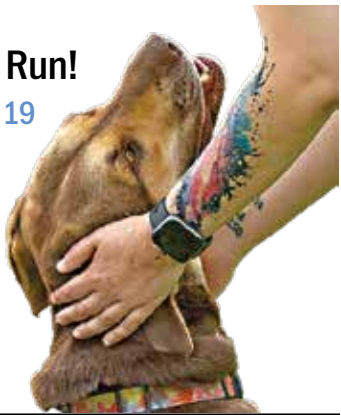


The HIGHLANDS Current

MAY 23, 2025

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Dog Run!
Page 19



Beacon Firehouse Sale Pending

Mase buyer expected to soon sign contract

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon City Council has approved the sale of the 114-year-old Mase Hook & Ladder fire station, although city officials said the buyer and price won't be revealed until the contract is finalized.

The council voted, 6-0, on Monday (May 19), with Jeff Domanski of Ward 2 abstaining. He said that while City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis had moments earlier provided an "excellent explanation" of the sale process and council members' responsibility to seek the highest return, he felt "that could have been communicated earlier; it might have allayed a lot of concerns."

(Continued on Page 20)



The former Mase firehouse is located at 425 Main St. File photo by J. Simms



Aaron Burke, the librarian at South Avenue Elementary (right), watches as students release brown trout into Fishkill Creek. For more photos, see Page 9. Photo by Ross Corsair

They Put the Fish in Fishkill Creek

Beacon fifth graders help restock trout

By Joey Asher

If you saw 37 fifth graders marching with fish signs down Churchill Street in Beacon on May 16, they were off to release 60 trout friends into Fishkill Creek.

The children, who attend South Avenue Elementary, had given the 3-inch brown trout names like Holiday, Jeremy, Jeff, Billy Bigback, Patricia Felicia Petunia, Little Jim Bob and Li'l Shoddy.

It was the culmination of an eight-month school project about trout, their habitat and conservation, and the importance of caring about nature.

"Why would you care about the environment if you're not connected to it in

any way?" asked Aaron Burke, the school librarian who runs the project. "This is a way to help make that connection. Every time they drive over that bridge, they'll think, 'I wonder if Fred is in there.'"

Students in 5,000 schools nationwide and more than 350 in New York are conducting similar releases as part of Trout in the Classroom, a program organized each spring for more than 30 years by the conservation group Trout Unlimited.

"The big goal of the program is to create this connection with students in their watershed and their drinking water," said

(Continued on Page 9)

Local School Budgets Pass Easily

Haldane voters also approve \$98,150 for library

By Chip Rowe

Voters on Tuesday (May 20) easily approved proposed spending for 2025-26 by the Haldane, Garrison and Beacon school districts, with each budget passing by wide margins among the relatively few residents who turned out.

Beacon

Voters approved \$87.7 million in spending for the Beacon City School District by a vote of 805-240, or 77 percent. Turnout was about 6 percent.

The budget includes a 5.09 percent tax-levy increase, just under the maximum allowed for the district by New York State. The levy will generate more than \$50 million in property taxes.

At \$31.6 million — an increase of \$572,000 (1.9 percent) — state aid makes up the bulk of the remaining revenue. The district will spend \$2.5 million of its savings in 2025-26, an increase of \$500,000 over this year.

District officials say the budget will allow them to maintain improvements made in recent years, including smaller elementary class sizes, increased mental health support for students and a full-day pre-K program. For the first time, the district will launch a summer workshop program for incoming high school students and create an in-school mental health clinic at Rombout Middle School. It also will add teachers for elementary students

(Continued on Page 5)

Holtec Investigating Contaminated Soil at Indian Point Site

'Essentially zero risk to workers,' says company

By Brian PJ Cronin

Holtec is still trying to determine how soil at the Indian Point nuclear power plant near Philipstown became contaminated with radioactive material.

The radiation levels are not considered dangerous. A Holtec official said at a May 1 meeting of the Indian Point Decommissioning Oversight Board that a person would have to "ingest many pounds" of the dirt to reach even one-tenth of the allowable federal limits. But the contamination is a concern because it was discovered far from where any of the three reactors were

located or where nuclear waste is stored.

Holtec, which began decommissioning the closed plant in 2021, reported the contamination at the December meeting of the oversight board. It was detected when Holtec was investigating building a data center and conducted surface soil sampling around a training center on the southern end of the

(Continued on Page 8)



Indian Point

File photo

5 FIVE QUESTIONS: CHRISTA BUCCOLA HENRIQUEZ

By Joey Asher

Christa Buccola Henriquez is the environmental science and STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) coordinator for the Garrison School. She began Jan. 6, succeeding Rachel Arbor, who launched a consulting firm.

How did you decide to become a science teacher?

I had an honors biology teacher at Century High School in Pocatello, Idaho, named Mr. Loftin. He helped me fall in love with science. In one project we identified the ingredients in a bottle of store-bought Italian dressing. We all had our lab stations, with beakers and burners. He gave us the ingredient label and said: "Prove to me that these things are in this bottle." So, we boiled it and identified the water. We strained it and identified things like oregano and other spices. At one point we left the container sitting out for a while and there was this gummy, gooey substance. We determined that it was xanthan gum, the food additive you see on so many labels.

You taught in New York City. What projects did you do with your students?

I was a sixth-grade science teacher at The Mott Hall III School in the South Bronx. One

thing we did was visit the Taconic Outdoor Education Center in Philipstown for overnight field trips. For some of the students, this was the first time they were really in nature. We would sleep in cabins, eat in their cafeteria and measure our food waste output. The forest blew the kids' minds in the same way that the salad-dressing experiment blew my mind. Something they loved was the flashlight-free hike at night. We learned about the science of the eye, and rhodopsin, a light-sensitive protein that allows you to see at night. The kids were excited. Rhodopsin will stay with them forever.

On May 30, the Garrison School will host its fourth Youth Climate Summit, with 325 participants from five area schools. Anything new on the agenda?

We're making the programs more interactive. The presentations are 15 minutes, followed by 30 minutes of learning. As an example, we have a program on sustainable fashion. After the lecture, the kids will make sustainable tote bags from old T-shirts. We also want presentations to have an action component. So, if students learn about habitat destruction, they may write letters to legislators urging them to fix it. We're also going to have three sixth graders give 90-minute tours of the 180-acre school forest. They'll talk about the history of the forest as well as the projects we do there, such as measuring how much carbon is taken out of the air by the trees. They've been practicing with their classmates.

Any fun projects your students are working on now?

My third graders are designing a watering system for our garden that won't require us to pull hoses from the garage to the back of the school. They've come up with several solutions. There's an in-ground collection system with a receptacle

under the surface of the soil and a piping system that branches to the plants. There's an elevated rain-collection system that would also have piping. Two girls came up with solar panels that open and close the water collectors based on the weather. The idea is to keep out leaves and debris. They've blown me away.

Are these projects going to be installed?

Possibly. We need an engineer to help us build it. But the real goal is to bring science to life. When I fell in love with science, I thought I wanted to be a doctor. But there are many ways to love science. For these two girls, they're falling in love with science through solar panels and a watering system.



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ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

Is luck real or is it just math playing out?

“ Everything happens for a reason. ”



Jon Degen, Beacon

“ I think luck is real. ”



Jaclyn Guttilla, Cold Spring

“ It's three things intersecting: opportunity, math and luck. ”



Mark Finkelstein, Beacon

NEWS BRIEFS

Audit Criticizes Philipstown Budgeting*Report cites Garrison's Landing spending*

A state audit released this month said Philipstown should have included in its budget the \$2.4 million it spent on the Garrison Landing Water District over six years, shrinking its general-fund balance from \$1 million to \$53,137.

The state Comptroller's Office audit covered spending from 2018 to 2023, when annual expenses for the water district rose from \$85,436 to \$975,475, "the most significant factor of the town's financial decline," according to the findings.

Created in 1998, the water district initially drew from three wells, but the town eventually had to buy water for residents while it searched for a new well. Fees collected from water district customers are capped by state law at \$20,000 annually.

Supervisor John Van Tassel, in his response to the audit, said the town did not traditionally budget for water district repairs because the wells were operating, but "unexpected failures" required emergency spending. "Going forward, the town will consider potential situations that may result in unexpected expenditures" and include them in the budget, he said.

Trolley Service Begins Monday*Will make weekend stops in Cold Spring, Garrison*

The trolley operated by Putnam County between Cold Spring and Garrison will begin its seasonal schedule on Monday (May 26) and run Saturdays and Sundays through early November.

Flag-down service has been eliminated. The trolley will stop hourly at the bandstand, train station, Visitor's Center, Little Stony Point, Butterfield library, Putnam History Museum, Boscobel, Constitution Marsh, Highland Trail, Garrison train station, Glenclyffe Trail, Manitoaga and the Desmond-Fish library.

The schedule can be downloaded at dub.sh/trolley-2025. The fare is \$2 cash, or \$1 for seniors, disabled, children under age 13 (infants are free) and veterans.

NewYork-Presbyterian to Cut Staff*Nurses group says hospital affected*

NewYork-Presbyterian announced that it will cut 2 percent of its health system's 50,000 employees, who include workers at

Hudson Valley Hospital in Cortlandt Manor and medical offices in Cold Spring.

In a statement on Tuesday (May 20), the hospital system attributed the cuts to "macroeconomic realities and anticipated challenges" and said that it is working to reassign as many affected employees as possible.

NewYork-Presbyterian did not respond to questions about layoffs at Hudson Valley Hospital or its Cold Spring offices. But the New York State Nurses Association (NYSNA) said on Monday that the cuts will affect 70 nurses at Hudson Valley Hospital, Columbia University Irving Medical Center and Brooklyn Methodist Hospital. "These hospitals already struggle with hiring and retaining enough nurses for safe staffing," it said.

According to NYSNA, the hospital system announced the cuts in a video town hall with employees on May 5, the same day a law firm representing hundreds of women said the health system and Columbia University had agreed to pay \$750 million to settle sexual abuse claims against a former gynecologist, Robert Hadden.

Former Fishkill Official Disputes Defamation Claim*Lawsuit filed by owner of Continental Commons*

A former member of the Fishkill Town Board is asking a state judge to dismiss a lawsuit in which she is accused of defaming the owner of Continental Commons, a planned hotel and shopping development on Route 9.

In a motion filed May 8, Louise Daniele denies that statements she made at a Town Board meeting on Dec. 20, 2023, defamed the developer, Domenico Broccoli. During the meeting, she said that Board Member John Forman should recuse himself from votes involving Continental Commons because he rented office space from Broccoli's cousin and the developer donated to his 2012 state Assembly campaign.

Broccoli sued in March, alleging that Daniele's statements caused him "reputational harm, substantial emotional distress and humiliation and damage to his key business relationship."

Daniele's attorney responded that, even if the statements were defamatory, state law protects speech by elected officials and that the statements were about Forman, not Broccoli. She also said that Broccoli failed to first file a notice of claim with the town and has not proven that the statements harmed his business relationships.



The HIGHLANDS
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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Red Schoolhouse

I am glad to hear that the Town of Fishkill is planning to conserve a part of American education history ("Fishkill IDs Little Red Schoolhouse Owner," May 16). Rural schools were a big part of the education process for many years.

I taught in a one-room school in northern Vermont — grades 7 and 8 — from 1968 to 1979. Our town had four schools, still in operation. The directors, along with the superintendent, were having a hard time getting teachers for grades 1 to 8, so they put two grades in each schoolhouse. That lasted until 1995. When I started teaching, I boarded with one of the directors and was the last teacher to board out.

John Buscemi, *Walden, Vermont*

Rate hikes

I find it concerning that *The Current* put a story about yet another Central Hudson rate hike on the inside of the paper, rather than the front page, especially at a time of heightened anxiety over inflation and the economy ("Central Hudson Wants Another Rate Increase," May 16). Your occasional coverage of Central Hudson more broadly has been fine, but rate-hike coverage never seems to go much beyond press releases from Central Hudson and politicians.

We need fuller, more sustained coverage so that readers can better understand these hikes and have ways to make our voices heard. The May 16 story said the deadline for statements on the hikes is May 23, but there was no information about how or where to make statements.

I would like to see follow-up stories on why a company that still can't produce a consistently functional online bill-pay system has its hand out every time I turn around? Both state Sen. Rob Rolison (a Republican) and Assembly Member Jonathan Jacobson (a Democrat) are on record opposing these increases. Maybe interview the two of them? How about a story about assistance to lower-income customers, whose rates will go down while others go up? Does the program work as intended?

These hikes affect everyone in your circulation era, and people, as ever, are highly disillusioned with the news media, politicians and corporations. I'm a longtime reader and fan of what you all do at *The Current*, but we need better and more coverage on rate hikes.

Andrew Salomon, *Beacon*

Sales tax

The debate over sales tax sharing has been raging in Putnam County for decades.

What no one, including Legislator Paul Jonke, ever talks about is just how much we get for our county taxes and what a total bargain they are ("My View: We Can Afford to Cut Tax," May 16). The mandates and services that are covered in the county budget would bankrupt the towns if they had to deal with them on their own.

Because most of the money comes from sales tax, not property tax, our county tax bill is the lowest one that we receive. (For example, the mill rate per \$1,000 for the county is \$2.34, while Putnam Valley is \$3.75 and the school district is \$20.08.)

After seeing the way that money is wasted by the towns and the lack of transparency and accountability, there is no way that these supervisors should be given more money to play with. They are like kids in a candy store: They want more, more, more, no matter how much you give them.

County Executive Kevin Byrne and other Putnam officials are doing a great job keeping property taxes low, and I trust them way more than I would trust my own Town Board to do so. If it ain't broke, why fix it?

Patty Villanova, *Putnam Valley*

Clove Creek

The Fishkill Planning Board has kept the public comment period open for the proposed cement plant on Route 9 ("Concerns Raised Over Clove Creek," May 16). The public hearing will continue at its next meeting on June 12. Please come! This concerns all of us in Philipstown and beyond.

Bettina Utz, *Philipstown*

So much beauty would be destroyed by a cement plant and that beautiful creek will not stay intact. It will be noisy and ugly. Why must this be allowed?

Lillian Rosengarten, *Philipstown*

Spring renewal

As a gardener, I always appreciate Pamela Doan's *Roots and Shoots* column. I especially liked "Another Season, More to Learn" (May 9). What a refreshing take on "coexistence and boundaries." We can all do our part in taking care of our environment one plot at a time. Do what's achievable.

Ginny Figlia, *Beacon*

All those invasives and weeds — I feel Pamela's pain! I used to worry about plant's "feelings"; I couldn't bear to cull weak tomato seedlings. But after years, I decided that, if plants have feelings, and knowing that plants would be much more attuned to the cycles of nature, they "understand" the cycles of life and growth, death and compost, and rebirth. I don't think they would be upset at any of it!

Mary Kate Pendergast, *Beacon*



School Budgets *(from Page 1)*

struggling in math and reading and hire a part-time elementary speech instructor.

While the proposed levy increase is more than 5 percent, the addition of new households to the tax rolls means homeowners' bills may not go up by the same percentage. The district estimates that the owner of a \$420,200 home (the median value) in Beacon will see their taxes increase by \$240 annually.

In addition, voters returned Meredith Heuer and Semra Ercin to the nine-member school board. Heuer will begin her fourth, 3-year term, while Ercin will serve her first full term after being elected in 2023 to complete the final two years of a vacated seat. The seat held by Alena Kush, who did not run for a second term, will be filled by Catherine Buscemi, who also ran unopposed.

Haldane

Voters approved the Haldane Central School District's proposed \$30.2 million budget by a vote of 474-125, or 79 percent. Turnout was 13 percent.

Voters also approved spending \$205,000 on school buses (476-120) and increasing the maximum amount held in the Facilities Improvement Reserve Fund to \$3 million and its duration by 10 years (480-117).

In addition, the ballot included a proposition to support the Butterfield Library with \$98,150 in taxes annually, which was approved, 508-86. Voters approved referendums in 2015 to provide \$73,150 annually to the library and in 2006 to provide \$276,000 annually.

The Haldane spending includes a 2.8 percent tax-levy increase. Using the state's tax-cap formula, the district could have asked for a 3.38 levy increase. Board members debated this spring whether to go "to cap" but opted to forgo about \$132,000 in revenue after voters last year approved an increase of 6.95 percent over three years to pay for \$28.4 million in capital improvements. State aid for 2025-26 will be \$4.55 million, an increase of \$73,000 (1.6 percent).

The budget includes funding for a science-of-reading curriculum; software to improve student outcomes; a new pre-K program; special education funding for out-of-district placements; increased field trip spending; a softball field dugout;

classroom air conditioners to comply with New York state's maximum temperature requirement; auditorium stage and performing arts equipment; and a transportation system analysis.

The district estimates taxes on a home valued at \$500,000 will rise by \$197 annually.

Sean McNall and Ezra Clementson ran unopposed to retain their seats on the five-member school board. Clementson will serve his second, 3-year term and McNall his third.

Garrison

Garrison district voters approved its proposed \$14.7 million by a vote of 210-64, or 77 percent. Turnout was 12.5 percent.

By a 232-41 vote, district residents also approved a proposition that allows the district to enter into a contract for two to five years to continue sending high school students to Putnam Valley. Garrison includes grades K-8; its older students can attend Putnam Valley, Haldane or O'Neill.

There were two open seats on the seven-member board, and two incumbent candidates. Sarah Tormey was elected to her third, 3-year term and Kent Schacht to his second full term after being elected in 2021 to fill a vacancy.

The tax-levy increase of 3.58 percent was far below the 5.78 percent allowed for the district under the state's tax-cap formula. To avoid raising the levy further, Garrison administrators proposed paying for two pilot programs — an armed police officer and a lunch program — with \$1.4 million in savings. State aid will be \$1.23 million, an increase of \$51,000 (4.4 percent).

With the budget approval, the district will hire a Special Patrol Officer, a retired police officer whose role would be limited to security. (A School Resource Officer, or SRO, which Haldane has, is a sheriff's deputy who also teaches classes on topics such as personal safety, cyberbullying and drug awareness.)

Student lunches will be available Monday through Thursday; on Fridays, the school will continue to sell pizza as a fundraiser.

The district estimates that a Philipstown home assessed at \$300,250 will see its taxes rise by \$306 annually.

Jeff Simms and Joey Asher contributed reporting.



In Memoriam

The men remembered here died during their wartime service, either in combat or from disease or accidents.

Beacon

World War I

John Bump
Thomas B. Carroll
Frank Cramade
H. Gordon Deicke
George Delahay
George E. Deveson
Frank D. Fairclough
Frederick A. Garrison
Frederick Harris
Francis J. Murphy
Austin T. Robinson
Pasquale Salese
Jesse E. Slater
George Stafford
James J. Tomlins
Frank H. VanHouten Jr.
William Wilson

World War II

Arthur J. Baxter
John H. Beattie
Robert A. Bennett
Luigi F. Bettina
William J. Brennan
Frederick H. Brewer
John W. Briggs
Thomas B. Carrol
Calvin Clensay
John Collins
Nicholas T. Coppola
Raymond W. Detweiler
Andrew B. Eichorn
George J. Eichorn
Paul L. Facticeau
Robert M. Faris
Ralph L. Fleming
David Fontaine
George P. Frederick
Saul Gerlich
Michael J. Groza
Alexander J. Grudzina
Joseph Halbosky
Gordon E. Hughes
Henry I. Idema
Edwin J. Johnson

John Keto
Albert A. Knight
Orville Kranz
Ernest H. LaChance
George LaChance
Arnold E. Lasko
Robinson C. Lent
Walter M. Lewis
Judah H. Lewittes
James J. Lockwood
Michael E. Maskewicz
Joseph McGaughan
Peter Menger
John F. Mignault
George S. Mitchell
Howard G. Mitchell
William T. Morrison
Patrick J. O'Brien
Francis G. Peattie
Guy D. Pendleton
George Perrault
Kenneth G. Perry
Dominick J. Phillippo
Carmen A. Ramputi
Robert V. Resek
Lester F. Roberts
Peter J. Seranto
Francis T. Splain Jr.
Burton Stevens
Stuart F. Stripple
Richard E. Sutton
William J. Tallman
Rody J. Tighe
Francis J. Toth
George P. Turiga
Andrew Urbanak
Joseph C. Usifer
Rosco L. Vaughn Jr.
James J. Walker
John P. Wasnorowicz
Louis J. Westerhuis
Rene' Zahner

Korea
Anthony N. Scalzo

Vietnam
John J. Bennett

Thomas E. Devine
Everett Foster
Philip R. Mattracion
Terrence E. O'Neil
William R. Phillips
James S. Pittman
Emilio Rivera
Joseph T. Slinsky

Philipstown

World War I

Percy W. Arnold
Edward J. Burns
George A. Casey
Charles N. Clainos
Walter H. Croft
Charles DeRham Jr.
Clarence Fahnstock
John R. Fischer
James Harvey Hustis
J. Paulding Murdock

World War II

Martin E. Adams
H. Ellis Bowden
Edward Budney
Gerald Dale
Warren Eitner
W. Russel Farrell
Ralph Fleming
Arthur Gilman
Walter Glanville
Thomas Lutz
Stanley Matthews
Anthony Nastasi
Allen W. Olsen
Joseph V. Richardson
Lester B. Roberts
Arthur Warren

Vietnam
Aldon Asherman
John Bennett
Keith Livermore

Price at the Pump

	United States	New York	Local
Current	319 ⁵ / ₁₀	313 ² / ₁₀	314 ² / ₁₀
Month ago	316 ⁶ / ₁₀	311 ⁶ / ₁₀	309 ⁶ / ₁₀
Year ago	361 ⁰ / ₁₀	369 ² / ₁₀	374 ⁰ / ₁₀

Source: gasprices.aaa.com, as of May 22. Prices are average per gallon for regular.



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AROUND THE REGION

Peekskill Chamber Members Get Lesson in Immigration

An attorney for the nonprofit Neighbors Link on May 1 advised members of the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce about responding to federal immigration enforcement.

According to *The Peekskill Herald*, Melanie Zamenhof said owners should have a plan if their business is subject to a raid. Along with knowing their employees' immigration status, they should have a policy about who can speak to Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents and give consent for a search.

She noted that agents can't enter a private space, such as a kitchen or offices, without consent or a judicial warrant. "Locked doors make it clear that the space is private," she said.

Zamenhof said ICE has been conducting raids in Westchester County, targeting immigrants with deportation orders, arrest warrants or an arrest history.

Peekskill City Faces Second Settlement

A second former employee who sued the city won a default judgment after its corporation counsel repeatedly missed court deadlines.

The first case, in 2024, cost the city \$1 million to settle, according to *The Peekskill Herald*. In the more recent case, a former city employee sued after being fired in 2021; he claimed it was in retaliation for his complaints about workplace safety.

As in the earlier case, *The Herald* reported, the city's counsel, Tim Kramer, failed to respond to the lawsuit in time, claiming that files had been misplaced and his office was short-staffed. He also missed an extension deadline, and the court awarded a default judgment.

A state judge will determine how much the city must pay, or Peekskill could offer to settle. A law firm now handles the city's legal matters.

New Paltz Organizers Move Event About Gaza War

An event billed as a "talk on boycott, divestment, sanctions" in response to the war in Gaza was moved this month from the Elting Memorial Library to Village Hall on the advice of the police chief, according to the *Daily Freeman*.

An organizer said the library retracted its invitation because of a telephone threat. The event was sponsored by New Paltz Women in Black, Hudson Valley Jewish Voice for Peace, Middle East Crisis Response, Vassar Students for Justice in Palestine, SUNY BDS (Boycott, Divest, Sanctions), Kingston Women in Black, Veterans for Peace, New Paltz Society of Friends, Mid-Hudson Valley Democratic Socialists of America, Hudson Valley Party for Socialism and Liberation and Rally Middletown.

According to the *Daily Freeman*, oppo-

APRIL Real Estate Market Report

Beacon Homes

	2024	2025
New Listings	17	26
Closed Sales	6	6
Days on Market	79	59
Median Price	\$547,500	\$592,000
% List Received	91.9	100.1
Inventory	34	35

Beacon Condos

	2024	2025
New Listings	5	4
Closed Sales	3	3
Days on Market	46	42
Median Price	\$556,327	\$360,000
% List Received	98.5	97.1
Inventory	12	7

Philipstown Homes

	2024	2025
New Listings	16	18
Closed Sales	5	6
Days on Market	27	181
Median Price	\$610,000	\$792,500
% List Received	95.1	88.3
Inventory	31	32

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

nents online argued the involvement of the Democratic Socialists and the Party for Socialism violated a library policy that prohibits the use of its space for partisan political purposes.

Saratoga Springs Insurer Declines to Renew Audubon Policy

The Hartford last month declined to renew property and casualty coverage for the Southern Adirondack Audubon Society, telling the organization it doesn't insure advocacy groups.

Adirondack Explorer reported that, when pressed for details, the insurer said it was "not a market for associations who look to protect, analyze or monitor the environment against misuse or degradation from human forces."

Following media coverage, The Hartford offered to renew the policy, saying its decisions "are not informed by political and social viewpoints of any persuasion," but the Southern Adirondack Audubon Society said it was looking for another carrier.

Putnam Legislators Endorse Current Sales Tax

Proposal also would steer revenue to towns, villages

By Leonard Sparks

Four Putnam legislators who supported lowering the county's sales tax rate acquiesced on Monday (May 19), endorsing state legislation that will maintain the current 4 percent rate and send some proceeds to Cold Spring, Nelsonville, Philipstown and six other towns and villages.

Convening for a special session, the Legislature voted 7-1 to support bills introduced by state Sen. Pete Harckham and Assembly Member Matt Slater, whose districts include eastern Putnam, that would extend the 4 percent sales tax rate for another two years. Without the bill, the rate will return to 3 percent. Consumers pay a total of 8.375 percent on eligible purchases, which includes portions that go the state (4 percent) and Metropolitan Commuter Transportation District (0.375 percent).

The state legislation also requires that one-ninth of 1 percent of Putnam's sales tax revenue be shared with the county's nine municipalities.

State lawmakers first approved the increase from 3 percent to 4 percent in 2007, at the county's request, and a series of extensions have kept it in place. The most recent extension expires Nov. 30. In

April, five county legislators voted to lower Putnam's tax to 3.75 percent as a give-back to taxpayers amid a \$90 million surplus in unrestricted reserves.

But County Executive Kevin Byrne vetoed the reduction and announced an agreement to share with the towns and villages proceeds from the 1 percent increase if it were extended. Municipalities can spend the money on infrastructure projects, with each receiving an amount tied to its population and each guaranteed at least \$50,000.

Harekham and Slater endorsed the agreement, which would take effect Dec. 1 and last through Nov. 30, 2027, if their bills pass the Legislature and become law. In addition to enabling what Byrne calls “a first-of-its-kind sales tax-sharing arrangement,” the extension will fund a \$1 million reduction in the property-tax levy for the 2026 budget that he said would be the largest in county history.

"The alternative was allowing the county's sales tax rate to drop, immediately creating a revenue shortfall of tens of millions of dollars, forcing the county to borrow, raise property taxes or both," Byrne said.

Facing those same pressures, Putnam's municipalities have for years demanded a share of the sales tax revenue, something that 50 of New York's 62 counties do with their cities, towns and villages, according to the state Comptroller's Office. Dutchess' 2025 budget includes \$46 million in sales

Putnam Sales Tax Collections

	Budgeted	Collected
2019	\$60.5M	\$66.0M
2020	\$65.7M	\$66.8M
2021	\$60.4M	\$78.1M
2022	\$65.0M	\$82.0M
2023	\$74.8M	\$88.45M
2024	\$77.5M	\$86.0M
2025	\$79.3M	

Figures are not adjusted for inflation.

tax distributions, with an estimated \$6.1 million for Beacon.

If the proposed revenue-sharing agreement had been in place in 2024, Putnam would have distributed \$2.4 million to the towns and three villages on a per capita basis, Byrne said during a news conference last month.

"I haven't heard a single constituent ask us to lower the sales tax," said Nancy Montgomery, who represents Philipstown and part of Putnam Valley as the Legislature's sole Democrat, on Monday. "What I have heard loud and clear is stop the back and

forth, stop the chaos and work together.”

Legislator Dan Birmingham, who led the effort to lower the sales tax rate, did not participate in the vote because his law firm represents three of the municipalities that would benefit from the revenue-sharing agreement. Another supporter of the cut, Paul Jonke, was the only legislator voting against endorsing Harckham and Slater's legislation, which must pass the state Legislature before its session concludes on June 12.

Amid that pressure, legislators who voted for the vetoed sales tax cut last month endorsed maintaining the current rate. But they complained about being sidelined while Byrne and the municipal officials reached a revenue-sharing agreement and secured backing from Harcham and Slater.

Legislator Toni Addonizio, who had voted for the cut, was among those who did not agree with how the revenue-sharing agreement was crafted. She had proposed an alternative to sharing sales tax revenue: a two-year agreement to divide \$5 million of the \$90 million reserves annually among the towns and villages.

But Byrne would have also vetoed that proposal, said Addonizio, adding that the county should still find a way to return the value of the vetoed sales tax cut, \$5 million, to taxpayers. "I believe that should be a priority," she said.

“At no point have I said or signaled that I would veto another proposal to partner with our local partners,” Byrne wrote in a comment on the online version of this story.

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The Renaissance of Beacon
Then and Now



Incline Powerhouse

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PATRICK PROSSER'S 1982 PHOTO COLLECTION
Experience the gritty city through Prosser's lens
and uncover the significant transformations
captured by four of today's local contemporaries
M.S. Goldfarb | W.A.Loeb | P. Johnston | T. Cenicola

Sat. May 24 – 8 PM
FEEDBACK
AN IMPROV & VIDEO ART PERFORMANCE
Video Art by Rooster, Improve by Don Romaniello
bit.ly/FEEDBACK-HCC

Wed. May 28 – 4:30 & 5:30 PM
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stanzabooks.com/bambini
May 23 - Howland's Open Mic Night
June 6 - LIT LIT
June 7 - JOHN JOHN BROWN
June 8 - COMPOSERS CONCORDANCE
June 13 & 14 - BLF events at the Center

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

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Notes from the Cold Spring Village Board

By Michael Turton

■ At the May 14 meeting of the Cold Spring Village Board, Mayor Kathleen Foley reported that, following recent heavy rains, Village Hall received numerous calls about water flowing out of an old conduit on Craigside Drive near Haldane. Tests showed the water appears to be from an underground stream that shifted course after the severe storms in July 2023. The village is working with the school district and Central Hudson to resolve the situation.

■ Seastreak has canceled plans for summer cruises to Cold Spring. Instead, it has proposed a cruise for Sept. 6, followed by Saturday and Sunday excursions from

Oct. 4 through Nov. 9. Friday dockings are proposed for Nov. 7, 14 and 21.

■ The Cold Spring Fire Co. responded to nine calls in April, including three runs to assist other fire companies, two assists to local emergency medical services, two activated fire alarms and two brush fires. Firefighters spent six hours helping to extinguish a 19-acre blaze in Putnam Valley. Chief Matt Steltz reported that volunteers Philip Kean, Lauren De La Vega and Kimberly Seville recently completed basic exterior firefighting training.

■ The Cold Spring police responded to 115 calls in April, including 27 assists to other agencies, eight traffic stops and four motor vehicle crashes.

■ The Village Board accepted Camille Linson's resignation as associate justice for the village, effective June 5. She is moving out of the area.

■ To cover expenses, the Historic District Review Board is considering a policy that would require applicants to establish escrow funds for projects that require a public hearing.

■ Trustee Eliza Starbuck said she is exploring options for companies that supply parking payment kiosks linked to the Park-Mobile app. The board planned for two additional kiosks as part of its 2025-26 budget.

■ The board approved a request from the sloop Clearwater to dock at Cold Spring from July 19 to 27.

Notes from the Nelsonville Village Board

By Leonard Sparks

■ The Nelsonville Village Board met on Wednesday (May 21) after shifting its monthly meetings from Mondays and moving the start time to 7 p.m.

■ The board agreed to renew its legal services contract with Keane & Beane for \$225 per hour. The contract runs from June 1 to May 31, 2026, and represents a win for the village because the firm had considered raising its hourly fee, said Mayor Chris Winward.

■ The board approved a one-year, \$40,760 contract with the Cold Spring Fire Co. and an agreement with the Elizabeth Todd Healy Trust to repair a swale and stone wall at 501 Lane Gate Road to improve drainage on Healy Road, which was damaged by flooding in the July 2023 storms. Under a \$414,205 contract approved in March, Sun Up Construction Corp. of Wappingers Falls is widening and repatching the road, crowning a section and installing catch basins, a drainage pipe, curbs and swales. The state and federal government are covering 87.5 percent of the cost.

■ One contract Nelsonville did not renew was for street maintenance, including snow plowing. The current three-year contract is ending, and the only bidder wanted \$80,000, far more than the \$26,100 being spent in the current fiscal year. "We expected some increase, but we didn't expect a \$54,000 increase," said Winward. The village could split the contract into two, for winter and summer operations.

■ Discussions are underway with Philipstown on an intermunicipal agreement (IMA) that would cover emergencies. Because the town does not cut grass, the village is soliciting quotes for that service, Winward said. "As soon as we get these quotes in this week, we hope to select a lawn crew and go from there," she said. "By the next meeting [in June], we hope to have an IMA with Philipstown."

■ Village Clerk Melissa Harris reported that several accounts that were over their budgeted amounts for 2024-25 had been covered by unplanned revenue from building permits (+\$12,000), fines and forfeited bail (+\$3,000) and bank interest (+\$13,964). "We did not have to pull from the general fund," she noted. "We are fiscally in very good shape."

■ The board appointed Brant Thomas to the Planning Board. He succeeds Chris Johanson, who died in December.

■ Winward said that she and Planning Board Chair Dove Pedlosky met with a consultant to discuss strategies for funding an updated comprehensive plan. The current plan has not been updated since 1991, she said.

Indian Point (from Page 1)

site. The tests detected elevated levels of cesium-137, a byproduct of nuclear fission.

"The levels are low, but it still needs to be remediated," said Frank Spagnuolo of Holtec. Don Mayer, who worked at Indian Point for more than 30 years, beginning in 1981, and now is part of the decommissioning team, said the radiation is low enough to be "essentially zero risk to workers."

Nevertheless, the contamination is being

treated as radioactive waste and is being excavated and shipped via rail to nuclear storage facilities out of state. Holtec has said it has purchased equipment to conduct more extensive surveys to search for similar contamination elsewhere. "We don't want to be surprised anymore," said Spagnuolo.

It's not clear how cesium-137 ended up so far from the reactors and fuel storage. Holtec also tested the area for other common byproducts of fission, such as strontium-90 and nickel-63, but found nothing.

Mayer said he doesn't think the contamination happened during the three decades he worked at the plant. He suggested it may have occurred in the 1970s, during construction of two of Indian Point's three reactors. The first reactor, which went offline in 1974 because it lacked an emergency cooling system, had a leak at some point that contaminated the soil. Mayer said that some of that soil may have been excavated to where the training center was later built to make room for the second and third reactors and the plant's monitoring equipment at the time wasn't advanced enough to detect it.

Cesium-137 has a half-life of 30 years; if the contamination did occur in the 1970s, the material would be less than half as potent, which may explain the low level of radiation. "By the next meeting we'll have some good information," said Spagnuolo.

Meanwhile, a federal lawsuit filed by Holtec against New York State over a 2023 law that prohibits the company from discharging radioactive wastewater into the Hudson River continues. The state Department of Environmental Conservation said at the May 1 meeting that it is pausing the renewal of Holtec's "pollutant discharge elimination system" permit in the meantime.

Last year, the state attorney general accused Holtec of discharging radioactive water into the Hudson despite the law. Holtec countered that the discharges weren't waste from the spent fuel pools but groundwater and stormwater, a process that has been going on for 15 years.

When asked at the meeting about the discharges, Spagnuolo said he could not respond because of the ongoing litigation. He referred board members to the 2024 Annual Radioactive Effluent Release Report, released April 30. It notes that the discharges are happening but that the "offsite dose associated with the groundwater pathway remains extremely small," contributing less than 1 percent of the annual limit.

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South Avenue students carried handcrafted fish to the creek.



Mark Jones demonstrates to a student how to cast a fly.

Photos by Ross Corsair



Students recorded their observations.



Students received instruction in tying flies.



A student examines a fly line.

Fish Release *(from Page 1)*

Cecily Nordstrom, the nonprofit's stream education manager.

Burke has worked with Trout in the Classroom for five years and starts each fall with a small jar of trout eggs hatched in an aquarium in the school library. He gets the eggs from the state Department of Environmental Conservation. The DEC uses the same stock in hatcheries that annually produce 2 million trout to stock streams and lakes.

The state adds 6,100 brown trout each spring to Fishkill Creek, which starts in Union Vale and flows 33 miles through Dutchess County before passing through Beacon and emptying into the Hudson River. About 90 percent of those trout are 9-inch yearlings. Starting in 2020, about 10 percent of stocked trout were 13-inch two-year-olds, giving anglers "a shot at catching one of those nice larger fish," said Fred Henson, the DEC's cold water fisheries leader.

Henson explained that Fishkill Creek is a "put-and-take" fishery, which means the fish are put in the stream and quickly taken out by anglers fishing in places like Madam Brett Park off Tioronda Avenue. Stocked trout rarely survive to reproduce.

Without stocking in Fishkill Creek, Henson said, "you wouldn't have a fishery."

Development along streams like Fishkill Creek undermines the clean, cold water needed for trout to thrive, he said. As with many waterways in developed areas, storm-water runoff pollutes the creek and fewer

trees leads to rising water temperatures.

Henson said that the state reduced stocking last year in Beacon's section of Fishkill Creek to 400 trout because fewer property owners allow fishing. Until 2023, the state was stocking the section with 1,100 brown trout, he said.

"As more and more large properties are subdivided and development increases in the Hudson Valley and in Dutchess County, we're limited by landowners who are unwilling to let the public access trout streams for recreation," said Henson.

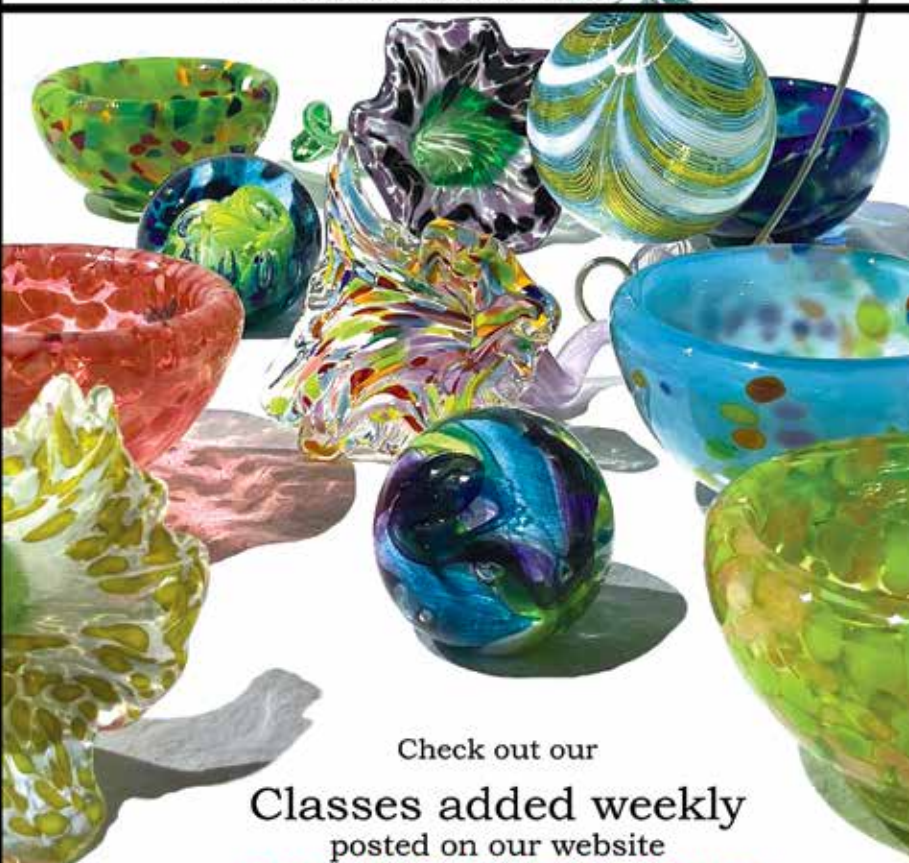
The South Avenue Elementary release was at a public greenway behind the Hudson Valley Brewery. Burke had a tabletop model of a watershed to show how development impacts a waterway. Teachers led scavenger hunts while children took turns releasing trout.

Mark Jones, a board member of the Mid-Hudson chapter of Trout Unlimited, was there to teach fly casting. While most of its members are anglers, Jones emphasized that his chapter's mission is "to show the importance of stream preservation." On Fishkill Creek, he said the chapter has done clean-ups and tree plantings that reduce bank erosion.

April Stark, another member of the Mid-Hudson chapter, demonstrated fly tying and explained that a river with healthy bugs produces healthy trout. "Trout only live in good, clean water," she said. "So, when you see trout who are able to thrive without being stocked, you know the water is good, un-polluted water."

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AROUND TOWN



◀ **PAINTERS ON THE PROWL** — Earlier this month, for the fourth year, Lightscapes Studio Artists from the central Jersey Shore visited Cold Spring for three days of plein air painting. Led by Gina Torello, an art instructor at Monmouth University, the group always books the Pig Hill Inn. Torello cites Picasso: “Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.”

Photo by Ross Corsair



▲ **TEA PLEASE** — Boscobel in Philipstown hosted a Mother’s Day Tea on May 11 that drew 200 reservations.

Photo by Ross Corsair



◀ **SOUNDSCAPES** — Uyanga Bold and Josh Geisler, Beacon residents who create “transcendent, cinematic soundscapes,” performed on May 16 at the Factory Hotel in a concert sponsored by Beacon Bonfire. Bold, a native of Mongolia, sings and plays the bell, acoustic guitar and Mongolian drum, while Geisler (aka Bansara) performs on keyboards, flute, the rav drum (Russian) and baritone guitar.

Photo by Ross Corsair



◀ **ITALIAN TRIO** — Ensemble Sangineto, which specializes in songs from the country’s different regions, performed on May 10 at the Tompkins Corners Cultural Center in Putnam Valley. The group, formed in 2000, includes twins Adriano Sangineto (Celtic harp) and Caterina Sangineto (bowed psaltery, vocals) and Jacobo Ventura (acoustic guitar, bouzouki).

Photo by Ross Corsair



▲ **PARK GRANT** — Assembly Member Jonathan Jacobson secured \$150,000 toward the \$890,000 rehabilitation of South Avenue Park in Beacon, including restoration of the athletic courts, energy-efficient lighting, a restroom facility, regrading and drainage work and landscaping. Jacobson (fourth from left) was joined at a groundbreaking ceremony on May 19 by city officials and contractors. Photo provided



▲ **GARDEN HELPERS** — Members of the Tioronda Garden Club on May 17 trimmed, weeded and mulched at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon. From left: Ann Kacur, Noelle Foster, Robert Haight, Norman MacLeod, Denise DeVore, Kathleen Pucher and Robert Pucher. Not shown are James Bell, Laurel Cardellichio and Gary Barrack. Photo provided



▲ **BIKE AND ROLL** — Nearly 100 students and parents from the South Avenue, Sargent and JV Forrester schools in Beacon participated in Walk, Bike and Roll to School Day on May 7. The third annual event was organized by the Beacon Bicycle Coalition in partnership with parent-teacher organizations. Photo provided

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Tony Moore and Cynthia Ligenza



"Vipassana," by David Provan



"Summer Walk," by Katherine Bradford



Sculptures by Kurt Steger and David Provan

THE CALENDAR

Companion
Pieces

Tony Moore mounts
show of works by
friends and neighbors

By Sharon Rubinstein

After more than a year of curation, Tony Moore is poised to open his remote Philipstown gallery space and its lush grounds to display his work and that of 14 other artists whom he admires and calls friends.

The show, *Destination Earth*, contains over 70 pieces spread across the wooded property and inside the light and roomy interior spaces. The main upstairs gallery seems like an airy treehouse, with vistas complementing the art.

Moore and his wife, Cynthia Ligenza, met in New York City nearly 30 years ago at a gathering for people wanting to imbue their lives with health, art and sharing. Two years later, they moved to a 5-acre property on a ridge abutting Fahnestock State Park.

The two married that summer under tall oaks, and the expansive surroundings continue to nurture creativity. "We are living in paradise," says Ligenza. Crediting her husband's vision and efforts, she says "every inch of our property is curated, and it brings me to tears to look at it because it's so beautiful."

Moore has been producing beauty since childhood, even before his grandfather recognized his interests and gave him woodworking tools. Born in the midlands of England, Moore went to art school in the U.K. and Yale University. After graduating with an MFA, he installed exhibits at the Guggenheim, which would later acquire four of his works. The Brooklyn Museum owns two.

Ligenza became a physician, with a practice in Cold Spring, while maintaining a lifelong devotion to music. The Ligenza Moore Gallery has hosted recitals featuring Ligenza on violin and with other musicians.

Art beckons as one approaches the show, which explores "where we are, how we got here, what may endure, and what is to come." When coming from the plateau below the buildings, a ceramic platter by Jeff Shapiro sits before ascending stairs. Kurt Steger's wood-and-steel abstraction is adjacent to the gallery sign. More Steger pieces pepper the grounds.

Once inside the vestibule, there are graphic etchings and collages by Judy Pfaff, who attended Yale with Moore. Entering the upstairs space, Moore's dark painting on paper features a bright blue hand, echoing the hand imagery in Pfaff's work.



"The Thousand-Eyed Present (from Ralph Waldo Emerson)," by Meg Hitchcock



"Reverb," by Don Voisine

On the landing leading to the main gallery, the shapes in each work mimic others in proximity. "The works start talking to each other," Moore says. "As a curator, you try to foster that conversation. I've spent a great deal of time moving things around in the gallery to try to achieve that balance and harmony."

Moore's work in the show includes a mysterious painting that suggests a chrysalis or womb; a wall of pictorial ceramics he calls "fire paintings;" wood-fired ceramics with surface and interior interest; an early wood-fired ceramic wall tile; and one bronze and one ceramic-and-steel sculpture placed outside that shift in appearance depending on weather and light.

"I'm not a figurative artist," Moore says. But he is also not an abstract artist such

as his friend David Provan, who died last year. Instead, evocative imagery and forms with a spiritual component mark his work, which he suggests might be characterized as "symbolic abstraction."

The gallery also has three small acrylics by Katherine Bradford, whose swimmers, while figurative, respect formal principles and abstract composition, with faces that are nothing more than slabs of color. Perhaps the most traditional art in the show is by Moore's neighbor, Simeon Lagodich, who is completing a series of Hudson Valley plein air paintings. An iguana poses with an adorned woman painted by Garry Nichols, and around her is a ceramic piece by Moore that might look like a pair of animals — dogs, bunnies?

On a lawn behind the gallery and near the sheltered Anagama-Noborigama wood-firing kilns, a lacy world map by Cal Lane made from an oil tank is graced by goddess-like forms. Moore's studio, which stands between the gallery and the kiln building, is adorned with three Marieken Cochiu driftwood assemblages. They appear lyrical and explosive.

The show has been brewing ever since Ligenza and Moore moved into the home, they say, and is not meant to be the last. Four times a year a cadre of artists and helpers come together to fire pieces in the kilns. Although their place is a bit out of the way, "the people who came here first had a vision, and I think we've caught their spirit. We have a similar vision of involvement in our community and allowing others to share in that."

The Ligenza Moore Gallery, at 78 Trout Brook Road, off East Mountain Road South, is open from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays and by appointment. *Destination Earth* opens on Saturday (May 24) and runs through July 27. See ligenzamooregallery.com or call 845-220-7890.

THE WEEK AHEAD

MEMORIAL DAY

MON 26
Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony

COLD SPRING
9 a.m. Stone & Main
The parade will begin at Main and Stone streets and progress to the Cold Spring Cemetery in Nelsonville for a ceremony. Hot dogs and refreshments will follow at the American Legion. Rain or shine.

MON 26
Memorial Day Ceremony

BEACON
11 a.m. Memorial Building
413 Main St.
The ceremony will include the dedication of a plaque to mark the 100th anniversary of the Veterans Memorial Building, which was completed in 1925.

COMMUNITY

THURS 29
Game & Grind

COLD SPRING
11 a.m. & 2 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Join for one session or both and enjoy coffee and board games.

SAT 31
Twilight Memories

WAPPINGERS FALLS
8 p.m. Mesier Park
East Main Street | strayhelp.org
The volunteer cat rescue organization, Stray HELP, will provide candles to light in honor of a beloved pet. *Cost: \$10 per candle*

SUN 1
Queer Liberation March

BEACON
1 p.m. Main Street
facebook.com/BeaconLGBTQ
The march, organized by Beacon LBGTQ Liberation, will be followed by a community celebration with a DJ, vendors and organizations. See the Facebook page for details.

SUN 1
Repair Cafe

BEACON
1 – 4 p.m. Beacon Recreation Center
23 West Center St.
Bring clothing, furniture, lamps and other broken items to be fixed by volunteers. Email beaconfishkillrepaircafe@gmail.com to volunteer.

KIDS & FAMILY

THURS 29
Mindfulness Bracelets

BEACON
6 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
Students in grades 5 to 12 are invited to make a relaxing craft. Registration required.

SAT 31
Family Nature Day

GARRISON
2 – 4 p.m. Winter Hill
20 Nazareth Way | hhlit.org
Along with educational activities, Brian Robinson will share a presentation on the world of animals. *Free*



SUN 1
Laurie Berkner

PEEKSKILL
11 a.m. & 3 p.m.
Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The musician and performer will play her greatest hits. *Cost: \$28 to \$101*



Half the Sky, May 24

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 24
The Bald Soprano

BEACON
7 p.m. Savage Wonder
139 Main St. | sagagewonder.org
The new theater will present a “ludicrously staged reading of the absurdist classic” by Eugène Ionesco. Also SAT 31. *Cost: \$25*

SAT 24
Feedback

BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org
Rooster will show a video art performance while Don Romaniello does improv. *Cost: \$15 (\$20 door)*

FRI 30
Comedy Weekend

BEACON
8 p.m. Savage Wonder
139 Main St. | sagagewonder.org
Hosted by Jay Lawrence, this stand-up show will feature Linette Palladino and Jad Sleiman. Also SAT 31, SUN 1. *Cost: \$25*

SAT 31
Once Upon a Dance

POUGHKEEPSIE
2 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. Bardavon
35 Market St. | 845-473-2072
bardavon.org
Ballet Arts Studio dancers in tap, ballet, modern, jazz and other forms will stage their annual recital with a fairy tale theme. *Cost: \$20 (\$15 seniors, students, children)*



Luthier's Dream, June 1

VISUAL ART

SAT 24
Destination Earth

PHILIPSTOWN
Noon – 5 p.m. Ligenza Moore Gallery
78 Trout Brook Road
ligenzamooregallery.com
Works by more than a dozen artists, including Tony Moore, Judy Pfaff, Chris Martin and Katherine Bradford, will be on view at this new gallery's opening show. Through July 27. See Page 11.

SAT 24
Can Art Change the World?

BEACON
2 – 4 p.m. KuBe Art Center
211 Fishkill Ave. | ecfa.com/kube
Journalist Karen Michel will facilitate a discussion with Jerome Cohen, Gwen Laster, Deb Lucke, David Ross and Edwin Torres. *Cost: \$10 donation*

SAT 31
Adult Prom

BEACON
7 – 11 p.m. KuBe Art Center
211 Fishkill Ave. | ecfa.com/kube
Dress up and dance in the art-filled halls. *Cost: \$25 (\$50 with after party)*

SUN 1
Luthier's Dream

PUTNAM VALLEY
2 – 4 p.m. Tompkins Corners C.C.
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org
Pallas Athene will speak about her exhibit of stringed instruments transformed with elements of nature. There will also be live music.

TALKS & TOURS

TUES 27
Steamboats on the Hudson



BEACON
7 p.m. Elks Lodge
900 Wolcott Ave.
beaconhistorical.org
Andrew Donovan, a Navy veteran who in 1971 worked as the assistant purser aboard the last sidewheel steamer to sail on the Hudson (below), will discuss the history of “the boats of summer” during this meeting of the Beacon Historical Society.



FAMILY Nature Day!

Enjoy an afternoon of **FREE**, fun nature activities for all ages with Hudson Highlands Land Trust!

Saturday, May 31 • 2pm – 4pm • Winter Hill
20 Nazareth Way, Garrison NY 10524

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WORLD OF ANIMALS
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☼Open Sunday with Tea and Cake in the Garden
Sunday, June 8th, 10am - 5pm

☼Guided Evening Garden Tour - Shrubs & Vines
Wednesday, June 11th, 5:30pm - 7:30pm
\$10 / no charge for Stonecrop members

☼Composition, Colour & Light in Garden Photography*
with Lori Adams
Saturday, June 14th, 10am - 2pm
\$80 / \$60 (members) *(requires your own 35mm camera)
Reservations online at www.stonecrop.org

THURS 29
Paula Bomer | Marcy Demansky
BEACON
7 p.m. Stanza Books
508 Main St. | 845-440-3906
stanzabooks.com
Jackie Corley will lead a discussion with Bomer, whose new novel is *The Stalker*, and Demansky, whose latest work is *Hot Air*.

SAT 31
Master Gardener Hike
CARMEL
9:30 a.m. Fahnestock State Park
1498 Route 301 | cceputnamcounty.org
The moderately strenuous guided hike will cover 4 miles with views of Breakneck Ridge, Mount Beacon and Storm King. Register online.

SAT 31
History Hike: Denny Mine
PUTNAM VALLEY
10 a.m. Fahnestock State Park
Sunken Mine Road
putnamhistorymuseum.org
Guides from the Putnam History Museum will discuss the local discovery of iron and the role of mines. *Cost: \$15 (\$12 members)*

SAT 31
Melinda Wenner Moyer
GARRISON
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
The Philipstown-based journalist



will discuss her new parenting book, *Hello, Cruel World: Science-based Strategies for Raising Terrific Kids in Terrifying Times*.

MUSIC
SAT 24
Bob Dylan Birthday Bash
PUTNAM VALLEY
2 p.m. Tompkins Corners C.C.
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org
The Complete Unknown will play Dylan's music. There will also be poetry readings at this family-friendly celebration. *Cost: \$20 (children free)*

SAT 24
Sharkey & The Sparks
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Sharkey McEwen and his son, Ben, and their band will play covers from the 1960s and '70s. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SUN 25
The Bob Cats
BEACON
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
This tribute band will play the music of Bob Dylan to celebrate his

birthday. There is a \$20 minimum food and beverage purchase. *Free*

FRI 30
Aztec Two-Step 2.0
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Dodie Pettit, her husband Rex Fowler and their band will play the music of Simon and Garfunkel. *Cost: \$35 (\$40 door)*

FRI 30
Tab Benoit
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The four-time Grammy nominee will perform as part of his I Hear Thunder tour. Ghalia Volt opens. *Cost: \$48.50 to \$68.50*

SAT 31
Don McLean
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The songwriter and musician, best known for "American Pie," will perform as part of his A Night of Hits and Stories tour. *Cost: \$68 to \$88*

SAT 31
Back to the Garden 1969
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
For their 16th anniversary show, the Woodstock tribute band will play hits by the performers from the iconic concert. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SUN 1
Dream Choir
COLD SPRING
3 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
10 Academy St.
For their spring concert and sing-along, the choir will perform a diverse collection of hits, from the Beatles to Broadway. Donations welcome. *Free*

CIVIC
TUES 27
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-5011 | beaconny.gov

WED 28
Village Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

Week Ahead edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)
For a full listing of events, see highlandscurrent.org/calendar.

LIGENZA MOORE GALLERY

DESTINATION EARTH
May 24 — July 27

Katherine Bradford
Marieken Cochius
Meg Hitchcock
Simeon Lagodich
Cal Lane
Chris Martin
Tony Moore
Garry Nichols
Helen O'Leary
Judy Pfaff
David Provan
Jeff Shapiro
Greg Slick
Kurt Steger
Don Voisine

OPENING EVENT
Saturday, May 24 | 12-5pm

Gallery Hours:
Saturdays & Sundays 12-5pm
78 Trout Brook Rd Cold Spring
lignzamooregallery.com



HIGHLANDS CHAPEL
Home of the Highlands Choral Society

THIS SUNDAY:
EDIE MEEKS
"RESOLUTION"
MAY 25 @ 11:00AM
FOR WORSHIP
REFLECTION
& SONG

June 1	Claudia Fidanque
June 8	Michelle Clifton
June 15	Rodney Dow
June 22	Cat Guthrie
June 29	Kasey Morabito-Grean

The Highlands Choral Society is a nonprofit organization offering nondenominational services and community.
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BALLET ARTS STUDIO
presents

Once Upon A Dance

Sat, May 31, 2025 AT 2 PM & 6:30 PM



tickets: bardavon.org -or- 845-473-2072

Bardavon 1869 Opera House, Poughkeepsie, NY





“Things That Happen Again” (1986/90)



“Post Work 3” (1986)

Photo by Dan Stahl



“Space Buttress I” (1984-85) Photos by Alessandro Zambianchi (3)

A New Cornerstone at Dia

Roni Horn exhibit elevates her work at Beacon museum
By Marc Ferris

Memo to visitors at Dia Beacon’s Roni Horn exhibition: Keep your heads up to avoid tripping or stubbing a toe. “Objects of Constancy,” which weighs in at 300 pounds and looks like an oversized stick of lico- rice (or seven strands of intertwined rebar), rests in the middle of a walkway. Other dense works, made of cast lead, are tucked into a nook and also placed on the floor

by the artist. “Mass Removal II” and “Mass Removal III,” created with hand-hammering and a pneumatic drill, resemble elongated clamshells with scuffed-up interiors. The tops of four rocks-from-another- planet, an excerpt from the eight-piece *Space Buttress* series, look like petrified wood (one of which conveys the illusion of a knot). In contrast, the sides evoke moss- covered stone. “Things That Happen Again,” another floor-based sculpture, consists of two shiny 1,752-pound copper cylinders placed at 90-degree angles. In a separate room, the

cast iron pieces that make up “Post Work 3” resemble textured loudspeakers on poles and hint at an Easter Island vibe. “Vertical sculptures generally suggest the human form, just as horizontal works are often associated with landscapes,” says curator Donna De Salvo. More than a sculptor, Horn installed this long-term exhibit that elevates her work into the pantheon of artists occupying permanent and semi-permanent spaces in the massive museum, like Donald Judd, Richard Serra and Andy Warhol. “Horn was friends with Serra, and Judd arranged for the permanent install of another version of ‘Things That Happen Again’ at Marfa [his 45,000-acre ranch and gallery in Texas], so she fits right in,” says



“Object of Consistency” (1980)

De Salvo. Of the exhibit’s 23 works, nine are owned by Dia; the abstract color and texture stud- ies hanging on the walls are on loan from the artist and her gallery.

These framed works date to the mid- 1980s. Horn deployed similar motifs and techniques in later, larger creations, says De Salvo. Building on a back-mounted sheet of paper, she created a second layer with smaller fragments of thicker, mottled paper arranged in a collage style covered with colorful, slate-like shapes seemingly outlined in black.

Three works titled “Brooklyn Red” are accompanied by a couple of Brooklyn whites, Hamilton reds and Brooklyn grays. Some of the shapes seem three-dimensional, espe- cially in “This 1,” where the colored blotch looks bent like a butterfly wing. Horn enjoys pairing subjects, like the paper work “Untitled (Hamilton),” which looks like a couple of nuclear reactors. The objects in “Double I I” and “Double N N” seem more risqué.

In 2001 and 2002, as her international renown began to grow, Horn held two solo shows at the Dia Center for the Arts in Manhattan. Now, she’s on the same level at Dia Beacon as Robert Ryman, Gerhard Richter and Louise Bourgeois. It’s rare for a living artist to achieve such recognition (she is 69). “We’ve had a real commitment to her for more than 20 years,” says De Salvo. “She’s one of the major figures of her generation and there’s a dialogue with our other artists on view.”

Dia Beacon, at 3 Beekman St., is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday to Monday. Admis- sion is \$20 (\$18 seniors, \$12 students and disabled visitors, \$5 ages 5 to 11, free for members, ages 5 and younger and Beacon and Newburgh residents).

OPEN HOUSE

10 South Mountain Pond, Garrison Saturday 5/24 | 12-2 PM



Relax in your own private sanctuary nestled in the Hudson Highlands.

This unique artist’s home offers a serene 2-acre escape surrounded by babbling brooks, native ferns, moss, & protected green space—truly a “mini-Manitoga”! The main living area, with soaring ceiling, is centered around a cozy wood-burning stove & offers open design living room, den, & a dining room that opens to an 800-sqft. deck. A lower level mother-in-law suite w/private deck lend flexible options. Walk the winding pathways and im- merse yourself in this natural wonderland yet be seven minutes to the train to NYC, it’s a rare best-of-both-worlds lifestyle.

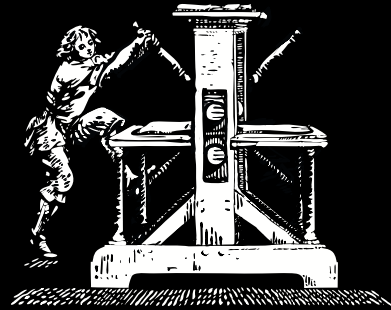
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WOODWORKING 101



Beacon artist opens studio to beginners

By Marc Ferris

Not too long ago, Beacon High School offered woodworking classes in a space now occupied by Rexhill Studio. An old sign outside one of the warren of rooms in the KuBe Art Center reads: "GO4 Wood Shop."

Today, students can access a Construction Trade curriculum that includes some woodworking instruction through Dutchess BOCES. Two are enrolled.

Exemplifying the decline of practical manual arts education, studio co-owner Justin King attended the Oregon College of Art and Craft, which shuttered in 2019 after 112 years.

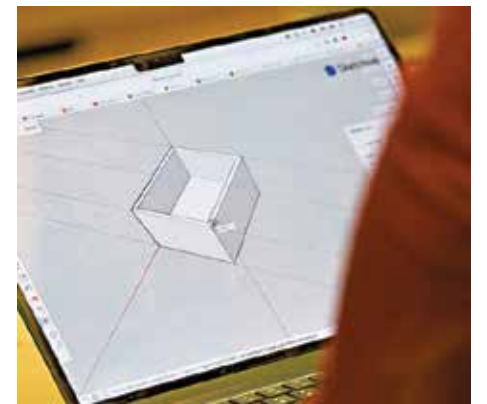
To fill the instructive void, King launched an eight-week introduction to the basics, Woodshop Beacon, which sold out fast and wrapped up on Wednesday (May 21).

"We have fewer places to do this kind of thing," he says. "With YouTube and other videos, you're starting in the middle and backtracking to the beginning, so this helps plug in the knowledge gap."

The endgame for the class is a handmade square box, a task that requires several basic skills. A model jewel case that King created is shaped to near perfection, with seamless joints; the top tray nestles inside with zero wiggle room. Press a button in the back and out pops a hidden drawer.

"Boxes can be simple, but they require time, dedication and ability," says King. The name Rexhill, incorporating the Latin word for his last name, harks to the family farm in Ohio. After making his way to Portland, he met his wife, Paula, who plays an instrumental role at the studio.

The couple drifted east with stopovers because there are lots of woodworkers in the Pacific Northwest and she grew up in



New Jersey. In 2006, when they settled in Beacon, "it was pretty rough," she says. "But you could feel a change in the air."

Justin King's first love is fine furniture, and he makes tables and credenzas with artistic and technical flair. The studio also devises custom installations in collaboration with architects, homeowners, contractors and interior designers.

For the Woodshop Beacon class, students began by "playing around with planing," according to the curriculum. They progressed to joinery and working with machines, taking advantage of hands-on shop time on Saturday mornings.

Building the box requires choosing the type of wood and assembling, sanding and completing the project. "Even if a finished piece is functional, it is art because no two designs are alike," says King, who worried about filling up seats and was comforted by the response.

Dylan Assael, a friend, jumped at the chance to attend. "I thought, 'How great would it be to acquire this skill and level up my abilities?'" he says. Assael also took a sewing class and creates flags that mesh with the decor at boat and yacht clubs.

Though woodworking presents inherent danger, he faced his fears. "Those tools can maim and injure and that scares the shit out of me, so I'm glad to get instruction from a pro and keep my digits intact," he says. "Sifting through videos is frustrating; it's so much easier to talk to a human being and get instant feedback."

Rexhill Studio is located at 211 Fishkill Ave., Suite G01 & 4B, in Beacon. See rexhillstudio.com or call 503-490-7280.

Hans Noë (1928-2025)

Hans Noë, a distinguished architect and sculptor, died peacefully in his sleep in the home he had designed for his family in the scrub-forested hills of Garrison, New York, on May 11, a few weeks shy of his 97th birthday.

Born in 1928 in Czernowitz, a cosmopolitan provincial capital in the far east of the former Austro-Hungarian empire (his generational cohort included writers Paul Celan, Gregor von Rezzori, Aharon Appelfeld and the financier Felix Rohatyn), he was the son of pediatrician Ossy Noë and his wife Sidonie (nee Rosenmann) and brother to Marcel (who died in New York City in 1973). His peaceful childhood came to an abrupt end at the age of 12 as the second World War raked back and forth across the town. The family somehow survived the entirety of the ensuing Holocaust (which claimed the vast majority of the town's Jews) in deep and precarious hiding.

After the war, they emigrated to America, where Hans enrolled in Cooper Union, becoming a trusted acolyte of his architecture professor, the sculptor Tony Smith, who presently handed him off for further training to Chicago-based Bauhaus master Mies van der Rohe. In Chicago he also met Judith Baldwin, a budding potter and ceramicist who would become his dear and vivid partner for over six decades (they in turn would have two sons: Sasha, a fellow sculptor, and Alva, a philosopher, now the head of the department at Berkeley).

Graduating from the Illinois Institute of Technology in the late 1950s, Hans returned to New York, where he specialized in small-scale domestic architecture. (An extreme perfectionist, he preferred not to work for clients and hence built a series of exquisite dwellings on properties he bought on spec and subsequently sold, many in the Hamptons.) He also designed a pottery school for Judith in Greenwich Village, which became a mecca for aspiring ceramicists during the 1960s, '70s and '80s.

In the early 1980s, he resurrected the aging ground-floor bar Fanelli's, on Prince Street in Soho, which under his management thrived as a bustling watering hole for the art scene which was then suddenly burgeoning all about the reviving district. (It remains in the family to this day, run by Hans' son, Sasha.)

Following retirement, Hans repaired to the home he designed and built near Cold Spring, where, across the next 30 years, he threw himself into a secret passion, producing hundreds of exquisite geometrical sculptures and maquettes for monumental pieces which, a sort of Hidden Master, he shared with hardly anyone, until the last few years when he at last allowed them to be seen across a series of small shows, notably in a well-reviewed 2023 exhibition in Manhattan's National Museum of Mathematics.

He continued working in that vein right up till the end and leaves a remarkable legacy, which includes, in addition, daughter Adi (married to chef Sean Brock), and eight grandchildren: Alva's August, Ulysses and Ana; Sasha's Van, Nina and Asa; and Adi's Leo and Nava. His was an exemplary, if often harrowing, 20th-century life.

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

PAID NOTICE

Marie Corless (1937-2025)

Marie Henderson Corless, a lifelong resident of Cold Spring, passed away peacefully on May 19, 2025, surrounded by her loving family. She was 88 years old.



Born on Jan. 26, 1937, in Cold Spring, Marie attended Our Lady of Loretto Catholic School and Haldane schools. She grew up on the north side of the Cornish Estate — always fondly referred to as “up on the hill.” Her life was grounded in family, faith and service to her community.

In November 1953, she married the love of her life, James J. Corless. Together, they raised five children: Marie Hanna, John, James, Timothy and Thomas (Andrea).

Marie was the proud grandmother of 14: Kelly, Renee (Nick), Avery, Jed, Lindsay (Danny), Theresa, Danny, Matthew, Morgan, Dennis, Delaney, Brody, Cooper and Declan. Her legacy lives on through them, as well as 15 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren — all of whom brought immense joy to her life.

She was predeceased by her husband; her parents, William and Florence Henderson (Maher); her brother, William; her sister, Rita McAndrew; and her great-great-granddaughter, Aliviah.

Marie began her career at Haldane in the early 1970s, first working in the cafeteria before becoming the district's first female school bus driver. Back when all the buses had manual transmissions and were filled well beyond capacity, Marie safely transported generations of local children. She retired in 2004 after decades of service. During her time at Haldane, she also held several positions on the CSEA board, passionately representing her fellow workers.

For over 20 years, Marie was an active member of the Cold Spring Fire Co. No. 1 Ladies Auxiliary, where she held numerous positions and never hesitated to assist with fundraising events or respond to major alarms, day or night.

She also served for many years as a poll worker for the Board of Elections, working alongside dear friends during long election days, greeting every voter who walked through the door.

Holidays were a cherished time in Marie's home — no detail was too small, no decoration too much. Halloween, especially, became a favorite — not for the costumes or candy, but because she knew everyone would be coming to “Gram's House” on Parrott Street. It became a beloved tradition for the many children she once brought safely home from school, and later, their children.

A lifelong parishioner of Our Lady of Loretto, Marie was a devoted member of the church community. She served on the Parish Council and was active in the Catholic Daughters.

She was also a committed blood donor for many years, proud of her universal O-negative blood type. She held a long-standing pact with a local family friend — “should we ever need each other...” — and was deeply saddened when she could no longer donate due to age. That giving part of her came down to her final hours of life, when attempts to have her liver donated sadly didn't work logistically after four days of hospitalization.

Marie was known by many names — Mom, Gram, Great Gram, friend, neighbor — and by all accounts, she embodied warmth, generosity and unwavering dedication to the people around her.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her honor to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (stjude.org).

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Thursday, May 22, 2025, at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Loretto Church, 24 Fair St., Cold Spring. Interment followed at Cold Spring Cemetery.

PAID NOTICE

LOOKING BACK IN BEACON

By Chip Rowe

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

150 Years Ago (May 1875)

Benjamin Hubbard of Matteawan caught a striped bass at Dennings Point that he said weighed 58 pounds and measured 4 feet and 2 inches.

Edward Mullady, a 22-year-old laborer from Matteawan, drowned after suffering an epileptic seizure while sitting atop a pile of lumber at the river's edge. A few days earlier, he had suffered a seizure on the tracks but an approaching train managed to stop.

The inhabitants of Dennings Point reminded residents of Fishkill that picnics were not allowed without permission.

Fannie Secor, 4, the daughter of Daniel Secor of Matteawan, was seriously burned after she was pushed by another child into a bonfire.

Four burglars escaped from the Newburgh jail by arranging a ruse with one of their mothers. During a visit, she left behind a food tin and asked the janitor to retrieve it. When he cracked the door to ask for it, the prisoners pushed it open, knocked him down and threw pepper into his eyes.

125 Years Ago (May 1900)

Coroner Bailey was called to the Denning's dock to investigate the death of a man who had apparently been struck by a train and thrown into the river. During his survey, Bailey spotted a second body at the river bottom. [One of the men was identified as a 55-year-old bricklayer from Philadelphia.]

The Verplanck Brick Co. was organized at Fishkill Landing with capital stock of \$48,000 [about \$1.8 million today].

Lewis Aldridge married Elizabeth Aldridge, his first cousin, which created “a decided unpleasant feeling” toward the couple by relatives, according to a news account, “notwithstanding the fact that both are well-connected and people of money.” The wedding took place at the Fishkill home of the bride, although the only relative to show up was the groom's mother, who said the ceremony should have been held in the barn.

The Baker Underwear Co. of Fishkill said it would open a factory in Richmond, Vermont, with 50 machines run by an electricity plant that was expected to also bring electric lights to the town.

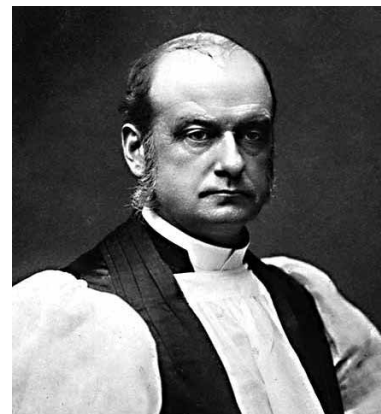
A heavy frost on May 9, with ice a quarter-inch thick, threatened the strawberry crop.

The 16 coal heavers in the Highland division of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad went on strike at Fishkill Landing, bringing eastbound traffic to a stop. They demanded a 10 percent raise, to \$1.50 [\$57.11] per day.

Charles Mitchell, 54, serving a life sentence at the Matteawan asylum, hanged himself using mattress wire. Three years

earlier, Mitchell had set a fire in the basement, nearly destroying the prison.

The Right Rev. Henry Codman Potter (below), bishop of the Episcopal Archdiocese of New York, visited Fishkill Landing to lay the cornerstone of the newly completed St. Andrew's Church, which had split off the previous year from St. Luke's.



100 Years Ago (May 1925)

The brickyards began production late because of the large supply of unsold bricks from the previous season.

Employees at the Dutchess Hat Works and members of three fire companies battled a blaze in the dryer room for 30 minutes before it was extinguished.

Three girls who escaped from the reformatory at Bedford were spotted in Beacon sitting in a parked car, dressed in their regulation khaki bloomers, tan stockings and black shoes. Witnesses said two men came out of a nearby restaurant with wrapped sandwiches, got into the vehicle and drove away.

William Pearse, the Beacon High School principal, passed the New York bar but said he planned to remain at the school.

The creditors of the late Samuel Beskin, a former mayor, objected that 12 parcels of real estate had been sold by his estate to his widow for \$805 [\$14,700]. Edwin Poons Inc. of Kobe, Japan, said it was owed \$2,869 [\$52,400] for straw braid.

Reed Smith sued his brother, Elsworth, in City Court over a \$25 [\$457] personal loan he said had gone unpaid. The brothers had been convicted in Albany of speeding on their motorcycles; Reed said he covered Elsworth's fine to keep him out of jail. After his brother bought a new car, Reed decided to sue.

Frank Ryan, 55, was arrested after shooting at Chare Unis, who allegedly had a habit of throwing stones at Ryan's shack and stomping on his flowers.

Ernest Macomber, newly appointed as mayor to complete the final eight months of a vacated term, immediately said he would launch an investigation of the police department because the station light bill was too high, and changes were needed to shift schedules. He also called a meeting of Beacon lawyers to solicit their suggestions for changing the city charter.

The following weekend, the mayor stood at intersections to evaluate traffic flow and helped clear a few jams. He also noted that, although he did not oppose baseball games or motion pictures on Sunday, he would compel the police to enforce temperance laws.

(Continued on Page 17)



The New York Rubber Co. was located on Tioronda Avenue and powered by Fishkill Creek.

Beacon Historical Society

John Flannery of Beacon, who a year earlier decided it was time to sell his horse and buy and learn to drive a car, told the *Poughkeepsie Eagle-News* that he had sold the car because it lacked any thrill and he was again in the market for a colt. “He couldn’t bear to face spring and summer without a horse,” the paper said.

Maybelle Westfall, who served in the Army Nurse Corps during World War I was the first woman admitted to the Castle Point Hospital just north of Beacon. Her husband, Lt. H.M. Westfall, was also a patient.

Police responded to a call from John Cassidy, the undertaker, who said he was meeting with a woman at her home on Beekman Street when he realized she was intoxicated and planning her own death. She provided him with instructions on her funeral and began phoning relatives to say goodbye.

William Johnson, 21, of Beacon, was found dead at 12:30 a.m. on the porch of the Phi Delta Theta house at Syracuse University, where he was a freshman. He apparently choked to death while eating. About an hour after the discovery, police raided the fraternity, confiscated liquor and arrested the landlords. While attending Beacon High School, Johnson was the student manager for the baseball and basketball teams.

During his first day back as a machinist at the Green Fuel Economizer plant, the victim’s brother, Arthur Johnson, lost a finger in an accident. The firm attributed the incident to Arthur being distracted by his brother’s death.

After 50 years in operation, the New York Rubber Co. closed. Creditors had attempted to keep the plant going to make it easier to sell. About 150 people lost their jobs and a judge ordered the company’s assets sold at auction.

A woman was arrested for stealing a bolt of cotton cloth from Mr. F. Smith’s store at Main Street and Fishkill Avenue. After being alerted by a customer, Mrs. Smith had chased the suspect, but the couple chose not to press charges because the woman was elderly (she was 55). A few days later, the Smiths noticed two bolts of silk were missing.

Police investigated a series of auto thefts, including a car stolen from in front of the Main Street theater and a vehicle stripped at the Nazarene Church while the owner attended services.

Howard Joyner, stabbed in the chest during a fight at the Brockway brickyards, refused to tell police who assaulted him.

The City Council agreed to lease the auditorium of the new Memorial Building

for \$3,500 [\$64,000] annually to an entrepreneur who planned to show movies and stage vaudeville shows.

75 Years Ago (May 1950)

Firefighters using ladders rescued a mother and her two children from the apartments over the Beacon Pharmacy at 175 Main St. after a fire in the cellar filled the building with smoke.

The school board agreed to pay \$13.25 per ton [\$176] for buckwheat coal and \$18.50 per ton [\$245] for stove coal during the 1950-51 academic year.

The Beacon Airtrailers model airplane club held a Sunday afternoon show at Memorial Field on Wilkes Street. The announcer was Carroll Moon, former contest director for the Academy of Model Aeronautics. The 50 models, with wingspans from 1 to 7 feet, included experimental jet-powered planes.

After deliberating for 10 minutes, a jury awarded a former Beacon woman \$11,195 [\$149,000] in a lawsuit against a Poughkeepsie businessman whom she said had taken illegal bets on horse races over six months from her husband, who owned a hat factory. She introduced as evidence canceled checks that ranged from \$200 to \$2,090 [\$2,600 to \$28,000]. The man denied being a bookmaker.

50 Years Ago (May 1975)

John O’Leary, who decided not to run for a second, 5-year term on the school board, jumped back into the race after Robert Ost Sr. dropped out. O’Leary said he felt the remaining candidates — the Rev. John Lindenauer, the rector at St. Luke’s Church, and Charles Moore, a teacher at an Ulster County prison — were not qualified. O’Leary won with 46 percent of the vote. Voters also approved a proposal to shorten the terms of future trustees to three years.

A county judge sentenced a 21-year-old Cliff Street woman to two years to life in prison for taking \$10 from an undercover police officer for heroin, although she never returned with the drugs. Asked by the judge if she wanted to say anything, she replied: “What can I say? I’m not a drug pusher.” She was led from the courtroom sobbing.

Lionel Frank, the director of the Beacon-Fishkill Chamber of Commerce, blamed unnamed wealthy “environmentalists and conservationists” for obstructing the construction of a second span for the

Newburgh-Beacon Bridge. He also claimed a Con Ed project proposed for Storm King Mountain had been “stopped by one guy who lives there.”

Patricia Paulin, 15, of Beacon was runner-up in the annual Hudson Valley Miss U.S. Teen Talented Pageant.

Daniel Liberty, 16, a Beacon High School junior, and his brothers, Brian and Kevin, who attended Rombout Middle School, were awarded \$50 [\$300] for helping to capture an inmate who escaped from the Elderly and Handicapped Unit of the Fishkill Correctional Facility. Early in the morning, the boys saw a man limping through a field behind their home. “He said he could use something to drink or eat,” Brian said. “He looked real tired and cold. I got him a glass of water.” Meanwhile, Daniel called the prison; officers arrived within minutes. The inmate, Raul Rivera, 30, had escaped two days earlier.

Their father, George Liberty, was a guard at the prison but was transporting an inmate to New York City. He said his sons knew about the escape and that “there was a picture of Rivera on the hall table. We all understand there is a lot involved with rehabilitation, that nobody is totally bad. The boys have met inmates, supposed criminals. I’m sure this understanding helped them react the way they did.”

The City Council approved a special permit for the Bank Square Tavern on Main Street at South Avenue, although several residents argued it was too close to the South Avenue school.

An 18-year-old Beacon man was charged with burglarizing his girlfriend’s apartment, although his attorney questioned the indictment, noting that his client was in the courtroom holding hands with his girlfriend.

After being closed for three years for repairs, the Mount Beacon Incline Railway opened for the season.

25 Years Ago (May 2000)

A jury in Poughkeepsie awarded \$28.3 million [\$53 million] to a 31-year-old Staatsburg ironworker injured in 1995 during construction of the Beacon Municipal Building. He had fallen about 13 feet from the top of a wall when a reinforcing rod pulled loose, fracturing his left ankle and disabling him. Although the City of Beacon was named in the lawsuit, it expected the judgment would be paid by the Bronx subcontractor that hired him.

Loretta Simmonds celebrated her 100th birthday with her two children, eight grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

The Beacon High School baseball team hit four home runs in the first inning (including two by Jason Ubel) en route to an 18-8 victory over Spackenkill.

Because of a record increase in state education aid that included \$156,000 [\$290,000] more than the Beacon school district had expected, the board lowered its proposed tax-levy increase from 4.4 percent to 3.8 percent.

Elizabeth Gluck of the Lourdes High School softball team threw a perfect game in a 1-0 win at Beacon. At the same time, Bulldogs pitcher Janelle Meyer held Lourdes to three hits. The winning run came on a throwing error.

Current Classifieds

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NOTICES

BEACON CLASS OF 1965 — We are searching for our Beacon High School classmates to hold our 60th reunion in Beacon on Oct. 4. If you graduated with us, we’d love to hear from you. Please reach out to one of the following: Linda Salvatore Beasimer (lbeasimer@gmail.com), Barbara Conley Gosda (bgosda4765@gmail.com) or Connie Perdreau (corneliaperdreau@yahoo.com). Please feel free to share this information with other classmates from the Class of ’65 so we can reach everyone. We also welcome suggestions for a venue and other comments.

LOST ON METRO-NORTH — Silk Hermes scarf, Sunday afternoon, April 27, on northbound train (4:50 from Grand Central). Got off at Garrison. Blue, red and beige. Was my mom’s. Heartbroken! Cash reward + good karma. Thank you. Call 914-643-2710.

TAG SALES

GARRISON — Yard sale on Saturday (May 24) and Sunday (May 25), from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. 384 Old West Point Road West (at the intersection with Butter Hill Road). Moving sale! Items include sofas, chests of drawers, dresser, desks, kitchen utensils, household and garden tools, pictures and much more.

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

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Feast of St. Anthony at Graymoor

Thursday, June 12

Jubilee Mass at 4:00pm with Bishop Gerardo J. Colacicco
Outdoors at St. Anthony Shrine

Friday, June 13**Feast of St. Anthony of Padua Celebration**

11:00am | Trilingual Mass & Exposition at
Our Lady of Atonement Chapel
(English, Italian and Spanish)

3:00pm | Novena & Benediction

Saturday, June 14**Our Lady of Atonement Chapel****Mass Schedule**

11:00am | English

12:00pm | Creole & French

4:00pm | English & Spanish

Sunday, June 15**Our Lady of Atonement Chapel****Mass Schedule**

11:00am | English & Italian

1:00pm | Creole & French

4:00pm | Novena and Benediction



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ARF to the Races!

The Animal Rescue Foundation in Beacon held its 10th annual 5K and fun run on May 18 with 209 human participants led by 109 dogs. Travis Dickston was the men’s winner and Karen Saylor the women’s winner in the 5K race, and Andres Vogrincic (age 9) was the first boy over the finish line and Rosemarie Glauda (7) the first girl in the 1K fun run. The event raised \$15,000 for the no-kill shelter.

Photos by Ross Corsair



Firehouse Sale *(from Page 1)*

City Administrator Chris White said Wednesday that he was hopeful the sale would be finalized next week.

Earlier this month, a real-estate agency hired by the city listed Mase, at 425 Main St., for \$1.95 million and the former Beacon Engine Co. firehouse at 57 East Main St. for \$1.75 million. Both properties became surplus after a \$14.7 million centralized fire station opened near City Hall last fall.

On Monday, Ward-Willis explained that state law allows a municipality to withhold details of a sale until a contract has been signed. “Similar to a private deal, you don’t negotiate in public, especially on the financial terms,” he said.

The council’s vote authorized White to move forward with the sale and acknowledged that an ownership transfer would not negatively impact the environment. If the new owner, as expected, submits plans to redevelop the three-story brick building, they will be subject to Planning Board review, including for environmental impacts.

At the Monday meeting, Beacon resident Theresa Kraft criticized the pending sale, saying a council member voting “yes” could be labeled “a traitor, a crook, a pawn in a larger game.”

“It’s like pawning your grandfather’s gold watch to pay a bill,” she said. “The bills keep piling up, and once the watch is gone, you lose a cherished family heirloom.” She

asked the council to call for a public referendum before proceeding with a sale.

Ward-Willis responded later, noting that state law permits only certain situations, such as the issuance of bonds or a change to the city charter, to go to voters. As elected representatives, he said, the council must decide most matters.

“With the sale of a property or the purchase of a snowplow, you’re not allowed to go to the public and do a poll,” he said. “You don’t have the authority to send it to the public. You’ve been elected and you need to do your job.”

Addressing other suggestions made recently, Ward-Willis said the city had considered repurposing the building but a law that requires multiple contractors for public construction projects made conversion impractical. Modern accessibility codes also do not apply to the building as long as it is a fire station, but “when you kick it over to a different use, whether it’s a community center, whether it’s a city hall, that triggers a whole set of rules which the city has to comply with,” he said.

The city received multiple offers for the former station, Ward-Willis said. Charlotte Guernsey, the owner of Gate House Compass Realty, the city’s broker, recommended the pending offer as “the highest and best,” he said.

The decommissioned Mase and Beacon Engine stations are both part of Beacon’s protected historic district. City officials

said both former firehouses would be sold with covenants that restrict renaming the properties or altering or defacing their historical features. Any changes to the exterior of the buildings will require a “certificate of appropriateness” from the Planning Board.

While a sale is pending at Mase, Beacon Engine’s ownership has been challenged. State Judge Thomas Davis on Tuesday (May 20) recused himself from litigation brought against the city by retired members of the volunteer fire company that used the station as its headquarters for 136 years. Davis, who presided over the lawsuit filed in 2023 by St. Andrew & St. Luke Episcopal Church over a city-owned parking lot adjacent to the new fire station, did not provide a reason. Judge Christi Acker was assigned to the case.

In March, Judge Maria Rosa dismissed a request from the firefighters that she prevent them from being evicted and delay the city’s plans to sell the building to help finance the central station. A week later, the firefighters filed a complaint asking for judgment on whether the volunteer company or the city owns the historic structure.

When the council voted in 2020 to close Beacon Engine, both the retired volunteers and city officials believed the fire company owned two-thirds of the building — the original 1889 structure — with the city holding an engine bay added in 1924. Since then, Beacon officials conducted a title search that they say revealed municipal

ownership of the entire site. The volunteers have disputed that, saying ownership is unclear because of “aged, handwritten deeds” and “incomplete searches and conclusory assertions” by the city.

The volunteers submitted an amended complaint on May 14 claiming they had commissioned a title search that “created a potential ownership interest in [the fire company’s] favor.” The complaint referred to language in two deeds which “exempts and reserves the lot occupied by the Old Engine House,” although no deeds were submitted to the court. The fire company asked to be declared the owner of the property.

City attorneys filed a motion to dismiss the complaint a day later. In addition to numerous deeds, the city submitted the testimony of Paul Conrad, president of the Poughkeepsie-based Real Property Abstract & Title Services.

Conrad said the firefighters had misinterpreted the two deeds and that a dozen documents, dating from 1860 to 1921, establish the city’s ownership. “Beacon Engine at one point in time owned a portion of the property, which it subsequently conveyed to the city over a century ago,” he said. “Beacon Engine was never in title to the entirety of the property, and it last had an ownership interest in the property in 1920, almost 105 years ago.”

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Philipstown Sets Hearing on Solar Rules

Guidelines cover residential, commercial panels

By Leonard Sparks

The Philipstown Town Board will hold a public hearing June 5 on a proposed law that would establish zoning guidelines for the installation of solar panels and commercial solar farms.

A Climate Smart Task Force committee crafted the rules with five goals: (1) to establish a siting process; (2) lessen the cost of electricity; (3) mitigate the impact of solar systems on the environment and wildlife; (4) support the town goal of carbon neutrality; and (5) regulate the decommissioning of commercial solar projects.

The conservation and planning boards, the building department and the town engineer and attorney each reviewed the proposal, said Jason Angell, a member of the Town Board and the task force, during a May 1 meeting. "All of that process is probably what took some time but made it a lot stronger," he said.

Under the draft guidelines, property owners who want to install roof- or ground-mounted systems for personal use would be allowed to do so in any zoning district. They would follow the same regulatory process required for adding accessory structures, such as garages.

Philipstown would limit the height of panels on pitched roofs to 8 inches, flat roofs to 2 feet or the height of parapets and ground-mounted solar systems to 12 feet. Panels must have anti-reflective coating and ground-mounted

systems cannot be larger than 5,000 square feet and must be shielded from neighbors.

The law would allow commercial solar farms in all zoning districts except for the Ridgeline Protection District and only in the Scenic Overlay District with a special permit. The draft specifies that solar farms, "to the greatest extent possible," be installed on industrial properties; Superfund sites that have undergone environmental cleanup; mining sites; abandoned parcels; landfills; parking lots; and the roofs of commercial buildings.

Removing trees larger than 6 inches in diameter "should be minimized," according to the draft law. If more than 10 trees need to be removed for a ground-mounted system, applicants would need to propose mitigation measures such as planting an equal number of trees or replacing invasive plants with native ones.

In addition, solar farms capable of generating up to 5 megawatts of electricity would need 7-foot-high fencing with a self-locking gate to secure the mechanical equipment. Systems over 1 megawatt would need a decommissioning plan. Applicants would have to deposit cash or post a bond or security equal to 115 percent of the cost of removal and site restoration.

Companies building community solar projects, which allow residents to buy shares of the electricity they generate, would have to target Philipstown residents for subscriptions, particularly low- and moderate-income households. Requests for variances could be made to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

What's Online at HighlandsCurrent.org

These resources can be accessed through the pulldown menu on the top of each page, under "Reader Guide."

Editorial Standards

This document explains our policies, including for corrections and legal issues.

Storm Updates and Resources Storm-watcher resources and contacts for when the power goes out.

Free Updates by Email

Sign up to receive daily or weekly emails with links to our latest news and calendar items.

Podcast Archives

Here are links to all the episodes of our podcast, for easy listening. The three most popular downloads so far have been interviews with a barefoot Ironman competitor; Dinky Romilly of Philipstown, who discussed her civil rights work and her famous mother; and the author of a book about stone walls.

Extended Calendar

We can only fit so much in the paper. Our online calendar includes dozens more events each week.

How They Voted (Congress)

Summaries of consequential and newsworthy legislation in the U.S. House and how Rep. Mike Lawler (Philipstown) and Rep. Pat Ryan (Beacon) voted. Updated weekly when Congress is in session.

Community Directory

This is a continually updated guide to local businesses and cultural sites, with addresses, phone numbers and web links.

Obituaries

We don't have room to publish most obits in print, but we seek them out and post them online. You also can sign up for email alerts.

Back Issues

This is an archive of our past issues, in PDF format, from June 2012 to date, except for the latest issue, which is emailed to *Current* members on Friday morning.

Local Officials

This is a list of elected and appointed officials at the local, state and federal level and how to contact them with your praise or protests.

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June 6: Philipstown Residents

June 13: Beacon Residents

For more info, email Michele Gedney ads@highlandscurrent.org

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Roots and Shoots

Tallest Corn in Brooklyn

By Pamela Doan



My first experience growing plants in containers was in a rooftop garden in Brooklyn. The previous tenant left behind troughs and pots, and I was delighted to make use of them. I grew sweet corn, 8-foot sunflowers in clay pots and herbs of all flavors.

I learned from my farmer uncle that corn had to be planted in two rows, not a single line, because it's wind-pollinated. I staggered a row of five in a curving line. That doesn't yield a lot of corn, but I liked the way it looked, and it felt grounding to have these sturdy, waving stalks among the industrialness of the neighborhood.

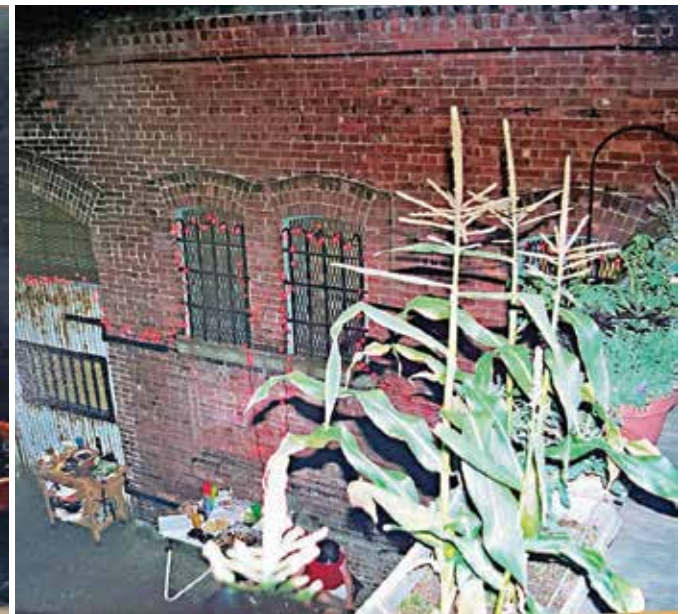
The sunflowers were cheerful and untouched by the squirrels and chipmunks that keep me from growing them in Philipstown. At the end of the season, I would lop off the heads and give them to my neighbors, who kept chickens in an empty lot on the corner. The herbs were a sensory blast and sometimes used for cooking among the people who shared the space.

The setup dictated the growing conditions. The rooftop was accessible after many stairs and walking through the kitchen and a bedroom. Lugging heavy bags of soil or other materials was a drag. I improvised compost and filler with leaves I collected in the street for mulch.

There wasn't any shade, and the black



Rooftop corn in Brooklyn



Photos by P. Doan

tar paper under the containers was blazing hot. Setting the pots on stands helped. Water came from a hose that ran up the fire ladder from the courtyard below and had to be turned on and off at ground level. Getting that parkour workout was a bonus.

Now I'm a flatlander, with acres of greenery and containers that form a border to keep people from falling off the patio. It was useful when my daughter was learning to walk. All were inherited from a previous owner or repurposed.

I appreciate having herbs like chives and basil nearby for cooking and dill to attract caterpillars that become butterflies. I grow lettuce because it's close to the kitchen and easy to gather for salads. Sun-warmed cherry tomatoes, a summer luxury, are close at hand because everyone likes to grab one for a quick snack.

I have two window boxes to plant — a gift

handmade and installed by my husband. I considered how nice they would look on the stone wall of our house but realized I don't want to block the view from inside. I'm planning a low-growing mix with creeping thyme and stonecrop plants.

A few things to address when planting containers:

- For vegetables, look for plants labeled "patio," which are bred to grow in small spaces.
- Watering is the most demanding part of container gardening. Larger pots allow for more soil volume that will dry out less quickly.
- Metal containers heat up fast and hold heat. Pottery is more stable temperature-wise but porous. Plastic is relatively stable, but it's got all the relative issues of being plastic; it's better to repurpose or acquire used plastic pots. Wood is a fine material.
- Commit to watering and set up a rain collection system nearby if possible. Monitor the soil daily if it isn't raining.
- Think about layers and maximize space by using tall, medium and shorter plants to fill out the container.

■ If you enjoy fresh mint, grow it in a container to avoid its inevitable colonization of a flowerbed. The same is true for other vigorous plants.

■ Soil sold in bags labeled as "potting mixes" is blended to maximize nutrients and drainage. Avoid using garden soil or topsoil, which are denser.

■ I've never used mulch in container gardening but in larger troughs or with bare soil it could help with water retention.

■ It's a myth that a layer of rocks at the bottom of a pot will help drainage. It makes it worse. Fill it with soil and make it snug around the plants to avoid air pockets.

■ Mix perennials and annuals to lighten your workload. You don't have to start from scratch every year.

■ Many pollinator-attracting plants will happily grow in pots. A few of my favorites are butterflyweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), foxglove beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*) and little bluestem, a native grass (*Schizachyrium scoparium*).

"I appreciate having herbs like chives and basil nearby for cooking and dill to attract caterpillars that become butterflies."

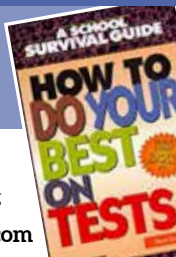
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1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
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57					58				59			

- ACROSS
1. Eve’s man
5. Agt.’s take
8. Summit
12. C&W artist McEntire
13. Geological period
14. Linguist Chomsky
15. Magnificence
17. Leslie Caron role
18. Next in line
19. Business goal
21. Poetic contraction
22. Feudal laborer
23. Rx writers
26. Actor McKellen
28. Cardio-boxing routine
31. Nest egg choices
33. Vat
35. Foolproof
36. Picture puzzle
38. Diner order
40. “Awesome, dude!”
41. Muscat’s land
43. Summer mo.
45. Spud
47. Scan again
51. Help a hood
52. French title
54. Go sightseeing
55. “— you sleeping?”
56. Mrs. Nick Charles
57. Antitoxins
58. Susan of *L.A. Law*
59. “Shoo!”
- DOWN
1. Golden Fleece ship
2. *Wild* actress Laura
3. “That’s not — idea”
4. “Olympia” painter Edouard
5. Views slyly
6. French vineyard
7. Infield covers
8. Long-haired cats
9. Hairdresser
10. Creche trio
11. Send forth
16. Roman 602
20. Pensioned (Abbr.)
23. Soviet space station
24. Dad on *Black-ish*
25. 1942 Hitchcock thriller
27. Gist
29. Bikini half
30. British ref. work
32. Java neighbor
34. Total nonsense
37. Perched
39. Calendar abbr.
42. Wanderer
44. Big smiles
45. Bits of butter
46. Reed instrument
48. Fair-hiring org.
49. Mystique
50. “Phooey!”
53. Mine material

SUDOCURRENT

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						9	1	6
8	5							

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WORDSEARCH

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

FIVE SPOT

Solve each row by replacing one letter from the answer above or below and scrambling to make a new word. When complete, the top and bottom words will have no letters in common.

C	H	U	M	P	Sucker
					Opposite of answer #1
					Pastel shade
					Summary
					Cut back
					Exchange

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

Answers for May 16
U Y E L L O W M N Y
G N Q E P U C U B E
J L T D F N M P V T
M L I U L R H A D N
D U I N O A B H E E
E O Z A D A R O Z E
K P D E H A G E J R
C Q V P H P K C M G
I F L K C I R B K E
W E H S J O E T N H
TUNED, DANTE, MATED,
STEAM, STAMP, PSALM

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

VARSITY ROUNDUP

BEACON

By Nick Robbins

BASEBALL — Beacon wrapped up its regular season on May 16 with a 16-3 home win over Port Jervis, clinching the division title. Ryan Landisi was 3-for-4 with three doubles and two RBIs. Kayden Durkin blew open the game with a pinch-hit grand slam in the fourth inning.

On Monday (May 19), the Bulldogs won at Warwick Valley, 6-3; Landisi threw a complete game, including three strikeouts, and Derrick Heaton and Zach Schetter each had two RBIs. The next day, Beacon edged Franklin Roosevelt at Hyde Park, 10-8. Elijah Epps had a double and three RBIs, while Alex Young had two hits and an RBI.

Beacon (15-4) finished the season with nine consecutive wins. Athletic officials met on Thursday (May 22) to select the seeds for the Section IX tournament, which begins Saturday.

SOFTBALL — After a nine-game losing skid, Beacon won four straight, beginning with a 12-6 victory at home on May 15 over Liberty. Kat Ruffy went 3-for-4, falling short by a triple of hitting the cycle, and Sally Betterbid was 3-for-4 with a double. The following day, Beacon won at Burke Catholic, 12-4. Emma Soltish went 2-for-3 with a triple and Ruffy had a home run and five RBIs. Ruffy also pitched a complete game, with nine strikeouts.

On Monday (May 19), the Bulldogs hosted Chester, winning 7-6 when Betterbid hit a walk-off triple. Ruffy recorded her 100th career hit. On Tuesday, Beacon won at Liberty, 13-0, with Ruffy throwing the shut-out while giving up just one hit and recording seven strikeouts. Ashlynn Way went 3-for-4 with an RBI.

Beacon (6-11) travels to Highland today (May 23). Athletic officials met Thursday to select the seeds for the Section IX tournament, which could begin Saturday.

BOYS' TENNIS — Following an 11-4 season, Beacon began postseason play. In doubles, Frank Zezza and Charlie Klein won, 6-1, 6-2, over opponents from Monroe-Woodbury on Tuesday (May 20), moving to the semifinals, and Beckett Anderson advanced with a 6-2, 6-3 win in the opening round of 16.

GIRLS' GOLF — Beacon began sectional competition after finishing the regular season with a 13-7 record. Heidi Meang finished ninth of 47 golfers, qualifying for the second round on Tuesday (May 27) at Apple Greens Golf Course in Highland. The nine players with the lowest scores

will advance to the state championships on June 8.

TRACK AND FIELD — Beacon competed in the OCIAA Championships in Warwick on May 16 and 17. Caellum Tripaldi won the 1,500 meters (4:16.66) and Jayden Mihalchik was second in the discus (139-1) and javelin (134-10). Brevin Timm placed third in the 110-meter hurdles (16.37) and Noah Spiak was third in the 400-meter hurdles (56.48). For the girls, Bethany Rudolph placed second in the javelin (66-2) and Khloe Franklin was third in the 800 meters (2:37.91).

On Monday (May 19), the Bulldogs sent their field competitors to the OCIAA Throwers Pentathlon in Middletown, where Mihalchik won the hammer throw (182-11.75) and javelin (132-1.5). For the girls, Rudolph was second in the javelin (78-6.25). Beacon wrapped up the week on Wednesday (May 21) at the Gary V Classic in Washingtonville. Jahcier Ballard won the high jump (5-9) and Stella Reinke was 10th in the 1,500 meters (5:22.08). Next up: the Section IX, Class B championships on May 29 in Accord.

HALDANE

By Jacob Aframian

BOYS' LACROSSE — Haldane traveled to Dobbs Ferry on May 15 and returned with a 16-8 win behind eight goals from Fallou Faye. "He's just flat out one of the best offensive players I've coached," said Coach Ed Crowe. "He never ceases to amaze me with what he can do on the field."

The Blue Devils wrapped up the season on May 17 with a 14-3 win at home over Rye Neck. Haldane dominated the game from start to finish, leading 13-0 at the end of three quarters. Faye, David Powlis and Alex Gaugler each scored three times.

Haldane (9-7) secured the No. 7 seed in the Section I, Class D tournament, which begins today (May 23) when the team hosts No. 10 Dobbs Ferry (6-10) at 4:30 p.m. The winner travels to No. 2 Bronxville (11-5) on Wednesday.

GIRLS' LACROSSE — The Blue Devils finished the regular season on Monday (May 19) with an 18-3 win over visiting Port Chester. Kayla Ruggiero had six goals and reached 100 for the season, while Samantha Thomas, Marisa Peters, Elaina Johanson and Amelia Alayon each scored twice. Haldane (10-6) received the No. 7 seed in the Section I, Class D tournament and hosted No. 10 Croton-Harmon (7-9) on Thursday. The winner travels to No. 2 Briar-



Martha McBride advances the ball against Port Chester on Monday (May 19).



Samantha Thomas sprints toward the goal against Port Chester.

Photos by Skip Pearlman

cliff (12-4) on Tuesday.

BASEBALL — The Blue Devils, who finished 4-12, will take on perennial rival Tuckahoe (12-7) in a best-of-three series for the Section I, Class C title. The first game is Tuesday (May 27) at Tuckahoe.

SOFTBALL — The Blue Devils picked up a 9-2 win on May 15 over Putnam Valley. On the mound, eighth grader Allegra Clementson gave up only three hits while striking out 10 batters. She also went 2-for-4 with three RBIs. Lainey Donaghy went 3-for-3, with two doubles and two RBIs.

On May 17, Haldane lost at Pawling, 17-13. Sydney Merriman went 3-for-3 with two RBIs, Donaghy was 3-for-3 with three doubles, Clementson went 2-for-3 with three RBIs and Anya Mercurio went 3-for-4 with three RBIs. The next day, at Cold Spring, the Blue Devils fell to Pawling again, 9-8, in extra innings. Senior Callie Sniffen went 2-for-3 with a triple and three RBIs, reaching 100 runs batted in for her career.

Haldane (10-7), the No. 2 seed in a three-team field, will host No. 3 North Salem (9-9) on Tuesday (May 27). The winner will play No. 1 Tuckahoe (16-4) at North Rockland High School on May 30 for the Section I, Class C title.

TRACK AND FIELD — For the first time in school history, the boys' and girls' teams each won the league championship on May 14 in a meet that included Putnam Valley, Croton-Harmon, Pawling and North Salem.

On May 16 and 17, the team competed in the 11-team Section I Northern Counties Championship at Arlington High School. Shayla Ochoa won the high jump (4-4), finished third in the 800-meter run (2:56.44) and was fourth in the long jump (14-1, tied with teammate Clara Schmitt), shotput (20-3.25) and pentathlon (1815). Schmitt was second in the 400-meter hurdles (1:13.58) and Hazel Berkley was fifth in the 2000-meter steeplechase (10:05.30).

For the boys, Owen Powers was second in the 3,200-meter run (9:50.96), and Merrick Williams finished second in the high jump (5-5.75), fourth in the shotput (32-6.25), third in the pentathlon (2400) and fourth in the long jump (17-5.75). Rhys Williams was eighth in the 100-meter dash (11.91) and Silas Emig finished fourth in the javelin (145-3).

Tournament Updates

See highlandscurrent.org/sports for the latest results.