

# The HIGHLANDS Current

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JUNE 14, 2019

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## HEY — WE MATCH!

A participant in the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum's annual ladybug release on Saturday (June 8) in Cornwall says hello before saying goodbye to her aphid-loving pet. The event is a response to the decades-long decline of the native bugs, in particular the nine-spotted *Coccinella novemnotata*, New York's state insect. There are some 4,500 ladybug species worldwide, and they play a critical role in controlling pests that eat crops. For more photos, see [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org).

Photo by Ross Corsair

## Crossed Wires

*Much confusion about electricity switch*

By Brian PJ Cronin

Since letters went out at the end of May informing Highlands residents about their upcoming enrollment in what is known as a Community Choice Aggregation electricity purchase program, Jeffrey Domanski, who serves as its director, has been getting phone calls. A lot of phone calls.

He's not complaining.

"I've had a dozen calls from people who began angry and stayed angry," he said. "But, for the most part, they're lovely calls because I get to explain the program. You're protected from bad contracts, it's low-



Domanski

cost, it's green energy. It's a win-win-win."

In a nutshell, the legislatures of six municipalities — Beacon, Cold Spring, Fishkill, Philipstown, Marletown and Poughkeepsie — have formed a cooperative called Hudson Valley Community Power (HVCP) to purchase electricity at bulk rates. Residents and businesses, are enrolled automatically, although they have until June 20 to opt out before the launch, which is July 1, as explained in the letters sent to every electric customer.

However, that deadline only applies to the launch; residents can join or leave the program at any time. If you remain in the program, you can choose to get your electricity from strictly renewable sources

(Continued on Page 20)

## Beacon Mayor Proposes New Building Freeze

*Could last three months while repairs are made to well*

By Jeff Simms

For the second time in two years, the Beacon City Council appears poised to enact a building moratorium

while city officials sort out water issues.

Mayor Randy Casale suggested a three-month freeze at the June 10 City Council meeting; the council would have to hold a public hearing and seek input from the city

and county planning boards before voting.

Council Member Jodi McCredo asked to add a fourth month to the proposal but no decision was made.

The catalyst this time is the city's Well No. 2, which can provide up to 1.15-million

(Continued on Page 19)

## Milk, Bread, Eggs ... and a Charge?

*Foodtown Plaza is top choice for electric-car station*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Philipstown residents welcome electric-car charging stations and consider the Foodtown Plaza in Cold Spring the best place to put one, according to a survey for the town's Climate Smart Communities initiative.

The Cold Spring Metro-North parking lot came in second, Roberto Muller, the town's Climate Smart coordinator, told

the Town Board on June 6 at the second meeting in two nights at which the board focused on environmental concerns.

A day earlier, the board unanimously passed a resolution urging New York State to turn down an application for a proposed power plant on the Newburgh waterfront. The Beacon City Council considered a similar resolution on May 28 but postponed the discussion.

### Charging stations

Muller said that 80 percent of the 261 residents who responded to the online survey said they supported the installa-

(Continued on Page 16)



The electric car-charging station on Main Street in Beacon.

File photo by Brian PJ Cronin





## FIVE QUESTIONS: MICHELE LENT

By Michael Turton

**A**fter working in the bar and restaurant industry for 35 years, Michele Lent of Philipstown switched careers at age 55, becoming a licensed massage therapist. Last month she opened Balance Mind & Body Massage in Cortlandt Manor.

### What led to the change?

I started having seizures. The doctors thought it might be Alzheimer's; it scared the hell out of me. I started meditating, exercising, threw the cigarettes away, made a complete lifestyle change. I knew I had to work in a job that was stress-free. Going into massage therapy was part of getting healthy, getting my head in the right place. And it worked. I'm feeling way healthier now.

### What was most challenging part of massage therapy school?

There was much more to it than I expected, a lot of science, a lot of kinesiology — the study of muscles and movement. I hadn't cracked a book in a long time and my memory isn't as good as it used to be. But once I started massaging people I knew that's where I belonged.

### Is giving a massage hard work?

If you don't stand and move properly, you work much harder than you need to. It is physically taxing. Once, I did eight massages in a day. I was wiped out. You sleep well. You're constantly moving for an hour or two at a time. Massage therapists need a massage too, but we don't get them!

### How has it been being a small-business owner?

Working as a bartender has helped a lot because I can deal with people. People need to feel comfortable to talk openly about what's going on with their bodies. Owning my business makes massage easier. I'm not working for someone else, not doing eight massages in a day. Business-wise, it's about getting my face out there. That takes time but it's starting already. If



Michele Lent | Photo by M. Turton

people are happy, they bring other people. Other business owners keep telling me it's about the internet, social media. I've pushed myself to do that.

### Why do most people get massages?

It's often upper neck pain caused by stress — people are on their phones or computers all day with terrible posture. Being able to let go of the week's aggravations, to let them disappear for an hour, is huge. You don't realize how much stress affects your body. Your shoulders are up to your ears, you're walking around uncomfortably and don't realize it. People also come with medical issues; muscles so tight they're pinching nerves and causing pain. Also, I swear 75 percent of clients have a scar on their back; there are so many back surgeries. And sometimes there are emotional factors. People may have issues you don't know about. Massage can be their emotional outlet. Whenever you can let go of stress, that's a good thing.

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## ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

### Video games: Obsession, or recreation?

“

It's easier to be obsessed today than when they first came out. Kids want instant gratification.

”



~Aubrey Jenkins, Beacon

“

I don't play a lot, but if you're less social, isolated, you can make friends online.

”



~ Alex Graff, Beacon

“

They're an alternative form of recreation — with obsessive tendencies.

”



~ Joe DiGiglio, Cold Spring



# Nelsonville Trustees Choose Bowman as Mayor

*Filling of his trustee seat pending*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

**B**y a 3-1 vote on Wednesday evening, the Nelsonville Village Board selected Trustee Michael Bowman as mayor in a term ending next spring, when voters can elect someone to serve as the village's chief executive until March 2021.

The June 12 vote was prompted by the resignation in late May of Mayor Chris Caccamise, who stepped down just weeks into his term because of a likely, if unexpected, family move. Under state law, when a vacancy occurs in a mayor's office, village trustees must pick a fellow trustee to fill it until the next general election.

Trustee Lisa Mechaley, who nominated Bowman, Trustee Dove Pedlosky, and Bowman voted to appoint him as mayor. Trustee Dave Moroney voted "no" without explanation. Bowman, as mayor, will now choose his successor as trustee.

"I'm sorry that as a community we have to go through this so quickly" after the recent election, Mechaley said. "I know there are people who feel they've lost their voice in the community. I don't know why. I think we can reach out to each and every person and feel that's important."

On March 19, Caccamise defeated incumbent Bill O'Neill in an election in which voters also rejected incumbent Trustee Alan Potts. Acrimony tinged the campaign and hints of it resurfaced Wednesday night.

O'Neill had appointed Caccamise as an interim trustee in August after then-Trustee Thomas Robertson resigned. Coincidentally, O'Neill, too, now plans to move and has listed his home for sale.

How long O'Neill's move had been contemplated sparked a clash on Wednesday, with the former mayor accusing Bowman of lying. "My house was never on the market last year," O'Neill, who was in the audience, asserted. "Your statement that my house was for sale is a lie."

Bowman, though, contended that in 2018



Nelsonville Justice Court Judge Dennis Zenz administers the oath of office to Michael Bowman. Photo by L.S. Armstrong

O'Neill had told him, Potts and Moroney that he intended to make one of them deputy mayor "because you were selling your house."

And so it went.

Audience members pointed to rumors, still bruited about, that before the election, Bowman and others had planned to take control of the board and install him as mayor.

"If that were true, I would have run for mayor," Bowman responded. "For that to have happened, I would have had to plan an election from my son's hospital bed," because the infant was ill in late winter. Actually, he said, when some residents suggested he run for mayor, he declined.

Now, he promised as mayor to "never shut down public comment" and to be readily available by phone, messaging and otherwise. He also said that governance requires work by the entire Village Board. "I might be mayor, but all of us are in charge," he said. "We're all going to be called upon equally to tackle the issues."

As a village, "we need [efforts] to bring us together," resident Gloria Van Tassel remarked. "This can be a time of healing. We don't want 'It's us against them.' I just want people to be heard."

Nelsonville Justice Court Judge Dennis Zenz administered the oath of office to Bowman when the meeting ended.

## NEWS BRIEF

### Drones Assist in Rescue of Hikers

*Sheriff's office provides view of terrain*

**T**wo drones operated by officers from the Putnam County Sheriff's Department assisted in the rescue on Sunday (June 9) of two hikers stranded on a ledge in Hudson Highlands State Park about a half-mile south of Breakneck Ridge.

The Cold Spring Fire Co. and the New York State Park Police located the two men shortly after 5 p.m. but the steep terrain prevented a rescue. A command post was established near the Cornish Estate Trailhead, forcing the closure of Route 9D.

The Orange County Technical Rescue Team was summoned but had difficulty assessing the terrain, police said. Sgt. Matthew Monroe and Deputy William Rossiter of the Sheriff's Department piloted the drones over the hikers, which provided the team with a view of the site. At about 10 p.m., after more than five hours on the ledge, the men were rescued by firefighters who climbed down to them.

Monroe and Rossiter are among four members of the Sheriff's Department who are licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to pilot unmanned aircraft during emergencies. The aircraft are equipped with GPS, zoom cameras, thermal imaging sensors, search lights and public address speakers, the Sheriff's Department said.

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## LETTERS AND COMMENTS

### Conservation subdivision

In Philipstown, a conservation subdivision permits more development if the land is environmentally protected. The first project to apply for this designation, called Hudson Highlands Reserve, proposes 25 large homes, eight of which will be sited around a pond that drains into Clove Creek. The project also calls for a 40-horse commercial equestrian facility on conservation land. This project lies off Route 9 between Horton Road and East Mountain Road North.

The recently completed Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) submitted by the applicant raises more questions than it answers. Because this project would be the first conservation subdivision under this new law, it's critical that the precedent it sets protects our natural resources by setting a high standard for quality development.

You can comment on this proposal at the Philipstown Planning Board hearing on Thursday, June 20, at 7:30 p.m. at the Old VFW Building, 34 Kemble Ave., in Cold Spring or by emailing Board Chair Anthony Merante at [amerante@philipstown.com](mailto:amerante@philipstown.com) no later than July 8.

Susan Ansapach, *Cold Spring*

Whether wild or domestic, animals will lose if the Hudson Highlands Reserve is developed as proposed.

A wildlife corridor between two parks will be disrupted and a drinking source for native wildlife will no longer be available if houses are clustered around the pond. There is a crisis of species collapse throughout the world as a result of unenlightened, poorly planned development.

Furthermore, as an owner and observer of horses in this area for 35 years, I believe the 40-horse commercial barn is a grandiose folly that will destroy fragile natural habitat and is ultimately unsustainable.

Philipstown should be an example of wise development that protects our natural resources.

Gale Epstein, *Garrison*

One of the most frustrating and time-consuming problems facing a Planning Board is a developer who refuses to work with them. This seems to be the case with the developers of Hudson Highlands Reserve — Ulises Liceaga, the architect, and Horton Road LLC, which is owned by the David Isaly 2008 Trust. The trust is managed by Liceaga's wife, Christina, who is the sister of David Isaly. They both are children of Sam Isaly, the founder of



Detail from a 2018 drawing for the proposed Hudson Highlands Reserve shows the pond surrounded by eight homes. The brown rectangles to the right are an outdoor area and stables.

OrbiMed Advisors, which *Stat News* in 2017 called "biotech's largest and most powerful hedge fund." In 2018 it was reported to manage \$14 billion in assets.

That may be why the developer feels no need to respect Philipstown's laws, or to follow any of the Planning Board's guidelines. Instead, he simply spends more money trying to circumvent them, then brings in a parade of "experts" to tell board members they don't know what they're talking about. The Planning Board sends the developer back to the drawing board, then he throws more money at "mitigation," but doesn't actually change anything. This has been going on for five years.

Regular Philipstown residents must provide 1 acre per horse; farms have a bit more leeway. The developer, however, is demanding that the new residents of the 25 prospective houses be allowed to stockpile 40 horses in an industrial-sized riding center on 11 acres. Told to reduce the number, he brought in an "expert" to explain why he didn't have to.

The point of a conservation subdivision is to protect our natural resources, such as the land's pond, which connects to Clove Creek and provides sustenance for local wildlife. The developer has clustered eight houses tightly around it, effectively cutting off all access for wildlife and endangering the health of both the pond and the creek. Told he needed to site the houses away from the pond, he brought in "experts" to explain why he didn't have to. This list goes on.

Going up against people of means and facing potential lawsuits is something

with which all planning boards must deal. Please show your support for the board.

Suzie Gilbert, *Cold Spring*

### Music man

Thanks to Michael Turton for his lyrical profile of producer and musician Al Hemberger ("Music Man," June 7).

The journalist Hunter S. Thompson famously said that the music industry "is a cruel and shallow money trench, a long plastic hallway where thieves and pimps run free, and good men die like dogs. There's also a negative side."

Al is that rare breed in the business: an artist who serves the artist's vision; a tune-smith in touch with the creative process; a music man who serves the muse. Long may he listen.

Leo Sacks, *Cold Spring*

### Beacon IDs

How will *The Current* and others refer to illegal aliens in possession of documentation such as a municipal photo ID ("Beacon Launches Photo IDs," June 7)? With documentation, such people cannot reasonably be referred to as "undocumented immigrants." P.S. Print my first and last name as they are documented by me, if it pleases you.

Greg Zuman, *Beacon*

### Shake on it

Spot on guidance from Michael Turton ("Handshakes: The Good, the Bad and the Clammy," May 31). My great-uncle was a borderline "crusher," but he made it a point when I was a kid to teach me how to shake hands properly. It was an important life lesson that has served me well.

Tom Campanile, *Cold Spring*

There is nothing — and I mean nothing — worse than the "dead-fish" handshake.

Dan Hughes, *Cold Spring*

### Behind the camera

Thank you, Pete Skorewicz, for helping to bring city government closer to the people by videotaping its public meetings ("5 Questions," May 31). Your service to the community has been extraordinary.

Charlie Kelly, *Beacon*





# Putnam Pledges to Be 'Climate Smart'

*County joins state program to reduce emissions*

By Holly Crocco

Although some lawmakers expressed reservations at earlier committee meetings, the Putnam County Legislature on June 4 unanimously voted to pursue certification as a Climate Smart Community, joining Dutchess County, Beacon, Nelsonville and Philipstown, along with more than 250 other municipalities and counties statewide.

County legislators have discussed the green pledge, a program administered by the state Department of Environmental Conservation, since at least 2015. It asks municipalities and counties to commit to reducing 10 initiatives to combat climate change. Projects include creating an inventory of emissions, decreasing energy use, shifting to renewable energy, using "green" materials, improving land use, and educating its residents.

In return, municipalities in the program

are eligible for grants to pay for the changes.

"While scientists thought climate change would take many generations to be felt, right now we're already experiencing its dramatic effects," said Legislator Nancy Montgomery (D-Philipstown), noting the frequency of destructive storms, early budding trees and early summer heat waves. "This is a positive step in taking local action in reducing greenhouse gases and emissions and improving climate resiliency."

At an April 25 meeting of the Legislature's Economic Development committee, Montgomery expressed frustration at the continued discussion of the pledge without action. She had given a presentation on the pledge to the committee in February, soon after she took office.

"I'm ready to move this forward," Montgomery said on April 25. "If you guys don't want to take the pledge, I will take the pledge and implement these 10 items. And I'd be happy to ask the state if I can take the pledge myself and do this. But I'm at the point where I don't want to see this again before another committee."

Amy Sayegh (R-Mahopac Falls), who chairs

the committee, said at the time that the Legislature was waiting on a response from County Executive MaryEllen Odell about how the pledge might affect various departments. "I believe the weight of this will fall on the Planning Department," she said.

Although she said she supported the initiative, Sayegh asked: "Do we need a task force and man-hours and another volunteer board to fulfill the task that we're already doing? We're all in favor of green energy and saving the taxpayers money and limiting our footprint on the environment, but is it going to double the workload? Because now instead of doing what we're doing, we're also participating in a task force."

At the June 4 full legislative meeting, Carl Albano (R-Carmel) noted the Capital Projects Committee already spends a lot of time considering how to incorporate energy conservation into projects.

"It's something that's high on our priority list in regard to energy and doing things in an efficient way, so it means a lot to us," he said.

Sayegh reported during the June 4 discus-

sion that Putnam plans to replace its diesel vehicles with those that use unleaded gasoline. In addition, the county is investigating whether it can get by with smaller vehicles, including those powered by solar, and looking at hydrothermal and solar heating at the county-owned Tilly Foster Farm.

"I like the idea of passing something that lets everybody know that the county puts this as a priority," she said.

"It's a good pledge, and it puts us on the map in terms of letting everyone know that we have been doing what needs to be done, and will continue to do what needs to be done to protect our environment," said Ginny Nacerino (R-Patterson).

Malachy Cleary, who lives in Cold Spring, thanked the Legislature for adopting the resolution.

"I think I speak for everyone in Cold Spring, Putnam County — especially everyone in my age group, and younger than myself — in saying the climate crisis is an issue that is of paramount importance to us," he said. "We appreciate that you are treating it with the seriousness it deserves."

Philipstown and Nelsonville are the only municipalities in Putnam County that have taken the pledge; Cold Spring is the sole hold-out in the Highlands. In Dutchess, besides Beacon, 18 towns, villages and cities have registered with the state, including Hyde Park, LaGrange, Poughkeepsie, Wappinger and Wappingers Falls.

**"I think I speak for everyone in Cold Spring, Putnam County — especially everyone in my age group, and younger than myself — in saying the climate crisis is an issue that is of paramount importance to us."**

~ Malachy Cleary, Cold Spring

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# Recycling More Expensive Than Trash

*Cold Spring ponders asking residents to sort*

By Michael Turton

"There is no silver bullet!"

That's how Trustee Fran Murphy described the challenge facing Cold Spring as recycling costs continue to escalate. At the June 11 meeting of the Village Board, Murphy reported that between January 2018 and April 2019 the cost to the village of disposing of recyclables rose from \$36.66 to \$84.93 per ton because of changes in the larger industry such as a reluctance by China to take American cardboard and other material.

Trash removal, at \$84.50 per ton, is now less expensive. In May, the village collected 54.7 tons of trash and 17.4 tons of recyclables.

Cold Spring employs "single stream" recycling with once-a-week curbside pickup that co-mingles all recyclables. Murphy said a switch to dual-stream recycling, which the Village once used, would require residents to separate fiber products such as paper and cardboard from glass, plastic and aluminum cans, could mean annual savings close to \$9,000.



Trash costs \$84.50 per ton to process, while recyclables cost \$84.93.

Photo by M. Turton

For those savings to be realized, residents would have to be diligent. Paper and cardboard would have to be kept dry; cans, bottles and other containers would have to be rinsed. Wet or contaminated materials increase disposal costs.

Murphy said one option could be alternating weekly pickup — paper and cardboard one week, cans and bottles the next. Residents would store each stream's materials for two weeks at a time.

Murphy said any changes in recycling would probably not take place until 2020

(Continued on Page 22)

## NEWS BRIEFS

### West Point Cadet Killed in Accident

*Tactical vehicle overturns in Orange County*

A 22-year-old West Point cadet was killed on June 6 when a tactical vehicle transporting students and their instructors to training overturned.



Christopher Morgan, 22, of West Orange, New Jersey, died in the accident, which involved members of the Class of 2020. Twenty other cadets and two instructors were injured.

The accident occurred at 6:45 a.m. off Route 293 in Orange County near the Camp Natural Bridge training site, Army officials said. The cadets were on their way to a navigation course for a map-reading exercise.

Morgan was a Law and Legal Studies major and a standout on the wrestling team, the Army said. The Corps of Cadets held a vigil on June 7 and a memorial ceremony and funeral service this past week.

### Haldane Appoints Elementary Principal

*Former Cold Spring resident will take reins on July 15*

The Haldane school board on June 4 appointed Christine Jamin as principal of the elementary school.



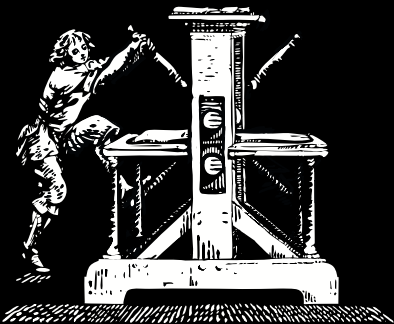
Jamin

Jamin, who graduated from Haldane High School in 1997 as valedictorian, is principal of the Netherwood Elementary School in Hyde Park. She is expected to begin at Haldane on July 15.

The former Cold Spring resident holds a bachelor's degree from Smith College, where she studied biology and marine science, and a master's degree in secondary school education from the City College of New York. She also studied school administration at Baruch College. Jamin worked for six years as a science teacher at the Bronx School of Law and Finance and for eight years as an administrator in the Arlington Central School District.

She succeeds David Wallick, who resigned on March 19 for personal reasons and will depart at the end of the school year. He was hired in June 2017.

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### PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD Public Hearing – June 20, 2019

The Planning Board for the Town of Philipstown, New York will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, June 20, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. at the Old VFW Hall, 34 Kemble Avenue, Cold Spring, New York 10516 to consider the following application:

Hudson Highland Reserve, Route 9, Horton Road & East Mountain Road North – A Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) has been submitted by the applicant, Horton Road, LLC, on a proposed Conservation Subdivision pursuant to Section 175-20 of the Town of Philipstown Code called "Hudson Highland Reserve." The project is proposed on property located on the east side of Route 9 between Horton Road on the south and East Mountain Road North on the north (Tax Map as parcels 17-1-76.112, 17-1-77.2, 17-1-39, 17-1-76.21, 17-1-76.111 and 17-1-48) and involves the creation of 25 single family residential lots and an equestrian center accommodating approximately 40 horses, with and a large common area. Among the land use approvals sought for the project are conservation subdivision approval, a proposed zoning change to a portion of the subject property and a lot line adjustment. The DEIS was prepared in accordance with Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law; and the Town of Philipstown Planning Board acting as Lead Agency has determined that the DEIS is adequate for public review. The purpose of the public hearing is to provide an opportunity for public input on the DEIS. Comments may be made in person or by correspondence at the public hearing. An additional written comment period will extend for a minimum for 10 days following the closing of the public hearing.

At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, DEIS, Subdivision Plat and other related materials may be seen in the office of the Planning Board located at the Philipstown Town Hall Annex, 2 Cedar Street (behind the Town Hall), Cold Spring, New York between 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

Dated at Philipstown, New York on this 16th day of May 2019  
Anthony Merante, Chairman





Dan Aymar-Blair



Kelly Ellenwood

Photos provided

## Ward 4 Candidates: What I Will Do

*Beacon Democrats face off in June 25 primary*

By Jeff Simms

**D**emocrats who live in Beacon's Ward 4 will decide in a primary on Tuesday, June 25, whether Dan Aymar-Blair or Kelly Ellenwood will appear on the ballot in the November election for a seat on the City Council. Both are running for the seat held by Amber Grant, who is running for an at-large seat.

There are no Republican candidates for the Ward 4 seat, so whoever wins the primary will run unopposed. The ward is in the southeastern section of the city.

Aymar-Blair is an executive with the New York City Department of Education and a co-founder of The Article 20 Network, which defends the right of peaceful assembly. He also worked with Grannies Respond, a group of Beacon activists who traveled to Texas as advocates for refugee rights and, in 2017, was one of the organizers of the People's Committee on Development.

Ellenwood was the president of Beacon Arts from 2014 to 2018 and in 2005 was one of the founders of the WeePlay Community Project, which raises money for children's facilities at Memorial Park. A former Broadway performer and adjunct faculty member at SUNY New Paltz, she proposed the idea for the Beacon Free Loop bus and coordinated with city officials on its launch last year.

*The Current* asked each candidate to respond to the same three questions. Ward 4 residents can vote on June 25 at the First

Presbyterian Church at 50 Liberty St. from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. If you are unsure of your ward, see [bit.ly/beacon-vote](http://bit.ly/beacon-vote).

### What makes you the best candidate to represent voters in Ward 4?

**AYMAR-BLAIR:** To enact real, progressive change, Ward 4 needs a steady, experienced leader who has the public's interest at heart. That's what I'm offering.

Ward 4 needs a council member who knows how to get things done. I leave my ego at the door and build coalitions. I can handle the public spotlight, and accept that change may take time.

As a leader in the People's Committee on Development, I stood for the interests of the public and our school district. Having listened to the concerns of neighbors, I have a vision and a plan to make Beacon's success work for everyone.

**ELLENWOOD:** For 17 years I have been a leader in our small city — creating community, finding solutions and encouraging good ideas. I would rather figure out how to get to "yes" than to organize solely around saying "no." I have deep knowledge due to many years of hands-on experiences in multiple sectors of our diverse city. I am not afraid to speak out when I see a problem or an inconsistency. But perhaps why I am the best candidate is that I am an economic realist. Both city and school taxes are a big issue. Everything in my platform is geared

toward cost-effective or no-cost solutions.

### What should the City Council's top priorities be in 2020?

**AYMAR-BLAIR:** We have to control development, ensure an affordable quality of life and protect natural resources. All this construction isn't in keeping with the needs or character of our city. Beacon needs jobs, doctor's offices, more cultural and community-focused amenities. With so few lots left to build on, we are running out of time to ensure our community is served by development. Beacon is not a success if families are forced out, seniors can't downsize, and our small businesses close shop. I support raising the affordable housing mandate, enacting new renter protections, and I propose a biannual review of our affordable housing stock.

Beacon's natural resources, now threatened by overdevelopment, have drawn tourists and new residents. We can protect these resources by preserving conservation easements, buying back lands to protect, and generating more clean local energy, starting with a community-led Strategic Energy Vision.

**ELLENWOOD:** Infrastructure should always be the No. 1 priority for the City Council — whether it is upgrading sewers, improving sidewalks and crosswalks, or finally getting that stop sign for a dangerous intersection. Ward 4 is also poised to be the site of 30,000-plus square feet of new office/work space in the coming year. Beacon needs to be in front of that, seeking out and working with potential employers that will bring residents good-paying jobs.

The Planning Board does not have the

(Continued on Page 21)

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## Philipstown Cub Scout Pack 137 Annual Open House BBQ

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Saturday, June 15, 1-3 p.m.

Mayors Park Cold Spring, NY

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Town of Philipstown  
P.O. Box 155  
238 Main Street Cold Spring, NY 10516  
or e-mail  
[townclerk@philipstown.com](mailto:townclerk@philipstown.com)

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## AROUND TOWN



▲ **FEASTING FOR A CAUSE** — Members of the Cold Spring Lions Club were pullin', pickin' and shuckin' on Saturday (June 8) at Glynwood for their fifth annual fundraiser with oysters, barbequed chicken and pork, and live music. (Terry Fleming is shown with her meal.) The event raised \$7,500 to assist the blind and for diabetes and pediatric cancer research, among other projects, said President Curt Landtroop, who will finish his term on June 30 and be succeeded by Ginny Pidala. For more photos, see [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org).

*Photo by Michael Turton*

▼ **THE BIG 80** — Lossie Lee, 95, of Fishkill, who this year will celebrate her 80th wedding anniversary with husband Sam, recently attended Dutchess County's annual Celebration of Aging luncheon in Wappingers Falls. She is shown with County Clerk Brad Kendall and County Executive Marc Molinaro; Sam was not able to attend.

*Photo provided*



▲ **GOTCHA** — No one is quite sure who filled a hallway at Haldane High School with balloons on June 12, but suspicions turned to the seniors, who graduate on June 22.

*Photo provided*

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# The Calendar



Evernia Fay, a diviner and 'bone reader'



Dancers from Obsidian Moon Belly Dance will perform at the festival.

Photos provided



A fire dancer from Full Circle Fire

Photo by Brian Wolfe

## Dark Arts

*Beacon witch organizes nighttime festival of macabre*

By Alison Rooney

Are you attracted to the dark side? Curious to have your future predicted? Does taxidermy give you a thrill? If so, you'll find kindred spirits at the

Oddities and Curiosities Night Market, which will creep its way across the University Settlement in Beacon on Friday, June 21, from 6 p.m. to midnight.

Amy C. Wilson, whose firm Moon, Serpent & Bone is producing the event to coincide with the summer solstice, admits she's "always had a flair for the esoteric and the macabre." She specializes in bringing "things you wouldn't normally have" to festivals and fairs: "magical and metaphysical."

In the call to vendors for the Beacon event and others Wilson is planning at the Hyatt House in Fishkill in October and December, she notes she is looking for retailers

in the categories of taxidermy and bones; horror and macabre; oddities; "magick" and witchcraft; and psychics' creepy and strange items. She emphasizes that items must be "dark and bizarre."

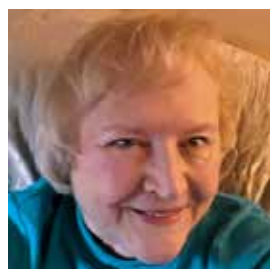
For the visitor, this will translate into a brew of entertainment, performances and vendors. The complex's front yard will host 10 psychics, tarot and bone readers, and astrologists (readings are typically \$25 to \$40, Wilson says). The main building will be filled with 60 curated vendors ("I make sure their product is unique — I don't want another 'I make bath bombs in the shape of pumpkin

(Continued on Page 10)

# Where Are the Women Playwrights?



Blatner



Delaney



Fox



Joseph



Mertens



Polese



Toffler

*Producers to highlight theater's 'glass ceiling'*

By Alison Rooney

According to the most recent statistics compiled by the Dramatists Guild, about 40 percent of its members are women. And over the last 20 years, they have outpaced men in joining the

organization by more than a 3-to-1 margin.

Yet plays by women account for only 29 percent of the works produced by regional theaters each year, the guild says.

Those type of numbers prompted community theater producers Gabrielle Fox and Robin Anne Joseph to organize *Glass Ceiling Breakers*, a program of seven plays, all written by women, that will have a three-performance run at the Philipstown Depot Theatre on Garrison's Landing from June 21 to 23.

In addition to Fox and Joseph, the playwrights are Barbara Blatner, Linda Bidwell Delaney, Evelyn Mertens, Susan Jennifer Polese and Laura Toffler-Corrie.

Fox says it was two years ago, while she was involved with the Axial Theater in Pleasantville, that she realized there weren't any women's playwriting festivals in the Lower Hudson Valley. So she pulled together a festival at the Axial with the work of seven female playwrights to mark

Women's History Month.

Logistical hurdles prevented a second year for the event at the Axial, so Fox approached the Depot Theatre, where Joseph's GoJo Clan Productions has staged productions such as last year's *Doubt*. (Fox's arts company is Theatre Revolution.)

Joseph says she and Fox "are on a mission of sorts. We would like to do more to give women a voice and a platform to hear that voice."

(Continued on Page 10)





Craig Chin, who creates ambient music as Errant Space, will perform at the festival. He is shown here during a concert at St. Andrew's Church in Beacon.

Photo by Tony Cenicola

## Dark Arts *(from Page 9)*

heads' type of thing," Wilson says), and stage performances will be held there, as well.

More live events are scheduled to begin outside as darkness falls, including a fire artist and belly dancers. There will be strolling entertainers, ambient music, and coffee and snacks available for purchase.

Wilson calls the atmosphere akin to a "dark carnival — a throwback to another time." It's a mood and era she herself is drawn to, as a longtime witch, teacher of witchcraft, spiritual medium and practitioner of the "magickal arts."

Wilson runs a toy-design company and a business called Other Worldly Waxes that sells candles, oils and incense. It was located in the East Village before Wilson moved to Beacon and rented studio space in the old Beacon High School. Most sales are by mail order, but the store is open one Saturday each month (the next date is June 29, from 1 to 5 p.m.) or by appointment.

The festival she is organizing is not unique, although they aren't usually held in the Hudson Valley. "There's kind of a circuit, in the larger cities," Wilson says. In March, she held her first event, Ostara, named for the Wiccan celebration of the spring equinox, at Locust Grove in Poughkeepsie.

"We expected around 100 people, and



The dancer Anna Oh! is scheduled to perform three times during the fair.

Photo provided



A promotional image for the event

more than 1,000 turned up," she says. It will return in March 2020. While the Poughkeepsie festival took place during the day, Wilson believes hosting the Beacon festival at dusk and after darkness falls will make it "more experiential."

*University Settlement Camp is located at 724 Wolcott Ave. (Route 9D). Admission to the event is \$3. Minors will be admitted only with a parent or guardian. No alcohol will be served and no dogs are allowed. For a schedule of performers and a list of vendors, see [moonserpentandbone.com](http://moonserpentandbone.com).*

## Playwrights *(from Page 9)*

They solicited submissions from women playwrights, including students whom Fox teaches through an adult education program administered by Westchester Community College. "We got quite a few entries," she says, "more than we can include this year." The only criteria for submissions, besides being written by a female, was that the play could not be longer than 15 minutes.

Fox says the submissions included works in many genres, from comedy to drama. "We were looking for quality, overall, beyond balancing out genres," she says. "When you feature all women playwrights, you get a different voice. You realize that all the plays you studied through the years in English classes were written largely by male playwrights. There were myths around women writers, even five or 10 years ago — one artistic director said to one of our playwrights that if they saw a woman's name on the title page, they'd put it aside. We do so much more than people expect."

The submissions this year do not include any younger writers, although Fox notes that "most of the plays written by women being produced are by young women, yet there's something to be said for writers who have lived."

She is eager to introduce the form to her students. "There are so few playwriting classes for young people," she says. "It's all acting classes. Playwriting is so different from any other kind of fiction — it's live and in the moment."

Each playwright was asked to provide a director and cast. Two are directing their own plays, though none are acting in them. Fox hopes the Garrison location will draw a new audience, as well as people who attended in Pleasantville.

Although there were a number of women represented at last week's Tony Awards, a more typical scenario, Fox says, is the production of *Tootsie*, where the non-performance nominees were all men "and the star is a man playing a woman. I hope audiences start noticing these things."

*Tickets for each performance, which are scheduled for Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m., are \$25, or \$20 for seniors and students. See [brownpapertickets.com/event/4198838](http://brownpapertickets.com/event/4198838).*



## Seven Plays

### "After the Ball," by Robin Anne Joseph

When Prince Charming catches up with Cinderella after the ball with her missing shoe, she rejects it and denies that she is the woman he is looking for.

### "The Reveal," by Linda Bidwell Delaney

Two strangers are tasked with creating portraits of each other — one with paint and one with words. Will their portraits show the "real" them?

### "Light," by Barbara Blatner

During the darkest time of the year, a mother and her two adult children try to find the little light that is left in their relationships.

### "Yes," by Evelyn Mertens

At their high school reunion, two female ex-lovers hash out who is at fault for the break-up and if they can ever have a future.

### "Suicide by Wife,"

by Susan Jennifer Polese

An officer responding to a domestic violence call tries to explain to the victim how to get free of her abuser, while the victim shows the officer how we are all more trapped than we think.

### "Coney Island," by Laura Toffler-Corrie

When a therapist's new client turns the tables on her, will there finally be healing?

### "Winfluence," by Gabrielle Fox

Two co-workers engage in a heated competition when one's self-help tactics leave them both vying for the same promotion.



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## Garrison Art Center



# Ascend to Descend on Dockside

## Annual festival will include yoga, music and family fun

By Alison Rooney

It's hard not to feel uplifted by the view from Dockside Park in Cold Spring, that spectacularly situated plot of riverfront space north of the bandstand.

On Saturday, June 22, rain or shine, the Ascend Festival will attempt to take that natural feeling a step farther with its Summer Solstice Celebration — a mix of yoga, dancing, live music, arts and children's activities such as giant checkerboard games, kindness-rock painting and weaving. Juanita's Kitchen,



Ascend Festival organizers Dave and Melia Marzollo.

Photo provided

Veggie Go-Go and Homestyle, among other vendors, will sell food, and there will be a bar with beer, wine and spiked seltzer.

Ascend is descended from MayFest, a three-day yoga-centered festival produced by Dave and Melia Marzollo that ran in 2016 and 2017 at Lake Surprise Camp in Philipstown. Last year, the couple, operating under the banner of Ascend (taken from a Quaker proverb: "You lift me, I'll lift thee, we'll ascend together"), cut back to a single day. They also renamed their Cold Spring studio from Skybaby Yoga to Ascend.

"MayFest was more 'yogi-land,'" says Melia Marzollo. "This festival is meant to be embracing and appealing to everyone. It's about the pursuits we're most passionate about: yoga, music and art, and the community that's growing from these interests. But you don't have to be a yogi to enjoy this. Anyone from the community can come and have a picnic, hula hoop, listen to great music, paint, blow bubbles — all in a gorgeous setting. It all gives us an opportunity to ground into our community."

Each year the festival has a theme based on one of the seven chakras, she says. Last year it was root, "as in get rooted in this," and focused on meditation. This year it's sacral, or "the year of the lover," she says,



A group doing yoga at last year's Ascend Festival at Dockside.

Photo by Chad Anderson

"which can be interpreted in many ways, including self-love and the love inside each of us and how we connect that love to our outer community, as well as love as creativity, a passion in you. In honor of this, we are featuring more music this year."

The other chakras — survivor, healer, artist, seer and transformer — will be celebrated in future festivals, and then be repeated, she says.

The yoga instructors are Julian Paik from Ascend and Amy Pearce-Hayden from Tantra Yoga in Madison, Wisconsin. Music will be provided by DJ Tim Love Lee,

singer/songwriter Thunderstorm Artis (from Hawaii), and headliner Hayley Jane and the Primates.

The Ascend Festival begins at 34 West St. at 2:30 p.m. and continues until sunset. Tickets are \$35 in advance at [bit.ly/ascend-festival](http://bit.ly/ascend-festival), or \$40 at the gate. Children are \$10 (free for those under age 5) and 2019 Haldane graduates will be admitted at no charge. A few music-only tickets will be available on the day of the event for 7:30 p.m. admission. Free parking is available in the nearby Metro-North lot. No dogs, except service animals, will be permitted.



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# 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 15

### Putnam Highlands Audubon Bird Walk

COLD SPRING

9:30 a.m. Glynwood Farm  
362 Glynwood Road  
[putnamhighlandsaudubon.org](http://putnamhighlandsaudubon.org)

Expect to see busy parents of bluebirds, bobolinks and grasshopper sparrows and get a tour of the purple martin colony established by Malachy Cleary. Register at website; limited to 25 people. *Free*

SAT 15

### Repair Cafe

GARRISON

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Boscobel  
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638  
[boscobel.org](http://boscobel.org)

Community volunteers will attempt to fix damaged household items to keep them out of landfills. Shop at the Cold Spring Farmers' Market while you wait. *Free*

SAT 15

### Strawberry Jammin'

HOPEWELL JUNCTION

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Fishkill Farms  
9 Fishkill Farm Road | 845-897-4377  
[fishkillfarms.com](http://fishkillfarms.com)

Pick your own strawberries and enjoy berry-themed foods, live reggae, wagon rides and crafts for kids. *Cost: \$5 (ages 12 and younger free)*

SUN 16

### Free Tours for Dads

BEACON

1 – 3 p.m. Mount Gulian | 145 Sterling St.  
845-831-8172 | [mountgulian.org](http://mountgulian.org)

Tours of the house, which overlooks the Hudson River, as well as the Dutch barn and restored garden, will be given at 1 and 2:15 p.m. A copy of *The Aenid* owned by Thomas Jefferson will be on display. *Cost: Free for dads, members and children ages 6 and younger. Otherwise, \$8 (\$6 seniors; \$4 children)*

SUN 16

### Hudson Valley Renegades

WAPPINGERS FALLS

4:05 p.m. Dutchess Stadium  
1500 Route 9D | 845-838-0094  
[hvrenegades.com](http://hvrenegades.com)

The minor league Renegades host the Lowell Spinners in the Father's Day home opener to their 26th season. The first 1,000 fans ages 12 and younger will receive a fidget spinner. Over the spring, the Dutch's aging seats were replaced and its food and beverage prices have been reduced by an average of 44 cents, according to the team, which is the Class A Short Season affiliate of the Tampa Bay Rays. Also MON 17, FRI 21, SAT 22, SUN 23. *Cost: \$8 to \$17*

MON 17

### Community Power Info Session

COLD SPRING

7:30 – 9 p.m. Firehouse | 154 Main St.  
[hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com](http://hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com)

This open house is designed to answer residents' questions about the recently adopted Community Choice Aggregation program. See Page 1.

TUES 18

### The Plastic Bag Ban

COLD SPRING

6 p.m. River Architects  
178 Main St. | [coldspringnychamber.com](http://coldspringnychamber.com)

This Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce mixer will include a discussion on the impact on businesses and the community of New York State's newly enacted plastic-bag ban, which takes effect in March 2020. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door, \$15 members)*

FRI 21

### Alzheimer's Art Therapy

COLD SPRING

1 p.m. Friendship Center  
1756 Route 9D | [alz.org/hudsonvalley](http://alz.org/hudsonvalley)

The Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter is offering this weekly art therapy program led by Lisa Papantoniou for people



Ramp Jam, June 21

with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia and their caregivers. Supplies such as paper, clay, drawing and collage material will be provided. It continues weekly through July 26, except for July 5.

FRI 21

### Ramp Jam

BEACON

4 – 8 p.m. Memorial Park  
[facebook.com/ridebeacon](http://facebook.com/ridebeacon)

Celebrate the completion of the Phase One skateboard ramps with live music, art, food, a junior riders' session for ages 12 and younger and a best-trick session.

FRI 21

### Oddities & Curiosities Night Market

BEACON

6 p.m. – Midnight. | 724 Wolcott Ave  
University Settlement Camp  
[moonserpentandbone.com](http://moonserpentandbone.com)

This festival, organized by Moon, Serpent & Bone to mark the summer solstice, will include dancers, music, psychics and other unusual fare. Ages 18 and older unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. See Page 9. *Cost: \$3*

SAT 22

### Hope for Youth Foundation 5K Race/3K Walk

GARRISON

8 a.m. Graymoor | 1350 Route 9 | [hfyf.org](http://hfyf.org)

Run or walk to raise funds for programs that assist children in need. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the 5K kicks off at 9 a.m. with the walkers close behind. Each participant receives a T-shirt, bagel and banana. The event is sponsored

by Super Race Systems, Graymoor, the Gorevic family and Nancy and Jim Witt. *Cost: \$20 (\$30 door)*

SAT 22

### Hudson Valley Taco Fest

BEACON

1 – 5:30 p.m. Riverfront Park  
123 Red Flynn Drive | [hvtacofest.com](http://hvtacofest.com)

Sample tacos made with traditional and unusual ingredients and wash them down with craft beer, margaritas and sangria while enjoying live music at this third annual gathering. *Cost: \$20*

SAT 22

### Ascend Festival

COLD SPRING

2:30 – 9 p.m. Dockside Park  
34 West St. | [ascendfestival.com](http://ascendfestival.com)

Yoga, music, food and wellness will be on hand at this festival to celebrate the summer solstice. See Page 11. *Cost: \$35 (\$40 gate, \$10 children)*

SAT 22

### Community Conversation

BEACON

3 – 5 p.m. University Settlement Camp  
724 Wolcott Ave. | 845-831-1134  
[beaconlibrary.org/communityconversations](http://beaconlibrary.org/communityconversations)

Anyone who lives or works in the city is invited to share ideas, concerns and hopes for the future of Beacon at this forum organized by the Howland Public Library.

SAT 22

### Annual Barn Dance

GARRISON

7:30 – 11 p.m. Saunders Farm  
Old Albany Post at South Highlands  
Bring a dish and beverages

to share and dress for fun and dancing. Park in the field across the road. Bug spray and nightlights are a good idea. *Free*

## TALKS & TOURS

SAT 15

### History App Launch

NEWBURGH

2 p.m. The Heritage Center  
123 Grand St.  
[urbanarchive.nyc/ua-newburgh](http://urbanarchive.nyc/ua-newburgh)

Urban Archive, a nonprofit that collects historic photos that are mapped for a free phone app, has expanded beyond New York City, and its first partner is Newburgh. Introduced in 2016, the iOS app allows users to view archival photos of their current location. It now includes 150 images of historic Newburgh, including structures lost to urban renewal.

SAT 15

### Women's Work in World War II

COLD SPRING

5 p.m. Putnam History Museum  
63 Chestnut St. | 845-265-4010  
[putnamhistorymuseum.org](http://putnamhistorymuseum.org)

John Cilio, the author of *Women's Work in WWII*, will discuss the women who broke down barriers of gender discrimination by joining the workplace during the war and pressed for equality after it ended. *Cost: \$10 (members free)*



MON 17

### Book vs. Movie

COLD SPRING

6:30 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
[butterfieldlibrary.org](http://butterfieldlibrary.org)

Watch film clips and read passages from the book on which they were based and debate which is better. Wine and snacks provided. *Free*



Bird Walk, June 15



**THURS 20****Saving Putnam's Lakes, Streams and Drinking Water****MAHOPAC**

6:30 p.m. Mahopac Public Library  
668 Route 6 | 845-628-2009  
facebook.com/groups/putnamcountylwv

The League of Women Voters of Putnam County will host a panel and Q&A to discuss strategies to protect Putnam County's water from threats such as leaking storage tanks, contamination from road salt, surface and septic runoff, and algae blooms. *Free*

**STAGE & SCREEN****SAT 15****An Afternoon of Poetry****GARRISON**

1:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
desmondfishlibrary.org

Kathleen Ossip, Kristin Prevallet and Marjorie Tesser will share their poems.

**SAT 15****Paula Poundstone****PEEKSKILL**

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

The comedian, known for her memoir *The Totally Unscientific Study of the Search for Happiness* and appearances on NPR's *Wait, Wait Don't Tell Me*, brings her latest one-person show to the Hudson Valley. *Cost: \$32 to \$62.50*

**SUN 16****Star Wars on the Big Screen****POUGHKEEPSIE**

11 a.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St.  
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

On Father's Day, the theater will present three episodes of the series in succession: *A New Hope* (1977) at 11 a.m., *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980) at 2 p.m. and *The Return of the Jedi* (1983) at 5 p.m. *Cost: \$10 per film*

**TUES 18****Auditions for Brave Tailor Maid****BEACON**

6 – 9 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | hvti.org

Register online to audition for Mud Brud Mayhem's musical, which

will be performed by the Hudson Valley Theatre Initiative in August. The producers are looking for singers, musicians and dancers, with callbacks scheduled for June 19.

**FRI 21****Glass Ceiling Breakers****GARRISON**

8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre  
10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900  
philipstowndepottheatre.org

This festival will feature one-act plays by seven women playwrights. See Page 9. Also SAT 22, SUN 23. *Cost: \$25 (\$20 students and seniors)*

**VISUAL ART****SAT 15****Recasting the Past****PHILIPSTOWN**

3 p.m. Magazzino Italian Art  
2700 Route 9 | 845-666-7202  
magazzino.art

Eric Battle, a curator at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, will use its recent exhibit, *Arte Povera: Homage to Amalfi '68*, as a point of departure and case study to "delve into the spaces between past events and the objects they leave behind." Tickets can be reserved online. *Free*

**SAT 15****Principia: Origins and Destinies****NEWBURGH**

5 – 8 p.m. Atlas Studios | 11 Spring St.  
845-391-8855 | atlasnewburgh.com

This exhibit of Evan D'Arpino's photography will include four series centered on science, the human condition and the processes of life. Through July 13.

**FRI 21****Posenenske Sessions****BEACON**

6 p.m. Dia:Beacon | 3 Beekman St.  
845-440-0100 | diaart.org

In the final lecture of the series, Steve Seidel, the director of Harvard's Arts in Education program, will discuss Charlotte Posenenske's work in terms of play spaces in contemporary society. Free with museum admission. *Cost: \$15 (\$12 students and seniors, free for members, Beacon residents and children ages 12 and younger)*

**SAT 22****Paint Out****GARRISON**

9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Boscobel  
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638  
boscobel.org/events/paint-out

Artists are invited to bring easels and drawing tablets to capture the

**Paint Out Boscobel, June 22**

natural beauty of Boscobel. Free with admission. Artists can register online for the Paint Out and also to make art at the site on the second Tuesday of each month. *Cost: \$12 (\$10 seniors, free for members)*

**KIDS & FAMILY****SAT 15****Bugtastic****BEACON**

10 a.m. Denning's Point Park  
199 Dennings Ave. | 845-838-1600  
clarkson.edu/event/wow-kids-bugtastic

Explore and identify field insects around the grounds of the Water Ecology Center with Beacon Institute educator Maggie Pasquarella. For children ages 5 and older. Register online. *Free*

**SAT 15****Cub Scout Open House BBQ****COLD SPRING**

1 – 3 p.m. Mayor's Park  
cubscoutpack137.org

Elementary-school students from kindergarten to the fourth grade are invited to learn more about Scouting and how to join Philipstown Pack 137.

**FRI 21****Dancer's Storytime****COLD SPRING**

Noon. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
butterfieldlibrary.org

Katie Bissinger from Ballet Arts Studio in Beacon will read dance-themed books and students will perform. *Free*

**FRI 21****Ice Cream Social, Magic Show and Balloon Animals****COLD SPRING**

6 p.m. Methodist Church  
216 Main St. | 845-265-3365  
opendoorscommunity.org

Celebrate the beginning of summer

at this community gathering. *Free*

**FRI 21****Summer Kick-Off Party****COLD SPRING**

6:30 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
butterfieldlibrary.org

Middle-school students are invited to play games and sign up for the summer reading program, A Universe of Stories, which includes prizes. *Free*

**SAT 22****StoryWalk Opening****CORNWALL**

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Hudson Highlands Nature Museum  
Angola Road | 845-534-5506 x2104  
hhnm.org

Read *My Busy Green Garden*, by Terry Pierce, with illustrations by Carol Schwartz, while strolling the meadow trail. At noon and 2 p.m., nature educators will lead guided walks to meet an animal from the book. Grasshopper Grove also will be open. *Cost: \$3 (members and children ages 2 and younger free)*

**SUN 23****Storytime with Evan Turk****COLD SPRING**

10:15 a.m. Split Rock Books | 97 Main St.  
845-265-2080 | splitrockbks.com

The author and illustrator will read his latest children's book, *You are Home: An Ode to National Parks*.

**MUSIC****SAT 15****Clearwater Festival****CROTON-ON-HUDSON**

Croton Point Park  
clearwaterfestival.org

Founded by Pete Seeger to benefit Clearwater's environmental work, the annual two-day Great Hudson River Revival will be headlined by Mavis Staples, Ani DiFranco and The Wailers but also include multiple stages with many other musicians, along with dance and storytelling. The Clearwater will offer sails for \$25 to \$50 per person. Camping is also available. Also SUN 16. *Cost: \$65 to \$90 daily; \$100 to \$155 weekend*

**SAT 15****Justin Keller****BEACON**

1:35 p.m. Forrester Heights  
Wolcott Avenue  
beaconarts.org/beaconfreeloop

As part of the Beacon Free Loop's ongoing series of "tiny concerts," the saxophonist will perform in the Forrester Heights bus shelter.

**SAT 15****March Along, Sing Our Song****WEST POINT**

7:30 p.m. Trophy Point  
westpointband.com

The West Point Concert Band will celebrate the 244th anniversary of the U.S. Army with a concert that begins with a streamer ceremony and ends with a cake cutting. *Free*

(Continued on Page 14)

**Star Wars, June 16**



# [ THE WEEK AHEAD ]

(Continued from Page 13)

SAT 15

## **Ikue Mori**

BEACON

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

The musician, who moved to the U.S. from her native Tokyo in 1977, uses a laptop, drum machine and other technology to create experimental music. A founder of the band DNA, which created “radical rhythms and dissonant sounds,” her latest album is *Chordis et Machina*. She will be joined by Mark Trecka. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

FRI 21

## **Rainbow Girls / Oshima Brothers**

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Chapel Restoration  
45 Market St. | 845-265-5537  
bit.ly/rainbow-girls

As part of the chapel’s ongoing Restoration Roadhouse series, Rainbow Girls will perform eclectic folk from their latest release, *American Dream*, and the Oshima Brothers, natives of rural Maine, from their eponymous 2016 album. Mediterranean food from Pappi’s and beer by Industrial Arts will be available for purchase. *Cost: \$25*



SAT 22

## **Gus Wieland**

PUTNAM VALLEY

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

The guitarist, who has played with Chubby Checker and the Turtles, will perform songs from his latest album, *A Minstrel, A Poet, A Fool*. *Cost: \$15 (\$10 students and seniors)*

SAT 22

## **Ticonderoga**

NEWBURGH

8 p.m. Atlas Studios | 11 Spring St.  
845-391-8855 | atlasnewburgh.com

As part of the ongoing Jazz at Atlas series, Joe McPhee on saxophones, Jamie Saft on electric piano, Joe Morris on upright bass and Charles Downs on drums will play what they promise to be daring jazz. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SAT 22

## **Tani Tabbal Trio**

BEACON

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

Tabbal began playing drums professionally as a teenager, performing with Oscar Brown Jr., Phil Cohran, and Sun Ra and his Arkestra. His group will perform music from its new album, *Opposite Edge*. *Cost \$15 (\$20 door)*

SUN 23

## **The Dream Choir**

COLD SPRING

3 p.m. First Presbyterian Church  
10 Academy St.  
meetup.com/The-Dream-Choir-of-Hudson-Valley

Cat Guthrie will lead this community choir in a program of upbeat songs from the 1960s

and ’70s. *Cost: \$5 donation*

SUN 23

## **Coralie Gallet and José Garcia-León**

COLD SPRING

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

The soprano and pianist will perform a program featuring music from France and Spain, including works by Albéniz, Boulanger, Debussy, de Falla and Ravel. Donations are welcome. *Free*

SUN 23

## **Great Peacock**

COLD SPRING

5 p.m. Bandstand

The Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce kicks off its annual summer music series at the waterfront with a performance by this Nashville band that describes its music as “rock ‘n’ roll, sometimes country.” Its sophomore release is *Gran Pavo Real*. See [greatpeacock.com](http://greatpeacock.com). *Free*

CIVIC

MON 17

## **City Council**

BEACON

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

MON 17

## **School Board**

BEACON

7 p.m. Beacon High School  
101 Matteawan Road | 845-838-6900  
beaconk12.org

MON 17

## **Village Board**

NELSONVILLE

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

TUES 18

## **School Board**

COLD SPRING

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



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**Friday, June 14, 7 p.m.**  
Last Minute Soulmates - Free

**Friday, June 14, 8:30 p.m.**  
Doug MacLeod

**Saturday, June 15, 6 p.m.**  
Jim Pospisil - Free

**Saturday, June 15, 8:30 p.m.**  
Chris Trapper  
Antigone Rising

**Sunday, June 16, 11:30 a.m.**  
Judith Tulloch - Free  
Father's Day Brunch

**Sunday, June 16, 7 p.m.**  
Buskin & Batteau; also Jim Dawson

**Thursday, June 20, 7 p.m.**  
Sara Milonovich & Daisycutter

**Friday, June 21, 7 p.m.**  
Stash Wyslouch - Free

**Friday, June 21, 8:30 p.m.**  
Jim Lauderdale  
The Costellos

**Saturday, June 22, 6 p.m.**  
Mulebone - Free

**Saturday, June 22, 8:30 p.m.**  
The McKrells  
JigJam

**Sunday, June 23, 11:30 a.m.**  
Dan Stevens - Free

**Sunday, June 23, 7 p.m.**  
California Dreamin'

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**2020 Democratic Primary**

**DEBATE WATCH PARTIES**

*Hosted by Philipstown Democrats & Putnam Young Dems*

**JUNE 26 & 27 • 8PM**

**AT THE OLD VFW HALL**  
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Space is limited, please [RSVP at philipstowndemocrats.org](http://philipstowndemocrats.org)



## Kid Friendly

# Quantum-Leaping

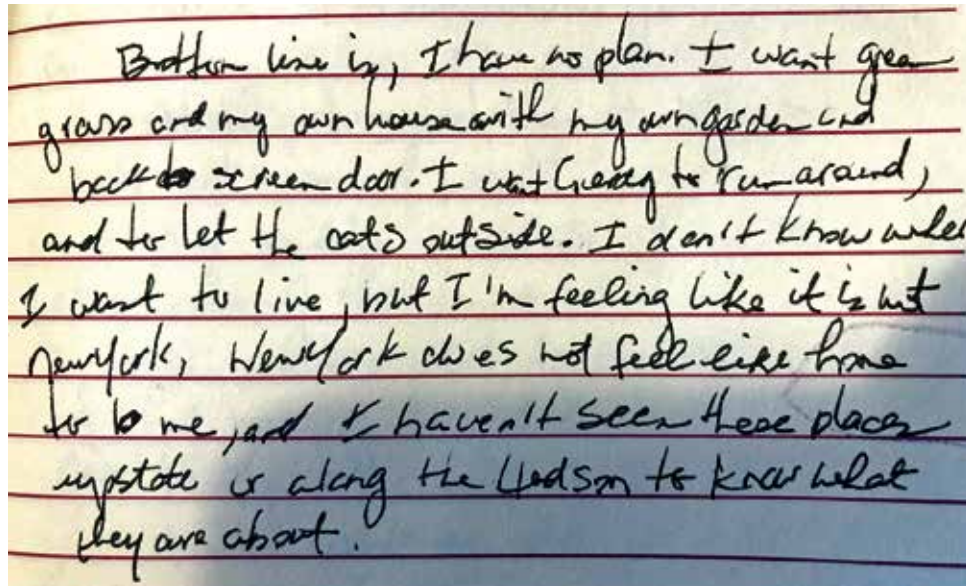
By Katie Hellmuth Martin

When you have kids, time moves

fast. My neighbor-mom-friend and I were sitting together on Thursday evening at an elementary school spring concert — the first of many spring events that happen toward the end of school — and we were discussing when my daughter's birthday party would happen. Yes, we were discussing this during the concert, in whispers, because that's the only time we can plan such things. We'd already been to a haircut, soccer practice, dinner/snacks, and now here we were in the hushed darkness of the Pete and Toshi Seeger Theater at Beacon High School while the children sang.

Moving party-planning possibilities around like a game of Tetris, we eventually got lost. "The party could be Saturday, but my hubby is out of town then. It could be the following, but that's the five-day Memorial Day weekend and I think we're also having the Welcome Spring Backyard Party that Saturday. And then the following weekend, we drive to Virginia for a wedding. Oh dear, it has to be this Friday! Wait — what day is today? Is today Friday? Is the party tomorrow?"

You can imagine this is where we broke down and gave up. The birthday party become a text-invite slime slumber party the Friday of the super long holiday while the Welcome Spring Backyard Party never happened. We did make it to Virginia, road-



From the author's journal, circa 2006

trip style, which was lovely but involved tortured nights because our almost-2-year-old was fascinated by hotel rooms and couldn't bear to sleep in one.

During our planning, my neighbor brought up time. "Is time moving faster, do you think?" When she asked me — in May — I had already suspected that time had been moving faster. Just like the movie *Spy Kids*, when the Time Master speeds up time, this what I have been suspecting since January. People of all ages, kids or no kids, have all been so surprised at how fast April went, then May, and now June, with pools opening.

As it happens, *Wired* reported this month that quantum leaps can be controlled, and they aren't instant as once suspected but gradual (although super fast gradual). I don't know what that means, but it confirmed (by my own estimation) what I thought about time speeding up or returning to normal. Normal. Is there a normal?

I discussed this with a second-time new mother at the park at Sargent Elementary who was expertly cooing her newborn into

calmness. She had been studying quantum mechanics as it related to childhood education for an academic paper she was writing. She didn't dismiss my theory, at least, and told me about astronauts who experience time-adjustment when they return to Earth.

But here's where the actual quantum leap happens — as it relates to the photo above: I was cleaning last month and discovered this passage I'd written in a journal started in 2006. I was living in New York City as a new adult (had finished college, had a couple of jobs, lived in my own apartment). I was at a turning point. A turning point to where? I didn't know. Here's the passage in case you can't read cursive (my sister

rejects cursive, but it does hide misspellings nicely):

"Bottom line is, I have no plan. I want green grass and my own house with my own garden and back screen door. I want Gerdy to run around, and to let the cats outside. I don't know where I want to live, but I'm feeling like it is not New York [City]. New York does not feel like home to me, and I haven't seen these places upstate or along the Hudson to know what they are about."

And then it hit me — the quantum leap feeling — that I was living my dream. Right now. Standing in our sunroom in "a place along the Hudson" that I knew nothing about — which became Beacon! My cat goes in and out every day, my dog used to enjoy the sunshine in the grass, and my other cat is buried in the backyard! LOL. The only thing missing is a back screen door, which I'm working on replacing (I can't figure out how to get the metal storm door off).

Bottom line is — in these moments that go so fast — we can lose our lives or forget about our visions. Journals are good evidence of what we wanted. Social media streams are digital and disappear. Connect to your thoughts. Put pen to paper. Let the moments spill out of your head onto a place you can look back to, and pat yourself on the back for accomplishing all or part of it. Because in one blink, you're moving on to the next dream. And you need time to dream.

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

## Hudson Valley Community Power

Join us at a public Q&A Open House to learn about the Hudson Valley Community Power Program, including how you can save even more on electricity by choosing local solar.

June 17<sup>th</sup>

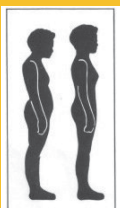
7:30 – 9:00 pm

Cold Spring Fire House

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**VILLAGE OF COLD SPRING**

**INDEPENDENCE DAY 2019**

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9:15 pm sponsored by Old VFW Hall

**Village Parade** 4:00 pm Lineup, 4:30 Start  
Cedar Street to Waterfront - Floats - Vintage Cars  
Bike Decorating Contest - Patriotic Pet Parade - Pie Baking Contest  
Foods & Beverages from Local Vendors - 50/50 Raffle - TV Raffle  
Kid's Inflatables - Grand Marshal and SPECIAL GUESTS

**Mainstage Music 5:30 pm** Dockside Park

**The BIG TAKEOVER**  
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**Saturday July 6th 2019**

Rain Date: Sunday July 7th

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## Charging Stations *(from Page 1)*

tion of public electric-car charging stations, and 72 percent said they would use them.

Respondents could rank their choices for charging stations, with top choices receiving more points. After Foodtown and Metro-North, which received 194 and 191 survey points, the leading choices were Main Street in Cold Spring (185 points), the Cold Spring municipal parking lot (160) and the Metro-North station parking lot in Garrison (60).

Other possibilities included Garrison's Desmond-Fish Library (46), Philipstown Square (45), Main Street in Nelsonville (18), the Cold Spring waterfront (17), and the Haldane school campus (15).

Muller said the Philipstown Climate Smart Task Force intends to conduct another survey, online and in print, on household greenhouse gas emissions.

Under New York State's Climate Smart program, municipalities that launch efforts to reduce pollution and other causes of global warming can increase their chances of obtaining grants. Putnam County signed on June 4 (see Page 5), joining Philipstown, Beacon, Nelsonville, Dutchess County, and about 250 other jurisdictions statewide.

Beacon has a public car-charging station at 223 Main St. that was installed by Dutchess County last summer.

### Danskammer

Tiger Infrastructure, which owns the Danskammer power plant on the Hudson River in Newburgh, wants to replace the nearly



In a survey conducted as part of Philipstown's Climate Smart Communities initiative, residents picked Foodtown Plaza as the best place for a public car-charging station.

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

70-year-old natural-gas facility, which operates on a limited basis, with an updated, \$400 million air-cooled version. Company officials say that although the new facility would still use natural gas, its emissions would be cut significantly while providing energy for about 500,000 homes and businesses.

Citing information from the nonprofit Food & Water Watch, the Town Board resolution faulted the proposed plant for "worsening our climate crisis by burning dirty fossil fuels around the clock."

"We don't need any more fossil-fuel plants, especially not here in the Hudson Valley," said Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea. In fact, he added, in the Northeast, "there's a glut of energy."

Ethan Timm, an architect who lives in Philipstown, argued that given the state's push for renewable energy sources, "not only is it antithetical to be expanding fossil-fuel infrastructure, it doesn't make any sense," because it forces customers to pay for something "whether we need it or not, for the benefit of a small number of investors" and Danskammer employees.

Councilor Mike Leonard noted the state's goal of drastically reducing fossil-fuel use by 2050. "If we're going to make that, we have to make tough decisions right now. We can't wait," he said.

Board members mentioned recent progress in the town government's own backyard: a solar installation and replacement

of traditional bulbs with energy-efficient LED lighting at the Recreation Center in Garrison. Councilor Judith Farrell, who oversaw the upgrade, said it should cut costs by more than \$700 a month.

Shea also mentioned Philipstown's participation in Hudson Valley Energy's Community Choice Aggregation group, or CCA, which will provide residents with electricity from renewable energy sources, starting July 1. As of this week, the CCA consisted of Beacon, Cold Spring, Fishkill, Poughkeepsie, Marbletown and Philipstown. (See Page 1.)

### Speeders and noise

Audience members on June 6 raised issues affecting neighborhood environments: speeding and disruptions from traffic on Peekskill Road, which connects Main Street in Nelsonville with Route 9D just outside of Nelsonville and Cold Spring, and a business allegedly creating "runaway industrial noise and air pollution" in southern Garrison.

Board members explained that drivers leave Route 9 via Fishkill Road or Main Street and use Peekskill Road to avoid the Cold Spring traffic light, partly because trucks cannot easily turn the corner onto Route 9D (Morris Avenue/Chestnut Street) in the village. They observed that they lack jurisdiction because Putnam County controls Peekskill Road and the state Department of Transportation sets speed limits.

Shea promised to look into the situation with the Garrison business and to try to reconcile its owner with neighbors.

## BOSCOBEL

HOUSE AND GARDENS

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SATURDAY, JUNE 15  
10:00am - 12:30pm

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### RHYME TIME BY THE HUDSON

SELECT FRIDAYS • BEGINS JUNE 21  
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SATURDAY, JUNE 22  
9:30am - 5:00pm



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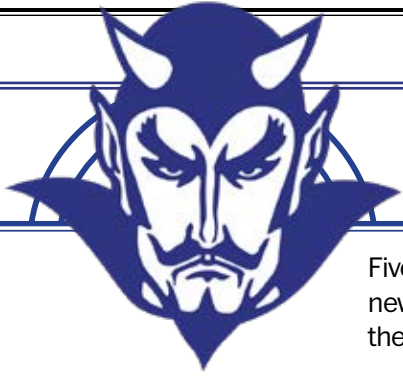


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# THE BLUE PRINT

Five times each year, the members of Jenna Isabella and Ashley Linda's journalism class at Haldane High School publish a school newspaper, *The Blue Print*. With support from the Haldane School Foundation, reporters and editors from *The Current* are working with the students to craft their stories and share their reporting with the community. Selections from the June issue appear below.

## Class of 2019 Expands Its Horizons

By Riley Bissinger and Katelyn Pidala

Late March in New Orleans brings temperatures in the 70s and fresh spring air. The city is alive with culture: art, music and dancing. The Haldane High School Class of 2019 experienced all of this on its final class trip.

The students arrived in New Orleans on March 26, excited and ready for their days in Louisiana, despite only having a few hours of sleep.

Throughout high school, the Class of 2019 has been fundraising and preparing for its senior trip. This year's trip was a little different from other year's, mainly because of the change in the service learning experience. The service learning aspect involved working with Arc Bead Center and Ms. Gloria's Garden. Both were great experiences for the class to engage with the people of New Orleans while also helping out their community.

At the Arc Bead Center, the class helped organize donated Mardi Gras beads. The center helps employ individuals with intellectual disabilities who have a hard time finding work. The experience allowed for the class to learn about the Mardi Gras culture in New Orleans as well as the meanings of different types of Mardi Gras beads.

The other service learning aspect of the trip was with Ms. Gloria's Garden. This community garden helps supply fresh produce to the homeless of New Orleans. The class was able to help plant, decorate, and refurbish the garden with the guidance of Ms. Gloria herself. Many students helped by painting a wood slab or rock, decorating it to fit a specific plant. They would then



Haldane seniors assist at Ms. Gloria's Garden in New Orleans.



add the health benefits of that plant, such as symptoms it could help treat.

Aside from community service, the seniors also got to experience the rich culture of New Orleans through a swamp tour in which students got to see alliga-

tors and wild boars, a cruise on Steamboat Natchez with a seafood dinner included, and numerous trips to cafes and restaurants. Cafe Du Monde in particular was a highlight for the seniors, as they got to eat beignets and listen to street music.

## Seniors Aspire

By Alden Dobosz

Haldane seniors ended their high school careers participating in the ASPIRE internship program. Some students continued working at their regular jobs, while others interned with a new business.

The program ran from May 20 through June 7, which gave students an opportunity to experience life outside the walls of Haldane and an experience they can put on their resume.

Students were required to complete 20 hours of paid or unpaid work with their business. In order to be eligible to participate, seniors had to be passing all of their classes by the end of the third quarter. At the conclusion of the program, students gave a presentation to their English class to receive a fourth-quarter grade.

The internship coordinator, teacher Melissa Seideman, shared her thoughts on the program. "Some people may have never worked before, so this experience should help them prepare for later in a workplace environment," she said. "Most seniors are probably burnt out from their normal classes, so this should be a positive change before graduation."

Seideman said she is pleased with the increased participation rates over the years. "Three years ago, only 63 percent of seniors participated in internships, last year we had 93 percent, and this year we have 100 percent."

Some students use the experience to try new things and see what they might be interested in pursuing in the future. In the past, some students have commented that they've ruled out a future career based on the internship — something they'd rather discover now while there is still plenty of time to decide on a career path.

Senior Justin Markey, who's interning at Marc's Landscaping, said, "I'm glad to be getting some real world experience outside of class."

**MORE ON PAGE 18**

## Sophomores Go to Washington

By Damian Vladimiroff

As sophomores from Haldane walked around the Capitol Building during a trip in March to visit Washington, D.C., the shadow of the Statue of Freedom loomed over them in the early morning sun.

The group waited to be met by Rep.

Sean Patrick Maloney (NY-18) to take a private tour around the building. He arrived just after a congressional vote to reject the president's veto on a resolution that would have overturned his declaration of a national emergency at the border.

The representative spoke about many varying topics from firearm awareness and activism, to immigration and what

his colleagues are trying to achieve, to issues regarding the state of Congress and increasing tensions between the Democratic and Republican factions.

In the middle of the conversation, a Republican congressman quickly waved and shouted at Mr. Maloney. He waved back and explained how friendships

(Continued on Page 18)

**REPORTERS:** Riley Bissinger, Katrine Buslovich, Arden Conybear, Alden Dobosz, Catriona Fee, Riley Johanson, Liam Marinar, Ada McBride, Elizabeth Nelson, Katelyn Pidala, Julia Rotando, Natalie Sandick, Sophia Scanga, Damian Vladimiroff



## THE BLUE PRINT

# Cabaret Review



A scene from the Haldane production of *Cabaret*

By Arden Conybear

**C**abaret was “byootiful! (...) but don’t take my word for it...” (actually.... do!). The musical *Cabaret* was written by Joe Masteroff in 1966 and was brought to life by Haldane Drama’s 2019 production, directed by Martha Mechalakos and assistant director Andrea McCue. It was choreographed by Katie Bissinger, with inspiration from the original chore-

ographer of the film, Bob Fosse.

The plot follows an American writer, Clifford Bradshaw (played by Andrew Nachamkin and Noah Bingham) who comes to Germany to write a novel and instead discovers a muse in Kit Kat Klub performer, Sally Bowles (played by Freya Wood-Gallagher and Lindsay Phillips)

As Cliff watches and Sally is oblivious, troubles in Germany become worse. The Emcee (the eccentric Master of Cere-

monies played by Justin Roffman and Quinn Petkus) comments on the life of Sally and Cliff and the problems rising in Germany with laugh-inducing musical numbers at the Cabaret.

*Cabaret* is funny, but dark. It disguises the theme with humor and tricks the audience into thinking it is going to be a light and fun musical. As it progresses, it shocks people into realizing what the show has been about the entire time. This look into

Nazi Germany truly makes the audience think, as it shows this world from multiple perspectives. Every character has a different outlook and background and is affected differently by what is happening in the world around them.

This production of *Cabaret* was double cast. Both of the actors that played Emcee, Roffman and Petkus, were very different, but both portrayed the character perfectly. They were hilarious, and as the show goes on the Emcee slowly gets darker, and the humor begins to become the perfect amount of uncomfortable.

Roisin Daly, who played Fraulein Schneider, was heartwarming and heart-breaking. Another notable factor was the choreography. Katie Bissinger had worked hard to choreograph the musical numbers and make sure every dancer was doing just what she wanted. The set and costumes were also incredible. The set perfectly fit the mood of the show and the costumes were colorful and all very different.

*Cabaret* was a wonderful show to see, the entire cast, under the direction of Mechalakos, put their hearts and souls into making this production the great success that it was. It is a musical that leaves you thinking about it, searching for the hidden layers.

## Washington (from Page 17)

within Congress have no political bounds. He took questions and briefly explained the importance of teen activism: “Your generation is the most politically active in my lifetime. The things that you have achieved have significantly changed the political discussion in Congress.”

Eventually, after questions and discussions, the representative lead the sophomore class on a private tour of Capitol Hill. After passing through expansive security, the class followed the representative through hallways, corridors, passed the offices of House and Senate whips and leaders, and through a small, marble spiraling-staircase and onto the Speaker’s Balcony.

The class moved off the balcony and into the rotunda as more photos were taken of the dome. While making their way through the Capitol Building, some students ran into Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi as she was making her way to her office. There was a buzz of excitement as Pelosi quickly greeted Rep. Maloney and his daughter (present on the trip) and moved on.

The rest of the day was spent walking along the National Mall, photographing monuments, passing by federal offices and buildings, and entertaining extended conversations and explanations of the day in politics — President Donald Trump had visited the Capitol



Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney takes a selfie with Haldane's sophomore class during its visit to Washington, D.C.

Building just before the class’s arrival.

Over the next few days, the group visited a number of other historic sites: the Lincoln and Martin Luther King Jr. memorials, the Vietnam and World War II memorials, the Marine Corps War Memorial, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Newseum and the Washington Monument.

The second day ended with a production of *Sheer Madness* at the JFK Center for the Performing Arts — an interactive comedy in which the audience must question, theorize and vote for a possible murderer. The show was filled with jokes ranging from football and sports, to politics and the Mueller Report.

The third day ended with a fancy cruise

on the Potomac, with a dinner dance. On the last day, after packing up and cleaning their hotel rooms, the class visited Arlington National Cemetery. As students and chaperones respectfully walked through the site, several funerals and burials of American veterans were occurring. Finally, the group visited the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.





Built in 1922, the Mount Beacon Reservoir, one of three in the city's water-supply system, holds about 125 million gallons. *NYNJTC*

## Moratorium *(from Page 1)*

gallons per day but was taken offline when it began producing “cloudy” water earlier this year following the installation of a new pump.

In addition to two wells, Beacon draws water from three reservoirs that combine to provide up to about 1.5 million gallons per day. Well No. 1 can provide more than half a million gallons per day, and the city also has an agreement to buy up to 1.2 million gallons per day from Fishkill, if needed.

Calling it “unexpected but relatively common,” hydrologist Tom Cusack, who advised the city on water issues last year, said that Beacon still has more than sufficient water to meet its existing and immediate future needs with the well out of service. Cusack said his firm calculated Beacon’s peak water demand, then added estimated peak demands for all development projects being built and under review by the Planning Board.

“At that point you’re just shy of surplus water of about 200,000 gallons a day,” he said.

All three of Beacon’s reservoirs are full after the rainy spring and the city “hasn’t

even touched” the water it could draw from Fishkill, added Ed Balicki, the city’s water and wastewater superintendent.

The 35-year-old Well No. 2 could take up to three months to repair but will not affect water quality, Cusack said. The council is expected to vote at its June 17 meeting to spend up to \$175,000 for the work.

Casale said last month that he didn’t think Beacon needed another building freeze but switched gears following Cusack’s report. “I’m being reassured that we’re going to have plenty of water,” Casale said, but “there’s no guarantee until we find out what the end result really is.”

The City Council in 2017 approved a six-month moratorium after concerns were raised about Beacon’s long-term water supply. That freeze ended in March 2018 when Cusack’s firm, WSB, issued a report showing adequate water for the city’s projected population through 2035.

McCredo has pushed in recent months for the council to discuss another moratorium, saying that Beacon’s environmental review of development projects doesn’t consider the cumulative effect of the

city’s rapid growth on schools, roads and other infrastructure. If development were paused, she said Monday, a comprehensive study could measure those net impacts.

“We haven’t stopped and taken stock of all of these things together,” she argued.

City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis said there must be a specific reason to include a fourth month, given that the repairs are expected to take only three. He said he would draft a proposal for the council to review based on the well repair and the council’s ongoing review of zoning codes.

The council could choose at its meeting on Monday, June 17, to schedule a public hearing or to discuss the idea further. If adopted, the moratorium would likely be retroactive to June 10, when the proposal was made.

If it’s like the last freeze, development projects already approved by the Planning Board would be allowed to proceed but the Building Department would not process new applications until the moratorium was lifted. Building proposals that create jobs while staying under a water-consumption threshold would be exempt from the freeze, Casale said Monday.

## Then & Now

Fishkill Creek in a postcard looking south from Wolcott bridge, circa 1920s, and today



Photo by Brian PJ Cronin



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## CCA: What's the Catch?

Karl Rabágo, a law professor who is executive director of the Pace Energy and Climate Center, knows a thing or two about what collective bargaining power looks like for electricity customers. As a former public utility commissioner in Texas, he saw the success rural customers had forming electricity co-ops similar to the Community Choice Aggregation coming to the Highlands.

Rabágo's expertise meant that many people in Westchester turned to him for answers when the Westchester Power CCA launched three years ago.

"A lot of old guys like me were worried about being slammed," he said, referring to an illegal practice in which companies furtively change a customer's supplier. "I was quickly on the phone to Westchester Power saying, 'You have to get the message out! People are not being slammed!'"

So, what is going to happen? What's the catch?

"The first catch is that things are going to be happening differently with your power that you may not understand yet," Rabágo said. "The way we implement CCAs in New York is that the manager of the CCA goes out and procures your source of supply and then enrolls you in what we call ESCOs: energy service companies. Your supplier will

change. You'll get some additional information and disclosures. It's all authorized and it's all OK — you just need to know that it's going to happen.

"A good, active CCA is always going to be looking for the best deal for you. If they can get a better deal, better price, more green, they'll do it. You're now a player in the marketplace, but the people managing your CCA are doing it on your behalf.

"The other catch," he said, "is that a CCA is only as good as its management and the community leaders who voted for it. So it gives you another reason to talk to your municipal leaders."

Rabágo compares a CCA program to a mass-buying program like Sam's Club or Costco. And cheaper, greener power is just the beginning.

"Once you've got everyone together, how can you more efficiently deliver energy-efficiency programs, especially to low-income customers who often get overlooked in the marketplace?" he said. "How can you start building community solar projects so that the power is being generated locally? How do you increase electric vehicle fleets? That's how this gets turned into real community power."



Rabágo

## Crossed Wires *(from Page 1)*

(wind, solar, etc.) or from a mix of renewable and fossil-fuel sources. In Beacon, the default option will be 100 percent renewables.

Those who remain in the program will not see any difference in their monthly bills, except for the price of the electricity. Central Hudson will still deliver the power to their homes, send bills and collect payments; the municipalities will enter a two-year contract only for the supply.

Despite media coverage in *The Current* and elsewhere, and outreach such as a website at [hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com](http://hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com) and regular information sessions, many Highlands residents were caught unaware by the letters, which led to confusion and, in some cases, undue stress.

Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy said he supports the initiative — "Electricity will cost a little less and you'll know where your energy is coming from" — but felt there should have been more outreach.

"It was just dribs and drabs, and now friends and neighbors are coming to me angry and asking 'What's this all about?'" he said, noting that he asked HVCP to increase outreach efforts in the village. In addition to ongoing office hours from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Beacon Recreation Center and Thursdays at Cold Spring Village Hall, Joule Community Power, the company administering the program for Beacon and Philipstown, will hold a Q&A at the Cold Spring firehouse on



Hudson Valley Community Power logo

Monday, June 17, from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

The confusion over the supplier switch allowed misinformation campaigns to get a foothold, Domanski said. Earlier this month in Poughkeepsie, residents received bright orange postcards urging them to opt out.

The campaign was a "hit job," said Domanski, who noted that rates listed on the postcard, taken from Central Hudson's website, were inaccurate. That led to the state Department of Public Service getting involved. Central Hudson has since had to change the rates listed online, and although Domanski says the new rates are more accurate, they're still apples to oranges because they are not weighted for annual output averages as HVCP's are.

The postcards read that they had been  
*(Continued on Page 22)*

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Terry Hockler is the candidate endorsed by the Green Party for mayor.  
Campaign photo

## Going for Green

By Jeff Simms

Beacon's 39 registered Green Party voters will be able to vote in the June 25 primary for mayor: the ballot will include the name of Terry Hockler, the candidate endorsed by the Green Party, and a line for a write-in.

The primary is being held because the Democratic candidate for mayor, Lee Kyriacou, filed what is known as an "opportunity to ballot" petition for the Green Party line. If more registered Green voters write in his name (or that of someone else) than vote for Hockler, his or her name will appear on the Green Party line on the November ballot.

New York election law allows candidates to appear on multiple party lines on the November ballot, so candidates sometimes fight to get their name to appear as many times as possible, believing it will lead to more votes.

Kyriacou, a longtime City Council member, will appear on the Democratic ballot line. Randy Casale, who is running for a third term as mayor, will appear on the Independence and Republican lines.

In a letter to *The Current*, Barbara Kidney, a Newburgh resident who is chair of the Hudson Valley Green Party, accused Kyriacou of attempting to hijack her party's line in the fall vote.

"The official Green Party candidate for mayor is lifelong Beacon resident Terry Hockler, who months ago filed to change her party registration to

Green," Kidney wrote. "Her platform includes supporting safe green energy, cultural and environmental heritage, local business and affordable housing in Beacon."

In an email, Kyriacou responded, saying that this year, "the Green Party changed a long-standing policy, without announcement, and endorsed a non-Green registered voter. Beacon Democrats asked to interview for the Green endorsement and never received a response. So, as usual, we filed an opportunity to ballot petition to give voters a choice. As committed environmentalists, Beacon Democrats are comfortable with voter choice."

Petitions were also filed for an opportunity to ballot for the Green Party line in each of Beacon's four wards. Since there are no Green candidates for council member seats, the primary ballot will include only a line for a write-in candidate.

The same situation occurred for the Independence Party line for the Dutchess County Legislature seat held by Democrat Nick Page, whose 18th district includes parts of Beacon and Fishkill. The 358 registered Independence Party voters in the district will have a chance to write in a candidate for the November ballot. (There was no endorsed Independence Party candidate.) Page will appear on the Democratic line and Beacon resident Michael Justice has the Republican line.

## Ward 4 (from Page 7)

legal "teeth" to make many crucial development decisions, and each month has an overburdened agenda; the council must appoint or hire more professionals, and perhaps more important, establish a separate or overlapping architectural review board that incorporates skilled and talented individuals from our arts community.

**Take your top priority from that list and dive deeper into how the council should address the issue.**

**AYMAR-BLAIR:** The vast majority of voters tell me their biggest concern is all this construction. They feel the process and priorities are all wrong, and the outcomes are worse. As an activist, I pushed for the building moratorium, more office space and historic protections, but we only scratched the surface. We need stricter architectural review, more specific zoning, fewer variances and a comprehensive assessment of the long-term impact on our infrastructure, schools and taxes. What we really need, however, is a shift in the culture. There's still this old feeling that Beacon should let anyone build who wants to. Beacon can be specific about what we want. There's a lot for developers to like about reforming the process, too. By giving them clearer direction, we can lower the blood pressure of these conversations.

**ELLENWOOD:** Beacon enjoys a rich history; parts of it were built quite some time ago. Rebuilding our bridges, roads and sewer

systems are critical to the city's health. It is important to move quickly to identify the infrastructure needs and the sources of funding. We should: (1) Address the long-time traffic issue to and from the Metro-North station and the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge. This effort will require cooperation between Beacon, Fishkill, federal and state authorities, and the MTA. My abilities as a grant writer and as someone who has proven that all levels of government can work cooperatively will help us get the funding we need to move forward; (2) Upgrade our crosswalks, sidewalks and roads. In Ward 4, we should address the intersection of Tioronda/Main/Churchill; the crosswalk at Green Street Park; and "traffic-calming" in a number of neighborhoods; (3) Identify infrastructure issues that new development could take on in order to build in Beacon, including evidence of sustainable building practices. Currently, developers must contribute to the Recreation Fund, and developers along the Fishkill Creek Development Zone in Wards 3 and 4 must help build the Greenway Trail. The University Settlement Camp in Ward 4 should be the next beneficiary of this "legacy project" funding; and, finally, (4) Educate the public on the city's bond funding. Beacon's bond rating has upgraded over the last four years, which means the cost of borrowing money will be lower. We should tie capital-expense planning to our wish list of infrastructure improvements, with a 21st-century firehouse near the top of that list.



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## Crossed Wires *(from Page 20)*

“paid for and distributed by concerned neighbors in Poughkeepsie” and attacked Common Council members Sarah Salem and Sarah Brannen, both of whom are facing primary challenges on June 25.

HVCP will be the second Community Choice Aggregation program in the state. The first began in Westchester County with 20 municipalities in May 2016 and was recently renewed for a second, three-year contract. It now has 27 partners, including, most recently, Peekskill.

As successful as the program has been — Westchester Power says it has saved its members \$17 million in energy costs since last year — Dana Levenberg, supervisor for the Town of Ossining, noted it had a rocky beginning.

“The communication hasn’t been as perfect as we wished it could have been,” she said.

And even though the program had been thoroughly vetted by municipalities and its legal teams, she too fielded angry complaints from people upset that they were opted into the program. Levenberg said she typically responds, “Who opted you into Con Ed? That was the default and all we’re doing is changing the default, which gets you a better deal and it’s better for the environment. And if you don’t like it you can always opt-out.”

Despite the initial hiccups, Levenberg said she has been so impressed with the program that she recently joined the board of Westchester Power.

To combat climate change, “we have to leave no stone unturned by working collectively,” she said. “There’s strength in numbers and we’re building our case for demanding clean energy as a larger part of the mix than it has been.”

## Recycling *(from Page 6)*

and that grant money is available for public education. “There is a lot of educating to be done,” she said.

### In other business ...

- Cold Spring will soon have a new superintendent of water and wastewater. Trustees appointed Matthew Kroog, who lives in Fishkill, to the job, which pays \$90,000 annually. He will begin on June 24, succeeding Greg Phillips, who plans to retire next month after helping to train Kroog. Mayor Dave Merandy said Kroog will “fill some big shoes” in replacing Phillips, who is retiring after 25 years as superintendent. Merandy said he had concerns about finding a qualified candidate but was “comfortable and really happy” with Kroog, who is licensed to operate both water and wastewater systems.
- Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke reported the Cold Spring Police Department responded to 76 calls for service in May and issued 76 parking and 31 traffic tickets, including

eight for speeding. One arrest was made for driving without a license. Burke also reported an uptick in minor traffic accidents in the village, which he said is typical as summer approaches.

- Merandy said he had received a letter from the state Department of Transportation indicating that the agency will investigate the installation of a traffic light near the Butterflied redevelopment project. Seniors living at Chestnut Ridge had requested village support for a light. The letter cautioned that the review could take a while.
- After a lengthy and often confusing discussion, the board agreed on June 4 that nonprofit groups using Mayor’s Park for ticketed events will pay \$500 per day, which is 50 percent less than for-profit organizations. The Cold Spring Recreation Commission earlier had recommended that nonprofits be charged \$250 a day, but Merandy commented, “That’s way too low.”

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

# Current Classifieds

## EVENTS

**SAUNDERS BARN DANCE** — Old Albany Post Road at Philipsbrook Road in Garrison, Saturday, June 22. Bring dish and beverage to share. Potluck at 7:30 p.m., small people dancing at 7:45, tall people dancing at 8, park in field opposite.

## TAG SALES

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The HIGHLANDS

Current

7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

Saturday

81/63

Warmer with sunshine mixing with some clouds

POP: 10%

SW 6-12 mph

RealFeel 87/60

Sunday

78/66

Cloudy, a shower and t-storm around; more humid

POP: 60%

SW 6-12 mph

RealFeel 78/65

Monday

84/65

Cloudy and humid; an afternoon thunderstorm

POP: 55%

W 6-12 mph

RealFeel 87/63

Tuesday

80/57

Sunny intervals with a shower or t-storm; humid

POP: 55%

WSW 4-8 mph

RealFeel 83/59

Wednesday

79/58

Times of clouds and sun

POP: 20%

NW 4-8 mph

RealFeel 89/56

Thursday

83/65

Variably cloudy with a couple of showers possible

POP: 30%

SE 3-6 mph

RealFeel 94/64

Friday

84/68

Humid with intervals of clouds and sunshine

POP: 0%

SSW 6-12 mph

RealFeel 89/66

Pollen

High

Moderate

Low

Absent

Grass

Weeds

Trees

N.A.

Molds

Source: National Allergy Bureau

SUN & MOON

Sunrise Sat., 6/15 5:22 AM

Sunset Sat. night, 6/15 8:31 PM

Moonrise Sat., 6/15 6:54 PM

Moonset Sat., 6/15 4:15 AM

Full

Last

New

First

Jun 17

Jun 25

Jul 2

Jul 9

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.

# CROSSCURRENT

By  
King Features

## ACROSS

- Swindle
- Poke
- Elliptical
- Arm bone
- Acapulco gold
- Arrived
- Resilience
- Former New York archbishop
- Legislative group
- Memorizes
- Ph. bk. data
- Sicilian spouter
- Scarlet
- Vigor
- Depend (on)
- Item on stage
- Bro or sis
- Teen's woe
- Haggard or Travis
- Prized possession
- "Eeeww!"
- Uncategorized (Abbr.)
- Last letter in London
- Shed
- Advance
- "Money -- everything"
- Zest
- Air speed measure
- Old French coin
- Hammer part
- Purchases
- Away from WSW

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						
54					55				56			
57					58				59			

59. Being, to Brutus

Polynesia

32. Columns' bases

9. Charge against a squatter

34. Game akin to pinochle

37. Superlative ending

10. "-- for All Seasons"

39. Carte

42. Thicket

11. Camera part

44. Curtain

45. Branch

16. On

46. Birthright barterer

48. Change for a five

20. Biblical verb suffix

49. Dogfight participants

50. Unit of force

23. Spinning stat

53. Charged bit

24. Before

25. Sleeping state

27. Glutton

29. Wildebeest

30. "A mouse!"

3. Soon

4. Worshipper of Quetzalcoatl

5. Family to keep up with

6. Curve

7. "Britain's Got Talent" phenom Susan

8. Micro-, Mela-, and

1. Long sandwiches

2. Hint

## DOWN

# SUDOCURRENT

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

## Answers for June 7 Puzzles

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

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

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

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# Haldane Softball Falls in Regionals

*No. 4 Pine Plains takes down Blue Devils*

By Skip Pearlman

The Haldane High School softball team met its match on June 6, falling, 7-1 in the Class C regional final to Section 9 champion Pine Plains, in a game played at North Rockland High School.

Pine Plains senior pitcher Alex McKenzie, who has played on the varsity since eighth grade, held the Section 1 champion Blue Devils to two hits while striking out seven batters. The Bombers won their third straight regional title and advanced to the state semifinals.

Haldane Coach Nick Lisikatos said his team played well but couldn't counter McKenzie.

"You have to have hitting, pitching and

defense, and we didn't have all three," Lisikatos said. "We didn't string enough hits together."

"It's about what we expected," he added. "We got in trouble early but got out of it. We gave up some bloop hits, but nothing major. But we just didn't hit. Their pitcher cruised. We had a handful of strikeouts, and we hit the ball at people."

McKenzie, who also went 2-for-2 with an RBI at the plate, carried a no-hitter into the sixth inning, when Haldane got a bloop single from Mary Mikalsen to break up the no-no, followed by a solid hit by Abigail Platt, who scored Haldane's lone run on a wild pitch in the bottom of the seventh. But that was it for offense.

"We did have some good at-bats," Lisikatos said. "She threw a good game, but we didn't step our hitting up."

Lisikatos said Shianne Twoguns, Haldane's starting pitcher, was effective, spreading a

few hits "here and there," but they turned into runs. He noted that Sydney Warren played well defensively, turning "a bases-loaded situation into an unassisted double play."

Pine Plains went up 1-0 in the second, but tacked on two runs on a wild pitch and an errant throw in the third for a 3-0 lead. The Bombers added one in the fifth, and pulled away with a three-run sixth.

Haldane finished the season with a 14-4 record, and was ranked eighth in the state in Class C by the New York State Sports-writers Association in its June 10 poll. Pine Plains (16-6) was ranked fourth.

"I was super pleased with our season," Lisikatos said after the game. "It was a smart bunch, they understood the game, and surpassed what was anticipated. We only graduate one senior, so we can do good things again next year."

*Photos by Scott Warren*

