

# The HIGHLANDS Current



2019  
Scholarship  
Guide  
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MARCH 15, 2019

161 MAIN ST., COLD SPRING, N.Y. | [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org)

## Infrastructure Blues

*Sewer break in Beacon is  
second in a year*

By Jeff Simms

A sewer line break last month — the second in the last year — discharged 200,000 gallons of partially treated sewage near Fishkill Creek in Beacon, state officials said, but no drinking water supplies were impacted.

Only a portion of the overflow, which first surfaced in a Wilson Street resident's home, reached the creek, a representative of the state Department of Environmental Conservation said this week. The DEC said it is less concerned about impacts to the creek's water quality because of its rapid flow as snowfall melts.

The Feb. 24 collapse occurred after a section of an aging 14-inch sewer pipe eroded, City Administrator Anthony Ruggiero told the City Council at its March 4 meeting. Beacon employees, aided by staff from the Town and Village of Fishkill, worked through the night to contain the leak.

In all, three sections of sewer main in the vicinity were found deteriorated. The city is in the process of replacing and upgrading 100 feet of pipe adjacent to the leak, Ruggiero added.

The DEC inspected the site on Feb. 25 and determined the city's response to be appropriate, the agency said.

Aging infrastructure — in many cases dating back a century or longer — is a major challenge for municipalities around the country. Because miles of pipe rest, in some cases, a dozen feet or more underground, repairs or replacement is expensive. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates it will cost \$271 billion over the next 25 years to upgrade the nation's wastewater infrastructure. And, according to the U.S. Conference of Mayors, 95 percent of that spending will be at the local level.

"As communities developed, that's when the first pipes went in the ground," said Greg Phillips, Cold Spring's superintendent of water and wastewater. "It's all up and down the Hudson, and in much of the country. But you don't ever have the money to do the things that need to get done."

Phillips said Cold Spring plans to spend \$20,000 next month to use underground cameras to inspect and then clean part

(Continued on Page 17)



**STRAIGHT AND TRUE** — Adam Barta, a dad and volunteer starter, eyeballs the cars in a heat at the annual Pinewood Derby on Saturday (March 9) held by Philipstown Cub Scout Pack 137. "You have to make sure they are lined up the same," he explained. "You don't want the pin to drop and have a car wretch down the track to a halt, which I have seen happen." For more photos, see Page 14.

Photo by Ross Corsair



**GOT THAT FEELING** — The Fat Boi Brass Band, with vocalist Linda Garzia, celebrated Mardi Gras on March 9 at Denning's Point Distillery in Beacon.

Photo by Ross Corsair

## Judge Finds Putnam Violated Labor Law

*Ruling: Director of constituent  
services bullied union rep*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Nicholas DePerno Jr., Putnam County's director of constituent services, who doubles as the county executive's bodyguard and driver, violated state law by interfering with a workers' union and "physically accosting" its local president at a 2015 rally, a state administrative law judge ruled earlier this year.

The judge, Melanie Wlasuk, faulted the county, as well as DePerno, "the county's agent," for bullying Jane Meunier, who works in the county Health Department and is the longtime president of Local 840 of the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA), which represents many Putnam County employees.

DePerno is a retired Putnam County Sheriff's Office investigator who was hired by Odell in 2011 to answer emails and phone calls from constituents and work as her bodyguard and driver. (See [highlandscurrent.org/deperno](http://highlandscurrent.org/deperno).)

The case stems from an incident that took place in 2015; it is not unusual, the union says, for complaints to take years to make their way through the state labor review system. On Oct. 26 of that year, about 60 union members staged a rally outside county offices in Carmel to protest a plan by County Executive MaryEllen Odell to charge retirees more for health care.

According to union testimony, DePerno "inserted himself into the middle of CSEA's gathering, grabbed Meunier-Gorman [her name at the time] by her jacket, shook her and yelled at her."

After hearing testimony from union officials and DePerno, the judge ruled on Jan. 28 that she found "DePerno's actions in physically accosting Meunier-Gorman and yelling at her" both "inappropriate" and "outside the boundaries of normal professional interaction." She concluded that he "acted for the specific purpose of interfering with CSEA's rally and intimidating Meunier-Gorman."

Meunier declined to comment on the judge's ruling but told a CSEA publication in February that, after the 2015 incident,

(Continued on Page 7)





## FIVE QUESTIONS: JOHN MADSEN

By Brian PJ Cronin

Last week John Madsen, a geophysicist at the University of Delaware, announced the discovery in 2018 of a 14-foot, 800-pound sturgeon in the Hudson River near Hyde Park. The fish is believed to be 80 to 90 years old.

### How does a geophysicist get interested in sturgeon?

I work with Dewayne Fox, a fisheries person at Delaware State University. One day he told me about the sturgeon he's been studying. I told him about imaging equipment that might help identify sturgeon in the water. It uses sound to outline geographic features below the surface. If there are fish or anything else in the water, you will get images of that, as well.

### What did you think when you first saw this 14-foot sturgeon?

When we spot something, we call it a "target," so my first thought was, *That's a big target.* We're busy out on the water, so I made a note of it, but I didn't process the data until a couple of weeks later.

### Is a sturgeon this size a good sign?

Finding one fish doesn't mean that everything's fine with the Hudson again, but it's good to know that a fish of that age is in the river. Sturgeon are anadromous, which means they come into fresh

water to spawn. From about mid-May to late June they are near Hyde Park, and then they migrate to the ocean. Dewayne's worked with acoustic tags on the fish so we can follow them. We know that, after they spawn, sturgeon go to Delaware Bay, then come all the way back up the Hudson. So this is a fish that's been going back and forth for a long time!

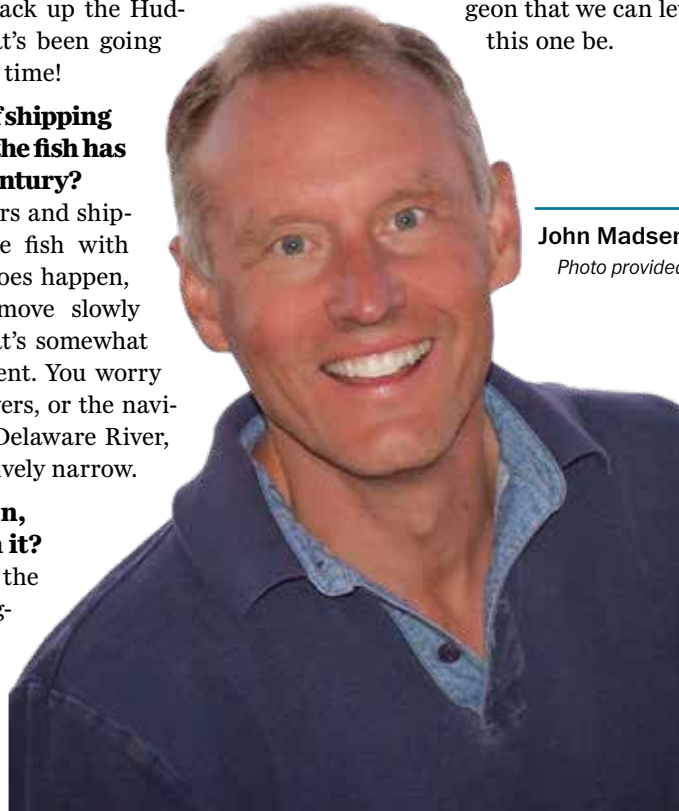
### The Hudson has a lot of shipping traffic. Is it surprising the fish has survived for nearly a century?

You worry about tankers and shipping vessels striking the fish with their propellers, which does happen, but sturgeons usually move slowly along the bottom, so that's somewhat of a protected environment. You worry more about shallower rivers, or the navigational channel in the Delaware River, which is deeper but relatively narrow.

### If you see the fish again, would you try to catch it?

We would like to find the fish again for more imaging, but most likely we'll leave it alone. First, they're an endangered species. We also use nets to catch fish for tagging purposes and

to determine their weight and size, so getting a 14-foot sturgeon into a net and onto a relatively small boat would be hard! I'd rather not disturb it. Let it do its thing in the depths in the river. We do enough tagging of younger sturgeon that we can let this one be.



John Madsen  
Photo provided

## ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

### Favorite movie? Least-favorite movie?

Favorite: *Step Brothers.*  
Least-favorite: *Hellboy.*



~ Farrah Aquino, Beacon

Favorite: *Matchstick Men.* Least-favorite:  
*The Wicker Man.* Both  
star Nicholas Cage!



~ Billy Zopf, Beacon

Favorite: *Love Actually.*  
Least-favorite:  
*Requiem for a Dream.*



~ Nicole Patel, Garrison

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# Notes from the Cold Spring Village Board

*Budget talks continue; mayor and trustees to get raises*

By Michael Turton

The Cold Spring Village Board moved closer at its meeting on Tuesday (March 12) to finalizing its 2019-20 budget, which must be adopted and submitted to the state by the end of April.

The board can increase the tax levy by up to 2.7 percent, the maximum allowed under a state-imposed cap. The 2018-19 budget included \$1,614,643 raised through taxes; the proposed increase for 2019-20 would add about \$44,000.

The tax levy supports the general fund, which pays for most day-to-day village operations except water and sewer, which are funded by user fees.

The tallest hurdle facing the board is deciding which capital projects it can afford. The list of potential projects includes Village Hall roof repairs, numerous repairs to the village-owned firehouse, paving Garden Street and Fishkill Avenue, repairs to a collapsing stone wall on Main Street east of Morris Avenue and repair of the stairway from Main Street to Maple Terrace.

Mayor Dave Merandy said he felt the roof repairs and engineering studies for the two paving projects should be priorities. He cautioned that repairs to the Main Street stone wall could be costly.

As it did last year, the board approved a 2 percent pay increase for village employees. Trustees also gave a 5 percent raise to the mayor, trustees and village justice. The mayor's annual salary, which was last increased in 2012, is \$12,662; a 5 percent raise will add \$52 a month. Trustees, who last received an increase in 2013, receive \$7,221 annually and would earn \$30 more a month under the budget.

The tentative budget will be delivered to the village clerk on March 20, followed by a workshop on March 26, and a second workshop, if necessary, on April 2. A public hearing is scheduled for April 9 with adoption expected on April 23.

## In other business ...

■ Crew Chief Robert Downey Jr. reported that the Highway Department collected 46 tons of garbage and 16 tons of recycled

bles in February. During budget discussions Merandy commented that there are "no incentives [for residents] to cut back" on what is put out at the street. "We can't sustain what we're doing under the state [budget] cap," he said, adding that the board needs to consider alternatives. The mayor pointed out that while Royal Carting restricts the amount of material collected, the village does not.

- Trustees are reviewing the final draft of the application form and guidelines for special events held at Dockside Park. The proposed fee structure, including \$1,200 for weddings, will mirror fees charged for use of Mayor's Park. Dockside will remain open to the public during private events.
- The board approved spending \$3,000 to upgrade the Village website at coldspringny.gov.
- Officer in Charge Larry Burke reported that the Cold Spring Police Department answered 48 calls in February. Officers also issued 33 traffic and 35 parking tickets and made one arrest, for aggravated assault. Chief Josh DiNardo reported that the Cold Spring Fire Co. responded to 12 calls.
- The board is considering a proposal from Lime Energy Co. to install LED lighting at Village Hall and the Highway Department garage. Deputy Mayor Marie Early will research the potential cost savings.
- Residents outside the village who are in arrears on water payments will be sent notices of termination of service. Merandy said the unpaid bills total more than \$17,000.
- Jennifer Zwarich, chair of the Tree Advisory Board, reported that an Arbor Day tree-planting will take place in front of Village Hall at 5 p.m. on Friday, April 26. A tutorial on tree pit gardening will be held in May.
- This year's Independence Day celebration, including fireworks, will be held Saturday, July 6. Volunteers are needed to help finalize and plan the festivities.

**Q:** The dam on Mount Beacon is holding back 125 million gallons of water. Does anyone ever inspect it? I'm no engineer but I'd say it could use some patching up. ~Mary Fris, Beacon

**A:** Anthony Ruggiero, Beacon's city administrator, said engineers inspect the dam at the Beacon Reservoir, which was built in 1922, every two years. The most recent inspection, in October 2018, found nothing that posed a threat, he said.

In addition, on Sept. 17 the dam was inspected by engineers from the state Department of Environmental Conservation, who pointed out a number of maintenance issues that don't affect the structural integrity of the dam, such as the deteriorating concrete visible on its face. Ruggiero says the city plans to repair the concrete next year.

The dam, which measures 350 feet long by 35 feet high, is considered a "Class C" structure by the state, meaning that a failure would cause "widespread and serious damage." The Glenham Dam on Fishkill Creek, built in 1875, also has a C rating, as do the lower and upper Cold Spring reservoir dams.

State law requires that owners of Class C dams submit an annual certifi-



The Beacon Dam

Photo by Mary Fris

cation, maintain an Emergency Action Plan and conduct inspections on an unspecified "regular schedule," although they only need to submit the results to the state every 10 years, or if requested.

Have a question we can answer?  
Email: [question@highlandscurrent.org](mailto:question@highlandscurrent.org).



- Privacy and views can be yours in this well maintained home located on almost 4 acres on a hillside in Garrison, NY!
- The style of the home allows you a clean canvas to go in any direction you want whether it is traditional, modern or country!
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- There is also a 2 level deck on the front of the house so you can maximize your entertainment space or relax alone with only Mother Nature as your companion!
- This would be a very low maintenance home as most of the property is covered with trees or wild grasses!

## NOTICE

The Butterfield Library located at 10 Morris Avenue, Cold Spring, NY 10516 is soliciting bids from General Contractors for:

- Phase I of the Jean Marzollo Children's Room in the lower level of the Library. Phase I entails 1,350 s.f. of intensive interior renovation.
- The bid period is from Monday March 11, 2019 to Monday March 29, 2019.
- Renovation work can be performed between May 1, 2019 and August 30th, 2019.
- Bid documents and general bidding information can be obtained by email or hard copies by contacting Donald MacDonald, Architect at [donaldarch@icloud.com](mailto:donaldarch@icloud.com).



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## LETTERS AND COMMENTS

### Secor easement

The Open Space Institute (OSI) is proud of its long history of working cooperatively with the Village of Nelsonville and surrounding communities to preserve the region's irreplaceable natural areas ("Nelsonville Debates Proposed Secor Easement," Feb. 22).

In October 1993, OSI acquired 503 acres on the slopes of Bull Hill from SMG Development Corp. that lie within the Village of Nelsonville and the Town of Philipstown. Over the course of several transactions, OSI donated much of this land to New York State as additions to the Hudson Highlands State Park.

Seven years later, OSI donated 112 acres of the original SMG property to the Village of Nelsonville. As a condition of that donation, OSI retained a conservation easement on the property to ensure that it is forever protected and used only for passive public recreation like hiking and bird watching. Today, the Nelsonville Nature Preserve, known locally as Nelsonville Woods, is maintained by OSI's stewardship staff.

Now, building on these conservation successes, OSI has proposed a modest expansion of the preserve by donating 2 additional acres located at its northern end. This addition would also be subject to the existing conservation easement.

At the same time, the village trustees are debating whether to expand the existing conservation easement by including a 4-acre, village-owned parcel located along Secor Street and adjacent to the preserve. (OSI understands that such an expansion is entirely the village's decision and is willing to cooperate with the village's choice.) A decision to encumber the Secor Street parcel with the conservation easement is clearly allowable

under state law and that principle has been upheld by two appellate courts. If the village follows this path, it would guard against commercial development of the Secor Street property, including cell towers.

Through these proposed transactions, OSI is maintaining its commitment to the Nelsonville Nature Preserve. We remain dedicated to this community and permanently protecting its undisturbed natural and recreational assets.

Kim Elliman, *New York City*  
*Elliman is president and CEO of the*  
*Open Space Institute.*

### Nelsonville election

I want to express my support for Chris Caccamise for mayor and Dove Pedlosky and Lisa Mechaley for trustees in the March 19 election for the Nelsonville Village Board.

I feel it is time for change in the direction and governance of our small village. Chris has already done outstanding work on the environmental needs for the village, and has shown his concern for our future. Dove and Lisa are campaigning on an open platform to listen to residents' needs, to protect our quality of life, and take a collaborative posture toward our neighbors in the rest of Philipstown.

I worked closely with them on the effort to keep the ugly cell towers out of our community and was impressed by their knowledge, passion and hard work. I urge voters to meet with all three of them and to listen to their ideas for a better Nelsonville for all of us.

Katharine Plummer, *Nelsonville*

Not being a resident of Nelsonville, I don't know much about the issues that the village

is facing. What I do know is that Mayor Bill O'Neill, who is seeking re-election, is a high-quality individual who brings character, honor and trust to any activity he engages in.

I have known Bill and his wife Frances since 2001. We have worked together on community affairs going back to the early days of the comprehensive planning process for Philipstown. In working with Bill, I came to know that he is analytical and thorough in his approach to understanding the issues; that he is thoughtful and balanced in considering all aspects of the situation; that he has no "pro" or "anti" bias that influences his position and that he has an inclusive nature in working with others and is supportive of any effort that seeks to raise the quality of life we enjoy in this area.

In fact, within the last several weeks, he was quick to bring before the Village Board a resolution pledging support for Philipstown's application for a Hudson River Greenway Grant to update its comprehensive plan. I'm proud to know Bill and commend him for his willingness to serve the public with distinction and dedication.

Nat Prentice, *Garrison*

*The polls in Nelsonville are open at Village Hall from noon to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19. For more endorsement letters and debate between the candidates, see highlandscurrent.org.*

### Nancy Drew

While growing up in Beacon in the 1960s, I discovered Nancy Drew ("Looking for Clues in Nancy Drew," March 8). At the time I did not know many girls who were so fearless. As I read her adventures, they quickly became my adventures.

Who could not be easily transported to River Heights to solve the mystery at Lilac Inn, unravel the secret of the Red Gate Farm or reveal the hidden staircase?

My nose hasn't been stuck in the pages of a Nancy Drew book for, give or take, 50 years. I cannot say which was my favorite, but what I can say is Nancy Drew's enchantment is ageless.

Alison MacAvery, *Fishkill*

### Beacon Line

Although not in service, the Beacon Line owned by Metro-North is not abandoned ("Dutchess, MTA Revive Talk of Beacon Rail Trail," March 8). Because it connects the Harlem Line to the Danbury Branch of the New Haven line, it might actually be used for trains in the future.

Richard Williams,  
*via highlandscurrent.org*

### Climate Smart

I had high hopes for Nancy Montgomery before her election to the Putnam County Legislature, but she is turning out to be a huge disappointment, and this Climate Smart nonsense is just the beginning ("Putnam County Considers Climate Smart," March 1).

Whether you believe in man-made climate change (which I don't), this is not a local issue. People did not elect Montgomery, William Gouldman in Putnam Valley

(Continued on Page 5)





# New State Laws

## And how legislators voted

By Chip Rowe

**S**andy Galef, who represents Philipstown in the state Assembly, shared this list of new state laws that take effect this month. The votes of Galef and state Sen. Sue Serino (whose district includes the Highlands) are noted. There was no vote from the Assembly member who represents Beacon because the bills passed between the death of Frank Skartados in April and the election of his successor, Jonathan Jacobson, in November.

■ Female inmates at local and state correctional facilities, who had been required to purchase feminine hygiene products, will receive them at no cost. The lawmakers who sponsored the bill noted that female inmates at the Taconic State Correctional Facility earn 17 cents an hour for their work duties but were charged 24 cents for each tampon. As a result, an inmate needed to spend a week's wages to receive a 20-count box.

**Assembly passed 141-0**

Galef ✓

**Senate passed 59-2**

Serino ✓

■ It is estimated that private industry will build solar-panel farms on more than 6,000 acres in New York by next year, many of them near agricultural land. In some cases, developers voluntarily leave native plants around the edges of the site to create "pollinator enhancement strips" for bees and other beneficial creatures. To help the public judge claims that a site is pollinator-friendly, the state will develop voluntary guidelines.

**Assembly passed 137-0**

Galef ✓

**Senate passed 62-0**

Serino ✓

■ Nonprofit organizations must include the website and phone number of the Charities Bureau of the state Attorney General's Office on solicitations for donations.

**Assembly passed 133-0**

Galef ✓

**Senate passed 60-0**

Serino ✓

■ Under new guidelines, firefighters will be allowed to complete their Firefighter and Firefighter Recruit certification at their local departments or online rather than having to travel to training sessions.

**Assembly passed 131-0**

Galef ✓

**Senate passed 36-24**

Serino ✓



Gov. Andrew Cuomo signs a bill into law.

File photo

■ The number of days that an animal shelter must keep a stray cat before putting it up for adoption or euthanizing it after it has been examined by a veterinarian and no owner has come forward was reduced from five days to three. Shelter operators say that holding stray cats for five days or longer increases the risk of the cat spreading or getting diseases and infections that can be difficult and expensive to treat, especially when the cat is unlikely to be claimed.

**Assembly passed 137-3**

Galef ✓

**Senate passed 61-0**

Serino ✓

## Correction

The vote totals in "New State Laws" (March 8) were incorrect. For the law that reduced the number of signatures required on nominating petitions in 2019, the Senate voted 54-6 and the Assembly 136-9; for the law that reduced the number of signatures required for party nominations, the Senate voted 57-3 and the Assembly 134-10; and for the Child Victims Act, the Senate voted 63-0 and the Assembly 142-3.

■ Debt collectors sometimes use what they call "emphatic active listening" to convince grieving families that they must pay the deceased's debts. This law requires agencies to inform relatives of the deceased, orally and in writing, that they may not be legally required to do so. Agencies are already forbidden from contacting anyone other than the debtor about outstanding bills.

**Assembly passed 106-37**

Galef ✓

**Senate passed 61-0**

Serino ✓

## LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

or our other Putnam legislators to deal with national issues. Leave that to U.S. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney.

I am a constituent of Montgomery in two towns — I reside in Putnam Valley and I have a small business in Cold Spring. Before the election I spoke with her about what I believe are important issues, including the lack of support from Carmel for Main Street businesses in Cold Spring.

When are we going to get the financial support we deserve and are entitled to? Justifiably, the county does not share sales tax with the towns. However, it is supposed to provide services, including support from the tourism and economic development agencies that are funded with hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Main Street businesses are struggling due to the nationwide retail apocalypse. Brick-and-mortar shops are becoming dinosaurs. We need billboards, brochures in Grand Central Station, etc. Again, when asked, Montgomery had no idea of how to proceed to help us.

Cold Spring is the only real tourist attraction in Putnam County. For some arcane reason known only to himself, the director of the tourism agency has cut off the direct funding we used to get from the county. This is outrageous and it behooves our legislator to get this money restored as the summer tourist season will be here in a couple of months.

Patty Villanova, via highlandscurrent.org

Bravo to Nancy Montgomery for pushing Climate Smart initiatives forward on the county level. Whether you "believe" in climate change, they make economic sense.

Changing to energy-efficient lighting in governmental buildings saves money on our electric bills. Using environmentally friendly materials to maintain our roads reduces chemical runoff into our water sources, which in turn reduces the costs of water treatment and preserves biodiversity in our natural areas. Taking steps to reduce air pollution from county vehicles reduces its effects on sufferers of asthma and other chronic pulmonary conditions.

If communities receive state grants for taking these small but effective measures, our local property tax burden is eased and resources are available to address other county, town and village needs. It's a win-win no matter what your "beliefs" are.

I agree that the county Legislature and tourism agency could and should do a much better job of addressing the needs of Philipstown, Cold Spring and Nelsonville in dealing with the impacts of tourism and supporting an industry that generates so much sales tax revenue for the county. I'm confident that Nancy Montgomery is the advocate we've needed in our corner for a long time. She's just getting started.

Lynn Miller, via highlandscurrent.org  
Miller is a member of the Cold Spring Village Board.

## PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD

### Public Hearing – March 21, 2019

The Philipstown Planning Board for the Town of Philipstown, New York will hold a public hearing on Thursday, March 21, 2019 starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Old VFW Hall, 34 Kemble Ave. in Cold Spring, New York to consider the following application:

**Hudson Highlands Land Trust, Fort Defiance Hill Rd, Garrison** – The applicant is seeking a lot line adjustment between 2 adjacent lots along Fort Defiance Hill Road. The two parcels, in total, comprise 77.76 acres located in an RC (Rural Conservation) Zoning District in the Town of Philipstown. TM# 72-2-34.11.

Currently, the existing HHLT lot comprises 72.76 acres and is currently vacant, while the existing Keith lot (in the rear of, and surrounded by the overall HHLT parcel) comprises 5 acres and contains a residential dwelling and accessory structures. The proposal is to transfer approximately 42.27 acres of land currently owned by HHLT to Keith. No new development is proposed.

The entire HHLT 72-acre parcel is designated on the Town's Open Space Conservation Overlay District Index and a scenic ridgeline runs through the entire parcel, north to south. Travis Corners Road is also a delineated "scenic corridor" on the Town's Scenic Protection overlay mapping.

At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map, and other related materials may be seen in the Office of the Planning Board at the Philipstown Town Hall.

Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 1st day of March, 2019.

Anthony Merante, Chairman



# Beacon Townhouse Proposal Moves Forward

*Revisions made, but opposition to project remains*

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon Planning Board will hold what could be the final public hearings next month on a developer's proposal to build six 4-story townhouses on the half-acre "Welcome to Beacon" site across from the Metro-North station.

The hearings — for subdivision and site plan approval — are typically among the final steps before a project is approved. The proposal, called Ferry Landing at Beacon, returned to the Planning Board agenda on Tuesday (March 12) for the first time after its public hearing for environmental review began in June.

As before, most of the feedback this week was critical.

The developer initially proposed that each townhouse would have a one- or two-car garage, but the plans were modified to include a 15-foot setback on the fourth floor to reduce the buildings' visual impact, project representative Tom Elias said. The garages would remain, although Planning Board member Jill Reynolds suggested removing them and reducing the buildings to three stories.

The revisions weren't enough to make



A sign posted last year at the "Welcome to Beacon" wall announced a public hearing for the proposed development of the site.

File photo by J. Simms

the project palatable to several neighbors.

"No one's opposed to a landowner maximizing what he can build on his property," said Charles Kelly, a nearby resident and former City Council member. "That's not what this is about. It goes beyond what would impact the neighborhood. At the doorstep of the city we need to be very conscious of how we welcome people."

City Council Member George Mansfield, who in 2010 helped create the Welcome to Beacon rock wall on the site, said the project "aligns perfectly with the principles of transit-oriented development" and will bring density close to the city's primary transit hub.

"This is where the density needs to be," he said. "This is a project that will represent Beacon well and still be a 'Welcome to Beacon.'"

The environmental public hearing was kept open after this week's Planning Board meeting, so three hearings will be held concurrently when the board meets again on April 9.

## Verizon tower

While the City Council asked the Planning Board to review Verizon's application to install a small-cell wireless facility onto a 52-foot pole on private property at 110 Howland Ave., a consultant on Monday (March 11) told the council that the unit would help meet the "justified" need for wireless coverage in Beacon.

There are "substantial voids" in Verizon's coverage, particularly for people in cars and buildings, consultant Michael Musso said. The Howland site will also provide coverage if the company goes

through with plans to remove its wireless tower on Mount Beacon, he said.

Musso added that the radio frequencies produced by the new facility would only be a fraction of what the federal government allows. "You should know what's going on," with radio frequencies, he said, "but this one's a bit of a yawn."

## Beers and music

Applications for a microbrewery with an arcade and event space and an addition to the Melzingah Tap House for outdoor music moved closer to approval on Tuesday.

The brewery, proposed by Industrial Arts, which already operates a microbrewery in Rockland County, plans to open soon at 511 Fishkill Ave., its founder, Jeff O'Neil of Cold Spring, told the Planning Board. The brewery's plans show sufficient parking and won't adversely impact the city's water supplies, planning consultant John Clarke said.

Melzingah, which opened at 554 Main St. last year, has its first music act scheduled for next month. Representatives from the brewery will return to the Planning Board this summer to discuss neighbors' feedback on the music and expansion.

## 248 review

The first public hearing for the revised 248 Tioronda project will continue next month. The proposal, which now calls for 64 apartments along with commercial space along Fishkill Creek, must return to the City Council for review after the Planning Board certifies its environmental compliance.

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## DePerno *(from Page 1)*

“when it started to sink in, I was extremely traumatized. We can’t be afraid to speak up against injustices like these.”

On Thursday (March 14), Odell said that “importantly,” the judge had dismissed two of three allegations CSEA brought — that DePerno violated a law banning interference with administration of an employee organization, and that he violated another that prohibits retaliation against employees because of union activity.

The county executive also said that while county officials “believe there to be legal grounds” to contest the decision, “the county will not be doing so, as it is imperative that both the county and the union move forward together in a positive and meaningful way.”

She listed ways the county and union co-operate, adding that despite all that, “and the fact that I firmly believe that the county did not ever intentionally engage in any behavior with the purpose of interfering in union activities, I fully support the continued training of county personnel so that they may continually better themselves as managers, and I firmly believe that such continued training is a more than adequate solution to this matter.”

She noted that she had talked with Meunier and CSEA officials and that the day after their discussions the county and CSEA resumed long-stalled negotiations for a contract between the union and county that expired on Dec. 31, 2015.



Nicholas DePerno Jr. (left) with County Executive MaryEllen Odell in January 2013 at a press conference in Carmel  
*Putnam County photo*

In a separate statement, Jennifer Bumgarner, county attorney, pointed out that DePerno had belonged to unions throughout much of his career and that his son is in CSEA’s Putnam unit. DePerno “has enormous respect for the work and efforts of the employees” in the union, Bumgarner said. “Although he understands the decision” by the judge, “he is disappointed that she did not recognize the purely innocent motivations behind his actions. At no time did he intend to interfere with any union

activities or with their right to assemble. In fact, DePerno and Meunier had enjoyed a friendly and congenial relationship prior to the incident complained of, and he regrets any misunderstanding between them.”

A county employee for more than 30 years, Meunier in 2014 won a CSEA occupational safety and health award, drawing praise from the union and Odell, who cited “her tireless efforts to ensure the health and safety of her fellow employees.” Meunier also serves on the Dover Town Board in Dutchess

County and is a volunteer firefighter.

Jessica Ladlee, a regional CSEA representative, said on Monday (March 11) that Putnam County does not have a record of union harassment or inappropriate behavior by county officials. “This was definitely an isolated, shocking incident,” she said.

Both Meunier and Thomas Vargas, a county employee and union shop steward, testified that after DePerno grabbed and shook her, Vargas stepped between them, seized DePerno’s hands, and steered him away. DePerno then began poking and tickling Vargas as if to deter him or turn the incident into a joke, they said.

In his testimony, DePerno offered a far different account. He said he told Meunier, “Jane, baby, sweetheart, could do you do me a favor? Can you not make a mess of this place?” because some participants were snacking on pizza, to which she replied: “Of course, Nick. Who do you think you’re talking to?” He said Vargas then interceded, saying: “Hey, that’s no way to talk to a lady.” Everyone was “kidding around,” DePerno said.

However, he acknowledged tickling and poking Vargas and said that while he knew Meunier belonged to the union he was unaware she was president.

Meunier and Vargas challenged DePerno’s recollections of what was said and his portrayal of the encounter as light-hearted.

After the incident, Meunier filed a police report as well as a workplace violence report. (The year before, Putnam had be-

*(Continued on Page 18)*

## Dear Nelsonville residents,

When was the last time Nelsonville had an election with such media coverage? My guess would be... never. This makes me wonder, “Why all the fuss over a Nelsonville election?”

I have never read so many things regarding the Nelsonville elections. It seems like every time an edition of either paper arrives, it has a new item from a candidate or supporters. As a resident and a candidate, I read all the letters, ads, and social media posts available to stay semi-informed about what others are thinking. It is amazing what people are willing to express when they do not have to look at a person. I have read truths, half truths, partial truths, misconceptions, misinformation and a few outright lies. As a candidate for re-election as a Trustee of Nelsonville I feel I must address some of the items I have read lately. These are not in any particular order...

Transparency— The coalition campaigning for the open seats on the board claims that they will provide more transparency regarding village affairs. This suggests that the current board is not transparent enough. They are if one attends the meetings. I am able count on one hand the number of village meetings (not cell tower related) that the coalition has attended. When I suggested such to the coalition, they claimed the meeting dates were hard to find. Newspapers, website, and telephone are apparently not sufficient notification. Maybe carrier pigeons. On a related note, it is no secret that coalition candidates overlap with the Philipstown Cell Solutions Group (PCS). In fairness, the group has done some excellent work. During the cell tower debacle, I joined the PCS Facebook group to simply follow the action and, as a Trustee, remain informed. To my recollection, any comments I posted were simply about meeting times. One day, I tried to check the page and found that I no longer had access. It is odd that a group demanding transparency would restrict a sitting Trustee’s access to information that relates to village affairs. Apparently, I do have a different definition of transparency. If the coalition’s definition of transparency includes sharing information on pending litigation (Federal Lawsuits), that is not going to bode well for the Village’s case. It also seems that a Civic Action Group has morphed into a Political Action Group with the goal of gaining control of the Nelsonville Board but there is more to running a village than cell towers.

Mayor O’Neill— I have read/heard multiple comments about Mayor O’Neill that imply he lacks respect for other board members and the residents of Nelsonville. For the record, I have not had that experience with Mayor O’Neill. Many of the comments concern his manner of speaking and the volume of his voice. The issue that many do not understand is that Mayor O’Neill has a speech impediment (stutter) that he compensates for by raising his voice and searching for other words when he is unable to formulate his original word. Mayor O’Neill has an incredible vocabulary and when he is searching for a word that will work, it is often fairly obscure to others which leads people to assume he is being disrespectful by ‘talking over their heads.’ Another factor to keep in mind while considering the ‘disrespectful’ comment is that Mayor O’Neill has to consider the issue that a member of the village board is relaying information to others.

Mr. Dave McCarthy— In a letter written (to another paper) by Mr. Dave McCarthy, he alluded that his wife, Danielle, had a terrible experience when she served on the Nelsonville board. I have heard that but do not know anything about it. My concern is what Mr. McCarthy left out of the letter: There is not a single current board member who was on the board at the same time as Mrs. Pack-McCarthy. This leads me to wonder why it was mentioned, and not clarified, during an election cycle. Perhaps it was an omission but it could also have been an attempt to incorrectly malign some members of the current board as misogynistic.

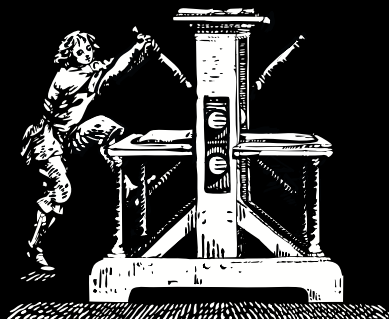
In the interest of transparency, I intend to vote for Bill O’Neill and myself, obviously. Mayor O’Neill is not perfect but is a great Mayor, devotes more time to the office than any Mayor in recent history, and is well suited for the position. I am voting for myself because I would like to finish the agenda we started two years ago.

Who you vote for is your business but, PLEASE, vote on March 19th. Thanks for reading and speak with your neighbors.

Most sincerely,  
Alan W. Potts, Nelsonville Trustee

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NEWS BRIEFS

Dutchess Passes Term Limits

Legislators put 12-year limit in place

The Dutchess County Legislature on Monday (March 11) approved term limits for future county executives and legislators. Officials elected after Jan. 1 will be able to serve a maximum of 12 years. The change passed unanimously. It means the county executive, who serves four years, will be able to remain in office for three terms, while legislators, who serve two years, will be able to keep their seats for up to six terms. After January 2022, the county comptroller will be able to serve three, 4-year terms. Putnam County since 2011 has limited its county executive to two, 4-year terms and since 2014 its legislators to four, 3-year terms. (County Executive MaryEllen Odell, was elected in 2011 to fill an unexpired term before winning her first full term in 2014. She was re-elected in 2018 to her second full term.)

Philipstown Receives \$15,000 Grant

Will be used to update comprehensive plan

The Town of Philipstown has been awarded a \$15,000 state grant to update its comprehensive plan. The announcement was made March 13 at a



Sophie Sabin, Celia Drury and Rowen Kuzminski from Haldane were named the top middle-school debate team.

meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Board in Hyde Park.

Haldane Students Win Debate Tournament

Middle school teams finish first, second

Haldane Middle School received top honors at a debate competition held earlier this month at Bard College in Annandale. The eighth-annual event for middle and high school students, organized by the Bard Debate Union and the Center for Civic Engagement, included more than 80 students from Haldane and Manitou School in Cold Spring, Red Hook, Rhinebeck, Woodstock and Arlington.

The students tackled topics such as whether the United Nations should be abolished, whether social media use is positive or negative, and whether the U.S. should have a junk-food tax. Bard students worked with participants on their arguments and delivery. Fifteen middle school and six high school students from Haldane took part. The eighth-grade team of Rowen Kuzminski, Sophie Sabin and Celia Drury went undefeated and was named the top debate team at the tournament, with all three team members recognized as being among the top 10 debaters and Rowen named the top debater at the competition. Overall, Haldane's middle-school teams finished 11-4, claimed four of the top five debate team spots, and had seven debaters finish in the top 10.

Hate Crime Suspect Appears in Court

Teenager faces charges after Nelsonville incident

A Philipstown man accused of three hate crimes after an incident in Nelsonville last year appeared in Nelsonville Justice Court on Wednesday (March 13).



Webber

Louis Weber, 18, appeared briefly to face charges of felony burglary, felony criminal mischief and misdemeanor criminal trespass stemming from an Oct. 31 incident in which a swastika and anti-Semitic slur were painted inside a house being built by a Jewish resident of Nelsonville. Weber was arrested on Feb. 20 and released the next day after posting bail. On Wednesday, Judge Dennis Zenz appointed an attorney to represent Weber, indicating that the defendant was unable to use the services of Putnam County Legal Aid due to a conflict of interest. The attorney's name and the nature of the conflict were not divulged. Weber is scheduled to appear in court again on April 10. Two other males, residents of Garrison and Highland Falls, also face charges from the same incident. The district attorney is deciding whether to treat them as youthful offenders.

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# The Calendar

## Assembly Required

*Artist joins found objects to create the unexpected*

By Alison Rooney

Joan Phares talks to pieces of wood. And to locks, twigs and porcelain dolls. Or, more precisely, she listens to them.

"I save scraps, well-handled objects — things which speak to me," she explains, and from them she creates visual compositions that invite viewers to compose their own stories. "They can make it into whatever they feel it is."

Phares uses her assemblage skills in many disciplines, including painting, drawing and clay. A collection of her work is on exhibit through April 7 at the gallery of the Beacon Artist Union (BAU), of which she is a member.

A native of Ohio, Phares says she was discouraged as a young woman from majoring in art so instead earned a degree in home economics, "which was practical." But after she married and moved to New York, she studied at the National Academy School and at the Art Students' League and later earned a master's degree in studio art from the College of New Rochelle. She taught for years at a public school in Scarsdale and, after retiring, moved to Bedford.

That's where she began assembling.

"We have a barn on our property," she says.

"Every time I dug a hole in the ground, some object would pop up that someone had buried. I pulled out an inner tube from a tractor, a pair of coveralls, abandoned logs and barn wood. I found a pile of abandoned wood, faded from the sun, and it spoke to me."

Earlier in her art career, Phares worked with clay and paint. "When I would paint I'd have a message and would figure out how to visually

interpret it," she says. "It required meticulous planning. Now, I collect a number of things: found wood, things picked up from thrift shops, objects I notice out of the corner of my eye. Then I pick something — a rusty nail, an old box — that feels right, and I start fooling around with it. I try to work minimally, adding objects."

Phares says she deliberately pairs objects and images you would not expect to see together. "It takes a long time, but that's how things happen," she says. "It's holding the objects, feeling them, thinking about them. Yet it's also calculated in terms of composition and color. It's also about feelings. The materials and their interactions dictate the outcome of each piece. My role is that of the respectful fabricator."

With retirement, Phares says she finally has time to promote her art. "I went from 135 kids a day and my own two kids, from there to zero in a short amount of time," she says.

"This is a nice way to open up a new life. As a high school art teacher, you're a jack of all trades, master of none. I've always done a little bit of everything, and now my work combines many of these things."

"It's mainly about finding a quiet space in your brain," she says. "When I retired I took my watch off for six months. Then I realized how much time I was wasting. It's wonderful to have a creative energy. I'm enjoying this age! I get to do what I want to do!"

*The bau Gallery, at 506 Main St., is open Saturday and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. See [baugallery.org](http://baugallery.org) or call 845-440-7594.*

Joan Phares

Photo by A. Rooney



"Church Lady"



"Jesus on a Cable Splitter"



"Angel"



"Muse"



"Degas' Fish"



"Woman on the Fence"



# THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)  
For a complete listing of events, see [highlandscurrent.org/calendar](http://highlandscurrent.org/calendar).

## COMMUNITY

SAT 16

### Penny Social Benefit

BEACON

1 – 5 p.m. VFW Building  
413 Main St. | 845-831-5161  
[arfbeacon.org](http://arfbeacon.org)

There will be raffles, door prizes and gift baskets, vintage goods and pet supplies to raise funds for the Animal Rescue Foundation. Calling begins at 3 p.m. Lunch and snacks will be available.

SAT 16

### Beacon Sloop Club Woody Dinner

COLD SPRING

5 p.m. Chalet on the Hudson  
3250 Route 9D | [beaconsloopclub.org](http://beaconsloopclub.org)

The Judith Tulloch Band will perform at this fundraiser for the Woody's sailing program. *Cost: \$60*

SUN 17

### St. Patrick's Day Celebration

COLD SPRING

1 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
1 Chestnut St. | 845-265-2539  
[stmaryscoldspring.org](http://stmaryscoldspring.org)

The meal will include traditional Irish fare from the Riverview and Irish soda bread from Homestyle Bakery. *Cost: \$20 donation (\$10 children)*

TUES 19

### Pillowcases for the Homeless

GARRISON

5:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020

Individuals or parent/child teams are invited to join Polly and Lucille to make a pillowcase for the homeless and one to take home. Register by phone.

SAT 23

### Free Pet Rabies Vaccination Clinic

MAHOPAC

2 – 5 p.m. South Putnam Animal Hospital  
230B Baldwin Place Road  
845-808-1390 x43160  
[putnamcountyny.com](http://putnamcountyny.com)

Open to dogs, cats and ferrets. Bring photo ID to prove Putnam County residency, along with evidence of prior vaccination.

SUN 24

### Maple Syrup Day

COLD SPRING

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Little Stony Point  
3011 Route 9D | [littlestonypoint.org](http://littlestonypoint.org)

This annual event will feature a pancake breakfast and demonstration of how maple syrup is made, as well as live music by members of the Breakneck Ridge Revue.



Leslie Bender, March 16

SAT 16

### Restaurant Week

HUDSON VALLEY

[valleytable.com/hvrw](http://valleytable.com/hvrw)

Seven restaurants in the Highlands have signed on to participate in the annual Hudson Valley Restaurant Week organized by *The Valley Table*. The event, which runs daily through SUN 24, features nearly 200 restaurants offering three-course, prix-fixe lunches for \$22.95 and dinners for \$32.95. Local restaurants include Baja 328, Melzingah Tap House, The Pandorica and The Roundhouse in Beacon and Cathryn's Tuscan Grill, the Hudson House River Inn and Riverview in Cold Spring.

## KIDS & FAMILY

THURS 21

### Screenagers

COLD SPRING

6:30 p.m. Haldane Auditorium  
15 Craigsides Drive | 845-265-9254  
[haldaneschool.org](http://haldaneschool.org)

A 2017 study calculated that the average teen spends about 6.5 hours a day looking at screens. This 2016 documentary about growing up in the digital age delves into the impact of tech and how families can empower young people to stay in control. Child care will be provided. *Free*

FRI 22

### Story Time with Mayor Merandy

COLD SPRING

3:30 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
[butterfieldlibrary.org](http://butterfieldlibrary.org)

Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy will read one of his favorite children's books, *The Rainbow Goblin*, followed by a craft and refreshments. For grades kindergarten and older.

SAT 23

### Middle School Mayhem

BEACON

Noon – 3 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
[beaconlibrary.org](http://beaconlibrary.org)

Join D. R. Whitehead for the launch of *Taylor's Party Dilemma*, the first in her Middle School Mayhem series of children's books.

## STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 16

### The Hound of the Baskervilles

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
[butterfieldlibrary.org](http://butterfieldlibrary.org)

The classic 1929 Sherlock Holmes film, shown as part of the library's Silent Film Series, was thought lost until copies were recently discovered in Russia and Germany. Cary Brown accompanies on piano. *Free*



SAT 16

### Cabaret

COLD SPRING

2 & 7 p.m. Haldane School  
15 Craigsides Drive  
[haldanedrama.ticketspice.com/cabaret](http://haldanedrama.ticketspice.com/cabaret)

Alternating casts will perform this groundbreaking musical, which opened on Broadway in 1966 and startled audiences with its invitation



Screenagers, March 21

to peer inside a seedy nightclub in 1930s Berlin. Also SUN 17. *Cost: \$15 (\$8 students, seniors free)*

SAT 16

### The Importance of Being Earnest

GARRISON

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre  
10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900  
[philipstowndepottheatre.org](http://philipstowndepottheatre.org)

Carin Jean White directs the farcical Oscar Wilde play. Also SUN 17. *Cost: \$25 (\$20 seniors/students)*

FRI 22

### You Are the Apple of My Eye

BEACON

7 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
[beaconlibrary.org](http://beaconlibrary.org)

This romantic coming-of-age story, released in 2011 and shown as part of the library's International Film Series, follows a group of Taiwanese teens who are in love with the same girl. *Free*

SAT 23

### A Night of Improv Comedy!

BEACON

3 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 347-564-7456  
[improv.brownpapertickets.com](http://improv.brownpapertickets.com)

An evening of improvisational comedy featuring Rhino Comedy and the Superlatives (Brian Bagot, Jillian Kermani, Carrie Loveland, Elisabeth Preisinger, Jeff O'Leary, Tim Trehwella and Michael Short). *Cost: \$10 (\$15 door)*

## VISUAL ART

SAT 16

### Winter Weekend

NEW WINDSOR

11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Storm King Art Center  
1 Museum Road | 845-534-3115  
[stormking.org/winterweekends](http://stormking.org/winterweekends)

Explore the outdoor art installations in a winter landscape.

Also SUN 17. *Cost: \$18 (\$15 seniors, \$8 students, children ages 4 and younger and members free)*

SAT 16

### Meet the Artist: Marianne Engberg

BEACON

2:30 – 5 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery  
121 Main St. | [busterlevigallery.com](http://busterlevigallery.com)

Engberg's photograph, "Butterfly" (2005) is part of the *Works on Paper* show at the gallery. It was the starting point for a series illustrating an edition of the fairy tales of Hans Christian Andersen.

SAT 16

### Kurt Steger and Leslie Bender

GARRISON

5 – 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center  
23 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3960  
[garrisonartcenter.org](http://garrisonartcenter.org)

Steger's show, *Environmental Works*, features sculptures made with locally sourced wood and rocks. Bender's show, *Tumbling to the Light*, includes paintings based on surreal narratives of personal experiences.

SAT 16

### Desert Queen

BEACON

5 – 9 p.m. Catalyst Gallery  
137 Main St. | 845-204-3844

This show of new paintings by Rebecca Pry, an illustrator based in Warwick, were inspired by trips she took last year to New Mexico and Morocco. Pry will talk about her work at 2 p.m. on SUN 17. The exhibit continues through WED 20.

SUN 17

### Figurative Sculpture in Social Critique

PEEKSKILL

3:30 p.m. Hudson Valley MOCA  
1701 E. Main St. | 914-788-0100  
[hudsonvalleymoca.org](http://hudsonvalleymoca.org)

Panelists will discuss the use of the body as medium and message in



sculptural practice before exploring the Straus Family Collection and the process and challenges of curating a private collection into a museum exhibition. The panel is free with admission. See site to reserve a seat. *Cost: \$10 (\$5 seniors, student, children eight and older, younger children and members free)*

**TUES 19**  
**Folded Paper Crafts**  
**GARRISON**

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

Beth Vardy will demonstrate how to make paper assemblages, dioramas, dolls and other crafts in this new, monthly workshop for people in their 20s and 30s. *Free*

**SAT 23**  
**Working OverTime**  
**BEACON**

5 – 8 p.m. No. 3 Reading Room  
469 Main St. | photobookworks.com

Clarence Morgan and David Rich, longtime colleagues, explore in their works on paper the meanings of “overtime.” The artists will talk about their work at 2 p.m. on SUN 24.

**TALKS & TOURS**

**TUES 19**  
**Bullet Journals 101**  
**BEACON**

6:30 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
beaconlibrary.org

Anna Mondello will explain how to create a journal to help you organize, plan and prioritize. *Free*

**WED 20**  
**What Ever Happened to My White Picket Fence?**  
**BEACON**

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

Janet Johnson Schiff, a special-education teacher for 25 years, will read from and discuss her memoir, which details the brain tumor that caused OCD behavior that wreaked havoc on her career.

**WED 20**  
**Fermentation Workshop**  
**COLD SPRING**

6 p.m. Split Rock Books | 97 Main St.  
845-265-2080 | splitrockbks.com

Learn the basics of fermentation and leave with your own jar of sauerkraut. *Cost: \$20*

**WED 20**  
**First Day of Spring Moon Walk**  
**CORNWALL**

7 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center  
100 Muser Drive | 845-534-5506 x204  
hnm.org

The last full moon of winter intersects with the first day of spring. Frogs might be singing and the earth is softening. Dress appropriately and bring a headlamp or flashlight if possible. Registration required. *Cost: \$8 (\$6 children, members \$6/\$4)*

**THURS 21**  
**300 Years of Hudson Valley Communities**  
**BEACON**

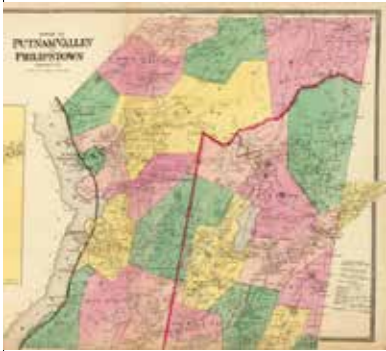
7 p.m. Beacon Sloop Club  
2 Red Flynn Drive | 845-463-4660  
beaconsloopclub.org

Architectural historian James Kelly will explore the development of the great-estate communities along the Hudson River. *Free*

**FRI 22**  
**Mappy Hour**  
**COLD SPRING**

6 p.m. Putnam History Museum  
63 Chestnut St. | 845-265-4010  
bit.ly/phm-mappy

Richard Saunders from Hudson Rogue will explore the history of the area as participants view early maps from the museum’s collection. Reservations recommended. *Cost: \$25*



**SAT 23**  
**Embodied Equity Project**  
**BEACON**

1 p.m. Beahive | 291 Main St.  
embodiedequityproject.com

This four-hour experimental workshop will bring white people together for anti-racism exercises and “accountable community practices” to help them become “more useful and active in the growing multiracial coalition to end racism.” *Cost: \$40 to \$100*

**SAT 23**  
**Diary of the Chapel’s Architect**  
**COLD SPRING**

3 p.m. Chapel Restoration | 45 Market St.  
845-265-5537 | chapelrestoration.org

In 1832, an 18-year-old English immigrant named Thomas Kelah Wharton designed what is now the Chapel Restoration. Steve Walton, a professor of history at Michigan Tech, and Michael Armstrong, a former board president of Chapel Restoration, edited Wharton’s journals for a book published earlier this year by SUNY Press. They will speak at the Chapel as part of the Sunset Reading Series.

**MUSIC**

**SAT 16**  
**Music of the Gilded Age in the Hudson Valley**  
**BEACON**

4 p.m. St. Andrew’s Church  
15 South Ave. | 845-765-3012  
howlandmusic.org

This pop-up concert, sponsored by the Howland Chamber Music Circle, will feature saxophonist Christopher Brellocks and pianist Cynthia Peterson performing an 1879 composition by English immigrant Caryl Florio and piano pieces by American composers



Louis Moreau Gottschalk and Ulysses J. Alsdorf. *Free*

**SAT 16**  
**Jazz Vespers**  
**COLD SPRING**

5:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church  
10 Academy St. | 845-265-3220  
presbychurchcoldspring.org

In a program to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day and the vernal equinox, vocalist Marty Elkins will be joined by Dale DeMarco on flute, clarinet and sax; Lew Scott on bass; Paul Beretta on drums; and Tom McCoy on piano. *Free*

**SAT 16**  
**Celebration of Irish Culture**  
**PUTNAM VALLEY**

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

The program will include songs, poetry and spoken-word pieces by Bill Molloy, Tim Pitt, Pallas Athene, Michael Scott, Neil Hickey, Kate and Jan Hoekstra, Linda Thornton, Joe Mahon and Dave Hull. *Cost: \$15 donation*

**SAT 16**  
**Matt Mitchell**  
**BEACON**

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
mattmitchell.bpt.me

The composer and pianist will perform a rare solo show. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

**SAT 16**  
**Tim Kuhl**  
**BEACON**

8 p.m. Quinn’s  
330 Main St. | 845-202-7447  
facebook.com/quinnbeacon

The composer and drummer will create soundscapes influenced by music, film and art.

**SAT 16**  
**The Prezence**  
**BEACON**

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

This Led Zeppelin tribute

band — Chris O’Loughlin (vocals), Frank Perri (guitar), Ted Chmura (bass, keyboards) and Salvatore Michael DeMeo (drums) — has been performing together for a decade. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

**SUN 17**  
**Flash Company**  
**BEACON**

7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Formed in 2015, this Hudson Valley band will perform both traditional and modern Celtic music for St. Patrick’s Day. *Cost: \$15 (\$20 door)*

**FRI 22**  
**Sloan Wainwright and Cosy Sheridan**  
**BEACON**

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Wainwright, a member of the family of performers that includes Loudon Wainwright (her brother) and Rufus (her nephew), will sing pop, folk, jazz and blues with guitarist Steve Murphy. Folk singer Sheridan’s latest album is *My Fence and My Neighbor*. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

**SAT 23**  
**Eric Starr Trio**  
**NELSONVILLE**

5:30 p.m. Create Community  
11 Peekskill Road | haldanearts.org

This fundraiser for the Haldane Arts Alliance features Starr on drums, Daniel Kelly on piano, Lindsey Horner on bass and

vocalists Lisa Sabin and Christine Bokhour. *Cost: \$15 (\$25 family)*

**SAT 23**  
**Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra**  
**NEWBURGH**

7:30 p.m. Mount Saint Mary College  
Aquinas Hall | 845-913-7157  
newburghsymphony.org

Pianists Alan Murray, Frank Siegel and Seth Grosshandler join the orchestra for *The One and the Many*, a program of Mozart, Beethoven and Ravel. *Cost: \$25*

**SAT 23**  
**Dean Friedman**  
**PEEKSKILL**

8 p.m. Central Market Dramatic Hall  
900 Main St.  
eventbrite.com/dean-friedman

Friedman will be performing, on guitar and keyboards, songs from his four-decade career, including radio hits and fan favorites from his eight albums. *Cost: \$19.50 to \$27.50*

**SUN 24**  
**Molsky’s Mountain Drifters**  
**BEACON**

7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Bruce Molsky, a Grammy-nominated fiddler and Berklee Visiting Scholar, performs with guitarist Stash Wyslouch and Allison de Groot, a master of the clawhammer banjo. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

**CIVIC**

**MON 18**  
**City Council**  
**BEACON**

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

**MON 18**  
**Village Board**  
**NELSONVILLE**

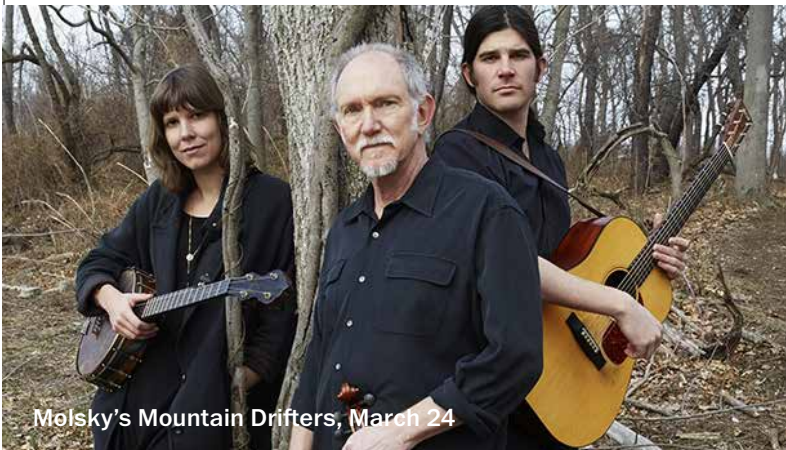
7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St.  
845-265-2500 | nelsonvilleny.gov

**TUES 19**  
**School Board**  
**COLD SPRING**

7 p.m. Haldane School (Music Room)  
n  
15 Craigsides Drive | 845-265-9254  
haldaneschool.org

**WED 20**  
**School Board**  
**GARRISON**

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





# The Messy Side of Motherhood

*New play explores topics not often discussed*

By Alison Rooney

New motherhood can be euphoric. But it's also messy and grueling, and it's that side of the equation that Erin Buckley spotlights in her new play, *A Rebirth into Motherhood*, which will have a reading at the Howland Cultural Center at 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 24, followed by a discussion.

Buckley met the mothers who provided material for the play at a series of workshops she organized in Beacon after receiving a grant from Arts Mid-Hudson. The discussions, which covered topics such as fertility, feelings of guilt and loss, sex, anxiety, loneliness, post-partum depression, recovery after birth, and relationship skills, were designed, she says, as a "safe place for new mothers to share conversations about the things that women don't often talk about."

At the workshops, which began in August



The *Rebirth* cast from left to right in the back row: Orsi Gilkes, Yvonne de Salle, Emma Myers, Bernadette Humphrey-Nicol, Jess Conway and Erin Buckley. Front row: Elizabeth Greenblatt, Aga Maros and Sheila Griffin

Photo provided

at the Beacon Recreation Center, Buckley invited participants to take part in the reading of the play. Some were hesitant to perform, she says, but felt more comfortable when told the stories would be altered to disguise the identity of the mothers who shared them. The script presents their stories in the context of a baby shower. (A few women in the reading did not take part in the workshops.)

The *Rebirth* journey began soon after the birth of Buckley's 3-year-old daughter. Late-night commiserations by text messages with another new mom soon turned into "seriously intense stuff," Buckley says, "At one point I said: 'This is TMI [too much information].'" She replied: "We're

moms now, nothing is TMI."

Buckley grew up in Wilmington, Delaware, and earned a bachelor of fine arts degree from Syracuse University, where she studied musical theater. She worked as a teaching artist at public schools and has organized a number of community projects, including interviews with immigrants in New York City and working with young people in Namibia to create a film. She and her husband lived in Los Angeles but decided to return to the East Coast to be closer to family.

Sheila Griffin, who lives in Beacon, didn't plan on performing. She had attended a workshop two months after giving birth and enduring a post-partum hemorrhage

that led to a hysterectomy. At first, the idea of a play gave her pause. "While I appreciate theater, I'm not a performer," she says. "The anonymous aspect of it appealed to me, but now I want to read the part closest to me, which I never would have envisioned. It's important that the ideas are going to be put out in the public; it's important for other women. It needs to be more OK to talk about these things."

*Tickets are \$5 in advance at rebirth.brownpapertickets.com or \$10 at the door. The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St. The reading is suitable for mature audiences.*

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**Friday, March 15, 8:30 p.m.**  
Kevin McKrell & Donnybrook Fair

**Saturday, March 16, 6 p.m.**  
Last Minute Soulmates - Free

**Saturday, March 16, 8:30 p.m.**  
The Prezence Led Zeppelin Tribute

**Sunday, March 17, 11:30 a.m.**  
The Edukated Fleas - Free

**Sunday, March 17, 7 p.m.**  
Flash Company: Music of Ireland

**Thursday, March 21, 7 p.m.**  
Songwriters Showcase - Free  
Lydia Adams Davis, Patrick Stanfield Jones, Pat Lamanna

**Friday, March 22, 7 p.m.**  
Open Book - Free

**Friday, March 22, 8:30 p.m.**  
Sloan Wainwright & Cosy Sherida

**Saturday, March 23, 6 p.m.**  
Jerry Kitzrow & Friends - Free

**Saturday, March 23, 8:30 p.m.**  
Yarn

**Sunday, March 24, 11:30 a.m.**  
Tony DePaolo - Free

**Sunday, March 24, 7 p.m.**  
Molsky's Mountain Drifters

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## Kid Friendly

## Devices Down

By Katie Hellmuth Martin

I am writing this to you from a 30-minute device session I've negotiated with my children. They get 30 minutes playing *Plants vs. Zombies* on the Xbox, and I get to start writing this.



Pre-planned "sessions" are how we roll when I work from home with the kids. This includes Play Time or Outside Sessions. When we're done, we announce Devices Down — and they call me on it if I'm texting or Instagramming while making dinner (not a good combo).

This system came out of necessity. My children were binge-watching everything, from Netflix shows to YouTube, and it was causing problems, like desperate yearnings for Shopkins and Orbi Spas, or forgetting to eat.

When it was time to turn the television off, or to put a device down, a major rage erupted (and still does). I learned I needed to warn them in advance. They couldn't take it. Even though "pause" is a button, it didn't matter. They needed the story *now* — and the next story, after it auto-started.

Parents of teenagers also tell me of this

rage. We talk about the YouTube video addiction, and my friends look at me in horror at the idea of telling their teenagers to turn off technology. Our devices have become giant pacifiers for adults, teens and children, and they have threaded into our brains with a deep grip.

## Social triggers

What I didn't realize was that the "simple" games my children endlessly beg me to download usually come with chat functions. Take soccer, for instance. Simple enough. But random people were sending messages from who knows where to my 6-year-old son.

Comments are another thing causing actual harm. Google finally had enough and shut down comments on videos featuring children. Professional YouTubers ask their viewers to comment, because comments lead to more viewers, which leads to more ad revenue. Every time you watch, the most popular YouTubers get a little cha-ching. That's why so many people want to make videos, myself included! (Check out my #MothHunter series — I hunt for pantry moths — invite me over!)

Sadly, too many bullies and predators also live in the comments. This is what prompted Google to just shut them off.

## Auto shut-off

Parents can buy devices that shut off other devices, like a light-timer. But my goal is to teach and nurture self-discipline. Addiction doesn't respect mediums. It happens with opioids, alcohol, food, sugar, gaming, watching.



"Can they do it? Can they turn the TV off on their own?"

Photo by K. Martin

My hope is that if I teach the reason for shutting off devices, the moderation muscles in my children's brains will get stronger. It's hard to turn off something that you love, especially if it's auto-looping and sucking you in with new content.

Devices Down gets easier if my children understand why it must be done. I tell them everything in the news about Facebook, such as the data it collects and its Russian trolls. My 6-year-old listened to Mark Zuckerberg testify to Congress and was not impressed. They know about Google's comment ban.

Now we're learning about how long-term screen use can cause damage to your eyes — that mystery blue light that kills

your sleep by blocking the sleep hormone melatonin. Lately I'm getting a good response when I say: "Devices down! It's actually burning your eyeballs!"

Still, it's a work in progress, a continuing challenge. But I'll leave you with this thought: as I finished writing this column, Facebook and Instagram broke. That is, the platforms broke, everywhere, for an entire day. Liberating, wasn't it? Outside time, penning a letter and the old-fashioned reading of newspapers is getting closer and closer to becoming the new, old normal.

*Katie Hellmuth Martin is a Beacon mother of three children, wife to one man and owner of A Little Beacon Blog and Tin Shingle.*

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# Dean Friedman

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Thank you, Don Nice, for your art, your love of the Hudson Valley, and your artistic contributions to this community.

You will be missed.

**Garrison Art Center**





By Chip Rowe

The concept is simple: Take a rectangular block of pine wood, four regulation plastic wheels and four nails and carve out a race car that weighs no more than 5 ounces, is not longer than 7 inches and not wider than 2.75 inches. Talk to your mom or dad about gravity, friction and air drag. Consider adding weights and polishing the nails. Hope your parents don't get lost in a black hole online after Googling "fastest Pinewood Derby cars."

Put it in a track with four other cars. Scream and yell to make it go faster.

The Philipstown Cub Scouts (Pack 137) held its annual Pinewood Derby on Saturday (March 9) at the Philipstown Recreation Center in Garrison. The track was new after a stalwart built by local craftsman Tony Yannitelli decades ago was retired.

The Pinewood Derby was created in 1953 by Don Murphy, a Scoutmaster in California, for his 10-year-old son, who was too young to race in the traditional Soap Box Derby. "I wanted to devise a wholesome, constructive activity that would foster a closer father-son relationship and promote craftsmanship and good sportsmanship through competition," Murphy explained. Tens of millions of Scouts have since built derby cars.

For more photos, see [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org).      *Photos by Ross Corsair*





# RACE NIGHT!

This year the parents and supporters of Pack 137 added a twist — an "outlaw" derby for adults held in the evening, after the Scouts raced in the afternoon, with beer and friendly (?) wagers. There were rules but enforcement was lax.



# 2019 College Scholarship Guide

## What You Need to Know Now About Financial Aid

By Sandra Moore



Although there is still snow on the ground, it won't be long before Oct. 1 is here. That's when the forms are due to qualify for college financial aid for students who are now high school juniors.

### Here's who should file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and/or the College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile:

- Any citizens or permanent residents who believe they might qualify.
- Anyone who thinks he or she may require financial aid at any point during college. Many schools will not consider financial aid applications from a student who has been enrolled as a full-payment freshman who did not submit a FAFSA as a high school senior.
- Anyone who expects to have two or more children in college at the same time, which significantly lowers the threshold for need-based aid.
- Anyone applying for merit aid at the handful of institutions that require either the FAFSA or CSS Profile for consideration.

### Here's who should apply for New York State's Tuition Assistance Plan (TAP):

- Any residents applying to at least one college or university (public or private) in New York State who believe they might qualify. You can apply for TAP when submitting your FAFSA application, or see [hesc.ny.gov/pay-for-college/apply-for-financial-aid/nys-tap.html](http://hesc.ny.gov/pay-for-college/apply-for-financial-aid/nys-tap.html).

### Here's what you need to know about these forms and the deadlines:

- All institutions require submission of the FAFSA for need-based financial aid, including student loans and work-study. The form can be accessed online at [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov). Once it's completed, the U.S. Department of Education will send you a Student Aid Report (SAR) that shows how much you qualify for. This can be shared with colleges when they prepare your financial aid package.
- Nearly 400 colleges, universities and scholarship programs also require submission of the CSS Profile. It will be available Oct. 1 at [cssprofile.collegeboard.org](http://cssprofile.collegeboard.org) for the 2020-21 school year. The fee is \$25 plus \$16 for each school or program you want to see

it, although there are fee waivers for low-income families.

- The deadline to submit financial aid forms varies from college to college. You'll need to check each school's website or with its financial aid office. Missing deadlines may impact your eligibility for assistance.
- A growing number of colleges have a Nov. 1 or Nov. 15 financial-aid deadline for "early decision" and "early action" applicants. But it's best to submit applications as soon as possible after Oct. 1.
- Remember that the vast majority of scholarships come from the colleges in the form of deeply discounted tuition, which is why it's essential — especially for families who are unlikely to qualify for need-based federal and/or state aid — to research schools' policies and practices before a student falls in love. Discounted tuition is big these days because many colleges are scrambling to meet enrollment goals.

To get a sense of how your financial situation will look to college financial aid offices, use the online net price calculators provided by schools and don't hesitate to contact college aid officers directly with questions.

*Sandra Moore, a former college admissions director, is the founder of Next Step College Counseling in Hyde Park. She can be reached at [smoore@nextstepcollegecounseling.com](mailto:smoore@nextstepcollegecounseling.com).*



## Awards for Highlands Students

By Chip Rowe

The list below includes a sampling of scholarships available to high school seniors in Philipstown and Beacon (visit [highlandscurrent.org/scholarships](http://highlandscurrent.org/scholarships) for many more, and information on how to apply). Each listing includes who qualifies, the amount of the award and the deadline.

### Philipstown

#### Alice Reilley Schatzle Memorial Scholarship

- Haldane senior who plans to major in education, library sciences or another field that serves others. | Varies. | March 29

#### Cold Spring Lions Club

- Philipstown seniors on basis of need, academic record and potential to succeed. | Varies. | May 3

#### Cold Spring Police Benevolent Association

- Haldane senior on the basis of community service and potential for success in an undergraduate program. | Varies. | April 12

### Lori Isler Teacher Scholarship

- Haldane senior who plans to pursue a teaching career and is involved in community service. | \$1,000 | April 5

### Master Gardeners

- Putnam County seniors who plan to pursue a degree in plant science, horticulture, floriculture, architectural landscape design, forestry, botany or other environmental-related program. Sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension. | \$500 | April 30

### NewYork Presbyterian-Hudson Valley Hospital Auxiliary

- Philipstown senior who plans to enter a health-related field. | \$1,000 | April 8

### Philip Baumgarten Memorial Scholarship

- Philipstown senior who volunteers for a local nonprofit and/or has worked for a local business. | \$1,000 | April 12

### Putnam County Children's Committee

- Putnam seniors who exhibit a "commitment to service to the community, and strength

of purpose in achieving an educational goal, ability and maturity." | \$500 | April 14

### Beacon

#### Beacon Elks Lodge 1493

- Beacon High School (BHS) senior with a record of "extraordinary community service" or plans to pursue an engineering or technology-related degree. | Varies. | May 20

#### Beacon Schools PTOs

- The Parent-Teacher Organizations at Beacon's elementary schools offer scholarships to Beacon High School seniors who attended each of them. The high school PTO also offers scholarships. | \$300 to \$1,500 | May 25

#### Bettie Brown Scholarship

- BHS senior who has demonstrated academic achievement and community service. | \$500 | April 15

#### Charles S. North Scholarship for Music and Art

- Dutchess seniors who plan to major in

music performance, music/art education or visual arts (ceramics, drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, design, crafts, photography, video, filmmaking and architecture). | \$1,500+ | April 1

#### Dustin James Fallen Police Officer Memorial Fund

- BHS seniors who plan to pursue a career in law enforcement, emergency services or the military. | \$500 | April 15

#### Dutchess County Agricultural Society

- Dutchess seniors and college students who plan to pursue a degree in agriculture, horticulture or human ecology or a career related to agriculture or horticulture. | \$2,000 annually | May 10

#### Eileen Hickey Nursing Scholarship

- Dutchess seniors or college students pursuing a career in nursing at a New York school. | \$1,500+ | April 1

#### George A. and Catherine V. Quill Scholarship

- BHS seniors "who must apply themselves to prosper or those who are able to demonstrate financial need." | \$1,000 to \$1,500 | April 1

(Continued on Page 16)



### Honorable Anthony L. Pagones Memorial Scholarship

- Dutchess senior, preferably a Beacon resident, who intends to study law, political science/government or criminal justice. | \$1,000 | April 1

### Joseph H. and Mildred C. McManus Scholarship

- Dutchess seniors or recent graduates "who must apply themselves to prosper or who demonstrate financial need." | \$1,500 annually | April 1

### Joseph S. Guarneri Sr. Memorial Scholarship

- BHS senior "who has overcome or is overcoming personal, financial, family or emotional difficulties." | \$650+ | April 1

### Mary McKenzie Memorial Scholarship

- BHS seniors of African-American descent. | \$500 | April 1

### Maynard and Ferne Brownell Family Scholarship

- BHS senior with financial need and athletic and/or community service. | \$750 annually | April 1

### Norman and Rita Nussbickel Memorial Scholarship

- BHS seniors "who have demonstrated excellent academic and athletic achievement and have a meaningful record of community service." | \$2,000 | April 1

## 2019 College Scholarship Guide

(Continued from Page 15)



### Robert K. Gould Memorial Scholarship

- BHS seniors with "extensive community service experience." | \$2,000 | April 1

### Stephanie D. Brown & Barbara M. Murphy Memorial Scholarship

- Dutchess seniors who intend to major in education and become elementary, middle school or high school teachers. | \$1,000 to \$2,000 | April 1

### Highlands

#### Acacio 'Roger' Rodrigues Memorial Scholarship

- Putnam or Dutchess seniors or undergraduate college students pursuing a career in the building/construction industry such as architecture, engineering, construction management, electrical construction technology, plumbing and heating, welding or fabrication. | \$2,000+ annually | April 1

### Daughters of the United States Army

- Senior who is the child or dependent of an active, retired or deceased U.S. military service member whose family resides within a 35-mile radius of West Point. | \$2,000 | April 5

### Elena Eckert Memorial Scholarship

- Putnam or Dutchess seniors who are children or grandchildren of a current or former member of the Armed Forces, a police officer or a corrections officer. | \$1,500+ | April 1

### New York Schools Insurance Reciprocal

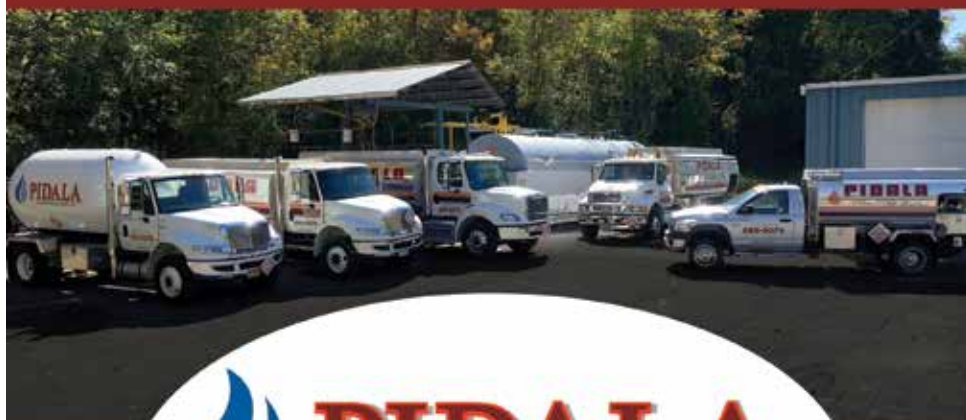
- Haldane or Beacon seniors who are (1) enrolled in special education, (2) have demonstrated resourcefulness and ingenuity to overcome a puzzling creative obstacle, or (3) plan to attend a New York college and have a record of involvement and work for a cause or organization that promotes social justice, equal opportunity, relief of human suffering or similar aspirations. | \$3,000 to \$5,000 | April 8

### Professional Nurses Association of Dutchess/Putnam

- Putnam or Dutchess senior or college student pursuing a career in nursing. | \$500 to \$1,000 | May 12

For more scholarships, see [highlandscurrent.org/scholarships](http://highlandscurrent.org/scholarships)

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The DEC said there was less cause for concern about a sewage overflow near Fishkill Creek because snow melt has the water running rapidly. *File photo by J. Simms*

## Infrastructure *(from Page 1)*

of its network of pipes, “and that’s a big chunk of our budget.”

Last year, Beacon spent \$255,000 to repair another sewer main break, this one on Main Street. That leak allowed partially treated sewage to discharge into a storm drain that reaches the Hudson River, according to the DEC.

Still, Beacon’s infrastructure issues pale when compared to some neighboring municipalities. Before last year’s break, the most recent DEC report for an incident in Beacon was a 15-gallon-per-minute overflow in early 2016 because of snowfall and

heavy rains. In Newburgh, however, the DEC has been informed of 27 sewage incidents in the last six months.

“It’s not unique to see a pipe collapse in any one of these communities,” Beacon Mayor Randy Casale said during the March 4 meeting. The problems aren’t caused by residential development, he said, but because “everyone has old infrastructure because the taxpayers couldn’t afford to dig up every pipe and put new pipe in.”

The city is nearly finished with an asset management plan that will allow it to apply for grants to help pay for infrastructure upgrades, Casale said.

## The Village of Cold Spring Recreation Commission

Are you interested in public service? If so, the Village of Cold Spring is seeking village residents to serve on the Recreation Commission.

If you are interested, please forward letters of interest to the Village Clerk at 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516 or [vcclerk@coldspringny.gov](mailto:vcclerk@coldspringny.gov). All submissions must be received by April 1st, 2019.

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## Nelsonville Election

Tuesday, March 19

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Listen respectfully.  
Collaborate with municipalities,  
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independence.

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Engage field experts & secure grants.  
Develop pathway to establishing  
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Ensure safety of our water supply.

### COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

Vigorously defend Village  
against Homeland Tower lawsuit.  
Update village codes to regulate  
evolving technologies like 5G.

### UPDATE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Identify Village assets and  
new opportunities.  
Empower ZBA & Planning Boards.  
Update zoning code to meet  
today’s needs.

### PARKING & SAFETY

Slow and control traffic.  
Improve pedestrian safety and  
solutions for winter parking.

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preserving the Nelsonville Woods.



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Task Force  
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**Mechaley**  
TRUSTEE

Science & Sustainability Educator  
Philipstown Resident for 22 years  
Board Member, Putnam Highlands Audubon;  
Constitution Marsh

QUESTIONS? [runningfornelsonville@gmail.com](mailto:runningfornelsonville@gmail.com)



## DePerno *(from Page 7)*

come the first county in the state to implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention program.) Meunier said in the police report that while DePerno's "offensive or rude" joking comments in the past had made her uncomfortable, the incident at the rally "crossed the line." She said that DePerno's behavior throughout the episode was often explained as "just Nick being Nick."

In her workplace violence complaint to the county, Meunier said that as the rally ended and participants walked indoors to a county budget meeting, DePerno tried to "bump [her] with his butt," but she pushed him aside. She characterized his behavior

throughout the incident as "very hostile" and said it left her "shocked, intimidated, humiliated and extremely shaken."

DePerno testified that he learned of the police report when a state trooper warned him to "stay away from" Meunier but told him no charges had been filed.

In November 2015, the CSEA complained to the state's Public Employment Relations Board that DePerno had violated three provisions of labor law. In response, Putnam County contended that DePerno had "acted at all times within its legitimate managerial prerogatives."

Asked if he had spoken to Odell by phone before approaching Meunier, DePerno confirmed that he had but could not remember what they said. He "mostly likely" advised

her about the union protest, he said, explaining that Odell told him to "go home."

The judge declared that DePerno "clearly" had been keeping Odell apprised of developments and, therefore, "a reasonable basis exists to hold the county responsible" for his conduct. "The fact [it] may not have been specifically authorized by the county does not undermine this," she wrote.

In her ruling, the judge said she did not find DePerno credible as a witness. "Interestingly, his recollection was solid on points that benefited him, while he couldn't remember other more questionable interactions," she wrote, noting that while DePerno was "110 percent" certain of what he said to Meunier, he couldn't recall details of his telephone conversation with Odell right before the rally.

The judge ruled that DePerno violated state law when he "acted deliberately for the purpose of interfering with the CSEA members' right" to stage a rally. She described his conduct as "so egregious it would have a chilling effect on employees exercising the fundamental rights afforded them" by law to engage in union activities.

Moreover, she added, "DePerno's status as a high-level managerial employee, with close ties to County Executive Odell, only heightens the chilling effects of his behavior." The judge ordered the county to "not interfere with, restrain or coerce" Meunier or other CSEA members "in the exercise of their rights." She also directed the county to post in county offices for 30 days a notice to that effect, although it does not mention DePerno by name.

## Current Classifieds

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# The HIGHLANDS Current

## 7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

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Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>49/27</b>	<b>44/25</b>	<b>43/22</b>	<b>44/20</b>	<b>50/29</b>	<b>54/31</b>	<b>52/31</b>
Breezy and cooler with clouds and sun	Intervals of clouds and sunshine	Morning snow showers possible; variable clouds	Mostly sunny	Clouds limiting sunshine	Snow possible in the morning; clouds, then sun	Sunshine
<b>POP: 10%</b>	<b>POP: 5%</b>	<b>POP: 30%</b>	<b>POP: 10%</b>	<b>POP: 25%</b>	<b>POP: 35%</b>	<b>POP: 0%</b>
<b>WNW 10-20 mph</b>	<b>WNW 6-12 mph</b>	<b>N 4-8 mph</b>	<b>NW 4-8 mph</b>	<b>ESE 3-6 mph</b>	<b>WSW 6-12 mph</b>	<b>NNW 7-14 mph</b>
<b>RealFeel 45/19</b>	<b>RealFeel 44/25</b>	<b>RealFeel 48/20</b>	<b>RealFeel 48/20</b>	<b>RealFeel 52/26</b>	<b>RealFeel 55/27</b>	<b>RealFeel 49/34</b>

**POP:** Probability of Precipitation; The patented **AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature®** is an exclusive index of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine intensity, cloudiness, precipitation, pressure and elevation on the human body. Shown are the highest and lowest values for each day.

### Snowfall

Past week	0.3"
Month to date	5.8"
Normal month to date	2.3"
Season to date	31.5"
Normal season to date	29.4"
Last season to date	49.1"
Record for 3/13	5.0" (1984)

### SUN & MOON

Sunrise today	7:07 AM
Sunset tonight	7:03 PM
Moonrise today	1:53 PM
Moonset today	4:08 AM

Full	Last	New	First
Mar 20	Mar 27	Apr 5	Apr 12

# CROSSCURRENT

By  
King Features

## ACROSS

1. Hindu prince
5. Persian leader
9. Bigshot, for short
12. Verve
13. Horseback game
14. Tokyo's old name
15. Chamber of the heart
17. Born
18. Good-looking guy
19. Bandleader Xavier
21. Lucky roll of the dice
24. Arrived
25. Thing
26. Pots and pans and such
30. Chignon
31. Yours
32. Neither mate
33. Pavement
35. Cicatrix
36. Always
37. Swerves
38. "Monopoly" buy
40. Desert-like
42. Superlative ending
43. South American nation
48. Chicken — king
49. Cupid's alias
50. Family
51. — and don'ts

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12					13					14		
15					16					17		
				18					19	20		
21	22	23					24					
25					26	27					28	29
30				31						32		
33			34						35			
		36						37				
38	39					40	41					
42					43	44				45	46	47
48					49					50		
51					52					53		

52. Transmitted

53. TV award

## DOWN

1. Cleric's address (Abbr.)
2. Brewery product
3. One of the Brady Bunch
4. Country song?
5. Rotate
6. Pawn
7. Every last bit

8. Cornmeal creation

9. With a — (forcefully)

10. Concept

11. Bard

16. Scoot

20. Coal diggers' org.

21. Bro and sis

22. Needle case

23. Feuds

24. Hit on the head

26. Burn somewhat

27. Lubricant

28. Bellow

29. Blunders

31. Dozens

34. First lady

35. Lead astray

37. Namely (Abbr.)

38. — over heels

39. Norway's capital

40. Unsigned (Abbr.)

41. Leftovers

44. Before

45. Shade tree

46. Felon's flight

47. Whatever number

# SUDOCURRENT

			6				5	
		1	4			3	9	
	4	8			9			
			2					5
					6	7	1	
					5			
		6			2	7		
	9			3		4		2
		4	8	7				

## Answers for March 8 Puzzles

S	C	A	L	E			C	H	O	S	E				
B	I	S	H	O	P	S			I	R	A	N	I	A	N
U	S		A	R	I	A			N	A	V	E		R	I
I	T	L		E	S	S	E	N	C	E		A	N	E	
L	E	V	I		T	S			E	K		E	P	I	C
T	R	I	T	E	L	Y			R	E	C	L	I	N	E
			A	R	E				R	E	B	A	G		
			E	E	L						E	N	S		
			M	A	I	N	E				T	A	R		
D	I	S	C	U	S	S			B	A	R	T	E	R	S
O	N	E	S		C	A			R	R		A	L	E	C
R	E	S		M	O	N	T	A	G	U		M	T	A	
M	I		C	U	R	D			Y	E	T	I		O	R
S	C	H	I	S	T	S			S	T	A	T	U	R	E
			E	A	V	E	S				S	H	O	R	T

4	5	3	7	2	6	9	1	8
7	2	8	4	1	9	5	3	6
9	6	1	5	8	3	4	7	2
6	3	5	1	4	2	7	8	9
8	7	4	9	3	5	6	2	1
1	9	2	8	6	7	3	5	4
2	8	6	3	7	4	1	9	5
5	4	7	2	9	1	8	6	3
3	1	9	6	5	8	2	4	7

Answers will be published next week.  
See [highlandscurrent.org/puzzle](http://highlandscurrent.org/puzzle) for interactive versions.



## SPORTS



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# Beacon's Rayvon Grey Wins National Title

*NCAA champion in long jump for LSU*

By Chip Rowe

Rayvon Grey, a 2016 Beacon High School graduate, won the NCAA indoor national championship in the long jump on March 8 in Birmingham, Alabama.

The 6-foot All-American, who is a junior at Louisiana State University, came from behind to win the title with a jump of 26 feet and 1.75 inches on the fifth of his six leaps.

"I'm really proud of Rayvon and Mondo [Duplantis, who won the pole vault title for LSU]," Coach Dennis Shaver told reporters. "They came out and did what they had to do to score points for our team, and in a big way."

After leading the two-day competition on the first day behind its two champions, Grey and Duplantis, the LSU men finished



Rayvon Grey soars through the air at the NCAA championships on March 8.

Photo by Brandon Gallego/LSU

third, after Florida and Houston.

Grey opened with a jump of 25-8, enough to carry him through three preliminary rounds. He was in sixth place entering the

finals but on his fifth jump flew a quarter inch farther than the leader, Trumaine Jefferson of Houston. Grey became the Tigers' first indoor national long jump champion

since 2004, and its second overall.

"Coming into this meet, I didn't care how far I went, I just wanted to get the win," Grey told reporters. "The key to succeeding in a meet like this is staying focused."

During his senior year at Beacon High School, Grey jumped 26 feet and a quarter inch, a state record and the best indoor leap in the nation in 27 years by a high school athlete, according to the National Scholastic Athletics Foundation. Grey also broke the state outdoor long jump record, which had stood for 51 years.

Grey told *The Current* in 2016 that he almost quit track as a Beacon freshman because he doubted his abilities. "At first I didn't like it at all," Grey said. "Who wants to run all the time? I thought it was boring."

Beacon Coach Jim Henry said in 2016 that his star had "the single-best attitude you can ask for in an athlete. After each performance, he wants to know two things: 'How was that?' and 'What can I improve for the next time?' He wanted to know this when he was brand new to jumping and he still wants to know this as the best jumper in the country."



Peter Van Markwyk and his wife, Paige Flori, with infielder Miles Mastrobuoni at Dutchess Stadium in 2016

Photo provided

## Home Base

*Renegades recruiting families to host players*

By Michael Turton

Baseball training camp is in full swing in Florida and Arizona, and, closer to home, the Hudson Valley Renegades, a minor-league affiliate of the Tampa Bay Rays that plays at Dutchess Stadium, has begun recruiting families to host players during the coming season.

Host families must have a separate bedroom for their billeted player, but transportation to and from Dutchess Stadium in Wappingers Falls is provided, either by the team or the player.

Peter Van Markwyk, the volunteer co-

ordinator of the program, said families receive free tickets to every Renegades home game (the first is June 16), but that isn't the real reward. "It's about helping a kid fulfill his dream," he said.

The Renegades play in Class A short season, an entry level in the minor leagues, and each player earns about \$200 per week during the season, which continues through Labor Day weekend, Van Markwyk said. He and his family have hosted a player for the past eight seasons.

Kristen Huss, the vice president of community partnerships for the Renegades, said the program is essential for the club. "We couldn't have a team without the help of host families," she said.

Some families have taken in players every season since the Renegades first took the field at Dutchess Stadium 25 years ago. "Empty nesters" often take in a player, Huss said, but if the hosts have

children, "the kids idolize the players. The worst part is when players leave at the end of the season; they get attached." She said it's not uncommon for host families to be invited to a player's wedding.

Infielder Miles Mastrobuoni lived with Van Markwyk and his family during the 2016 season before moving on to the Class A+ Charlotte Stone Crabs and the Class AA Montgomery Biscuits. The 23-year-old, who played for the University of Nevada before being drafted by the Rays, is at the team's spring training camp in Florida after advancing in each of his three seasons in the minors.

"He was just such a great kid to have in our home," Van Markwyk recalled, noting that he and his wife keep in touch with players who have stayed with them.

To learn more about being a host family, email Huss at [khuss@hvrenegades.com](mailto:khuss@hvrenegades.com).

## Junior Skiers

The 46 children from Philipstown and Highland Falls who comprise the West Point Junior Alpine Ski Team competed on Saturday (March 9) at the Victor Constant Ski Area in their second and final intrasquad meet of the season.

Coached by Dirk Westphal and Alex Tripp, team members from Philipstown

swept the boys' and girls' U12 divisions. Among the highlights was a gold medal captured in the boys' U10 division by Sebastian Rasic, who won by two seconds after a fall in the first meet had knocked him out of medal contention. Clara Tripp (U12) and Max Westphal (U14) finished in the top five overall.



Front row: Roth Westphal (gold U12), Anna-Cat Nelson (bronze U12), Bryce Kenny (bronze U12), Archer Stubbs (silver U10), Sebastian Rasic (gold U10), Jasmine Wallis (silver U12); Back row: George Stubbs (silver U12), Caroline Nelson (silver U14), Clara Tripp (gold U12), Max Westphal (gold U14)

Photo by Sarah Wallis