and other elements from entering the “cool zone,” or the rest of the station.

There are 21 geothermal wells beneath the parking lot that will heat and cool the all-electric building. It includes six rooms for firefighters, who work 24-hour shifts. As of Monday, lockers outside the rooms still had blue painter’s tape on them with firefighters’ names written by hand. Wooden side tables made by firefighter Kevin Powell highlight the living spaces.

The chief’s office did not move, but it did get a considerable upgrade over the converted closet assigned to the previous chief, Gary Van Voorhis.

The city plans to sell the Beacon Engine and Mase buildings in 2025, City Administrator Chris White said.

Mark Romanelli, who joined the Tompkins Hose Co. as a volunteer in 1989 and became a paid firefighter in 2004, said the station is “like nothing we’ve ever had before.” It has so many safety features, “it’s probably one of the top firehouses in the country, technology-wise,” he said. But, he noted, it also honors the city’s long firefighting history with display cases filled with historic photos and artifacts.



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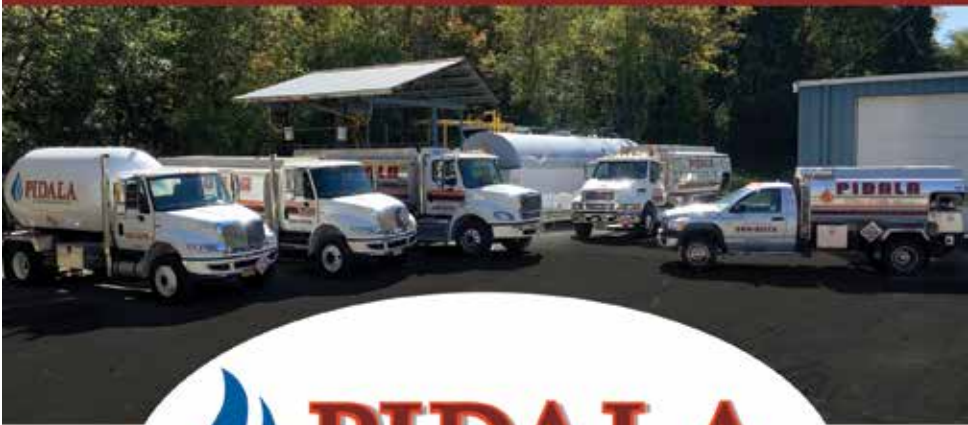
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## Immigration (from Page 1)

In the Wappingers school district, the number of ELL students has tripled over the last 10 years to more than 330, although that's still a tiny percentage in a district with over 10,000 students, said Michelle Cardwell, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction. She said the growth of the ELL population has not strained district resources. The Arlington, Brewster, Carmel, Poughkeepsie and Newburgh districts report similar increases.

Driving the growth are people fleeing economic hardship and political turmoil in Latin America, said Julie Sugarman, associate director for K-12 research at the Migration Policy Institute in Washington, D.C.

At Haldane, 50 percent of the English language learners are Latino, according to state education data. In Beacon, it's about 80 percent Latino, in Wappingers, about 75 percent, and in Poughkeepsie and Brewster, about 95 percent.

Newburgh had 1,800 ELL students last year, up from 1,500 a decade ago. The district reported that most newcomers are from Honduras, Peru, Columbia, Venezuela, Guatemala and Haiti. In Wappingers, many are from Guatemala.

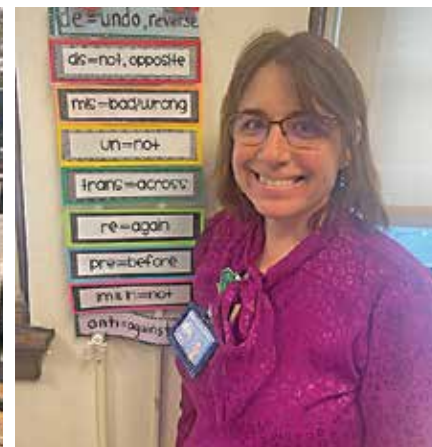
An exception to the ELL growth is the Beacon school district, where enrollment has remained consistent: 75 a decade ago and 70 today among the district's 2,400 students. The reason is the cost of living, said Sagrario Rudecindo-O'Neill, the assistant superintendent of curriculum and student support.



Sagrario Rudecindo-O'Neill



Renata Saldaña



Kathryn Lokmaci

"If you look at the rents here, you can't buy anything," she said. "We don't have hotels nearby or short-term rentals."

Kathryn Lokmaci, who teaches ELL at South Avenue Elementary School, recalled that several years ago some ELL students were forced out of their homes on Main Street to make way for condos and "had to relocate to other areas that were cheaper, like Newburgh or Poughkeepsie," she said. "That was sad."

How many ELL students are undocumented is unknown. Districts enroll students without regard to their legal status; the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1982 in *Plyler v. Doe* that public schools must accept undocumented immigrants.

That case was in the spotlight last year when some New York districts expressed concern about an influx of immigrants. In response, Attorney General Letitia James

and Betty Rosa, the state education commissioner, issued a joint letter "to remind school administrators that all children and youth in New York between the ages of 5 and 21 have the right to a free public-school education," regardless of status.

The influx has created a shortage of ELL teachers, prompting the Education Department to partner with local teaching programs and to build flexibility into the certification process. The department said that more than 1,400 people have enrolled in ELL teaching programs over the past decade.

In recent years, Wappingers added four ELL teachers and now has 12, said Cardwell. She noted that several districts in Dutchess County have partnered with SUNY New Paltz to get more teachers certified.

In addition to learning English, immigrant students face emotional challenges.

"I felt so ashamed," said one former Haldane ELL student. She recalled telling her parents: "I'm not happy here. I'm not understanding anything. I can't communicate with my friends. Coming to school is giving me anxiety. I can't do it anymore."

She said she was bullied for her lack of English. The student, who asked not to be identified because she is still undocumented, told her parents that she wanted to transfer to Peekskill, where there were more Latino students.

She credits Principal Julia Sniffen and her teachers with stopping the bullying, making her feel welcome and persuading her parents to stick with Haldane.

ELL students also experience culture shock. A Newburgh student from Ecuador reported that she didn't understand why students didn't wear uniforms and was appalled when she saw students attending school in what looked like pajamas.

While the influx of immigrants has created resource challenges for larger districts in New York City, Chicago and Denver, schools in the Highlands appear to have embraced the diversity.

Beacon's district newsletter, the *Bulldog Bulletin*, featured a story this summer about a project in Lokmaci's class at South Avenue called Bilingualism is My Superpower.

"It's scary when you come to another country, and you might be isolated from your culture," Lokmaci said. "I want them to know that it is cool that they know two languages."

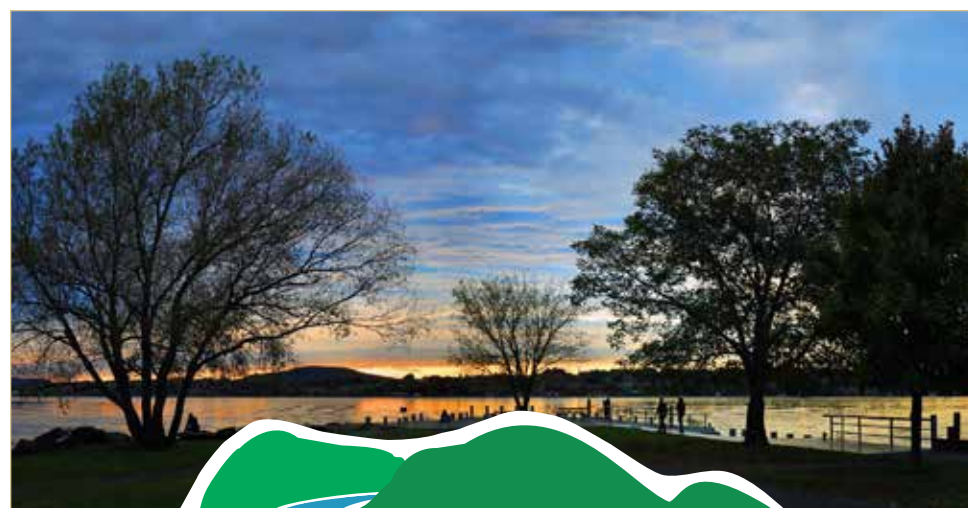
Haldane also has embraced cultural differences, said Albano: "It brings a lot of value to the school."

When she graduated in 2019, Renata Saldaña was the first Haldane graduate to be awarded a Seal of Biliteracy by the state, said Sniffen, who noted that by 2024 a third of the graduating class earned the honor.

Barbara Jennings, who has taught ELL at Haldane since 2010, said the approach has evolved. Teachers once urged students' parents to speak only English at home, believing that immersion helped children become fluent more quickly. Now, she said, students are encouraged to retain their native language and culture.

Nevertheless, Jennings said some students shy away from their native language. "They're embarrassed because it makes them different," she said. "I try to share with them how important it is to have their identity, to share their culture and to share their heritage."

For the first two parts of this series, see [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org).



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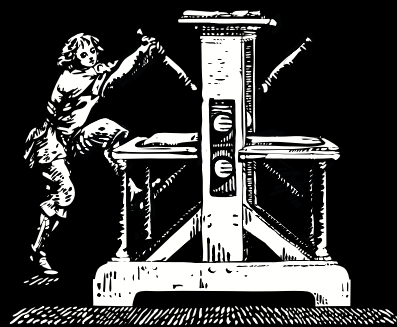
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## Paving *(from Page 1)*

Angell submitted a statement to be read in his absence. He noted that the environmental assessment concluded that the projects were consistent with the town's 2023 master plan and would not create stormwater discharge.

The master plan calls for efforts to preserve dirt roads, stone walls and other elements that "contribute to Philipstown's rural and historic character," said Angell. He also questioned the answer to the stormwater question. "Is this possible for a paved road or any road project?" he asked.

### 2025 budget

Philipstown's 2025 budget will have a

softer impact under a plan proposed by Van Tassel.

Unlike last year, when the town approved a budget for 2024 that raised the tax levy by 8.3 percent and the tax rate by 13 percent, the Town Board began revising a tentative spending plan for 2025 that would be under the 2 percent cap and raise tax rates by a much smaller amount.

As submitted by Van Tassel, who said he asked departments to limit their requests for spending increases to 2 percent, the draft budget has \$13.1 million in spending with an overall levy of \$9.7 million.

The tax rate on properties townwide rises by 1.9 percent to \$3.45 per \$1,000 of assessed value and for properties outside

the villages of Cold Spring and Nelsonville by 0.38 percent to \$3.81.

Several revisions were approved, including raising spending for the Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps by 5 percent instead of 2 percent and increasing the hourly rate for its two paid staffers to \$22 from \$18.

The town has scheduled a public hearing for Wednesday (Nov. 6) at 7:40 p.m.

### Ambulance Corps

Van Tassel said the Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps has been responding to calls from Kent since Oct. 1, when an ambulance provided by the Kent Volunteer Fire Department went out of service. Kent is attempting to create a municipal

ambulance service, but one call from Kent required the Philipstown ambulance to make a 31-minute drive, said Van Tassel.

"If our ambulance that we're paying for is in Kent and then going to Putnam Hospital or Danbury, it's not available for the residents here," he said.

A basic-life-support vehicle stationed in Kent by the Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services is not available after 7 p.m., according to Van Tassel. An official from the state Department of Health inspected Kent's ambulances last month and deemed them fit for service but the town is still without staff, he said. "If I were a resident of Kent, I would be up in arms," said Van Tassel.

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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. Fringe benefit

5. “Humbug!”

8. Rocky outcrop

12. Jai —

13. Swelled head

14. Valentine border

15. Cooking area

17. Gray’s subj.

18. Wedding setting

19. Riyadh residents

21. Pride parade letters

24. GI entertainers

25. Ganges wrap

28. Incursion

30. “Tasty!”

33. Actress Thurman

34. Orchestral strings

35. Director Ang

36. Prohibit

37. Gas co., for one

38. Printer’s blue

39. Corn core

41. Cruising

43. Drag

46. New York’s — Island

50. Pundit’s piece

51. Causing annoyance

54. Stallion’s mate

55. Flightless bird

56. Revise

57. Org.

58. Trench

59. Pixels
- DOWN
1. Brazilian rubber

2. Mideast airline

3. Harangue

4. Capital of Rwanda

5. Wager

6. Past

7. Beer ingredient

8. Santa —

9. Not by design

10. “Superfood” berry

11. Understands

16. Work unit

20. German car name

22. Author Harte

23. Shire of *Rocky*

25. Long lunch?

26. Docs’ org.

27. Cattle farm workers

29. Misfortunes

31. — culpa

32. Gents

34. Rubik’s brain-teaser

38. Phoned

40. From days of yore

42. “A mouse!”

43. *Brave New World* drug

44. IRS employees

45. Get ready, briefly

47. Chic beach resort

48. Monogram pt.

49. Pvt.’s superiors

52. Parisian pal

53. Fanatic

SUDOCURRENT

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

WORDLADDER

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

BLANK

BRIDE

WORDSEARCH

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

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D I O N

A R E A

M A D P

F A K E D

I M P S

R I O

M S P A

A C A C I A

B E L A

U D O N

T E T E

B R R

L I E

P R O P S

LOW

M E A L

M A X I S

C M A N

R I M S

M E R I

I C E

A O K

S C A R

H O N E

R A T E

T A I L E D

P L A N

O T O

M O A T

S A N D S

T R I

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Answers for Oct. 25 Puzzles

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Q O G B A D P E J C

P W S D T A E R T S

F U I T E T S O H G

N T M T U T D H M F

O D R P C M N F D Z

K K C I K H E U Q R

X J F Y C I N N A G

V J S N E K N W T H

C A N D Y D Z I V R

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PORTS, POUTS, BOUTS

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## Sports

# VARSITY ROUNDUP

## BEACON

By Nick Robbins

**FOOTBALL** — Beacon ended its regular season on Oct. 25 with a 21-14 loss to visiting Marlboro to finish 6-2 — a vast improvement over the team's 2-7 mark in 2023. Quarterback Jazziah Whitted completed 15 of 27 passes for 110 yards with two touchdowns. He also ran for 50 yards on nine carries. Giovanni Browley had two catches for 46 yards, including a touchdown, while Elijah Epps caught the other score. On defense, Epps recorded eight tackles. Seeded No. 5 in the Section IX, Class B playoffs, the Bulldogs travel to No. 4 Spackenkill (6-2) tonight (Nov. 1) for a 6 p.m. kickoff. The game can be streamed at [nfhsnetwork.com](http://nfhsnetwork.com); the winner will face No. 1 Port Jervis (7-1) on Nov. 8.

**BOYS' SOCCER** — Seeded No. 2 in the Section IX, Class A playoffs, Beacon had no problem with No. 7 Liberty on Tuesday (Oct. 29), winning 5-0 behind goals by Brody Timm (2), Tye Elias, Josue Pintado and Luca Font. The Bulldogs edged No. 3 Wallkill, 2-1, on Thursday (Oct. 31) to advance to the title game on Saturday.

**VOLLEYBALL** — Beacon fell on Monday (Oct. 28) to Cornwall, 3-0 (25-21, 25-23, 25-15), a loss that led to the two teams sharing the league title with 7-1 records. Lila Burke had 12 kills, Katherine Ruffy had 17 assists and Shilo Reynolds scored two aces. In a non-league game, Beacon lost, 3-0, at home to O'Neill on Tuesday. The Bulldogs (12-5) await their seeding in the Section IX playoffs.

**GIRLS' SOCCER** — After a stellar season with only one loss, No. 3 Beacon fell short at No. 2 New Paltz on Wednesday (Oct. 30)



Beacon's scoring leader, Reilly Landisi, finished her career with 80 goals and 29 assists. For more photos, see [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org).

Photo by Cadence Heeter

in the first round of the Section IX, Class A playoffs. After the game remained tied at 1-1 following two overtime periods, the Huguenots prevailed in a penalty kick shootout. Noelle Haase scored Beacon's goal. Officially, the Bulldogs finished 15-1-1, with their only loss to John Jay East Fishkill on Oct. 10.

**CROSS-COUNTRY** — At the OCIAA Championships at Warwick on Oct. 26, ninth-grader Caellum Tripaldi finished 38th of 150 runners in 17:42.9. For the girls, ninth-grader Elise Moran was 77th of 109 runners in 25:42.4.

**HALL OF FAME** — Beacon High School announced its 2024 inductees: Brian Mahon (bowling coach, 2000), Kristen McDonald and Jo-Anne Greggo Hockler (softball, 1989), Tom Kirby (baseball, 1988), Dan Soto (baseball, 1997) and Kyle Davis (wrestling, 2017). The ceremony is scheduled for Jan. 3.

## HALDANE

By Jacob Aframian

**FOOTBALL** — A week after giving up 35

points in a loss at home to Putnam Valley, Haldane rebounded by scoring 35 points of its own on Oct. 26 while blanking Hastings. The Blue Devils led, 21-0, at halftime, scoring on passes in the second quarter from quarterback David Powlis to Jake Thomas (54 yards) and, with 53 seconds left, to Cooper Corless (34 yards). In the second half, Merrick Williams ran 20 yards for a TD to make it 28-0, and on the first play of the fourth quarter, Thomas ran 40 yards for a score.

The Blue Devils defense allowed Hastings only 31 yards. Coach Ryan McConville said the key for his team was "not holding onto bad plays and not holding onto a bad game last week." Haldane (4-3) travels today (Nov. 1) to Dobbs Ferry (4-3).

**BOYS' SOCCER** — For the second straight year, Haldane's season ended with a loss in the Section I, Class C playoffs to North Salem. Neither team scored in the first half of the game, played at North Salem on Wednesday (Oct. 30), but the top-seeded Tigers scored three in the second. Haldane finished 4-13.

**GIRLS' SOCCER** — Haldane's season ended on Wednesday (Oct. 30) with a 5-0 loss at



Owen Powers and Jack Illian show off their medals after the Section I Northern Counties Championship on Oct. 26.

Photo provided

North Salem in the Section I, Class C tournament. The Blue Devils finished 2-13.

**VOLLEYBALL** — In the final regular-season game on Oct. 25, the Blue Devils fell, 3-0, to Hastings. Elaina Johanson had five kills, Megan Powell scored three aces and Savannah Duggan had 10 digs. Haldane (3-15) did not qualify for the Section I, Class C playoffs.

**CROSS-COUNTRY** — At the Section I Northern Counties Championship in Milton on Oct. 26, junior Owen Powers won the boys' 5,000-meter race in 15:57.8 and senior Jack Illian was 11th in 16:56.6 in a field of 127 runners. The team finished second overall, behind Arlington. For the girls, senior Ashley Sousa was 13th of 68 runners in 21:52.6 and seventh-grader Olive Allebrand was 27th in 23:25.3.



## An Evening with George Stevenson

**Friday, November 8  
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM**

Cold Spring Fire Company  
154 Main St., Cold Spring



Tickets can be purchased at:  
[www.zeffy.com/ticketing/e2b23bf1-6452-458f-b5b4-6402f82ef7d3](http://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/e2b23bf1-6452-458f-b5b4-6402f82ef7d3)

The Cold Spring Fire Company is proud to host a reception honoring Cold Spring's beloved resident, neighbor, Fire Company member, and artist, George Stevenson. The Friday evening reception will precede the sale of the body of George's work on Saturday, November 9, from 2-5 pm.

Tickets to attend the reception are \$65. There will be a cash bar and light refreshments. Proceeds from the reception and sale will go towards a scholarship in George's name for a Haldane student attending art school.





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and events. I've read  
every copy since  
moving here two  
years ago. Thank you!

~ Lori Bukiewicz  
BEACON



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