

The HIGHLANDS Current



JULY 11, 2025

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CELEBRATING FREEDOM — The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra, now in its 30th year, performed on July 4 on the lawn at Boscobel in Philipstown. The concert included Dvořák's *Symphony No. 9 (From The New World)*, composed in 1893 during his four-year stay in the U.S. Photo by Ross Corsair

Surprise from the Sky

Lost meal demolishes windshield

By Michael Turton

Christine Ortiz, the owner of Oh! Designs Interiors on Stone Street in Cold Spring, was enjoying an average Monday on July 7, but there was nothing average about what happened at 4:15 p.m. as she stepped outside for a walk.

"I heard a loud crash and thought something had broken, maybe inside the pub" on the corner, she said.

(Continued on Page 6)



A falling object destroyed Christine Ortiz's windshield. Photo by Michelle Kupper

Firehouse Under Contract

Westchester buyer to pay \$1.8 million for Mase station

By Jeff Simms

Beacon officials have entered into a contract to sell the city's decommissioned Mase Hook & Ladder fire station for \$1.8 million.

The buyer, Michael Bensimon, signed an agreement on June 24 to acquire the property at 425 Main St., including the three-story brick firehouse that has stood there since 1911.

Bensimon, who lists a Port Chester, New York, address on the agreement, made a down payment of \$180,000. According to the sale contract, which was provided to *The Current*, he has a 45-day due-diligence period during which the sale can be canceled and the down payment refunded. City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis said he expects the transaction to close by the end of August.

Bensimon and his attorney each declined to comment.

Although Dutchess County records incorrectly combine three parcels — the Memorial Building at 423 Main St., Mase at 425 Main and the adjacent municipal

(Continued on Page 6)



PART 3 OF A SERIES

Beyond the Grid

HOME ENERGY

By Joey Asher

Glenn Rockman and his longtime partner, Darron Berquist, love many things about their 3,700-square-foot home off Route 9 in Philipstown (shown above): the quiet woods, the modern architecture, the river views.

They also love their electric bill: \$21.50 a month.

The bills could be lower, but Central Hudson requires a basic service charge to be hooked up to the grid. The one time the bill was higher, it was because they had accidentally left the air conditioning on for 10 days while on vacation. The only gas the home uses is propane in a backup generator.

This is all possible because Rockman and Berquist live in a certified Passive House, one of a growing number of ultra-efficient homes whose solar panels generate more power than the owners use.

Rockman said they are hooked up to Central Hudson only as a precaution; occasionally, on hot days, the 9-kilowatt solar panel doesn't generate enough power to cool the house. But more often, it's sending electricity to Central Hudson and using a net meter

to stockpile credits. Rockman expects to soon replace the backup generator with a whole-house battery that can store the excess production.

In Cold Spring, Chelsea Mozen said her Passive House on High Street also routinely generates no electric bill. The same is true of the Main Street office of River Architects, which specializes in passive construction.

Passive houses rely on several conservation principles, said James Hartford, who co-owns the firm. The first is airtight construction, achieved by sealing joints and penetrations such as wall outlets, plumbing and ductwork, to trap heat. Doors are often 4 inches thick, with multiple latching points and rubber gaskets that create a vault-like seal. Even nail holes are sealed with caulk. If you want to hang a picture on the wall of a Passive House, you'll need an adhesive mount.

To be certified by the Passive House Institute, a blower test must show that the air inside changes no more than 0.6 times per hour. By comparison, for homes built before 2016, the standard

(Continued on Page 8)

5 FIVE QUESTIONS: MAYA BECK

By Joey Asher

Maya Beck, 20, a rising senior at the University of Southern California, is a second lieutenant in the Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

The You Matter! Line at the Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub launched last year. It was your idea. What's behind it?

Many police departments have programs in which elderly people can get an automated call asking, "Are you OK?" I thought that with people experiencing mental-health challenges, such as loneliness among the elderly and depression among younger people, we could get an actual person to make those calls.



Also, The Hub helps people get the help they need in a way that an emergency medical technician cannot, such as connecting them to social services.

What inspired the idea?

The ambulance corps gets 650 to 800 calls a year but most aren't medical emergencies. We have people complaining that their blood pressure feels high, or they feel weak and ask if we could take them to the hospital. We get people calling to tell us that they're sad and have suicidal ideation. We also get a lot of "lift assist" calls where we're helping someone who has fallen. These people need help. But often the EMT is not the best resource for them. The You Matter! Line helps with these less-critical calls so they don't have to rely on an EMT to get the care they deserve.

How did you get involved in the ambulance corps?

It runs in the family. My mom works in nonprofits. My grandfather ran the Henry Street Settlement House on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, which provided social services, arts and education for lower-income people. During the pandemic, when my Haldane High School classes were being held online, I would skip class to do paperwork at Drug World for the vaccine clinics. I saw how these smaller agencies could make a difference in our community. Plus, living in Cold Spring, I would go past the Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps on Cedar Street every day on my way to school. In October 2021, four days before my 17th birthday, I joined the ambulance corps. At first, I was an attendant, going on 911 calls, grabbing stretchers and handing over the blood pressure cuff. I became an EMT in 2022 after I took the EMT class at Haldane.

Has there been a time that you felt you made a difference in the community?

I had someone who was involved in a motor vehicle collision on Route 9D. She wasn't seriously injured but was very stressed. Her husband wasn't there. She had a childcare issue. Her babysitter was a classmate of mine at Haldane. I called her to let her know what was going on. I felt like, if I wasn't there, no one would have been able to make that community connection. It was a small thing. But I was able to ease her anxieties.

How is the mental health of EMTs these days?

It's improving. EMTs used to think they were not allowed to feel sad because it's part of the job. That leads to burnout. But that attitude is changing. We have a peer-led group so that we can discuss our feelings. We realize that it's OK not to be OK.

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ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

Ever had a vacation from hell?

New Year's Eve concert in Philly. Torrential rain. Hotel overbooked. Philly cheesesteak place had no buns; another place, no meat!



Billy Thom, Cold Spring

Not the location, Long Beach Island, but the company: my ex.



Jen Bollen, Wappinger

Breckenridge, Colorado: altitude sickness, horrible cold, alcohol, partying. Bad combo.



Jesse Zweibon, Garrison

NEWS BRIEFS

\$1 Fares Return to Metro-North*Monthly ticketholders can bring guests*

For the second year, Metro-North has launched a Summer Saturday program that allows monthly commuters to buy companion fares for \$1 each.

In addition, Metro-North will honor monthly tickets on Saturdays for travel to and from any station, regardless of what stops are printed on the ticket.

Monthly ticket holders on Saturdays will be able to travel with one or two others for \$1 per person each way. Tickets can be purchased via the TrainTime app under Family Fares or on board. The program continues through Aug. 30.

Report: Maloney Eyes Return*Former congressman would run for old seat*

Sean Patrick Maloney, a Philipstown resident who served five terms in the U.S. House before losing his seat to Mike Lawler in 2022, is mulling whether to run for the seat again in 2026, according to Axis, which cited "people familiar with the matter."

Maloney, who was the chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee at the time, lost to Lawler by 3,200 votes among more than 278,000 cast. Lawler, who was easily re-elected in 2024, defeating Mondaire Jones, is considering whether

to run for governor in 2026.

Maloney was confirmed in March 2024 by the Senate as the U.S. representative to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, based in Paris. He returned to New York earlier this year.

In response to the Axis report, Lawler posted on X: "With at least seven far-left candidates already announced in the Democrat primary for New York's 17th district, I'm sure Democrats are excited about the prospects of Sean Patrick Maloney making a comeback — because it worked out so well the last time."

CCA Comes to End*Residents by default returned to Central Hudson*

Philipstown residents and businesses receiving fixed-rate electricity through Hudson Valley Community Power will be transferred back to Central Hudson this month unless they select a renewable energy provider.

In what is known as a community choice aggregation (CCA) program, Cold Spring, Nelsonville, Philipstown and nine other municipalities (not including Beacon) contracted with a third-party supplier to offer a fixed rate for electricity, although Central Hudson continued to provide delivery and billing. But Hudson Valley

Community Power was unable to negotiate a contract extension.

Residents can continue with Central Hudson or select one of 36 other energy suppliers by visiting documents.dps.ny.gov/PTC/home. Customers who subscribe to Nexamp will continue to receive solar credits (solar.nexamp.com/hudson-valley), and there will be no interruption in service regardless of the supplier.

Checks mailed in April to CCA customers from a settlement with Columbia Utilities must be cashed by Thursday (July 17). Call 844-804-4105 with questions.

Did Lawler Rep Join Anti-Lawler Chat?*Journal News reports on suspicious participant*

A mobile phone number belonging to Rep. Mike Lawler's deputy district director, who is also a Putnam County legislator, was used to infiltrate a chat hosted by an anti-Lawler organization, according to *The Journal News*.

Someone using Erin Crowley's number gained entrance to the Signal chat under the name Jake Thomas, according to the report, but refused requests to verify their identity by leaders of Fight Lawler.

The person claiming to be Thomas live-posted from a Lawler town hall in May,

encouraging people to "boo him off the stage." Ann Starer, who co-founded the Fight Lawler group, told the *Journal News* she suspected Crowley, or the person using her number, was trying to rile up the crowd to discredit Lawler's opponents.

The Journal News said that neither Lawler's office nor Crowley responded to repeated requests for clarification.

Fair Street Update*Work will continue through summer*

The contractor has submitted its plan for work on restoring Fair Street, according to the Village of Cold Spring.

During the initial phase, the street will remain two-way between Northern Avenue and Route 9D. A pedestrian path will be created around the work zone, from the sewer treatment plant to the north end of Mayor's Park.

"We do anticipate high visitor volume through the village to the Washburn Trailhead while the Breakneck Station and trailhead is closed," the village said in a statement. "The contractor will monitor pedestrian flows and make modifications if warranted. As a reminder, Mayor's Park will be closed for all uses during the construction period, which is likely to last into the fall."

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Ross Corsair • Skip Pearlman

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Emily Hare membership@highlandscurrent.org

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

15th year

I would like to congratulate *The Highlands Current* on its 15th anniversary ("Marking 15 Years: One Vision Now Shared by Many," July 4). Your dedication to local journalism is exemplary and the community would be much poorer if you did not exist.

George Whipple, *Garrison*

I'm so grateful for founder Gordon Stewart, and his intelligence and generosity, especially in the unpleasant context of the time.

Sara Dulaney, *Cold Spring*

ICE raid

It is appalling to see the racism and dehumanizing language used by certain letter writers to *The Current* on the topic of immigration and the kidnapping of their own neighbors by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (*Letters and Comments*, July 4). They seem to be entirely ignorant of the fact that the vast majority of undocumented immigrants are law-abiding, taxpaying community members.

Instead of facts or empathy, these letter writers show just how much harmful, dehumanizing propaganda they have absorbed. They should be ashamed of their clear inability to love thy neighbor.

And a polite request to *The Current* editors: "Illegal" is not an acceptable way to refer to a human being. If your policy is to redact or refuse to print slurs related to race, gender or sexual orientation, your stylebook ought to prohibit slurs based on immigration status as well.

Chiara Di Lello, *Beacon*

I was surprised and saddened to see such hateful comments published in this newspaper.

Richard Shea, *Cold Spring*

Town Board

Ben Cheah is one of the most gracious people I know and would never do anything to create divisions ("Town Board Candidate Withdraws," July 4). The Philipstown Democrats, as well, intend to be unified behind their Democratic candidates and would not run three candidates for two positions in the November election.

Margaret Yonco-Haines, *Garrison*
Yonco-Haines is a member of the Philipstown Democratic Committee.

Beacon ferry

Perhaps the MTA should look at why expanding the Haverstraw-Ossining ferry

Correction

In the July 4 issue, we reported that the use of work requirements for Medicaid recipients in Alabama and Georgia had been criticized. In fact, work requirements were imposed in Arkansas and Georgia.

has worked ("Beacon to Newburgh Ferry Scuttled," July 4). The service went from rush hour only and expanded to weekends. There is a splashy guide to the Haverstraw-Ossining ferry on the Metropolitan Transportation Authority website (dub.sh/MTA-ferry). With the development planned along both sides of the river, the thinking should be how to build and expand the service, not end it.

Ed McFarland, *Beacon*

We have a few functioning and potential docks in Beacon. Schooner Apollonia docks at Long Dock whenever it visits, for instance.

With this transit-oriented development project coming to the north train lot, more people will be located dockside. More visitors and residents will seek boat, rail, walkway and cycleway-based movement.

How did MTA manage to oversee such a steady decline in ferry use? We know that rail usage plunged because of the pandemic restrictions and has yet to recover. With congestion pricing revenues and improved service promised in the next few years on the Hudson Line, Beacon-Newburgh ferry usage stands to grow with any proper oversight and investment. Or am I missing something?

Gregg Zuman, *Beacon*

There is a bridge! Drive.

Anne Piccone, *via Facebook*

For many it's easier and much faster to take the ferry, and parking at the Beacon station can be hard to find. Getting out of the station is also a nightmare. There is already enough traffic on Route 9D, and traffic on the bridge and Interstate 84 is often bad during rush hour.

Steven Saltzman, *via Facebook*

The ferry was a daily event for me for nearly 13 years, and the NY Waterway captains and staff were exceptional. I miss that ride, with its beautiful sunrises and sunsets and the many friends I made over the years. I'm not surprised it has come to an end but am thankful to have experienced and enjoyed it for so long.

Sue Glassey, *via Facebook*

Everything is done in the name of tourism. When will we do something for the residents?
Theresa McGillicuddy, *via Facebook*

(Continued on Page 5)



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

Food trucks

I hope that the trustee emerita [Lynn Miller] and the standing trustee [Eliza Starbuck] will bring their comments about food-truck regulations to the public hearing [on July 9] where they can be more fully discussed (*Letters and Comments*, July 4).

I'm well aware of the references to "peddling and soliciting" in Chapter 71 of the Village Code. In our first discussion with the village attorney, we referenced Chapter 71 and Trustee Starbuck certainly could have read it in full at any point. The chapter is broad, and in the attorney's review, insufficient in relation to food trucks: There are prohibitions on broad vending concerns, but no discussion, for example, of food trucks in particular zones, or time limits.

A recent application was for a single food vendor to locate on a residentially zoned lot, five days a week, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Perhaps the public will provide different feedback, but this strikes me and the majority of the trustees as a tricky precedent on a residential parcel. That parcel may seem like a great candidate down by the waterfront — I note, at the end of West Street — but do neighbors want food trucks on residential lots in other areas of the village?

Once precedent is set, it's hard to walk back. Hence the proposed moratorium to hammer out reasonable regulations. There are plenty of examples from across New York state to be guided by.

I will note that, notwithstanding Chapter 71 and its broad guidance, previous iterations of the Village Board have denied requests for food trucks for reasons such as protecting village restaurants (one can review public discussions on the village's YouTube channel). Controlling competition in markets is not the job of village government.

I believe that the full board wants to be able to appropriately say yes to food trucks — residents and visitors alike enjoy them and the food variety they bring to the village. However, we need to be sure that we are using appropriate criteria to review requests and properly mitigating potential impacts on neighbors.

Moreover, there have been changes to state law regarding food trucks since Chapter 71 was last updated. It's important to keep up with developing enabling legislation and state regulations.

Kathleen Foley, *Cold Spring*
Foley is the Cold Spring mayor.

Festival

I'm looking forward to seeing Shakespeare at Hudson Valley Shakespeare ("A Madcap Comedy of Errors," June 27).

Jodie Staton, *Beacon*

So far this year I've seen *Henry IV 1 & 2* in Brooklyn, Denzel Washington on Broadway as *Othello* and a surprisingly strong production of *Pericles* at an intimate

community theater in New Jersey. But *The Comedy of Errors* was the most delightful time I've had watching the Bard in 2025. I adore what HVS brings to our "globe."

Mark Leonard, *via Facebook*

Town Hall

At his Town Hall in Hopewell Junction on June 28, Rep. Mike Lawler asked: "How many of you believe illegal immigrants should collect Medicaid?" ("Lawler Holds Final Town Hall," July 4). Undocumented people are not eligible for Medicaid.

Karen Twohig, *Fishkill*
The editor replies: In New York and some other states, undocumented immigrants can receive benefits for emergency care, pregnancy and for children.

Tartan

I loved this article ("A Tartan of Its Own," June 27). Not only did I learn something — how interesting the meaning behind the vibrant tartan James Hartford and Aeneas Eaton designed — but I was plucked by a heartstring: James played the pipes at my father's memorial service last year and will forever have a special place in my heart. Bravo, Hudson Highlands Pipe Band.

Stephanie Logan Ruffin,
Richmond, Virginia

Congratulations to the pipe band and to James — well done.

Kelly Ellenwood, *Beacon*

Price at the Pump

United States				
317	2	10		Current
312	1	10		Month ago
353	8	10		Year ago
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318	4	10		Current
310	2	10		Month ago
323	4	10		Year ago
Local				
353	8	10		Current
363	2	10		Month ago
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From the Sky (from Page 1)

At that same moment, Michelle Kupper was next door, sitting at her desk at the Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub, when she heard what she described as “a loud pop.”

Kupper saw Ortiz walk by and joined her. “What in the world happened to my car?” Ortiz asked aloud, as they stared at the Subaru parked in a shared driveway. The rear windshield was shattered.

“My first thought was that a rock had been thrown,” Kupper recalled. “Then I thought maybe the heat made it implode.”

Kupper peered through the broken glass. She spotted something bright orange.

“It’s a fish!” Kupper told Ortiz.

“What do you mean it’s a fish?” Ortiz replied. “Are you kidding me?”

To be precise, it was a koi. But how did it end up in the backseat of her Subaru?

Talon marks indicated the fish had been taken by a raptor, possibly an eagle or hawk. Ortiz felt it was unlikely to have come from the brackish Hudson River; koi are freshwater fish. “I felt bad; I knew someone was missing a pet,” Ortiz said. “That’s why I didn’t post anything” on social media.

The mystery of the Stone Street koi would not be solved by Facebook, Instagram or X. It was a story made for the rumor mill and backyard detectives. Neighbors talked to neighbors. Text messages flew around Cold Spring. Residents shook their heads. All but one, that is.

“I heard about it through the grapevine,” Garden Street resident Alex Wilcox Cheek said, adding that Teresa Lagerman, who lives across from Oh! Designs, had told him



Phil Heffernan at his fish pond in Cold Spring, where one koi is missing Photo by M. Turton

the tale after Ortiz texted her.

“It sounded like some Garrison Keillor Lake Wobegon story,” Wilcox Cheek said.

It also sounded close to home. “I know exactly whose koi that is,” he thought.

Phil Heffernan, who lives on Church Street and has a koi pond in his backyard, was in California when he received a text from Wilcox Cheek. His pond lies just three blocks due east of where the fish met its end.

Wilcox Cheek sent along one of Kupper’s photos. Heffernan confirmed it was his koi, and that it had a name: Lucy.

In 1953, the previous owner of Heffernan’s home had built a 4-foot-deep kiddie pool. In 1990, Heffernan converted it to a fishpond that he keeps well-aerated with

“supercharged bubblers” for up to 30 koi. “I always had an aquarium as a kid,” he said.

While he has never seen an eagle near the pond, hawks are common and the week before Lucy was taken he saw a large peregrine falcon in the backyard.

Koi prefer the pond bottom, where the water is coolest. But Heffernan said when temperatures surpass 90 degrees — as they did the week Lucy was taken — the water warms and loses oxygen, and the fish surface to gulp air from the atmosphere.

“An eagle would not have dropped that fish; they have claws the size of my hands,” he said, adding that on that hot afternoon the hawk would have seen “a mat of koi” on the pond’s surface.

Flight Risk

July 21, 2024: A fish damaged a Tesla parked in a driveway in Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey, about a mile from Raritan Bay. After the car alarm went off, the owners investigated and found scales and blood on the broken windshield. They suspected the eagles who had a nest in their backyard.

July 13, 2021: Building inspectors in Neenah, Wisconsin, found one of their sedans in the city lot on Monday morning with the hood caved in and a carp, probably from Lake Winnebago, lying on the asphalt nearby.

Sept. 5, 2016: Lisa Lobree was walking on Labor Day in Fairmont Park in Philadelphia when she was hit in the face by a 5-pound catfish. “I smelled disgusting,” said Lobree, who suffered a cut and had some swelling.

“The hawk’s eyes were bigger than his claws and he grabbed the biggest fish he could,” Heffernan said. After flying three blocks, the bird must have lost its grip on Lucy, who weighed 8 to 10 pounds.

“I feel bad for the hawk,” Heffernan said. “He was probably licking his beak.”

Ortiz’s landlord mused that the mob might have been involved, before warbling, “Lucy in the Sky...”. Not to be outdone, a village resident who asked not to be named for fear of reprisal called the incident an act of cod.

Firehouse (from Page 1)

parking lot — into one, Bensimon plans to purchase only the fire station property. It is in Beacon’s Central Main Street zoning district; Planning Board approval would be required to bring a commercial or residential use to the building.

The city will retain the parking lot, which it intends to restripe for a more efficient layout. Bensimon will receive three spaces. Verizon Wireless will retain its lease to place an antenna on the firehouse roof and equipment in a fenced area behind the building.

The site is also part of Beacon’s protected historic district, which means that substantial exterior changes to the building would require a “certificate of appropriateness” from the Planning Board.

According to the contract, Bensimon must apply for permits to begin interior renovation of the building within six months of closing, and obtain certificates of occupancy, compliance or other municipal approvals within 18 months.

Mase and the former Beacon Engine Co. firehouse at 57 East Main St. were listed by the city for sale in May. Both became surplus after a \$14.7 million centralized fire station opened near City Hall last fall.

Accessory dwellings

Homeowners earning up to 120 percent

of the Dutchess County median household income (\$97,273) can apply beginning Monday (July 14) for grants of up to \$125,000 to create or upgrade an accessory dwelling unit (ADU).

Beacon and nine other municipalities in Dutchess County were awarded \$6 million earlier this year through a state program designed to help low- and moderate-income residents build ADUs. The program is being administered locally by Hudson River Housing, a Poughkeepsie nonprofit. See hudsonriverhousing.org.

The City Council on July 7 also adopted amendments meant to simplify regulations of accessory apartments. The law now permits ADUs in all zoning districts but only on lots with a single-family residence. One of the structures must be owner-occupied, and the ADU cannot be used for short-term rentals such as through Airbnb.

A maximum size was removed from the law, but Planning Board approval will be required if the unit is greater than 1,000 square feet and its floor area is greater than 50 percent of the primary building’s floor area. No off-street parking is required.

Capital plans

The City Council on Monday (June 7) unanimously adopted a five-year capital plan that details \$29 million in equipment purchases and infrastructure upgrades for



The former Mase firehouse at 425 Main St. is under contract for \$1.8 million.

File photo by J. Simms

2026 to 2030.

The plan authorizes \$6.5 million in spending for 2026, a year that will be highlighted by the renovation and greening of the southwest corner of Memorial Park, estimated to cost \$400,000. The city plans to resurface the basketball courts, install pickleball courts, construct a softball batting cage and renovate the bathroom at that end of the park for public use.

The adjacent skateboard park has been

repaved, with new skating elements and an “art wall” installed. Phase 2 of that work will include new lighting. The parking lot in front of the skate park will also be redesigned, and numerous trees will be planted in that corner of the park.

Further improvements could include exercise stations and tennis courts. The city may also contract with a food truck to operate at the park.

The most expensive project planned for 2026 is the \$1.6 million construction of a water storage tank on Mount Beacon. Other high-dollar expenditures include a vacuum truck for the Water Department (\$670,000), the ongoing milling and paving of streets and installation of Americans with Disabilities Act-accessible curb ramps citywide (\$500,000), replacement of a sanitary sewer pump station near Monell Place (\$400,000) and a street sweeper for the Highway Department (\$340,000).

Notable expenditures in subsequent years include nearly \$3.5 million to complete the repaving and rehabilitation of Beekman Street, with sidewalks and an uphill bike lane, in 2028 and \$1.6 million in upgrades to Seeger Riverfront Park in 2027, although timing there will depend on whether a transit-oriented development at the Metro-North station proceeds. Replacement of aeration tanks at the wastewater treatment plant is expected to cost \$2.6 million in 2028.

Continental Commons Faces New LawsUIT

Seeks to annul approval for Route 9 project

By Leonard Sparks

The Revolutionary War is over, but a preservation group is continuing its battle over a hotel and retail project planned for Route 9 on a part of a historic site used in the late 18th century as a supply depot for the Continental Army.

Friends of the Fishkill Supply Depot and two of its members, Brenda and William McEwing, filed a lawsuit on June 27 in which they asked a state judge to nullify the Fishkill Planning Board's approval of Continental Commons.

The lawsuit names the town, its building inspector, the Planning Board, the Planning Board chair and GLD3 LLC and Snook-9 Realty, development companies owned by Domenico Broccoli.

As proposed, Continental Commons would combine a 90-room hotel with a restaurant, visitors' center and a replica barracks that would house a museum devoted to the history of the Fishkill Supply Depot. Established under Gen. George Washington, the 74-acre Revolutionary War encampment stretched from Philipstown to the Village of Fishkill and parts of what is now Beacon.

The 10.5-acre site, which contains a



The plans for Continental Commons include a 90-room hotel, retail shops, a restaurant and a replica of a Revolutionary War barracks. The site now hosts a Speedway gas station.

Photo by L. Sparks

Speedway gas station owned by Broccoli and a burial site that Friends of Fishkill Supply Depot say may contain the remains of war dead, is across Route 9 from Dutchess Mall and across Snook Road from the Van Wyck Homestead, a former headquarters for the supply depot and current home of the Fishkill Historical Society.

The plaintiffs contend that the final site plan signed by the Planning Board chair in April is invalid because the developers failed to fulfill two conditions from the preliminary approval in December 2023 — a work permit from the state Department of Transportation and a letter confirming required excavation.

They also claim the site plan and a special-use permit issued to the project have expired because the developer failed to meet a deadline to apply for building permits within a year of site-plan approval. The Planning Board granted the developer multiple 90-day extensions, the most recent of which expired June 12.

Among the exhibits submitted with the lawsuit is a May email from the state Department of Transportation, in response to a Freedom of Information Law request, stating that the agency had yet to issue a final work permit. According to the lawsuit, the plaintiffs have made multiple requests to the Planning

Board under the Freedom of Information Law for evidence that the conditions of the preliminary approval have been satisfied.

Friends of the Fishkill Supply Depot and the McEwings also appealed a state judge's decision in 2020 to reject their attempt to overturn the Planning Board's determination that Continental Commons would not have a "significant adverse impact" on the environment or historical resources. Judge Maria Rosa said she did not have the power to "substitute her judgment for that of the agency." The appeal, filed in May 2021, is still active.

Broccoli has also gone to court. In March, a federal judge dismissed a lawsuit he filed accusing members and supporters of Friends of the Fishkill Supply Depot of conspiring to "devalue" the property so they could buy it for "pennies on the dollar."

That same month, Broccoli alleged in a lawsuit that statements made in 2023 by Louise Daniele, a former member of the Fishkill Town Board, caused him "reputational harm, substantial emotional distress and humiliation and damage to his key business relationship."

In a motion filed May 8, Daniele denied that she defamed Broccoli when 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 Forman's 2012 state Assembly campaign. In June, Daniele filed a motion to dismiss the case.

Farmers Market at San Damiano Farm

A Ministry of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement

2 St. Anthony Way
Garrison, NY 10524
(just off Route 9)

Every Friday
10:00AM – 2:00PM
(rain or shine, through early fall)

Cash or Check Only, Please

Vegetables and Greens

Lettuce, Swiss Chard, Tuscan Kale, Scallions, Cucumbers, Shishito Peppers, Baby White Potatoes and Garlic

Cut Flowers

Sunflowers, Zinnias and Snapdragons

Plants

Zonal Geraniums, Coleus, Eyelash Begonias, Dish Gardensm and Lavendar

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GROUP SHOW

JULY 12-
AUGUST 3

RECEPTION JULY 12 5-7PM

HUDSON BEACH
GLASS GALLERY

162 Main St, Beacon, NY 12508

This project is made possible, in part, through funding from the County of Dutchess and Destination Dutchess (formerly Dutchess Tourism, Inc.) and administered by Arts Mid-Hudson.

Budget Buster

Federal law could raise electricity costs

By Brian PJ Cronin

If you're considering making your home more energy-efficient, act now.

The federal budget bill signed into law by President Donald Trump on July 4 will eliminate tax credits for solar panels, heat pumps, induction stoves, insulation and energy-efficient windows after Dec. 31. It also will eliminate, as of Sept. 30, a tax credit of up to \$7,500 for buying or leasing an electric vehicle.

The law could lead to higher util-

ity costs because it kills many industry subsidies for wind, solar and large-scale batteries, which made up more than 90 percent of the new energy added to the grid. The REPEAT Project at Princeton University estimates 30 gigawatts that would have been generated by wind and solar annually may be lost.

"Renewables are the cheapest source of new electricity generation, with or without the tax credits that the bill phases out," said Amanda Levin, director of policy analysis for the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Although the cost of installing solar and batteries has fallen by 90 percent over the past decade, and wind costs have

fallen by 70 percent, the bill "will put a damper on new renewable and energy storage investment over the next decade, which is going to mean less new cheap, clean power getting added to the grid, and higher electricity prices," she predicted.

At this point, "we can't build enough new fossil plants to fill the void that might be left by killing renewables," she said. Due to supply-chain issues, there's a backlog of up to seven years for natural gas turbines, for example. Gov. Kathy Hochul has announced plans to build more nuclear power plants upstate, but that won't happen immediately: The most recent nuclear plants built in the U.S. were years behind schedule and billions of dollars over budget.

"Renewables and storage are the only resources available to be deployed today at reasonable cost," said Levin. "We won't be able to build new, unexpected, unplanned

investments in other types of non-clean energy at least until the 2030s."

The budget may mean fossil-fuel plants scheduled for retirement will need to stay open. Over the next few decades, electricity demand is expected to increase by 25 percent, primarily due to the growth of data centers.

Relief could come at the state level if New York moves forward with a "cap-and-invest" plan, said Kobi Naseck, director of programs and advocacy for NY Renew, a progressive coalition. The program was announced by Hochul in 2023; corporations that produce more pollution than allowed would pay penalties that fund the state's climate plans and rebate checks for consumers.

NY Renew forecasts that a cap-and-invest program could produce savings of up to \$2,000 a year for households earning less than \$200,000 annually.



Juhee Lee-Hartford and James Hartford inside River Architects, their energy-efficient office on Main Street in Cold Spring.

Photo provided



A certified Passive House in Cold Spring designed by River Architects

Photo by Brad Dickson



used to be seven changes an hour. Since then, the standard building code has required three changes an hour.

To remove odors and avoid carbon dioxide poisoning, passive houses use mechanical heat recovery ventilation systems, Hartford said. The systems let in outside air, but only after the outgoing air has warmed it. These heat exchange systems are up to 95 percent efficient. In addition, "the air is super clean," noted Rockman. "There's no dust."

Passive Houses also have tons of insulation. The walls are up to 2 feet thick, more than double that of most homes, and have up to four times the wall and attic insulation. Foundations have a layer of insulation between the slab and the ground. Windows have three or four panes in addition to a layer of inert gas to improve thermal performance. (Most standard homes use double-paned glass.)

With all the insulation and air tightness, passive homes don't need large heating and cooling systems, said Hartford. "We have two little heat pumps upstairs [at River Architects] that do all we need for heating and cooling. The building stays warm by itself through solar gain, people and computers."

Passive house homeowners give up certain amenities. Rockman wanted larger windows, for example, but they were too inefficient. He insisted on a fireplace, although they're discouraged. The fireplace has a glass door to maintain an airtight seal when they're not enjoying a fire. "Even burn-

(Continued on Page 9)

(Continued from Page 8)

ing one log can dramatically increase the inside temperature,” he said. “The house just retains so much heat.”

The Rockman-Berquist home is one of about 1,500 homes and apartment buildings nationwide certified by the Passive House Institute. New York City has almost 2,000 units in certified Passive apartment buildings.

The passive-house movement dates to the 1973 oil embargo, when energy prices skyrocketed. Engineers and architects at the University of Illinois designed a “Lo-Cal” house that consumed 60 percent less energy. A German physicist, Wolfgang Feist, refined the ideas in the 1980s and founded the Passivhaus Institute to promote low energy usage standards.

Thanks in part to the work of River Architects, Philipstown has four certified Passive Houses, including three in the Village of Cold Spring. Hartford said many more homes have been built using passive principles but haven’t gone through the rigorous and costly certification process.

“This is an ‘almost’ Passive House,” said Joe Meyer, whose 3,500-square-foot home is near the West Point Foundry Preserve in Cold Spring. He pays about \$150 to \$200 a month to Central Hudson. There is no gas bill. His electric bills are already so low that adding solar panels wouldn’t help much. That calculus could change, he said, if he were to buy an electric car.

Passive homes cost five to 10 percent more to build, without accounting for the utility savings. With economies of scale, the cost of building passive multi-family buildings is approximately the same or slightly higher than that of non-passive construction.

Michael Robinson, a Cold Spring contractor specializing in passive house construction, noted that it is well-suited for low-income housing. “You’re building apartments that have little or no utility costs,” said Robinson, who retrofitted a three-family building in Newburgh. “For people on a fixed income, it’s incredible.”

Besides the cost, Robinson said a barrier to passive building is that contractors need to learn new skills, and it takes more planning. There’s a “pain-in-the-neck factor,” said Robinson. “It takes a few more months before you start digging.”

Over the last 20 years, building codes have adopted many principles of the Passive House, including increased insulation and tighter building envelopes. In 2020, Beacon adopted the New York Stretch Building Code, which includes even stricter performance standards.

Bryan Murphy, Beacon’s building inspector, said that energy efficiency standards have increased dramatically since he started in the construction business 35 years ago. “Oh gosh, they’re tenfold better,” he said.



Roberto Muller and Mia Klubnick stand outside their high-efficiency home.

Photo by Ross Corsair

Low-Energy, Built by Hand

*Putnam Valley couple
transforms cottage*

By Joey Asher

If Roberto Muller and Mia Klubnick’s home renovation in Putnam Valley were a reality show, it might be called *Toxic Cottage*.

That’s because when they inspected the 1,000-square-foot, white clapboard structure at 30 Seifert Lane in 2021, it was filled with black mold, said Muller, a construction project manager.

Last year, after rebuilding the cabin by hand using Passive House principles — an airtight envelope with lots of insulation — Muller and Klubnick moved in.

Their electricity bills average \$150 a month. They don’t use gas or oil. The lot is too shaded for solar, so they joined a solar farm program that saves them 10 percent on their electricity supply.

The couple met in 2017 and started searching for a home during the pandemic. They had a budget of \$250,000 and wanted two or three bedrooms. That priced them out of the Highlands, and they considered the Catskills, Vermont and Maine. But Muller grew up in Cold Spring and Klubnick, a baker, grew up in Putnam Valley, so they wanted to stay local. They settled on Plan B: “Buy the worst house in the neighborhood and fix it up,” said Klubnick.

That turned out to be the clapboard cottage, owned by Judy and John Allen. It was built in 1938 as a summer retreat for Al Palermo and his cousin John Viscardi, a New York City engineer who, according to Allen family lore, worked on the Manhattan Proj-



The cottage as it appeared before Muller and Klubnick began to renovate

Photo provided

ect. The Allens raised two children in the home, including Rosie, who was born on the pull-out couch with the help of two friends, one of whom was a nurse. Rosie became Klubnick’s best friend from down the road.

In 1997, the Allens built a larger home on the 25-acre property and offered the cottage to renters or “people whose marriages were breaking up,” Judy Allen said. The last tenant, a hoarder, left the place in disrepair in 2019.

The Allens were thrilled to sell the cottage to Muller and Klubnick. Klubnick’s late mother, Maaikie Hoekstra, had been a close friend who helped found the nearby Tompkins Corners Cultural Center. “She’s my fairy godmother,” said Klubnick of Judy Allen.

Muller said the original plan wasn’t to build a high-performance house. But when they realized most of the structure was unsalvageable, they decided to pursue it. “It was ethically important for me,” said

Muller, who majored in environmental studies at Vassar and is president of Sustainable Putnam, which advocates for sustainable communities. “I wanted to walk the walk.”

With its thick walls, insulation and tight envelope, the house requires only one mini-split air-source heat pump. “It’s basically the smallest system you could possibly have,” said Muller. They have not sought Passive House certification so Muller calls it “passive-ish.”

Muller worked on the home full-time from late 2021 through early 2024. Klubnick worked on it full time for about 18 months. “I like working with my hands,” she said. They live with their dogs, Jones and Zorra, and their cats, Suzannah and Birdy. With two bedrooms, there is room for their daughter, due in October. They’ve added framing above the kitchen for more bedrooms, “if the family keeps growing,” Muller said.

AROUND TOWN



▲ **SOUND SALON** – Invisible Collage (with Tamalyn Miller and Craig Chin, shown above) used “a palette of electronic, acoustic and handcrafted instruments” to create an immersive sound experience at the Beehive in Beacon on June 24. People were invited to lie on mats and listen.

Photo by Ross Corsair

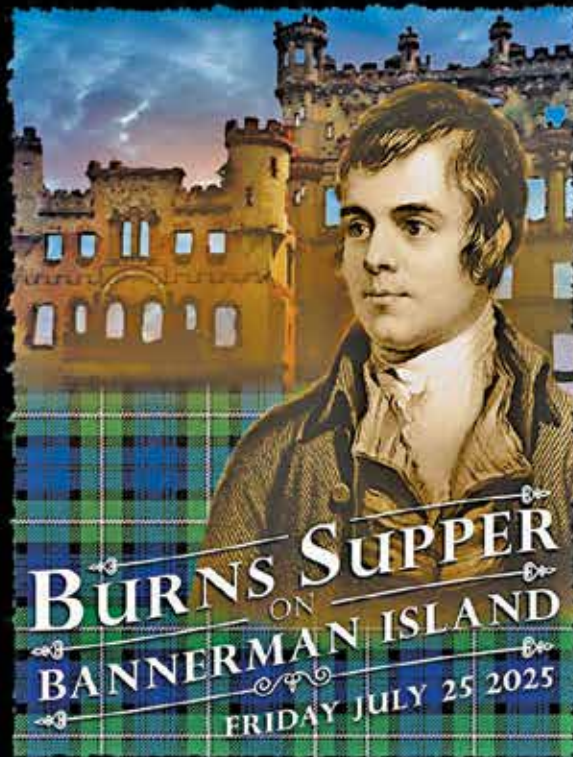


◀ **NEW REGENT** – The Melzingah Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, based in Beacon, last month installed its 2025-28 officers, with AnnMarie Griffith (right) succeeding Nancy Giordano (left) as regent. The chapter was formed in 1895 and owns and operates the Madam Brett homestead. Photo provided

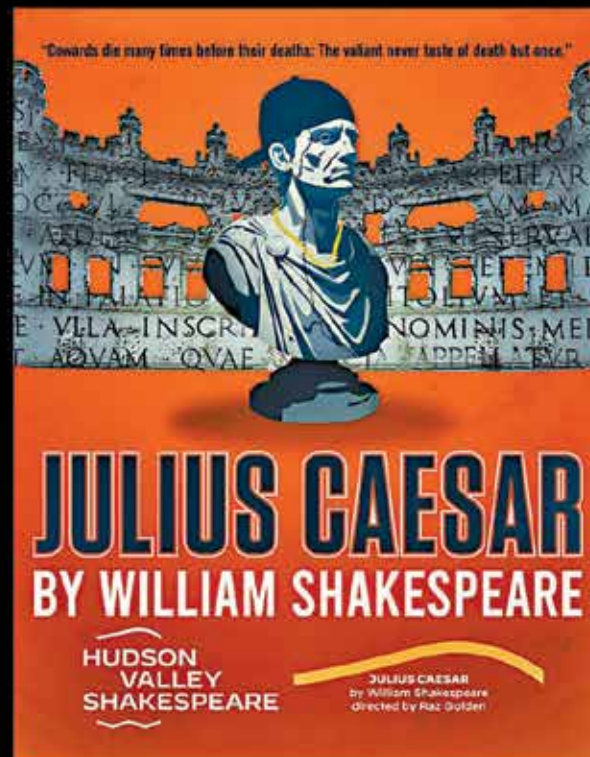


▲ **PATRIOTIC SERVICE** – The annual July 4 ceremony at the Mekeel's Corner Chapel at Routes 9 and 301 in Philipstown included songs and hymns and the reading of founding documents. The chapel was built in 1867. Photo by Ross Corsair

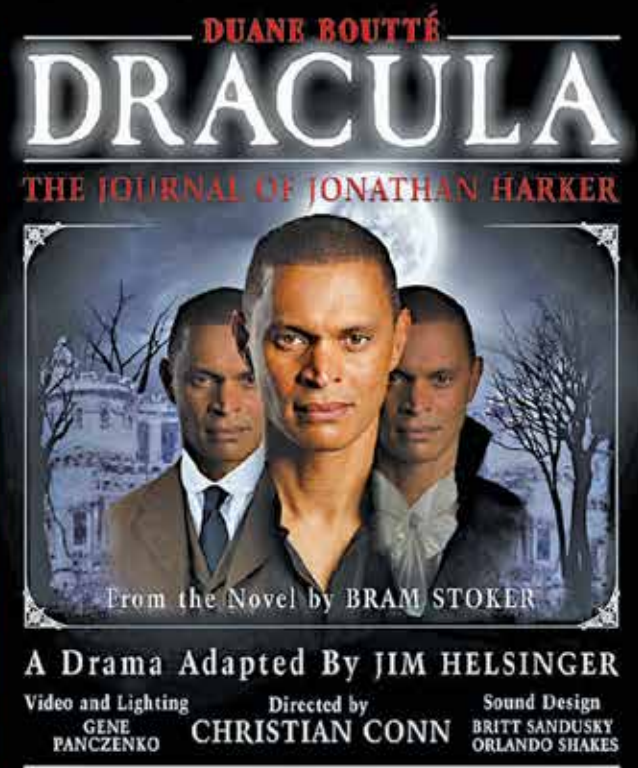
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July 25



September 11-13



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**Council on
the Arts**

The Calendar

DOLLY IS BACK IN TOWN

HVS goes to source of hit film shot in Garrison

By Marc Ferris

During the Great Depression, Thornton Wilder wrote a play called *The Merchant of Yonkers*, which flopped. Revising it in the 1950s as *The Matchmaker*, it might also have passed as *The Taming of the Scrooge*, as miserly and miserable businessman Horace Vandergelder repents at the end.

This is the raw material that Broadway impresario David Merrick turned into the musical *Hello, Dolly!*, which debuted in 1964, won 10 Tony Awards and ran for 2,844 performances (*The Matchmaker* played 486 times on Broadway).

Though the story is set in Yonkers (and Manhattan), producers for the 1969 Hollywood version shot several scenes at Garrison's Landing in part because Vandergelder indicates that the train station is less than a minute from his house.

A yellowing window decoration created for the movie set is still preserved on the ground floor of a brick office building that served as an inn during the 1800s, when the play takes place.

The Matchmaker is a subversive screed against greed that critiques capitalism, champions adventure (mentioned 17 times) and calls for the redistribution of wealth: Money, says Nance Williamson, who portrays Dolly Levi in the ongoing Hudson Valley Shakespeare production, "is like manure; it's not worth a thing unless it's spread around encouraging young things to grow."

Letting emerging painter Ambrose Kemper (Blaize Adler-Ivanbrook) in on her plan to marry Vandergelder and free up the hoarder's lucre, she says that the value of cash is to trickle "like rainwater. It should be flowing down among the people."

The play also explores the toll that work

takes on the toilers, unable to live a life with much leisure or pleasure. When Manhattan hat shop owner Irene Molloy (Helen Cespedes) loses herself dancing and imbibing at the fancy Harmonia Gardens restaurant, she says, "to think that this goes on in

hundreds of places every night while I sit at home darning my stockings."

It's worse for Cornelius Hackl (Carl Howell), chief clerk at Vandergelder's hay, feed and provisions store, who awakens at 6 a.m. and closes shop at 9 p.m. He sleeps in the

bran room and only gets Sundays off.

When Hackl, 33, asks for another evening to himself after getting an ersatz promotion, Vandergelder (Kurt Rhoads) tells his charge that he should get up earlier and close the shop at 10 p.m.: "If I'd had evenings free [as a young man], I wouldn't be what I am now!" he thunders, with irony.

The grueling work schedule hinders Hackl's personal life and he finds it difficult to speak with women in a social setting. In rebellion, he talks his apprentice Barnaby Tucker (Tyler Bey) into playing hooky and heading into Manhattan — vowing not to return until they've kissed a woman.

According to the script notes, "farces are notoriously tricky to stage." After spotting Vandergelder (who is visiting the city to propose to Molloy), they duck into her hat shop. Things get hairy when the wayward clerks are inevitably discovered.

As directed by Davis McCallum, HVS's artistic director, several scenes feature the stage and house filled with actors screaming, running amok and almost colliding with each other.

The book is peppered with witty jokes and pithy insights, but the main comedic thrust rests in the situations and shenanigans. As Miss Flora Van Huysen, upon whose townhouse everyone descends during the wee hours, Katie Hartke channels a humorous Nora Desmond from *Sunset Boulevard*.

Like *The Comedy of Errors*, the other offering at HVS through early August, *The Matchmaker* unfolds like a zany sitcom and concludes on a high note: Clerk Hackl finds a wife, the artist Kemper is approved to marry Vandergelder's niece and Dolly gets to spread the manure around. All's well that ends well.

Hudson Valley Shakespeare is located at 2015 Route 9 in Philipstown. Tickets are \$10 to \$100 at hvshakespeare.org or at the door. *The Matchmaker* runs on select evenings through Aug. 3.



Nance Williamson plays Dolly Levi in *The Matchmaker*.

Photos by Gabe Palacio/HVS



The Matchmaker is being performed during HVS's last season under the tent.



Kurt Rhoads, Nance Williamson and Helen Cespedes in *The Matchmaker*

THE WEEK AHEAD

COMMUNITY

SUN 13
Civil Disobedience Workshop
BEACON
11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Beahive | 6 Eliza St. 845-418-3731 | dub.sh/beahive-events
Alexis Danzig, a co-founder of Rise and Resist, will lead this training on using nonviolent pressure to create change.

SUN 13
Electric House Party
PHILIPSTOWN
4 p.m. Private home
climatesmartphilipstown.org
Climate Smart Philipstown will host this meet-and-greet with local homeowners who have made energy-efficient upgrades, including heat pumps, an induction stove and rooftop solar. Register online. Also SUN 20.

TUES 15
Meet the Editor
COLD SPRING
6:30 – 8 p.m. Highlands Current 142 Main St.
Chip Rowe, editor of *The Current*, will be on hand to discuss the paper's coverage. Register by MON 14 by emailing lcook@highlandscurrent.org.

WED 16
CPR Training
COLD SPRING
2 p.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org
Refresh your skills for chest compressions and emergency response with Dr. Pang Lam. This is not a certification course.

WED 16
Meet the Reporter
BEACON
6:30 – 8 p.m. Beahive | 6 Eliza St.
Brian PJ Cronin will discuss his environmental coverage for *The Current* and other topics. Register by MON 14 by emailing lcook@highlandscurrent.org.

SAT 19
Indigo Dyeing Workshop
GARRISON
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Garrison Art Center 23 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3960
garrisonartcenter.org/upaw-at-gac
Katrin Reifeiss will demonstrate how to use natural dye in the Japanese shibori method. Bring a textile to dye. *Cost: \$10 per item*



Indigo Dyeing Workshop, July 19

NATURE & OUTDOORS

SUN 13
Mead Farm Hike
CARMEL
9 a.m. & 1 p.m. Dunkin' | 1090 Route 52
putnamhistorymuseum.org
Susan Allport, author of *Sermons in Stone: The Stone Walls of New England and New York*, will lead a tour of stone chambers and discuss the area. Meet in the parking lot. *Cost: \$15 (\$12 members)*

SAT 19
Family Hike
PHILIPSTOWN
9:30 a.m. Fahnestock State Park 1088 Cold Spring Turnpike
cceputnamcounty.org
Master Gardeners will lead this family hike on a scenic loop at Pelton Pond. Registration required. *Free*

SAT 19
Garden Tour
NEWBURGH
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Historical Society 189 Montgomery St. | 845-561-2585
newburghhistoricalsociety.org
The tour begins at Crawford House and will include private and community gardens. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SAT 19
Summer Quarry Picnic
PHILIPSTOWN
3 p.m. Manitoga | 584 Route 9D 845-424-3812 | visitmanitoga.org
Enjoy a bento box picnic while exploring the quarry sites. *Cost: \$75*

TALKS & TOURS

SAT 12
InVASive Arrangements
BEACON
10 a.m. The River Center 8 Long Dock Road | soonisnow.org
Andrew Brehm and Jennifer Lauren Smith, artists-in-residence for Soon is Now, will lead a walk along the river to find materials to make an ikebana-style vase and plants to fill it. Ages 12 and older. *Cost: \$30*

SAT 12
Sermons in Stone
COLD SPRING
5 p.m. Putnam History Museum 63 Chestnut St.
putnamhistorymuseum.org
Susan Allport, author of *Sermons in Stone: The Stone Walls of New England and New York*, will share a story that begins in the Ice Age and

was shaped by fencing dilemmas of the 19th century. *Cost: \$15 (\$12 members, \$10 virtual)*

SUN 13
Catherine Gonick
PUTNAM VALLEY
3 p.m. Tompkins Corners C.C. 729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org
The poet will read from her latest collection, *Split Daughter of Eve*, followed by an open mic. *Cost: \$10*

WED 16
Kurt Hoelting
GARRISON
1 p.m. Via Zoom | garrisoninstitute.org
In this Pathways to Planetary Health forum hosted by the Garrison Institute, the author of *Apprentice to the Wild* will speak about Zen practice and nature's wisdom.

THURS 17
Gelli Printing
BEACON
5 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
Adults can learn how to press a gelatin plate to create an image.

THURS 17
Dress Your Best: Color Analysis
GARRISON
6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
Dana Hammond will discuss how to choose wardrobe colors that emphasize your attributes.

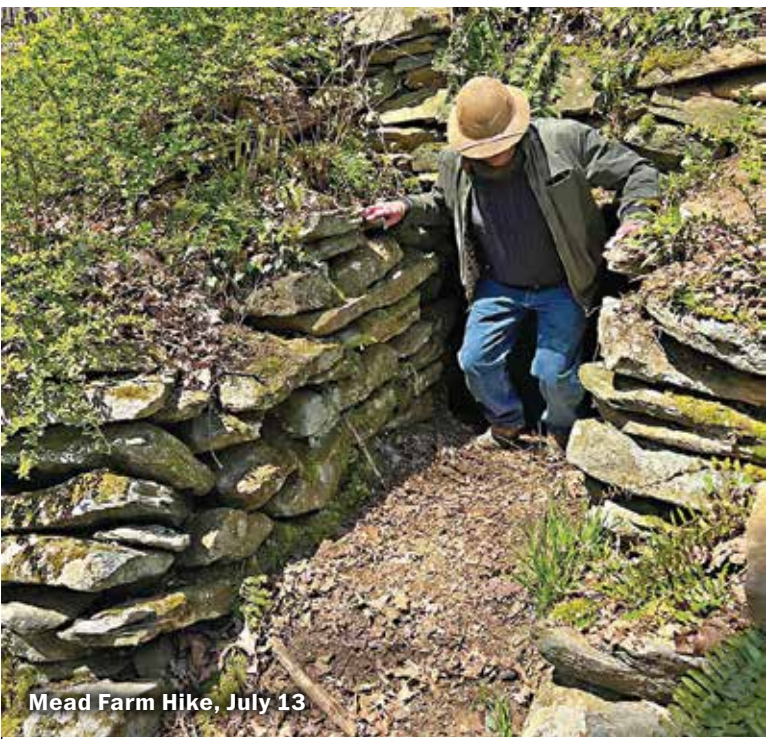
FRI 18
Unravelling Slavery in New York
POUGHKEEPSIE
7 p.m. Via Zoom
mhahp.vassarspaces.net
At this event hosted by the Mid-Hudson Anti-Slavery History Project, David Gellman of DePauw University, the author of *Emancipating New York*, will discuss slavery in the state from 1777 to 1827, when it was legally abolished.

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 12
Harold Sings His Way Home
GARRISON
11 a.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
Nancy Hershatter will lead children ages 3 to 7 as they guide Harold (from *Harold and the Purple Crayon*) home.



WED 16
Pixel Party
BEACON
4 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
Tweens and teens are invited to bring a game or play with the library's Nintendo Switch. Registration required.



Mead Farm Hike, July 13

FRI 18
Colorful Collage Boxes
GARRISON
11 a.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
Bring your own materials or use the library's to create a personalized storage box.

SAT 19
Mastodons, Cavemen and Bears — Oh My!
GARRISON
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
Paleontologists Mike and Roberta Straka will present an interactive Ice Age show that includes a dig for bones.

VISUAL ART

SAT 12
Lauren Versel
COLD SPRING
4 – 6 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery 121 Main St. | busterlevigallery.com
The artist's solo show, *A.I. Dating*, includes her abstract paintings. Through July 27.

SUN 13
Greg Slick
PHILIPSTOWN
2 p.m. Ligenza Moore Gallery 78 Trout Brook Road
ligenzamooregallery.com
The artist will discuss his work on view in *Destination Earth*.

THURS 17
Upstate Art Weekend
upstateartweekend.org
The annual festival includes exhibits, talks and performances in 10 counties in the Catskills and Hudson Valley, including in Philipstown and Beacon. Through MON 21. See Page 16.

SAT 19
Margaret Inga Urías
BEACON
3 p.m. BAU Gallery 506 Main St. | baugallery.org
The artist will discuss her

drawings and etched glass traces in *Vanishing Hour*.

SAT 19
Line Load
BEACON
5 – 7 p.m. Mother Gallery 1154 North Ave. | 845-236-6039
mothergallery.art
This group show, which explores abstraction, will include works by Kerri Ammirata, Trudy Benson, Lauren Anaïs Hussey, Meg Lipke and Paola Oxo. Through Aug. 16.

SUN 20
Every Rose
PUTNAM VALLEY
2 – 4 p.m. Tompkins Corners C.C. 729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org
Carol Benisatto, who lives in Putnam Valley, will share her paintings of female figures. Through Aug. 29.

SECOND SATURDAY

SAT 12
Allegra Jordan
BEACON
4 – 7 p.m. Super Secret Projects 484 Main St. | supersecretprojects.com
For her solo show *Desire Melt*, Jordan uses painting and sculpture to explore the intersection of desire and fate. Through Aug. 2.

SAT 12
Open Studios Group Show
BEACON
5 – 7 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass 162 Main St. | beaconopenstudios.com
The show will feature works by artists who participated in Beacon Open Studios. Through Aug. 3.

SAT 12
Margaret Inga Urías | Soli Pierce
BEACON
6 – 8 p.m. BAU Gallery | 506 Main St. 845-440-7584 | baugallery.org
In Gallery 1, see a group show, *Ephemeral*. Urías' drawings and etched glass are on view in

Vanishing Hour in Gallery 2. Pierce's exploration, *Chasing Light*, is in the Beacon Room. Through Aug. 3.

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 12
The Matchmaker
PHILIPSTOWN

7:30 p.m. Hudson Valley Shakespeare
2015 Route 9 | 845-265-9575
hvshakespeare.org

Nance Williamson stars as Dolly Levi in the Thornton Wilder play that inspired the 1969 film *Hello, Dolly!* Also WED 16, FRI 18, SUN 20. See Page 11. *Cost: \$10 to \$100*

SAT 12
Paddington in Peru
POUGHKEEPSIE

8 p.m. Upper Landing Park
83 N. Water St.
facebook.com/MoviesUnderTheWalkway

Watch the 2024 animated film about the beloved bear on a big adventure. *Free*

SUN 13
The Comedy of Errors
PHILIPSTOWN

7:30 p.m. Hudson Valley Shakespeare
2015 Route 9 | 845-265-9575
hvshakespeare.org

Shakespeare's comedy includes two sets of twins separated at birth and searching for soulmates. Also THURS 17, SAT 19. *Cost: \$10 to \$100*



THURS 17
Mystery of the Wax Museum
COLD SPRING

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

Watch the 1933 film, one of the first horror films shot in color, as part of the library's Color Your World summer reading program.

FRI 18
Nerd Nite Hudson Valley
BEACON

7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
hudsonvalley.nerdnite.com

Former FBI agent James Gagliano, sociology professor Catherine Tan and mathematician Joe Kazemi will lead presentations. *Cost: \$15*

FRI 18
Peekskill Riots
COLD SPRING

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

Watch Episode 1 of a documentary series about the racist violence that broke out when white supremacists attacked people attending a Paul Robeson concert in 1949. The filmmaker, Jon Scott Bennet, will attend.

FRI 18
Lips Together, Teeth Apart
WAPPINGERS FALLS

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

Watch the Terrence McNally comedy set in 1990 at Fire Island about two couples sharing a house over the July 4 weekend. Also SAT 19, SUN 20, FRI 25, SAT 26. *Cost: \$26 (\$24 seniors, military, students)*

SAT 19
Taking Venice
PHILIPSTOWN

8 p.m. Magazzino Italian Art
2700 Route 9 | magazzino.art
The Cinema in Piazza series returns with this 2023 documentary about a scheme to get Robert Rauschenberg the top prize at the 1964 Venice Biennale. *Cost: \$20*

SUN 20
The Garden of the Finzi-Continis
PHILIPSTOWN

8 p.m. Magazzino Italian Art
2700 Route 9 | magazzino.art
The Cinema in Piazza series continues with this drama, which won the 1972 Academy Award for best foreign-language film. Based on a semi-autobiographical novel by George Bassani, it follows a wealthy Jewish family living in Italy just before and during World War II. *Cost: \$20*

MUSIC

SAT 12
Lyra Music Guest Artists
BEACON

2 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
lyramusic.org

Amy Schroeder (violin), Julia Yang (cello) and Michael Stephen Brown (piano) will play works by Beethoven, Haydn, Kodaly and Smetana. *Cost: \$30*

SAT 12
Swing du Jour
PUTNAM VALLEY

6 p.m. Tompkins Corners C.C.
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org
The gypsy jazz band includes Howie Carlough (violin), Norman Plankey (rhythm guitar), Danny Elias (clarinet), Jamie Doris (upright bass) and Luke Hendon (guitar). *Cost: \$25*

SAT 12
Last Minute Soulmates
BEACON

7:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The band will be joined by the Robert Hill Band with Simone Rae and Jonathan Frith. *Cost: \$20 minimum food and drink*

SUN 13
Nicoletta Todesco
COLD SPRING

6 p.m. 10 Whitehill Place
dub.sh/HV-house-concert
The classical guitarist, singer and composer will perform as part of Sandy McKelvey's Hudson Valley House Concert Project. *Cost: \$25*



(Continued on Page 14)

MUSIC  ST MARY'S



L'Amore della Musica
Woodwind Quintet

Richard Paratley, Flute Simeon Loring, Clarinet
Dorothy Darlington, Oboe Jonathan Watkins, Bassoon
Sigruh Kahl, Horn

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THE WEEK AHEAD

(Continued from Page 13)

SUN 13
SIRSY
BEACON
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The rock-and-soul duo will be joined by Annalyse and Ryan. *Cost: \$25*

THURS 17
Dream Song
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Savage Wonder
139 Main St. | savagewonder.org
Tara O'Grady (vocals) and Daniel Kelly (piano) will improvise to turn dreams into music.

FRI 18
Sharkey & The Sparks
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The band will play covers of music from the 1960s and '70s. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SAT 19
L'Amore della Musica
COLD SPRING
2 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St.
musicatstmarys.com
The woodwind quintet — Richard Paratley (flute), Simeon Loring (clarinet), Dorothy Darlington (oboe), Jonathan Watkins (bassoon) and

Sigrun Kahl (horn) — will perform everything from classical masterworks to Romanian folk music to songs from the movies. Donations welcome. *Free*

SAT 19
Eternal Melodies
WEST POINT
7:30 p.m. Trophy Point
westpointband.com
The West Point Concert Band will honor heroism and the power of music to preserve memories. *Free*

SAT 19
The NightTimes
BEACON
8 p.m. Industrial Arts | 511 Fishkill Ave.
industrialartsbrewing.com
The psych-garage band from Brooklyn will perform.

SAT 19
Dick Griffin Quartet
BEACON
8:30 p.m. St. Rita's Music Room
85 Eliza St. | saintritasmusicroom.com
The trombonist and his band will perform at this new venue. *Cost: \$45*

SAT 19
The Best of the '70s
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Dizzyfish and the Uptown Horns will play rock hits from the era. *Cost: \$45 (\$50 door)*



Rachael Sage & The Sequins, July 20

SUN 20
Tony De Paolo
BEACON
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Bannerman Island
845-831-6346 | bannermancastle.org
Enjoy music by the guitarist and singer while taking a self-guided tour of the island. Boats leave the Beacon dock.

SUN 20
Duo Scorpio
COLD SPRING
4 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.org
Harpists Kathryn Andrews and Kristi Shade will perform commissioned works by Andy Akiho, Nico Muhly and Robert Paterson

and compositions for two harps by Caroline Lizotte and Bernard Andr s. Donations welcome. *Free*



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

SUN 20
Rachael Sage & The Sequins
BEACON
6 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org
The band will play music from its upcoming release, *Just Enough*. *Cost: \$20*

SUN 20
Guy Davis, Pete Muller and Cassandra Kubinsk
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
As part of the Songwriters in the Round series, the musicians will play off each other's harmonies. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

CIVIC
WED 16
Village Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

WED 16
Village Board
NELSONVILLE
7 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St.
845-265-2500 | nelsonvilleny.gov

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Weekend 1

Saturday, July 19, 2025
Taking Venice
by Amei Wallach, 2023, 98 min.
Pre-screening interviews
with Annina Nosei and Mario Fasani.

Sunday, July 20, 2025
Il Giardino dei Finzi Contini
(The Garden of the Finzi-Continis)
by Vittorio De Sica, 1970, 95 min.

Weekend 2

Saturday, August 23, 2025
L'uomo che compr  la Luna
(The Man Who Bought The Moon)
by Paolo Zucca, 2018, 102 min.

Sunday, August 24, 2025
C'  ancora domani
(There's Still Tomorrow)
by Paola Cortellesi, 2023, 118 min.

Doors open at 5 p.m.
Screenings begin at dusk

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Searching for Clues

Haldane seniors must complete internships. One decided to shadow a police officer.

By Michael Turton

Crystal Timmons, who lives in Nelsonville and graduated last month from Haldane High School, loves clues. This fall, she will be attending Alfred State College in western New York to study forensic science.

"It would be cool to be at a crime scene, put all the pieces together and to try to figure out what actually happened," she said.

Before graduating on June 13, Timmons and 71 other Haldane seniors had to spend three weeks at part-time internships. They choose employers in fields ranging from architecture, theater and agriculture to cabinetmaking, recreation and HVAC, the school said.

Timmons asked Haldane's school resource officer, Deputy Anthony Tolve, about interning with the Putnam County Sheriff's Office. He and Matt Jackson, the officer-in-charge of the Cold Spring Police Department, suggested she might get more out of work-



Crystal Timmons worked with Matt Jackson, the officer-in-charge of the Cold Spring Police Department, during her Haldane internship.
Photo by M. Turton

ing closer to home with the CSPD.

In late June, Timmons began working with Jackson, who had her review previous cases that involved forensics — from the time the police department took the call, to an officer's actions at the scene, to the arrival of the sheriff's criminal investigation team and the final report. "That helped me a lot, seeing the different aspects

of police work," Timmons says.

In addition, she found it interesting to review body-camera footage. "I liked seeing what happened at the scene," including at traffic stops, she says.

But she also learned that a lot of police work takes place behind a desk. Jackson assigned Timmons to review files to find information he needed to submit to the Sheriff's Office.

"There were a lot of files," Jackson says.

Jackson wasn't working the day Timmons tackled his stack. When he returned, he couldn't believe she had finished. "I was like, 'This is the greatest thing ever!'" he recalled. "She even worked on the day of the prom."

Timmons also worked with Cold Spring Mayor Kathleen Foley, learning how policing fits into village governance, including the process of developing and passing local laws.

"I asked Crystal to review the vehicle and traffic code to identify changes that might be needed to accommodate intersection upgrades proposed by the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council," Foley said. "Her work was thorough and will be incorporated into my proposal to the Village Board."

In addition, Timmons assisted Cathy Costello, the clerk for the Cold Spring Justice Court. "She was a quick learner," Costello said. "I couldn't believe how quickly she got the work done."

Jackson hopes the CSPD can participate in the program again. "It was definitely helpful for me; I hope it helped Crystal figure out her career path," he said.

Timmons said the experience was fun, but added, with a laugh: "I think I'd like to work in the field rather than in an office!"



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Preview: Upstate Art Weekend

*Local galleries and studios
schedule openings, events*

By Marc Ferris

Although centered in Kingston, the annual Upstate Art Weekend on July 17-21 will stretch south to the Highlands. Several exhibits, along with a new music venue and a video arts gallery in Beacon, will debut.

In Philipstown, Manitoga introduces an annual Arts + Residency install of fiber, wood and clay works in black and white. Curator Alyson Baker, founder and executive director of the River Valley Arts Collective, will discuss the exhibit, *All the Light and Shadow*, at 2 p.m. on July 19. See visitmanitoga.org/2025-ar-all-the-light-and-shadow.

On Main Street in Cold Spring, Studio Tashtego will host a panel discussion at 5 p.m. on July 19 with four ceramic artists, including Elizabeth Blake (whose work is on display), David Moldover of The Newburgh Pottery, Brad Lail from Catskill and Beacon resident Emil Alzamora. See studiotashtego.com.

The weekend marks the coming out of



Algernon Miller will speak at KuBe on July 19.

Photos provided

Shigeko Kubota Video Art Foundation, which has operated a restoration studio at 20 West Main St. in Beacon since 2017. Starting on July 17, it will offer studio tours and unveil the inaugural exhibition in its new gallery (formerly occupied by Analog Diary) that is dedicated to the work of Kubota and her husband, Nam June Paik, pioneers of video-oriented installs in the 1960s. See shigekokubotavideoartfoundation.org.

On Long Dock, Soon is Now will host a reception from 5 to 6:30 p.m. on July 19, followed by a performance in conjunction

with the Goudy Wildlife Club, for an exhibit by its first artists-in-residence, Andrew Brehm and Jennifer Lauren Smith. Smith's pieces are collaged flowers gathered at Brooklyn's historic Greenwood Cemetery that reflect "the irony of achieving longevity through artificiality," while Brehm constructed a site-specific sculpture using marine foam and other river detritus. See soonisnow.org/events-2-1.

KuBe Art Center will feature a full weekend of programming and exhibits, including areas at the former Beacon High School that are typically closed to the public.



A sculpture by Emil Alzamora

The Graffiti Room, curated by Ray Arcadio, will present a group show of global contemporary artists. The reorganized Art Library is a spiffy research spot to explore the accomplishments of KuBe owner Ethan Cohen's parents, experts in Chinese art and culture. And Kelly Ellenwood and family transformed a former band space into St. Rita's Music Room, a new nightclub that will host Broadway in Beacon on July 18 and the Dick Griffin Quartet on July 19 (see saintritasmusicroom.com).

KuBe will also host two Distinguished Artist Lecture Series talks, each followed by a reception. At 6 p.m. on July 18, new Beacon residents Mickalene Thomas and Derrick Adams will share a preview of the forthcoming exhibit, *The Secret Life of Plants*; for free tickets, see dub.sh/thomas-adams.

At 6 p.m. on July 19, Algernon Miller, who hobnobbed with Andy Warhol, Ornette Coleman and Sun Ra, will discuss Afrofuturism. He will speak in the third-floor gallery space, where some of his far-out paintings will be on display. For free tickets, see dub.sh/algernon-miller.

Living in the East Village during the heady 1960s, Miller and a few buddies "understood that what we're being told on the subject of history is not our complete history, so we spent a lot of time at Wesler's bookstore studying the occult, mysticism and spirituality in pursuit of truth and knowledge," he says.

Miller invited Griffin, the trombonist for Sun Ra's free jazz ensemble, the Arkestra, to play at the opening of his solo exhibition at Cohen's gallery in Manhattan. It's no accident that Griffin is headlining the inaugural concert at St. Rita's Music Room on July 19.

Miller, a laconic and laid-back professional artist since the 1960s, plans to speak for around an hour. "I'm a quiet painting guy, and it won't be a formal talk, but if you get me started on certain topics, I can get on a roll," he says. "I've seen several iterations of a lot."

For more information about Upstate Art Weekend, which includes 158 participants in 10 counties in the Catskills and Hudson Valley, see upstateartweekend.org.

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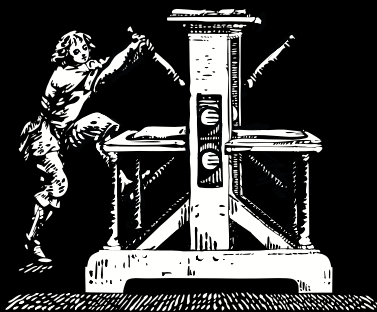
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How Clean is Our Air?

Scientists install first public monitors

By Brian PJ Cronin

Eli Dueker pointed to a projected map of the U.S. covered in green dots.

Each represented a sensor used to produce air-quality reports on hot summer days, or when Canadian wildfire smoke blows south into New York.

“Notice this Hudson Valley-shaped hole here?” asked Dueker, the director of Bard College’s Center for Environmental Sciences and Humanities, during a presentation in Poughkeepsie. There were no green dots.

Desiree Lyle, who manages the Community Sciences Lab at Bard, explained that the lack of local sensors means that apps must rely on data from elsewhere “and come up with an algorithm that approximates what the air quality might be in the Hudson Valley.”

This is the problem that Bard is working on through its Hudson Valley Community Air Network (dub.sh/hvair-network). The lab has so far installed four sensors that provide real-time data through justair.app, a website created by JustAir, an environmental justice technology company.

The devices, which also measure air



Eli Dueker, Quincy Ross and Desiree Lyle installed a PurpleAir sensor outside the Red Hook Public Library. Photo by Julia Beeman

temperature and humidity, are located at Bard near Red Hook, Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, the Andy Murphy Neighborhood Center in Kingston and the roof of the Adriance Memorial Library in Poughkeepsie, where the June 24 event was held.

The program came about after Kingston’s Conservation Advisory Council asked Dueker where they could get data on air quality to identify the largest sources of local pollution. Due to the lack of sensors, there was no data.

Darren Riley, a computer scientist who co-founded JustAir, had run into the same problem. After moving to Detroit from

Houston, where he grew up, Riley developed asthma. His new Michigan neighborhood was within one of the most polluted ZIP codes in the country, and many residents struggled with respiratory health issues even before the pandemic swept through.

Riley said that when the community asked local officials to address the air pollution, they kept hearing in response that there was no scientific data to prove that the neighborhood was polluted. He helped create JustAir to obtain it.

Along with the four sensors mentioned earlier, Bard has installed about a dozen

air-quality monitors made by PurpleAir in the doorways of Hudson Valley libraries. “It’s another way that libraries continue to be bastions of knowledge,” said Dueker.

The data from those monitors is posted by PurpleAir online. There are only a few of the company’s sensors in the Highlands, with a notable exception being the tent at Hudson Valley Shakespeare. But they come with challenges. They start at \$275 each and are placed wherever someone feels like putting one up; Riley said that he’s seen the sensors on back porches next to charcoal grills. And because PurpleAir owns the data, it could disappear if the company shuts down or is sold.

PurpleAir charges \$500 in annual licensing fees per sensor to allow its data to be posted on a public website such as JustAir. That’s a steep price, but over the past few months, the Trump administration has removed an enormous amount of public climate data. “There’s no way the Environmental Protection Agency can be with you everywhere you go to make sure that you’re safe and healthy,” said Dueker. “The only folks who can do that are the people who live and breathe and work and drink water in the town or the city that you live in.”

During the Poughkeepsie presentation, Riley displayed a map of the JustAir network in Detroit. The sensor readings were shown as brown, reflecting one of the worst possible ratings. “This is what we mean by environmental justice,” he said. “For some people, the world is already on fire.”



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Michael Gilligan (1936-2025)

Michael George Gilligan, a film and video editor of award-winning documentaries, died after a massive brain bleed, the result of a brain aneurysm on Monday, July 7, 2025, at the age of 88.



Mr. Gilligan was an award-winning editor and a founding partner of Hudson River Film & Video (hudsonriverfilm.org), along with his wife, Sonja Carl Gilligan, and Chuck and Michelle Clifton.

Born on Oct. 30, 1936, and raised in Nebraska City, Nebraska, Mike was the youngest child born to John Philip Gilligan, Jr. MD, a physician and surgeon, and Whilma Snyder Gilligan, a homemaker. James Gilligan MD and John Philip Gilligan, III were his two older brothers. Mike attended public schools except when his mother became sick and he and Jim both attended a Catholic boarding school, St. Bernard’s Academy, for two years. Later, for his junior year in high school, Mike attended The Lawrenceville School in New Jersey.

Mr. Gilligan was in the Class of 1958, when he graduated from the Art Institute of Chicago. It was there that he met the love of his life, fellow art student Sonja Carl. He moved to New York City following his graduation. Later, Sonja joined him and they married on June 24, 1961. In 1964 they bought a beautiful carriage house in Garrison, New York, and began turning what used to be a barn into a home. Mike worked as a professional still photographer for several years.

Mike and Sonja began running encounter group therapy sessions for psychiatrist Dan Casriel, known for starting the Daytop Village treatment centers in the late 1960s. The Gilligans founded their own relationship therapy groups called ‘Fusion Groups’ in the 1970s. Many actors and artists were involved, including Olympia Dukakis and Louis Zorich, among others.

In the early 1970s, Chuck Clifton was planning to film a documentary. Chuck asked Mike if he would like to shoot second camera and then help him edit the film. Mike fell in love with film editing. This sparked the creation of the Hudson River Film & Video Company. Two married couples, the Cliftons and the Gilligans, worked together for over 45 years producing documentaries for public television. Award-winning productions include Christina’s World, narrated by Julie Harris (four Emmys); Henry Hudson’s River: A Biography, narrated by Orson Welles (Emmy); Metro: Manhattan Chowder, narrated by Colleen Dewhurst; Manhood & Violence: Fatal Peril and Jail Talk, documentaries on restorative justice; and Prudence Crandall, Heroine of CT, among others.

On Monday, July 7, the sun set on a wonderful man, husband, father and friend. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. He is survived by his wife, Sonja Carl Gilligan. The Gilligans lost their only child, Patrick Hugo Gilligan, on Jan. 18, 1990, due to a brain tumor, just before his 25th birthday. Mike’s brother, Dr. James Gilligan (Carol Gilligan), survives him. Another brother, John Philip Gilligan III, predeceased him.

Friends called on Thursday July 10, 2025, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Clinton Funeral Home, 21 Parrott St., in Cold Spring, New York. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, July 11, 2025, at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Loretto Church, 24 Fair St., Cold Spring. Interment will follow in Cold Spring Cemetery.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Clinton Funeral Home – Cold Spring.



Patricia Guest (1933-2025)

Patricia Faulkner Guest died peacefully at her home in Nelsonville, New York, on Sunday, June 22, 2025, surrounded by her loving family. She was 92.

Mrs. Guest was born April 18, 1933, in Pensacola, Florida, to Ira Thomas Faulkner, the assistant postmaster for the City of Pensacola, and Margaret Rauscher Faulkner, a devoted mother and homemaker. She adored and was adored by her older sister, Hilda, and brother, John.

She attended public schools in Pensacola, graduating from Pensacola High School in 1951. During junior high school and high school, she played clarinet in school bands and met another clarinet player named Gareth Guest. After high school graduation, she studied for two years at Valparaiso University in Indiana before completing her bachelor’s degree at George Peabody College in Nashville, Tennessee.

In September 1954, she and Gareth were married. They lived in Nashville, Tennessee, for one year, then moved to Madison, Wisconsin, where Gareth pursued his PhD in physics. They had three children as they moved from Wisconsin to Texas to Tennessee, finally making their home in La Jolla, California for 35 years. Mrs. Guest relocated across the country in 2007 to Nelsonville, New York, to be close to her youngest daughter and help care for her two youngest grandchildren.

Mrs. Guest was a passionate supporter of the arts and a committed social activist. She taught piano to children and adults for several decades and served as the manager of the San Diego Civic Youth Orchestra for many years. She founded and ran Open Door Books, a successful bookstore in San Diego. Her strong passion for bettering the lot of her fellow human beings led her to teach literacy in poor schools, to provide transportation for poor or disabled individuals, to tutor Vietnamese refugees in English, and to take a leadership role in the San Diego chapter of Soroptimist International (winning the Woman of the Year Award in 1996), a volunteer organization supporting women and girls to realize their educational dreams.

She earned a master’s degree in social work from San Diego State University, and for 12 years was the director of the Community Christian Service Agency, providing support to unhoused and needy residents of San Diego County. Through her volunteer and professional life, she impacted the lives of thousands of individuals.

She is survived by her husband of 71 years, Gareth; three nieces (Phyllis, Cheryl and Beth); her son John (Debbie), daughter Allison Nyquist (Craig), and daughter Maia Guest (John Plummer); six grandchildren (Sarah, Rachel, Peter, Kullan, Charlie and James), and six great-grandchildren (Emma, Charlotte, Parker, Hunter, Andrew and Violet).

A memorial service will be held on July 21 beginning at 10 a.m. at the Cold Spring United Methodist Church at 216 Main St., followed by a reception. A burial and funeral service was held in Pensacola, Florida, on July 1 at 11 a.m. at Bayview Memorial Park.

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

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Puzzles

CROSSCURRENT

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53					54				55			

- ACROSS
1. Bump into

5. Small batteries

8. Gush

12. Jai —

13. Wall St. deal

14. Abhor

15. Fish story

16. X, at times

17. “— the picture!”

18. Chevy model

20. Rhine feeder

22. Kindergarten follower

26. Defy authority

29. Make lace

30. PBS funder

31. Grand Ole —

32. Doubtfire or Miniver

33. Dele undoer

34. Corp. boss

35. “Give — break!”

36. Main ideas

37. Renewed energy

40. *Trust Exercise* author Susan

41. Verdi works

45. Tactic

47. Coffee vessel

49. Crimson Tide, briefly

50. Anger

51. French pronoun

52. Mellowed

53. Kimono ties

54. Briny expanse

55. Scarce
- DOWN
1. Polite query

2. Biblical kingdom

3. Lawman Wyatt

4. *30 Rock* creator

5. Wedding setting

6. Prez on a penny

7. Piano compositions

8. Bake eggs

9. Christmas shows

10. Arles summer

11. Drenched

19. Like Abner

21. Literary rep

23. Milkshake insert

24. Bug spray ingredient

25. Diner grub

26. Mythical birds

27. Duel tool

28. Veggie with florets

32. T-shirt sizes

33. Courtroom huddle

35. 6 on a phone

36. Econ. measure

38. “But of course!”

39. Ancient Greek region

42. Sitarist’s music

43. From the U.S.

44. “Maureen” singer

45. Expert

46. Ad- — (improvise)

48. Shad product

SUDOCURRENT

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WORDSEARCH

THEME: Office Life

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

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.

B	U	I	L	D	Buy alternative
					Changed the oil
					Gathered hay
					Plate holder
					Great bargain
					Yoked oxen and horses

Answers for July 4

1. J

2. G

3. E

4. T

5. M

6. A

7. T

8. F

9. O

10. P

11. I

12. O

13. V

14. F

15. U

16. R

17. E

18. A

19. C

20. H

21. I

22. N

23. F

24. O

25. E

26. L

27. I

28. F

29. E

30. R

31. I

32. N

33. E

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35. P

36. R

37. I

38. L

39. R

40. A

41. T

42. O

43. N

44. C

45. E

46. W

47. L

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49. S

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Small, Good Things

Flavor Bombs Away!

By Joe Dizney



The eggplant is an abundant and versatile summer vegetable. Its spongy white flesh, slightly bitter when raw, assumes when cooked a creamy vegetal sweetness that marries well with a host of herbs, spices and flavorings. Global recipes abound, from Africa to Russia, from the Levant through Turkey,

Greece, Italy and France. The most common manifestation is a spiced, chilled purée (*baba ganoush* or Provençal *caviar d'aubergines*), a smooth or rough mash usually served chilled as an appetizer but way more useful. Charring the main ingredient, by roasting or grilling, adds a pleasing smokiness. That's where we begin. To accent the Levantine traditions, as well as to elaborate its inherent sweetness, here the eggplant is roasted and glazed with a bit of sweet-tart pomegranate molasses, and further spiced with cumin, sumac and garlic before being puréed with more of the molasses-and-spice blend plus lemon juice and olive oil. Chilled, the result is labeled here a purée but, in this summer, serves as a cooling dip

for crudités crostini, or as a spread for pitas, naan or other rustic breads. I stumbled on an early and perfectly ripe heirloom tomato at Vera's Marketplace in Philipstown and constructed a more-than-satisfying sandwich of whole-grain toast with the spread purée topped with tomato slices, arugula and a schmear of mayonnaise. Fun fact: Did you know that the French word for pomegranate is *pomme-grenade* — “grenade” from the Old French *grenate*, meaning “seedy.” Following that thread, *pomme-grenade* became the source of our English word *grenade*, describing a hand-thrown weapon that (surprise!) resembles a fruit that explodes into juicy red seeds when opened.



In Memoriam Matt Hutchins

Matt Hutchins, 51, a Newburgh resident and Beacon-area chef, died unexpectedly on June 29. After graduating from the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park and completing a seminal internship at Chez Panisse, Matt (“Matty” to his friends) immediately started a buzz upon landing in 2010 at the Birdsell House in Peekskill. It wasn't long before he moved upriver to Beacon, having success with bold but unfussy locally sourced farmhouse cooking at The Hop at 458 Main and later 554 Main. That now seems like it was the launch of a culinary and cultural boom in Beacon and the surrounding area, and Hutchins became chef or consultant to a litany of hotspots: the restored Beacon Hotel Restaurant, Mama Roux in Newburgh, Dogwood, Quinn's, Untouchable (again in Newburgh) and, most recently, the Hudson Valley Brewery, reuniting with John-Anthony Gargiulo, who had worked with him at The Hop. When news that Hutchins had died began to circulate, a crowd gathered under the trees in the park next to the brewery. Matty was, John-Anthony said, “the center of all the circles.” Hutchins is survived by his wife, Bridget Kenny, and his stepchildren, Quinn, 13, and Luke Baumann, 8, as well as family members in his native Florida: mother Kelly Austin, brothers Adam, Jacob and Christopher and sister Vivian Ward.

— Joe Dizney

Eggplant “Pomme-Grenade” Purée

Makes 1½ to 2 cups

- 1½ to 2 pounds purple eggplant
- Olive oil
- Salt and fresh ground black pepper
- 3 tablespoons pomegranate molasses
- Juice of 1½ lemons
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon ground sumac berries
- ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes



1. Heat oven to 450 degrees. In a bowl or measuring cup, combine 2 tablespoons olive oil, 2 tablespoons pomegranate molasses, 2 tablespoons lemon juice, ½ teaspoon cumin, ½ teaspoon sumac and ¼ teaspoon cinnamon. Whisk to combine. Season to taste with salt and pepper and reserve. Split the eggplant lengthwise. Diagonally crosshatch the cut side about ¼-inch deep and lay face down on a greased baking sheet. Brush the skin side with olive oil and roast for 20 minutes. (Alternately, you could accomplish this on the grill and save yourself from a hot kitchen.)
2. At the 20-minute mark, remove the pan from the oven and flip the halves face side up. Brush with the reserved pomegranate glaze and return to the oven for another 20 to 30 minutes, checking every 10 minutes and brushing with additional glaze. (You want a bit of a char.) Poke the flesh with a fork to check for doneness.
3. Remove pan from the oven and set aside.

- Allow the eggplant time to cool enough to remove the skins. Chop the roasted flesh into manageable chunks and pulse chop it in a food processor to your desired consistency.
4. In a small bowl, fold in and mix the remaining ingredients, plus up to ¼ cup of olive oil. Correct seasoning and cover and refrigerate for at least an hour.
 5. Garnish with pomegranate seeds, chopped pistachios and mint, and serve with a delivery device of your choice.



Duo Scorpio Performs Music for Two Harps

SUNDAY, JULY 20, 4:00 PM

The program features works commissioned by the duo from composers Andy Akiho, Nico Muhly and Robert Paterson, along with compositions for two harps by Caroline Lizotte and Bernard Andrès.

The concert at the historic landmark on the banks of the Hudson River is free; donations are encouraged.

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LAUREN VERSEL



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