



# ThePaper



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Spring forward

FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2016

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## Beacon Planning Board Approves Theater Project

*Other developments also move forward*

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon Planning Board has approved redevelopment plans for the city's historic Main Street Theater, while two new housing projects inched closer to approval this week as well.

The theater has been a mainstay at 445 Main Street since its opening in 1934. After a public hearing last month, the planning board on Tuesday (March 8) granted approval for the redevelopment of the 800-seat theater.

Architect Aryeh Siegel said Wednesday that reconstruction of the site could begin this summer. It will include 32 apartments, many of them one bedroom, behind a renovated 195-seat performance space, which will sit on the building's second floor, atop a first floor lobby. Small retail spaces will be incorporated as well, Siegel said.

Three of the apartments will be affordable housing. Resident parking, a minor sticking point during the planning board's review, will be on Van Nydeck Avenue, behind the building. Van Nydeck will be striped for maximum parking efficiency, although Siegel said he hopes the smaller size of the apartments will attract renters more inclined to (Continued on Page 6)



Outgoing Haldane High School Principal Brian Alm speaks with a group of students.

Photo by M. Turton

## Haldane Principal to Leave

*Brian Alm led high school for nine years*

By Michael Turton

Principal Brian Alm is leaving Haldane High School at the end of the school year to become director of secondary teaching and learning for the Ossining School District. Haldane Superintendent Diana Bowers announced Alm's resignation in a letter to the community on March 8. He has been principal for nine years.

"Everybody needs to grow," Alm told The Paper. "This is a really good opportunity for me, a very good match with my professional interests. There are a lot of innovations happening there and a fluid, innovative environment is where I belong."

Educators often move on to larger school districts after gaining experience in smaller schools. Haldane tried to keep Alm and other senior administrators last summer when, in July, Bowers introduced a reorganization plan, part of which included making Alm assistant superintendent, a new position.

The move was intended to help the district implement its strategic plan, but it was also a pre-emptive strike aimed at keeping Haldane's leadership team intact. However, the community balked. Many questioned the need for an assistant superintendent even though the proposed changes were budget-neutral. The fact that reorganization was proposed mid-summer and on a fast track also raised concerns. In the end, school board trustees, including those who initially supported the idea, voted unanimously not to create the position.

The process to choose Alm's replacement has already begun. Bowers met with students and teachers this week and will soon sit down with parent focus groups to discuss the characteristics they and the community feel candidates should possess. Alm's successor will likely be selected by mid- to late-May, and his or her first day on (Continued on Page 5)

## Council Sends Zoning Petition to Planning Board

*Beacon neighbors want "linkage" dropped*

By Jeff Simms

As expected, the Beacon City Council has referred a petition submitted by a group of residents who would like their neighborhood rezoned to the planning board for review. The council will hold a public hearing sometime before April 16 before ruling on the request.

The parcels named in the petition — two on the west side of South Avenue and five on the west side of Wolcott Avenue (Route 9D) — are all within the "linkage zone" established by the city in 2013 to support businesses on the west end of Main. The seven parcels, however, as well as others directly outside of the linkage zone, also lie within the city's Historic District and Landmark Overlay, which requires owners to receive approval from the planning board for exterior alterations.

The property owners presented their request to the city council last month, asking that it restore the single-family residential zoning that existed prior to the approval of the linkage rezoning in 2013.

The catalyst for the residents' request were plans by Unicorn Contracting Corp. to build a 70-unit development on the lots next to the Reformed Church of Beacon on (Continued on Page 7)



An artist's rendition of The View, a development proposed in Beacon



Beacon Police Chief Douglas Solomon introduced new officer, Trevor Wood.

Photo by Kevin E. Foley



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## Roots and Shoots

## Spring Fever

Gardeners are oh-so-ready

By Pamela Doan

The weather has been so warm and mild that trees are budding and flowers blooming early. A gardener eager to get his or her hands dirty may well ask: Is it okay to start planting and, if so, what should I start with?

Although the recent temperatures have felt more like May than March, the last frost date for our region is May 15. That means spring snowstorms or freezes are not only possible, but likely, and new plants could die or be damaged. Damage could include not blooming or producing fruit, stalled growth and loss of leaves.

Some plants will tolerate frost, but not a heavy snow. The most important factor is soil temperature. The coolest temperature at which some garden crops such as lettuce, kale, spinach, peas, radishes and parsnips will germinate is 40 degrees. Other crops such as onions, Swiss chard and leeks will germinate at 50 degrees. You'll notice these are primarily leafy greens and root vegetables.

After that, we get into the summer vegetables, which will grow at 60 and 70 degrees. Tomatoes fall into the warmest category; unless it's a really warm May, wait and put them in the ground at the

end of the month. They prefer nighttime temperatures of 65 to 70 degrees.

Now is an ideal time to plant trees and shrubs. They can get settled before the hot weather and won't care if there's another cold spell. Watering is the key to success. Water daily or weekly, depending on rainfall.

Soil temperatures also affect grass seed. Wait until it's warmed up to 55 to 65 degrees before re-seeding lawns. If fertilizers are needed — which can only be determined by testing the pH balance of the soil — use Memorial Day and Labor Day as bookends.

Soil thermometers are sold at garden supply stores and landscape centers or online at many big-box retailers. They range in price from \$5 to \$50, depending on features. Most home gardeners just need a basic model.

Row covers will protect crops and warm the soil faster, among other things. Made from fabric that allows the sun's rays to penetrate, the cover will trap heat around plants, block wind and warm the soil faster.

Mulch will also warm the soil and, alternatively, keep it cool in summer. Anything planted now will benefit from mulching and make the gardener's job easier by suppressing weeds and maintaining moisture levels, which means fewer trips with the hose.

For flowers, there are some that can be planted now, but watch the weather fore-



Spring flowers like crocus get us in the mood to garden.

Photo by P. Doan

cast and be ready to cover them if there's a frost warning. Hellebores are hardy and will bloom now.

It's not too late to plant some summer blooming bulbs. Look for varieties of lily, dahlia and gladiolus, among others.

There's one more option to consider for spring planting — cover crops. Cornell University's guide lists medium red clover, yellow mustard and buckwheat as possibilities that can be sown in March and April to reap benefits for the summer growing season. Check the germination and growing lengths on the seed before you buy and plan according to what you intend to put into the garden. Clover is a source of food for native pollinators and can be a sustainable resource, as well.

## Ready, set, plant sales

Stonecrop Garden will host its annual Alpine Plant Sale on April 23 on its grounds in Cold Spring. The garden brings together nurseries from all over the northeast. This is a good opportunity to learn about alpine plants and discover new varieties.

The Native Plant Center at Westchester Community College in Valhalla will hold its annual fundraiser sale on April 30.

Visit [sunywcc.edu/about/npc](http://sunywcc.edu/about/npc) to preview the offerings.

The Philipstown Garden Club annual sale and fundraiser will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on May 7 at the North Highlands Fire Station. It will include many native plants beneficial for pollinators.

The Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Plant Sale is scheduled for May 14 in Brewster. The sale includes vegetables, herbs, native plants, annuals, perennials and garden supplies at very reasonable prices. All varieties are chosen for their viability in local conditions. The extension will also offer free soil pH testing.

The Hudson Highlands Nature Museum in Cornwall will hold its Native Plant Sale on May 21. The museum is taking pre-orders; visit [hnhm.org/index.php/native-plant-sale](http://hnhm.org/index.php/native-plant-sale).

## NY Alert

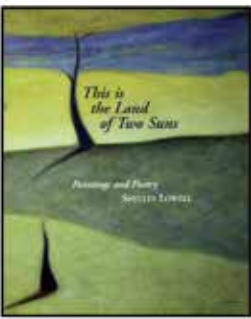


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# Spring Brook Residents Air Parking Woes

## Municipal meters and Haldane among problems

By Michael Turton

It's more the exception than the rule when parking is not discussed at meetings of the Cold Spring Village Board. That tradition continued at the board's March 8 meeting with residents raising parking concerns on two different fronts — the proposed installation of a pay station at the municipal lot on Fair Street and ongoing issues near Haldane School in the area of Cedar Street and Locust Ridge.

Several residents of the Spring Brook Condominiums attended the public hearing at the start of Tuesday's meeting on a local law that will add metered parking to the Fair Street municipal lot. Built in the 1970s, Spring Brook includes more than 60 condominiums, with only one parking space for each. Until now residents have used the municipal lot as a free, overflow parking area. Parking for 10 to 12 cars used to be allowed along Fair Street near the condominiums but is now prohibited.

"This (metered parking) is going to hurt us badly," Gloria McVey, vice president of the Spring Brook Condominium Association, told the board. "At least give us back the (Fair) street parking spaces." McVey cited a number of ongoing problems including conflicts with patrons from the Riverview Restaurant who use the Spring



Gloria McVey, Spring Brook Condo Association vice president Photo by M. Turton

Brook parking lot; a situation she said has nearly resulted in fistcuffs on occasion. Cold Spring police are unable to enforce parking rules at Spring Brook because it is private property. McVey said that parking problems also become acute during numerous special events that affect Spring Brook including Haldane football games, parades and events held at Mayor's Park.

Other Spring Brook residents at the meeting and in correspondence raised similar concerns. A common theme was that, as taxpayers, residents there should not have to pay to park next door in the municipal lot. Some suggested that parking passes be issued to Spring Brook residents while others felt that overnight parking in the municipal lot should be free.

Village resident Michael Armstrong, who helped draft a 2008 study of village parking as background for the comprehensive plan, commented that a limited number of passes could be issued to Spring Brook residents — but at a cost of \$95 per month. He urged the board to find a balance between the village's need for revenue and the condominium residents' call for improved parking. The public hearing will remain open for another week.

Trustees also heard about parking problems near Haldane in the Cedar Street - Locust Ridge area. The village was copied on a letter from three residents on Locust Ridge to Diana Bowers, superintendent at Haldane, that listed several ongoing issues. The letter states that students from Haldane routinely park in front of driveways and garages in the area, preventing residents from entering or exiting their property and creating a situation they describe as dangerous.

Speeding — both by cars and buses — littering, drug paraphernalia and heavy traffic are also listed as frequent problems. The letter questions why Haldane has not budgeted to provide adequate parking for students and visitors. Mayor Merandy said he will speak with Officer-in-Charge George Kane regarding increased enforcement in the area.

### Rocks cause slowdown in coal tar remediation

Mayor Merandy explained that the work

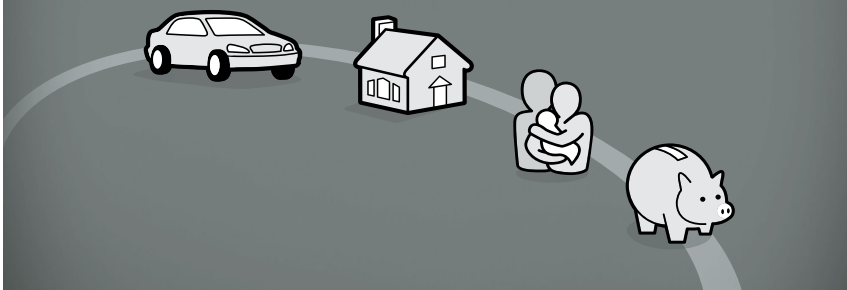
stoppage in the removal of toxic coal tar deposits from beneath the Cold Spring Boat Club has been caused by the contractor encountering more subsurface rock than anticipated. The additional rock will in all likelihood increase the cost of excavation. Merandy said that digging on site is expected to complete by May 1 and that there is "absolutely no way" the project will not be completed prior to summer.

### In other business...

- Trustees approved the appointment of Joe Curto and Katie Hendrix to the Cold Spring Recreation Commission
- Superintendent of Water and Sewers Greg Phillips expects to meet with officials of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) next week regarding legal aspects of the village connecting to the Catskill Aqueduct during upcoming repairs to the village dams.
- Following a heated discussion last week over legal fees, Trustee Michael Bowman pointed out that village legal costs were in the \$4000-\$5000 range for February
- A favorable audit of the Cold Spring Justice Court were presented at Tuesday's meeting and accepted by the village board.
- The village continues to attract filmmakers. Trustees approved a request from the Tea Shop & Film Company to shoot part of a movie titled "Slumber" in Cold Spring on March 9 and 10. The crew will include fewer than 10 people. The company will pay \$500 for the shoot.

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## Look at the numbers

### *Move to November a good one*

The most important factor in making the decision about moving the village election from March to November is which date will produce more participation. Looking at voter turnout in the village for each of the last 10 November and March elections suggest, on average, that November is when more voters come out and make their voices heard.

Since 2005, the village sees, on average, 231 more voters in November than March. That is 231 more contributions to moving our village forward, and 231 more neighbors joining in the process that impacts us every day. Amazingly, our little village seems to love November elections more than anyone in Putnam County. In each November election since 2006, we have the highest turnout percentage in the county — turnout approached 90 percent in 2006 and was above 80 percent in 2008 and 2012. That's beautiful.

The promise of more participation that is embedded in the November date is, for me, an overwhelmingly good reason to vote in favor of the move. As a village, as a people, we should seek all means necessary to increase enfranchisement and engagement. That's what good neighbors do — they participate. And a November election brings more participation.

Here is the breakdown:

- 2015: November had 63 fewer voters than March.
- 2014: November had 139 more voters.
- 2013: November had 69 more voters.
- 2012: November had 580 more voters.
- 2011: November had 100 fewer voters.
- 2010: November had 437 more voters.
- 2009: November had 198 fewer voters.
- 2008: November had 880 more voters.
- 2007: November had 48 fewer voters.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

- 2006: November had 772 more voters.
- 2005: November had 155 fewer voters.

Christopher Daly, *Cold Spring*

## Candidate endorsements

I am writing in support of Lynn Miller and Steve Voloto for village trustee on March 15. Each has raised or are raising their families in the village and manage their own businesses here. Lynn takes the pulse of Main Street daily from behind the counter of her shop. Many skills and values that make her an exemplary candidate for trustee are evident there: a meticulous attention to detail, unfailing positive spirit, a concern for quality, plus a generous interest in her customers.

Steve brings the practical skills of organizing and carrying out the work of a contractor, which are welcome, in service to the community. As a resident and homeowner in the village for 21 years, I value their long-term commitment to the life of the village. They will also bring fresh energy to the hard work of the Board.

In their interviews with *The Paper/Philipstown.info*, both Lynn and Steve speak of the need to look seriously at the fraught issue of the consolidation of services, which seems to me important and ultimately may lead to savings and efficiencies. However, as Lynn brought up in *The Paper/Philipstown.info* forum, the hard fact is that we live in a “drug corridor” which has had tragic consequences in the community and affirmed a role for the village police. So needs and costs must be balanced and there is no simple benefit from attempts at consolidation, however beneficial it might be in other areas. I felt it was good to hear that issue raised, in this forum and at this time, as we voters consider what our expectations of good local government should be.

The work of the village board is certainly about nuts and bolts, sidewalks and

water supply, zoning, parking, trash and recycling and much more — and how we pay for it. Trustees must also have a nuts-and-bolts knowledge of the real goals, needs and concerns of the village and its families. In addition to their skills, willingness to work hard and a commitment to civility, I believe that Lynn and Steve will bring valuable attention to these real needs to the work of the board.

Steve McCorkle, *Cold Spring*

I am so happy that Lynn Miller and Steve Voloto are generously willing to devote their time and talents to run for trustee of Cold Spring, and I'm even happier to be able to vote for them on March 15.

I've known Lynn for years. What an amazing woman she is! She created her own (delicious) business, brightening Main Street and giving jobs to local teens; she's a terrific mother and devoted wife and the epitome of what a great neighbor should be. She loves this community and has already given so much to us. But she wants to give more! That's Lynn in a nutshell: incredibly capable, kind and always wanting to do more.

While I don't know Steve as well, I know what a terrific and well-rounded guy he is: like Lynn, he runs a business here (I see his tremendous handiwork every day I look out my kitchen window and see the barn he renovated for my neighbors) and is a devoted father and husband who loves this place we all call home.

Cold Spring isn't just a lovely place to look at — it's a community with inner beauty. That's not something that happens magically, it's the result of the efforts of the people who live here, especially folks like Lynn and Steve, who are willing to go above and beyond to work for all of us. I'm so grateful, and I'll show my gratitude at the ballot box.

Maia Guest, *Cold Spring*

## Current Politics

By Kevin E. Foley

### Philipstown Dems back Maloney

The Philipstown Democratic Committee has endorsed Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney for reelection for the 18th Congressional district and will be petitioning for the local incumbent during the month of March. Voters are reminded you can only sign one petition per race.

“As a moderate Democrat, Maloney has proven he represents all the residents of our distinctive district, which leans neither left or right,” said Kim Connor, committee chair.

According to Connor, potential Maloney challenger Diana Hird was invited to address the committee but canceled her appearance.

The committee also endorsed former State Senator Terry Gipson from Rhinebeck who is running to retake his seat in the 41st district. The 41st includes most of Dutchess County as well as Putnam Valley along with Philipstown. Republican Sue

Serino is the incumbent.

“We need Terry back in Albany to fight for our public schools, to protect women's rights, to promote job creation in the Hudson Valley, to improve the safety of our roads, and to bring ethics back to Albany politics,” said Margaret Yonco-Haines, vice chair.

Long-serving Assemblywoman Sandy Galef also has the committee's support for reelection in the 95th Assembly district. Connor said Galef is “accessible and she consistently listens to and acts on the concerns of her constituents. We think highly of Sandy in Philipstown.”

### Hird

Diana Hird has scheduled petition-gathering parties this Saturday, March 12, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Kismet at 72 Main St. in Cold Spring, and from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Russell Cusick Gallery at 530 Main St. in Beacon.

### Republicans for Congress

Republican congressional candidate Phil

Oliva has received the support of the four Republican county organizations in the 18th district after gathering 73 percent of the votes at a recent convention of the groups. The strong showing caused another candidate Dan Castricone to withdraw from the primary race. Oliva is an aide to Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino.

### A correction

A few weeks ago I reported that Sean Maloney had endorsed Zephyr Teachout for Congress in the 19th District. I also reported that Teachout had in turn endorsed Maloney.

Although the Teachout campaign has not responded to our inquiries to clarify, it does not appear she has officially endorsed Maloney in his bid for reelection.

However, following Maloney's endorsement, Teachout tweeted on her campaign's account: “Huge news: today Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney endorsed me. Hudson Valley Power! Imagine the infrastructure projects we could work on.”



## Haldane Principal to Leave *(from Page 1)*

the job will be July 1. Anyone interested in being part of a focus group or the interview committee should email Linda Dearborn at ldearborn@haldaneschool.org.

### The next step

Bowers told *The Paper* that, after nine years, she knew Alms was ready for change. "You get to a point in your career when you're ready for the next step," she said. "The question was, [would] the next step be possible here or was it going to be somewhere else?" Asked why she thought her proposal for an assistant superintendent position has been rejected, she said, "I'm not sure what it was, but [the new position] was not something that this community felt comfortable with."

Bowers said that, ironically, Haldane may be losing Alm in part because it trains its staff well. "One of the things we've been dedicating ourselves to in the last couple years is training our people to be the best and the brightest," Bowers said, and that is a double-edged sword. "You have people who are so well-trained that other [districts] will invite them in."

Alm was quick to share credit with Haldane High School students, faculty and parents when asked about his accomplishments. "We've raised rigor, and equitable access to rigor simultaneously, while raising achievement overall," he said. "We've raised college and career readiness, but not in a way that is measured by achievement data. Our graduates can think, create, adapt, collaborate, and reflect."

Alm said he is most proud of "the civil discourse that our students engage in every day. There is a free exchange of ideas, true collaboration and mutual respect. Our students very often don't agree, but they know how to engage in healthy conflict."

### Longevity is crucial

Bowers said she feels replacing Alm with someone who is talented and willing to stay for a while is crucial. "Research shows that one of the [things] that makes

a high school successful is the longevity and tenure of the principal," she said. Principals typically stay at a school for five to seven years, according to Bowers.

Filling Alm's shoes will be a challenge. Bowers describes him as a leader who asks for and respects teachers' opinions. "And when you talk to students, they all feel comfortable there — and that doesn't always happen." She said Alm's relationships beyond the school are also part of his strength. "He has a real positive energy and a really strong link with the community."

School Board President Jennifer Daly also reflected on the loss of Alm and what it will take to replace him. "The reorganization was intended to improve the administration team and to provide opportunities for upward mobility that don't currently exist; to give them another reason to stay," she said. "Brian was ready for the role of assistant superintendent but the community wasn't onboard."

### A natural leader

Daly lamented the "revolving door" at Haldane, with higher salaries and opportunities to advance elsewhere making the challenge of keeping quality staff even greater. "Brian needed more and new challenges," she said. "Nine years is a long time to stay" at a smaller school such as Haldane.

Alm's current salary is \$146,296. Officials with the Ossining School District declined to provide salary information, pending Alm's appointment next week.

Daly spoke highly of Alm's contributions. "He is a natural leader. His vibrancy is infectious. You smile when you meet him," she said. "He raised the bar on multiple levels — across the board," something



Superintendent Diana Bowers

Photo by M. Turton

that she said is reflected in Haldane's 100 percent graduation rate and the caliber of colleges graduates attend.

Alm's successor must possess more than strong academic qualifications, in Daly's view. "We need someone who is interested in and passionate about community building," she said, adding that being Haldane's principal is not an office job. "We need someone really energetically involved with our community — students, staff and parents. Brian really brought everybody together, as a community."

While the search will be a challenge, Daly is undaunted. "I always like change," she said. "Change is good."

Former school board president Joe Curto agreed that change can be positive. "These positions are staffed by real

people and change happens; this should be looked upon as an opportunity, not a doomsday scenario," he said. "Haldane High School is a great place to be the principal; we will attract quality and talent — as long as we stay genuine in who we are."

Alm gets a solid report card from Curto. "Brian's smart, cares about this school and always pushed people to think out of the box," he said, adding that improvements in college and career readiness skills were a result of Alm's efforts "before it became a hot topic in education circles." He describes Alm as "creative in his thinking, consistent in his decision making — someone who some day will be a great superintendent. We will miss him."

### Student reaction

*The Paper* contacted two recent Haldane graduates for their views on Alm's tenure. Both attend college at SUNY Geneseo. "He shaped the overall tone of the high school environment to be positive and inclusive," Shauna Ricketts wrote in an email. "Mr. Alm encouraged student deliberation, creativity and growth by not only accepting ideas for how to better Haldane but by urging students to exercise citizenship in their local community on a daily basis."

She added that Alm is "fueled by his passion for the students and his desire to increase global awareness within the student body."

Clayton Smith said Alm made him feel at ease but also pushed his boundaries. When Smith arrived as a new student at Haldane, "Mr. Alm made sure I felt as comfortable as possible ... and went out of his way to make my family feel welcome," he said. "He cares about making Haldane a better place ... by holding students to high standards and pushing them to be better than they think they can be."

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Position is generally 9-to-5 but does require flexibility to work some weekends and other assigned hours. A competitive wage plus benefits and paid time off are offered. References are required. To apply, email a resume to: HR@garrisoninstitute.org or fax to 845-424-4900. Please, no phone calls.

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## Beacon Planning Board Approves Theater Project *(from Page 1)*

bike or walk.

The development is not required to provide additional parking based on a city zoning provision that provides waivers for some buildings already in existence prior to 1964.

The Beacon Main Street Theater was sold to Brendan McAlpine of McAlpine Construction last year after the previous owner, 4th Wall Productions, fell behind on mortgage payments. The McAlpine family also restored the factories on East Main into the complex known as the Roundhouse, which is considered to have been the catalyst for Beacon's east end of Main transformation.

This time around, McAlpine drew some criticism when he abandoned 4th Wall's plan to restore the space as a full-sized theater, instead announcing plans for the multi-purpose performance/retail space along with apartments that was approved on Tuesday.

### The View

Only one person spoke during the planning board's public hearing Tuesday night for The View, a 50-unit project with five below-market rate apartments proposed for the wooded area on Beekman Street, southwest of City Hall.

Theresa Kraft of Beacon asked the board to consider a moratorium on new residential development, saying that projects like The View and others that fall within designated historic zones "will



A conceptual plan for the 344 Main Street project

forever change the city of Beacon." Citing "overdevelopment," Kraft made a similar request last month during a hearing for the redevelopment of the Beacon Main Street Theater.

The hearing will continue next month for The View, which is envisioned as a four-story apartment complex with a rooftop patio and garden. The development, which engineer Mark Day said could be built sometime later this year if it's approved by the planning board, would occupy the wooded area between City Hall and Beekman, adding residential units in the city's Main Street-to-riverfront "linkage zone."

The project will also see the construction of a public pedestrian walkway connecting Beekman Street to Route 9D, Day said. The majority of the parking for

the development will be in a garage constructed underneath the building.

### 344 Main

The planning board set a public hearing for next month on a several-story residential development proposed for 344 Main Street, next to the Beacon Natural Mar-

ket, at the intersection with Eliza Street. The project, which had been set for 18 units atop a retail space, has now been adjusted to accommodate 24 units without changing the overall size of the building.

Four of the units will be below-market rate, said Day, also the engineer for this project.




An artist's rendition of The View

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## Council Sends Zoning Petition to Planning Board *(from Page 1)*

Route 9D, a few hundred yards past City Hall, within the linkage zone. Unicorn's proposed development, the River Highlands, sits within the historic district as well. If the residents' petition is honored, any development in the same zone, including Unicorn's proposal, would have to conform to the new (i.e., old) zoning.

During public comment at the city council's meeting on March 7, Beacon resident Patrick Riley cautioned the council not to be pressured into approving the property owners' petition, especially given Beacon's relative lack of developable land.

"To be mindlessly opposed to responsible

development acts against the best interests of the city," Riley said, adding that other developers could be scared off if the council rezones the parcels named in the petition.

### Comprehensive plan review

Mayor Randy Casale also announced Monday night the formation of a committee to review the city's comprehensive plan, which guides development and land use for an extended period, usually 10 years. The 14-person committee, co-chaired by former Ward 4 representative Sara Pasti and current Ward 1 Councilperson Peggy Ross, includes two members of

the planning board and several architects and planners. Pasti also co-chaired the city's 2007 comprehensive plan committee, while Ross led the linkage and Main Street zoning committee in 2012-13.

The group plans to hire a consultant to help on several fronts: outreach to the public for its participation in visioning workshops, market analysis, review of existing zoning and translation of existing and anticipated city land uses into draft zoning amendments. The committee will then plan public forums to gather input on a plan for the waterfront/Metro-North train station area with linkages to Main Street. Its recommendations will be considered for integration into a revised comprehensive plan.

### Landfill = energy

Poughkeepsie's BQ Energy has entered into an agreement with the city to develop solar power at the former Beacon landfill near Dennings Point. BQ Energy will mount solar panels in a concrete foundation on the site, which has been closed for more than 20 years.

Founder and Managing Director Paul Curran said he hopes the site can begin producing electricity within the next 12 months, and estimated it could save the city nearly \$3 million in energy costs over the next 25 years. BQ has created several dozen solar facilities throughout the East Coast and as far away as Hawaii. This will be the company's first project in Dutchess County.



The Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps introduced its new EMS Manager, Graeme Hardy, center. Left: Debbie Pagliaro, acting president and HR director and Nicholas Scarchilli, chief

*Photo by Kevin E. Foley*

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Please join us in voting for our neighbors  
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Aaron Wolfe  
Alex Grossman  
Al Zgolinski  
Andrea Hudson  
Ann Meeropol  
Barbara Perkins  
Barton Chew  
Bernard F. Bunye  
Beth Sigler  
Billy Fields  
Candy Zgolinski  
Carina Frantz  
Carolyn C. Bachan  
Charlotte Palmer-Lane  
Christine Bokhour  
Christine Caballero  
Cindy Cohen  
Daisy Sanders  
Dar Williams  
Dave Marion

Dave Merandy  
David Birn  
Dianne Richey  
Donald MacDonald  
Dr. Catherine Carnevale  
Drena Fagen  
Elizabeth Edelson  
Erika Wood  
Eva M. Sharpe  
Evan Hudson  
Fran Murphy  
Gail Duggan  
Gail Greet Hannah  
Galelyn Williams  
George Scopas  
Gordon Duggan  
Greg Miller  
Greg Smith  
Hass Murphy  
Ivy Meeropol  
Jack Miller  
James Hartford

James O'Barr  
Jennifer Gordineer  
Joanne Murphy  
Joe Patrick  
John Hedlund  
John Hutchison  
John Martin  
John Lane  
John Plummer  
Joseph Lucca  
Judith Rose  
Juhee Lee-Hartford  
Kacie Grossman  
Karen Shea  
Kari Reiber  
Kathleen Foley  
Kathy Gordineer  
Lara Voloto  
Laura Kaufman  
Lauren Carrigan  
Lisa Sabin  
Liz Miller

Lourdes Laifer  
Maia Guest  
Marc Sabin  
Marie Early  
Mary Marion  
Matt Francisco  
Matt Frieburghaus  
Maya Dollarhide  
Melissa Angier  
Michael Meeropol  
Michael Robinson  
Molly Fyfe  
Nathalie Jonas  
Neal Santelman  
Nora Hart  
Paul Henderson  
Peter Sanders  
Philip Nobel  
Ray Bokhour  
Rebekah Tighe  
Rich Corio  
Richard Bruce

Richard Shea  
Richard Weissbrod  
Roberto Muller  
Sandy McKelvy  
Sarah Gurland  
Sarah Tauber  
Sean Conway  
Shelagh Speers  
Shelley Gilbert  
Simon Coope  
Stephanie Hawkins  
Stephen Geiger  
Stephen Rose  
Steve McCorckle  
Susan Kenny  
Thomas Ambrose  
Thomas Huber  
Tom Carrigan  
Tom Mullane  
Tracy A. Prout Bunye  
Travis Fyfe



# Why Do They Call it Beacon?

*Speaker to explore origins of local names*

By Brian PJ Cronin

Most Beacon residents know the city was once two towns: Fishkill Landing on the river, and Matteawan by the mountains, which merged in 1913 to become the city of Beacon — actually, it was originally going to be called Melzingah, a word attributed to the native people of the area, until New York City newspapers ridiculed city officials for proposing such a difficult name to spell and pronounce. Residents decided to name the city after the mountain in its backyard.

Evan Pritchard, founder and director of the Center for Algonquin Culture in Rosendale and author of *Native New Yorkers, Henry Hudson and the Algonquins of New York*, says the stories behind the names is a saga unto itself. “For starters,” he says, “Matteawan and Fishkill kind of mean the same thing.”

Pritchard will give a free lecture sponsored by the Mt. Beacon Incline Railway Restoration Society at 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 12, at the Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries entitled Halfway to Paradise: Mt. Beacon, the Highlands, and the River Indians Before 1609. The institute is located at 199 Main St.

As Pritchard explained in an interview, the area known as the city of Beacon has been a significant spot in the Hudson Val-

ley for thousands of years. Archaeologists have uncovered tools and artifacts dating to 9000 B.C. But it was around 1000 A.D. that the region flourished, with the Munsee tribe, based on the other side of the river and part of the larger Lenape confederacy, settling in Beacon and coexisting with the nearby Wappinger tribes, much like Fishkill Landing and Matteawan existed side by side for years.

What is today Route 52 was part of a trail that extended down Tioronda Road to Madam Brett Park and Denning’s Point (which was a major crossing spot), across the Hudson and all the way to the Delaware River.

The Munsee referred to the area as Met-tawan, meaning “trout stream,” in reference to the abundant creek that they fished from. But, Pritchard says, when they heard of a southern tribe by a larger creek referring to themselves as the Kitchewank, meaning “People of the Great River,” they changed the name to Matteawan, or “humble little stream,” as a way of poking fun.

When the Dutch came to the Highlands, they heard of the story of the origins of the name Matteawan and, as was typical, used it as the basis for a new Dutch name: Vis Kyl, or Fish Creek. Over time, Vis Kyl became Fishkill. So while one could argue that the name Fishkill Creek is redundant because it translates literally as “Fish Creek Creek,” Matteawan is similar, as well.

But where did Melzingah come from? Pritchard explains that it was the result



Evan Pritchard

Photo provided

of more wordplay, something he referred to as “Double Dutching.” Every time the Dutch came across an Algonquin word, he says, “they’d try to make a pun and turn it into something Dutch,” he says. “There are more than 100 examples in the area.”

Pritchard believes Melzingah has its origins in the long, slender island at the base of the waterfalls in what is today known as Madam Brett Park. The Munsee referred to the island as M’singwe (muh-sing-way). The M’singwe were the “little people” of the forest, spirits that could not be seen. The Munsee believed the island was a sacred place, and that supernatural happenings frequently took place there. When Madam Brett built her mill there,

she would refer to the island as Fairy Island to honor the Munsee beliefs.

The name lived on when the Dutch began to refer to the area as Melzingah, which Pritchard believes is a playful merging of M’singwe and Muhle-zinger, which is Dutch for “mill singer,” a reference to the singing sound a mill makes. It was this name that was initially chosen in 1913 for the merging of Fishkill Landing and Matteawan, and then changed to Beacon, after the mountain. Only, of course, the mountain wasn’t originally called Beacon. “It was Matteawan Mountain!” says Pritchard.

Whatever you call it, the mountain is an important part of the landscape. “There’s an Algonquin belief that there’s a connection between altitude and levels of consciousness, levels of the spirit world,” Pritchard explained. “As you move up in altitude, you’re moving closer to paradise.” The mountain also can be a dangerous place. The rocky ridge that separates Dutchess and Putnam counties was also a border for native peoples, separating the watersheds of the Matteawan and Canopus creeks; what is now called Indian Brook and Indian Falls in Cold Spring, another sacred site.

Today the ridge is known as Breakneck. While legends differ as to who was the first to break his or her neck there, the name used by native peoples — Matumpseck, or “bad rocks to climb” — suggests hikers have been injuring themselves there for thousands of years. “They knew you could break your neck on those rocks because a lot of those boulders that you have to grab onto are quite loose,” Pritchard says.

## In Delphine’s World, Nothing is Wasted

**A studio visit with a Cold Spring artist**  
By Pamela Doan

Cassandra Saulter had to retire early as a film and television makeup artist because her art was calling. Now she is immersed in turning items you’d put in your recycling bin into art and making a statement about a life for objects beyond their original incarnation. After a life’s work of painting, drawing and portraiture, she has expanded into sculpture, lighting, wall art and freestanding decorative objects using plastic bottles as her medium.

Saulter’s work is on view at Gallery 66 NY at 66 Main Street in Cold Spring until March 27.

Her transitional piece, *Rose Window Revisited*, a quilted wall panel, developed during a studio cleanup when she found some embroidery that she began roughly sewing into a pattern. Feeling she needed something to break up the density of the cloth, Saulter cut up a plastic water bottle. “My inspiration was to use things that were in my studio,” she says. “I was so thrilled with the results of this translucent material. Everything on it is recycled, including the frame.”

This “change painting,” as she calls it, draws together elements that can be seen evolving in her previous work, incorporating sewing, fragments, and texture. Everything she displayed during

a studio visit after that is a total shift from flat surfaces to many faceted, sculptural pieces. For example, Saulter plays with light using LEDs to illuminate a string of bottle tops saved from a juice cleanse she once did with the crew on a location shoot. The result is a jewel-like strand hanging from the ceiling and trailing onto the floor.

The materials themselves have back stories. Another wall hanging that has quilting aspects uses a distinctive yellow plastic. “Someone handed me a big bag of Arm and Hammer laundry detergent bottles,” Saulter recalls. “I took up the challenge, but the color was off. I had to tame the yellow and made a painting to go behind it.”

The final artwork has a nice interplay between the natural forms that resemble leaves or floral shapes in the painting layered behind the sewn together bottle fragments held together within a frame that creates a window onto the painting.

When asked for insights about her art, Saulter said, “I don’t give it a thought. I’m more tactilely and engineering involved. The meaning was that I had to make these crazy yellow bottles work. It comes out of me from a different place than thought. I’ve been doing this my whole life and have evolved to this point.”

Saulter is articulate, however, about becoming a repurposed plastic artist. After the change painting, she decided

she had to make a person. Delphine, a 6-foot-tall creation that can sit with its legs crossed or pose standing, serves as the focal point for her current work; everything she displays is connected and part of Delphine’s world. Saulter, who plays the role of creator in this bottled-up universe, has given her a daughter named Darla, a man named Adam, a large dog, a pet pig, a wardrobe of clothes, jewelry and furniture. Her family history is told through a wall of family portraits. Delphine even has a heart with ventricles visible in her chest.

“Because it’s kind of odd that I jump from one thing to another and not considered very cohesive, I can say that it all belongs to Delphine and she is the poster child for repurposing creatively,” Saulter says. “She now has a family, but she also has a job.” Saulter wants Delphine to be a spokesperson for a movement about doing good work.

The artist describes herself as someone who was always drawn to political activism and considers this her art legacy and the perfect pairing of her conscientiousness and creativity. “To think that I was saving things from a landfill made me really happy,” she says.

Her plan is to start a recycling design center; she’s looking into grants. A warehouse of materials, a team to support all the ideas she has and someone to bring her lunch at noon — Saulter is ready for the big dream to come true.



Delphine, by Cassandra Saulter, at Gallery 66 NY

Photo provided



# The Calendar



Ray Bokhour onstage in *Chicago* Photos by Jeremy Daniel



Above, Ray Bokhour, in character: grumpy and with tuba

## A Dark (and Vital) Musical Comedy

*Vaudevillian humor and a Gypsy band invade the Depot*

By Alison Rooney

Ray Bokhour is onstage in the Broadway production of *Chicago* for about 15 minutes. His role, as Amos Hart, Roxie's easily manipulated, duped husband, is over early in the proceedings.

Yet, during the hours that pass from his arrival at the Ambassador Theater until his post-curtain call departure, Bokhour doesn't lounge around his dressing room. Instead, the Cold Spring resident works on his projects as an actor, writer and composer, including one that will bear fruit on March 25 and 26 at the Philipstown Depot Theatre: a farcical musical, *The Glorious Death of Comrade What's-His-Name?*, to which Bokhour contributed the lyrics and in which he portrays Semyon, the comrade, described as being "lazy," and "prickly" as well as a "tuba student" and "would-be rebel king."

Bokhour and the rest of the cast will be accompanied by a six-piece gypsy band comprised of musicians who have played in the *Chicago* pit and on the first national tour of *Once*, where Bokhour spent a year. *Comrade* is based on Nicolai Erdman's 1928 farce, *The Suicide*. Predictably, the production incurred the wrath of Stalin, who banned it after opening night and sent its author to Siberia for 20 years.

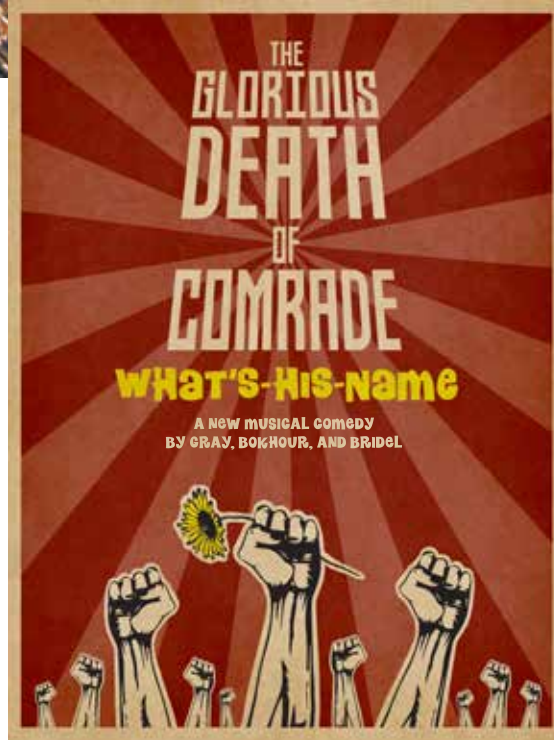
In the Depot production, it has been

adapted, freely, by playwright David Bridel, who was mining for wit and "snowballing insanity." The original was translated and performed at London's National Theatre in the 1970s, starring Derek Jacobi. Following that run, it was finally produced in Russia.

"It's kind of like *The Honey-mooners* set in Soviet Russia," says Bokhour. "It's a grumbly guy, his long-suffering wife, and the weight of their reality. What happens is the terrifying, newborn, oppressive regime makes the comedy dark and vital, not just wacky or light. It takes place in a time period when things were shifting so fast that cathartic laughs were needed. Of course that's very relevant to what's going on today. It's the pressure on these people which makes the comedy."

"It's a love story, too, in that Semyon has to decide if he will love his life," interjects Bokhour's wife, Christine, who is the producer for the Depot performances, as well as a performer.

"The worse the surroundings, the more important that becomes," Ray Bokhour says. "In this story it's a repressive regime, but it could be repression in your own mind, or poverty. The story grows from a couple's spat to his threatening to commit suicide. Word gets out and people incite him to do it as an act of protest, making him a national hero if he goes along with it. He spends the first



half [of the show] half-trying on this new life and the second wriggling out of it. We have a couple of twists and turns too, uniting plotlines filled with crazy, desperate people."

The Depot production, as developed by Bokhour, is the first musical version. He was exposed to the material during his time studying drama at London's Central School of Speech and Drama and with composer Simon Gray through the BMI Musical Theatre Workshop, which has developed



*The Company*, by Anna West

Photo provided

## Creatives, Mamas, Friends and Yahoos

*Exhibit showcases art by informal Beacon collective*

By Alison Rooney

About four years ago, Kat Stoutenborough, who runs her design company, Reclaimed, out of her home in Beacon, was feeling isolated. "I was spending a lot of my creative time alone and so were many other people I knew," she says. "We needed to connect and support each other."

To bring together other artists and designers, she launched a group called CoMFY, which stands for Creative, Mamas, Friends and Yahoos. It took root in Beacon's coffeehouses, then at its homes, galleries and studios. Meeting weekly, CoMFY began with about 20 stalwarts and has since grown (counted through its Facebook page) to more than 90.

To celebrate the creative efforts of the informal collective, the Howland Public Library has mounted an exhibition, for the second year in a row, called *CoMFY 16* featuring works by 24 of its members. After an opening reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on Beacon's Second Saturday, March 12, it will be on view through April 2.

Although larger CoMFY meetings are now arranged on an ad hoc basis, there is a steady group of women — not all whom are creatives, mamas, friends or yahoos — who meet regularly. The group skews toward the visual arts but also includes writers, actors, non-parents and a host of other occupations and categorizations. CoMFY began, Stoutenborough recalls, with a "hard and fast rule — which, of course, we broke — no talk about spouses or kids. You had

(Continued on Page 12)



FRIDAY, MARCH 11
<b>Hudson Valley Restaurant Week</b> valleytable.com/hvrw
<b>Family Bingo &amp; Pasta Night</b> 6:30 p.m. Philipstown Community Center 107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison 845-424-4618   philipstownrecreation.com
<b>Illusionist Ryan Dutcher</b> 7 p.m. Glenham Elementary School 20 Chase Drive, Fishkill 845-838-6900 x5100   ryandutcher.com
<b>Jesus Christ Superstar</b> 7 p.m. O'Neill H.S., Highland Falls 845-446-4914   hffmcsd.org
<b>Sweeney Todd</b> 7 p.m. Haldane School 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring 845-265-9254   haldaneschool.org
<b>Half Moon Theatre 10-Minute Play Festival</b> 8 p.m. Culinary Institute of America 1946 Campus Drive, Hyde Park 800-838-3006   halfmoontheatre.org
<b>Lil' Kim</b> 8 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center 14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie 845-454-5800   midhudsonciviccenter.org
<b>Finnegan's Farewell</b> 8 p.m. The Beacon Theatre   445 Main St., Beacon 845-453-2978   thebeacontheatre.org
SATURDAY, MARCH 12
<b>Annual White Elephant Sale</b> 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. St. Philip's Nursery 1101 Route 9D, Garrison   845-424-3571 stphilipsnursery.org   8:30 a.m. \$5 Early Bird
<b>Boat Safety Workshop (Session 1 of 2)</b> 10 a.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-3040   butterfieldlibrary.org
<b>Learn &amp; Serve Open House</b> 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Scenic Hudson River Center 8 Long Dock Park, Beacon 845-473-4440 x273   scenichudson.org
<b>St. Patrick's Day Parade</b> 11 a.m. Main Street, Beacon facebook.com/beaconparadeofgreen
<b>Maple Sugar Tours</b> 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center 100 Muser Drive, Cornwall 845-534-5506   hhnaturemuseum.org
<b>Sweeney Todd</b> 2 & 7 p.m. Haldane School See details under Friday.
<b>Putnam Arts Council</b> 2 p.m. Annual Meeting 3 – 5 p.m. Members Exhibit (Opening) 521 Kennicut Road, Mahopac 845-803-8622   putnamartscouncil.com
<b>Create Your Own Website Workshop</b> 2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403, Garrison 845-424-3020   desmondfishlibrary.org
<b>Introductory Meeting for HVSF Our Town</b> 2 – 4 p.m. Safe Harbors of the Hudson 107 Broadway, Newburgh 845.809.5748 x20   eknapp@hvshakespeare.org
<b>Annual Meeting &amp; Lecture</b> 4 p.m. Putnam History Museum 63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring 845-265-4010   putnamhistorymuseum.org
<b>Jesus Christ Superstar</b> 7 p.m. O'Neill H.S., Highland Falls See details under Friday.

Calendar Highlights

For upcoming events visit philipstown.info.

Send event listings to calendar@philipstown.info.

<b>A Nation Once Again</b> 7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center 729 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley 845-528-7280   brownpapertickets.com/ event/2508687
<b>The Canada Lee Project</b> 7:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley 1008 Brown St., Peekskill 914-739-0039   paramounthudsonvalley.com
<b>Half Moon Theatre 10-Minute Play Festival</b> 8 p.m. Culinary Institute of America See details under Friday.
<b>Short Documentaries by Sam Green</b> 8 p.m. Binnacle Books   321 Main St., Beacon 845-838-6191   binnaclebooks.com
<b>Finnegan's Farewell</b> 8 p.m. The Beacon Theatre   Details under Friday
<b>Tom Chapin</b> 8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café   379 Main St., Beacon 845-855-1300   townecrier.com

BEACON SECOND SATURDAY
<b>Dia:Beacon</b> 11:30 a.m. Robert Ryman Symposia   2 p.m. Claire Gilman on Sol LeWitt   3 Beekman St., Beacon 845-440-0100   diabeacon.org
<b>Enrique Flores Galbis (Reception)</b> 1 – 3 p.m. Atelier Room 205 211 Fishkill Ave., Beacon   646-705-3833
<b>Freedom! (Photos from South Africa)</b> 4 – 6 p.m. St. Andrew's Church 15 South Ave., Beacon 845-831-1369   standrewsbeaconny.org
<b>Artist Book Show</b> 5 – 8 p.m. RiverWinds Gallery 172 Main St., Beacon 845-838-2880   riverwindsgallery.com
<b>CoMFY 16</b> 5 – 7 p.m. Howland Public Library   313 Main St., Beacon   845-831-1134   beaconlibrary.org

<b>bau Gallery</b> 6 – 9 p.m. Group Show: <i>Marbled</i> 6 – 9 p.m. Catherine Latson: <i>Tapioca Bride</i> 506 Main St., Beacon 845-440-7584   baugallery.com
<b>East End of Main: A Journey Into the Past</b> 6 – 9 p.m. 3B Gallery   485 Main St., Beacon Presented by Beacon Historical Society
<b>Group Show: Kaiju Batters</b> 6 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery   163 Main St., Beacon 212-255-2505   cluttermagazine.com
<b>Group Show: Rational Curves</b> 6 – 9 p.m. Matteawan Gallery   436 Main St., Beacon 845-440-7901   matteawan.com
<b>Mt. Beacon, the Highlands, and the “River Indians” Before 1609 (Talk)</b> 6 p.m. Beacon Institute   199 Main St., Beacon inclinerailway.org/halfway-to-paradise
<b>Samantha Beste: Regeneration</b> 6 – 8 p.m. Theo Ganz Gallery   149 Main St., Beacon 917-318-2239   theoganzstudio.com
<b>ScribbleHeadquarters</b> 6 – 9 p.m. The Catalyst Gallery 137 Main St., Beacon 845-204-3844   catalystgallery.com

SUNDAY, MARCH 13
<b>Daylight Savings Time begins:</b> Set clocks forward one hour
<b>Maple Sunday Celebration</b> 8:30 a.m. – Noon. Taconic Outdoor Education Center 75 Mountain Laurel Lane, Cold Spring 845-225-7207
<b>A Women's Day of Health &amp; Happiness</b> 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Dutchess Manor 263 Route 9D, Beacon   mayfestny.com
<b>Hudson Valley Auto Show</b> 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center 14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie 845-454-5800   midhudsonciviccenter.org
<b>Maple Sugar Tours</b> 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center See details under Saturday.
<b>Corned Beef &amp; Cabbage Buffet</b> 12:30 p.m. Graymoor   40 Francisan Way, Garrison 845-424-2111   atonementfriars.org
<b>Half Moon Theatre 10-Minute Play Festival</b> 2 p.m. Culinary Institute of America See details under Friday.
<b>Harry Bolick: Mississippi Fiddle Tunes</b> 2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library   472 Route 403, Garrison   845-424-3020   desmondfishlibrary.org
<b>Sweeney Todd</b> 2 p.m. Haldane School   See details under Friday.
<b>Jesus Christ Superstar</b> 3 p.m. O'Neill H.S., Highland Falls See details under Friday.
<b>Goldstein-Peled-Fiterstein Trio</b> 4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center   477 Main St., Beacon   845-765-3012   howlandmusic.org
<b>Big Bad Voodoo Daddy</b> 7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley See details under Saturday.

MONDAY, MARCH 14
<b>Decoding the Past: Local Businesses</b> Noon. Locust Grove Estate   2683 South Road, Poughkeepsie   845-471-1630 dutchesscountyhistoricalsociety.org
<b>Dutchess Tourism Lunch &amp; Learn</b> Noon. Hyatt House, Fishkill 845-463-5447   dutchesstourism.com
<b>Basic Paper Management Workshop</b> 7 p.m. Philipstown Community Center 107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison 845-424-4618   philipstownrecreation.com
TUESDAY, MARCH 15
<b>Cold Spring Village Election</b> 6 a.m. – 9 p.m. Cold Spring Firehouse 845-265-3611   coldspringny.gov
<b>St. Patrick's Luncheon for Seniors</b> 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Putnam County Golf Course 187 Hill St., Mahopac   845-265-3952
<b>New Moms &amp; Infants Group</b> 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library   472 Route 403, Garrison   Email whiteside.ks@gmail.com
<b>Coloring Books for Adults</b> 6 p.m. Howland Public Library   313 Main St., Beacon 845-831-1134   beaconlibrary.org

<b>Introductory Meeting for HVSF Our Town</b> 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Paramount Theater 1008 Brown St., Peekskill 845.809.5748 x20   eknapp@hvshakespeare.org
<b>Raising Backyard Chickens (Talk)</b> 7 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403, Garrison 845-424-3020   desmondfishlibrary.org
<b>Dutchess County Genealogical Society</b> 7:30 p.m. LDS Church 204 Spackenkill Road, Poughkeepsie   dcgs-gen.org
<b>PechaKucha</b> 9 p.m. Quinn's   330 Main St., Beacon 845-831-8065   quinnnsbeacon.com

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16
<b>Mexican Cooking Workshop</b> 10 a.m. Philipstown Community Center See details under Monday.
<b>Senior Bus Trip to Fishkill</b> 10 a.m. Chestnut Ridge, Cold Spring 845-424-4618   philipstownrecreation.com
<b>HV Women in Business: Turn Your Passion into Profit</b> 6 p.m. Beahive Beacon   291 Main St., Beacon 845-765-1890   beahivebzzz.com
<b>Celtic Crossings (Benefit for Graymoor)</b> 7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley See details under Saturday.
<b>Garrison School Board</b> 7:30 p.m. Garrison School 1100 Route 9D, Garrison 845-424-3689   gufs.org

THURSDAY, MARCH 17
<b>Butterfield Library</b> 12:30 p.m. St. Patrick's Day Storytime 2 p.m. Open Crafting Butterfield Library   10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-3040   butterfieldlibrary.org
<b>Haldane PTA</b> 7 p.m. Haldane School (Music Room) 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring 845-265-9254   haldanepta.org
<b>John Mayall</b> 7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café 379 Main St., Beacon 845-855-1300   townecrier.com

FRIDAY, MARCH 18
<b>International Film Night: Central Station (Brazil, 1998)</b> 7 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St., Beacon 845-831-1134   beaconlibrary.org

<b>Finnegan's Farewell</b> 8 p.m. The Beacon Theatre See details under March 11.
<b>Open-Mic Night</b> 8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St., Beacon 845-831-4988   howlandculturalcenter.org Sign-up begins at 7:30 p.m.

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## A Dark (and Vital) Musical Comedy (from Page 9)

shows like *Avenue Q*, *Next To Normal* and *Ragtime*. With Bokhour based in New York, Gray in London and Bridel in Los Angeles, much of the collaboration was via Skype.

The process of adapting a play into a musical took some time. "Once it becomes a musical and people stop to sing their feelings, everything changes," Bokhour explains. "The original makes you feel deep, intellectual thoughts. It took us a year or two to explore the depths and realize the depth emerges if you don't try to bring it out: it lives in the comedy itself, it's not worn on the sleeve."

Originally, the production, which was first performed last summer at the Barrington Stage in the Berkshires, retained the title of its source, but the creators found that the "life-affirming, deliciously comedic nature of this musical was undercut by that moniker" and a zany title was adopted to better reflect the vaudevillian humor.

Bokhour's split but conjoined creative personalities harken back to his college days. He grew up in Queens, then headed to the New England Conservatory, where he studied jazz composition, while also studying English at Tufts. A friend asked him to contribute music for plays he was directing, which led to Bokhour trying his hand at acting, which led to drama school — hence three tabs (actor, writer, composer) to click on at raymondbokhour.



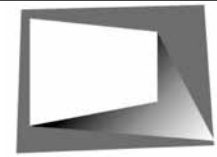
Christine Bokhour

com. "The theater was the thing that took off, but I've continued to write music, including orchestral stuff," he says.

The *Comrade* cast includes Broadway's Drew McVety (*Titanic*, *Big River*, *The Last Ship*) and a number of local actors: Chris Dickerson, Maia Guest, Sterling Swann, Gregory Porter Miller, Brandon Williams, Tyler Mell, Laura Danilov, Tess Dul, Lisa Sabin, Greg Gunder, as well as Lane Bradbury, who played "Dainty June" in the original Broadway production of *Gypsy*. "We want to use the well of talent

that exists here to incubate — to make a fountain from which a lot of great stuff comes," says Bokhour.

*The Glorious Death of Comrade What's-His-Name?* will be performed at 8 p.m. on Friday, March 25, and Saturday, March 26, at the Depot Theatre, at Garrison's Landing. Tickets, which cost \$20 for adults and \$15 for students and seniors, are available at brownpapertickets.com/event/2505952. Visit facebook.com/ComradeWhatsHisName for updates.



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**Zootopia** (PG)

FRI 2:45 5:30 8:15, SAT 12:00 2:45  
5:30 8:15, SUN 1:30 4:00 6:45  
MON 7:00, TUE 1:30 4:15 7:00  
WED & THU 7:00

**10 Cloverfield Lane** (PG13)

FRI 3:30 6:15 9:15, SAT 12:45 3:30  
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# Creatives, Mamas, Friends and Yahoos (from Page 9)

to talk about art — making it, selling it, inspiration for it, technical sides of it, problem solving, coping with periods of withdrawal from it, losing the will to create and sharing that it's okay to lie fallow. The ebb and flow of it all. From 'What glue do you use?' to giving feedback on works in progress."

Stoutenborough says that for her, the group provides a place to "bounce ideas off each other, help solve problems and support each other as we branch out into new work." CoMFY also organizes workshops, often on topics which make artists shudder, such as bookkeeping and tax strategies, self-promotion and even motivation. "After all," says Stoutenborough, "no one thinks of artists this way, but we're small businesses. And there can be a lot of 'Oh my God — sales taxes. Yearly or quarterly — help, I have no idea' moments. We need each other to lead us through the dark."

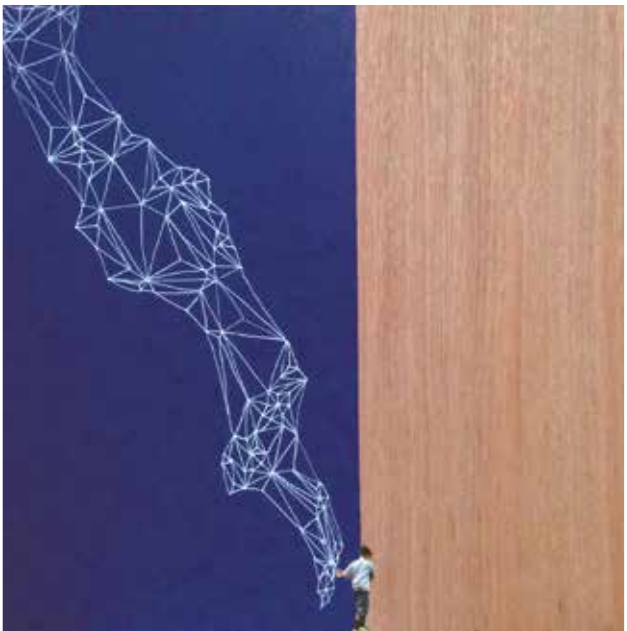
For Stoutenborough, a Michigan native who moved from Brooklyn 10 years ago with her husband, Dan Rigney, and their infant daughter in search of "a place where my daughter could learn to ride a bike, in a park," CoMFY is near and dear to her heart. In addition to her design

*"After all, no one thinks of artists this way, but we're small businesses."*



Gunderpants, by Theresa Gooby

Photo provided



Untitled, by Margot Kingon



Kat Stoutenborough and Michelle Rivas, director of the exhibit space at the Howland Public Library, are shown holding their works featured in the CoMFY exhibit.

Photo by A. Rooney

work (she creates handstitching on book pages, highlighting linked words with finely-designed thread streams that almost form poetry related to the text), she also makes objects out of recycled felted sweaters ("I broke a washing machine," she says with chagrin).

Stoutenborough also updates the Beacon Arts website at beaconarts.org and produces pop-up shops in Beacon focused on Hudson Valley arts, crafts and homemade goods. The most recent was Cherrybomb, which took over Zora Dora on Main Street during the holidays last year.

The Howland Public Library is located at 313 Main St. The exhibit may be closed at times due to other library events; check the calendar at beaconlibrary.org.

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# We Like Books and We Like Letters

*British publisher sets up shop in Beacon*

By Alison Rooney

What a shame it is that the mailbox is looked upon most often with trepidation these days, filled with bills, medical claim denials and solicitations rather than letters. Yet, just as there are still plenty of people who profess a fondness for books (the bound kind, not the “e” variant), there are also plenty who get that flutter from extracting something carefully composed sent to them in a hand-addressed envelope.

The people behind Paravion Press, a specialty printer, publisher and collaborative endeavor, recently relocated from London to Beacon, wear their epistolary hearts on their sleeves. It’s quite evident in their line of products, most of which combine small print runs of short works of literature in the public domain, designed and printed in-house with a blank page upon which to write a note and an envelope scaled to house the book; the package is then sent via mail to a lucky recipient.

As Paravion explains on its website: “We like books. Real books. Paper and ink. And we like letters. Real letters. Paper and ink also. Words, a story, from one person to another, sent from one place to another, arriving in the mail. A rare pleasure these days.”

The love of books, along with a wandering spirit, led Englishman Will Brady and several of his friends to, more or less on a lark, open a bookstore 12 years ago on the Greek island of Santorini. Atlantis Books was run as a collective modeled on Shakespeare and Company in Paris, where itinerant travelers, students, philosophers and the unclassified were encouraged to stay overnight in exchange for a little bit of work plus a little bit of writing.

Seeking to emulate a Socialist utopia of the literary kind, or, as Brady puts it, “partly a silly idea you have when you are young,” Atlantis took hold and in fact is still there, albeit needing assists from time to time, particularly during the 2009 economic meltdown. Fewer people were traveling on holidays where ambling and browsing lead to the kinds of impulse purchases which keep bookstores of this ilk in business. E-readers were gaining in popularity and airline security measures took away the space needed in carry-on bags for the toting home of coffee table books.

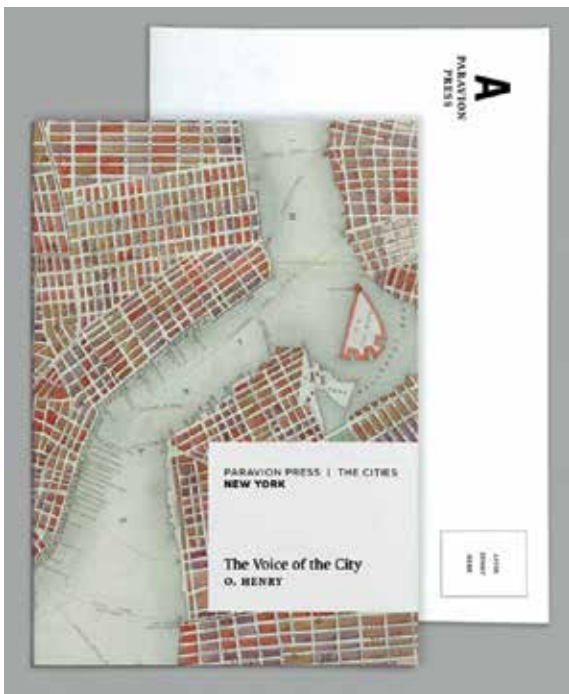
Brady holds an hono(u)r degree in literature and fine art, and received a master’s in American literature from the University of Edinburgh, researching his thesis on Raymond Carver not long after Atlantis opened in part with a three-month-long drive across America. Working in graphic design, Brady merged

his interest in books and design, developing a focus on typography. It was this this hybrid interest, together with the need to figure out a way to keep Atlantis in business, that led to Paravion Press.

“I thought, could we make books tailored to the market we have?” Brady recalls. He got the idea to take things in the public domain, commission colleagues to come up with accompanying designs and then typeset and print them himself to sell in the store.

Working from Project Gutenberg (gutenberg.org), a volunteer-run site that archives works in the public domain, Brady took the text and digitally reconstructed it, printing it on quality paper and assembled the small books by hand — in other words, using modern technologies to create something designed to appeal to those with an affinity for the past.

The initial run, with works by Katherine Mansfield, Saki, Sherwood Anderson, Mark Twain and Anton Chekhov, proved so successful that a mailbox was put inside the bookstore so people could immediately post their purchases. The first titles beget others and illustrations became a component of the next grouping. Then a commission came, asking Paravion to do an illustrated set related to New York comprised of works by O’Henry, Walt Whitman and Maxim Gorky. This was followed by similar sets for London and Madrid. Paravion also produced some original work.



A story by O’Henry, published by Paravion Press as part of their New York series

Photo provided

Paravion’s catalog includes a set of 10 poems by Emily Dickinson, each on its own “aerogramme” type of self-sealing sheet, with room, as always, to write a little something of one’s own, all bundled in a larger package and called, with a wink, E-Mail. There’s also Pony Express, a collection of the 19th-century bulletins assembled in a fold-out broadsheet. More elaborate projects, including one setting off works in English by Edgar Allan Poe



Paravion Press founder and recent addition to Beacon, Will Brady

Photo by A. Rooney

alongside Baudelaire’s French translations as parallel texts, are planned, each within the framework of “tangible correspondence ... paper, ink, words, and of course, the postal service.”

The books are sold around the world, largely through personal contacts. “I happen to be surrounded by people who run bookshops,” Brady says, noting that successful bookshops nowadays “are ones that are event spaces as social hubs. In Edinburgh I worked in a secondhand bookshop where there was very much a feeling that it was a social institution which served a community function.”

Binnacle Books, new to Beacon, is carrying much of Paravion’s line. It was co-owner Corey Eastwood who led both Brady and Paravion to the Hudson Valley. Brady moved to New York “for love,” following his American girlfriend (now wife) to Brooklyn and relocating Paravion from London. “I was trying to do a mail-order business from a tiny, overrun apartment, and I knew I needed to get studio space,” he says.

Finding New York City tremendously expensive, Brady realized he could afford little more than a desk in someone else’s place. Coming up with Eastwood for a day of hiking near Beacon, Brady was inspired. “It seemed like such a functional town, with so much going on to tap into,” he says.

Walking back into the heart of Beacon, he saw a sign outside the old Beacon High School offering studio spaces. He was amazed by the amount of space, enough to start a printing operation. “I don’t want to stare at computer screens all day — I want to do more ‘making,’” he says.

Now in the midst of setting up his quarters — some stock and equipment has yet to arrive from London — Brady is expanding into design and printing services. “Essentially, I have one client now: myself, and now I’d like to provide a service to other people,” he says.

A selection of Paravion Press projects are on hand at Binnacle Books, 321 Main St. and the full catalog can be ordered at paravionpress.org.



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# Music as Devotion

*Scholar and band will share Sufi sounds*

By Joe Dizney

On Thursday, March 17, the Garrison Institute will host a concert, talk and dinner. Pir Zia Inayat-Khan, scholar, teacher and leader of the Inayati Order of Sufism, will open the evening by discussing the history and value of music and sound from a universal Sufi perspective and how it can be used as a devotional practice.

That will be followed by a performance by Riyaaz Qawwali, an ensemble from Austin, Texas, that has a firm grounding in traditional *qawwali* but whose seven members are also trained in Eastern and Western classical music, and to-a-man intentionally reflects and embodies the ethnic, cultural and spiritual diversity of South Asia — India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh. The vocals are supported by an eclectic mix of harmonium, cajon, Punjabi chimta and tablas.

The art of qawwali, a Sufi musical tradition dating back to the 13th century, was transmitted orally: this vocal music was used to bring one closer to the experience of an inner truth. (The word *qaul* refers to an “utterance [of the Prophet]” and the earliest *qawwals* were ecstatic musical repetitions of these sacred utterances.) Phrases or sentences would be lengthened or repeated, emphasizing both obvious and hidden meanings of particular words or syllables. By this process, mundane sounds were imbued with deeper meanings: “a spinning wheel becomes the wheel of life,” to paraphrase Robert Browning of the World Music Institute.

Ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan took semi-classical, vernacular qawwali to heights of popularity in Indian classical



Pir Zia Inayat-Khan

Photo by Jane Feldman

music, world music and ultimately popular circles in the 1980s and 1990s.

“One should make a distinction between two things: *zikr* (or *dhikr*) and *sama*,” says Pir Zia. “In a ‘circle of *zikr*’ — or a personal practice of *zikr* — reciters invoke the essential names of God in Arabic, sometimes in conjunction with passages from the Quran. The name is repeated and the quality that the name

represents is inculcated in the one who recites it as the sound reverberates in the body. That is a very canonical form and derives from the religious texts and has a kind of *sanction* to it which is unique.

“Distinct from that is *sama* (developed two to three centuries before qawwali in the Central Asian region of Khorasan), which is listening to music, and what qawwali fits into.”

Pir Zia’s grandfather, Hazrat Inayat Khan — a classically trained musician — was the founder of the Universal Sufism movement and Inayati Order, in the Chishti lineage of Sufism, which espouses an essential unity of all faiths



Members of Riyaaz Qawwali

Photo provided

and is known for an emphasis on love, tolerance, and openness. (The Chishti believe that qawwali can help devotees “forget the self in the love of Allah.”)

Echoing this non-sectarian openness, Riyaaz Qawwali incorporates works from poets such as Mirza Ghalib, Amir Khusrow, Bulleh Shah, Mir Taqi Mir, Sant Kabir and Guru Nanak in languages including Urdu, Punjabi, Persian and Hindi, creating a unique and universal message of spiritual and cultural inclusion.

Sonny, the group’s artistic director (who democratically requested that we not use his last name) is 31 and is generally representative of the rotating troupe. He is a second-generation American of South Asian heritage, raised in Houston. He was classically trained from the age of 6. (He demurs, “I missed about five years there.”) Early on, he started listening to and performing *ghazals* (a musical form related to the

qawwal and traditionally dealing with one subject — unconditional and superior spiritual love). He attended the University of Texas in Austin, where Riyaaz began “practicing” in 2005 and 2006.

“Practice” translated to Hindi or Urdu is *riyaaz*. “We used to practice a lot and people would ask what we were doing and we’d just say, ‘Riyaaz,’ ” Sonny said. “Friends begin to say, ‘Oh yeah, ‘Riyaaz’ is meeting up.’ When it came time to perform and we were asked how we wanted to be introduced, a friend who was there said, ‘Why don’t you just call yourselves Riyaaz Qawwali ‘cos that’s all you seem to do anyway.’”

Calling the band “Practice” made sense. “It’s *not* work — all we’re doing is preparing for that final performance before God,” Sonny says. Asked about the poetic freedoms the group has determinedly pursued within the traditional forms, Sonny explained: (Continued on Page 18)

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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS



The poster for HVSF's production of *Our Town*

## HVSF Casting for *Our Town*

*Seeking community members to fill roles*

To mark its 30th anniversary season, the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival will be presenting Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* with members of the community performing as actors, singers and dancers. The production's director, John Christian Plummer, has scheduled workshops in Philipstown, Beacon, Newburgh and Peekskill to introduce the project and conduct theater and team-building exercises.

The Philipstown workshops take place in Garrison at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, and 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 9 at the Desmond-Fish Library at 472 Route 403. In Beacon the workshop will be at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 11, and 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 16, at St. Andrew's Church, 17 South Ave.

The Newburgh workshops at Safe Harbors of the Hudson, Lobby at the Ritz, 107 Broadway, are set for 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 12 and 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 30. The Peekskill workshops will take place at the Paramount Theater at 1008 Brown St., at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 15 and 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 2.

Following the introductory workshops, there will be two full-group workshops for those who would like to take part in the production. They will be at 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 23, at St. Mary's Church in Cold Spring and at 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 30, at the Desmond-Fish Library.

Walk-ins are welcome, or you may regis-

ter by emailing Emily Knapp at [eknapp@hvshakespeare.org](mailto:eknapp@hvshakespeare.org) or calling 845-809-5748, ext. 20. For more information, visit [hvshakespeare.org/whats-playing/our-town.html](http://hvshakespeare.org/whats-playing/our-town.html).

## Camp Registration Opens March 14

*Theater and fire academy fill quickly*

Registration for summer camps offered in June, July and August by the Philipstown Recreation Department opens on Monday, March 14, for Philipstown residents and March 21 for non-residents. This year's offerings include the popular theater productions for students entering grades 1 to 7 and the Junior Fire Academy at the Cold Spring Fire Department for grades 4 to 8.

Students in grades 1 to 3 will be performing *Stories for the Stage* after a week-long session of morning rehearsals. The first session runs August 1 to 5 and the second from August 8 to 12. The cost is \$150 per week.

Grades 4 to 7 will be presenting the musical *Mary Poppins*, with direction by teen directors Harper Levy, Corydon Zousias, Jeremy Roffman, Allie Larocco, Ronan Wood-Gallagher, Jocelyn Lane and Noga Cabo and musical director Paul Heckert. The classes run from June 27 to July 21, with performances at the Philipstown Depot Theatre from July 21 to 24. The cost is \$595.

Finally, grades 8 to 12 will perform the musical *Damn Yankees* under the direction of Katie Bissinger, vocal coach Linda Speziale and music director Heckert. Rehearsals will take place from 3 to 6 p.m. four days a week from June 27 to July 28, with performances at the Depot Theatre on July 28 to 31. The cost is \$495.

The fire academy, which is free, will take place from July 25 to 29. It is open to Philipstown residents only, and only 50 children may attend.

To register, call 845-424-4618 after 8:30 a.m. on March 14. For more information, visit [philipstownrecreation.com](http://philipstownrecreation.com).

## Spring Break Camps

*Where to send the kids March 21-25*

A number of organizations are offering spring break day camps during the week of March 21 to 25.

**Scenic Hudson** will offer an afternoon hands-on science museum from 2 to 5 p.m. on Tuesday through Friday at its River Center at Long Dock Park in Beacon. Guided programs will be provided at 3 and 4 p.m. on fishing (March 22), orienteering (March 23), binoculars and bird

identification (March 24) and looking for signs of animals (March 25). The events are rain or shine. For information, call 845-473-4440, ext. 238, or visit [scenichudson.org](http://scenichudson.org).

The **Hudson Highlands Nature Museum** will host a camp for students ages 6 to 9 at its Outdoor Discover Center on Muser Drive, across from 174 Angola Road in Cornwall. It runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Register by the day or for the full five-day session. Pre-paid registration is required. Museum members are \$42 per day and non-members, \$48. Visit [hnhm.org](http://hnhm.org) or call 845-534-5506, ext. 204.

The **John Jay Homestead State Historic Site** in Katonah will host a camp for children in grades 2 to 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, March 23 - 25. The fee is \$40 per day for members of the Friends of John Jay Homestead at the family level or higher or \$50 otherwise. To register, visit [johnjayhomestead.org/events](http://johnjayhomestead.org/events). On March 23, the theme will be colonial life; on March 24, the history of New York state; and on March 25, "Around the World with John Jay." The site is located at 400 Route 22.

**All Sport Fishkill** has a camp for children ages 5 to 12 that runs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily at its facility at 17 Old Main St. It includes sports, games, swimming and arts and crafts. The fee is \$50 per day for club members and \$60 otherwise, and registration is required. Call 845-896-5678.



Exploring during the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum spring break camp

*Photo provided*

## PHAS Sets Annual Dinner for March 19

*Butterfly expert Charlie Roberto to speak*

The Putnam Highlands Audubon Society will hold its annual dinner at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 19 at the Taconic Outdoor Education Center off Route 301 in Cold Spring. The speaker will be Charlie Roberto, who will discuss the importance of butterflies as pollinators. Roberto has been a member of the New York City and



Monarch butterfly

*Photo by Charlie Roberto.*

North American butterfly clubs for more than 30 years and also created butterfly lists for Teatown Lake Reservation and the Anne Odell Garden at Hubbard Lodge in Cold Spring.

To attend the dinner, contact Adele Stern by Thursday, March 17, at [ajstern1@gmail.com](mailto:ajstern1@gmail.com) or 845-265-4432. The cost is \$45 per person.

## Fabric and Flow

*Art center opens two new exhibits*

The Riverside Galleries at the Garrison Art Center will host a reception for new exhibits by Juliet Martin and Charles Luce from 5 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 19.

Luce's exhibit, *The Anatomy of a FLOW*, includes installations of dense pictorial narratives. "Rivers have always been a fascination for me," he says. "They embody such a wealth of metaphoric, physical and spiritual significance." The exhibit includes several installations inspired by the Hudson River.

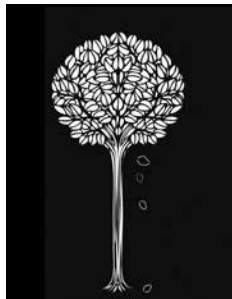
In the adjacent gallery, Juliet Martin's installation "I Would Wear That" presents a collection of fiber pieces that has evolved through the mediums of digital design, writing and ceramics. "Their only function is to look nice; I wove with colors I like to wear," she says. "Color-coordinated and pretty is good. Functionality is overrated."

The exhibits run through April 17. The Riverside Galleries are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. For more information, visit [garrisonartcenter.org](http://garrisonartcenter.org) or call 845-424-3960. The Garrison Art Center is located on Garrison's Landing.



Artwork by Juliet Martin

*Photo provided*



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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Scouts assembled with Father Thomas Kiely at Our Lady of Loretto on Scout Sunday

Photo provided

## Scout Sunday at Loretto

## Boys and girls recognized

The Girl Scouts of Hudson Highlands and the Philipstown Boy Scouts celebrated Scout Sunday on Sunday, March 6, at Our Lady of Loretto in Cold Spring. The scouts attended the 8:30 a.m. mass, after which they and the congregation enjoyed refreshments provided by the Girl Scouts in the parish hall.

Two Cub Scouts from Philipstown Pack 137 earned the Light of Christ religious emblem, which was presented by Scout Leader Tom Campanile. This award recognizes the duty to God in the Boy Scout oath and is awarded by the parish to Cub Scouts who complete the requirements of study and service for the emblem.

## K of C Sets Date for Egg Hunt

## Open to children ages 8 and younger

The Knights of Columbus, Loretto Council No. 536, will hold its annual Easter Egg Hunt at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 19, at McConville Park on Route 9D in Cold Spring. Boys and girls ages 8 and younger may participate and should bring their own baskets. The rain date is March 26.

## Beacon

## Author to Present Free Workshop

## Julie Chibbaro will discuss technique



Julie Chibbaro

Photo provided

The author Julie Chibbaro will present a free writing workshop from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 19, at the Howland Public Library at 313 Main St. in Beacon. Because space is limited,

registration is required at the library's front desk. Topics covered will include character and plot building, techniques to bust through writer's block and insider tips on the "how" of getting your writing published. This is an active, hands-on event; be sure to bring pen and paper.

Chibbaro, who lives in Beacon, is the author of *Into the Dangerous World* (Viking) which received a *Publisher's Weekly* starred review and was a Junior Library Guild Selection; *Deadly* (Simon & Schuster, Scholastic), which won the National Jewish Book Award; and *Redemption* (Simon & Schuster) which won the American Book Award. For more information, visit juliechibbaro.com.

## Mount Gulian to Host Spring Tea

## Adults must be accompanied by a child

The Mount Gulian Historic Site will host its annual Children's Spring Tea from noon to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 23. The event, one of the site's most popular, combines genteel fun, good manners and education about a bygone era in a setting where social teas were once standard fare.

Now in its 11th year, the spring break tea is offered is held in Mount Gulian's two main rooms, with tables set with fine linens, china and porcelain tea pots. "Many of our young guests dress for the occasion, boys and girls alike," said Executive Director Elaine Hayes. "Afternoon teas were popular at many Hudson Valley homes, including Mount Gulian, home of the Verplanck family. This event recreates a leisurely, lovely custom, when days were far less hectic."

The menu will include assorted Harney & Sons teas, scones and breads, dainty finger sandwiches and a selection of homemade desserts. A craft project for the children will also be offered. The next tea will take place in December.

The cost for the event is \$15 for children and \$20 for adults. Adults must be accompanied by a child. Prepaid reservations are due by March 17. For more information, call 845-831-8172 or visit mountgulian.org. Mount Gulian is located at 145 Sterling St.

## VanBuren named 2016 Woman of History

## Former Beacon Historical Society president

On March 13, Denise Doring VanBuren will receive the Martha Washington Woman of History Award presented annually by Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site in Newburgh to a woman who's contributed to Hudson Valley history through education, promotion and preservation. Call 845-562-1195 for details on attending the presentation.

VanBuren, who is vice president of public relations for Central Hudson Gas & Electric, is the organizing secretary general of the Daughters of the American Revolution and serves on the boards of Dutchess Tourism, Dutchess Community College, the Dutchess County Historical Society, Locust Grove Estate and the Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist College. She's also a five-term past president of the Beacon Historical Society and co-authored the books *Historic Beacon* and *Beacon Revisited*.



Denise Doring VanBuren

Photo provided

## The Scribbleheads



The Scribbleheads have taken over the Catalyst Gallery in Beacon, which will hold a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. on March 12. For more Second Saturday events, see Page 10.

## Trio of Friends Will Play Howland

## Shared summers at Marlboro Festival

The Goldstein-Peled-Filterstein Trio — longtime friends Alon (piano), Amit (cello) and Alex (clarinet), respectively — bound by their Israeli roots and summers shared in Vermont at the Marlboro Music Festival, will perform at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon at 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 13.

The trio has chosen to play Beethoven's *Piano Trio in B-flat Major, Opus 11*, Schubert's *Impromptus Opus 90 No. 2 and 3*, Ernest Bloch's *From Jewish Life — 3 Sketches for Cello and Piano*, Shulamit Ran's *For an Actor: Monologue for Clarinet Solo*, and *Trio for Piano, Clarinet and Cello in A minor, Opus 114* by Brahms.

The concert will be followed by a reception with the artists. Tickets are \$30 (\$10 for students) at the Howland Chamber Music Circle website at howlandmusic.org, or they can be reserved by calling 845-765-3012. The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St.



The Goldstein-Peled-Filterstein Trio

Photo provided



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## Music as Devotion *(from Page 15)*

"There are three aspects to music and South Asian music has always taken a lot of liberty with the first two — melody and rhythm. There's a lot of improv happening on those ends. The third aspect is lyrical ... Qawwali has a lot of room to play there."

Because members of the group have many religious and ethnic backgrounds, "we believe there is a pan-South Asian identity, an identity that is being revealed, we talk about that," Sonny says. "Sufi qawwali has been a place for interfaith dialogue ... It's not maybe what's highlighted by the 'senior' qawwals today, but that's maybe where we've been lucky."

"We're thinking about us being American; South Asian, right? Indian, Pakistani, Afghani and Pakistani, but we are Americans first of all, thinking about how to share this with American [English-speaking] audiences."

"The art needs to move on; the artist need to evolve. The message of interfaith and love that qawwali talks about is more important than the hatred that is spewed from jihadists, or hardcore ... even Hindus. We need to share not only the music, but the message that is behind it."

And they've been sharing musically, as well: At last year's Richmond Folk Festival, Riyaaz Qawwali shared a program with The Campbell Brothers Sacred Steel guitar players and Zedashe, a Gregorian chant ensemble from Russian Georgia. They're looking forward to a mooted collaboration later this year with a Baptist gospel choir for the Interfaith Ministries of Houston.

"We believe our performances to be only half on us, and the other half on our audiences," Sonny says. "Qawwali is supposed to be a practice of ecstasy to bring people into an intellectual conversation between the audience and performers."

"We've made a mosque on one side and a temple on the other side. You know, the better species than us are birds — one day they'll go sit on the roof of a mosque; one day on the roof of a temple ... whereas, we don't. Let's all be one. That's what qawwali does, or can do."

The talk and concert begin at 7 p.m., following a vegetarian dinner prepared by Fresh Company at 6 p.m. The price is \$25 for the talk and concert or \$50 with dinner. To reserve seats, call 845-424-4800 or visit [thegarrisoninstitute.org](http://thegarrisoninstitute.org).

## Obituary

### Patricia Ewing Richter

(1926-2016)

Patricia (Patty) Ewing Richter, a resident of Manhattan; Sorrento, Maine; and Garrison, passed away on the morning of March 1, 2016, just a few weeks short of her 90th birthday, at Kendal-on-Hudson in Sleepy Hollow. She passed peacefully following a brief but valiant struggle with sudden and complex health issues. She was surrounded by family, dear friends and expert professional caregivers throughout the last month of her decline.

Patty was born in New York City on March 17, 1926, to William F.C. Ewing and Emily Fordyce Dodge. She was a proud New Yorker whose grandmother told her that the St Patrick's Day Parade on Fifth Avenue was in honor of her! She loved music, and until recently was able to enjoy monthly trips to the New York Philharmonic with her lifelong friend, Edie. She was also an unwavering Yankees fan.

Patty met the love of her life, Peter, after World War II and they were married in June 1949. She is survived by her three devoted sons and their wives: Eric (Amy) and Peter (Kathy) of Garrison, and Curt (Jaana) of Helsinki, Finland. Patty is also survived by her four beloved grandchildren, Paul and Elizabeth of Garrison, and Marianna and William of Finland, and by her sisters, Fordyce Van Winkle and Jennifer Ewing, as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Patty was intensely proud of her three sons and she loved each of her grandchildren unconditionally, and delighted in their unique interests and talents. Patty was also like a "second Mom" to the Roy and Perkins families, and during her summers in Sorrento, she befriended many young people who have become adult friends. Patty worked as Rep. Bill Green's chief of staff and also as Mayor John V. Lindsay's Commissioner



for Volunteers. She began life as a Republican but later in life became a Democrat and was fiercely political.

Kendal was a place where Patty thrived. There she enjoyed the company of the many dear friends she made, and rarely missed her weekly games of Mahjong. She also attended a variety of activities, including conferences and musical events, and participated in the bell choir. She will be fondly remembered at Kendal for her sincere interest in the staff, and for her love of grilled cheese sandwiches, coffee with a lot of milk, and chocolate, particularly Hershey bars.

A memorial service is planned for May 21 at St. Philip's Church in Garrison and also on July 23 at Church of the Redeemer in Sorrento. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations in Patty's memory to Doctors Without Borders (P.O. Box 5030, Hagerstown, MD 21741, or [donate.doctorswithoutborders.org](http://donate.doctorswithoutborders.org)), or the Maine Sea Coast Mission (127 West St., Bar Harbor, ME 04609, or [seacoastmission.org](http://seacoastmission.org)).



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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

## Workshop Announcement

*Connecting head to pelvis through the spine.*

Explore dynamic balance with Mary Newell on Saturday, March 19, from 1 to 4 p.m. at her Garrison studio.

Whether your goal is to relieve back or other musculoskeletal discomfort, improve alignment and coordination, or enhance performance in dance or sports, the Feldenkrais Method can help!

Using highly effective movement sequences, participants will explore the interconnectedness of the core skeleton, from pelvis to head. In the process, they may release habitual tensions, improve



Mary Newell

Photo provided

alignment, ease and range of movement, and strengthen the sense of coordinated presence. The sequences are structured so that each participant can self-regulate to make them appropriately challenging, relaxing and deeply beneficial.

For more information and to register, call Mary Newell at (845) 424-6056 or email mnewell4@gmail.com. The fee is \$50. Participants can arrange for pickup from the Garrison train station.

For more information see flexible-comfort.weebly.com. Mary Newell Ph. D., a certified practitioner of The Feldenkrais Method of Somatic Education, has a broad background in holistic healing. She has taught Awareness through Movement (Feldenkrais) and Writing for Healing in adult education venues, at Wainwright House and at The NY Open Center. She offers individual sessions in Garrison NY.

## State Parks Hiring Summer Lifeguards

*Exams take place in Yorktown Heights*

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation is accepting applications for summer 2016 lifeguard positions at Canopus Beach, which is part of Clarence Fahnestock Memorial State Park, and for the pool at Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR) State Park.

Lifeguard exams will be held at 9 a.m. on March 19, April 2 and May 21 at Copper Beech Middle School, 3401 Old Yorktown

Road, in Yorktown Heights, although applicants may take the exam anywhere it is offered statewide. The exam evaluates lifesaving and CPR skills. Candidates are required to bring photo ID and pocket masks for the CPR test.

Canopus Beach is located near the intersection of the Taconic State Parkway and Route 301, near Carmel. The FDR State Park is located along the Taconic in Yorktown Heights. The starting pay for lifeguards at Fahnestock is \$13.27 per hour, and the starting pay at FDR State Park is \$16.11 per hour. Registration is encouraged; call Gerri Covert at 845-889-3814.

## Dutchess County Names Poet Laureate

*Robert Kelly chosen from 39 candidates*

Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro has appointed Robert Kelly of Annandale as the county's first Poet Laureate, after Arts Mid-Hudson weighed 39 nominations from the public and made a recommendation.

"In honoring me," said Kelly, "Dutchess County is honoring the hundreds of poets who live here — some connected to two of America's greatest liberal arts colleges, Vassar and Bard, and many more independent or with other allegiances."

Kelly, who read two poems on Jan. 27 at the State of Dutchess County address by Molinaro, will serve for one year in the honorary, unpaid position, bringing po-

etry to the county through readings and events. Kelly has published more than 50 books of poetry and prose, and his poems and stories have been translated into Spanish, Portuguese, French, Italian, German and Serbian. He is a professor of literature and co-director of the Program in Written Arts at Bard College, where he has taught since 1961.

## Clearwater Appoints Interim Head

*Conover had been education director*

Hudson River Sloop Clearwater appointed its education director, Dave Conover, as interim executive director while the Beacon non-profit searches for a long-term successor to Peter Gross, who resigned in January.

Conover, who joined Clearwater in 1991 and had been education director since 2007, holds a bachelor's degree in forest biology from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry and a master's degree in environmental studies with a teaching certification from Antioch University New England. He supervises Clearwater's microplastic research project.

"I'm grateful to everyone who has rallied to help Clearwater," Conover said. "Our focus now is to get the resources we need to complete the restoration of the sloop [Clearwater] and get her sailing again." The boat is undergoing restoration in Kingston.

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## Sports

# Who Would Have Imagined?

*After slow start, Haldane boys reach hoops final four*

By Jeffrey McDaniel

To repeat is not easy, on any level in sports. In the pros, you can sign a star player to a long-term contract and that can help. In college, you spend months recruiting strong players who can give you four solid years. But in high school? The deck gets re-shuffled much quicker.

In 2015, Section One had teams from four schools reach the state's final four in boys' basketball, held at the Glen Falls Civic Center. But this year's final four, which will held this weekend, is a different story. Top-ranked Mount Vernon in Class AA got bounced in the Section One finals. Woodlands, which finished ranked second in the state in Class B, got bounced in the semi-finals. The only Section One team returning to Glen Falls is Haldane in Class C.

The Blue Devils play Moravia (a school in the Finger Lakes region) in the quarter-finals of the Class C state tournament at the Glen Falls Civic Center at 3:15 p.m. on Friday, March 11. If Haldane wins, it will play the winner of the other quarterfinal between Middle Early College High in Buffalo or AuSable Valley in Clintonville, in the far northeast corner of the state.

How did this happen? Who in the 10516 zip code can say they believed when practice began on Nov. 1 that the boys' team would be going back to the final four? Who

can say they believed it on Feb. 1, when the Blue Devils, at 10-8, had lost nearly half their games? The 2015 team graduated its star, Peter Hoffmann, now playing for Hamilton College, and 6-foot-7 Edmund Fitzgerald, now at Castleton in Vermont. They graduated point guard Ryan McCollum and big man Garrett Quigley, whose injured ankle hurt the team against Lake George last year in the semi-finals. They graduated Nick Allen and Tanner Froats. That's 80 percent of the starting line-up, representing some 40 points per game.

If you doubted this team, you're not alone. The Blue Devils finished 11-9 in the regular season. After getting pummeled by Putnam Valley in early February by 30 points, they weren't expected to advance beyond their first tournament game on Feb. 24 against Tuckahoe, and if they managed that, certainly not against their second opponent, which turned out to be Hamilton.

But what a team does in December and January is not a reliable measure; it's what it does in late February and March. The 2016 Haldane team peaked at the right time.

Much credit must go to Coach Joe Virgadamo. You can look at the minute — the end of the regional finals game against Stony Brook on March 4, for instance, where Virgadamo used four team fouls to shrink the game two seconds at a time until Stony Brook was left with the ball and only 10 seconds on the clock. It was a bold move that could have backfired had Stony Brook scored. Or you can step back for a larger picture — the consistently fierce



The Blue Devils celebrate their 35-34 win over Stony Brook in the Class C regional final March 4 at Pace University.

Photo by Peter Farrell

and well-orchestrated Blue Devils defense. Haldane held Stony Brook to 34 points. They held Tuckahoe scoreless for more than 10 minutes in the second half of the semi-finals.

You also can't discount the play of the team's seniors. Will Zuvic has become a beast in the paint, with a feathery touch and a hound dog's instinct for the ball. Everything went through Zuvic offensively against Stony Brook, and he handled it well. What happened to Tucker Beachak in the play offs? He played at the Westchester County Center like it was his driveway hoop, scoring with a mixture of threes, running jumpers and drives to the glass. There will be a long rebound, the ball shooting into the corner, several players around, and David Rotando will zip

into the fray and snatch it. In the Hamilton game on Feb. 27 he gave a hard foul to prevent a lay-up, the opponent's star player and coach both imploded, the referees called multiple technicals and the game was transformed in 30 seconds.

You might not see much on the stat sheet from Nick Chiera and Eric Rizzi, but they have been tough on defense and made timely buckets. Finally, Blaine Fitzgerald's improvement over the year has been essential. Against Tuckahoe, he went three quarters of the length of the court after a steal for a lay-up. He's also handling the defense, rebounds and short jumpers.

The Class C championship game is scheduled for 7:15 p.m. on Saturday, March 12. It's no longer hard to believe Haldane will be there.

## Dear Friends & Neighbors,

*Last year, you put your trust in us, and we have taken that trust seriously. We've spent this year working hard — resolving unfinished business of previous administrations and carrying forward long-term Village projects.*

*We rolled-up our sleeves and tackled these issues because — like you — we love our Village. Our families and lives are here. We too, know we're fortunate to live here, and we are committed to ensuring that Cold Spring remains the wonderful Village it is.*

*In the coming year we will continue our focus on efficiencies, improved services and increasing non-tax revenues for our Village, as well as attending to our dams, streets, waterfront, and other major projects, while planning for the significant investments these will require.*

*We are voting for Lynn Miller and Steve Voloto because they share our values. Cold Spring needs Trustees who can work together, Trustees who can disagree respectfully, and stay focused on the issues at hand, and Trustees who have our Village and our neighbors at heart. Lynn and Steve are those Trustees. Lynn and Steve are honest and hardworking. They are dedicated to working for you.*

*On March 15th, please join us in voting for Lynn Miller and Steve Voloto for Trustee!*

*Sincerely,  
Mayor Dave Merandy  
Trustee Marie Early  
Trustee Fran Murphy*

