

# The HIGHLANDS Current



A Tap  
Great in  
Beacon  
Page 11

APRIL 6, 2018

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APRIL SHOWERS — A worker clears snow from the sidewalk on Monday, April 2, outside the Dutchess County building on Main Street in Beacon after yet another storm dumped four to six inches on the Highlands. It had melted by Wednesday. Photo by Guy Peifer

## Philipstown Enacts Safe-Storage Gun Law

*Board says necessary to protect children*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Philipstown Town Board on Thursday (April 5) adopted a law requiring a firearm to be locked up when the owner leaves home without it and children are present or likely to be present.

The 5-0 vote at Town Hall came during the monthly meeting of the board, which declined to hear public comment. The decision ended 18 months of intermittent debate over the measure.

As passed, the law states that “no owner or custodian of a firearm shall leave” a handgun, rifle or shotgun “out of his or her possession or control in a residence” while knowing, or having reason to know, that anyone under age 18 is at home, unless the owner is also present or gives the gun “to a lawful custodian,” stores it in a locked container or disables it with a trigger lock. *(Continued on Page 2)*

## Beacon Police Add Body Cameras

*Policy that guides officers not yet released*

By Jeff Simms

Using a \$9,900 federal grant, the Beacon Police Department is outfitting its 20 patrol officers with high-definition body cameras, an upgrade the department says will increase transparency and secure prosecutions.

After a yearlong pilot program during which the department trained officers and worked through technical issues, the cameras were deployed in the last two weeks, said Lt. Tom Figlia, who oversees the system.

The camera clips to the officer’s vest and records video and audio of whatever occurs in front of him or her. The officer pushes a button to start the device, which saves footage from 10 seconds before activation.

The technology has already paid off, according to Police Chief Kevin Junjulas, who said on April 4 that an officer’s camera captured footage of a suspect discarding evidence while *(Continued on Page 3)*



Lt. Tom Figlia is shown with a body camera (inset) attached at the center of his vest.



Supervisors at headquarters can view what the officer sees.

Photos by J. Simms

# 5 Five Questions: BRETT FELLER

By Brian PJ Cronin

On April 5, Brett Feller opened a hardware store at 18 W. Main St. in Beacon.

## What prompted you to open your third Brett's Hardware?

I've been thinking about it since I bought the glass cutter for one of my Orange County locations from Nichols when it closed six years ago. Because I live in Beacon, it was obvious to me the city needed a hardware store.

## How big is your new store compared to the others?

This is 6,600 square feet. The others are each 10,500 square feet. We managed to squeeze in almost everything. For example, we have 8 feet of dog treats at the other stores, and here we have 4 feet. It's going to serve the community fine, because Beacon's going to be so happy there are 4 feet of dog treats to choose from. With grass seed, the other stores have 12 feet, here it's 8. But the fact people won't have to leave town to get grass seed will be great. I know how it is. It's a pain in the butt to leave town.

## What will surprise people when they first walk in?

How much different stuff they can buy. We put in everything a hardware store should carry. I also think people will come in and say, "How did you get all of this in here?" From the outside, you can't tell.

## Do you have anything specific to Beacon?

Because so many people walk to the train to commute, and so many people come up on the weekends, we put in more drinks and snack food. People in the building are already asking us to put in a coffee shop. A lot of people work down here by the station and they don't always want to walk up to Main Street. But first we have to focus on the hardware.



Brett Feller

Photo by B. Cronin

## You share a building with Two-Way Brewery, so at least people can get a beer after they shop, right?

I've always thought it would be cool to have a bar in one of my stores, so this worked out.

## Philipstown Enacts Safe-Storage Gun Law *(from Page 1)*

The board continued to fine-tune the proposal as late as Monday (April 2), changing wording that said a violator "shall" be subject to a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or a year in the Putnam County Jail to "may" be subjected to those penalties.

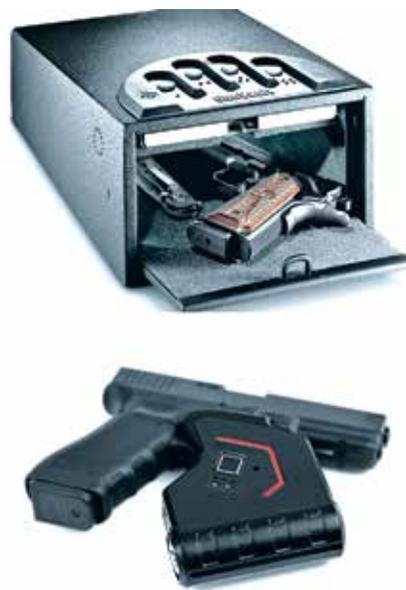
A public hearing on Feb. 21 nearly filled the Haldane school auditorium as proponents and opponents made impassioned arguments. After that outpouring of testimony, the board scrapped its plan for an immediate vote.

A draft introduced in December but discarded before the Feb. 21 hearing would have compelled gun owners to lock up or disable a weapon whenever it was not in the owner's immediate possession, even if he or she were in the house.

In the Heller case in 2008, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that requiring that a gun at home always be disabled or locked up is unconstitutional because it makes it impossible for the owner to readily use the gun in self-defense.

In a March 31 email, Christopher Turan, secretary of the Putnam County Firearms Association, called the final draft "a watered-down version and not as bad as what they originally *(Continued on next page)*"

**Below: The Philipstown law requires gun owners to secure their weapons in safes or with a trigger lock whenever they leave home without the weapon and haven't entrusted it to another adult.**



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## Beacon Police Add Body Cameras *(from Page 1)*

being pursued on foot.

The cameras are being implemented primarily to aid in prosecutions, Junjulas said. A camera is also a “good tool for internal investigations, to determine what actually happened,” he said. “The video is right there.”

The assumption when an officer is on duty is “that you’re being recorded in one way or another,” whether by a bystander’s cellphone or a security camera, Junjulas said. The body cameras “allow us to record incidents on our terms.”

Figlia said that the cameras are not being implemented in reaction to any particular incident, nor are they a response to the cases of alleged police brutality that have been reported across the country in recent years.

“We’re not having that problem,” he said. “What we’re having are incidents where the camera captures a crime in progress.”

Junjulas said the cameras are also unrelated to an investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice of the Beacon department’s standards and practices. Federal oversight of the department ended in 2016.

As more departments equip their officers with cameras, civil-liberty watchdogs caution that strict policies should be in place to govern their use.

Beacon police officials declined to release the department’s body camera policy, which one study found is not unusual. Upturn, a Washington, D.C.-based think tank, studies technology and social justice as it affects communities of color. Only a

third of the 69 large departments it surveyed had posted their body-camera rules where they could be easily found online.

Figlia said that the city’s legal department must review requests before the police can release policy information to the public. *The Current* has filed a Freedom of Information Law request for the policy to see how it compares with “best practices” suggested by groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union.

Figlia said the Beacon department’s policy does address when an officer should activate his or her camera. “In the heat of the moment, there are going to be occasions where, even with good intent, an officer fails to push the button,” he said. But as soon as the officer gets their focus back, he or she is expected to activate the camera, he said, and “if there’s misconduct, that will be dealt with.”

Another issue that should be addressed in a policy is who can view the footage, and when, said Harlan Yu, the executive director of Upturn. In some jurisdictions, police have access to footage that other witnesses may not, he noted. In that case, an officer could use a recording to “square” his or her account of an incident with “what’s shown in the footage in an artificial way.”

Upturn, which last year produced a “policy scorecard” of large police departments that use body cameras, recommends that officers give an independent account of an incident before viewing footage.

In 2014, the Police Executive Research Forum *(Continued on page 14)*



Body cameras being charged at the Beacon Police Department

Photo by J. Simms

## Best Practices for Body Cameras

At [bwcscorecard.org](http://bwcscorecard.org), the think tanks Upturn and the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights provide what they consider to be best practices for police use of body cameras. Policies, they say, should:

- Clearly describe when officers must record, and require officers to provide concrete justifications for failing to record required events.
- Specifically protect categories of vulnerable individuals (e.g., victims of sex crimes) from being recorded without their informed consent.
- Require officers to file an initial written report or statement before relevant footage is reviewed, for all incidents.

- Require the department to delete “unflagged” [routine] footage within six months.
- Expressly prohibit footage-tampering and unauthorized access, and indicate that all access to recorded footage will be logged or audited.
- Expressly allow individuals who are filing police misconduct complaints to view all relevant footage.
- Sharply limit the use of biometric technologies (e.g., facial recognition) to identify individuals in footage.

Other issues that have come up include whether an officer can record inside your home if you have not consented to a search.

## Philipstown Enacts Safe-Storage Gun Law *(from Page 2)*

planned” because “many of the Second Amendment infringements have been removed.”

Nonetheless, he added, “the law still has some *very* bad aspects,” including its classification of a violation as a criminal misdemeanor, with “excessive” penalties. He also faulted its definition of a locked container for not specifically including furniture designed to conceal firearms.

Turan suggested members “bombard” the Town Board before the vote. “Write letters, send emails, and make phone calls,” he advised. “Write multiple times if you can” and “slide letters underneath the

door of the Town Hall.”

Similarly, he proposed they “make a strong showing and pack the room” before the vote. “If we can show we are still energized and determined to not let this law pass, they will likely withdraw it out of fear of damaging their party’s chances at elections this year.”

All five Town Board members are Democrats. The Putnam County Firearm Owners Association belongs to the New York State Rifle and Pistol Association, an affiliate of the National Rifle Association.

At the same time, Alexis Dubroff, an organizer of the grassroots Team Philipstown

for Safety, which backs the ordinance, on March 20 urged that the Town Board return to its earlier, tougher language. In an email to supporters, she wrote that the revised draft “is not strong enough to protect our children adequately” because “it would only require that a gun be locked up if the

gun owner is not home.”

She encouraged residents to ask the board to stipulate that “when there is a child in the home, the gun must be locked up if the owner is home and doesn’t have it under their control.”



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The last straw

I was happy to hear about the decision by the River Restaurant Group (Angelina's, Taco Santana, Ziatun, Vegetalien, Beacon Bread) to stop providing straws with beverages ("No More Straws," March 30). It's about time more restaurants did this. It's an unnecessary and environmentally costly waste. I hope it provides a push for other local businesses.

Maria Elena Hardman, *Cold Spring*

Go-Go Pops, Go-Go Joe and Veggie Go-Go offer fun, stripey paper straws, and all our disposables are compostable.

However, the challenge with anything that's biodegradable, compostable, recyclable, made from wood fiber, corn starch or sugar fiber is that it will always be more expensive than plastic. While 10,000 plastic straws might cost about \$30, the least expensive wholesale source I can find sells 10,000 paper straws for \$448. The cellophane sleeves (made from wood pulp) used for packaging our pops cost us 7 cents each when plastic sleeves would only cost us 1 cent each but are not environmentally sustainable.

For quite some time I've been considering how local food-service operators might work together to reduce the cost of sustainable disposables by purchasing on a larger scale. Although I doubt any of us has the room or financial resources to stockpile, I'd be interested in working with other businesses to establish a buying club or cooperative.

Lynn Miller, *Cold Spring*

### Voting reforms

It appears from the New York budget that our state government has again chosen not to join the 37 other states that permit early voting. The state Assembly, which is in Democratic control, regularly passes election reforms such as early voting and the Republican-controlled state Senate regularly declines to approve them.

The desirability of encouraging more eligible New York voters to participate in our democracy should be obvious. New York State ranked 41st for voter turnout in the 2016 presidential election.

It's time for our own state senator, Republican Sue Serino, to realize voting in a democracy should be one of our highest priorities. If Sen. Serino continues to oppose election reforms such as early voting, it is our obligation to elect someone who prioritizes this all-important right.

Susan Anspach, *Cold Spring*

*On Tuesday, April 10, at 7 p.m., Sandy Galef, a Democrat who represents Philipstown in the state Assembly, will hold a forum at the Croton Free Library to discuss early voting, automatic voter registration, easier access to absentee ballots and electronic poll books.*

### Beacon rentals

As many in our community know, no matter how much you plan and save, maintaining your quality of life after retirement is never a sure thing. The reality for many retirees is that they must sell their homes and leave behind the communities that they love, in pursuit of affordability on a fixed budget.

After finally achieving our dream of living in Beacon, that was not something my husband and I were going to do. We love this town — my husband was born in Beacon and spent many a summer here as a child, and later as an adult with myself and our children.

We now live on the same property that he has known for almost all of his life, and near our married daughters and their families, who relocated to Beacon to live near us. To make ends meet in our dream home, we realized we would have to get a little creative.

Home sharing did the trick. It has been the answer to our question of how we could stay in Beacon while enjoying retirement, and at the same time, something happened that we never expected — we've had a lot of fun. Though we host our guests for only a few days out of the month, I love showing people from around the world all that our city and the Hudson Valley has to offer. And I know our stores, galleries and restaurants have appreciated the business that this tourism has brought through their doors.

As the City Council considers regulating Airbnb ("Beacon May Regulate Short-term Rentals," March 23), I hope this is what they will remember: I am a typical Airbnb host in Beacon. We are longtime residents who respect and give back to our community — and as such, hold public safety needs to the highest priority — but depend on the income boost that home sharing provides.

For us, we can't imagine another alternative to balance both retirement and keeping our homes. Please don't legislate this lifeline away from us.

Rosemary Merhige, *Beacon*

### Haldane safety

The Haldane School Board met this week to discuss its budget for next year. There is a \$330,000 deficit and reductions will be needed to balance it.

One of the cuts the board is considering is the elimination of the elementary school librarian/garden educator position to pay for an armed school peace officer (SPO) and an unarmed security attendant at the lower cafeteria entrance to the main building. These positions would be in addition to the current school resource officer (SRO), who is a Putnam County sheriff's deputy.

According to the Sheriff's Department, the county has nine SROs. [See chart on next page.] Each of the districts with more than one officer has about 1,700 students or more. Haldane has 827.

It is highly questionable whether adding an SPO and/or security attendant at Haldane will make our kids safer. It may assuage fears, but that is not the same thing.

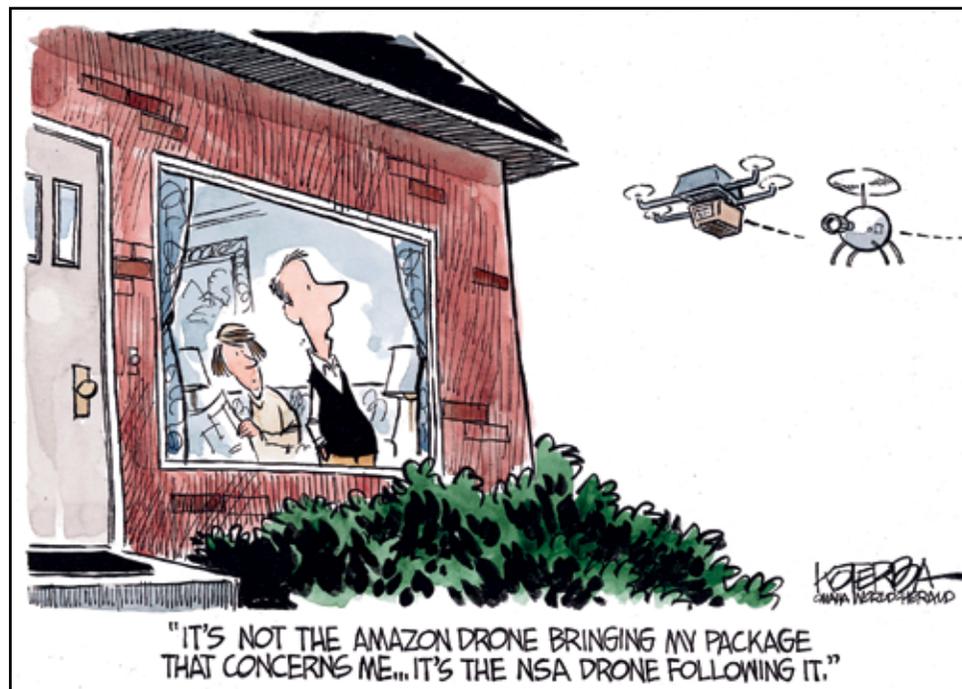
We all want our children to be safe. This unites us as a community. There is nothing political about it. The unified response to the tragedy in Parkland, Florida, was a call for action. But there is a lack of rigorous research and data on the effectiveness of a police presence in schools to reduce crime and protect students. According to a 2013 report by the Congressional Research Service, the research that is available draws conflicting conclusions.

The Haldane School Board claims that the public is calling for more police at the school. Is it true that the community wants to eliminate good educators in exchange for measures that haven't been proven effective? Or are there a handful of loud voices grabbing the board's attention?

Board members and Superintendent Diana Bowers are charged with making careful decisions. Sacrificing education for greater security when there is no evidence that it will keep our kids any safer is poor leadership.

There will be a board meeting on Tuesday, April 17, to finalize the 2018-19 budget. If you feel your voice is not being heard, I urge you to contact the board members and superintendent before then.

Sandy McKelvey, *Cold Spring*



"IT'S NOT THE AMAZON DRONE BRINGING MY PACKAGE THAT CONCERNS ME... IT'S THE NSA DRONE FOLLOWING IT."

For more comments, visit  
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# By the Numbers: Schools, Jobs, Energy, Bills

## Graduation Rates

About 80 percent of students attending New York public high schools graduate, and about 6 percent drop out. Here are the rates for schools in the Highlands, based on data from the state Department of Education for students who entered the ninth grade in 2013 and were expected to graduate in 2017. The "top ELA" indicates the percentage of students who scored at the highest level in the Regent's exam for English Language Arts.

	Class of '17	% Graduate	% Top ELA	% Drop out
Haldane	68	96	68	1
Beacon	214	82	47	7
Put. Valley	512	94	61	1
O'Neill	117	89	56	0
Newburgh	795	70	29	10

Source: NYS Department of Education

## Employment

The national average weekly wage is \$1,020 and the state average is \$1,237. All but 10 of New York's 62 counties have average wages below \$1,000.

	# of jobs	Weekly wage
Putnam	27,841	\$1,011
Dutchess	113,543	\$1,023
Westchester	437,557	\$1,327
Manhattan	2.5 million	\$1,907

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, June 2017 (most recent figures)

## Putnam School Resource (Police) Officers

District	Students	SROs
Brewster	3,119	3 (elem., middle, high)
Carmel	4,173	2 (middle, high)
Garrison	207	0
Haldane	827	1 (K-12)
Mahopac	4,215	2 (middle, high)
Putnam Valley	1,696	1 (high + elem. SPO)

Source: Sheriff's Department; data.nysed.gov

## Energy Prices

The average prices in New York state.

	March 2017	March 2018
Motor gas per gallon	\$2.42	\$2.63
Electricity per kWh <sup>1</sup>	17.3 cents	17.7 cents
Natural gas per MCF <sup>1</sup>	\$9.81	\$9.50
Propane per gallon	\$2.77	\$3.10
Propane (Highlands)	\$2.58	\$2.99
Heating oil per gallon	\$2.71	\$3.16
Heating oil (Highlands)	\$2.79	\$3.28

<sup>1</sup> Compares January 2017 to January 2018

Source: New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

## Cost of Living

The typical expenses, in 2017 dollars, for a two-parent, two-child family

	Annual	Month	Housing	Food	Child Care	Transport	Medical	Other	Taxes
Putnam	\$139K	\$11,563	\$1,712	\$1,002	\$2,708	\$1,349	\$1,330	\$1,095	\$2,366
Dutchess	\$118K	\$9,821	\$1,304	\$842	\$2,405	\$1,293	\$1,330	\$866	\$1,780
Westch.	\$129K	\$10,764	\$1,687	\$853	\$2,724	\$1,134	\$1,237	\$1,025	\$2,104

Source: Economic Policy Institute

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We will be meeting at 10 a.m. in the Fishkill Ridge parking lot located at 36 Sunnyside Road, Fishkill, NY 12508. The rain date will be on Saturday, May 5 at 10 a.m. Please be sure to bring water and wear hiking boots or sneakers.

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- End of season crops for sowing in situ

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# Beacon Delays Vote on Airbnb

*Many residents oppose proposed regulations*

By Jeff Simms

A standing-room-only crowd, many of them Airbnb hosts, packed City Hall in Beacon on Monday (April 2) as the City Council sought input on a proposed law to regulate short-term rentals. Ultimately, however, it scratched a vote scheduled for the same night, opting instead to keep the conversation going at an upcoming workshop.

The many people who argued to leave well enough alone appeared to surprise the council.

"I assumed this discussion would be fairly straightforward," Council Member George Mansfield said afterward. "The arguments were relatively clear in my mind. I was surprised to see the subtlety of everyone's different experiences."

Much of the discussion about regulating short-term rentals such as those arranged on Airbnb and similar sites has focused on whether residents should be permitted to rent out part or all of an apartment or home that isn't their primary residence.

Residents expressed concern that permitting short-term rentals without some restrictions would amount to allowing hotels in residential neighborhoods, with their accompanying traffic and noise. Elaine Ciaccio presented the council with



Seth Porges, a writer and Airbnb host, argued that short-term rentals bring tourists to Beacon who boost the local economy.

Photo by J. Simms

a petition signed by 70 people making that point.

The council has leaned toward prohibiting non-owner-occupied short-term rentals, but on Monday it heard a variety of opinions.

"I consider it a public service," said Laeri Nast, the owner of Play on Main Street, who leases a second house that he purchased for rentals and part-time personal use. The home is "a dog-friendly

place; it's a fenced yard. People love it. You can't do that in any other place."

Many other speakers also pointed out the unique experiences Airbnb and other rental services provide that traditional lodging does not.

*"It's not legal to have a short-term rental" in Beacon, "so we either have to make a law to make them legal or we have to enforce the law. I'm not going to be sitting at the head of the city not enforcing something that's illegal now."*

In addition, there has been confusion about what is and isn't legal. While Beacon's zoning permits property owners to lease their homes, it doesn't allow for rentals of 30 days or fewer, City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis said.

The proposed law would require hosts to register with the city and have their rental spaces inspected by the Building Department. It would prohibit short-term rentals in apartments or homes that are not occupied by the owner and would cap short-term rentals at 100 nights per year. (According to Airbnb, the typical host in Beacon rents for about 50 nights per year.)

Adding to the complexity are state regulations that require fire sprinklers and other safety measures for newly built dwellings used as "lodging houses." New

## Who Rented, Who Stayed

### Beacon

Active hosts: 110  
Number of guests (2017): 9,100  
Typical host earned \$8,800 renting four nights per month  
Percentage of hosts who are female: 70  
Average age of host: 46  
Percentage of hosts age 60 or older: 15  
Average stay: 2.1 nights  
Average group: 2.3 people

### Cold Spring

Active hosts: 50  
Number of guests (2017): 5,300  
Typical host earned \$11,700 renting four nights per month  
Percentage of hosts who are female: 56  
Average age of host: 51  
Percentage of hosts age 60 or older: 23  
Average stay: 2.4 nights  
Average group: 4 people

Source: Airbnb

York's laws are not as strict for homes that have been converted to traditional bed-and-breakfasts but still require features, such as marked fire exits, that most homes lack.

Increased scrutiny of short-term rentals has put the city in a position where it must act, Beacon Mayor Randy Casale said.

"It's not legal to have a short-term rental" in Beacon, he said, "so we either have to make a law to make them legal or we have to enforce the law. I'm not going to be sitting at the head of the city not enforcing some- (Continued on Page 14)

## 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.



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.

## 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

#### 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

#### 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](http://garrisoninstitute.org/earthday) or 845-424-4800

\$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.

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## Rockledge Cell Tower Review Continues

*Nelsonville deadline extended to April 30*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

After a few further remarks by residents, the Nelsonville Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board on April 4 closed their extensive public hearing on a cell tower proposed for Rockledge Road but said they would continue to accept written remarks until Monday, April 16.

The tower, a joint venture of Homeland Towers LLC and Verizon, would occupy a 9.7-acre parcel on a wooded, hillside tract near Moffatt Road and above Cold Spring Cemetery. It requires a special-use permit from the ZBA, as well as site-plan approval from the Planning Board. Depending on the tower's height, which, as proposed, might be 110, 120 to 125 feet, it may also need a zoning variance.

The tower has been under review in Nelsonville since last summer. The April 4 hearing in the Haldane school auditorium drew far fewer people — about 40 — than previous sessions.

Robert Gaudioso, the lawyer for Homeland Towers, agreed to extend the deadline, or “shot clock” required under federal law, until the board's next meeting on April 30. Board members said they wanted more time to review documents submitted by tower proponents and opponents and to clarify the position of the state Parks



The entry to Rockledge Road, foreground, as Moffatt Road winds on to the left *Photo by L.S. Armstrong*

Department on the aesthetic impact of the project.

Although the agency said in October that the tower would have no adverse visual effect, a letter dated March 14 cautioned it may revise its finding and add conditions, such as limiting the tower to 110 feet and/or camouflaging it.

The tower's look remains undetermined. A flagpole design, twin flagpoles, a monopole that resembles a pine tree, and an obelisk version all have been suggested.

## New York Budget Answers Putnam Protests

*Rejects changes to tax on state lands, forest exemptions*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

In adopting the \$168.3 billion New York budget for 2019, state lawmakers gave their Putnam County counterparts at least two victories.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo's draft executive

budget called for spending \$168.2 billion; the state Assembly and Senate provided \$100 million more.

However, both chambers rejected Cuomo's proposals for changing the way the state pays taxes to local governments and for creating new forestry tax exemptions. On both questions, the state Legislature's stance squared with that of the Putnam County Legislature.

The state Legislature finalized the budget overnight on March 30-31 to meet an April 1 deadline. *(Continued on Page 8)*



A view from Little Stony Point in Philipstown, which is part of the Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve *Photo by L.S. Armstrong*

# STAY AHEAD OF THE GAME

**Avoid game day traffic, tolls and parking with Metro-North Railroad's convenient service to Yankee Stadium.** There's plenty of train service before, during and after every home game. Save time by buying tickets before boarding with the MTA eTix app. For details, visit [mta.info](http://mta.info) or call **511**.



## New York Budget Answers Putnam Protests *(from Page 7)*

### Taxes on state land

Although Cuomo wanted to change the way New York pays taxes on state-owned land, such as state parks, the state Legislature refused.

Currently, municipalities assess the “ad valorem,” or value, of state-owned parcels. The state then compensates local governments for the revenue they would be collecting were the land in tax-payers' hands.

Cuomo proposed scrapping the ad valorem assessment for a formula that would apply statewide, namely that the state's annual payment would equal a parcel's value in the prior year plus 2 percent or the level of inflation, whichever is less. The change would have ended the role of local assessors in determining a state-owned parcel's value, which presumably reflects local real estate trends.

“We'd be losing money if the state goes forward with this,” predicted Lisa Johnson, director of Putnam's Real Property Services Agency, at a meeting on March 26 of the legislature's Audit Committee.

In a later email to *The Current*, Johnson said Cuomo's proposal contained no provision on handling any future purchases of land by the state. She also said Albany could fund the program for a year or two and then “decide that there will be one pool of money and pro-rate the amount given to each taxing jurisdiction. That would create a revenue discrepancy for schools, county, towns, villages” and other authorities.

As a precedent, Johnson cited a requirement that county officials take continuing education courses, which originally the state funded, although now in “most years it's become an unfunded mandate” that the county must pay for.

The Audit Committee passed a resolution saying Putnam “vehemently and stalwartly opposes” the changes. It noted that the state owns more than 25,000 acres in Putnam, for which it paid the county \$4.6 million last year



Indian Brook Falls is part of a New York state park. Putnam County legislators on March 26 criticized the extent of state park land in the county.

*Photo by L.S. Armstrong*

in lieu of property taxes. That included \$561,460 to town and village governments and fire districts in Philipstown and \$1.17 million to the Garrison and Haldane school districts and Butterfield and Desmond-Fish libraries.

The resolution also criticized the amount of state park land in Putnam, arguing that residents, businesses and municipalities are “unreasonably and unfairly constrained and prohibited from using” parks “for commercial, industrial or even residential purposes,” fostering an “inability of municipalities to attract and sustain business and development.”

According to Johnson, the state ranked third in land ownership in Putnam, with property worth \$123.9 million, behind New York City with property valued at \$711.4 million and land worth \$129.5 million owned by New York Electric and Gas Corp.

William Carlin, the county finance commissioner, said that, especially in western Putnam, affluent buyers often acquire extensive land, build a home on a portion and convey the rest to a nonprofit environmental group, which transfers it to the state as park land.

Along with Hudson Highlands and Fahnstock state parks and the Castle Rock Unique Area in Philipstown, Putnam contains Big Buck and California Hill State Forests, the Bog Brook Unique Area, the Cranberry Mountain and Great Swamp Wildlife Management Areas, and the White Pond and Ninham Mountain Mutual Use Areas.

### Forest land

The Audit Committee also objected to the governor's proposal to provide new tax breaks for forest land. The state Legislature eliminated it from the final budget.

Under the plan, a forest owner — whether an individual or corporation — who fulfilled stewardship requirements could receive a 40 or 70 percent tax break on the property. While the program generally would have prohibited participation by local governments, it would have established grants for those that manage forests — a potential aid for communities such as Nelsonville, which owns woods.

The state Department of Environmental Conservation said that, among other benefits, the initiative would preserve open space and wildlife habitats, increase sustainable production of wood in private forests, fight against climate change, and give wood from New York forests preference in state government procurement. It also promised to reimburse municipalities for tax losses from the initiative.

“It appears if this goes through, the large parcel owners — i.e., wealthy — will get tax breaks and the rest of us will pay for it,” Johnson told Putnam legislators before state legislators shot down the idea. She estimated that the initiative would affect 400 properties in Putnam County.

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# The Calendar

## A Change in Routine

### *New Beacon Studio Has Punch — and Smoothies*

By Alison Rooney

Laura Leigh Abby, a magazine writer, and her wife, Samantha Abby, a visual content producer, moved from the Upper East Side to Beacon in 2016, determined to bring their passion for fitness to their new home.

Two years and one baby (16-month-old Quinn) later, in January they opened The Studio @ Beacon, a spinning and boxing space at 301 Main St. Located in a former pediatrician's office and designed by Hudson Design of Garrison, the facility includes a smoothie bar that has become a popular hangout on its own.

The goal of the new space is simple, says Laura. Working out should be “exhilarating, motivating and fun.”

*“It’s a big goal of ours to attract city transplants and also those born and raised here.”*

The couple, who have been together for a decade, discovered boxing after Sam’s mother died and they were looking for “some kind of physical and mental thing to turn to.” They walked by a gym, went inside and “that was that,” Laura says.

“Boxing is all about power and speed,” Sam explains. “After boxing for the first time at our studio, one woman said she had never realized how much she needed to hit something!”

The studio’s signature Bikes and Bags class begins with 30 minutes of cycling, then goes to the mat for core and strength training through bag and mitt work, including punching combinations.

The couple moved to the Hudson Valley after Laura visited Cold Spring while pregnant with Quinn. “It felt like a bit of kismet,” she says. Sam recalls: “Laura told me I would love it there. I did, but we both wanted more of a city feel, and Beacon was perfect. We decided to take a chance.”

“It’s a big goal of ours to attract city transplants and also those born and raised here,” says Laura. “We’re really aware of gentrification and while acknowledging that we’re a part of it, we also want to be a community space.”

In their first few months in business, the couple have found early morning and early evening classes fill fast. “We tried a 10:45 a.m. class, but people weren’t biting,” says Sam. They were also surprised that more people come to work out when the weather is better.

Asked about the challenge of being married and working together every day, Sam is philosophical. “If you’re going to be yelling at someone, it might as well be at someone you love!” she quips.

Drop-ins are \$22, with unlimited classes for \$199 per month (\$179 for students). On Tuesdays, Beacon residents can ride for \$15. See [thestudioatbeacon.com](http://thestudioatbeacon.com) or call 845-765-1144.



Samantha and Laura Leigh Abby

### *Cold Spring Studio Goes Beyond Bikes*

By Alison Rooney

When the youngest of the four children of Dawn Scanga became a teenager, the former fashion buyer turned stay-at-home mom decided to reinvent herself.

“I’ve been an athlete my entire life,” says Scanga, who grew up in Cold Spring. “I played softball and basketball at Haldane and I learned more life skills from sports than from any book. There’s a Nike slogan which says ‘If you have a body, you’re an athlete.’ No matter who you are, you train for life.”

Scanga studied exercise science and wellness and became certified as a personal trainer with the National Academy of Sports Medicine. And a year ago, she took over what had been the Route 9 spin-cycling studio called On the Fly and revamped the space as Cold Spring Fitness. It had its grand opening on March 3.

Scanga introduced many new classes and expanded the equipment beyond bikes. The cycles now share space with “The Cage,” where trainers provide one-on-one workouts. The larger front space is where group classes take place, which include Barre (a fusion of Pilates, yoga, ballet barre and orthopedic stretching) and Barre Interval, which is faster and more intense.

There’s also FitNow!, a class designed by Scanga

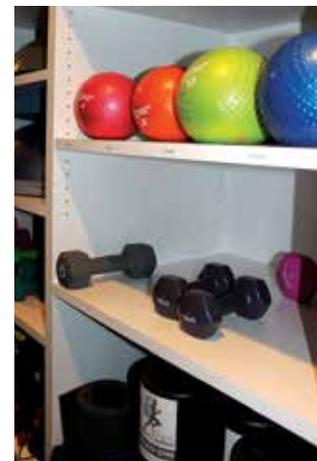
that includes foam rolling and stretching for people “easing back into fitness”; Battlerope Suspension Training, led by José Matos, which uses weighted ropes for interval, cross-training and agility work; Core + Cardio, which uses hand weights; Full Body Blast, Total Body Conditioning and Total Body Toning, which are higher intensity workouts; and Rock Bottom, which focuses on the lower half of the body with ankle weights and resistance bands.

Along with personal training, Scanga is certified in corrective exercise, which focuses on rehabilitation after injuries or surgery. “Corrective exercise got me to be a science geek,” she says. “You also can use it for injury prevention, working opposite muscle groups. Injuries can affect you your entire life.”

She says the business has been a family affair, with support from her husband, John Paul Scanga, and her

teenagers. “One of my kids has worked on the marketing flyers, another wipes down the equipment at the end of each day,” she says, “It’s teamwork!”

Drop-ins are \$20, and unlimited classes are \$129 per month (\$69 for students and schoolteachers). Unlimited cycle classes are \$69 per month. Cold Spring Fitness also allows members to use the studio to work out when classes are not in session. See [coldspringfitness.com](http://coldspringfitness.com) or call 845-265-2833.



Weights, balls and other equipment fill the shelves at Cold Spring Fitness.



Dawn Scanga

Photos by A. Rooney

## FRIDAY, APRIL 6

**Grace Knowlton / Harry Leigh (Opening)**

6 – 8:30 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery  
121 Main St., Cold Spring  
845-809-5145 | busterlevigallery.com

**Dragonfly Story Hour**

7 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring  
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

**HVSF Storytelling Workshop**

7 p.m. Old VFW Hall  
34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring  
845-809-5750 x18 | hvshakespeare.org

**Trans-Atlantic Horn Duo**

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St., Beacon  
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

## SATURDAY, APRIL 7

**Household Hazardous Waste Disposal / Electronics Recycling**

8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Dutchess Solid Waste Management | 27 High St., Poughkeepsie  
845-486-3604 | co.dutchess.ny.us

**Town-Wide Tag Sale**

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Cold Spring  
explorecoldspringny.com

**Spring Fever Workshop: Casting from Life**

10 a.m. Garrison Art Center  
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison  
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

**Open House**

Noon – 4 p.m. Stonecrop Gardens  
81 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring  
845-265-2000 | stonecrop.org

## Calendar Highlights

Submit to [calendar@highlandscurrent.com](mailto:calendar@highlandscurrent.com)  
For complete listings, see [highlandscurrent.com](http://highlandscurrent.com)

**Annual Members' Art Show (Opening)**

3 – 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
See details under Friday.

**Ivan Rivera (Reception)**

6 – 8 p.m. Catalyst Gallery  
137 Main St., Beacon  
845-204-3844 | piaculum.com

**Teen Movie Night**

7 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center  
107 Glenclyffe Dr., Garrison  
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

**HVSF Storytelling Workshop**

7 p.m. Beacon Recreation Center  
23 West Center St., Beacon  
845-809-5750 x18 | hvshakespeare.org

**Love Letters (Reading)**

7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corner Cultural Center  
729 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley  
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org

**Songwriters' Circle**

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
See details under Friday.

**Vic DiBitetto**

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St., Peekskill  
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

## SUNDAY, APRIL 8

**Fun with Science: Honeybees**

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Farmers' Market  
413 Main St., Beacon | beaconlibrary.org

**Guided Walking Art Tour**

1 p.m. 1007 Brown St., Peekskill

**Adoptive Family and Foster Care Coalition Support Group**

2 p.m. Beacon Hebrew Alliance  
331 Verplanck Ave., Beacon  
845-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

**Can Gardens Be Saved? (Talk)**

2 p.m. Winter Hill  
20 Nazareth Way, Garrison  
RSVP to [imoss@gardenconservancy.org](mailto:imoss@gardenconservancy.org)

**John Hathorn and his Militia (Talk)**

2 p.m. Van Wyck Hall  
1095 Main St., Fishkill  
fishkillhistoricalsociety.org

**Paola Ochoa (Artist's Talk)**

3 p.m. Matteawan Gallery  
436 Main St., Beacon  
845-440-7901 | matteawan.com

**Parker Quartet with Charles Neidich**

4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
See details under Friday.

**HVSF Designing Stories Workshop**

5 p.m. Garrison Art Center  
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison  
845-809-5750 x18 | hvshakespeare.org

## MONDAY, APRIL 9

**AARP Taxaide for Seniors and Low-Income**

10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St., Beacon  
Registration required. Call 211.

**Beacon City Council**

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

**Beacon School Board**

7 p.m. Beacon High School  
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon  
845-838-6900 | beaonk12.org

## TUESDAY, APRIL 10

**Bird Walk Around Hessian Lake**

9 a.m. Bear Mountain Inn  
845-786-2701 x293 | trailsidezoo.org

**Word Blaster Game Night**

5:30 p.m. Butterfield Library  
See details under Friday.

**Learn Quickbooks 101**

6 p.m. Clove Creek Theater  
18 Westage Business Center Dr., Fishkill  
fishkillbusinessassociation.com

**Election Law Reform Panel**

7 p.m. Croton Free Library  
171 Cleveland Drive, Croton  
914-941-1111 | Hosted by Sandy Galef

**Once Upon a Time in the West (1968)**

7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
See details under Saturday.

**Public Hearing on Library Budget**

7 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St., Beacon  
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

**Cold Spring Village Board**

7 p.m. Public hearing on budget  
7:30 p.m. Regular meeting  
Village Hall | 85 Main St., Cold Spring  
coldspringny.gov

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

**Writer's Circle**

6:30 p.m. Garrison Institute  
14 Mary's Way, Garrison  
845-424-4800 | garrisoninstitute.org

**Nelsonville Budget Workshop**

6:30 p.m. Village Hall  
258 Main St., Nelsonville  
845-265-2500 | villageofnelsonville.org

**Garrison School Board**

7 p.m. Garrison School  
1100 Route 9D, Garrison  
845-424-3689 | gufs.org

**Sailing Class (First Session)**

7 p.m. Beacon Sloop Club  
2 Red Flynn Dr., Beacon  
845-463-4660 | beaconsloopclub.org

**Philipstown Town Board**

7:30 p.m. Town Hall  
238 Main St., Cold Spring  
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com  
Rescheduled from March 21.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 12

**AARP Taxaide for Seniors and Low-Income**

10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Howland Public Library  
See details under Monday.

**Build a Better Podcast**

3:30 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St., Beacon  
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

**Poetry Open Mic**

6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403, Garrison  
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

**Citizen's Climate Lobby**

7 p.m. Beahive  
291 Main St., Beacon | facebook.com/cclny18

**Hope on the Hudson: The Restoration of the Clearwater (Film)**

7 p.m. Beacon Sloop Club  
See details under Wednesday.

**Joseph Plumb Martin & His Comrades (Talk)**

7 p.m. Fort Montgomery Historic Site  
690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery  
845-446-2134 | nysparks.com

## FRIDAY, APRIL 13

**AARP Taxaide for Seniors and Low-Income**

10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Howland Public Library  
See details under Monday.

**Contemporary Art Video Series: Larry Poons**

6:30 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery  
See details under April 6.

**Jesus Christ Superstar**

7 p.m. Beacon High School  
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon  
beaconplayers.com

**Loving Vincent (Film)**

7 p.m. Butterfield Library | Details under April 6.

**The Hit Men**

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
See details under Saturday.

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**Friday, April 6, 8:30 p.m.**  
California Dreamin'  
The Kennedys

**Saturday, April 7, 6 p.m.**  
Lucky Luna ~ Free

**Saturday, April 7, 8:30 p.m.**  
James Maddock  
Cassidy & The Music

**Sunday, April 8, 11:30 a.m.**  
East Coast Jazz Trio ~ Free

**Sunday, April 8, 7 p.m.**  
The Gothard Sisters

**Thursday, April 12**  
Youth Open Mic ~ Free

**Friday, April 13, 7 p.m.**  
David Ray ~ Free

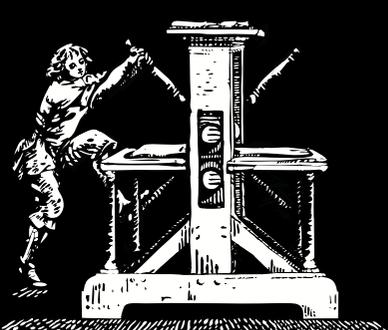
**Friday, April 13, 8:30 p.m.**  
Rita Coolidge  
Bruce T. Carroll

**Saturday, April 14, 6 p.m.**  
The Costellos ~ Free

**Saturday, April 14, 8:30 p.m.**  
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# A Tap Great Shuffles into Beacon

*Brenda Bufalino, 80, is known for her improvisation*

By Alison Rooney

One of the pre-eminent tap dancers of the past 50 years will visit Beacon this month. Brenda Bufalino, 80, is scheduled to talk about and demonstrate her improvisational style at Ballet Arts Studio at 11 a.m. on Sunday, April 15.

Along with Tony Waag and the late Charles “Honi” Coles, Bufalino co-founded the American Tap Dance Orchestra (later the American Tap Dance Foundation), whose members performed around the world from 1986 to 1999. The company also operated the Woodpeckers Tap Dance Center in New York City, which became a magnet for talented performers.

“Tap dance, in all its myriad colorations, has spread and is being developed around the globe, and I’m so happy to still be a part of that process,” Bufalino says.

The dancer, who has soloed at Carnegie Hall, the Apollo Theater and the Kennedy Center, recalls in her memoir, *Tapping the Source*, how she was steered to tap classes as a girl because she was judged to be too “distracted.” Even then, she was drawn to improvisation, rather than routines.

“Improvisation is a way of life,” she wrote, recalling that her mother told her: “Take risks. There’s nothing to lose. The worst that can happen is that you end up back where you started.”



Brenda Bufalino

Photo by Lois Greenfield

At age 13 Bufalino began commuting from her home in a Massachusetts town to Boston to study traditional rhythm tap. But she also loved the improvisation of Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker. Although she stood



Charles “Honi” Coles with Brenda Bufalino Photo provided

out as a white girl in what was then a largely black and male world of tap, notes Margaret Fuhrer in *American Dance: The Complete Illustrated History*, by age 16 Bufalino was performing in nightclubs. Soon after she moved to New York and began training with Coles.

“Some black tappers frowned upon colleagues who trained white dancers,” reports Fuhrer, “but Coles shrugged off such criticism. ‘No blacks want it, and she does,’ he said. ‘Nobody else can do it, but she can.’ ”

Bufalino left tap for a few years in the early 1960s to write plays and poetry but returned in the 1970s and in 1977 released a documentary, (To Page 12)



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# The HIGHLANDS Current

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[highlandscurrent.com](http://highlandscurrent.com)

## A Tap Great Shuffles into Beacon *(from Page 11)*



Brenda Bufalino *Photo provided*

*Great Feats of Feet*, and began organizing tap shows around New York. That led to the American Tap Dance Orchestra, and Fuhrer credits Bufalino with pioneering group tap choreography after decades of solo performers.

Katie Bissinger, who teaches tap at Ballet Arts, and who arranged for Bufalino's visit, says that the lesson for dancers in watching Bufalino is that she is able to let go of the fear of "doing it wrong." Although the traditional conservatory approach to dance, particularly ballet, focuses on precision, she says, it's also "important to teach young people that they can make mistakes. I'm hoping Brenda loosens everyone up!"

Bissinger, who lives in Cold Spring, contacted Bufalino after watching a

video produced by *The New York Times* as part of its "Daily 360" series in which Bufalino dances around a room. The video includes a brief reference to Gardiner, New York, and Bissinger realized the tap great was "in our backyard." (Bufalino has since moved to New York City.)

Bissinger hopes her students will appreciate not only Bufalino's place in dance history but the depth of her skills.

"I want the kids to make the connection of what she did to 'here she is,' the instructor says. "I want them to think about how you create the dances, how you make music with your feet. We're musicians, not just dancers. 'The floor is a drum' is a saying we use with dancers when they're little. As a tap dancer, you need to learn what an eighth note is, a 16th; you have to be versed in that language."

For her part, Bufalino observes that "finding your voice or your style is a mercurial and illusive process. It would be more appropriate to say, 'How can I get out of my own way, so my voice can find me?'"

The two-hour workshop costs \$25 for Ballet Arts Studio dancers or \$35 otherwise. RSVP to [info@balletartsstudio.com](mailto:info@balletartsstudio.com) or 845-831-1870. The studio is located at 107 Teller Ave. in Beacon.

Visit [highlandscurrent.com](http://highlandscurrent.com) for news updates and latest information.

## A Short History of Tap



Michelle Dorrance *MacArthur Foundation*

Modern tap originated around 1920 when "taps" were nailed or screwed into shoes at toe and heel. In *Shuffle Along* (1921) a chorus line appeared with "tap shoes." Vaudeville variety shows expanded tap's appeal, as did nightclubs and musicals. In 1934, Shirley Temple, 6, trained by Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, made the first of her 24 films and caused enrollment to skyrocket in tap classes. Much later, variety shows on television kept dancers employed.

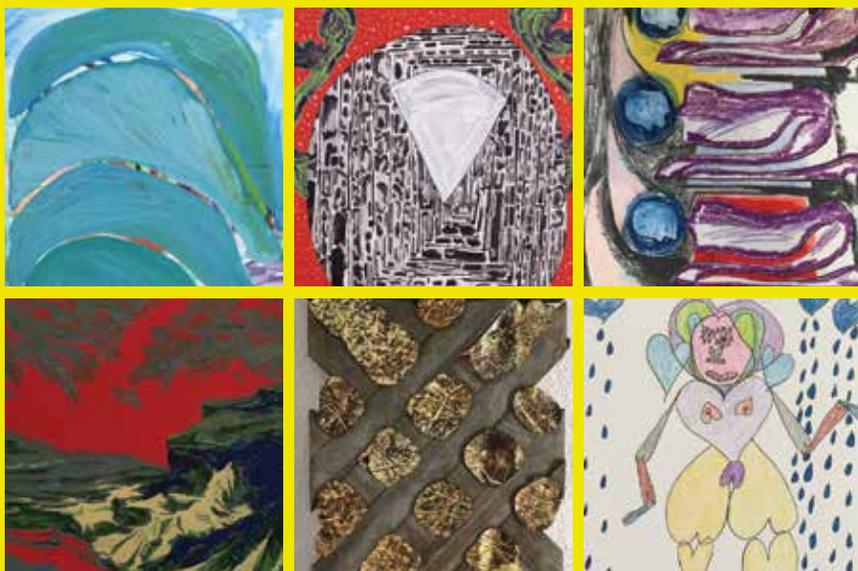
Several tap companies formed in the 1970s and 1980s, including the Jazz Tap Ensemble in 1979, Rhapsody in Taps in 1981 and the American Tap Dance Orchestra in 1986. But only when Gregory Hines came on the scene in the 1989 film *Tap* did it soar back into the public imagination. That was followed in 1996 by Savion Glover's musical *Bring in 'da Noise, Bring in 'da Funk*, which won him a Tony Award for choreography. More recently, Michelle Dorrance, who leads her own company and is a MacArthur "Genius Grant" recipient, in March was commissioned to create three works for the American Ballet Theater.

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clockwise from top left: (details) Andrew Jilka, Avner Chaim, Edwin Smalling, Hye Soo Kim, Joe Hoyt, Lauren Faigeles

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# College Deans' Lists

Each university is different, but generally to be named to the dean's list a student must achieve a grade-point average of 3.3 or 3.5 and higher. This list is for the fall quarter of the 2017-18 school year.

**Clarkson University (Potsdam)**

Kerri Moseman, Beacon (Biomolecular Science/Chemistry)  
Sarina Matalon, Garrison (Physics)

**Colgate University (Hamilton)**

Noah Campbell, Cold Spring (Mathematics)

**College of Saint Rose (Albany)**

John Rotando, Cold Spring

**East Stroudsburg University (Pennsylvania)**

Alexa Stephens, Garrison (English)

**Hudson Valley Community College (Troy)**

Alexia Morgan, Beacon  
Jonathan Underwood, Beacon

**Ithaca College**

Amanda Erickson, Garrison (Theatre Studies)

**Le Moyne College (Syracuse)**

Bernadette Boscia, Cold Spring (Biology)  
Steven Casement, Cold Spring (History)  
Marissa Lisikatos, Cold Spring (Chemistry)

**Manhattan College (Bronx)**

Sarah Poons, Beacon (Accounting)

**Marist College (Poughkeepsie)**

Megan Brief, Garrison (English)  
Manfred Cabintoy, Beacon (Professional Studies)  
Sydney Dexter, Beacon (Liberal Arts)  
Sarah Galante, Beacon (Psychology/Special Education)  
Veronica Grech, Beacon (Business Administration)  
Caroline Schweikhart, Cold Spring (Psychology)  
Robert Vahos, Cold Spring (Environmental Science & Policy)  
Sarah Warren, Cold Spring (Applied Mathematics)  
Marcus Zimmermann, Cold Spring (Computer Science)

**Morrisville State College (New York)**

Christopher Buonanno, Garrison (Criminal Justice - BTech)

**Roger Williams University (Bristol, Rhode Island)**

Alyssa Repetto, Garrison

**Siena College (Loudonville)**

Dale Gerundo, Beacon  
Katina Pagones, Beacon

**Springfield College (Massachusetts)**

Bridget Walsh, Garrison (Athletic Training)

**SUNY Albany**

Victor Calderon, Garrison  
Shain Clyburn, Beacon  
Erik Greiner, Garrison  
Daniel Hernandez, Garrison  
Kacee Lahey, Beacon  
Ryan McCollum, Cold Spring  
Riley Palermo, Garrison  
Sophia Sburlati, Garrison  
Nolan Shea, Cold Spring

**SUNY Cortland**

Alexandra Cinquanta (Speech Pathology)

**SUNY Geneseo**

Mary-Margaret Dwyer, Cold Spring  
Elizabeth Osborn, Cold Spring  
Shauna Ricketts, Cold Spring

**SUNY New Paltz**

Larisa Bartosh, Beacon  
Summer Berry, Beacon  
Allisen Casey, Cold Spring  
Caroline Casparian, Cold Spring  
Aidan Gallagher, Cold Spring  
John McCann, Garrison  
Christopher Mendez, Beacon  
Paige O'Toole, Garrison  
Lian Petrie, Cold Spring  
Suzanne Ricottilli, Beacon

**SUNY Oneonta**

Abby Antalek, Beacon  
Amber Butler, Beacon  
Emily Hill, Beacon

**SUNY Oswego**

Gabrielle Kerr, Beacon (Chemistry)  
James Koller, Beacon (Business Administration)  
John Thompson, Beacon (Creative Writing)  
Eleni Vakirtzis, Beacon (Biology)  
Charlotte Labrie-Cleary, Cold Spring (Zoology)

**SUNY Potsdam**

Leah Giavatto, Beacon



# Wag of the Week

## Tyke

Today (April 6), *The Current* introduces a video feature called Wag of the Week. Every so often, reporter Mark Westin will visit the Animal Rescue Foundation shelter in Beacon to meet a dog or cat available for adoption. The initial installment stars Tyke. To watch, see highlandscurrent.com.



Tyke

Photos by Mark Westin



**SUNY Purchase**

Kristina Daniels, Beacon (Visual Arts)  
Alison Duncan, Nelsonville (Arts Management)  
Anaela Hurt, Beacon (Theatre and Performance)  
James Kerkapoly, Garrison (Music Production)  
Leandra Rice, Cold Spring (Arts Management)  
Hali Traina, Cold Spring (Cinema Studies)

**University of Delaware**

Matthew Gallinger, Garrison

**University of Hartford**

Terrel Davis, Beacon  
Nicole Etta, Cold Spring

**University of Vermont**

Emma Parks, Garrison (Environmental Sciences)

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## Beacon Delays Vote on Airbnb *(from page 6)*

thing that's illegal now."

Many of the speakers on Monday said they would accept some regulation by the city but hoped it wouldn't be so onerous that it eliminated any incentive to offer short-term rentals. They argued that would not only hurt tourists who rent rooms but the local businesses where they spend money. According to Airbnb, more than 9,000 people rented rooms in Beacon through the service in 2017.

Visitors "need a place to stay right here in Beacon," Dennis Swindell, an Airbnb host, told the council. "We push them to [visit] the city and that's where they spend their dollars, going up and down Main Street."

Other residents said the income from rentals allows them to stay in Beacon despite rising costs. Renting on Airbnb for the last three years "provided an income that allows us to live and work in Beacon and not have to commute," said Jessica Jelliffe. "This is extremely important to us as we are fully committed to being active participants in this great city that we love."

Andrew Kalloch, an Airbnb representative who specializes in public policy, submitted comments opposing the law and suggesting that Airbnb hosts should not be held to the same building code standards as full-time commercial establishments such as bed-and-breakfasts.

## Beacon Police Add Body Cameras *(from Page 3)*

recommended the opposite — that officers should be permitted to review video footage in which they were involved before making a statement about the incident. "Reviewing footage," it said, "will help officers remember the incident more clearly, which leads to more accurate documentation of events. The goal is to find the truth, which is facilitated by letting officers have all possible evidence."

The ACLU recommends police save for three years all footage that shows the use of force, commission of a felony, events leading up to an arrest for a felony or an encounter that resulted in a civilian complaint. Otherwise, video should be retained for six months and then automatically deleted, it said.



In this graphic created by the National Conference of State Legislatures, states with laws that regulate police body cameras are shown in dark blue. It is current as of October.

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## Mouths to Feed

## Spring Awakening

By Celia Barbour

I was 15 the summer my parents sent my big sister and me to France to live with our third-cousin Christine and her family in an old stucco villa overlooking a vineyard by the sea, just south of Brittany.

Fifteen is one of those years you spend constantly recalibrating who you are in the world — trying to align the person you always believed yourself to be with how others see you. For me, a geek from Indiana with less than a year of public-school French under my belt, negotiating those contradictions in a foreign land was both exhilarating and terrifying.

Christine's friends, a gang of two dozen or so French kids ranging in age from just older than I was to 22 or 23, might as well have been a flock of pelicans as far as I was concerned. Their daily lives seemed governed by inexplicable collective urges. Out of the blue, they would all decide to go to Pornic or Les Moutiers, and I'd find myself on the back of a Vespa zipping down the coast, my arms flung around the waist of some Gitaine-smoking *mec*; or drinking wine at an outdoor café while they argued vehement politics; or swing-dancing late at night on abandoned tennis courts to rockabilly 45s spun on a por-

table turntable.

One afternoon, my sister and I returned from a walk to find Christine's friends sprawled around her living room while Christine made crêpes in the kitchen. As soon as one was ready, someone would jump up to claim it, folding it around a few thin slices of cheese or cured ham, or sprinkling it with sugar and a squeeze of lemon. No forks or plates, no gathering *à table*, just a constant stream of fresh crêpes arriving from the stove, and a constant stream of grateful friends popping up to eat them.

Christine could flip a crêpe with a flick of her wrist, an entrancingly sophisticated skill in my eyes, and after the summer was over, I practiced until I could send crêpes somersaulting gracefully through the air. In my 20s, I graduated from plain white-flour to buckwheat, preferring its deep mineral tang, its beautiful cashmere color. I never acquired a troupe of friends with which to share my skill, however. (I never again rode on the back of a Vespa, either.)

Last Monday, I was seized by a powerful craving for buckwheat crêpes, perhaps prompted by this year's idea of spring, which is behaving an awful lot like a teenager who doesn't know what it wants to be, and is pissed off at having to even try.

Or perhaps I was prompted by the fact that an unexpected snow day landed me with a troupe of actual teenagers loung-



Bundle up: buckwheat crêpes for wrapping around asparagus, ham, and gruyere

Photo by Henry Weed

ing around my house.

As it happens, crêpes, like teens, don't respond well to sudden demands; the batter needs to rest two hours in the fridge before it's ready to cook. Fortunately, that's enough time to contemplate a full repertoire of fillings. If you know how to turn a roux into a Mornay with milk and Gruyere, or into a veloute with broth, you can make a fancy baked-crêpe dish using almost anything in your fridge — mushrooms, chicken, ham, spinach, eggs, even scallops or shrimp — with said sauce poured over the top.

But on Monday, I wanted a more spon-

taneous crêpe in which to collect a few spears of asparagus, a slice of Gruyere, a piece of ham. Indeed, I'm now convinced that such hand-held DIY crêpes are a perfect dish for this uncertain season, when yearnings (for asparagus, ramps, strawberries) are being constantly dashed by reality (another 3 inches of snow). They allow you to gather up your tender, green hopes along with your winter comforts, enfold them together in a little buckwheat jacket, crisp at the edges and pliant within, cradle them in your hand, then devour them. And what better way to resolve contradictions than with a single, happy gulp?

## Buckwheat Crêpes

The first crêpe always fails. Don't worry — the rest will be better. Finished crêpes can be stacked between sheets of waxed paper and frozen for up to two months; reheat in a skillet over medium-low heat before serving.

## For fillings:

Blanched asparagus; sliced Gruyere and ham; poached eggs  
Smoked salmon; crème fraiche with lemon zest  
Sautéed apples; Brie  
Sautéed spinach or chard; cheddar, Brie or Mornay sauce  
Sautéed mushrooms with shallots and thyme; Mornay sauce  
Sautéed ramps; scrambled eggs; mint

## For crepes:

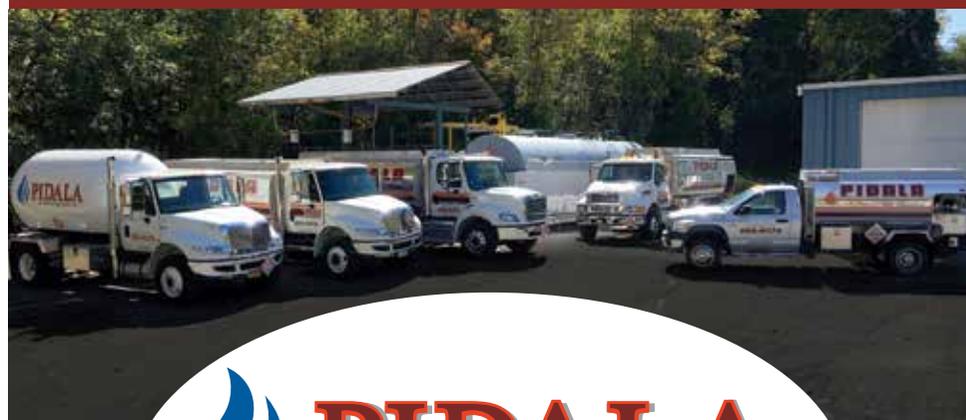
3 tablespoons butter, plus more for frying crepes  
1 cup low-fat milk  
3 eggs  
½ teaspoon salt  
¾ cup buckwheat flour  
½ cup white flour  
⅓ to ½ cup water, to thin

1. Prepare fillings of your choice; set aside
2. Melt the 3 tablespoons of butter and set aside to cool slightly. In a blender, combine the milk, eggs and salt, and blend on low speed. With the blender running, add the flours and melted butter. Turn the speed to high and whisk for one minute. Transfer to a pitcher, cover and refrigerate for at least two hours, or up to 6.
3. Heat a medium skillet over medium heat for two minutes. Brush with butter, and return to heat. Pour in about ¼ cup batter, tilting and swirling the pan to distribute it evenly. Cook two minutes, or until crepe loosens easily from the pan. Flip and cook 30 seconds on the reverse side.
4. Fill and eat as they're ready, or set aside to serve later. To serve, heat crepes briefly in a dry skillet, melting optional cheese onto each as you go. Add remaining filling, roll up and serve.

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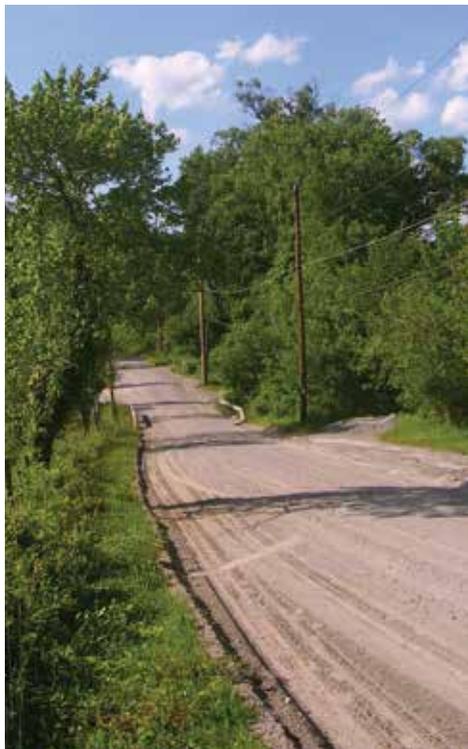
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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS



The Old Road Society of Philipstown is organizing a dirt road cleanup for April 7 and 8. Shown here is Old Albany Post Road near Travis Corners. Photo by Daniel Case

## Dirt Road Spruce-Up

*Society asks for volunteers*

The Old Road Society of Philipstown is organizing a dirt road cleanup for Saturday and Sunday, April 7 and 8. Residents are encouraged to join neighbors to remove debris on local roads. Email Terry Zaleski at [tzaleski@sprynet.com](mailto:tzaleski@sprynet.com) with questions.

## Writers' Circle

*Institute group meets April 11*

Each month, the Garrison Institute hosts a two-hour gathering for writers of all experience levels with meditation and sharing. The next session begins at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 11. If you would like to share, bring three copies of up to 5 pages of a work in progress. RSVP at [garrisoninstitute.org](http://garrisoninstitute.org).

## Elections Panel

*Galef to hold forum on reforms*

Sandy Galef, who represents Philipstown in the state Assembly, will host a forum on proposals on early voting, election security, and how elections could be improved. It will be held Thursday, April 10, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Croton Free Library. The panelists include specialists from the Brennan Center, Iona College

and the League of Women Voters, as well as Putnam County election commissioners Catherine Croft and Anthony Scanapico Jr. See [assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Sandy-Galef](http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Sandy-Galef). The library is located at 171 Cleveland Dr.



Alexandra Beliakovich will perform at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring on April 15.

*Photo provided*

## Pianist at Chapel

*Program on The Revolutionaries*

The Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring will open its Sunday Music Series at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 15, with pianist Alexandra Beliakovich. Her program, titled *The Revolutionaries: Intrepid Piano Music*, will feature selections by Haydn, Debussy, Satie, Burlinson and Chopin. The concert is free but donations are welcome.

## Garrison School Benefit

*Spring Thaw set for April 14*

The Garrison Children's Education Fund will host its annual Spring Thaw fundraiser on Saturday, April 14, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Glynwood Farm in Philipstown. Paella and drinks are included in the \$90 ticket, and there will be a silent auction and raffles. GCEF is raising money to purchase a play structure at the Garrison School. See [gcef.net](http://gcef.net).

## Men of Action

*Two talks on Revolutionary figures*

At 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 8, Sue Gardner, the deputy town historian of Warwick, will speak at Van Wyck Hall in Fishkill on John Hathorn, an Orange County military leader, politician and activist. The hall is located at 1095 Main St. See [fishkillhistoricalsociety.org](http://fishkillhistoricalsociety.org).

On Thursday, April 12, at 7 p.m., historian James Kirby Martin will lecture at the Fort Montgomery Historic Site on Joseph Plumb Martin, a private in the Continen-

tal Army who left behind an invaluable memoir of his experiences. Reservations are required; call 845-446-2134.

## MFA Show

*Reception in Garrison on April 14*

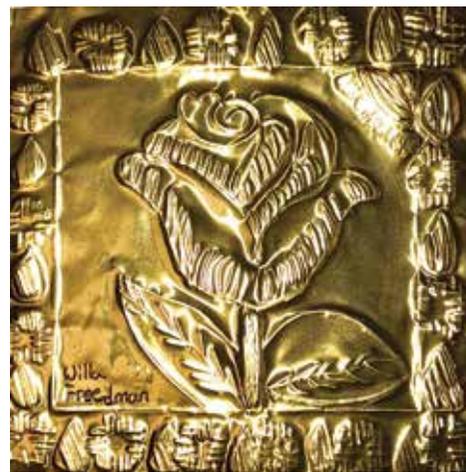
A group show, *An Opera of Canaries*, will open with a reception from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 14, at the Garrison Art Center. Curated by James Siena and Becky Gordon, it includes works by Avner Chaim, Lauren Faigeles, Joe Hoyt, Andrew Jilka, Hye Soo Kim and Edwin Smalling, each of whom is a recent graduate of the School of Visual Arts or Yale School of Art.

## Beacon

### Student Art

*School show opens April 14*

The third annual Beacon City School District student art show will open at the Howland Public Library with a reception from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 14. It features work by elementary, middle and high school students and will remain on view through April 26. More art from Beacon elementary students will be displayed in the windows at 307 Main St. The library is located at 313 Main St.



This tin flower by Willa Freedman, a fifth-grader at South Avenue Elementary School, will be among the works of art displayed at the annual Beacon City School District student show, opening April 14 at the Howland Public Library.

*Image provided*

## Fun with Science

*Month-long event begins April 8*

April is Fun with Science Month in Beacon, with citywide events for all ages organized by the Howland Public Library and Miss Vickie's Music.

On Sunday, April 8, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., educators from Stony Kill Farm will present an interactive program at the Beacon Farmers' Market about honeybees, including local honey tastings.



**BODY ART** – Students hold their hands in alingate during a class in life-casting taught at the Garrison Art Center by Lori Merhige, who will lead a workshop on the technique on Saturday, April 7. Call 845-424-3960 to register.

*Photo by Ross Corsair*

Throughout the month, the Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries will also share a hands-on demonstration of a watershed, a Hudson River salt sensor, and touchscreens showing its research. The events are for children age 4 and older. See [bire.org](http://bire.org) for more.

## Student Competition

*Deadline is May 1*

School-aged children in Dutchess County are invited to enter an art competition sponsored by the county's Task Force Against Human Trafficking. The deadline is May 1 and all media will be accepted except photos of faces. The winner will receive a \$100 gift card and his or her art will be used in the task force's educational materials. See [dutchessny.gov/CountyGov/Departments/CountyExecutive/28947.htm](http://dutchessny.gov/CountyGov/Departments/CountyExecutive/28947.htm).

## Historical Events

*Ribbon cutting, bar talk*

With assistance from the Beacon Chamber of Commerce, the Beacon Historical Society will hold a ribbon-cutting at its new home in the former rectory of St. Andrew's Church on South Avenue at noon on Saturday, April 14. From noon to 4 p.m. the society will host an open house and volunteers will lead walking tours of the West End.

The next day, on Sunday, April 15, from 3 to 5 p.m., at Dogwood, the society will present *Beacon History on Tap*, a presentation about bars and drinking establishments in the city over the past 150 years. Tickets are \$25 and include appetizers and discount-price drinks. See [beacon-historical.org](http://beacon-historical.org). Dogwood is located at 47 E. Main St.

Visit [highlandscurrent.com](http://highlandscurrent.com) for news updates and latest information.

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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS (from previous page)

## Finances for Women

Resource center to give seminar

The Howland Public Library in Beacon will host a two-hour seminar at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 14, for women who would like to learn more about making sound financial decisions. The presenters will discuss strategies to manage money, set goals and organize funds. The program is sponsored by In My Mother's House Resource Center for Women.

## Disaster Prep

Training on how to respond

Beacon residents are invited to a training session on Tuesday, April 17, about how to prepare for and respond to disasters. The free class begins at 7 p.m. at Fire Station No. 2, 13 South Ave., and includes a Citizen Preparedness Corps kit. See [dhses.ny.gov/aware-prepare](http://dhses.ny.gov/aware-prepare).

## Sloop Club Happenings

Plans film, annual dinner

On Thursday, April 12, at 7 p.m., the public can learn how the Clearwater and Woody Guthrie were restored. The program at the Beacon Sloop Club by shipwright Jim Kriker includes a showing of the documentary *Hope on the Hudson*.

On Sunday, April 15, from 5 to 10 p.m., the club will hold its annual Woody Dinner at the Chalet on the Hudson, 3250 Route 9D, north of Cold Spring. The \$60 ticket includes a buffet, drinks and live music. See [beaconsloopclub.org](http://beaconsloopclub.org).

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ELKS HELP OUT — Ron Streczyk and Carl Oken of the Mid-Hudson Elks delivered \$600 worth of donated food and clothing to patients at the Castle Point VA Hospital.

Photo provided

## Record Release

Plan B to perform April 14

Plan B, an electro-acoustic ensemble, will drop its debut album, *From Outer Space*, with a performance at the Howland Cultural Center at 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 14. The band is Joe McPhee on saxophones and trumpets, James Keepnews on guitar and laptop and Dave Berger on drums. Tickets are \$20 at the door.

## BVAC Brunch

Fundraiser for ambulance corps

The nonprofit Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps will host a benefit brunch on Sunday, April 15, at Dutchess Manor on Route 9D. There will be two seatings, at 10:30 a.m. and 12:20 p.m. Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$15 for children ages 6 to 12. For details, email [brunch@beaconvac.org](mailto:brunch@beaconvac.org) or visit [beaconvac.org](http://beaconvac.org).

## Garden Party

Center to celebrate opening

The One Nature Garden Center, which specializes in native, edible and medicinal plants, opened for the season April 1. It is located in Beacon next to Binnacle Books, 321 Main St. To celebrate, the center will host a garden party on Saturday, April 14, from 5 to 7 p.m. with live music, drinks and snacks.

The next day, on Sunday, April 15, from noon to 5 p.m., its staff will help visitors celebrate Earth Day by making native seed "bombs," a mixture of wildflower seeds, compost and clay that can be tossed into a landscape. See [onenaturellc.com](http://onenaturellc.com).

## Poetry Reading Postponed

Library event will be rescheduled

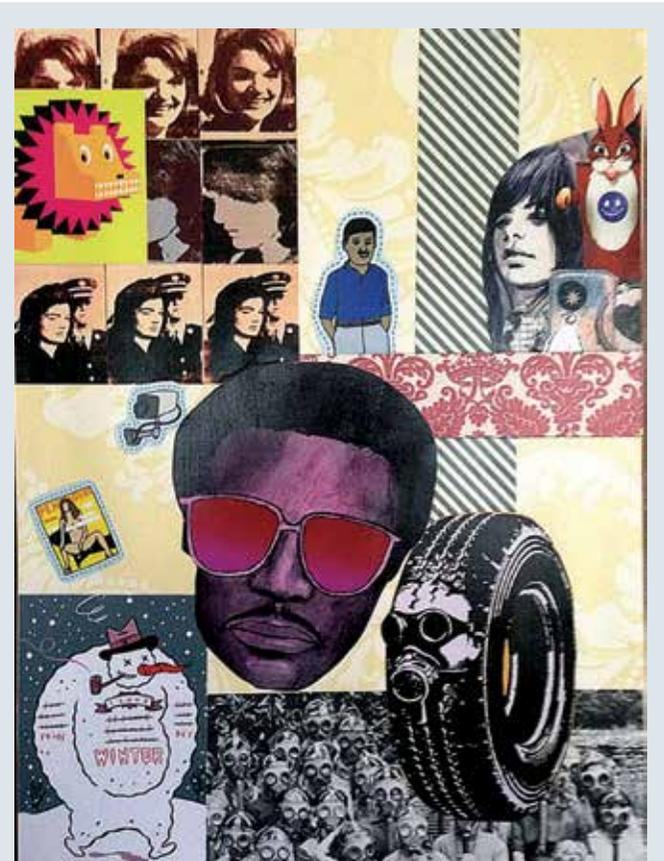
A poetry reading scheduled for Thursday, April 12, at the Howland Public Library to celebrate *Ghost Opera*, a collection by Argentine poet Mercedes Roffé translated by Beacon resident Judith File, has been postponed until the fall. File was profiled in the March 30 issue of *The Current*.

## 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](mailto:calendar@highlandscurrent.com).

**Baby and Dog**

This feature is designed as a counterweight to all the bad news in the world that weighs people down. We could share a photo of a baby, or a photo of a dog, but we are giving you both. How many newspapers can say that? Steven Strauss, a hairstylist at Soho Salon in Cold Spring, shared this shot of his daughter, Lola, with Finn at naptime. If you have a photo of a baby and a dog, submit it for consideration to [editor@highlandscurrent.com](mailto:editor@highlandscurrent.com).



GRAFFITI ART — The work of Ivan Rivera will be on view at the Catalyst Gallery in Beacon through Sunday, April 8, with a reception scheduled for April 7 from 6 to 8 p.m. Based in Brooklyn, Rivera creates collages inspired by graffiti, mutilated billboards and street art. Image provided

Visit [highlandscurrent.com](http://highlandscurrent.com) for news updates and latest information.

## Obituaries

### Angie D'Amato (1926-2018)

Angelina D'Amato, 91, of Cold Spring, died March 19, 2018.

Angie was born April 11, 1926, in Jersey City to Philip and Maria (Reale) Percacciolo. The family moved to Cold Spring in 1937, where her father opened a cobbler and shoe repair business on Main Street. Angelina graduated from Haldane High School in 1943. One of her fondest memories was playing the clarinet with the Haldane band at the 1939 World's Fair in New York. After graduation, Angelina attended the Peekskill Business School.

After high school, Angie worked at Sell-ek's Law Office on Main Street in Cold Spring. During World War II, she helped with the war effort by working in a rubber factory in Beacon that manufactured life rafts, for the Selective Service at Whitehall Place, and at West Point.

On Nov. 24, 1946, she married Antonio "Tony" D'Amato at Our Lady of Loretto



Angie D'Amato

Church, where she was a parishioner and a member of the Catholic Daughters. Later, Angie was employed in the butcher department at the Grand Union in Cold Spring. In the early 1960s Angie began working as a clerk at the U.S. post office on Main Street, a career that spanned more than 30 years and made her well-known through the Philipstown area.

She is survived by her sons, Anthony D'Amato (Cynthia) of Hopewell Junction and Philip D'Amato (Patricia) of Nelsonville; her grandchildren Maria D'Amato of Beacon and Philip James D'Amato (Melissa) of Norwalk, Connecticut; and a sister, Mary Massara of Fairfax, Virginia.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held March 23 at Our Lady of Loretto, with interment at Cold Spring Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Cold Spring Fire Company No. 1 or the Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

### Helen Ann Dye (1921-2018)

Helen Ann Dye, 96, a lifelong Cold Spring resident, died March 20, 2018. She is well remembered for her 25 years as head waiter at Gus's Antique Restaurant & Bar when it was located at the Cold

Spring waterfront.

Born in Cold Spring on Nov. 20, 1921, she was the daughter of Walter and Anna (Ryan) Atkinson. She married Joseph Dye. She is survived by two sons, Jack Allen (Louise) and Gordon Allen (Barbara), both of Cold Spring; nine grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial was offered March 26 at Our Lady of Loretto, with interment at Cold Spring Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the church.

### Ralph Lyons (1934-2018)

Ralph R. Lyons, 83, of Cold Spring, died March 29, 2018.

He was born Dec. 1, 1934, in Cold Spring to Gordon and Rose (Landolfi) Lyons. He grew up in Cold Spring and attended the Our Lady of Loretto School and Haldane High School, where he was a four-letter athlete. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. and a union carpenter for 50



Helen Dye

years.

In 1957 he married Elizabeth Ann Allen and together they enjoyed traveling to the many destinations where their granddaughter was playing sports. His wife died in 2012.

He is survived by his daughter, Ann Lyons of Beacon; his son, James Lyons of Glenham; and his grandchildren Megan Rose Lyons (fiancé James Dain), Dylan Lyons, Cody Lyons and Jimmy Lyons.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated April 3 at Our Lady of Loretto, with interment at Cold Spring Cemetery.

### Lois Sutton (1933-2018)

Lois M. Sutton, 85, of Cold Spring, died March 18, 2018.

Born Jan. 15, 1933, in Cold Spring, she was the daughter of George and Carla (Drendge) Tierney. In 1954 she married Arthur J. Sutton, who died in 2008.

Lois was an eucharistic minister and a former trustee of Our Lady of Loretto, a member of the Putnam County Historical Society and a past member of the Highlands Garden Club. She was active in Boujicans Art Gallery and a member of the Ladies Golf League.

She is survived by her sons, Arthur J. Sutton Jr. (Susan) of Hopewell Junction and David J. Sutton of Poughkeepsie; her grandchildren Karla Anderson (Scott) and AJ Sutton III (fiancée Janine Gallois), a great-granddaughter, Penelope Anderson, and a sister, Claire Costello.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held March 22 at Our Lady of Loretto, with interment at Cold Spring Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the church.

Information provided by Clinton Funeral Home. For more obituaries, see [highlandscurrent.com](http://highlandscurrent.com).



Lois Sutton



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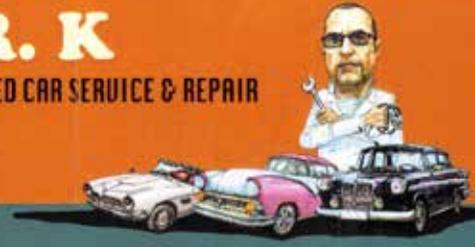
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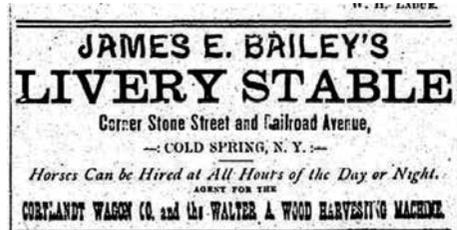
# Looking Back in Philipstown

By Chip Rowe

## 150 Years Ago (April 1868)

The Cold Spring Board of Trustees authorized the arrest of “all persons violating the laws of the village by the ringing of bells, blowing of horns or other unusual noises calculated to break the peace of the village.” *The Cold Spring Recorder* said it hoped the action would “deter the boys from any more of these foolish performances.”

Many steamboat passengers who found themselves fog-bound overnight in the river came into Cold Spring in small boats to catch the early trains into the city.



In April 1893, James Bailey relocated his livery stable in Cold Spring to a former carpentry shop at the corner of Railroad Avenue and Stone Street.

## 125 Years Ago (April 1893)

The coroner opened an inquest into the death of one of the triplets born in November to Louisa Miller, 31, the wife of Ellsworth Miller of Nelsonville, who over the previous nine years had birthed 17 children, including three sets of twins and three sets of triplets. (Only five of the children were living — a girl, 10; a male twin, 6; a boy, 3, and the two other newborn triplets.) The jury ruled that the child had died of natural causes. In a later interview, Mrs. Miller denied that she kept a “baby farm” or that the family lived in a “squalid tenement, although the house needs painting.” She said she had refused offers of money from photographers “because I don’t want my house to be like a dime museum. When the previous triplets were born everybody ran there, and it was very annoying.”

The Rev. W.F. Overhiser scheduled a humorous lecture, *Glasses and Goggles*, at Academy Hall to benefit the Haldane Union School Library.

The governor vetoed a bill to purchase Pollipell’s Island for \$25,000 and erect a statue of Henry Hudson.

George Pimer, a former Cold Spring resident, was arrested in Newburgh on charges he failed to support his wife and two children. His mother-in-law testified that he “used rough language at times.”

The Cold Spring-on-Hudson Fish and Game Protective Association received 15,000 trout to distribute to local brooks.

A 4-foot-long seal drowned after being caught in a fishing net near Constitution Island.

The comedians Ellenwood & Christie performed a different play in Cold Spring every night for a week, including a romantic drama in four parts.

A representative from the Calcium Light Advertising Co. came to town to sell advertisements to local businesses which were then projected on a 30-by-30-foot

outdoor canvas alternated with photos of scenic views.



Radio star Norman Tokar visited Surprise Lake Camp in Philipstown in 1943.

## 75 Years Ago (April 1943)

The boys from the Malcolm Gordon School in Garrison presented *The Golden Doom* at the Amateur Comedy Club Theater in New York City.

A formal inquest into the deaths of two men killed in an auto accident on Main Street in Nelsonville found that the condition of the road had contributed to the crash. Ten witnesses were interviewed.

A molding machine invented by James DuBois of Cold Spring was used to make 90 percent of all cylinders in cars, jeeps, tanks and torpedo boats. He was working on a piston ring designed to increase the speed of airplanes.

Norman Tokar, 23, who portrayed Henry Aldrich (“America’s favorite teenager”) in the popular *Aldrich Family* radio play, visited Surprise Lake Camp. [Tokar, who later directed many early episodes of *Leave it to Beaver*, died in 1979 at age 59.]

## 50 Years Ago (April 1968)

William Constantino was honored a few days before his retirement from Esso-Humble Corp. by his fellow passengers on the train from Cold Spring to New York City, on which he had commuted for 42 years, 6 months and 5 days. They reserved a coach on the 5:02 p.m. out of Grand Central Station and decorated it with signs.

Stanley “Mackey” Budney was named chief of the Cold Spring Fire Co. No. 1, succeeding his brother, Frank. Joseph Etta was elected assistant chief, defeating Donald Clarke, 37-31.

The First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown launched its Community Nursery School with an eight-week spring session.

William Stevenson of Nelsonville, one of the last surviving people who worked at the West Point Foundry, died at age 95.

## 25 Years Ago (April 1993)

Haldane Elementary students participated in a Jump Rope for Heart event that raised \$4,894 for the American Heart Association. The top pledge collectors were Amy Peterson, Amanda Gorges and Courtney Lyons.

The governor vetoed a proposal championed by State Sen. George Pataki that would have provided Putnam County with \$1.6 million in “payments in lieu of taxes” on state parkland.

The first of five signs promoting Putnam County’s anti-drug hotline, 225-DRUG, was installed in Mahopac. Another was to be installed at Routes 9 and 301.

## 10 Years Ago (April 2008)

The newly constructed Putnam County Courthouse opened in Carmel.

The Butterfield Library launched a silent-film series with *Sherlock Jr.* (1924) starring Buster Keaton.

Tom Corless was sworn in as mayor of Nelsonville following the death of William Merando.



The new Putnam County Courthouse opened 10 years ago this month.

Wikipedia

# 7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 an act of trickery (7)	_____
2 Beat and Lost, for example (11)	_____
3 one who ditches school (7)	_____
4 anti-aircraft fire (4)	_____
5 arrange elements of a set (5)	_____
6 fights (6)	_____
7 comments angrily online (6)	_____

SLE	AK	ATI	HT	SK
NER	SC	ES	ORD	FL
ER	PS	ER	ONS	GE
IPP	AM	IG	RA	FL

See answers: Page 15

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## Sports

### Haldane Lacrosse Gets Off to Fast Start

*Holds opponents scoreless in first two matches*

The Haldane varsity boys' lacrosse team came out firing in its first two games, winning at Yonkers, 16-0, in its opener on March 29 and defeating Peekskill at home, 15-0, on April 4.

Against Peekskill, senior Brandon Twoguns had five goals for the Blue Devils,

freshman Darrin Santos scored a hat trick and sophomore Jagger Beachak finished with two goals and three assists. Junior Arlan Thornquist also scored twice.

The 19-man Haldane squad travels to Hyde Park today (April 6) to take on Roosevelt High and plays at Pawling on Monday.

For more photos, see [highlandscurrent.com](http://highlandscurrent.com).

*Photos by Skip Pearlman*



Haldane coach Ed Crowe talks strategy with his team during its home win over Peekskill.



Josh Lisikatos (3) looks for an open teammate.



Blue Devils captains: Kyle Zimmerman (12), Brandon Twoguns (13), John Hankel (1) and Josh Lisikatos (3)



Sam Giachinta (25) breaks between two Peekskill defenders.



Riley Johanson (18) eyes the Peekskill goal.

### Coaches and Parents

We welcome your contributions of scores, highlights and photos.  
Email [sports@highlandscurrent.com](mailto:sports@highlandscurrent.com)