Eagles Get Busy

Record number of breeder pairs includes two couples here

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The eagle has landed — and stayed to raise chicks.

The state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) reported on July 3 that a record number of bald eagles — at least 323 pairs — nested in New York this year. That includes two couples in the Highlands, both with at least one chick.

Statewide, New York recorded 309 nesting pairs in 2016 and 264 in 2015. In 1970, by contrast, there was one pair reported.

This year, one pair nested along the river in Hudson Highlands State Park and the other near Constitution Marsh in Garrison.

Evan Thompson, assistant park manager for the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, said the Hudson Highlands park eagles had a nest with multiple chicks. “Sightings in the area have become quite common and the eagles, though still protected, seem to be making a strong comeback,” he said.

To the south, the Constitution Marsh pair appears to have had a chick this summer, said Eric Lind, the director at the Audubon Center there.

The state’s Conservation Plan for Bald Eagles in New York State, released in March 2016, notes that the birds sometimes occupy one nest but maintain others nearby.

Once common in North America, eagles began disappearing after development ruined their habitats and they were killed deliberately or destroyed through practices such as the widespread use of insecticides. (The pair spotted in 1970 produced DDT-contaminated eggs that never hatched.) By the late 20th century, few bald eagles remained in the wild in the lower 48 states.

Thanks to human intervention — positive, this time — the 1970 pair eventually managed a full nest. As part of an eagle-restoration effort, wildlife officials in 1978 recruited them as foster parents for nestlings hatched elsewhere; the pair raised eight eaglets in eight years, accord-

Beacon Mulls Development Ban

Mayor expresses concern over water supply

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon City Council is considering a six-month moratorium on residential development because of concerns about its long-term water supply.

Beacon Mayor Randy Casale said at the council’s July 10 meeting that the city is drafting the moratorium because Beacon is growing faster than expected but has not added new water sources to its inventory.

Because the council would have to schedule a public hearing and have the city and county planning boards review the proposed legislation, a moratorium would likely not be adopted until at least September.

However, the moratorium would be retroactive to July 3, with construction projects underway or already under review by the Beacon Planning Board exempted. As drafted, it would not apply to commercial building.

Casale’s announcement comes after weeks of pressure from residents to slow the pace of development. At the council’s July 3 meeting, about a month after the formation of the grassroots Beacon People’s Committee on Development, more than a dozen people asked for a one-year moratorium, citing the potential impact of the more than 1,200 housing units that are under construction, being reviewed or in discussion.

Neighbors Protest Proposed Cell Tower

Landfill option from 2014 back on table

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Neighbors of a proposed cell tower near the intersection of Routes 9 and 301 brought their concerns back to the Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals on July 10 before repeating them the following night to the Conservation Board.

They had earlier objected to the project in June. ZBA Chairman Robert Dee said the board had received 55 letters about the proposal.

The proposed tower came up at a June 7 Town Board meeting as well. As the debate continued, public...
Open Space Institute Buys Easement on Garrison Park

Pays $200,000 to conserve Landing waterfront

By Chip Rowe

For $200,000, the Open Space Institute has purchased an easement on the 1-acre waterfront strip on Garrison’s Landing, turning the area into a public park and preventing it from being developed.

OSI announced the agreement on July 6 with the nonprofit Garrison’s Landing Association and Garrison Station Plaza, which each owns part of Riverfront Park. The landing association received $70,000, the plaza got $120,000 and OSI kept $10,000 for management, said Del Karlen, president of Garrison Station Plaza.

The ownership of the land remains with the two landing groups, but should it ever be sold or change hands, the easement would continue to restrict development and provide for public access.

“We wanted to know more about what OSI had in mind for the land,” Karlen said of discussions by members of the two landing groups about whether to sell an easement. “They don’t want it developed and we have no plans to develop it, and they wanted a plan for public access and we want to provide public access.”

Riverfront Park contains a gazebo, a grassy common, benches and willow trees, as well as a launch spot for kayaks and canoes and a ferry that takes cadets to and from West Point. The easement allows public access through a strip of land off Dock Street, at the northern end of the landing, and also to the Metro-North station at the southern end.

The waterfront area has long been the site of the Garrison Art Center’s annual Arts and Crafts Fair and offers a scenic view of the United States Military Academy. It lies adjacent to the Garrison Landing Historic District, a 5.3-acre area with buildings dating to the 1850s that once housed Garrison’s post office, library, firehouse and Forson’s general store (now the art center), as well as the 1892 railway depot that is now the Philipstown Depot Theatre.

Since its founding in 1974, OSI has preserved nearly 13,000 acres in Putnam County through the purchase of property or easements, including land at Manitoga, Philipstown Town Park and Fahnestock and Hudson Highlands state parks.

Neighbors Protest Proposed Cell Tower (from Page 1)

officials questioned the need for the cell tower on Vineyard Road, which would be the fifth installed in Philipstown.

Homeland Towers, which would install the 180-foot structure for Verizon Wireless, says it would expand coverage in the area. Robert Gaudioso, an attorney for the project, said in June that planners do not rely on consumer complaints about dead spots but instead use a standard industry calculation to determine the number of towers needed. The tower could also provide coverage for three other wireless companies as well as accommodate Putnam County emergency services.

At the same time, the town’s old landfill, now partly utilized by recycling operations, has re-emerged as an alternative. In 2014, Homeland Towers asked to rent space there for a tower, but talks with the Town Board ended when residents objected. The landfill, at 59 Lane Gate Road, is about one-third of a mile from the Vineyard Road site.

During its July 10 session, the ZBA, the lead agency for reviewing the project, said it would hold a joint public hearing with the Conservation Board, which must consider the tower’s effects, if any, on wetlands and (.Continued on Page 6)
Test Results Due Soon on Herbicide Use Near Brook

Putnam County still slow to respond to concerns

By Michael Turton

Putnam County officials have been stingy with information and slow to respond to questions raised by the spraying of herbicides near Cold Spring’s drinking water supply, according to the village water superintendent.

At the July 11 meeting of the Village Board, Greg Phillips said his major concern is the use of herbicides along three sections of Fishkill Road where it transects Foundry Brook, which supplies drinking water to both Cold Spring and Nelsonville.

“Communications (with the county) have been an issue,” he said, noting he has attempted since June 7 to get information regarding the herbicide concentrations and application, as well as the name of the company hired by the county to apply the chemicals.

He told The Current on July 13 that he had still not received the information. One of the herbicides, glyphosate, includes a warning that it should not be used near surface water.

While Phillips expressed concern that the use of herbicides has continued near Foundry Brook despite assurances from Putnam County last year that the practice would be abandoned, he said he was optimistic that no damage has been done to the village water supply.

He pointed out that there is no visible die-off of vegetation beyond the narrow strip that has been sprayed beneath guardrails. Dilution of any overspray would also reduce the risk of contamination, he said.

Phillips said test results from water samples taken from Foundry Brook upstream and downstream of the treatment plant on Fishkill Road will be available in about a week. He said he had asked Putnam County officials for confirmation in writing that herbicides will no longer be used along the road and recommended the Village Board make the same request.

In other business …

• Greg Wunner, who enforces building codes for the newly merged Cold Spring and Philipstown building departments, asked that one set of fees be established.

• Several residents of Church Street have requested approval for a block party to be held on either Aug. 26 or 27. The proposal calls for closing the street to traffic.

• A public hearing has been scheduled for July 27 at Village Hall regarding recommendations from the Code Update Committee.

• Trustees approved a recommendation by Cold Spring Police Officer in-Charge Larry Burke to hire Karl Vollmer, a Hopewell Junction resident who graduated from the New York City Police Academy in 2016, as an officer for $21 per hour. The department is still down three officers due to medical leaves and a resignation. Officers answered 80 calls in June. Burke said, and issued 51 parking tickets and 14 tickets for moving violations, including eight for speeding. Two arrests were made, one on a charge of driving while intoxicated and another on a warrant for harassment.

• Philipstown Town Board Member Bob Flaherty reported that reconstruction of the Avery Road bridge is nearing completion. Installation of guardrails is expected within two weeks.

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• Philipstown Town Board Member Bob Flaherty reported that reconstruction of the Avery Road bridge is nearing completion. Installation of guardrails is expected within two weeks.
Whose money?

In the July 7 issue, you reported that “Cuomo Supplies $1 Billion for Urgent Transit Infrastructure Upgrades.” You mean, taxpayers supplied $1 billion... Mary Fris, Beacon

Smith settlement

Putnam County should have no obligation to indemnify Sheriff Donald Smith for any conduct outside of his official duties, which Smith has acknowledged was the case in this particular lawsuit (“Putnam Will Pay in Defamation,” June 30). I assume that the county’s insurance carrier declined to contribute to the settlement precisely because of that acknowledgment.

It is one thing for the county to contribute cash to the settlement but another entirely not to pursue a claim against Smith for reimbursement of the $125,000 it paid. Perhaps we should look into a derivative suit on behalf of taxpayers if the county doesn’t take appropriate action.

Alison Anthoine, Cold Spring

I would have thought the Defense and Indemnification section of the Public County code would exclude indemnification for willful misconduct by an employee. That is a standard legal provision. If the exclusion is there, then the county had no business indemnifying Smith. If the exclusion is not there, then shame on the County Legislature for approving the law in the first place.

Diana Hird, Cold Spring

Editor’s note: Chapter 35 of the Putnam County code, adopted in 1985, says it is “liable for the costs, including, but not limited to, any judgment obtained against an employee, the amount of any settlement of a claim or attorneys’ fees and litigation expenses incurred under the provisions of § 18 of the [state] Public Officers Law.” But a provision of Section 18 states that, “except as otherwise provided by law, the duty to indemnify and save harmless prescribed by this subdivision shall not arise where the injury or damage resulted from intentional wrongdoing or recklessness on the part of the employee.”

Saturation point

Tim Dexter, Beacon’s building inspector, says that we will know the city has reached a saturation point with development when the schools are bursting at the seams (“Sticking to the Plan,” June 30). How is that a finish line? That is a worst-case scenario and something to be avoided at all costs, not something to see as an end goal.

Beacon spends among the lowest amount per pupil of any school district in Dutchess County and, like everywhere in New York, must adhere to a 2 percent tax cap. Adding thousands of residents while being unable to raise school taxes, and taking the stance that “we’ll stop developing once the schools become overcrowded,” is not in line with what Beacon residents with school-aged children want to see.

Public school parents in Beacon need to stay vigilant to preserve the gains we have made and ensure our efforts to keep improving the Beacon City School District are not undermined by the interests of developers.

Lori Merhige, Beacon

Taking it to the Street

What would you miss most if it were to become extinct?

“Bees. It would devastate the ecology.” — Evan Padro, Beacon

“My children and I love tigers. My older son gave his brother a white toy tiger when he was born.” — Rheam Deans, Hopewell Junction

“Old-growth forests.” — Bill Metzger, Hopewell Junction

Expenditures Per Student

Beacon: $22,913
New York state (median): $24,651
Haldane: $28,542
Garrison: $35,253

Source: NYSED, based on 2017-18 budgets/enrollment
Beacon Mulls Development Ban (from Page 1)

On July 5, the Beacon school board adopted a resolution requesting that the school district be designated an “interested agency” in reviewing proposed developments.

But at the July 10 meeting, Casale, who has pushed for “smart growth” in Beacon, said the moratorium comes down to one thing: H2O.

“If somebody makes me satisfy that we have water, I’m willing to move along with development,” he said. “But until then, I’m not willing to be the person who built the city out of water.”

There are 541 housing units under construction in Beacon, Casale said, with 402 more under review by the Planning Board. Together, the development could add as many as 2,300 people to the city’s population, bringing it to 16,735, he said.

The city’s 2007 comprehensive plan indicates that Beacon’s water supplies — which are drawn from the Melzingah, Mount Beacon and Cargill reservoirs and additional storage tanks — can sustain a population of 17,800, which is 7,000 people above the city’s current population.

Edgewater would be the city’s largest development to date, but architect Aryeh Siegel said that “more modern environmental planning” will reduce its footprint.

By clustering the apartments — project officials are seeking variances to allow added stories per building with less space between them — as much as 65 percent of the 12-acre site will be landscaped or saved as open space, Siegel said. Additional plans call for collecting rainwater and using energy-efficient construction techniques and materials, he said.

The project, which drew considerable criticism in previous public hearings, would require about 4,500 gallons of water per day, although that figure is accounted for in the numbers Casale cited on July 10.

The complex would have about 558 residents — not all of them new to Beacon or with school-age children — and its estimated impact on the school system would be an additional 47 students, which Edgewater consultants called “negligible.”

The public hearing on the proposal will continue at the Planning Board’s August meeting, but feedback on July 11 was largely positive.

“I would like to see the development of Beacon continue,” said Keith Lang, the owner of Hudson Valley Fitness. “As a small-business owner, I rely on the people who live here. In 2010, we moved to our new spot (on Main Street), and our goal is to grow from there, but in order for me to do that, I need to know that Beacon is going to grow.”

MORE 2017 COLLEGE GRADUATES

SUNY New Paltz
Elizabeth Bengel, Cold Spring
Ryan Biasotti, Beacon
Zephyr English, Beacon
Jackson Julien, Beacon
Vishnu Kalantri, Cold Spring
Anja Kerkapoly, Garrison
Kelly Knowles, Beacon
Nancy Apollonio, Cold Spring
Alexandra Shea, Beacon
Robert Lusk, Cold Spring
Assia Ouildane, Beacon
Luis Farias, Beacon
Nancy Apollonio, Cold Spring
Katherine Battersby, Beacon
Celeste Kist, Garrison
Michael Papesca, Beacon

SUNY Osweego
Valerie Boscia, Cold Spring
James Crisci, Cold Spring
Joseph Desilva, Garrison

MANY THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO MADE THE JULY 4TH CELEBRATION A SUCCESSFUL ONE!

Groombridge Games
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Philipstown Highway Dept.
Cold Spring Police Dept.
Cold Spring Boat Club
Cold Spring Fire Company
Putnam County Sheriff’s Dept.

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Barber & Brew
Cold Spring Antique Center
C & E Paint Supply
Fountain Square Antiques
Garden Café’
Rico Argentino
Highlands Current
Putnam County News & Recorder
Tito Santana

Volunteers
Joy Albrecht
Bonnie Dursi
Norah Hart
Jeff Vidakovich
Mary Pat Berends
Bob Flaherty
Stephanie Hawkins
Sam Voloto
Maria Bonizio
Matt Francisco
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Steve Voloto
Bruce Campbell
Angela Ghiozzi
Joe Patrick
Dan Dillion
Jackie Hadden
Michael Robinson
Sara Dulaney
Max Hadden
Taya Robinson

Live Music
The Big Takeover
The Breakneck Boys
The Crossroads Band
Tenbrooks Molly

*The Cold Spring Village Board of Trustees*
**Neighbors Protest Proposed Cell Tower** *(from Page 2)*

However, Dee made it clear that a hearing will not occur anytime soon. When David Kenny, a lawyer for the tower project, requested a September date, Dee said the application still contained errors first pointed out during the June ZBA meeting and that other questions remain unanswered.

These include, he said, the potential health hazards to the occupants of a home located near the site of the proposed tower; what the tower will look like; whether the landfill is a viable location; and whether the landlord, Chris Padden of CF Diversified Corp., could give Homeland Towers a lease on a different part of his 64-acre property that is farther from residential neighbors and closer to the Route 9 commercial corridor.

Homeland Towers must “get this stuff straight first,” Dee said. “We’re no way near a public hearing.” (A public hearing typically takes place only after all relevant local agencies evaluate a project.)

Dee also said that Homeland must “show the need” for a tower.

(At the July 6 Town Board meeting, Supervisor Richard Shea expressed the same sentiment, asking if another cell tower is needed (and Putnam County personnel director), said the tower “will be looming over” the houses on his road.)

Kerry Jordan, of White Rocks Lane, expressed fears of water runoff and the tower’s effect on a stream running through the area. “We look at this beautiful mountain valley” now, she said.

Gaudioso assured the Conservation Board that “we’re not impacting the wetlands” or otherwise interfering with water resources.

Sterling, though, argued that a tower “does a lot of other things” to the environment besides potentially intruding on wetlands.

### Eagles Get Busy *(from Page 1)*

Between 1976 and 1988, the DEC released 198 eaglets, many relocated from Alaska. In 1980, two paired up and hatched offspring. The eagle recovery took off, so successfully that within 12 years the DEC stopped importing eaglets and let nature take over. The New York program became a model for 16 states and Ontario. It demonstrates “how we can get things right for wildlife and ourselves and directs us to look at other species that require conservation attention,” Lind said.

The state conservation plan notes that the Hudson Valley is one of three prime eagle habitats in the state; the birds like it both as permanent residents and as winter migrants who arrive from farther north in search of open water and fishing and hunting opportunities. (The other habitats are the Upper Delaware River and the Montezuma Wetlands Complex near Seneca Falls.)

Besides the Hudson, they also like New York City’s water reservoirs, and the conservation plan calls southeastern New York “one of the densest breeding regions” in the state. But that puts eagles close to New York City and sprawling suburbia, where power lines, wind turbines and towers bring danger, as do highways and railroads: Feeding on animals killed by cars or trains, eagles themselves become vulnerable.

The conservation plan warns that “in light of planned high-speed rail expansion, railways along the Hudson River are of particular concern.”

Likewise, hanging out along some stretches of the river can expose eagles to PCBs and other pollutants, while disturbances from motorized boats can adversely affect their habitats. In addition, when eagles feed on the leftovers of game shot by hunters, they can ingest bullets and die from lead poisoning. The plan also describes the severe weather fluctuations of climate change as a growing peril.

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A photo taken of an eagle and nestlings from a camera installed over a nest in Pennsylvania in 2015. The pile of black fur at the left rear of the nest is probably a dead skunk.
At Home with Dogs
Boarding service opens in Philipstown
By Alison Rooney

Enjoy an invigorating walk in the woods, followed by a nap on a cozy cushion, and some one-on-one time with the host? Shepherd and Grey can provide it — but only for your dog.

Situated in a modern home adjacent to nearly an acre of open field, the new boarding and daycare service off Route 9 in Philipstown is run by John Heinz, who formerly operated a similar business in a high-rise apartment in Jersey City.

Shepherd and Grey takes only four dogs at a time overnight, and five for day visits. It also boards birds, but no cats — mostly because of the birds. Heinz shares the home with his partner, Lav Lotrean, who works in the financial district. The business is named for their two pets, an 8-year-old German Shepherd mix and a 26-year-old African Grey parrot.

“Our aim is to replicate the home environment,” Heinz explains, noting that when there are dogs in residence in the guest area, he sleeps on a bed in that room. If the dogs want to sleep on the bed with him and their owners say it’s OK, they certainly can.

“We’re fine with young dogs, senior dogs, lap dogs, any kind — we love them all,” Heinz says.

Although there are several 4-by-6-foot kennels, they have yet to be used and would be only at the owner’s instruction or with a dog who doesn’t socialize well, Heinz says. As the property is not fenced, dogs can be led in daily pack walks using long leads or be placed on a supervised 75-foot cable run.

Heinz had a busy professional life before switching gears to the canine realm. After earning a degree from New York University in psychology, he became a magazine and book editor for companies such as Hyperion and Random House. In the early 2000s he moved to Miami to work for publications such as Niche, Gotham and Ocean Drive. But he felt dissatisfied and began thinking about how he could make a living doing something related to dogs.

“I come from a family of dog lovers and came to realize that dogs should become my primary focus,” he says.

Eager to move “to the country” from New Jersey, Heinz and Lotrean settled on Philipstown and purchased their Richard Meier-inspired home, built in the early 1990s, that offers its canine guests several floors of floor-to-ceiling glass panes. The levels can be blocked off with removable gates, allowing for as much dog-to-dog interaction as works best.

For day visits, the hours are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. for $35, or $20 for up to six hours. Overnight boarding is $45 for dogs and $20 for birds. Rates are slightly higher over the holidays. Owners supply food, and medicines can be dispensed. Each stay includes photo and video updates sent by text or e-mail. Heinz also offers pick-up and drop off. Call 845-642-0002 or visit shepherdandgrey.com.

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Kitchen for Rent
More Good offers ‘incubator’ for food entrepreneurs

By Maria Recapito

Jason Schuler, the CEO and founder of More Good in Beacon, is no soda jerk. He is, rather, a soda do-gooder.

Schuler, whose title is The Goodmaker, according to his business card, wants his business to do good by encouraging appreciation of good tea, good soft drinks and good feeling among fellow specialty food entrepreneurs. That’s why, in addition to a retail shop, More Good offers an incubator kitchen (definition: a low-cost commercial kitchen for rent by the hour or longer) to those with dreams of turning their own secret recipe into a business.

“I looked for things that weren’t there for me when I started my business and then filled those needs for others,” Schuler explains. He got his start in the off hours from a bartending gig at Gleason’s in Peekskill. The homemade syrups and bitters he used in the restaurant’s craft cocktails were a hit. When regulars began asking for bottles to give as Christmas presents, he pitched a friend and got his first investor.

If you’re selling your creation at a farmers’ market or bake sale, you can likely set up an assembly line in your own kitchen. In New York state, however, homemade food can’t be sold via delivery, online, or at stores or restaurants. Instead, you need to use a licensed commercial kitchen.

“I wanted to make it easier for other food entrepreneurs by offering an accessible and affordable kitchen,” Schuler explains.

He also wanted to fill the knowledge gaps he identified in starting More Good, such as the need for insurance and vendors to provide labels, bottles and raw materials. “It took me three months to figure out how to get licensed as a food business,” he said. “Now I can tell others in three minutes and even give them the application.”

The More Good kitchen has several anchor clients, meaning those that rent the kitchen and handle their own production, including Go-Go Pops in Cold Spring and Mindful Kitchens, a Croton-based pop-up vegan deli that uses the facility to produce seitan, a gluten-based meat alternative.

“It’s great because we’ve seen them go from developing the concept to scaling up and being on grocery chain shelves,” Schuler says of Mindful Kitchens. Blessed Brewery of Beacon is a seasonal client, making kombucha fermented tea drink. Chef Lana Schultz of Escae Cookery in Newburgh uses the kitchen for children’s cooking classes. “They learn things such as knife skills,” Schuler says, “and how to prep and cook a meal. Then they eat it.”

More Good also functions as a co-packer, or a contract manufacturer. “As you continue to grow as a food producer,” Schuler says, “it’s inevitable to go to a co-packer.” Clients include Brooklyn-based Pilot Kombucha drinks, Bad Dog Barcraft of Austin, Texas, and Shaker and Spoon Cocktail Club, a subscription cocktail mixer box. With the latter, “we get to use ingredients we don’t usually work with,” Schuler says. “Up to a few months ago, I had never worked with a kumquat; now we’re processing hundreds of pounds of them.”

For information, email info@eatmoregood.com.

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MAGAZZINO ITALIAN ART
Imperfect Beauty

Boscobel mounts exhibit of “curiously repaired antiques”

By Alison Rooney

It feels good to fix something, especially in this era of intentional obsolescence, but it was no less satisfying a century or two ago. In an exhibit called Make-Do: Curiously Repaired Antiques that runs through Oct. 1, Boscobel is showing off more than 250 items from its collection and that of interior designer Andrew Baseman that were broken and fixed.

As with its Hudson Hewn furniture exhibit last year, objects from Make-Do’s can be found throughout the many rooms of the Boscobel Mansion, as well as in a downstairs gallery. Look carefully at the table settings, or at the teapots on a fireplace mantel, and play a game of “I Spy” for repaired objects amidst intact kin. It’s tricky in some cases but obvious in others, such as a pewter or rattan handle on a porcelain cup.

According to Jennifer Carlquist, Boscobel’s curator, households at every economic level repaired items. Even in a wealthy household such as that of the family who lived in the mansion, everyone used repaired objects, whether in the formal dining room or servants’ quarters. The repairs were done by skilled tradesmen, silversmiths, tinsmiths and roving jack-of-all-trades repairmen who made house calls.

“Objects were saved because they were beautiful, rare and beloved,” Carlquist explains, or, with the case of everyday items, because it was thrifty.

“I thought make-do’s connected so well to Boscobel’s own story,” she explains, because the mansion itself is a make-do. (The original Neoclassical home built between 1804 and 1808 was partially demolished in 1955, but reassembled and repurposed as a museum.) “Like Boscobel, Make-Do’s illustrates the complex relationships between everyday people and the things they choose to save,” she says.

Carlquist contacted Baseman after reading his blog,

Survival Stories

Nelsonville artist has eye for everyday fantastic

By Alison Rooney

Raised in Mississippi by a single mother who was an English professor, Jill Shoffiett remembers reading. Lots of reading. She stayed in her room mostly as a teenager, by her recollection, writing, drawing and reading.

Today Shoffiett tells her own stories through her paintings, a collection of which are on display through Aug. 8 at Create Community in Nelsonville. The exhibit, A Working Knowledge of the Devil: Survival Stories, takes its title from Flannery O’Connor, who once said: “A working knowledge of the devil can be very well had from resisting him.”

Shoffiett, who moved to Nelsonville from Brooklyn with husband, Michael Bernstein, a graphic artist and sculptor, says her paintings combine “pure fantasy along with some autobiography.” She explains: “For me, the intent is to suss out the meaning of identity through character, usually featuring people who dig holes around themselves.

“I tell stories based on identities, experimenting with scenarios, making up characters based on real people,” Shoffiett says. She has observed that “rooms, landscapes and the random junk people leave behind are visual tales of lives lived, struggles endured and unknowable battles being waged.”

Although she was raised in Meridian, most of the artist’s extended family lived in Meadville, a small town in the southern part of the state, where her great-grandfather owned a
FRIDAY, JULY 14
H.V. Renegades vs. Mahoning Valley
7:05 p.m. Dutchess Stadium
1500 Route 9D, Wappingers Falls
845-638-0094 | hvrenegades.com
HVSF: Pride and Prejudice
7:30 p.m. Beacon
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-9575 | hvshakespeare.org

SATURDAY, JULY 15
Victory Cup Polo Match
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
83 Route 311, Patterson
victorycup.org/farmbash
Pet Rabies Vaccine Clinic
10 a.m. – Noon, Hubbard Lodge
2880 Route 9, Cold Spring
845-608-1390 | putnamcounty.ny.gov
HHLT Take-A-Hike: Benedict & Brew
10 a.m. Winter Hike
20 Nazareth Way, Garrison
845-424-3358 | hhl.org
Outdoor Discovery Center
10 a.m. Turtles Program
Noon – 4 p.m. Reptile Roundup
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 | hhnm.org
Food + Farm Day
Noon – 4 p.m. Glywood Farm
362 Glywood Road, Cold Spring
845-265-3338 | glywood.org
Beacon Lions Club
1:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconslibrary.org
Imagination Movers
3 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com
Writers at the Library: Peter Kuper
3 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org
HHLT at Bannerman: Romeo and Juliet
5 p.m. Boat leaves from Beacon dock
845-265-9575 | hvshakespeare.org
Manitoga Sunset Tour
5 p.m. 584 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3812 | visitmanitoga.org
John Pielmeier: Hook’s Tale (Reading)
6:30 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

H.V. Renegades vs. Mahoning Valley
7:05 p.m. Dutchess Stadium | Details under Friday
A Simple Heart (Music)
7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peeksskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org
HVSF: Twelfth Night with Talkback
7:30 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.
Movies on the Mountain (Silent Films)
7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon | beaconhistorical.org

SUNDAY, JULY 16
Garden Conservancy Open Day with Tea in the Garden
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Stonecrop Gardens
81 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring
845-265-2000 | stonecrop.org
Allison and Owen Patataki: When the Light Falls (Reading)
3 – 5 p.m. The Lofts at Beacon Gallery
11 a.m. The Lofts at Beacon Gallery
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-831-8065 | quinnsbeacon.com

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19
Beacon Players Summer Workshop
9 a.m. – Noon, Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon
845-234-9403 | beaconplayers.com
Senior Forum
9 a.m. Cortlandt Town Hall
1 Heady St., Cortlandt Manor
Hosted by Assemblywoman Sandy Galef
11 a.m. Howland Public Library
Building Readers Story/Craft (ages 4-6)
11 a.m. Howland Public Library
Get On Up, Get On Down Dance
7 p.m. Wickham Park, Beacon
Putnam County Kennel Club Dog Show
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Veterans’ Memorial Park
225 Gipsy Trail Road, Carmel
845-265-4444 | skybabyyoga.com
Putnam County Kennel Club Dog Show
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Veterans’ Memorial Park
225 Gipsy Trail Road, Carmel
845-265-4444 | skybabyyoga.com
Open Mic Night
7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-765-3012 | howlandculturalcenter.org
Ronnie Spector & The Ronettes
7:30 p.m. Beacon
845-831-8065 | quinnsbeacon.com

FRIDAY, JULY 21
Putnam County Kennel Club Dog Show
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Veterans’ Memorial Park
225 Gipsy Trail Road, Carmel
845-265-4444 | skybabyyoga.com
Building Readers Story/Craft (ages 4-6)
11 a.m. Howland Public Library
Get On Up, Get On Down Dance
7 p.m. Wickham Park, Beacon
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7 p.m. Wickham Park, Beacon
Putnam County Kennel Club Dog Show
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Veterans’ Memorial Park
225 Gipsy Trail Road, Carmel
845-265-4444 | skybabyyoga.com
Open Mic Night
7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-765-3012 | howlandculturalcenter.org
Ronnie Spector & The Ronettes
7:30 p.m. Beacon
845-831-8065 | quinnsbeacon.com
Soul Asylum / Cracker
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

H.V. Renegades vs. Mahoning Valley
7:05 p.m. Dutchess Stadium | Details under Friday
A Simple Heart (Music)
7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peeksskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org
HVSF: Twelfth Night with Talkback
7:30 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.
Movies on the Mountain (Silent Films)
7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon | beaconhistorical.org

TUESDAY, JULY 18
Lullaby Workshop for Parents, Expectant Parents & Caregivers
11 a.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Harris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org
Desmond-Fish Library
11 a.m. New Moms & Infants
4 p.m. Kids’ Crafts
6:30 p.m. Quilting
11 a.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Harris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org
Beacon City Council
2 p.m. Howland Public Library
11 a.m. Howland Public Library
Building Readers Story/Craft (ages 4-6)
11 a.m. Howland Public Library
Get On Up, Get On Down Dance
7 p.m. Wickham Park, Beacon

MONDAY, JULY 17
Stampin’ Up Card-Making Workshop
2 p.m. Howland Public Library
See details under Saturday.
Beacon City Council
7 p.m. City Hall Courthouse
1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon
845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

Support Groups
For a full list of area support groups, visit: highlandscurrent.com/sf
Imperfect Beauty (from Page 9)

“Past Imperfect: The Art of Inventive Repair” (andrewbase- man.com/blog). His extensive collection has never been publicly exhibited outside of small, pop-up displays. Carlquist chose objects that mesh with Boscobel’s own collection.

“Now we can tell the story of the house on the tour, and the objects enhance the telling of it,” she says. “Plus, because of the interested response from tour participants, we’ve asked our docents to allocate a little extra time at the end of the tour for people to talk about their own treasured, repaired objects.”

There are repaired objects everywhere, from sauceboats to curvy neo-classic chairs. A peek at the glass goblets in the dining room reveals a few with metal bases. The backs of some (broken) plates are displayed to reveal metal “staples” that hold them together. Oil lamps broke frequently. Pitchers used to tote water for bathing often had broken handles, as did chamber pots. Some were re-fired and re-glazed, but most were fixed by metalsmiths.

The Art of Repair

On Friday, July 21, at 6:30 p.m., Boscobel will host a panel discussion, The Beauty of Imperfection, with collector Andrew Baseman, metalwork artist Myra Mimlitsch-Grey and Glenn Adamson, former director of the Museum of Arts and Design in New York City. They will discuss the artistic appeal of objects that are broken, scratched, lopsided or otherwise askew. Admission is $20, or free for museum members. See boscobel.org.

“Normally museums hide the flaws, but we took care to feature them,” Carlquist notes. Even a dining table tells a story. It belonged to the Cochrane family and was possibly a gift from George Washington. “In 1865 they mounted a silver plaque on it,” she says, “but just as important are all the repairs on the back. This shows the heavy usage, love and combination of national and familial importance; it inspires us to hold onto things.”

The exhibit is open during Boscobel’s regular hours, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday to Monday, at 1601 Route 9D in Garrison. An illustrated catalog with essays by Carlquist and Baseman is available at the gift shop. Shoppers at the Cold Spring Farmers’ Market on Saturday are admitted free.
Survival Stories (from Page 9)

farm. She attended the Mississippi University for Women (it went co-ed in 1987), where a professor urged her to apply to the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn for graduate school.

In some of her work, Shoffiett reveals her literary influences — O’Connor, Kafka — as well as memories of her best friend. “She grew up the only child of a Vietnam vet who had PTSD and was prone to strange behavior,” she explains. “Seeing the chaos of that environment started me thinking — not articulately at age 11 or 12 — that kids accept outlandish situations as routine. And that suddenly the rug can be pulled out. The strangeness of it had a real profound effect on me.”

While attending Pratt, where she worked hard to drop her “fixin’s” and “y’alls,” Shoffiett found an expansive studio that allowed her to create large paintings featuring “giant, abstract insects, done in a quirky, linear style.” When she finished her MFA, Shoffiett no longer had access to the studio, so she began painting smaller works in her bedroom.

Though she had some success — her paintings were included in a show at the Brooklyn Museum, and she received mentions in The New York Times and Art in America — after close to 10 years in Brooklyn, she and her husband were priced out and moved with their young daughter to Nelsonville. Shoffiett now teaches art at a high school in Mamaroneck and paints when she can.

Her paintings have changed since her move to Philipstown. The oldest paintings shown at Create Community are closer to traditional (yet still skewed) landscapes, but there’s since been a shift to the combine the fantastical with the ordinary. The titles offer viewers a perch for conjecture: Last Stand for Hortence, Gonna Put in the Cabinets Soon and the epic Still Sporting Ten Kinds of Crazy, Doreen Wraps Up with an Online Shopping Spree.

Her most recent paintings feature Dobermans, a breed she grew up with and a symbol, she says, of a “visible conscience.” She sees the dogs as “sentinels, the only animate life present. But sentinels, for me, can just as easily be junked-up cars, wretched old dolls, or broken-down washing machines. “The absent people are always making things, coping, going about their sometimes dubious affairs. The situations are not always relatable, and they’re certainly not always desirable or safe. However, humans have clearly been there, surviving in ways the onlooker may or may not understand.”

The gallery at Create Community, at 11 Peekskill Road, is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. See jillshoffiett.com or facebook.com/createcommunity.

Don’t Think I’ll Camp Here Anymore, by Jill Shoffiett

Sporting Ten Kinds of Crazy, Doreen Wraps Up with an Online Shopping Spree.
It was a Kinetic day at Dia:Beacon

People related to art with their limbs, torsos, feet, eyes, and every other part of themselves.

SCRATCH

Hmmmm.

Eek!

I'm on TV.

I feel claustrophobic.

It's not that different from what we did this morning before we came.

La-da-da-dee...

By Deb Lucke

We are sculptures.

Full Disclosure: Deb Lucke wears pink shoes and was once a guide and gallery attendant at Dia:Beacon.
Cherry Clafoutis

About 8 servings

1 1/4 pounds sweet, dark cherries, pitted
Softened butter to coat the baking dish
3 large eggs, at room temperature
1 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
1/2 tsp. almond extract
1/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar
1/4 cup whole or low-fat milk or cream
1/4 cup half-and-half
1/4 cup unbleached flour
1 tsp. orange liqueur
1/2 cup orange juice
1/4 cup water
4 tablespoons powdered sugar

1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Coat a shallow (about 2-quart) baking dish or casserole with butter. Lay the cherries in a single layer in the dish.
2. With an electric hand mixer, beat the wet ingredients until well mixed and slowly add the dry ingredients until incorporated into a smooth, loose batter.
3. Pour the batter over the cherries and bake on the middle rack for about 30 minutes until batter is just set. Remove the pan briefly from the oven and sprinkle the remaining 2 tablespoons of sugar evenly over the surface. Return the pan to the oven and bake for another 10 to 15 minutes. The clafoutis is done when lightly browned and a knife can be inserted into the center and emerge relatively clean.
4. Serve warm or at room temperature.

Cherry Clafoutis

traditionally finished with a dusting of powdered sugar and consumed immediately and enthusiastically.

The assembly takes less than 10 minutes, particularly if you stick to the no-frills country French method of using unpitted cherries. The rationale behind such a foolhardy challenge to oral health is that the pits contain amygdalin, the active element in almond extract, a nod to the frills country French method of using unpeeled cherries. The batter is twice or even three times the volume of the fruit. Some chefs add butter or cream, while unnecessary, will not be met with disdain, but the clafoutis pictured here was everything I hoped for by itself—creamy sweetness and molten fruit. I rushed to share some with my neighbors and mistakenly left the dish with them overnight. Longing for another bite for inspiration as I wrote, I went to retrieve it only to find a clean dish. Get it while you can.

Small, Good Things

Of This Moment

By Joe Dizney

It’s hard keeping up with the bounty of summer. If you’re not paying attention, you’ll miss out. For instance, I was all set to pull the trigger on this week’s column but on a trip to Nature’s Pantry in Fishkill for staples I stumbled upon a table of sweet cherries from Fishkill Farms.

Its deep red Hedelfingen variety is reminiscent of true wild black cherries.

Sure enough, the door is already closing on cherry season. Fishkill Farms has ended this year’s “pick-your-own” crop, although some may be available at Nature’s Pantry and at the farm store (9 Fishkill Farm Road, Hopewell Junction; daily 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.) and at the Beacon Farmers’ Market (Sundays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Veterans Place, behind the Towne Crier) for a short, sweet while longer.

There are quite a few things to do with these beauties, but only one recipe celebrates and frames them in a classic manner: the homey-simple French dessert called the clafoutis.

An oven-baked specialty from the Limousin region, clafoutis consists of a simple batter (egg, milk, sugar, flour) poured over a layer of cherries and baked until the pancake-like mix puffs up a bit. It is traditionally finished with a dusting of powdered sugar and consumed immediately and enthusiastically.

The version here is humbler, more like a Dutch pannekoek (pancake), a possible culinary country cousin. Another classic Limousin dessert and obvious antecedent – the flaugnarde – which consists of pretty much the same batter and process, uses fruit such as apples, pears, apricots or plums and even raisins or prunes. But for today life is just a bowl of cherries. I have gone light on the flour, so the consistency will be more like a custard or flan. I also avoid the powdered sugar dusting by spreading a couple of tablespoons of granulated sugar over the set custard 10 minutes or so before it’s done, which makes a crunchier crust.

A drizzle of cream or scoop of vanilla ice cream, while unnecessary, will not be met with disdain, but the clafoutis pictured here was everything I hoped for by itself—creamy sweetness and molten fruit. I rushed to share some with my neighbors and mistakenly left the dish with them overnight. Longing for another bite for inspiration as I wrote, I went to retrieve it only to find a clean dish. Get it while you can.
It Takes a Village to Feed a City

Residents address hunger in Beacon with innovative projects

By Brian PJ Cronin

For most people, a nearly empty pantry is a problem. For Kara Marie Dean, it’s a sign of progress.

“This means it’s being used,” she explained while refilling the three shelves of a wooden cupboard outside the Beacon Recreation Center at 23 W. Center St. “That’s exactly what we want.”

There are other encouraging signs. As she stocked the pantry with canned vegetables and bags of pasta, she pointed to a package of infant formula and a box of tampons on the bottom shelf. “Those weren’t here the last time I was here,” she said. “Someone dropped those off.”

Dean, who is a social worker at the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at New York University, is part of a group of Beacon residents that created the Tiny Food Pantry, with plans to add more around the city. The rules are simple: Take something if you need it, leave something if you can.

“We can often do simple things to fill the gap between those who have enough food and those who don’t, and tend to a need,” said Dean. “Sometimes I get so tired of talking about things. Let’s just do something about it.”

The Tiny Food Pantry is the latest local collaboration designed to address the problem of what has become known as “food insecurity,” or not having reliable access to affordable, nutritious food.

To create the box, Dean and others at Fareground, a pop-up community kitchen that she co-founded, teamed with an architect to design it, two carpenters to build it and members of Team Kindness, another Beacon-based organization that assembles kits with toiletries, socks and other essentials for the homeless.

At Common Ground Farm, manager Sarah Simon says she is impressed by how Beacon groups have worked together to combat hunger. Half the food produced at the nine-acre farm is donated to food pantries and kitchens, which Simon said is possible thanks to the chefs, administrators and residents who purchase the other half.

“When people buy from us at the market, they’re supporting those donations,” she explained.

In addition to the Beacon Farmers’ Market, which it runs, the farm sells produce at two mobile markets every Wednesday throughout the summer as part of a collaboration with Green Teens, yet another anti-hunger group. The teenagers grow and harvest produce at a community garden on Main Street on land donated by Tito Santana restaurant and sell it at a reduced cost.

At many markets, as well as the Farmers’ Market, shoppers can use federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly known as food stamps) and Women, Infants and Children (WIC) vouchers to buy produce. An additional program, dubbed “Greens for Greens” and paid for with the proceeds of a winter fundraiser by the Farmers’ Market, allows shoppers using vouchers from SNAP and WIC to double what they receive.

“It’s a lot to keep track of, which is why Common Ground Farm, in collaboration with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County and the Beacon Nutrition Advisory Council, created 21 Meals, a map that shows all the food pantries, kitchens and summer food programs throughout Beacon and parts of Fishkill, as well as where shoppers can use SNAP and WIC benefits (see ccedutchess.org).

“There are a lot of people in Beacon who are looking for free or low-cost meals in the area, so we thought having everything in one place would be helpful,” said Megan Murray, a nutrition educator who works at the Cornell Cooperative Extension as part of a state program called Eat Smart NY. Murray said that the map will be updated as programs change.

The Tiny Food Pantry came along too late to be included but will be on the next version. By that time, Dean said she hopes to have pantries at the Howland Library and outside Shambhala Yoga. To donate, stock the pantry with non-perishable food items or toiletries or purchase items from the Amazon wish list linked at highlandscurrent.com.

A map shows the 18 locations in Beacon and Fishkill that together provide residents in need with three meals a day over the course of a week, including soup kitchens, food pantries, summer programs and markets that accept food stamps.
Vive la France!

Pataki siblings publish new novel

Allison and Owen Pataki, who grew up in Garrison, have co-authored Where the Light Falls, a historical novel set in Paris in 1792, three years after the fall of the Bastille. They will read from it and sign copies at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison at 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 16. It is Allison Pataki's third novel and Owen's first.

Scholarship for Artists

Application deadline is Aug. 15

A $1,000 grant named for A. Eric Artendörfer, the late co-founder and president of Collaborative Concepts, will be awarded to an artist between the ages of 25 and 45 living in Putnam, Dutchess or Westchester counties who is involved in drawing, painting, sculpture, photography, printmaking, mixed media, installation art and/or sculpture. The application deadline is Aug. 15. To apply, see collaborativeconcepts.org.

Wildflower Walks

Audubon Center will lead tours

The Audubon Center at Constitution Marsh will host two free wildflower walks. Photo provided

Wildflower Walks

Audubon Center will lead tours

The staff at the Constitution Marsh Audubon Center and Sanctuary is accepting registrations for two free walking tours. On Sunday, July 23 at 6 p.m., bring a camera or phone and take photos for Instagram as you learn about the plants and animals of the marsh. On Saturday, Aug. 12, at 6:30 p.m., a naturalist will share stories about plants in the area as the sun sets. Email cmaacs@audubon.org or call 845-265-2601, ext. 15.

Dog Wash

Benefits Putnam Humane Society

The Putnam Humane Society in Carmel will host a dog-washing fundraiser from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 23. Dogs must be vaccinated and friendly. The suggested donations for services range from $15 to $25. See putnamhumane.org or call 845-225-7777.

Senior Forum

Galef will host discussion

Standy Galef, who represents Philipstown in the state Assembly, will host a discussion of issues important to seniors at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, July 19, at Cortlandt Town Hall, 1 Heady St. A continental breakfast will be provided.

The speakers will include Journal News columnist David McKay Wilson; Hannah Gross, livable communities coordinator at Westchester Community College; Sarah Jane Blake of the New York Senior Action Council; cardiologist Craig Hametz; state Assistant Attorney General Gary Brown; and Dan Montez, general director of the Taconic Opera. Email galefs@nyassembly.gov or call 914-941-1111 for information.

Dog Days of Summer

Kennel Club to hold annual show

The Putnam County Kennel Club expects more than 500 dogs (and many more people) to attend its annual All-Breed Dog Show on Friday, July 21, and Saturday, July 22, at Veterans’ Memorial Park in Carmel. The show runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day, and dogs will compete in conformation, obedience and rally trials. Admission is free. See putnamkennelclub.com.

Guys and Dolls at Depot

Youth players present classic musical

The Depot Theatre Youth Program, led by teen mentors, will stage Guys and Dolls beginning Thursday, July 20, and running through the weekend. Tickets are $10 at philipstowntheatre.org.

The cast is Daniel Phillips, Charlie Keegan, Alex Danilov, Maya Gelber, Dylan Ambrose, Brendan Shanahan, Alissa Buslovich, Eleanor Chew, Keira Shanahan, Bella Tomizawa, Raunaq Kapoor, May Columb, Jude Columb, Nino Perricone, Sidonius White, Kate Jordan, Kate Meissner, Fiona Shanahan, Helen Hutchinson, Percy Parker, Jasmine Wallis, Luca Van Dommele, Celia Dury, Conrad White, Sophie Sabin, Walker Tinsley, Zohra Kapoor, Helen Hutchinson and Libby Benson.

Career Center Hires Counselors

Assist residents with training

The Westchester-Putnam One-Stop Career Center, which provides job training and helps residents of both counties find work, has hired six job development specialists and career counselors. Its programs include Jobs Waiting, which prepares people who are unemployed for jobs in the healthcare, information technology, biotech and advanced manufacturing industries in the Hudson Valley. It also offers job listings and resume help.

The career center is operated by the Westchester-Putnam Workforce Development Board, (Continued on next page)
COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Attic Bargains
Synagogue organizes tag sale
The Reform Temple of Putnam Valley will host an attic sale on Sunday, July 16, and Friday, July 21, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. No early birds. See rtpv.org/bi-yearly-attic-sale. The temple is located at 362 Church Road.

Beacon
Butterfly Experience
Annual festival set for July 22
On Saturday, July 22, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Stony Kill Foundation will host its annual Butterfly Festival with butterfly tents, music, food and crafts. The Stony Kill Farm is located at 79 Farmstead Lane in Wappingers Falls. The rain date is July 23.

Jazz Camp
Open to students ages 12-18
The Poughkeepsie Day School will offer a day camp for musicians ages 12 to 18 from July 31 to Aug. 4 to build instrumental skills, music appreciation and leadership. Chuck Lamb, a member of the Brubeck Brothers Quartet, will be the visiting artist. See poughkeepsieday.org/programs/summer-camps.

Catholic Charities
Raises $63K
Benefits human service programs
Catholic Charities Community Services of Dutchess County raised more than $63,000 at its annual Spirit of Service dinner on June 8 at Villa Borghese in Wappingers Falls.

Breakneck Ridge Revue to Perform
Storyteller and vocalist is guest
The Breakneck Ridge Revue will take the stage at the Towne Crier Café in Beacon on Sunday, July 23, at 7:30 p.m. with storyteller and vocalist Eshu Bumpus. The Trouble Sisters will perform along with a band that includes Andrew Revkin, David Ross, Todd Giudice, Patrick Stansfield Jones and Mark Murphy. Tickets are $15 at townecrier.com.

Remembering a Hero
A new biography by Don Keith and David Rocco, The Indestructible Man, examines the life of Navy Commodore Dixie Kiefer, one of six men who died in a crash on Mount Beacon in 1945. Kiefer was executive officer of the carrier USS Yorktown at the battles of the Coral Sea and Midway and skipper of the USS Ticonderoga when it came under attack by Japanese kamikaze planes. The book is available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

Share Your News With Our Readers
To submit your upcoming events and announcements for consideration in our Community Briefs section (in print and online) submit a text-only press release (250 words or less) along with a separately attached high-resolution photograph to: calendar@highlandscurrent.com
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The ancient and the new — in Cusco, Peru  
Photo by Kate Vikstrom

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Summer Photofest

“The evening storm has lifted.” View from Moog Road
Photo by Christopher Radko

Main Street, Cold Spring
Photo by Gina Squillante

Church on the Hill, July 7
Photo by B.P. Corbett

The River Rose
Photo by Madeleine DeNitto

The Highlands Current

Beacon waterfall
Photo by Ross Corsair

Beacon waterfront
Photo by Ross Corsair
Five Questions: Jessica Tudor
By Michael Turton

Jessica Tudor, 8, of Garrison, won third place in the softball division for her age group at the Scotts Pitch, Hit & Run national finals in Miami on July 10. The competition took place as part of the MLB All-Star Game.

How long have you been playing baseball? I started when I was 3 years old.

Are you better at pitching, hitting or running? I liked hitting the best.

What is the secret of your success? I saw my cousin TJ play baseball and I wanted to be as good as him.

What advice do you have for other players who want to compete? Try your best and practice hard.

What did it feel like to play at Marlins Park? I wasn’t scared. It felt good. I was very excited.

Jessica shows off her trophy in Miami. Photo courtesy of Rodney Tudor

Go Blue Devils!
Nominations Open for Hall of Fame

Haldane High School is accepting nominations for the first class of its newly created Athletic Hall of Fame. Nominations are due by Aug. 1 for consideration by the Hall of Fame Committee, which includes three coaches, an administrator other than the athletic director, a community member, the president of the Blue Devil Booster Club, two alumni, and a retired district employee.

Athletes and coaches cannot nominate themselves or a relative. In each of the first two years, as many as 10 people may be inducted, and as many as five each year starting in 2019. Athletes must have graduated from Haldane at least five years earlier. Coaches and administrators must have been with the district for at least five years. One team also can be inducted each year, with the five-year cushion.

There is also a category for people who have made “a significant impact” on Haldane sports or at higher levels of competition.

Nomination forms can be downloaded at haldaneschool.org/athletics.html and should be submitted with supporting materials to Athletic Director Chris Salumn.

Parents Launch Fundraiser

A group of Haldane parents have launched a campaign to raise $30,000 for a sound system and wireless scoreboard for the high school gym and a sound system for the turf field.

Besides securing grants from the Haldane School Foundation and the Blue Devil Booster Club, the group will offer plates with personalized messages to be mounted on newly installed gym bleachers for $300 each (with 20 available) and bricks with personalized messages at the lower-level school entrance ($125 to $175 each). It is also soliciting smaller donations.

To make a tax-deductible contribution, send a check to the Blue Devil Booster Club, P.O. Box 356, Cold Spring, NY 10516, with “Project Renewal” in the memo line or search for “Blue Devil Booster Club” at facebook.com and click on the Donate button.

Update: Haldane Softball, Italian Style

The Greek national women’s softball team, whose roster includes Chelsea and Samantha Lisikatos of Cold Spring, finished sixth among 23 teams at the Women’s Softball European Championship held at Bollate, Italy, from June 25 to July 1. The Irish team, with Allie and Hannah Monteleone of Cold Spring, finished 15th.

The Lisikatos and Montelones, profiled in the June 23 issue, faced each other on June 26, but it was not much of a game, as Greece dominated, 15-0. Chelsea Lisikatos went 1-2 with a double and 3 RBI.

Tourney stats
Greece (5-6)
C. Lisikatos: .250 (6 for 24), 8 RBI
S. Lisikatos: .250 (2 for 8), 1 RBI

Ireland (3-6)
H. Monteleone: .417 (10 for 24), 3 RBI
A. Monteleone: .304 (7 for 23), 4 RBI

Left, Allie Monteleone (35) snags a ball at third base during Ireland’s 10-3 loss to Germany on June 26. Right, Chelsea Lisikatos (10) makes a play on a bunt down the first-base line for Greece in a 2-0 loss to Italy on June 27. Photos by Dirk Steffen