The King of Summer
Harry Vogel prepares for his 66th year at camp
By Michael Turton

Harry Vogel has vivid memories of his entry into the world of summer camp.
“In 1952, I was 16 years old and attending William Taft High School in the Bronx,” he says. “I wanted to get away from the city for the summer.” At Taft, Vogel was captain of the swim team and a gymnast. A coach helped him line up a summer job as a busboy in Philipstown. “I got on a bus at the 92nd Street YMCA and ended up at Surprise Lake Camp,” Vogel recalls.

After 65 summers, he’s still there, although he’s long since been promoted to administrative director of the camp, which serves children and (Continued on Page 12)

Harry Vogel at Surprise Lake Camp  Photo provided

The Trouble with Snow Days
Districts must follow complicated formula
By Chip Rowe

Children love snow days but soon learn an important life lesson: Everything has a price.

State law requires public schools to have students in class for at least 176 days between Sept. 1 and June 30, or risk losing state aid. In New York, a “day” is defined as at least five hours of classroom time for kindergarten through sixth grade and at least 5.5 hours for grades 7 to 12. (In other words, half days don’t count.) When planning each year’s calendar, districts add days to cover for weather cancellations. But depending on Mother Nature — or what is expected from Mother Nature at 5 a.m. in the morning — they can fall short. By the time the last of four snowstorms hit the Highlands in March, the Haldane, Beacon and Garrison districts had used all their planned days and begun to “take back” vacation.

Assuming there will be no snow days in April, Beacon has reclaimed one vacation day (the Friday before Memorial Day), Haldane two days (March 23 and April 2) and Garrison three days (March 29, April 5 and April 6).

$55 Million Software Firm Looking at Beacon
Plan would create industrial complex on Main Street
By Jeff Simms

A German software company with annual revenues of more than $55 million is considering moving its U.S. headquarters from New Windsor to Beacon. Representatives from DocuWare, a document management/digitization firm founded in 1988, told the Beacon City Council on Monday (March 26) that it is pressed for space at its offices near Stewart International Airport and has been searching for a location with a walkable downtown for its 60 U.S. employees. They said the company is in preliminary discussions with property owner Joe Donovan to lease space to create an industrial complex at the corner of Main and Route 9D.

DocuWare’s board of directors will vote on the move later this year, said Thomas Schneck, a company executive based in New Windsor.

“We have a lot of employees who have families and we’re looking for a place where those families can be raised,” Schneck explained. “What’s important to us is a very good school system and we have heard a lot of good things about Beacon.” He cited Metro-North and the city’s transportation options as part of its appeal, as well.

With offices in Munich, Bulgaria, the U.K., Spain and Paris, as well as in New Windsor and Wallingford, Connecticut, DocuWare has (Continued on Page 7)
Five Questions: JIM BIRMINGHAM

Jim Birmingham is one of the five captains of the sloop Woody Guthrie who teach an eight-session, classroom-based sailing class at the Beacon Sloop Club that begins April 11. See beaconloop.org.

What is a sloop? And why does it need five captains?

It's a sailboat with one mast that has a sail forward and back. So, actually, most situations in the classroom?

Who typically takes the sailing class — novices or sailors wanting a brush-up?

Some people are interested in the Sloop Club and crewing or sailing on the Woody Guthrie. Some have had a taste of sailing. And others have a boat and want to get more familiar with it, or they're thinking about getting a boat and want to get their feet wet, so to speak.

How do you simulate conditions and situations in the classroom?

In the first class, we go over the parts of the boat and terminology. Other classes deal with safety and emergency conditions, navigation and charts, tides and currents. We use a lot of diagrams and props. For example, the captain who teaches the session on winds brings in a fan to demonstrate how an upwind affects the sail and how even though the force is blowing against you, the dynamics and forces propel you. We will try to arrange a sail on the Woody Guthrie now that its three-year restoration is complete. Do you earn any type of certificate by taking the class?

You don’t need certification to sail on the Hudson. In fact, you don’t need a license for a motor boat. Pretty much anyone can jump in a boat — it’s surprising.

What is special about sailing on the Hudson?

It’s gorgeous, and the Newburgh Bay is just a bit wider than most other areas so there’s really “room enough to sail.” Deal — novices or sailors wanting a brush-up?
Construction to Hamper Cold Spring Station Access

Commuters are advised to schedule more time to enter the Cold Spring train station parking lot after construction begins Monday, April 2, to replace the nearby village pump station.

During the demolition and reconstruction of the pump station, traffic may be stopped or slowed as it passes into the station lot. According to the village, the project is expected to continue until at least April 27. Crews will typically work from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Trouble with Snow Days (from Page 1)

A proposal before the state Board of Regents, which sets the requirements for public districts to receive state aid, would change the minimum instruction from days to a total of 900 hours for grades K to 6 and 990 hours for grades 7 to 12.

If adopted, the revision would allow districts to count half days and schedule longer lunch hours, recess periods and/or parent-teacher conferences without having to meet minimum instruction hours for a day to “count” toward the 176-day requirement.

The state Department of Education has also suggested allowing districts to start the school year before Sept. 1. The Board of Regents, which has 17 members who each serve 5-year terms, was expected to consider the change from days to hours at its March meeting but did not. The Highlands are represented on the board by Judith Johnson, a former superintendent of the Peekskill City School District. She did not return a phone call and an email seeking comment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Student days planned</th>
<th>Snow days planned</th>
<th>Snow days taken through 3/30</th>
<th>Make-up days (previously off)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Haldane</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3/23, 4/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beacon</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5/25*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garrison</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3/29, 4/5, 4/6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Because of the scheduling of one of its teacher training days, Beacon this year needed 177 student days.

Mystery Man

Body found in Philipstown in 1985 still unidentified

More than 30 years ago, on April 2, 1985, a man's body was discovered in the woods off Route 301 in Philipstown, near Canopus Lake and the Appalachian Trail. Police still don’t know who he is.

The man was white, possibly between ages 27 and 35, and about 5-feet-10-inches tall. He had brown hair. Dental records and DNA testing have not turned up any matches. He had no identification and only a few belongings, including a comb, dental floss and two laminated cards, “The Cross in My Pocket” and “God Loves CBers.”

The New York State Police continue to investigate the death. Anyone with information can contact the Wappinger Bureau of Criminal Investigation at 845-298-0952 concerning incident 3032562.

A facial reconstruction of a man whose body was found in Philipstown in 1985

A police sketch of the man

Photos: NYS P

The Trouble with Snow Days (from Page 1)

Reaction to a snow day

Illustration by Jeffrey Koterba

Signed copies of Dreaming of Oranges are on sale at The Country Goose

115 Main St., Cold Spring

Dreaming of Oranges by Marcelline Thomson

Two young women on the lam from their so-proper upbringing search for adventure and find more than they bargained for. Against the backdrop of Middle East intrigues, a tale of enduring (sometimes prickly) friendship, loves found and lost, and encounters with shady characters.

"Sumptuous and expertly written, with all the romance of Casablanca and all the spirit of the modern woman who dares to live life on her own terms."

(The Moth Executive Director, Sarah Haberman)

GCEF's spring THAW

SILENT AUCTION - RAFFLE
PAELLA - SMALL PLATES
WINE - BEER
PLUS SPECIALTY COCKTAILS AND OYSTERS FOR ADDITIONAL DONATION AND CASH BAR AFTER PARTY 9-11 PM

APRIL 14, 2018
6-9 PM
GLYNWOOD

PURCHASE TICKETS AT WWW.GCEF.NET
$75 BY APRIL 1,
$90 THEREAFTER
Kudos to highway department

Well, Mother Nature tried it again — four times in four weeks. She almost had us with her Nor’easter-I’m-gonna-get-you-just-yet attitude. But ‘twas not to be as the City of Beacon Highway Department showed the fair dameal she is no match for our give-em-everything-you-got crew.

This was a baptism by snowstorm for Superintendent Reuben Simmons, and he and his crew passed with flying colors. While other municipalities struggled to keep up with the white stuff, Beacon simply shrugged its shoulders and continued on with life-as-usual. Our city has so many things of which to be proud. During the past month, the Highway Department was at the top of the list.

Charles Dunn, Beacon

Beacon rentals

Homes are legal to rent if the landlord registers with the city; see City Code 173.5 (“Beacon May Regulate Short-term Rentals,” March 23). I have on several occasions asked at City Council meetings if short-term rentals are legal in residential neighborhoods and been told by the city attorney they are not, because any use not permitted in the zoning code is prohibited. The fact that the city does not enforce the code does not make them legal.

Elaine Ciacci, Beacon

I live in a neighborhood zoned for single-family homes, not for greedy, law-disregarding “residents” hiding behind LLCs to set up hotels. I support anyone or any family who is hosting a room in their home in a responsible manner. I’m a social worker and advocate for anyone who is struggling to pay a mortgage or has financial goals in place and monitors their guest. But non-owner occupied, short-term rentals are not welcome.

I have every confidence that our city has weighed the pros and cons of this illegal activity and will be enforcing a law to safeguard its residents.

Lynda McPartlan, Beacon

Short-term rentals are catering to a market that is not served by boutique hotels and fancy bed-and-breakfasts, namely those who can’t afford luxury accommodations but still want to experience Beacon. These people go out to Main Street restaurants and shop in our stores. They help spread the word about Beacon through glowing online reviews about their stay.

Main Street is largely shuttered three days a week for lack of customers. Killing short-term rentals will only add to its woes and eventually to the city’s through lost tax revenue. Despite early fears, self-regulating short-term rentals have worked extremely well. Why shut them down because of one “outlier” who tried to game the system? Don’t throw out the baby with the bathwater!

Daniel Aubry, Beacon

Aubry is a real-estate agent.

Highway garage

The residential building planned for the former highway garage site in Beacon will be a full story higher than allowed (“City Sells Former Highway Garage Site to Developer,” March 23). I guess if you build by Fishkill Creek, any building can be as high as the developer wants because it will appear shorter when you look down on it.

The property went for only $150,000, and the developer, Rodney Weber, still says residential units are needed to make this project feasible? Yet Weber could or would not say how much the rents will be? Most lots in Beacon cost that much and only one or two houses are built, but it seems anything in Beacon that an outside developer wants is OK.

Council Member George Mansfield called the sale a “win-win” For whom? Beacon is overbuilt, but the city keeps allowing more buildings five stories up with insane rents. We are in big trouble.

Dennis Moroney, Beacon

Units at the 1 East Main development a little farther down the creek are selling for more than $1 million each. How is $150,000 a fair price for that prime real estate? Somehow a variance is required to make it “profitable” so the city will break the rules for another developer. How is any of this a good deal for the tax paying citizens of Beacon?

Steve Smith, Beacon

Going green

With the current debate around development in Beacon, it seems an opportune time to raise the issue of green building standards. In the U.S., buildings account for 39 percent of energy use, 68 percent of electricity consumption, 30 percent of landfill waste, 38 percent of carbon-dioxide emissions and 12 percent of water consumption.

Green building standards promote clean, green and well-designed projects that minimize resource consumption; improve air and water quality; reduce waste streams; attract development that makes a city more attractive; offer economic opportunities; and allow cities to set an example and have an impact on the environment at a scale larger than the city itself.

The cities that have green building standards are much like Beacon — attractive and growing quickly. LEED certification is a common way to implement them. The city should enact standards to promote smart, environmentally friendly buildings, and it should happen soon. There is no excuse for allowing outdated building design to continue.

Nicole Porto, Don Raskopf and Kate Stryker, Beacon

The writers are members of the Green Beacon Coalition.
Cold Spring Approves Fire Company Contract
Also revisits problems on private streets

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Cold Spring Village Board on Tuesday agreed to pay the Cold Spring Fire Company $117,218 for fire protection through the end of the year.

At the March 27 workshop, the five-person board voted unanimously to authorize Mayor Dave Merandy to sign a memorandum of agreement with the fire company. The document was first sent to CSFC President Matthew Steltz for fire company approval and his signature.

The agreement, which will expire Dec. 31, commits the village to paying the CSFC $117,218 in installments of $58,609, due April 1 and July 1. The sum covers fire protection for the village, as well as for Nelsonville and Philipstown, which pay Cold Spring for service.

Under the agreement, Cold Spring will pay 52 percent of the total, or $60,953; Philipstown, 29.5 percent, or $34,579; and Nelsonville, 18.5 percent, or $21,685.

The CSFC covers parts of Philipstown bordering the villages, while the Garrison, North Highlands and Continental Village fire companies cover the remainder of Philipstown (although all four companies provide mutual aid).

According to the document, the fire company will by Sept. 15 give the village its annual budget, based on costs incurred the previous year and anticipated expenses for the coming year. Fifteen days after accepting the budget, the village will provide a memorandum of agreement for the following year.

Cold Spring also will give draft contracts to Philipstown and Nelsonville in time for the two municipalities to plan their budgets. Philipstown’s budget year begins Jan. 1 while Nelsonville’s budget year, like Cold Spring’s, starts June 1.

The contract states that the amounts charged Philipstown and Nelsonville must reflect the costs of fire protection, workers’ compensation insurance, and the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) and its administrative fees, based on Cold Spring’s actual 2017-18 figures, plus CSFC expenses for such items as building maintenance, the siren and utilities.

Nelsonville scrapped with Cold Spring for months over its contribution to the cost of fire protection and LOSAP, a pension for volunteer firefighters. Merandy said their talks continue, “though I think we’re there.”

Private streets

In other business, Highway Department Crew Chief Robert Downey asked that the department be allowed to “cease and desist from entering” two private streets, East Belvedere and Hamilton, to collect garbage and recycling because both pose safety and equipment problems. The streets run east from Route 9D.

East Belvedere “is loaded with potholes,” he told the board, while Hamilton presents difficulties for maneuvering vehicles and plowing.

Trustee Marie Early observed that village trucks do not know it’s ours,” Merandy said. “You need to continue taking care of it.”

Robert Flaherty, the Philipstown Town Board’s liaison to the Village Board, said Carl Frisenda, the town’s highway superintendent, went “up there with the grader and took care of it.”

“Though I think we’re there.”

Water and potholes marred East Belvedere Street in 2009; the private road still has problems.

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary-in-the-Highlands

Where everyone is welcome!

Maundy Thursday
29th of March
7:00 PM Mass (Last Supper)
8:00 PM to Midnight: Eucharistic Watch

Good Friday
30th of March
12:00 PM Ecumenical Service with Veneration of the Cross
Reception follows with Traditional “Hot Cross Buns”

Great Easter Vigil
31st of March
7:00 PM Candlelight Service with Open Baptism
Reception in the Hall follows the Vigil

Easter Sunday
1st of April
8:00 AM Spoken Mass 10:30 AM Festive Mass
The Children’s Easter Egg Hunt Followed by the 10:30 Mass

Corner of Routes 9D & 301 in Cold Spring
(845) 265-2539

The Highland Current
Beacon Building Moratorium Ends — For Now

City Council backs extension of freeze

By Jeff Simms

A six-month moratorium on most residential and commercial construction in Beacon expired on March 26, but nearly all members of the City Council have said they want to extend it.

The council adopted the freeze in September because of what it said were concerns about whether the city’s water supply could handle the hundreds of apartments and condos being planned or under construction. If the council adopts a second moratorium, it could be backdated so there’s no gap between the two, City Administrator Anthony Ruggiero said.

Frank Fish, a principal at BEJ Planning, which helped revise the city’s comprehensive plan in 2017, last year noted that moratoriums are typically utilized when a municipality identifies an issue, such as water, that can be addressed within a given time frame.

“I’ve seen them work very successfully, but if you don’t get going on some remedial action during the moratorium, you’ve negated the reason for doing it,” he said.

After a consultant hired by the city found its water supply to be sufficient even with the projected growth, the council would presumably need a reason to extend the moratorium. At its March 19 meeting, Council Member Lee Kyriacou noted the council had begun rezoning much of Beacon during the moratorium but had not completed the task.

How much water?

A consulting firm hired by the city reported earlier this month that the water supply, even with new construction, would be stable for nearly two decades. On Monday (March 26), Thomas Cusack, a senior vice president with Leggette, Brashears & Graham, defended the report after some in Beacon questioned its assumption that each resident will use about 55 gallons of water each day.

Cusack called the firm’s projections, which were based on residential meter readings from 2013 to 2017, “very conservative,” but some residents cited a U.S. Geological Survey estimate that the average American uses 80 to 100 gallons per day.

Cusack said those and other numbers are “not representative” of Beacon. “We have a very good understanding of the population and we’ve come up with what we feel is a very comfortable number at 55 gallons a day,” he said. “That tends to be what I would see for this type of municipality, historically.”

The report concluded that Beacon is capable of producing 4.09 million gallons per day, even accounting for drought conditions, through 2035. Comparing that to population projections in a maximum “build-out” scenario, Leggette projected peak daily needs at 3.83 million gallons per day, with an average of 3.07, still within the system’s anticipated yield.

Cusack also defended Beacon’s long-term agreement with Fishkill to purchase more than a million gallons each day, saying, “it’s a moneymaker for them. I would assume they want to keep that.” About a third of the communities he’s worked with purchase water from neighboring municipalities, he said.

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Village of Cold Spring Request for Bids

The Village of Cold Spring is soliciting bids from qualified contractors for the replacement of two (2) existing roofs on the Cold Spring Fire Company building. The total of the two roofs to be replaced is approximately 5,700 square feet. The project includes, but is not limited to:

- removal of several layers of existing roofing materials
- installation of new EPDM roofing

Bidders must be licensed in Putnam County and fully insured. Only sealed bids will be accepted.

Address bids to:

Village Clerk
Village of Cold Spring
85 Main Street
Cold Spring, NY 10516

Attn: Fire Company Roof Bid, must be written on envelope along with name and address of bidder. The deadline for submitting bids is 4 p.m. on April 18, 2018.

Bid Package can be picked up by interested parties from the Village Clerk at Cold Spring Village Hall weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There is a non-refundable charge of $100.00 for each Bid Package. Checks should be made payable to The Village of Cold Spring.

Bids will be opened at the Cold Spring Village Hall, 85 Main St., Cold Spring, NY, 10516, at 10 a.m. on April 19, 2018.

Please call Jeff Vidakovich (Village Clerk) at 845-265-2611 with any questions regarding this project.
$55 Million Software Firm Looking at Beacon (from Page 1)

18,000 clients worldwide, including Ikea, Kellogg’s and Sony. Along with document management, it helps clients with workflow and operational efficiency.

The company, which approached Beacon Mayor Randy Casale last year about the potential move, represents the type of “light industry” that city officials have long believed would bolster the local economy.

“These smaller companies are the companies of the future,” Casale said. “And because we’re becoming a community that’s walkable and bikeable, where there’s a lot to do, people want to live here. People are starting to come to us because they like Beacon.”

DocuWare anticipates having 80 to 100 employees in the next three to five years, Schneck said, although not all of them would move to Beacon.

In addition, the firm hosts monthly and quarterly training workshops that would bring hundreds of visitors to the area.

The company’s Main Street complex would include an empty two-story building on Route 9D and wrap around the corner to the Tito Santana restaurant at 142 Main. The Beacon Creamery at 134 Main St. would likely be torn down, said Donovan, who shared what he called “very preliminary” plans with the council.

The complex would include 6,000 to 8,000 square feet of retail space, with DocuWare occupying the middle floors and four to five apartments filling the top floor. Donovan said the buildings would be roughly the same height as those occupied by Tito Santana and Mountain Tops Outfitters, which he also owns.

DocuWare unveiled a new logo on March 19.

DocuWare

DocuWare unveiled a new logo on March 19.

The Ninth Annual Earth Day Dinner at the Garrison Institute will feature Storm King Art Center curator Nora Lawrence, co-curator of Indicators: Artists on Climate Change. She will bring us her insights, and in particular, a preview of the site-specific works from Storm King Art Center opening May 19, 2018.

Menu

Cocktails & snacks
- Industrial Arts beer & beer cocktails
- House-made local fruit shrub
- Aaron Burr cider
- Hudson Valley wines
- Hudson Valley Cheeses
- Signal Fire sour dough bread
- Pumpkin seed pate with garlic toast
- & more!

Taco dinner
- La Milpa De Rosa tortillas
- Roasted beets, sweet potatoes & parsnips
- Eco-Shrimp, mushrooms & leeks
- Fried cauliflower
- Carnitas, chorizo & potatoes
- Soft scrambled eggs & chives
- Jake’s cheddar
- Pickled onions
- Jalapeno
- Guacamole

Dessert
- Blondies
- Vanilla ice cream
- Maple de leche
- Whipped cream
- Coffee & tea

Sides
- Yellow rice & New York State beans
- Salad with carrot-ginger dressing

We proudly feature the talented, artful, independent, international, craft food growers and producers of New York State.

Reservations are required: garrisoninstitute.org/earthday or 845-424-4400

$45 per person prior to the event; $50 cash or check at the door.

A percentage of the dinner price will be donated to charity.

OPEN HOUSE

The Learning Center Preschool
at Philipstown Recreation

A creative atmosphere for ages 3-5 which encourages positive and healthy development through the exploration of art, movement, music & learning centers

Come meet the teachers, visit our amazing space and check out a great preschool program.

April 7, 2018
2:30-4:00pm

Philipstown Community Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison, NY 10524

For more information please call 845-424-4618.

How to Save a Life

At left, two participants in CPR training offered on March 24 by members of the Garrison Volunteer Ambulance Corp. The session also included instruction in administering the opioid antidote Narcan. At right, Mack Godbee of the Garrison Volunteer Ambulance Corp. demonstrates CPR during the class. Photos by Ross Corsair

AN ARTFUL EARTH DAY
A Dinner & Talk at the Garrison Institute
Thursday, April 19, 2018, 7 p.m.
14 Mary’s Way, Garrison, New York

Menu

Cocktails & snacks
- Industrial Arts beer & beer cocktails
- House-made local fruit shrub
- Aaron Burr cider
- Hudson Valley wines
- Hudson Valley Cheeses
- Signal Fire sour dough bread
- Pumpkin seed pate with garlic toast
- & more!

Dessert
- Blondies
- Vanilla ice cream
- Maple de leche
- Whipped cream
- Coffee & tea

We proudly feature the talented, artful, independent, international, craft food growers and producers of New York State.

Reservations are required: garrisoninstitute.org/earthday or 845-424-4400

$45 per person prior to the event; $50 cash or check at the door.

A percentage of the dinner price will be donated to charity.
The Highlands Current

March 30, 2018

Highlands Current

March 30, 2018

Current on view
Arte Povera: From the Olnick Spanu Collection
Thursday through Monday,
11am to 5pm.
Free by reservation
at magazzino.art.
2700 Route 9
Cold Spring, NY 10516

The Little Stony Point Citizens Association held its annual Maple Syrup Day fundraiser on March 25 with pancakes, coffee, hot cocoa, live music, and, of course, hot syrup.

Photos by Ross Corsair
What’s the Buzz?

Beacon Players to present Jesus Christ Superstar

By Alison Rooney

Somewhat unbelievably, Jesus Christ Superstar is middle-aged. Yet, the rock opera, born from a concept album, has a timeless storyline paired with an opportunity for those telling the tale to belt and emote and otherwise let it rip.

With teenagers seeking to shape laws and effect change, the material seems very much of the moment for its presentation April 13 to 15 by students at Beacon High School.

First produced in 1968, the musical is based on the final week of Jesus’ life, as seen through the eyes of Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. It features well-known songs such as Superstar and I Don’t Know How to Love Him. Written by Andrew Lloyd Weber with lyrics by Tim Rice, it is loosely based on the Gospels and explores the relationships and struggles between Jesus and his followers.

Anthony Scarrone, who directs the Beacon Players (and, in something of a miracle, is directing a production of Les Misérables at Spackenkill High School the same weekend), says about 75 students are involved in the production, including in the pit, where the 11-piece band is a mix of student and professional musicians.

The cast has been investigating its characters. “Every one of the students playing the apostles has traced where they wound up,” he says. “It was important to be sensitive to the plight of the people and their fear that their religion would be toppled. The kids have been

Found in Translation

Beacon resident moves language past barriers

By Alison Rooney

If the writer must sometimes wrestle for words, consider the translator’s lot: choosing not just the literal equivalent in another tongue, but the closest embodiment of the spirit, tone, sensibility and rhythm of the original.

Judith Filc, a translator who lives in Beacon, grapples with this all the time, especially with poetry.

On Thursday, April 12, at 6 p.m., the Howland Public Library at 313 Main St., Beacon, will host a reception to celebrate Ghost Opera, a book of poetry by Mercedes Roffé translated by Filc from Spanish to English. Ruth Danon will speak about the poems; Roffé, a native of Argentina who lives in New York City, will read from her collection in her native tongue; actor Brandy Burre will read from the English translations, and Filc will speak about her process.

“I’m constantly going between languages,” Filc explains. “I still think more in Spanish. There’s also a need to preserve your language; it’s your core.”

With poetry, “you won’t be able to recreate the same rhythm, but

Poetry can be tough because it involves so much interpretation and ‘there is no such thing as ‘understanding’ poetry.’

Idioms also present a challenge. “If there’s a play on words which doesn’t exist in English, I look for an English idiom that works in a similar way,” says Filc, who also speaks French. With poetry, “you won’t be able to recreate the same rhythm, but

The Calendar (Continued on Page 19)
**FRIDAY, MARCH 30**

First Night of Passover  
St. Philip’s Choir: Faure’s Requiem  
7:30 p.m. St. Philip’s Episcopal Church  
1101 Route 9D, Garrison  
845-838-0915 | stjoachim-stjohn.org

**SATURDAY, MARCH 31**

Funny Bunnies Program  
10 a.m. Outdoor Discovery Center  
100 Muser Dr., Cornwall  
845-534-5506 | hhnm.org

Volunteer Churchyard Cleanup  
10 a.m. – 1 p.m. St. Philip’s Church  
See details under Friday.

Beacon Egg Hunt & Spring Fling  
11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Memorial Park  
facebook.com/weeplaybeacon

**SUNDAY, APRIL 1**

Easter Festivities  
11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Highlands Country Club  
955 Route 9D, Garrison  
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

Breakneck Ridge Revue  
7 p.m. Dogwood | 47 E. Main St., Beacon  
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com

**EASTER SERVICES**

**GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 30**

United Methodist Church  
7 p.m. 216 Main St., Cold Spring  
845-265-3385 | facebook.com/CSSUMC

First Presbyterian Church  
7 p.m. 50 Liberty St., Beacon  
845-831-5322 | beaconpresbychurch.com

St. Joachim’s Church  
7 p.m. 51 Leonard St., Beacon  
845-838-0915 | stjoachim-stjohn.org

Our Lady of Loretto  
7:30 p.m. 24 Fair St., Cold Spring  
845-265-3718 | ladyofloretto.org

Salem Tabernacle  
7:30 p.m. 7 Delavan Ave., Beacon  
845-831-0114 | salemtabernacle.com

**VIGILS, MARCH 31**

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church  
7 p.m. Candlelight with Open Baptism  
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring  
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

Jehovah’s Witnesses  
7 p.m. 106 Howland Ave., Beacon  
845-831-5322 | beaconpresbychurch.com

Tabernacle of Christ Church A/G  
10 a.m. 483 Main St., Beacon  
845-831-1369 | standrewsbeaconny.org

**EASTER DAY, APRIL 1**

Graymoor Spiritual Life Center  
8 a.m. 1350 Route 9, Garrison  
800-338-2620 | graymoorcenter.org

St. John the Evangelist  
7:30 & 10:30 a.m. & Noon (Spanish)  
35 Willow St., Beacon  
845-838-0915 | stjoachim-stjohn.org

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church  
8 & 10:30 a.m. | See details above.

St. Philip’s Episcopal Church  
8 & 10:30 a.m. | See details above.

Our Lady of Loretto  
8:30 a.m. & Noon | See details above.

St. Luke’s Episcopal Church  
8:30 a.m. 850 Wolcott Ave., Beacon  
845-831-2643 | stlukesbeacon.org

United Methodist Church  
9 a.m. | See details above.

Salem Tabernacle  
9 & 11 a.m. | See details above.

St. Joachim’s Church  
9 a.m. & Noon | See details above.

Christ Church United Methodist  
10 a.m. 60 Union St., Beacon  
845-831-0365 | beaconmethodist.org

First Presbyterian Church  
10 a.m. 50 Liberty St., Beacon  
845-831-5322 | beaconpresbychurch.com

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church  
10 a.m. 15 South Ave., Beacon  
845-831-1139 | standrewsbeaconny.org

Tabernacle of Christ Church A/G  
10 a.m. 483 Main St., Beacon  
845-831-4656 | tabernacleofchristchurch.com

St. Joseph’s Chapel  
10:15 a.m. 74 Upper Station Road, Garrison  
845-265-3718 | ourladyofloretto.org

First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown  
10:30 a.m. 10 Academy St., Cold Spring  
845-265-3220 | beaconpresbychurch.org

Church on the Hill  
10:30 a.m. 245 Main St., Cold Spring  
845-265-2022 | jesusonthehill.com

**MONDAY, APRIL 2**

Beacon City Council  
7 p.m. City Hall  
1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon  
845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

**TUESDAY, APRIL 3**

Bird Walk around Hessian Lake  
9 a.m. Bear Mountain Inn  
845-786-2701 | trailexdozoo.org

Putnam County Legislature  
7 p.m. Historic Courthouse  
44 Genevieve Ave., Carmel  
845-208-7800 | putnamcounnty.org

Haldane School Board  
7 p.m. Haldane School  
15 CRAIGSIDE DR., COLD SPRING  
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4**

Wee Play Come & Play (ages 0-5)  
9:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Howland Library  
313 Main St., Beacon  
845-831-1134 | howlandlibrary.org

Deep Heap Circle with Garrison Congregational  
1:30 p.m. Desmon-Fish Library  
472 Route 403, Garrison  
845-424-3020 | desmonfishlibrary.org

**THURSDAY, APRIL 5**

Philipstown Senior Club  
11 a.m. Chestnut Ridge (Community Room)  
62 Chestnut St., Cold Spring

Community Screening: Wonder (2017)  
8:30 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring  
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

HVSF Storytelling Workshop  
7 p.m. Desmon-Fish Library  
472 Route 403, Garrison  
845-809-5750 x18 | hvsheppeare.org

Philipstown Town Board  
7:30 p.m. Town Hall  
238 Main St., Cold Spring  
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

Christopher Cross  
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
See details under Tuesday.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 6**

Haldane PTA Bingo Night  
5 p.m. St. Mary’s Church  
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring | haldanepta.org

Dragonfly Story Hour  
7 p.m. Butterfield Library  
See details under Thursday.

HVSF Storytelling Workshop  
7 p.m. Old VFW Hall  
34 Kerhulet Ave., Cold Spring  
845-809-5750 x18 | hvsheppeare.org

**Support Groups**

For a full list of area support groups, visit: highlandscurrent.com/pg
Instant Success for Beacon Camp

In only its second year, city program fills quickly

By Alison Rooney

The City of Beacon summer camp at the University Settlement Camp, which begins its second season July 9, continues to grow. In fact, it has become so popular that the 2018 camp was full within two days after registration opened March 5. (Campers who attended in 2017 were allowed to register a week earlier.)

Part of the appeal of Camp @ The Camp is that “the property is magical,” says Linda Richards, referring to the campgrounds at 724 Wolcott Ave., which were created in 1910 to provide New York City children with an experience in nature.

Richards, who directs the camp with Ilana Friedman, points out “an immense field, a tire swing, indoor classrooms, a gym for when it’s raining, and a gigantic pavilion. It’s a dream camp.”

The Beacon program, designed for campers ages 5 to 11, runs weekdays for five weeks. The cost is $195 per week, sibling discounts and an extended-day option.

The camp also offers a counselor-in-training program for 12- to 15-year-olds and a weeklong introduction for 4-year-olds, both of which have openings. See cityofbeacon.org/government/camp-at-camp.htm. An application and interview are required for the CIT program.

Each week of camp has a theme but always includes field games, the writing and performing of music, art, exploration and swimming at the Beacon Pool under the supervision of Nate Smith, the director of aquatics.

Each day begins with songs and group games, followed by activities, free play and rest, as needed, Richards says. Guests will include a wildlife expert and a children’s theater company. Parents with skills and talents are also welcome to share.

The idea for the camp came from David Sampliner, a Beacon resident who introduced Friedman and Richards because he thought they would be great as co-directors of a summer camp. As he predicted, they clicked and soon were working with Mark Price, the director of the Beacon Recreation Department.

After funding for the camp was approved by the Beacon City Council in February 2017, the women, along with Heidi Harrison of the Recreation Department, had less than five months to prepare. But finding campers was not a problem; the sessions filled quickly, as happened again this year. “We can’t wait for this summer,” says Richards.

Children at Camp @ The Camp piece together a puzzle that depicts the Hudson River.

Photos by Ilana Friedman

Shakespeare Summer Camp

July 16 - 20 & 23 - 27
HVSF’s creative, process-based theater camp for 8-16 year olds

9:00a-2:45p daily at Haldane High
1 & 2-week options, $350/week

hvshakespeare.org/education
2018 SUMMER DANCE PROGRAM

PRE-BALLETT & LOWER SCHOOL BALLET
Tuesdays, June 26, July 3, 10 & 17, Ages 3-6
9:30-10:30 am, $60 for the 4 class session
For our youngest dancers, this class, taught by Katie Bissinger, encourages a love of movement and sets the foundation for the full range of classical dance.

BEGINNING TAP
Tuesdays, June 26, July 3, 10 & 17, Ages 5+
10:30-11:30 am, $60 for the 4 class session
Students will learn the fundamentals of Broadway tap with former Rockette Katie Bissinger.

DANCE EXPLORATION WEEK
July 9-13, Ages 6-11, 9 am-noon, $180 for the week
In-studio performance on Friday, July 13 at Noon
Dancers will explore a different discipline each day of the week: ballet, modern, tap, jazz & theater dance - with former Rockette Katie Bissinger and former Mark Morris dancer Chelsea Acree.

THEATER DANCE INTENSIVE WEEK
July 30-August 3, 10 am-4 pm, Ages 12+, $375 per week
In-studio performance, Friday at 6
Taught by former Rockette Katie Bissinger, mornings will be devoted to warm-up and dance training. In the afternoons, dancers will do improv and theater games, and workshop a Broadway performance piece.

BALLET INTENSIVE WEEK
August 13-17, 10 am-4 pm, Ages 12+, $375 per week
In-studio performance on Friday at 6 pm
Taught by former New York City Ballet dancer Miriam Mahdaviani, mornings will be devoted to warm-up and technique. In the afternoons, dancers will do pointe work, work on Variations, study character dance, dance history, nutrition and injury prevention.

BALLET, MODERN, JAZZ AND THEATER DANCE TECHNIQUE
June 11-14, 18-21 & 25-28 and August 20-23
NEW! 5-6 pm for ages 9-12, $17 per class or $60 for 4
6-7:30 pm for ages 13+, $20 per class or $70 for 4
Technique classes in a different discipline each day - NEW! Theater Dance on Mondays, Jazz on Tuesdays, Ballet on Wednesdays and Modern on Thursdays.

CAMP FACTS
- Number of overnight camps in the U.S.: 8,400
- Number of day camps: 5,600
- Average weekly cost of overnight camp: $768; of day camp: $314
- Percentage of camps with swimming: 86
- With horseback riding: 34
- With farming/gardening: 23
Source: American Camp Association

Kids’ Kayak Classes
July 9-13 and July 23-27
Week-long series of classes get your kids outdoors and on the water.

Hudson River Expeditions

A Shabbat service for teenage campers at Surprise Lake

The King of Summer (from Page 1)

Teenagers ages 7 to 15 and this year will run two four-week sessions from June 28 to Aug. 20. “I liked the work and swimming in the lake,” recalls Vogel, 82, of that first summer. In his spare time, he helped with waterfront programs or repaired the boats. The next summer he became a lifeguard and the director later asked him to become his assistant.

“I learned as I went along,” Vogel says. “Then I got kicked upstairs!”

The camp has expanded over the years. Founded in 1902 in North Highlands for Jewish boys from tenements of Manhattan’s Lower East Side, Surprise Lake Camp began with six tents, five counselors and 25 campers. Today, the 460-acre property, surrounded by state-owned land on three sides, hosts more than 400 campers each summer and has a staff more than 200, mostly seasonal, employees.

The camp primarily serves Jewish children (the meals are kosher and there are services each Friday and Saturday), but those who aren’t Jewish are also welcome.

Recent additions include an adventure course with climbing towers and overhangs and a zip line. “We have a very big garden, bees’ nests, fruit trees, chickens and a goat,” Vogel says. “And a brand-new swimming pool — things we didn’t have in the early years.”

The camp is much less rustic than in its formative years. “We used to have outhouses,” Vogel says, laughing. “Today kids don’t even know what an outhouse is!”

In addition to water-based programs, Surprise Lake Camp has diverse activities such as art, crafts, archery, drama and photography. There is also a putting green.
The King of Summer (from previous page)

According to Vogel, improvements such as the pool would be impossible without the support of the camp’s alumni, including comedian Eddie Cantor, who helped fund an outdoor amphitheater in the early 1950s.

Other notables who attended the camp include musicians Neil Diamond and Gene Simmons, television host Larry King, novelist Joseph Heller and actors Walter Matthau and Jerry Stiller. Pete Seeger was a frequent entertainer for decades.

Vogel says he enjoys watching campers mature over the summer.

“They’re away from mom and pop for four or eight weeks; they get a chance to grow up. They have to work it out; they have to learn how to get along with people. It’s a life-changing experience.”

Vogel says. “They have to work it out; they have to learn how to get along with people. It’s a life-changing experience.”

The experience includes navigating the world without electronic devices; campers must hand in their phones upon arrival.

Vogel says he keeps coming back because “I feel I make a difference in people’s lives.” There is evidence that he succeeds: he recently received hundreds of birthday wishes from alumni around the world. “It was pretty neat,” he says.

Jordan Dale, who was the director of Surprise Lake Camp for more than 40 years, notes that “Harry started before I was born. Now I’m retired, and he’s still there!”

Dale said that in his early days as director he felt he should work as hard as everyone else on the staff. “I finally realized that I was killing myself trying to keep up with Harry,” he says. “I couldn’t match his energy. He is one of the most remarkable people I have ever known.”

Vogel, who has been married to his wife, Bobbi, for 59 years, keeps busy year-round. During the winter, he works five days a week as a ski instructor in New Jersey. “It’s fulfilling,” he said. “It keeps you young.”

Garrison Art Center

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garrisonartcenter.org
845.424.3960

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Summer Arts on the Hudson for kids pre-k to 8th grade

July 16 – August 3
Summer Art Institute for High School artists
Summer Art Immersion for Adults

Hudson Hills Montessori

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8 Weeks

Camp begins the week of June 25, 2018 and runs through August 17.

Camp hours are 9 am - 3 pm.
A different theme each week.
For ages 3-6 years old*

*Your child must be 3 by December 1, 2018.
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SUMMER CAMP GUIDE

4th Wall Productions (Hopewell Junction)
845-226-8099 | 4thwallproductions.org
All Sport Camp Fit (Fishkill)
845-896-5678 | allsportfishkill.com
Ballet Arts Studio (Beacon)
845-831-1870 | balletartsstudio.com
Beacon Art Adventures
845-218-1593 | beaconartadventures.com
Beacon Art Studios
845-728-2542 | beaconartstudios.com
Beacon Music Factory
845-765-0472 | beaconstudios.com
Beacon Performing Arts Center
845-350-2722 | beaconperformingartscenter.com
Be Creative as Possible (Beacon)
845-905-2338 | becreativeaspossible.com
Camp @ The Camp (Beacon)
845-765-8440 | cityofbeacon.org
Camp Hillcroft (Lagrangeville)
845-223-5826 | camphillcroft.com
Common Ground Farm (Wappingers Falls)
845-231-4424 | commongroundfarm.org
Compass Arts (Beacon)
917-648-4454 | compassarts.org

Garrison Art Center
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org
Hudson Highlands Nature Museum (Cornwall)
845-534-5506 | hhnm.org
Hudson Hills Montessori (Beacon)
845-831-1100 | hudsonhillsmontessori.org
Hudson Valley Shakespeare (Cold Spring)
845-809-5750 x13 | hvshakespeare.org
Kid’s Place (Beacon)
845-838-9934 | kidsplacebeacon.org
Manitoga Nature & Design (Garrison)
845-424-3812 | visitmanitoga.org
Manitou School (Cold Spring)
845-809-5695 | manitouschool.org
Philipstown Recreation Department
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com
Renegades Baseball Camps (Dutchess Stadium)
renegadesbaseballcamps.com
Rose Hill Manor (Beacon)
845-831-4847 | rosheilmanschool.com
Storm King Art Center (New Windsor)
845-534-3115 | stormking.org
Surprise Lake Camp (Cold Spring)
845-265-3616 | surpriselake.org

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www.surpriselake.org * abbe@surpriselake.org * 845-265-3616

Hudson Valley Renegades
Dutchess Stadium 25th year
REGISTER NOW FOR BASEBALL CAMPS
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Pitcher's Camp: July 18-20
Full-Day Camp: July 24-27
All-Skills Camp: Aug. 13-15
renegadesbaseballcamps.com

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*High & Low Ropes Courses *Zip Line *Olympics *Carnival *Sports Tournaments
*Memories That Last A Lifetime!
ASK US ABOUT OUR NEW FAMILY DISCOUNTS
Offering 4 or 8 week sessions, plus Mini Camp, Rookie Day, and Get Your Feet Wet for 1st time campers.
www.surpriselake.org * abbe@surpriselake.org * 845-265-3616
We asked Judith Filc if she could demonstrate her process. As an example, she chose a fragment of a poem by Argentine poet Catalina Boccardo.

Original

arrojó poemas como un vaso de agua
había pasto seco en la dedicatoria
y su lectura desnuda corrosiva
taló mi cuerpo

First draft

she threw poems like a glass of water
there was dried grass in the inscription
and her reading naked corrosive fell my body

Second draft

he hurl’d poems like a glass of water
there was wilted grass in the inscription
and his reading naked corrosive fell my body

draft 3.

"Arrojar can mean ‘to cast,’ ‘to hurl’ or ‘to throw.’ The next line is ‘like a glass of water.’ I picture the person throwing it with force, so I go with hurl. My choice also has to do with the rest of the poem, where there’s a lot of violence. In my mental image the glass shatters. I need to ask the author what she saw when writing the line."

draft 4.

"Pasto seco is ‘dried grass,’ but I believe the poet is referring to grass after a drought. My husband suggested ‘wilted.’"

Filc says she will continue to revise a translation “until it sounds right to me. Sometimes that involves moving away from the original, which I do if it makes sense, as long as I don’t feel I’m changing its spirit. You need a long stage when you forget the original and live with the translation, seeing them independent of each other.”

1. “Talar could be ‘to cut down’ or ‘to fell.’ I choose the latter because I want to preserve the rhythm and form of the original — short lines, staccato.”

2. “I don’t know if the person performing the actions is a man or a woman, because in Spanish you don’t need to use a personal pronoun, and possessive adjectives have no gender. I chose male, but I’ll ask the author.”

3. "Arrojar can mean ‘to cast,’ ‘to hurl’ or ‘to throw.’ The next line is ‘like a glass of water.’ I picture the person throwing it with force, so I go with hurl. My choice also has to do with the rest of the poem, where there’s a lot of violence. In my mental image the glass shatters. I need to ask the author what she saw when writing the line."

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Cold Spring Tag Sale
Get ready to clean the closets
The annual village tag sale organized by the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 7. Register at explorecoldspringny.com. A $20 fee includes a map listing. The rain date is April 8.

Love in the Air
Center to host play reading
The Tompkins Corners Cultural Center in Putnam Valley will celebrate its third year with a free reading of A.R. Gurney’s play, Love Letters, at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 7. Brian Keeler and Peggity Price will be directed by Joseph Capone as they portray two lifelong friends with a complicated relationship.

Sew into Spring
Class for teens begins April 12
The Cornell Cooperative Extension will offer a seven-week series of intermediate sewing classes for Putnam County students ages 12 to 17 beginning April 12. The 90-minute class will be held in Brewster each Thursday at 6 p.m. Register at putnam.cce.cornell.edu/events.

Weather Update
Authors to speak about new book
Members of the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society will hear at their annual fundraiser on Saturday, April 14, from Andy Revkin and Lisa Mecheley of Nelsonville, co-authors of Weather: From Cloud Atlases to Climate Control. Revkin is an environmental journalist and Mecheley is a science teacher and environmental educator. The event will be held at the Taconic Outdoor Education Center. Tickets are $60 and include a social hour and buffet dinner. See phasbirding.com/phus-annual-dinner/tickets.

Yoga for Kids
Studio classes begin April 3
Cold Spring Yoga and Pilates Studio will launch three classes for children and teens next week. Fun and Creative Play, which is open to students in grades 1 to 5, begins April 3 and runs for seven weeks. Girls ages 11 to 14 can take part in a seven-week series beginning that same day that focuses on strength and wellness. And boys can join a six-week series beginning April 5 called Chivalry and Martial Arts that covers self-defense skills and ethics. See coldspringyoga.com.

The Future of Water
Land trust to hold forum
The Hudson Highlands Land Trust will hold its annual community forum on Sunday, April 15, at the Highlnds Country Club in Garrison. Called The Taste of Sprawl, it will include a panel and sessions about how land-use decisions affect drinking water.

Beacon
Wanted: Hazardous Waste
County will collect it, plus electronics
Dutchess County residents will be able to drop off household hazardous waste for disposal and electronics for recycling in Poughkeepsie from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 7.

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*New rate is not applicable to Nursing courses.
Spirit of Beacon
Planning begins for fall celebration
Planning for the 41st Spirit of Beacon Day has begun. The committee meets monthly at the Howland Public Library and welcomes anyone who would like to volunteer. See spiritofbeacon.org.

Kindergarten Registration
Beacon district ready for new class
Registration for kindergarten for the Beacon City School District is open during the month of April for the 2018-19 school year. Packets are available at beaconk12.org/domain/31. Call Gail Morgan at 845-838-6900, ext. 2002, with questions. Children must be 5 years old on or before Dec. 1 to enroll.

No More Straws
Restaurants offer final sips
The River Valley Restaurant Group, which includes Taco Santana, Beacon Bread, Ziatun and Vegetalien in Beacon and Angelina’s in Cold Spring, as of April 1 will no longer provide straws with beverages. “We will keep them on hand until May 31 for the people who are going to cry about it,” it said. By one estimate, Americans discard 500 million straws per day, or the equivalent of 3 million pounds of plastic. Many end up in the ocean.

Relatives Parenting
Session will provide resources
On Thursday, April 5, at 6:30 p.m., the Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County will hold an information session at the Howland Library in Beacon on resources available to caregivers who are raising children of a relative. Relatives as Parent Program (RAPP) support groups can help make connections to financial assistance and community resources. For information, call 845-677-8223, ext. 137, or email jmc646@cornell.edu.

Find Your Vision
Map your purpose at workshop
Scott Tillitt and Amy Soucy will lead an all-day workshop on Saturday, April 21, at the Beahive in Beacon called Visioning for Change: Map Your Purpose and Change the World. The retreat incorporates mindfulness, community building and strategic visioning exercises. Tickets are available at antidotecollective.org. Space is limited to 15 participants.

While snorkeling in Australia, a diver found 319 straws in 20 minutes. She returned the next day and collected 294 more. I Million Women

The committee organizing Spirit of Beacon Day met at the Howland Library on March 8. In the front row, from left, are Susan Pagones, Linda Kimmel, Gwenn James, Romi Domoulin, Tom Pantano, Dareshanie D’Arpino and Augie D’Arpino. In the back row are Jill Reynolds, Ed Benavente, Karen James, Robert Phillips and Tony Lassiter. Photo by Evan D’Arpino
Roots and Shoots

Five Years of Plants and Friends
By Pamela Doan

My word count exceeds my gardening successes, and that’s OK.

Happy fifth anniversary, readers! Here are some highlights of my favorite subjects, things I’ve learned, and people I’ve been able to meet since this column debuted on March 22, 2013.

Soil

You could dig a hole, drop in a seed or plant and wait. Results will vary. Results always vary when it comes to growing things, but understanding how soil feeds plants and how most soils have been degraded gives your plant better odds. Start gardening by learning how to feed the soil and add a couple inches of compost this season.

Climate change

On the same subject, soil is also one of the most important tools we have in our yards to be more conscious of our footprint. Soil holds carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas. The healthier the soil, the better it sequisters carbon. Want to lower your carbon footprint? Grow better plants.

Our landscapes aren’t just yards and lawns, they’re part of an ecosystem and our choices decide what lives and what dies.

I recently saw a statistic that suburban lawns are dosed in more pesticides than farmers use in agriculture. This year’s alarm from the ecology researchers is about significant losses of all insect populations and it’s easy to see the connection. Pollinators like bees and butterflies have been making headlines for more than a decade now because of drastic population drops.

The list of threats and challenges for many of the species we may barely notice in the landscape is too numerous to list here. Plant choices can create sterile environments that don’t have any value for birds, insects and wildlife or can be rich with sources of food, water and shelter. Native plants are always a good bet since they evolved in our landscapes with the other creatures that depend on them.

Japanese barberry

My wooded acres are overrun with this thorny, demon shrub. Since it’s also a haven for ticks, it’s a health issue as well. My view will go green soon as it leaves out before anything, blocking sunlight that will prevent anything else from sprouting around it. Goats may be the answer. Stay tuned.

Pruning

I still have to look up a woody plant’s growth habits to know when and how to prune and always will.

Community gardens

I’d always wanted to join a community garden when I lived in Brooklyn and there was a waiting list. When Miriam Wagner reached out to me about the community garden on Elizabeth Healy’s property, I signed up for it as I was interviewing her. I met lovely people, got to see lovely plants, and appreciated seeing the diverse approaches and styles of all the gardeners.

Always learning

It’s my job to ask people questions and learn. That’s my favorite part of garden writing.

I’ve met incredibly interesting people who inspire me constantly. There’s so much to know about plants and it’s imperative that we understand what’s happening with climate change. The intelligence of the questions that are being explored by researchers and through citizen science efforts gives me hope in this staggeringly complicated time of rapid change in the natural world.

We’re fortunate to have innovative projects and organizations locally such as Scenic Hudson, Constitution Marsh, the Cornell Cooperative Extension, the Lower Hudson Partnership for Invasive Species Management, the Cary Institute and Riverkeeper, to name a few.

Sharing stories

Writing a column about gardening brings your interests front and center and it’s a pleasure to share stories. I’ve met so many great people who instantly have a connection with through gardening. Thank you to current and future friends for the questions, suggestions and curiosity. You can always reach me at rootsandshoots@highlandscurrent.com.
What's the Buzz?  (from Page 9)

getting into it, even arguing — in a good way — about the political and religious issues that have come up."

Outside of the roles of Jesus (Zack Kotzias) and Mary Magdalene (Elizabeth Cenicola), the show was cast without regard to gender, resulting in a female Jesus (Leah Siegel) and a mix for the other roles, including the apostles. Scarrone says he does “age-blind” casting, choosing a senior only when it comes down to all things being equal at the auditions.

He says the players continue to raise the bar with their productions. “We have flame bolts that look like fire, a rising cross that was welded by a parent, a 37-foot-high set,” he says. “We’re in the home stretch now; everyone’s just chomping at the bit.” Of the Easter Sunday live performance of Jesus Christ Superstar on NBC, Scarrone quips, “That’s just a warmup for us!”

Jesus Christ Superstar will be presented at the high school’s Seeger Theater at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 13, and Saturday, April 14, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 15. Tickets are $12 for adults and $5 for students and seniors at the door, from beaconplayers.com or at the school box office, which is open Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Above, the grand entrance of Jesus, played by Zack Kotzias; below left, Elizabeth Cenicola as Mary Magdalene with Kotzias

For complete cast list of Jesus Christ Superstar, visit highlandscurrent.com
Sports

Spring Varsity Sports (Home Games)

HALDANE BLUE DEVILS

Baseball
Poughkeepsie 17, Haldane 6
Hamilton 3, Haldane 1
Haldane 14, Peekskill 4
March 29 (Thurs.) 4:30 p.m. Yonkers Montessori
April 4 (Wed.) 4:30 p.m. Irvington
April 18 (Wed.) 4:30 p.m. Pawling
April 24 (Tues.) 4:30 p.m. North Salem
April 30 (Mon.) 3:30 p.m. Hastings
May 4 (Fri.) 4:15 p.m. Millbrook
May 9 (Wed.) 4:30 p.m. Putnam Valley
May 14 (Mon.) 4:30 p.m. Palisade Prep

Softball
April 6 (Fri.) 4:30 p.m. Beacon
April 9 (Mon.) 4:30 p.m. Westlake
April 16 (Mon.) 4:30 p.m. Hamilton
April 20 (Fri.) 4:30 p.m. Blind Brook
April 24 (Tues.) 5 p.m. Dobbs Ferry
April 26 (Thurs.) 4:30 p.m. Putnam Valley
April 27 (Fri.) 4:30 p.m. Tuckahoe
April 30 (Mon.) 4:30 p.m. Schechter
May 4 (Fri.) 4:30 p.m. North Salem
May 8 (Tues.) 4:30 p.m. Edgemont
May 10 (Thurs.) 4:30 p.m. Pawling

Boys’ Lacrosse
April 17 (Tues.) 4:30 p.m. Pawling
April 18 (Wed.) 4:30 p.m. Magnus
April 21 (Sat.) 1 p.m. Blind Brook
April 28 (Sat.) 11 a.m. Dobbs Ferry
May 3 (Thurs.) 4:30 p.m. Edgemont
May 5 (Sat.) 6:30 p.m. O’Neill
May 7 (Mon.) 4:30 p.m. Keio

Boys/Girls’ Golf
April 11 (Wed.) Hendrick Hudson
April 24 (Tues.) Ossining
April 26 (Thurs.) North Salem
May 1 (Tues.) Pawling
May 8 (Tues.) Putnam Valley
May 17 (Thurs.) Beacon

Track & Field
April 4 (Wed.) 4:30 p.m. @ Putnam Valley
April 7 (Sat.) 8:45 a.m. @ Pearl River
April 11 (Wed.) 4:30 p.m. @ North Salem
April 18 (Wed.) 4:30 p.m. @ Bronxville
April 20-21 @ Randall’s Island
April 24 (Tues.) 4:30 p.m. @ Croton-Harmon
April 28 (Sat.) 9 a.m. @ Kingston
April 30 (Mon.) @ Cornwall
May 5 (Sat.) @ Somers
May 9 (Wed.) League Meet
May 12-13 @ White Plains
May 18 (Fri.) @ Beacon
May 19 (Sat.) @ Arlington
May 23 (Wed.) @ Byram Hills
May 24 (Thurs.) @ Valhalla
May 29 (Tues.) @ Warwick Valley
May 31 (Thurs.) 5 p.m. @ Arlington
June 1 (Fri.) 5 p.m. @ White Plains

BEACON BULLDOGS

Baseball
April 3 (Tues.) 4:30 p.m. Walter Panas
April 10 (Tues.) 4:30 p.m. Albertus Magnus
April 19 (Thurs.) 4:30 p.m. Hendrick Hudson
April 25 (Wed.) 4:30 p.m. Poughkeepsie
May 3 (Thurs.) 4:30 p.m. Peekskill
May 7 (Mon.) 4:30 p.m. Lakeland
May 8 (Tues.) 4:30 p.m. Lourdes

Softball
Nanuet 8, Beacon 0
Brewster 21, Beacon 0
April 3 (Tues.) 4:30 p.m. Harrison
April 11 (Wed.) 4:30 p.m. Lourdes
April 17 (Tues.) 4:30 p.m. Poughkeepsie
April 20-21 Dawg Fest Tournament
April 23 (Mon.) 4:30 p.m. Haldane
April 30 (Mon.) 4:30 p.m. Ossining
May 1 (Tues.) 4:30 p.m. Hendrick Hudson
May 9 (Wed.) 4:30 p.m. Peekskill
May 10 (Thurs.) 4:30 p.m. Ossining

Girls’ Lacrosse
Rye Neck 15, Beacon 6
April 4 (Wed.) 4:30 p.m. Yonkers
April 5 (Thurs.) 4:15 p.m. Roosevelt
April 18 (Wed.) 4:15 p.m. Rye Neck
April 19 (Thurs.) 4:30 p.m. Eastchester
May 1 (Tues.) 4:30 p.m. Lourdes
May 3 (Thurs.) 4:30 p.m. Hendrick Hudson
May 10 (Thurs.) 4:45 p.m. Sleepy Hollow

Track & Field
April 4 (Wed.) 4 p.m. @ Hendrick Hudson
April 9 (Mon.) 4:15 p.m. Poughkeepsie/Lourdes
April 14 (Sat.) 9 a.m. @ Cornwall
April 20 (Fri.) 4:15 p.m. @ Wallkill
April 23 (Mon.) 4:15 p.m. Peekskill
April 26 (Thurs.) 3:30 p.m. Jumpfest
April 17 (Tues.) 4:15 p.m. Peekskill/Hudson
May 2 (Wed.) 4:15 p.m. League Meet
May 5 (Sat.) 9 a.m. @ Hyde Park

Boys’ Golf
April 9 (Mon.) 4 p.m. Hendrick Hudson
April 17 (Tues.) 4 p.m. Sleepy Hollow

Girls’ Golf
April 12 (Thurs.) 3:30 p.m. Wappingers

Boys’ Tennis
April 5 (Thurs.) 4:15 p.m. John Jay East Fishkill
April 9 (Mon.) 4:15 & 5:30 p.m. Somers
April 11 (Wed.) 4:15 p.m. Lakeland
April 12 (Thurs.) 4:15 p.m. Carmel
April 18 (Wed.) 4:15 p.m. Walter Panas
April 19 (Thurs.) 4:15 p.m. Mahopac
April 23 (Mon.) 4:15 p.m. Hendrick Hudson
May 2 (Wed.) 4:15 p.m. Lourdes
May 7 (Mon.) 4:15 p.m. Brewster

*Schedules subject to change