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# 5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: MARJORIE TARTER

By Alison Rooney

Marjorie Tarter co-owns the Hudson Valley Marshmallow Co. in Beacon with her husband, Brendan McAlpine.

## As a child, did you dream of owning a marshmallow store?

I wish we had a cute origin story! I have a background in fashion marketing, and Brendan is a real-estate attorney. We had a friend who was a pastry chef in the city, and one of the most delicious things she made was flavored marshmallows. After



running a bakery for 10 or 12 years, she approached us to take over.

## Why did you?

Friends were like, "What do you know about bakeries?" But our thought process was, if you make something delicious and the customer experience is great, it's going to be a slam dunk. We knew we wanted to open a little shop to introduce our concept to the public. We re-branded with the Hudson Valley name, and here we are. If you can't have fun selling marshmallows, you're doing something wrong.

## Is Valentine's Day your busiest time of the year? Or maybe Easter?

It's Christmas and

Hanukkah. We do stocking stuffers like hot cocoa bars and a Christmas "coal." Our holiday season was so bonkers this year we ran out of vanilla marshmallows for two weeks.

## Do you sell marshmallows outside of Beacon?

The big chunk of our business is wholesale. We have smaller retailers as well as grocery chains such as Whole Foods and Adams. We never thought we would have national sales, although we'd go to the fancy-food trade shows and I knew we were on to something because we had people sneaking back for samples pretending they hadn't already been twice before.

## Why do people who don't like marshmallows seem to like yours?

We're using ingredients with names you can pronounce, and we're a bit less sweet. And you can have a handful for about 80 calories. There are no disgruntled customers. The store is where we experiment with flavors and learn what will make it to the big time. Coconut and coffee are doing well, although we've had some fails: the everything-bagel marshmallow, the pizza marshmallow — that was definitely a no-go. You can't win 'em all.

# ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

Are you savoring the mild winter or fretting over global warming?

"I'm fine with it. Hunter Mountain today had no snow but they make tons of it."



~ Bryan Conklin, Beacon

"I'm enjoying the weather but we lost seven of our eight beehives at Stonykill Farm due to climate change."



~ Kaetlyn Stamper, Beacon

"The groundhog saw his shadow; let's get along with spring."



~ Lou Thorpe, Cold Spring

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# Philipstown Plans More Sidewalks, Bike Paths

*Adopts policy designed to fight global warming*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Philipstown Town Board last week endorsed more sidewalks, bike lanes, walking paths and mass-transit options to decrease the reliance on cars and reduce global warming linked to the pollution they emit.

With a 4-0 vote at its monthly meeting on Feb. 6 (Supervisor Richard Shea was absent), the board joined officials in Beacon, Dutchess County and other jurisdictions in adopting what is known as a Complete Streets policy.

The initiative is a component of the state's Climate Smart program and reflects a 2011 law that requires publicly funded road projects to consider the needs of pedestrians,

bicyclists and mass-transit riders, as well as public safety.

In its resolution adopting the policy, the board directed that major updates to the zoning code, subdivision regulations and highway and street standards incorporate Complete Streets principles.

Roberto Muller, who leads Philipstown's Climate Smart efforts, told the board that the state offers incentives of up to 50 percent of project costs, and the federal government and other sources also offer grants.

"It seems sensible" to get involved, said Board Member John Van Tassel.

The Town Board's resolution noted that the task force recently "identified on-road vehicle emissions as one of the community's largest contributors to climate change." However, it acknowledged that Philipstown will proceed "when feasible, based on practical considerations such as budgetary constraints."

According to the policy, when undertaking road work, Philipstown will consider installing sidewalks, crosswalks, ramps, bike lanes, bicycle-parking stands and "traffic-calming" mechanisms. The policy instructs the Highway and Building departments and other offices to work "toward making Complete Streets practices a regular part of everyday operations" and pledges that Philipstown will collaborate with Cold Spring, Nelsonville and other neighboring municipalities, plus the state and Putnam County, on meeting Complete Streets goals.

Every three years the town will "determine how well the streets and transportation network are serving all categories of users" and will review the total miles of sidewalks and bicycling and walking paths in town, total miles of roads with shoulders at least 4 feet wide, the number of bike racks, the dimensions of crosswalks and related infrastructure.

## Wish List

Roberto Muller said on Wednesday (Feb. 12) that the Philipstown Climate Smart Task Force list of potential Complete Streets projects includes:

- A sidewalk on the east side of Route 9D between Cold Spring and the Manitou School
- A walking/biking path between Foundry Dock Park in Cold Spring and the Philipstown Recreation Center in Garrison via Boscobel, Philipstown Park and the Garrison train station, with connectors to the Garrison School and Desmond-Fish Library
- Bike lanes on Routes 9D and 301;
- A pedestrian/cyclist-friendly connection between Philipstown Square on Route 9 and Nelsonville
- A pedestrian/cyclist path between Cold Spring and Breakneck Ridge

## Notes from the Cold Spring Village Board

By Michael Turton

■ Village reservoirs are at 100 percent capacity, Matt Kroog, the superintendent of water and wastewater, told the Cold Spring Village Board at its Feb. 11 meeting. Water levels had fallen in the fall because of drought conditions. Kroog said no water discoloration has been reported since extensive problems around Jan. 10. A flush of the system will be conducted in late March or early April, he said.

■ The Cold Spring Police Department answered 51 calls for service in January. There was one arrest, for violation of an order of protection. Officers wrote 50 traffic and 56 parking tickets. The Cold Spring Fire Co. responded to three alarms.

■ Mayor David Merandy reported that because all area fireworks companies are booked for the July Fourth holiday weekend, Cold Spring's pyrotechnics will take place as part of Community Day over Labor Day weekend.

■ Village Accountant Michelle Ascolillo outlined the 2020-21 budget process and said the maximum allowable increase in the tax levy will be \$41,000 under the state-imposed cap. The village must submit its budget to the state by May 1.

■ The highway department collected 43.4 tons of trash and 16.5 tons of recyclables in January. A price increase brought the cost of disposing of recyclables to \$102.48 per ton, compared to \$87 per ton for trash. The village is exploring the savings of switching from weekly, single-stream recycling to a dual-stream system in which cardboard and paper would be collected on alternate weeks from cans and bottles.

■ The Zoning Board of Appeals requested an advisory opinion from the Planning Board regarding an application to



The owner of this barn on Parsonage Street would like to remove it and construct a single-family home on the same footprint.

Photo by M. Turton

remove a barn at 21 Parsonage St. and replace it with a single-family home on the same spot.

■ The board continued its discussion on Feb. 11 with the organizers of a Putnam Pride event tentatively scheduled for June 6. [See Page 8.] Numerous attempts by the trustees and Merandy to secure event details proved unsuccessful. An equal number of attempts by the principal organizer, Eileen McDermott of Brewster, to explain why such details are dependent upon first receiving formal board approval, were equally unproductive. The protracted discussion ended with McDermott agreeing to bring to the Feb. 25 meeting information such as the anticipated attendance, number of vendors, food trucks and nonprofit organizations, arrangements for music and speeches, and locations of activities.

■ John Sherer's application for a Hops on the Hudson Artisan and Craft Fair at

Dockside Park on the weekend of May 30-31 will be resubmitted to shift the event to Mayor's Park. The size of the event, traffic, parking and policing were among the board's concerns with having the event at Dockside.

■ The board on Jan. 28 rejected all bids received for the purchase of a boiler for the firehouse due to higher than expected cost. A second round of bids is being considered.

■ The mayor said he would contact the state Department of Transportation after resident Teresa Lagerman expressed concerns on Jan. 28 about pedestrian safety at the corner of Main Street and Chestnut Street/Morris Avenue, especially with students walking to and from Haldane.

■ The board supported resident Jennifer Zwarich's suggestion to form an ad hoc committee to deal with cell-tower issues affecting Cold Spring.



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## Tell us what you think

**T**he *Current* welcomes letters to the editor on its coverage and local issues. Submissions are selected by the editor to provide a variety of opinions and voices, and all are subject to editing for accuracy, clarity and length. We ask that writers remain civil and avoid personal attacks. Letters may be emailed to [editor@highlandscurrent.org](mailto:editor@highlandscurrent.org) or mailed to Editor, The Highlands Current, 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. The writer's full name, village or city, and email or phone number must be included, but only the name and village or city will be published.

## LETTERS AND COMMENTS

### Decatur Myers

Thank you to Michael Turton for his wonderful column about my longtime "paper man!" — which was the enthusiastic daily announcement from my old friend Decatur Myers as he tossed the paper from his moving car ("From One Paperboy to Another," Feb. 7).

I was terribly saddened to hear about his passing — a fact I had suspected but was uncertain about over the previous few months. Mr. Myers was indeed special. The most significant thing about his work was how oriented he was to servicing each and every individual on his many routes.

Because my wife and I traveled a lot, we soon learned that it was better to rely on him to keep track of our comings and goings than on *The New York Times*' computer. I assume there are many people from his route who called his cellphone to report this or that issue and fondly remember his cheerful greeting.

The column was a perfect example of why a community newspaper is still an important way for us locals to connect with each other. Mr. Myers' career is an example of no matter how "simple" a job may be, when a person does it with grace, enthusiasm and dedication, he or she makes a positive difference.

The world is a poorer place without Mr. Myers. But the community is richer because Michael Turton told that story — amplifying the feelings people like me and Mr. Myers' other customers already knew.

My sincere condolences to the extended Myers family.

Mike Meeropol, *Cold Spring*

Thank you, Mike Turton! Decatur would drive by and throw my paper out his car window, but I never knew who he was. It's nice to read and know his story.

Susan Branagan, *via Facebook*

I've been wondering why my *Times* has been coming earlier, why the Sunday sections stopped coming on Friday, why I haven't heard his loud motor or traditional "Paper, paper, wake up, wake up, wake up!" call outside my window. Decatur's well-deserved reputation for bad driving aside, he was a great newspaper guy, and he's been missed.

Marjorie Gage, *via Facebook*

Decatur would pull to a complete stop in the middle of his deliveries, throw his car door open in the roadway, leaving it wide-open, and saunter over to my front porch

to chat about the weather, the dog and his nephew. His grin and positive nature always left me smiling after my personal deliveries.

Sylvia Wallin, *via Facebook*

Everyone in my building knew about Decatur's departure. In fact, he told me about his health issue during one of his last deliveries. His last words to me were, "I'll be back. I will return." His positive attitude was inspiring. The residue of those words and the memory of his years delivering my newspaper, has indeed brought him back. Rest in peace, Decatur.

Bill Whipp, *Cold Spring*

Decatur was a unique and gentle man who served our communities with style — Honk. "Paper!" A couple of years ago, Decatur and I talked about going to a Yankees game, but it never happened — it's too bad!

Alan Brownstein, *Cold Spring*

*Editor's note: The Myers family has asked that memorial donations be made to the Lustgarten Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research, 45 Crossways Park Drive, Suite D, Woodbury, NY 11797 (lustgarten.org).*

### Beacon's Shakespeare

I knew John Laing well ("All the City's a Stage," Feb. 7). The Beacon High School teacher who was instrumental in getting a monument to Shakespeare installed at Beacon City Hall loved his work and his students. He was also the first vice president of the Animal Rescue Foundation. Even when he was sick, he would come to Beacon to visit his friends and the cats and dogs.

Joan Cornett, *Beacon*

### Anarchy in Beacon

"Looking Back in Beacon" (Jan. 31) is terrific. I especially liked the item about the Beacon resident who in 1920 was mistaken for fugitive John Reed, the author of *Ten Days That Shook the World*, who was released from jail only after detectives arrived with a photo of Reed. It's quite clear from the photo that John Reed does not look like Warren Beatty [in *Reds*], either.

Steven Wiesmore, *via Instagram*

### Bridge tolls

The proposal by Gov. Andrew Cuomo that the independent New York Bridge Authority, which oversees the Bear Mountain, Newburgh-Beacon and other bridges, be absorbed by the state Thruway Authority is just so typical of New York State's methods of destruction ("Governor Proposes Bridge Changes," Feb. 7). If it works, break it and charge more.

How many people give any thought to  
(Continued on Page 5)





## LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

where all of those outrageous Thruway tolls go? How about the state's gasoline tax — where does it go? Our roads are like driving through a minefield. At night there are roads where white lines are so invisible that keeping the car on the pavement becomes difficult.

If anyone remembers or even cares, the George Washington Bridge in 1975 was destined to be paid off, after which only 25 cents per passage would be needed for ongoing maintenance.

Leonard Lindros, *Garrison*

There is no constructive reason for this but to plunder the coffers of a very successful, professional, top-rated, self-sufficient, fiscally responsible Authority that provides decent-paying jobs to our community members.

Patrick Kelly, *via Facebook*

This is just another way for Cuomo to bleed money from the good people of

## CORRECTION

In our Feb. 7 issue, we published a yearbook photo we identified as showing Beacon High School teacher John Laing, who was instrumental in 1970 in installing a monument dedicated to William Shakespeare at Beacon City Hall. In fact, the photo showed another teacher, Charles Dunn. The correct photo is at right and also has been posted with the article at [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org).



get back to the great state I knew is to vote Cuomo out, but the biggest bloc in the state is in his pocket. Corruption at its finest. Until they don't like him, we're screwed.

Eric Munkelt, *New Windsor*

## Indian Point

New York should be worried about Holtec taking over the decommissioning of the Indian Point nuclear power plant ("Cleaning Up Indian Point," Feb. 7). There has been major mismanagement, lack of safety and inferior design with Holtec's thin-wall nuclear waste canister system at San Onofre, California. Holtec also loaded more than half the thin canisters at Diablo Canyon incorrectly over three separate campaigns.

The damaged canisters will need to be replaced in the short term, yet there are no funds allocated to pay for this. Canisters do not meet or have storage and transport certification for monitored retrievable fuel storage and transport. These are pressure vessels but no pressure-monitoring or pressure-relief valves.

Donna Gilmore, *San Clemente, California*  
*Gilmore is the founder of SanOnofre-Safety.org.*

## NEWS BRIEFS

## Police Arrest 24 in Super Bowl Crackdown

*State troopers issue 1,108 tickets*

During an annual crackdown, New York State Police troopers issued 1,108 tickets in the lower Hudson Valley over Super Bowl weekend and arrested 24 people for allegedly driving under the influence.

Between Friday, Feb. 1, through 4 a.m. Monday, Feb. 3, troopers from Troop K issued 466 citations for speeding, 29 for distracted driving, 23 for seat belt violations and 10 for violating the "move-over law" when approaching police or emergency vehicles. Statewide, troopers issued 8,372 tickets and arrested 122 people on allegations of DWI.

## Library Creates Teen Services Position

*Beth Vardy will create programs*

The Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison has appointed Beth Vardy as its new teen services librarian, a position it said was recommended by community members during strategic planning.

Vardy will create programs and activities, develop the young adult book and media collections and online resources, and collaborate with schools and agencies such as the Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub, the library said. She is recruiting members for a Teen Advisory Council.

Most recently, Vardy was a co-counselor for the library's STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) summer camps. Teens are invited to complete a survey at [bit.ly/dflteensurvey](http://bit.ly/dflteensurvey).

## State Sues Feds Over Travel Ban

*Says policy unfairly targets New Yorkers*

The State of New York sued the federal government this week over a policy that bans its residents from participating in Trusted Traveler programs that allow them to move faster over the border or through airport security.

On Feb. 5, the Department of Homeland Security informed the state Department of Motor Vehicles that New York residents can no longer enroll or re-enroll in programs such as Global Entry, TSA Pre, SENTRI, NEXUS and FAST "due to state legislation

that restricts Custom and Border Protection's access to criminal-history records and other critical vetting information that compromise the safety and security of the United States and its citizens," a reference to the state's enactment of a "green light" law that allows undocumented immigrants to obtain driver's licenses. Thirteen other states and Washington, D.C., have similar laws.

New York State said that 50,000 residents have been conditionally approved for Global Entry but have not completed their interviews, and another 30,000 applications are pending. The memberships of 175,000 New Yorkers expire this year.

## Hustis Case Delayed Again

*Rescheduled to March 11*

The prosecution of Charles E. "Chuck" Hustis III, who was arrested by the FBI in Cold Spring on Dec. 16 and accused of soliciting a minor for sex, has been delayed a second time, until March 11.

According to documents filed in federal court in January, Benjamin Gold, who represents the former Cold Spring village trustee and mayoral candidate, is talking with federal prosecutors about "possible

## Dutchess, By the Numbers

In anticipation of his State of the County presentation on Feb. 20, the office of County Executive Marc Molinaro released highlights of his annual report to the Legislature, including that the county in 2019 recorded:

<b>850,000</b>
public transit trips
<b>1,800</b>
visits to its 24/7 Stabilization Center
<b>258,603</b>
calls to 911
<b>40,000</b>
Medicaid transactions
<b>177</b>
civil-service exams
<b>2,800</b>
people supervised while on probation
<b>1,600</b>
public water-supply inspections

disposition of the case without trial."

The judge released Hustis, 36, in December on \$150,000 bond but placed him under home detention with a monitoring device.

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# Whom Does the Highlands Support?

By Chip Rowe

In August we shared a chart showing how much each federal candidate for elected office had received from local donors in the first six months of 2019, as compiled by the Federal Election Commission (fec.gov). The chart below updates those figures for all of 2019.

Individuals may give up to \$2,800 per federal candidate per election (primary and general), as well as annual contributions of up to \$5,000 to Political Action Committees (PACs), \$10,000 to state party committees and \$35,500 to national party committees. (So-called “Super PACs” can accept unlimited money.)

Our chart includes candidates and PACs that received at least \$75 in donations from Highlands residents. The number of donors is in parentheses following each total. Money given to PACs that support specific candidates is included in the total for that candidate.

CANDIDATE	PARTY	RACE	COLD SPRING/ PHILIPSTOWN	GARRISON	BEACON
Michael BENNET	(D)	President	\$2,800 (1)		
Joe BIDEN	(D)	President	\$5,557 (5)		
Cory BOOKER	(D)	President	\$3,900 (3)		
Pete BUTTIGIEG	(D)	President	\$2,899 (6)	\$3,250 (3)	
Julián CASTRO	(D)	President	\$500 (2)	\$250 (1)	
John DELANEY	(D)	President			\$100 (1)
Tulsi GABBARD	(D)	President			\$500 (1)
Kamala HARRIS	(D)	President	\$2,750 (2)	\$1,500 (2)	\$1,200 (2)
John HICKENLOOPER	(D)	President	\$16,200 (1)		
Amy KLOBUCHAR	(D)	President		\$11,200 (2)	
Beto O’ROURKE	(D)	President	\$105 (1)		
Tim RYAN	(D)	President	\$2,800 (1)		
Bernie SANDERS	(D)	President	\$1,427 (10)	\$2,042 (7)	\$2,452 (10)
Donald TRUMP	(R)	President	\$150 (2)	\$10,422 (3)	\$481 (3)
Elizabeth WARREN	(D)	President	\$2,308 (6)	\$2,064 (4)	\$1,133 (5)
Marianne WILLIAMSON	(D)	President		\$1,505 (4)	\$2,300 (2)
Andrew YANG	(D)	President			\$186 (1)
Nancy PELOSI	(D)	U.S. House (CA-12)	\$14,100 (1)		
Adam SCHIFF	(D)	U.S. House (CA-28)	\$7,600 (1)	\$16,200 (1)	
Larry WILSKE	(R)	U.S. House (CA-50)	\$200 (1)		
Jahana HAYES	(D)	U.S. House (CT-5)	\$75 (1)		
Donna SHALALA	(D)	U.S. House (FL-27)	\$10,000 (1)	\$17,000 (2)	
Raja KRISHNAMOORTHY	(D)	U.S. House (IL-8)			\$250 (1)
Alex MORSE	(D)	U.S. House (MA-1)			\$500 (1)
Joe KENNEDY III	(D)	U.S. House (MA-4)	\$1,000 (1)		
Rashida TLAIB	(D)	U.S. House (MI-13)		\$127 (1)	
Dan MCCREADY	(D)	U.S. House (NC-9)	\$176 (1)		\$258 (1)
Xochitl Torres SMALL	(D)	U.S. House (NM-2)	\$2,800 (1)		
Lee ZELDIN	(D)	U.S. House (NY-1)	\$1,000 (1)		
Jerry NADLER	(D)	U.S. House (NY-10)	\$2,800 (1)		
Alexandria OCASIO-CORTEZ	(D)	U.S. House (NY-14)	\$145 (1)		
Sean Patrick MALONEY	(D)	U.S. House (NY-18)	\$28,100 (6)	\$23,079 (11)	\$1,050 (2)
Antonio DELGADO	(D)	U.S. House (NY-19)	\$6,500 (3)		
Roger MISSO	(D)	U.S. House (NY-24)	\$250 (1)		
Jim JORDAN	(R)	U.S. House (OH-4)		\$100 (1)	
Doyle CANNING	(D)	U.S. House (OR-4)			\$500 (1)
David CICILLINE	(D)	U.S. House (RI-1)		\$5,600 (1)	
Gina Ortiz JONES	(D)	U.S. House (TX-23)	\$250 (1)		
Doug JONES	(D)	U.S. Senate (AL)	\$250 (1)		\$180 (1)
Mark KELLY	(D)	U.S. Senate (AZ)	\$5,600 (1)		
Mike JOHNSON	(D)	U.S. Senate (CO)	\$1,000 (1)		
Chris COONS	(D)	U.S. Senate (DE)		\$500 (1)	
Amy MCGRATH	(D)	U.S. Senate (KY)	\$5,629 (2)		
Joe KENNEDY III	(D)	U.S. Senate (MA)	\$1,000 (1)		
Ed MARKEY	(D)	U.S. Senate (MA)	\$5,600 (1)		
Sara GIDEON	(D)	U.S. Senate (ME)		\$5,600 (1)	
Gary PETERS	(D)	U.S. Senate (MI)	\$250 (1)		
Tina SMITH	(D)	U.S. Senate (MN)	\$250 (1)		
Jeanne SHAHEEN	(D)	U.S. Senate (NH)	\$250 (1)		
Ron WYDEN	(D)	U.S. Senate (OR)	\$1,000 (1)		
Bob CASEY	(D)	U.S. Senate (PA)	\$5,300 (2)		
Lindsay GRAHAM	(R)	U.S. Senate (SC)		\$1,200 (2)	
Jaime HARRISON	(D)	U.S. Senate (SC)		\$3,559 (3)	\$300 (1)
Ted CRUZ	(R)	U.S. Senate (TX)		\$180 (1)	\$90 (1)
Mitt ROMNEY	(R)	U.S. Senate (UT)	\$250 (1)		

## Campaign Contributions

The National Institute on Money in Politics (followthemoney.org) tracks which groups and individuals give to candidates for state and federal offices. The top donors for elected officials and candidates in the Highlands are listed below.

### SUE SERINO NYS Senate, Highlands (3 elections)

1. NYS Senate Republican Campaign Committee	\$213,000
2. American Federation of State County & Municipal Employees	\$31,300
3. Cathy Young Campaign Committee (NY Senate 57)	\$21,000
4. Civil Service Employees Association	\$17,580
5. Real Estate Board of New York	\$16,250
6. Rent Stabilization Association of New York	\$13,900
7. Peckham Industries (construction, White Plains)	\$13,500
8. Friends of Betty Little (NY Senate 45)	\$12,800
9. Citizens to Elect John Bonacic (NY Senate 42)	\$12,500
10. Housing New York (landlords)	\$12,500
11. NYS Association of Realtors	\$12,150
12. Healthcare Association of NYS	\$11,250
13. Time Warner Cable	\$11,000
14. Hotel & Motel Trades Council NY	\$11,000
15. Hotel Restaurant Club Employees & Bartenders	\$11,000
16. Daniel Loeb (billionaire hedge-fund founder)	\$11,000

### KAREN SMYTHE NYS Senate, Highlands (1 election)

1. NYS Democratic Senate Campaign Committee	\$193,172
2. Karen Smythe	\$183,581
3. NYS Democratic Party	\$26,000
4. Mason Tenders District Council of Greater NY	\$22,000
5. New York State United Teachers	\$11,000
6. Communications Workers New Jersey	\$11,000
7. Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee	\$11,000
8. Andrew M. Cuomo Campaign Committee	\$11,000
9. Michael Dupree (Hyde Park)	\$11,000
10. Michael Fleischer (Hyde Park)	\$11,000
11. Dutchess Democratic Women's Caucus	\$11,000
12. Elizabeth Gilmore (Ancramdale)	\$11,000

### JONATHAN JACOBSON NYS Assembly, Beacon (1 election)

1. Jonathan Jacobson	\$94,442
2. 1199SEIU United Health Care Workers	\$4,400
3. New York State Laborers	\$3,400
4. Mason Tenders District Council of Greater NY	\$3,200
5. Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 373	\$1,500
6. International Association of Bridge Structural Ornamental & Reinforcing Iron Workers	\$1,000
7. Electrical Workers Local 363	\$1,000
8. International Union of Painters & Allied Trades	\$1,000
9. Orange County Democratic Committee	\$625

### SANDY GALEF NYS Assembly, Philipstown (11 elections)

1. 1199SEIU United Health Care Workers	\$10,500
2. Steven and Sandy Galef	\$8,784
3. NYS Association of Realtors	\$7,953
4. Marie Carpentier (Ossining)	\$6,200
5. Manhattan Beer Distributors	\$6,000
6. Eleanor Roosevelt Legacy Committee	\$5,500
7. Medical Society of the State of New York	\$5,150
8. David Swope (Ossining)	\$5,000
9. John P. Curran (health care investor, Ossining)	\$4,250
10. NYS United Teachers	\$3,500
11. PMHC Realty Corp. (Sleepy Hollow)	\$3,500

### SEAN PATRICK MALONEY U.S. House (7 elections)

1. Sean Patrick Maloney Campaign Committee	\$2,446,744
2. Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee	\$102,418
3. Jon L. Stryker (NYC/Garrison, philanthropist)	\$97,600
4. Peter B. Lewis (Progressive Insurance, philanthropist)	\$60,200
5. Ameripac / The Fund for a Greater America	\$55,000
6. Tim E. Gill (software developer, philanthropist)	\$52,500
7. JOE Pac (Jobs Opportunities & Education)	\$51,770
8. Jonathan Lewis (venture capitalist, son of Peter)	\$50,000
9. David Bohnett (tech entrepreneur, philanthropist)	\$50,000
10. Adam J. Lewis (environmentalist, son of Peter)	\$50,000
11. New Democrat Coalition	\$48,000
12. Suzanne Halloran (Armonk)	\$47,500

According to Opensecrets.org, which also tracks campaign finance, large individual contributions made up 56 percent of Maloney’s contributions, PACs accounted for 31 percent and donations of \$200 or less were 10 percent.

(Continued on Page 7)



POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEES (PACS)	FOCUS	COLD SPRING/ PHILIPSTOWN	GARRISON	BEACON
314 Action Fund	Scientists and STEM	\$403 (2)	\$500 (1)	
ACT Blue	Democratic candidates	\$17,909 (201)	\$15,374 (156)	\$26,992 (454)
American Bridge 21st Century	Liberal Super PAC	\$101,000 (1)		
American College of Engineering	Bipartisan			\$1,650 (1)
Anthem Inc. PAC	Health services			\$320 (1)
CHC Bold Pac	Democratic candidates	\$120 (1)		\$100 (1)
Communications Workers of America	Communications			\$156 (1)
Congressional Hispanic Caucus Bold	Democratic candidates			\$100 (1)
Democracy for America	Founded by Howard Dean (D)		\$5,700 (1)	
Emily's List	Pro-choice Democratic women	\$720 (2)		\$245 (1)
End Citizens United	Democratic candidates		\$175 (1)	\$510 (3)
Everytown for Gun Safety	Gun control	\$350 (1)		
Fair Fight	Founded by Stacey Abrams (D)	\$250 (1)	\$6,250 (2)	\$1,050 (2)
Giffords PAC	Gun control		\$80 (1)	
It Starts Today	Democratic candidates	\$210 (3)		
Mason Tenders of Greater NY PAC	Union		\$78 (2)	\$191 (2)
Molina Healthcare PAC	Health services			\$135 (1)
Moveon.org	Progressive candidates			\$100 (1)
National Multifamily Housing Council PAC	Apartment industry	\$5,000 (1)		
NYS Union of Teachers	Educators	\$300 (1)		\$296 (3)
Progressive Turnout Project	Progressive candidates		\$100 (1)	\$571 (3)
Seal PAC for Supporting American Leaders	Conservative veterans	\$200 (1)		
Swing Left	Progressive candidates			\$2,135 (1)
VoteVets	Progressive veterans	\$116 (1)		
PARTY COMMITTEES				
Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee		\$9,572 (8)	\$23,901 (7)	\$23,901 (7)
Democratic National Committee		\$5,750 (3)	\$1,800 (3)	\$1,800 (3)
Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee		\$5,278 (4)	\$2,398 (4)	\$2,398 (4)
National Republican Congressional Committee				
National Republican Senate Committee				
NY Democratic Committee		\$250 (1)		
NY Republican Federal Campaign Committee			\$1,000 (1)	\$1,000 (1)
Republican National Committee		\$245 (2)	\$381 (2)	\$381 (2)
State Government Citizens' Committee (D)		\$1,000 (1)		

## Hossu Case (from Page 1)

According to the lawsuit, the girl told police that Hossu had continuous intercourse with her from 7:15 to 10:37 p.m. — except for one 10-second break — while also choking her with his hand or forearm, and that her mother was in the next room but slept through the attack. She said Hossu, whom she didn't like, had become violent when she told him she didn't need help with her math homework.

Family members were skeptical of her claim, as was a jury, which heard evidence that the girl was on her phone for 43 minutes during the time of the alleged rape. After Hossu spent a year in jail awaiting trial, he was acquitted of all charges.

Soon after, Hossu sued Putnam County, Smith, three investigators and two prosecutors for false arrest and malicious prosecution. He asked for \$45 million.

Hossu claimed in his lawsuit that his prosecution was orchestrated by Smith to



Adam Levy and Don Smith

embarrass then-District Attorney Adam Levy, with whom he was waging a political turf war. Hossu had been Levy's personal trainer for about seven years and lived at his home and used his address for a time but had moved to an apartment complex long before his arrest, the lawsuit said.

Following the arrest, Smith issued two news releases alleging that Hossu lived at Levy's home at the time of his arrest; that the district attorney had interfered with the investigation; and that Levy himself

should be investigated for harboring an "illegal alien" — Hossu was a Romanian immigrant who had overstayed his visa.

Levy recused his office from the case but was criticized for providing Hossu with a lawyer (his brother-in-law) and more than \$100,000 for legal fees.

After Smith issued his news releases, Levy sued for defamation, asking for \$5 million. To settle the case, the county agreed to pay \$125,000 and Smith \$25,000, and the sheriff apologized "unequivocally" and conceded the statements in the releases were "untrue; and I should not have made them."

Levy, who lost his bid for a second term in 2015 to Robert Tendy, sued the sheriff again in October 2017 — this time for \$50,000, saying Smith had disparaged him by implying in interviews that he had acted based on the facts as he knew them at the time and later made "a correction." (A judge threw the case out.) The next month, Robert Langley Jr. defeated Smith by 324 votes of nearly 25,000 cast.



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LINDA K. HOFFMANN  
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Platinum Award



ABBIE CAREY  
*Associate Real Estate Broker*  
Gold Award



CRAIG ROFFMAN  
*Real Estate Salesperson*  
Silver Award

Hossu claimed in his lawsuit that his prosecution was orchestrated by Smith to embarrass then-District Attorney Adam Levy, with whom he was waging a political turf war.

## Perspective

## In Search of Progressive Putnam

By Eileen McDermott

Many residents of New York City have heard of Cold Spring because they've visited the village or hiked Breakneck or other nearby trails.



But it's less likely they've heard of Putnam Valley, Mahopac, Carmel, Kent or Brewster, which are more populated but less of a pull for tourists and decidedly more conservative. The particulars of their location and history have created a progressive desert of sorts — even as Manhattan's ongoing ejection of its middle class and swiftly-rising costs in Hudson River towns sends more progressives, including those of us in the LGBTQ community, to the eastern reaches.

My wife, Laurie, and I moved to Brewster in 2016. I had lived in Manhattan since 2001; she since 2005. Our individual love affairs with New York City had enjoyed good runs but its many wonders had begun to pale in comparison with its many inconveniences and a growing sense of angst. And as a couple we don't shun cliches: we hike, snowboard and have a pit bull, so we looked northward

in our search for a new home, anticipating woods, more space and less traffic.

After months of searching in the usual gay flight meccas of Beacon, Cold Spring, Peekskill, Cortlandt Manor and other Hudson River spots, our real-estate agent forced us to face reality — we could not afford or handle a fixer-upper, and the prices and taxes for move-in ready houses in riverfront communities were beyond us. So, she showed us a house in Brewster — wherever that was.

It was perfect. It was a modest ranch with a decent-sized yard, the taxes were low, there were state-protected woods across the street and — most importantly — the house had just been gut-rehabbed to be flipped.

Brewster is a little farther from the city than we would have liked, and we knew little about the town or surrounding area, but the village was quaint and the house four minutes from the Metro-North Harlem Line and only an hour from Manhattan.

How different could it be?

Six months later, on Nov. 8, Donald Trump won the presidency, and at 3 a.m. we were awakened by a celebratory booming bass — our neighbors were elated. I had gone to bed hours earlier after sending off an angry Facebook message to no one in particular. Stirred by a party in our midst, I felt crushed, angry and scared — where was this place that I now lived?

Five of the six towns in Putnam voted for Trump in 2016. Philipstown, which includes Cold Spring, was the only one that went for Hillary Clinton. Trump won nearly

56 percent of the vote county-wide — and 61 percent in the Town of Carmel. Compare that to Westchester County — a five to 10-minute drive away — where Trump got 31 percent of the vote.

The dynamics at play don't bode well for progressive and LGBTQ newcomers. While Putnam libraries and some organizations have hosted Pride events in recent years, and many of the schools have Gay-Straight Alliance groups, there is no nearby LGBTQ Community Center, no gay bar in Putnam or even within reasonable driving distance, and there has never been a Pride Parade.

LGBTQ people and artists can often be the lifeblood of progressive communities, but without public spaces for queer people to convene and be visible, communities remain insular and conservative, keeping progressive values in the shadows.

In response to this climate, I've joined with some other Putnam residents in an effort to hold the first Putnam Pride Parade on Saturday, June 6. The Cold Spring Village Board has given us tentative approval. The drag queen Angel Elektra, who recently read stories to children at the Putnam Valley Library and will make an appearance at Split Rock Books in Cold Spring in May, has agreed to emcee.

The event is badly needed, not just for Putnam's LGBTQ residents who have nowhere to congregate, but to energize and bring visibility to the county's queer community and to ensure that the arc of our state politics continues to bend forward rather than backward.

To be sure, other Lower Hudson Valley counties voted for Trump in 2016, but Putnam's margins stand alone and its local governments are broadly Republican-

controlled. The county Legislature recently passed resolutions opposing the New York State Reproductive Health Act (RHA) as "sanctioning infanticide" and objecting to New York's "green light" bill to grant driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants.

During the hearing to approve the RHA resolution, one supporter of the effort sitting near me held a sign that decried abortion on one side and homosexuality on the other — as if he were hopping from one protest to another that night.

These kinds of politics persist only because the progressive community in this part of Putnam County has been silenced or become apathetic and disillusioned in light of it being a decades-long conservative stronghold. Like Beacon and Cold Spring, other communities in Putnam County have great potential for LGBTQ and other progressive families looking for more space, easy access to Manhattan via Metro-North, local arts, nature, farms and more. But as long as the queer community is encouraged to stay quiet, the dynamic will not change.

There are certainly many forces working for change — the Putnam Progressives, Putnam Young Democrats, Hudson Valley Stonewall Democrats and the Putnam County Democratic Committee, to name a few — with some recent successes that indicate Putnam may be trending toward change.

But we need more help. Join us for Putnam Pride or lend your support at putnampride.com, open an LGBTQ-friendly business in Putnam or consider moving here. If you're up for helping to foster change somewhere not too far away, Putnam needs you.

*A version of this column originally appeared in Gay City News.*

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and **Romanian Cultural Institute** present:  
"Why the Child is Cooking in the Polenta"

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## Historic District (from Page 1)

city. About 280 homes and structures are already in the district, which prevents them and neighboring buildings from being altered in a way that the city believes will harm their historic value.

The district also has its own architectural and design standards, a requirement that has agitated some property owners.

Maggie Yarnis lives in an 1860 Victorian home on Beacon's west side that is in the historic district. She said on Wednesday that her family had been pleased with the designation "until we started learning about it."

Yarnis said one conversation with her insurance agent led her to believe she'd lose her coverage because the district's limitations would make the cost of restoring exterior features on her home too expensive. Then she was reassured that her coverage would continue, but possibly at a higher premium.

"I had no idea about this," Yarnis said. She's gathering information on Beacon's regulations, but says if she concludes the district is too restrictive, "we're leaning toward wanting out."

The 35 buildings under consideration are either in or close to the Central Main Street zone. Owners of buildings, includ-

ing homes, can ask to be excluded, but a super-majority vote by the council (five of its seven members, including the mayor) can overrule an objection.

Beacon officials have been working for more than a year to make the designation more appealing. Property owners can currently apply for tax breaks on exterior restoration of a home's historic features, but they have also been required to get approval from the Planning Board before making significant changes.

The council has asked Dutchess County and the Beacon school board to grant historic property owners tax breaks, as well. Both proposals are being reviewed.

"The No. 1 benefit that we've afforded has been the additional uses in the zone," Mayor Lee Kyriacou said this week, citing the Rose Hill Manor Day School, his neighbor on Route 9D, as an example.

Because Rose Hill is part of the historic district, added zoning uses — commercial, restaurant, bed-and-breakfast or offices — are allowed by special permit in what is otherwise a single-family residential district.

"Clearly that property is far more valuable being in the historic overlay than it would have been in single-family zoning," Kyriacou said.

A dozen people spoke in September during the council's first hearing on the 35 possible additions, with about half of them expressing concern. Opponents cited the cost and nuisance of going through the Planning Board, as well as creative limitations on things like paint colors or exterior features.

The council responded with a proposal to eliminate Planning Board fees for property owners who comply with its standards. The revision to its historic district law would also eliminate the need for the Planning Board to approve interior and out-of-sight exterior alterations and, in many cases, repainting and landscaping changes.

Far fewer people attended a public hearing on that proposal on Jan. 21, however. Comments included the suggestion that the city exempt houses of worship from historic restrictions.

On Tuesday, both proposals — the 35 properties being considered and the new law — will be up for comment.

During the City Council's meeting on Monday (Feb. 10), Kyriacou suggested that existing and prospective historic-district property owners could be more amenable this time around because of the revised law's benefits and "cost-less process."



The council has asked Dutchess County and the Beacon school board to grant historic property owners tax breaks, as well. Both proposals are being reviewed.



# How They Voted

*Governor signs another round of bills passed by state legislators*

By Chip Rowe

Gov. Andrew Cuomo has so far during the 2019-20 legislative session enacted 778 bills passed by the state Senate and Assembly, with another five waiting for his signature. He has vetoed 169.

Below are summaries of select laws enacted since Dec. 9 and the votes cast by Republican Sue Serino (whose Senate district includes the Highlands), Democrat Sandy Galef (whose Assembly district includes Philipstown) and Democrat Jonathan Jacobson (whose Assembly district includes Beacon). Serino did not respond to an inquiry about her two votes in the minority.

## Environmental justice

Cuomo on Dec. 23 signed a law to create a 16-member Environmental Justice Advisory Board, as well as an Interagency Coordinating Council. The board will create a model environmental justice policy so that low-income and minority communities can "have a seat at the table," its supporters said, while the council will provide guidance to state agencies implementing environmental justice policies to combat climate change.

Board members will be appointed by the governor and legislative leaders, while the council will consist of commissioners from various agencies.

**Passed Senate 62-0**

Serino ☒

**Passed Assembly 117-30**

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

## Elevator licensing

Cuomo on Jan. 2 signed legislation requiring individuals engaged in the design, construction, inspection, maintenance and repair of elevators or other "automated people-moving conveyances" to be licensed by the state.

**Passed Senate 62-0**

Serino ☒

**Passed Assembly 145-0**

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

## Safe way home

On Dec. 23, Cuomo enacted the Safe Way Home Act, which requires hospitals to use victim-services funds to pay for sexual-assault victims to be driven after treatment to their homes or shelters. It takes effect on March 22.

**Passed Senate 62-0**

Serino ☒

**Passed Assembly 146-0**

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

## Zombie properties

On Dec. 18, Cuomo enacted the Zombie Property Remediation Act of 2019, which



Dream Shepherd (second from right) with her mother, State Sen. David Carlucci and Assembly Member Sandy Galef.

*Photo provided*

allows local governments to force lenders to foreclose on vacant properties or discharge the mortgage within three months. During debate over the bill, opponents asked how a municipality would determine if a vacant property was in default. They also noted that mortgages typically do not require banks to maintain abandoned properties, meaning the law would alter existing contracts.

**Passed Senate 48-14**

Serino ☐

**Passed Assembly 122-24**

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

## Property-tax relief

Cuomo on Dec. 13 signed a bill introduced in the Assembly by Galef that allows water, library, fire and other special districts to provide property-tax exemptions on the value of changes made to make a home more accessible for a disabled homeowner (e.g., ramps, grab bars, alterations to lighting and heating systems) that increase its value.

**Passed Senate 62-0**

Serino ☒

**Passed Assembly 146-0**

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

## Fire safety at schools

Cuomo on Dec. 17 enacted a law that requires schools to have fire inspections conducted by a fire department or certified inspector. It also eliminated a provision that allowed inspectors who made errors to avoid liability, allows the state to deny a public school to operate if it does not correct deficiencies noted in a fire inspection, and gives the state authority to order an inspection of any private school that does not submit an annual safety report.

**Passed Senate 62-0**

Serino ☒

**Passed Assembly 140-1**

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

## Dream's Law

Cuomo on Dec. 10 signed legislation requiring that hospitals have plans in place for patients who are discharged but still require central venous lines.

The bill, introduced in the Assembly by Galef, was named Dream's Law for Dream Shepherd, 14, of Ossining, who was battling sickle-cell disease but was denied a private

nurse by the family's insurance company. The law requires that hospitals train the caregivers of patients who are discharged with a central venous line within 24 hours on how to administer medication.

**Passed Senate 61-0**

Serino ☒

**Passed Assembly 145-0**

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

## Changing names

Cuomo on Dec. 11 enacted a bill that prohibits political parties from changing their names once they are on the ballot.

Galef introduced the legislation in the Assembly after the gubernatorial candidate

for the Stop Common Core Party received more than 50,000 votes in the 2014 election to win the party a ballot line for the next four years. But in January 2015 it changed its name to the Reform Party, a move that supporters of the legislation said gave the organization "a multi-year legal political status based on fraud."

**Passed Senate 43-19**

Serino ☐

**Passed Assembly 111-30**

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

## Health insurance

The governor on Dec. 12 signed legislation that expands what procedures do not require pre-approval from an insurer.

In 2007, the state enacted a law that prevented insurers from ruling that certain procedures performed by a surgeon had to be pre-authorized so that doctors could deal with complications without seeking approval.

The 2019 law is designed to address situations such as chemotherapy, which is typically done on an outpatient basis. Patients often are treated for related symptoms such as nausea, low platelet counts and allergic reactions so they can receive chemo. The law will allow doctors to perform these procedures without first getting approval from an insurer. It takes effect on March 11.

**Passed Senate 62-0**

Serino ☒

**Passed Assembly 147-0**

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

*(Continued on Page 10)*

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## 1,4-Dioxane in Products

In parts per billion (ppb)	
Victoria's Secret Fragrance Wash	17,000
Tide Original	14,000
Home Store Lemon Dish Soap	7,700
Baby Magic Hair and Body Wash	5,500
Dawn Dish Soap	3,600
Selsun Blue	3,100
Ajax	2,500
Purex Laundry	2,000
Soft Soap Fresh Breeze	1,900
Johnson's Baby Shampoo	870

Source: Citizens Campaign for the Environment (citizen-scampaign.org), which in 2019 found the chemical in 65 of 80 products it had tested. The group notes the proposed state drinking water standard for 1,4-dioxane is 1 ppb.

## How They Voted (from Page 9)

### Water contamination

Cuomo on Dec. 9 enacted a law that will ban a chemical known as 1,4-dioxane, which the federal Environmental Protection Agency has identified as a likely carcinogen, from household cleaners sold in the state and limit its use in cosmetics and personal care products (see left).

Elevated levels of 1,4-dioxane have been found in the water of municipalities across the state but especially on Long Island, which has the highest levels in the nation. In the Hudson Valley, the chemical was detected last year in five public water systems that serve more than 10,000 residents, not including Beacon or anywhere in Putnam County.

The law establishes a “trace-amount threshold” for manufacturers, who have until Jan. 1, 2022, to comply, although they can obtain a one-year waiver if they have systems in place to remove the chemical from their products.

**Passed Senate 62-0**  
Serino ☒  
**Passed Assembly 144-2**  
Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

### Absentee voting

On Dec. 10, Cuomo enacted a bill introduced in the Assembly by Galef that requires that absentee ballots match the ballots used on Election Day and another that requires simplified absentee ballot applications created in 2010 for general



A photo shows the interior of a stretch limousine that later crashed in Schoharie, killing 17 passengers. Only the driver, who also died, was wearing a seat belt. NTSB

elections to also be used by school districts. The latter goes into effect on March 9.

**Passed Senate 62-0**  
Serino ☒  
**Passed Assembly 143-0**  
Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒  
**Passed Senate 41-20**  
Serino ☒  
**Passed Assembly 142-4**  
Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

### Hemp sales

Cuomo on Dec. 9 signed legislation that requires hemp manufacturers to test and label their products. The state Department of Agriculture and Markets will oversee permits

for hemp growers and the Department of Health will regulate hemp extract such as CBD; its sellers are required to register.

**Passed Senate 62-0**  
Serino ☒  
**Passed Assembly 131-4**  
Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

### Victim compensation

On Dec. 20, Cuomo signed a bill into law that makes domestic partners eligible for compensation from the crime victims’ fund.

**Passed Senate 59-0**  
Serino ☒  
**Passed Assembly 122-24**  
Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒


### Limo safety

In the wake of a stretch limousine crash in Cuthogue in 2015 that killed four teenagers and another in 2018 in Schoharie that killed 20 people, Cuomo on Feb. 3 enacted a package of laws aimed at the industry. Each bill passed unanimously or nearly unanimously in the Senate and Assembly with support from Serino, Galef and Jacobson.

- Vehicles converted into stretch limousines as of Jan. 1, 2021, must have at least one seat belt for each passenger. All limos must be retrofitted with belts by Jan. 1, 2023.
- Limo drivers must have commercial driver’s licenses.
- The state can impound or immobilize limos if they fail inspection.
- The penalties for illegal U-turns by limos were increased.
- The state will create a safety hotline for issues involving limos.
- Owners must register stretch limos with the DMV, which will review driver records at least annually. The agency also will post data online about firms that operate limos and their drivers.
- A state task force will be created to review limo safety.
- Limo drivers and applicants will be subject to random drug and alcohol testing.

In addition, a new law requires that taxi or livery cab passengers under the age of 16 must wear a seat belt in the back seat.

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**SATURDAY, MARCH 14 | 3:00 - 5:00PM**  
**"Song!" Art Exhibit and Reception**  
Featuring artists' interpretation of the word "Song."

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14 | 7:30PM**  
**A Celebration of Irish Music**  
with Brian Conway & Brendan Dolan  
Hosted by Neil Hickey

**SATURDAY, MARCH 21 | 7:30PM**  
**Jim Dale stories**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 28 | 7:30PM**  
**Peter Gerety Stories**

729 Peekskill Hollow Road  
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Visit: [www.tompkinscorners.org](http://www.tompkinscorners.org)



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# The Calendar

## Comic Sensibilities

### Monthly book club focuses on graphic novels

By Alison Rooney

Graphic novels are no longer relegated to the dim recesses of bookstore aisles. And the people buying them aren't always monosyllabic adolescents. That was clear from the group which turned up on a Tuesday night at Split Rock Books in Cold Spring for a monthly Graphic Novel Book Club session for adults.

Led by cartoonist and writer Summer Pierre, author of *All the Sad Songs* and the *Paper Pencil Life* series (and a too-infrequent contributor to *The Current*), the participants are here given the most rudimentary descriptions in an attempt to avoid mismatching names and quotes. They were:

- Alessa: Brown coat, black jeans, also a cartoonist, been here several times, was living in Beacon, now Red Hook
- Jordan: Black jacket, black-and-white tee, married to Alessa, also a cartoonist
- Grace: Caught a break on Grace, who owns Supplies for Creative Living, just up Main Street
- Michael: Black jacket, black-and-white-scarf, lives in Cold Spring, been coming to these sessions for a year, working on a book
- Cynthia: blond, ponytail, recently moved to Beacon, made tiny little graphic novels
- Jennifer: white hat, moved to Kent last year, visited Split Rock numerous times before realizing there was a book club
- Marin (had the smarts to spell it out: "Martin with no T"), glasses, married to Jennifer
- Chris, a longtime comics editor, and
- Caroline, accompanied by Hans, her dachshund

The topic was Ulli Lust's *Today is the Last Day of the Rest of Your Life*, a gritty memoir chosen by Pierre "because it's a wonderful example of what can be achieved in graphic form. Ulli lives in Berlin and she was the editor of an online German comic collective, and she serialized this online. She just came out with her second memoir, which is also phenomenal and amazing.

"This book requires time, which comics don't always require," Pierre explained. "As a result, it's a rich and deep experience. Reading it again made me realize how many people try to do something like this. Did anyone really dislike it?"

No hands were raised, but Jordan said: "Enjoy is a weird word for it. I feel like there's a central toughness to her that makes it



Illustration by Summer Pierre

much more bearable. This made me angry, but you're freed a little by the strength there. She's willing to go out on this journey — strike out and do this stuff."

Because the book is mostly drawings, the visuals filled half the conversation.

**MARIN:** "When you asked if anyone disliked it, did you mean the art or the story?"

**SUMMER:** "That's interesting — that there is a separation between the two."

**JENNIFER:** "I'm mixed on it. I found the story content frustrating, but I liked the grunge-style art."

**GRACE:** "She captured the drifting aspect of being a teenager, and the way she's drawn, you don't even have to hear what she's saying."

**MICHAEL:** "Her storytelling abilities are so inspiring and impressive."

**ALESSA:** "I like the way her legs have wiggly things on them when she's angry. I love how languages are expressed. In the beginning, Italian is just squiggles."

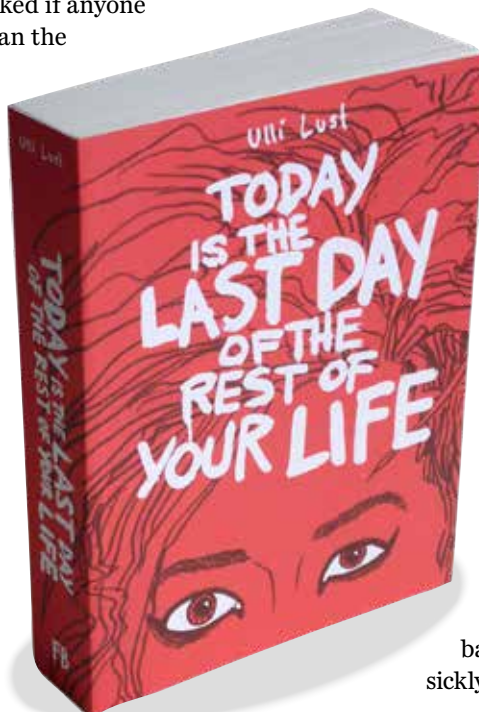
**SUMMER:** "Then it goes to loopy cursive. It has many interesting arcs."

**CAROLINE:** "The content is brutal. In this case so many images stay in my mind. Her reactions — the drawings of people's faces, secondary characters, passersby — are very vivid."

**MICHAEL:** "I can't believe how much she can do in terms of sense of place. I feel like I'm there. The style changes as it goes along."

**GRACE:** "I kept coming back to the colors. The sickly green."

**CYNTHIA:** "The colors of camo; walking in the woods."



The book club discussed Ulli Lust's latest graphic novel.

Fantagraphics

**JORDAN:** "Very military surplus."

And then there were matters specific to this form.

**SUMMER:** "It's a large book. A lot of books we've read are quick reads. An author once told me that a nine-panel grid makes the reader slow down."

**JORDAN:** "There is good movement from panel to panel. She can convey movement, motion, transformation. Like when the skull emerges."

**MICHAEL:** "I originally read this on ComiXology [comixology.com]. I read it on my phone. Print is my favorite, but it was kind of cool because on my phone it gives you each individual panel."

**CHRIS:** "Sounds exhausting!"

**SUMMER:** "I was thinking of her choice of using pencil. When she scans it in, she takes all the gray out. A lot of people say you should never cartoon with pencil, but what a different experience it would have been in ink: harsher and more bleak."

Yet, ultimately, like any tale told, it comes down to story + characters + how they're depicted. There's plotting:

**SUMMER:** "She's so lucky she's alive. The fact that she escapes that mafioso house is like, nuts."

**JENNIFER:** "Right before the monk dies, she meets this guy from Gambia and goes with him. Turns out he's a decent guy."

There's pause for reflection:

**CHRIS:** "I was impressed that you could survive on the street, and that you could go into a restaurant and they'd give you food."

**SUMMER:** "She must have smelled ... so much. She didn't shower the whole summer, and she has one outfit."

And, ultimately, there's an emotional response (or not):

**SUMMER:** "I kept waiting for woundedness and was surprised that by the end it wasn't there."

**JORDAN:** "It's presented non-judgmentally. She's clear-eyed about herself at that age. I've done some stuff [comics] about high-school-age me, and I tend to skewer myself because I'm mortified about who I was."

**CHRIS:** "If I had to tell a story about this age ... It's a beautiful book. I feel like it is sort of hopeful."

*Split Rock Books is located at 97 Main St. The selection for the next session of the Graphic Novel Book Club, scheduled for 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 18, is You & a bike & a Road, by Eleanor Davis.*



# 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

### Celebrate Washington's Birthday

NEWBURGH

Noon – 4 p.m.

Washington's Headquarters  
84 Liberty St. | 845-562-1195  
[parks.ny.gov](http://parks.ny.gov)

Re-enactors will portray the general and his troops. Create a craft, learn about the Revolutionary War as it was fought in the Hudson Valley and hear performances of period songs. Also SUN 16, MON 17. *Free*

SAT 15

### Special Night of Remembrance

BEACON

7:30 p.m. Beacon High School  
101 Matteawan Road  
[beaconk12.org](http://beaconk12.org)

The Beacon Players organized this event to honor the victims of the Holocaust. It will be followed next weekend by two sold-out performances of *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*. See Page 15.

SAT 22

### Community Soup-Making

BEACON

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. More Good  
383 Main St. | [commongroundfarm.org](http://commongroundfarm.org)

Home cooks will be able to make soup in support of Soup4Greens using a professional kitchen. Email [market@commongroundfarm.org](mailto:market@commongroundfarm.org) to participate. The soup will be sold at the Beacon Farmer's Market on SUN 23 as a fundraiser for matching federal food assistance dollars for the community.

SAT 22

### Renegades Game Day Job Fair

WAPPINGERS FALLS

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Dutchess Stadium  
1500 Route 9D | 845-838-009  
[hvrengades.com](http://hvrengades.com)

Bring a resume and identification to interview for seasonal jobs during summer Hudson Valley Renegades games.

SAT 22

### Roaring '20s Costume Ball

BEACON

6 – 9 p.m. St. Rocco Society  
26 S. Chestnut St. | [beaconopenstudios.org](http://beaconopenstudios.org)

At this annual fundraiser for Beacon Open Studios, dress for the 1920s and enjoy food and drinks, raffle prizes and swinging music from Tony DePaolo and The Beacontonians. *Cost: \$35*



Community Soup-Making, Feb. 22

SUN 23

### Party for Your Mental Health

BEACON

Noon – 3 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | [townecrier.com](http://townecrier.com)

Members of the Sikotabs Art Project will be reading from their new picture book on dealing with depression, *Sometimes It's OK to Always be Sad*. There will also be music from Tony DePaolo, Judith Tulloch, The Costellos, Russell St. George and Luv Dot Gov. Proceeds will benefit the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. *Cost: \$20 donation*

## HEALTH & FITNESS

SAT 15

### Blood Drive

BEACON

11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Elks Lodge  
900 Wolcott Ave. | 845-765-0667  
[nybloodcenter.org](http://nybloodcenter.org)

Walk-ins welcome. Drink plenty of fluids.

THURS 20

### Narcen Training

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Philipstown Hub | 5 Stone St.  
845-809-5050 | [philipstownhub.org](http://philipstownhub.org)

Learn how to save a life when someone is overdosing on opioids.

## KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 15

### Love Your Library Day Party

GARRISON

1 – 3 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](http://desmondfishlibrary.org)

Celebrate the library and bring games and puzzles you want to trade.

SAT 15

### Make A Friend/Be A Friend Party

BEACON

1 – 3 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
[beaconlibrary.org](http://beaconlibrary.org)

Students will write letters or draw pictures to send to a child who has been bullied to show that he or she is not alone.



SUN 16

### When Presidents Were Kids

GARRISON

2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](http://desmondfishlibrary.org)

In this President's Day celebration, storyteller Jonathan Kruk will perform *Brawling, Brash, Bashful & Bad Boy: Washington, Lincoln, Roosevelt and More*.

MON 17

### Winter Wildlife Survival

FORT MONTGOMERY

1 p.m. Fort Montgomery Site  
690 Route 9W | 845-446-2134  
[palisadesparks.org](http://palisadesparks.org)

Children and families ages 8 and older can go on a nature trek and learn how animals make it through the cold days of winter when food is scarce. Registration required. *Free*

THURS 20

### Toy Story 4

GARRISON

6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](http://desmondfishlibrary.org)

This 2019 family movie follows Woody, Buzz and the gang on a new journey with Bonnie.

SAT 22

### Black History: The Puppet Show

PUTNAM VALLEY

11 a.m. Putnam Valley Library  
30 Oscawana Lake Road  
845-528-3242

[bookwhen.com/putnamvalleylibrary](http://bookwhen.com/putnamvalleylibrary)

JD Lawrence and his puppeteers will tell the story of a young girl exploring her African-American roots with her grandfather. *Free*

## TALKS & TOURS

SAT 15

### Weather

BEACON

7 p.m. Binnacle Books  
321 Main St. | 845-838-6191  
[binnaclebooks.com](http://binnaclebooks.com)

Jenny Offill will read from her latest novel and join in a discussion with author Lynn Steger Strong of Cold Spring.

SUN 16

### Audubon Field Trip

BEACON

8:30 a.m. Dennings Point  
199 Dennings Ave.

Meet in the parking lot at the end of Dennings Avenue for a morning of bird watching. Register by emailing [info@orangecountynyaudubon.org](mailto:info@orangecountynyaudubon.org).

WED 19

### Intro to Mindfulness Meditation

GARRISON

10:30 a.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](http://desmondfishlibrary.org)

This is the first class of a six-session workshop led by Alicia Leeds. *Free*

THURS 20

### Ensuring Safe Nuclear Decommissioning

BEACON

7 p.m. River Center  
Long Dock Park | 845-463-4660  
[beaconsloopclub.org](http://beaconsloopclub.org)

Manna Jo Greene, a member of the Indian Point Nuclear Decommissioning Citizen Advisory Panel, will discuss environmental and safety issues related to the closure of the plant that begins in April.





MUSIC

SUN 16  
**CJ Chenier & The Red Hot Louisiana Band**  
BEACON  
4:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com  
Celebrate Mardi Gras with a Zydeco show, Louisiana-style dishes and dancing. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

WED 19  
**Tribal Harmony: Joan Henry**  
BEACON  
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. | 845-831-4988 tribalharmony.bpt.me  
Henry will blend storytelling with jazz standards from the old to the avante garde backed by the band Spirited (Dennis Yerry on piano, Rupert Ifil on percussion, Rich Syracuse on bass, Tom DePetri on guitar and Gus Mancini on sax). *Cost: \$10 (\$15 door)*

FRI 21  
**Hudson Valley Gospel Festival**  
POUGHKEEPSIE  
dutchesstourism.com/ticketinfo  
This festival will include concerts by Everett Drake, Edwin Sutton and the Livingstone College Gospel Choir, among others, as well as workshops, a Gospel Walk Through History and a Hat Parade. Also SAT 22, SUN 23. *Cost: \$50 to \$125*

FRI 21  
**Kiss the Sky**  
PEEKSKILL  
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley 1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039 paramounthudsonvalley.com  
Jimmy Bleu, who plays the role of Jimi Hendrix in this tribute show, has toured with members of the Hendrix band. *Cost: \$20 to \$35*

FRI 21  
**Spyro Gyra**  
BEACON  
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com  
Now in their 45th year as a band, the contemporary jazz icons will focus on music from their releases after 2000. *Cost: \$55 (\$60 door)*



CJ Chenier, Feb. 16

SAT 22  
**Strange Loops**  
BEACON  
4 p.m. BAU Gallery | 506 Main St. 845-440-7584 | baugallery.org  
The Schroeder Umansky Duo will perform music for violin and cello by Zoltán Kodály, Michael Ippolito and Caroline Shaw. Presented by the Howland Chamber Music Circle. *Free*

SAT 22  
**The Smithereens**  
PEEKSKILL  
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley 1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039 paramounthudsonvalley.com  
After 40 years and 17 albums, the band's latest is *Covers*, which features songs originally recorded by other acts. Robin Wilson from the Gin Blossoms will be the guest vocalist following the death of Pat DiNizio. *Cost: \$29 to \$59*

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 15  
**Three Chaplin Shorts**  
COLD SPRING  
7 p.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040 butterfieldlibrary.org  
The library, as part of its Silent Film Series, will screen Charlie Chaplin's "The Floorwalker" (1916), "Easy Street" (1917) and "The Adventurer" (1917), with musical accompaniment by Cary Brown. *Free*

SAT 15  
**Sinbad**  
PEEKSKILL  
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley 1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039 paramounthudsonvalley.com  
The comedian and actor — ranked by Comedy Central as one of the top 100 comics and known for his many specials — returns to the Paramount. *Cost: \$47.50 to \$67.50*

TUES 18  
**True Justice**  
BEACON  
7 p.m. First Presbyterian Church 50 Liberty St. moviesthatmatterbeacon.org  
This 2019 documentary examines the journey of Bryan Stevenson, a public defender in Alabama and director of the Equal Justice Initiative, who represents the incarcerated, wrongfully convicted and disadvantaged. It will be screened as part of the ongoing Movies That Matter series. *Free*

WED 19  
**Traces of the Trade**  
BEACON  
1 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St. | 845-831-1134 beaconlibrary.org  
After filmmaker Katrina Browne discovered her ancestors were the largest slave-trading family in U.S. history, she and nine other descendants retraced the Triangle Trade from Rhode Island to Ghana to Cuba for this 2008 documentary. *Free*

WED 19  
**The Human Element**  
POUGHKEEPSIE  
6 p.m. Trolley Barn | 489 Main St. eventbrite.com/e/the-human-element-tickets  
In this 2018 documentary, environmental photographer James Balog explores the impact of climate change and the people on the front lines of wildfires, hurricanes and sea-level rise. A panel discussion with elected officials and nonprofit leaders will follow the screening. Online registration requested. *Free*

FRI 21  
**Harriet**  
COLD SPRING  
7 p.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave. 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org  
Cynthia Erivo and Janelle Monae star in this 2019 biopic of the abolitionist and activist Harriet Tubman. Rated PG-13. *Free*

FRI 21  
**Rosebuds**  
BEACON  
8 p.m. Story Screen Beacon 445 Main St. | storyscreenbeacon.com  
In this episode of the Storytelling Series, John Blesso and Linda Pratt of *Adult Stories*, Mike Burdge and Bernadette Gorman-White of *Story Screen Presents*, Bridget O'Neill of *Keepin' It Real with Bridget O'Neill* and Drew Prochaska of *The Artichoke* will discuss the films that matter most to them. Mature audiences. *Cost: \$10*

SAT 22  
**Hudson Highlands Poetry**  
GARRISON  
1:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020 desmondfishlibrary.org  
Carla Carlson, A. Anupama and Joseph Fasano will read their work as part of this ongoing series.

SAT 22  
**The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane**  
BEACON  
3 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. | 845-831-4988 miraculousjourney.bpt.me  
In this production by the Hudson Valley Theatre Initiative of Kate DiCamillo's novel, a vain but fragile toy rabbit learns about love. Suitable for ages 8 and older. Also SUN 23. See Page 14. *Cost: \$15 (\$10 children)*

VISUAL ART

SAT 15  
**Winter Weekend**  
NEW WINDSOR  
11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Storm King Art Center 1 Museum Road | 845-534-3115 stormking.org  
Enjoy the outdoor sculpture park in a wintry landscape. Also SUN 16. *Cost: \$18 (\$15 seniors, \$8 ages 5 to 18 and students, free under age 4 and members)*

CIVIC

TUES 18  
**City Council**  
BEACON  
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza 845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

TUES 18  
**Village Board**  
NELSONVILLE  
7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St. 845-265-2500 | nelsonvilleny.gov

THURS 20  
**Community Development Forum**  
BEACON  
7 p.m. Memorial Hall | 413 Main St.

Following a presentation about Beacon's comprehensive plan, development activity and zoning changes, a facilitator will lead a discussion.

THURS 20  
**State of the County**  
HYDE PARK  
5:30 p.m. Culinary Institute of America (Marriott Pavilion) 1946 Campus Drive  
County Executive Marc Molinaro will give his annual address. Registration requested at surveymonkey.com/r/8TRQHZQ.

SAT 22  
**Ward 1 Office Hours**  
BEACON  
11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St. | 845-831-1134 beaconlibrary.org  
Council Member Terry Nelson will be available for questions or comments.



The Smithereens, Feb. 22



Harriet Tubman film, Feb. 21

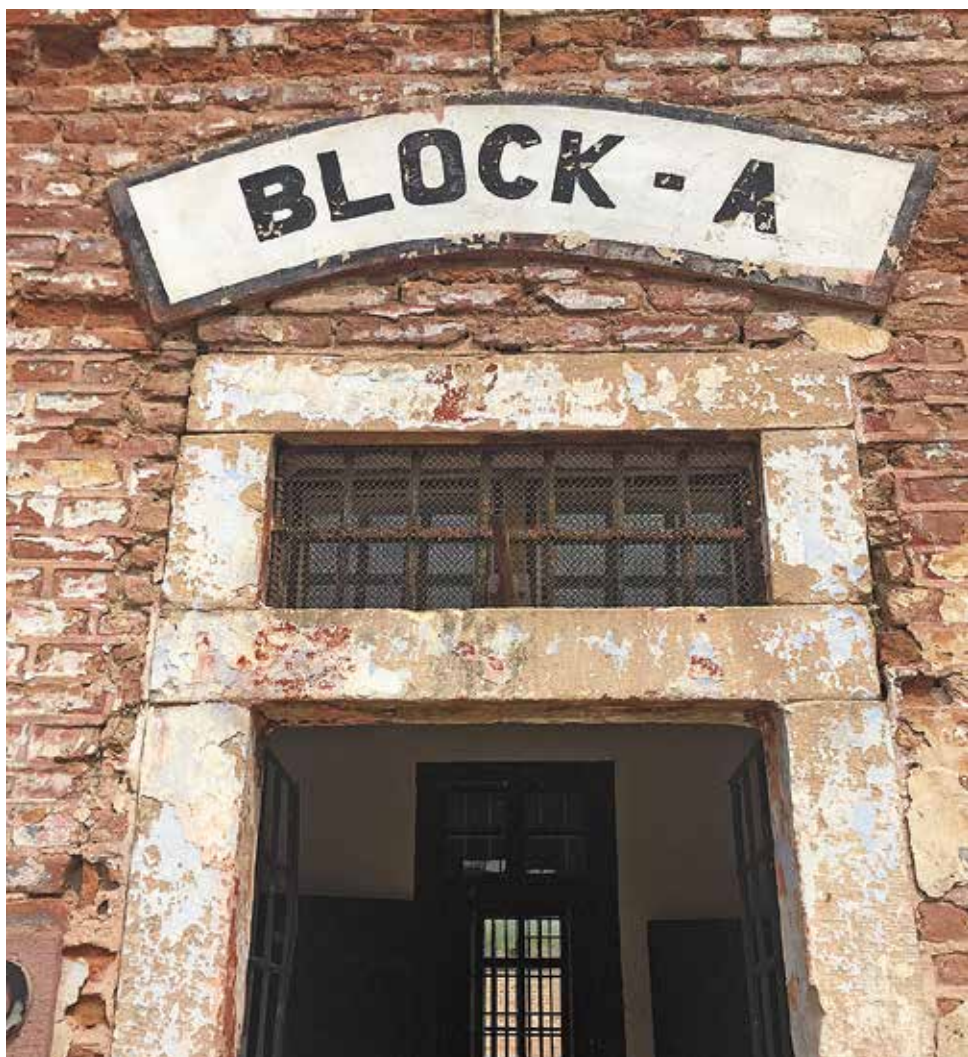




This piece by Hana Becková (1930-1944) was done at Terezin. The children were asked to draw a memory of home.



A landscape with a river and two figures, by Soňa Fischerová (1931-1944)



The entrance to a cell block at Terezin

Photo by A. Rooney

## Holocaust Remembrance Set for Feb. 15 in Beacon

*Related play the next weekend already sold out*

By Alison Rooney

“My first reaction to the story of the Terezin children was silence. My second reaction was the inability to keep silent.”

Those are the words of Celeste Raspanti, the author of *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*, a play based on the wartime experience of Jewish children held captive by the Nazis at a transport camp near Prague known as Terezin.

On Saturday, Feb. 15, at 7:30 p.m. at Beacon High School, students who are members of the Beacon Players will hold a community-wide Special Night of Remembrance to honor victims of the Holocaust. This will be followed next weekend by two sold-out performances of *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*.

At the ceremony, candles will be lit for the children of Terezin, and the Sabbath Prayer will be recited by students from Beacon and Spackenhill high schools. This will be followed by a reading by Asha Marcus and

Jenessa Bell of two poems written by children at Terezin.

After the Beacon cast performs scenes from the play, a sculpture honoring the Terezin children created by the school's Art Crew will be dedicated. The Beacon Hebrew Alliance cantor, Ellen Pearson Gersh, will then lead the singing of “Olam Chesed Yibaneh” (“The World Shall be Built From Love”) and Beacon's poet laureate, Peter Ullian, will read from a musical drama he co-wrote called *Signs of Life* that also is set at Terezin.

The event will conclude with a performance by Graeme McEneaney and Juliana Giannasca of the Jacques Brel song “If We Only Have Love.”

The high school also will host an exhibit, *So That No One Shall Forget*, for which Beacon High School students recreated artwork made by the children of Terezin that will be hung with photos from the Holocaust.

*I Never Saw Another Butterfly*, which will be performed on Feb. 21 and 22, was inspired by an accidental encounter. Wait-

(Continued on Page 15)

ARTISTS **INVITE**

FEBRUARY 7<sup>th</sup> to MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Grey Zeien / Gary Jacketti  
Grace Kennedy / Lael Morgan  
Tim D'Acquisto / Simeon Lagodich  
Pat Hickman / Nancy Koenigsberg  
Ada Pilar Cruz / Katrina Bello  
Nancy Steinson / Insun Kim  
Maria Pia Marrella / Robert Braczyk

Opening Reception:  
Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>  
6pm to 8:00pm

Gallery Hours:  
Saturday to Sunday,  
12 to 5pm

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“ At that moment, I knew I was committed to these children, to the more than 15,000 children who were incarcerated in Terezin, to the mere 100 who survived, and in a special way, to that one child, now a woman, who would become the subject of my research and the nominal principal character in my play.

~ Raspanti

## Holocaust (from Page 14)

ing for a friend in a bookstore, Raspanti, a former Catholic nun who is now 91, spotted a compilation of artwork by the children between 1942 and 1944; she would use its contents and title for her play.

In her production notes, Raspanti writes that she was moved by the poignancy of the drawings and “terrified at the brutal truth that came so directly and openly from the mouths of the children.” In the back of the book, each child was identified by all that was known about him or her: the date of birth, transport and death.

“I noticed one recurring phrase in the grim litany of brief, young lives: ‘perished at Auschwitz, perished at Auschwitz, perished at Auschwitz,’” Raspanti recalled. Another line also startled her: “Raja Englanderova, after the liberation, returned to Prague.”

“At that moment, I knew I was committed to these children, to the more than 15,000 children who were incarcerated

in Terezin, to the mere 100 who survived, and in a special way, to that one child, now a woman, who would become the subject of my research and the nominal principal character in my play,” she wrote.

Eventually, the two women met. The play is narrated by Raja 10 years after the war, with scenes acted out as flashbacks. It includes the depiction of a teacher, Friedl Dicker-Brandeis, who, despite it being forbidden, encouraged the children to draw what they remembered of their homes, and their dreams and nightmares, as a means of escape. (Dicker-Brandeis was murdered at Birkenau in 1944.)

For the past month or so, a group of Beacon High School actors immersed themselves in those memories, led by student-director Amanda Montaldo.

The play is effective, the senior says, because it “takes such a broad and difficult topic as the Holocaust and breaks it down into the fundamental aspects of life we all experience: fear, family, loss, first



A section of the camp at Terezin

Photo by A. Rooney

love, community, hope. The victims feel distinctly human, painfully familiar.”

Caleb Ullian, who plays Raja’s father (and who is the son of Peter Ullian), says the play is “important to me as a Jewish kid because, as the Holocaust becomes more and more of a distant memory, it’s necessary to remember why it’s so significant and why we can’t

let something like this happen again.”

The idea for the Beacon production came from director Anthony Scarrone, who earlier mounted the production at John Jay High School. It will be performed with the audience also on stage to create intimacy, limiting the seating to 100 per show, which is one reason both shows filled quickly.

• Best Brunch in Beacon •

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**FRIDAY, FEB. 14**  
7 pm Annie Mash Duo - No Music Cover  
8:30 pm **Centricorum**  
+ Maeve Gilchrist

**SATURDAY, FEB. 15**  
6 pm Chris Brown - No Music Cover  
8:30 pm **Mary Fahl**  
former lead singer of October Project

**SUNDAY, FEB. 16**  
11:30 am The Edukated Fleas - No Music Cover  
4:30 pm **CJ Chenier & The Red Hot Louisiana Band**  
Mardi Gras Party

**THURSDAY, FEB. 20**  
7 pm Calling All Writers Open Mic  
7 pm Dance Jam

**FRIDAY, FEB. 21**  
8:30 pm **Spyro Gyra**

**SATURDAY, FEB. 22**  
8:30 pm **David Broza & Trio Havana**

**SUNDAY, FEB. 23**  
7 pm **California Dreamin'**

**FRIDAY, FEB. 28**  
8:30 pm **Joseph Arthur**

**SATURDAY, FEB. 29**  
8:30 pm **Cherish the Ladies**

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Andrea Fennell with Edward Tulane

Photo by Todd Hulet

Emily Boone in a scene from *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*

HVTI photo

# Shattered but Unbroken

*An unlikely hero in a play for elementary students*

By Alison Rooney

Since its founding two years ago in Beacon, the Hudson Valley Theatre Initiative has presented musicals and plays for adults (*QueenE*), and toddlers (*Baby Shark*, *Wheels on the Bus*).

Now HVTI is aiming at older children with *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, an adaptation of Kate DiCamillo's 2006 book.

In its story of a china rabbit toy named

Edward Tulane who is loved, lost, discarded, shattered and cared for before learning how to love, the picaresque book has overtones of everything from *The Grapes of Wrath* to *The Odyssey*, mixed with a smidgen of Dickens. Edward is an unlikely hero for a children's story, but his harrowing and often melancholy misadventures open him up to happiness.

"There's a deficit of shows geared to the third- to fifth-graders — and even more so for middle-schoolers," explains Todd Hulet, HVTI's artistic director. "This adaptation brings the story out in a poetic way, which can appeal to a lot of age groups, including adults."

Edward survives being thrown over-

board into a raging sea, being scorned, exploited, ignored and left to die, yet he is also the beneficiary of great kindness, much of it from those who have the least. Through it all, he is unable to speak, move or otherwise control his fate, until he learns other ways of doing that.

A hallmark of the book is Bagram Ibatouline's intricate black-and-white illustrations, which in turn have inspired the look of the play. In one interview, Ibatouline explained that he had to sculpt Edward's head "so it would be easier to paint it and turn it into different positions, because his expression doesn't change throughout the book. Only his inside changes."

For Elizabeth Greenblatt, who is producing the play and has a 9-year-old who loves the book, it's more than a compelling story.

"There's also this level of children thinking about times in their lives, the way they can sort of conceptualize loving a toy, then having a toy they may not love anymore," she says. "That's what draws kids to the book."

There's a lot of local talent on board. Along with Greenblatt and Hulet, the production team includes costume designer Lila Barchetto, marketing director Aimee DeSimone and cast members Emily Boone, Martina Drayer, Andrea Fennell and Humza Mian.

*The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* will be presented at the Howland Center, 477 Main St., in Beacon, at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 22, and Sunday, Feb. 23. Advance tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 13 and younger (see [brownpapertickets.com/event/4486976](http://brownpapertickets.com/event/4486976)), or \$15 and \$10 at the door.

“There’s a deficit of shows geared to the third- to fifth-graders — and even more so for middle-schoolers. This adaptation brings the story out in a poetic way, which can appeal to a lot of age groups, including adults.” ~Todd Hulet

## ART BRIEFS

### Clearwater to Scale Back Music Festival

*Will only admit 529 people on each day*

After losing \$190,000 on the Great Hudson River Revival in 2019, Clearwater said it would scale back its annual music festival this summer.

The organization said in a statement it will rename the event the Clearwater Community Celebration and cap attendance each day at 529 people, including musicians and volunteers. The event is scheduled for June 20 and 21 at Croton Point Park.

The festival drew 7,600 people in 2018 and 4,500 in 2019, when it rained on the second day. It was canceled in 2016 by Clearwater, which is based in Beacon.

Clearwater has created a waiting list for its supporters at [bit.ly/clearwater-request](http://bit.ly/clearwater-request),

noting that priority will be given to members. The nonprofit said it hopes to again stage a full-scale Great Hudson River Revival in 2021.

### Catalyst Gallery Closes

*Provided rental space for artist shows*

The owners of Catalyst Gallery in Beacon, which rented its space for art shows, workshops, performances and pop-up events, said last week they are closing the 7-year-old business. Its most recent exhibit, the annual Small Works Show, ended on Jan. 12.

Erica Hauser, who owns the gallery with Jon Reichert, cited a desire online to “make room for new projects and focus on my work. Time to passionately scribble the next rant and let it fuel whatever is next.”

She added: “A catalyst is something that

accelerates a reaction and causes activity between two or more persons or forces, without itself being affected. The space will be continually utilized and transformed to fulfill various needs, and by doing so will create new opportunities for communication and creativity.”

### Telephone Building Sold

*Little Beacon Space moves out*

The Telephone Building at 291 Main St. in Beacon sold in December, and after the new owner hiked the rent, the coworking firms A Little Beacon Space and Tin Shingle moved out.

Beahive, another coworking firm that has occupied a large part of the building since 2009, will remain and expand into the former A Little Beacon Space despite

what owner Scott Tillitt called a “dramatic” increase in rent.

Tillitt last year opened a second Beahive location in Beacon and since 2012 has operated a similar “hive” in Albany. He plans to open a space in Newburgh this year and in recent years experimented with locations in Kingston and Peekskill, although both have closed.

Katie Hellmuth Martin, the owner of A Little Beacon Space and Tin Shingle, wrote online that “both spaces may begin again elsewhere, but for now, they are nestled into my attic, basement and other living spaces.” She continues to publish A Little Beacon Blog.

Deborah Bigelow, who restored the Telephone Building, which was built in 1907, sold it to Shady Twal, a real-estate investor based in Poughkeepsie. It was listed for \$1.24 million.



# It's Valentine's Day, and Love is in the Air

## How We Met



My husband and I met at an Irish bar in Queens. I was dating someone else at the time who I happened to be there with. I saw the back of Seosamh's head and I knew. I saw my opportunity as he made his way to the jukebox. (Yes, I approached him, not the other way around. Should you ever meet him, don't let him tell you different!) Those big blue eyes turned to me and my world was forever changed.

~Nadia Sheerin



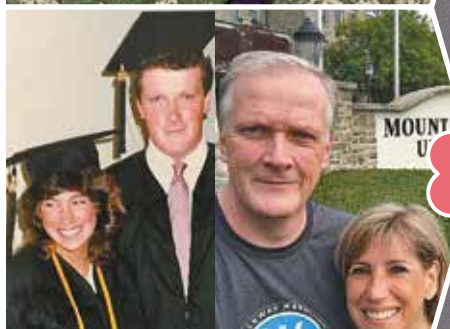
The place: London, in a musty youth-hostel basement dorm. The voice in his head: "This is the girl you're going to marry." The voice in mine: "Eek! There are boys in this room!" Josh had the bunk above mine in a room of a dozen international travelers. Parting, a few exchanged addresses, but only we wrote. A thousand pages and seven years later (with just five more meetings), a wedding on my side of the continent before starting a life together on his. The hostel was gone when we checked 20 years later; 30 years later, we're still here.

~Jackie Hadden



In 2008 I answered a Craigslist ad posted by Revolution Rickshaws for a gig delivering cargo in Manhattan via giant trike — and agreed, despite my fears of sharing the road with motorists, to show up at its Midtown headquarters for an interview with the owner, whose name was Gregg. The day of the interview, I almost chickened out. But then, perusing its website, I saw that my old friend Julian was working there. I still wasn't sure about the job, but I wanted to see Julian. So I kept the appointment — and met Gregg. Nearly 12 years later, we're still Zuman along.

~Helen Zuman



It was freshman year and I was on a pay phone in college when Diane walked by. Her smile caught me that day and stayed in my head! Two years later, I flirted with her every night during junior-year finals week and, on the last day before winter break, I finally kissed her. I've been in love ever since and that smile is the best part of my day still.

~Dan Hughes



Bill and I met at the Edinburgh Theater Festival in 2002. He was acting in three plays brought over by his New York theater company, and I was working as a production assistant for the UK company producing them. After bumping into him in the Edinburgh rain and being charmed by his color-coordinated and comprehensive rain gear (truly an American in Scotland), I vowed to my friend that I would kiss him. I did, and then he disappeared to India. I tracked him down, and two years of handwritten letters later, we were on our way.

~Jenny Coelius



Garrett and I met in 2017 when we played on the same bookstore-sponsored basketball team in Brooklyn. After a summer of being teammates, we began talking outside of the team email thread. Our first "date" started as a group hang but later that night we kissed and have been together nearly every day since. Many of our early dates were trips upstate to fish and hike. We're still searching for pickup basketball games.

~Amy Hunt



I met Kit on the high school fencing team. She was in front of the Snapple machine during stretches. I remember seeing her and knowing something important was happening. She's been my best friend ever since.

~Nate Smith

## Dear Valentine

### Eftinka

Happy or grumpy, chipper or sleepy, with feta or without, I love you more and more each day.  
~Joshua

### My dearest John

50+ years and I am still the luckiest woman! You have made my life a full and happy one.  
~Karen

### Polina

There were never two as lucky as us. Paradise is every morning meeting with you. I'll love you forever, my June. Xoxo ~Kat

### My dearest L

I love you so very much. I always will. ~E.

### Dearest Jess

I love you like a sea otter loves diving through crystal clear waters. Will you be my Valentine?. Love, Justin

Happy day to my mallard. Remembering all of our sunsets seen & looking forward to all of the sunsets left to fly through together.

Ciao amore!  
Ti amo tanto e ti amerò per sempre.  
Tua, Francesca

Have your own story?  
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# Nine is Enough?

(from Page 1)

sixth permanent superintendent in 10 years, meetings often went past 11 p.m.

On the other hand, a smaller board might not represent all of the district’s constituent groups.

“Board members should always try to reach out to all stakeholders,” regardless of the board’s size, White said, “but I could understand why someone would have that fear. Changing the board isn’t a pressing issue for me, but I would be in favor of it if it came up for a vote.”

The Beacon district is one of 133 of 690 districts in the state with a nine-member board. There are also 378 seven-member boards and 165 five-member boards. Only New York City, with over 1 million public school students, has more than nine members, at 13.

Meredith Heuer, the Beacon board’s vice president, has been one of the more vocal advocates for fewer members, citing a lack of candidates as one of her reasons.

“Not all of our recent elections have been uncontested, but many have, and I worry that board members are scrambling to recruit people to run this time every year,” she said. “That doesn’t feel like a true democratic process.”

Last year, Heuer, Michael Rutkoske and Antony Tseng ran unopposed for re-election. In 2018, newcomers Elissa Betterbid, James Case-Leal and Flora Stadler were elected from a six-candidate field, and in 2017 four incumbents ran unopposed and were re-elected.

Tseng, who was first elected in 2016, has said he believes the board should stay at nine to encourage diverse representation.

## School Board Sizes

District	Students	Members
Beacon	2,841	9
Haldane	837	5
Garrison	212	7*
Newburgh	10,745	9
Poughkeepsie	4,131	5
Putnam Valley	1,646	5
Carmel	4,114	7

*\*After two resignations this past summer, the Garrison board discussed dropping to five but instead appointed new members.*

During the board’s Jan. 27 meeting, he also pointed to the 17 seats that board members fill on various committees.

“How many extra committee meetings would you want to go to with a smaller board?” Tseng asked.

Statewide, school boards rarely shrink, said Jay Worona, deputy executive director and general counsel for the New York State School Boards Association.

Losing members “is much less the norm,” he said. “It’s usually related to some specific issue that a community is facing.”

In Beacon, Case-Leal wondered on Jan. 27 whether a finite volunteer pool could be that catalyst.

The members of the board “represent a certain amount of the people who are dedicated to service,” he said. “I have no doubt that if this board was smaller the people on this board would go on to do service in other parts of our community. I’m thinking about the larger needs.”

“Not all of our recent elections have been uncontested, but many have, and I worry that board members are scrambling to recruit people to run this time every year. That doesn’t feel like a true democratic process.

~ Ellen Pearson Gersh

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Philipstown in 2011 enacted a zoning code that outlaws “processing of soil, dirt, gravel and rock, including rock-crushing” everywhere below the intersection of Route 9 and East Mountain Road South, an area that includes the Ventura property.

## Lawsuit (from Page 1)

and construction debris, soil, dirt, gravel and vegetative material.

On Feb. 4, Justice Gina Capone granted the injunction but limited it to a ban on rock-crushing.

Ricky Ventura, who runs RNV, and his brother, Mark, inherited the 9.6-acre parcel at the corner of Lane Gate Road and Route 9 from their father, August Ventura. In 1979, their father opened a “construction yard” there that, according to the Ventura lawyer, provided rock-crushing.

Although the town lawsuit targets both brothers, the lawsuit against the town was filed by Ricky Ventura and RNV.

In its complaint, filed on Feb. 3, Philipstown charges that RNV continues to operate on the site, causing “noise pollution and the runoff of effluent onto roadways and adjoining properties.” It asked the court to stop the activity and to make RNV “immediately install erosion-control measures to mitigate impacts from the illegal construction activities [conducted] in violation of the town’s code” and “to restore the slopes, vegetation and wetlands” on the premises.

RNV’s lawsuit, filed on Feb. 10, asserts that Supervisor Richard Shea “improperly inserted himself” into the ZBA review and made “a blatant attempt to sway” it, and that an unidentified ZBA member later “admitted that the [Zoning] Board was expressly directed by the town supervisor to deny” the Ventura plea to remove the stop-work order.

The lawsuit also maintains that any noise or dirt on Lane Gate is probably from Highway Department trucks coming and going from Philipstown’s nearby recycling center and that “absolutely no runoff is coming from the [Ventura] property onto the roadway.” It also alleges that Shea has a “personal vendetta” against Ventura and reportedly spoke of “drones flying overhead and surveilling the property.”

In part, the conflict between the Ventura business and town involves evolving zoning law and the place — if any — of the Ventura enterprise under it.

Town records include approved applications for August Ventura but do not mention rock-crushing or debris-processing; nor did the law define what a “contractor’s yard” meant or what was permissible in one. At that point, the Ventura land fell into a now-defunct “industrial” zoning district.

For years Philipstown’s did not specifically address such matters. Then, in a 2005 zoning change, the Town Board forbade “the manufacture, processing or assembling of goods made from concrete or asphalt” as well as dirt, soil and gravel processing “and rock-crushing.”

In 2007, Tom Monroe, who was then the code enforcement officer and building inspector, accused the Venturas of violating the law. But two years later, Robert Emerick, who succeeded Monroe, stated that “all violations on file have been removed and the Building Department is satisfied with this property.”

Philipstown in 2011 enacted a zoning code that outlaws “processing of soil, dirt, gravel and rock, including rock-crushing” everywhere below the intersection of Route 9 and East Mountain Road South, an area that includes the Ventura property. But it also stipulated that “any use which existed lawfully” under old zoning but “fails to conform” to the 2011 update “may be continued, subject to the provisions and limitations specified” elsewhere under law. The revision threw the Ventura property into a “highway-commercial” zoning district.

Responding to anonymous complaints in 2013, Kevin Donohue, who had taken over as building inspector, determined that the Venturas were crushing rocks and engaging in similar disallowed activities and ordered them to cease.

Legal action followed and the brothers lost repeatedly, from the local justice court to the state appellate court, which ruled against them last March.

In April, the current building inspector, Greg Wunner, issued a stop-work order. The battle then shifted to the town ZBA, which, RNV said, had never considered its arguments. But at the ZBA on Jan. 13, Ricky Ventura again lost.

The Ventura’s attorney, Michael Sirignano, contends that RNV’s operations constitute a legal, pre-existing, non-conforming use — one that operated for years and was considered legal but now merely fails to fit under the present zoning code.

The Ventura lawsuit asks the Putnam Supreme Court to overturn the stop-work order and the ZBA decision; order the town to stop pursuing Ricky Ventura; and grant him damages “in an amount presently undetermined but believed to exceed \$50 million, together with punitive damages” yet to be calculated.



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## Out There

## Love It and Leave It

## Letting go at Dennings Point

By Brian PJ Cronin

There's a fox den on Dennings Point, although I won't tell you where.

I discovered it two years ago, during a spring run, when half a dozen kits came bounding down the trail as if I were a long-lost playmate.

When they figured out I wasn't a bipedal, hairless fox, they turned tail. When I ran past the part of the woods they had disappeared into, I could see them peeking out at me, and an adult fox standing over them.

I didn't see them again until this past November, as I was running at twilight. I had just put on my headlamp when I heard something off-trail. Swinging around, the beam illuminated the same part of the woods where I had seen the den two years before. Six adult foxes stared with glowing eyes.

For such a small thumb of land jutting into the Hudson, Dennings Point has a wide variety of wildlife. I've seen plenty over the past 12 years: Foxes, deer, rat snakes, raccoons, possums, coyotes, barred owls and a snapping turtle so big I could have fit a saddle on it. And, of course, the bald eagles.

The bald eagles are why I don't run at Dennings Point during the winter. Each year, from Dec. 15 to March 15, the point is closed by the state Department of Environmental Conservation. This is done to protect the bald eagles, who may no longer be on the federal list of endangered species



Dennings Point is closed each year from Dec. 15 to March 15.

Photo by B. Cronin

but remain on the state's. Winter is roosting season, when they are most vulnerable.

Food is scarce, and the eagles need to hunker down and conserve energy for spring breeding. Birds that are constantly flying away after getting spooked by humans — even those running as slowly as I — are eagles that likely won't be laying eggs.

Some eagles seem perfectly fine around humans and choose to set up their nests in high-traffic areas. At Bowdoin Park in Wappingers Falls, which is full of secluded, marshy areas, a pair of bald eagles nonetheless chose to nest overlooking the playground. Perhaps they like to go down the slides at night, but Evan Thompson, manager of the Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve, notes it's not typical behavior and that it's best to protect nests whenever possible.

That's why the state closes Dennings

Point, and also why the east side of the point, where the bald eagle nest is located, is closed year-round.

Thompson knows this isn't the most popular decision, so the agency has tried to make Dennings Point accessible in other ways, such as paving the majority of the trail last year to make it passable for wheelchairs. The state also constructed a blind near the ruins of the paper-clip factory that

offers seclusion and protection to birders who want to gaze across the bay.

When I asked if park employees can enter the park when it's closed, he let out a weary sigh. "I guess you saw the Facebook thread," he said.

I had. In a group devoted to Beacon, someone last month posted a photo of the closed Dennings Point gate after a snowfall. Numerous footprints tracked past the gate. The conversation that followed included typical Facebook fare such as neighbors blaming neighbors, lazy stereotyping, false information and residents proclaiming they will go to Dennings Point anytime they damn well please.

Thompson said park employees do not go into the point during the winter unless it's an emergency. But I can understand the frustration. For people who have been coming to the point for their entire lives, it can feel like something has been taken away by strangers. Much of the hostility that longtime residents of any place direct at newcomers and tourists seems to arise from the same question: Do you love this place as much as we do?

In the spirit of Valentine's Day, I'd like to suggest that we leave Dennings Point to the eagles over the winter. I'm not a Beacon native, but my son is, and we've spent many happy hours down at Dennings Point. I would like to make sure the eagles are still there for him and his children, and it's wonderful to have something to look forward to. Spring is just around the corner, and absence, as always, makes the heart grow fonder.

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## SPORTS



The Beacon boys' swim team honored its seniors recently. Coach Larry Collins, at left, is shown with Peter Fernandez, David Paschal and Omar Abdo . Photo provided

## Varsity Roundup

### Wrestling

Senior Javon Dortch and freshman Chris Crawford, who each wrestle for **Beacon** at 106 pounds, both qualified for the Section 1 tournament, which opens Saturday (Feb. 15) at Sleepy Hollow High School.

Crawford (32-3) won the divisional tournament on Feb. 8 at Arlington and Dortch (23-7) finished fourth. The top four wrestlers in each weight class advance.

"They're both peaking at the right time," said Coach Ron Tompkins.

### Girls' Basketball

The **Beacon** girls (8-12) edged Nyack, 43-39, on Senior Night, Feb. 6. After just getting into the tournament (the Bulldogs are seeded No. 20 in Section 1, Class A, and only the top 20 of 27 teams qualify), the team will play on Tuesday (Feb. 18), likely at No. 13 Saunders (11-9).

"A lot of the seniors — Grace Affeldt, Analiese Compagnone, Skyler Kurtz, Anita Rodriguez, Dior Gillins and Catherine Mitchell — have been with me since the seventh grade, and we did not go to the playoffs last year, so I'm happy we are fulfilling that goal," said Coach Christina Dahl. "When we stay focused, we can compete. We have some experience; we just have to come ready to play."

The **Haldane** girls won at North Salem, 50-45, on Feb. 5 to close their season at 10-10. Shianne Twoguns led

the way with 19 points and four assists, Maddie Chiera added 18 points, four rebounds and three steals, and Molly Siegel and Liv Monteleone each had 10 rebounds.

After finishing the season with three consecutive wins, the Blue Devils are the No. 2 seed of four teams in the Section 1, Class C tournament and will face the Leffell School (9-8) on March 3 at The Westchester County Center. The winner will advance to the title game on March 7.

### Boys' Basketball

**Haldane** defeated Putnam Valley, 60-53, on Monday (Feb. 10) to close out its regular season at 15-5. As the No. 2 seed among four teams in the Section 1, Class C tournament, the Blue Devils now wait until March 2 to take on No. 3 Tuckahoe (10-10) at the Westchester County Center. Hamilton (17-3) is the top seed.

### Bowling

Senior Selena Virtuoso will represent **Beacon** as one of six members of a Section 1 all-star team when it competes on March 14 at the state tournament in Syracuse. She also qualified as a sophomore in 2018. Her season average was 195.

### Boys' Swimming

At the Section 1 championships on Feb. 11, **Beacon** junior Stephen Quintero took ninth in the 200-yard free-style in 1:49.40, setting a school record.

## Canada *(from Page 24)*

with girls who wrestle, but Canada "didn't find it awkward at all," she said. "You wrestle who you wrestle. I don't worry about my opponent. I worry about what I have to do in order to get my points and the win."

She concedes that wrestling boys adds a degree of difficulty. "It can be harder because guys can be physically stronger," she said. "But I adapted."

Canada also said she faced unexpected challenges. "I didn't realize how hard I'd have to push myself, how mentally ready you have to be," she said. "If you're not on your game, your opponent can tell."

## Push for Girls' Wrestling

Girls' wrestling is growing in New York state, both in numbers and competitiveness. Todd Nelson, a director with the New York State Public High School Athletic Association, said hundreds of girls compete on boys' wrestling teams across the state but "the problem is they are scattered, [typically] with only one or two wrestlers per school." The only high school with a full girls' team is Bay Shore on Long Island.

According to the NYS Girls Wrestling Task Force, a grassroots effort to get the sport sanctioned, there were 924 girls wrestling for high schools in the state this year, including 43 in Section 1, which includes Beacon. At least three sections this year added girls' divisions to their championships.

The state association says it will organize a girls' division once four of the 11 athletic sections each have four teams. Schools lacking enough female wrestlers can partner with nearby schools, Nelson said.

At Beacon High School, Assistant Coach Vincent Grelia said he believes girls' wrestling will happen soon in New York, pointing to a competitive tournament called Eastern States that this year added a girls' division. And there are a number of girls excelling at the sport, including Isabella Garcia of Horace Greeley High School, who in December went 5-0 at a tournament in Pawling, including four pins, and won the 106-pound division.

Nationally, more than 21,000 girls wrestled last year at the high school level, a 27 percent increase over 2018, according to the National Wrestling Coaches Association, and 20 states held girls' championships. Ninety colleges also have women's programs.



## SPORTS

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Adrian Davis, Lionel Cumberbatch, Shane Green, Quazir Hayes, Ian Bautista, Kam Torres and Tre Smith were honored on Senior Night.



Senior Adrian Davis

## Basketball *(from Page 24)*

"We had a great first quarter," said Coach Scott Timpano. "Lourdes is a very good team, and we knew they'd go on a run. But I knew our kids really wanted this game. We've been riding on the bubble — are we in the playoffs, or not? [Only the top 20 of 29 teams in the section qualify.] It was Senior Night, the crowd was fantastic, and the kids had a lot of energy."

Seniors led the way. Quazir Hayes led the Bulldogs with 16 points, five rebounds, three steals and three blocked shots; Shane Green had 12 points, five rebounds and three assists; Kam Torres had 11 points and five rebounds; and Ian Bautista added seven points, five rebounds and five steals.

"Quazir had a lot of huge moments," Timpano said. "His three blocks were major. Bautista played a phenomenal game; he has great vision and played incredible down low. Kam gave us a ton of energy; he had a big play at the end of the third that gave us the lead for good."

Timpano believes his team is ready for the tournament. "We ended the season on a good stretch, winning five of our last seven games, which is phenomenal," he said. "We're feeling good."



Senior Shane Green



Claire Morgan



Beacon students came out to support their classmates, who gave them lots to cheer about.

*Photos by S. Pearlman*

**WINTER GAMES** — The U11 Beacon Fire participated in a tournament on Jan. 25 and 26 organized by the Cornwall United Soccer Club in Milton. The girls finished with wins against two teams from New Jersey and losses to two teams from Connecticut. Andrea Delgado and Claire Morgan had goals and Drew Kelly had a solid tournament controlling play at midfield. Julie Whittemore, Lily Mack, Victoria McKay and Sarah Ramkalawon played strong defense and keeper Victoria Maruggi had 15 saves and two shutouts. At the same time, the U9 boys' Bombcats took second place in their division at the tournament, which was their first as a team.

*Photo provided*



The HIGHLANDS

Current

7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

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Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
32/23	46/27	47/26	45/31	36/14	34/23	40/27
Mostly sunny	Rather cloudy and milder	Sun and some clouds	A bit of ice in the morning, then rain and drizzle	A bit of ice in the morning; mostly cloudy, colder	After a cloudy start, sunshine returns	Not as cold with plenty of sunshine
POP: 5%	POP: 10%	POP: 0%	POP: 60%	POP: 55%	POP: 0%	POP: 0%
SSW 4-8 mph	WSW 4-8 mph	WNW 7-14 mph	S 6-12 mph	WNW 10-20 mph	NW 7-14 mph	NNE 3-6 mph
RealFeel 34/20	RealFeel 46/17	RealFeel 45/26	RealFeel 41/19	RealFeel 27/8	RealFeel 30/20	RealFeel 47/28

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

Snowfall

Past week	0.4"
Month to date	0.9"
Normal month to date	4.0"
Season to date	14.4"
Normal season to date	22.8"
Last season to date	18.9"
Record for 2/14	10.0" (1940)

SUN & MOON

Sunrise Sat., 2/15	6:52 AM
Sunset Sat. night, 2/15	5:29 PM
Moonrise Sat., 2/15	12:08 AM
Moonset Sat., 2/15	10:46 AM

Last	New	First	Full
Feb 15	Feb 23	Mar 2	Mar 9

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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

**ACROSS**

1. Docket entry

5. Heidi's range

9. One's years

12. Greatly

13. Inquisitive

14. Present

15. Madison's place

17. Exist

18. Ardor

19. Cuts into cubes

21. Extra

24. Rover's friend

25. Difficult

26. Hawk trainer

30. Carte lead-in

31. Eliot's Marner

32. Rotation duration

33. Outwardly curved on both sides

35. Bouquet holder

36. Reed instrument

37. Essential points

38. Prenatal test, for short

40. — morgana

42. Island neckwear

43. Grayish metallic element

48. A Gershwin

49. Author Hunter

50. Medicinal amount

51. X rating?

52. Force measure

53. Unseen hitch

**DOWN**

1. Crow's call

2. Clay, now

3. "Help!"

4. Left an impression

5. Actress Paquin

6. Missing

7. Omega preceder

8. Municipal magistrates

9. Huge snakes

10. Bush opponent

11. Rams fans?

16. U.K. ref. bk.

20. Altar affirmative

21. Moby-Dick's pursuer

22. "The Persistence of Memory" painter

23. Severe

24. Linen source

26. Basketball team

27. Brewery product

28. Right on the map?

29. Deli loaves

31. Took a nap

34. Japanese sash

35. Food

37. Classic muscle car

38. Settled down

39. Unembellished

40. Drescher or Lebowitz

41. Zits

44. Poison —

45. Charged bit

46. Portion of N.A.

47. *Family Guy* daughter

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7 LITTLE WORDS

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

**CLUES**

1 take away mathematically (8)

2 Africa, for one (9)

3 more pouty (7)

4 water from the eyes (9)

5 small-minded (10)

6 cheerleader's accessories (7)

7 fragile (8)

**SOLUTIONS**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SUB INT ENT ACT KIER

TIN PO ATE OLER DEL

ANT MS RDR SUL CON

TEA IC TR MPO OPS

© 2020 Blue Ox Family Games, Inc., Dist. by Andrews McMeel

SUDO CURRENT

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

Puzzle Page Sponsored by



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Answers for Feb. 7 Puzzles

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

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

1. MISSING, 2. HYENAS, 3. JENNIFER, 4. BIRTHPLACE, 5. COLORS, 6. RACCOON, 7. INCORRECT

Answers will be published next week. See highlandscurrent.org/puzzle for interactive sudoku.



## SPORTS



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Shianne Canada

Photo by M. Turton

# She's a Wrestler

*Like many girls in state, Beacon senior competed with boys' team*

By Michael Turton

Shianne Canada is the only girl on the Beacon High School wrestling team. The 5-1, 120-pound senior had never competed before this season, and she won just two of her 29 matches.

Nevertheless, her coaches speak with

admiration of her determination. "She is definitely an elite athlete," says Assistant Coach Vincent Grelia.

Canada is not alone. She wrestled two other girls this season, splitting the matches, and there is an effort in New York to create enough teams to get the sport recognized. (See Page 20.) When a school does not offer a

team for a particular gender, such as basketball, football, lacrosse, soccer or wrestling, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association allows girls to compete with boys, or vice versa.

Grelia said Canada, who also played goalie for the girls' soccer team, benefitted from her physical strength, mental toughness and resilience. After a loss, he said, she was "right back to work, improving on what didn't work in previous match." She sometimes grappled at 126 pounds if the team needed someone in that division at a meet, even though she faced heavier and stronger opponents.

Canada's season ended last weekend when she failed to advance at the Section 1 tournament at Arlington High School. She was disappointed, she said, but also "couldn't have been happier, knowing how much I progressed through every single match, and never giving up, no matter what."

After graduating in June, Canada plans to join the U.S. Air Force and become a medic. She said she would like to compete in the academy's intramural wrestling program.

She wanted to wrestle as a junior but couldn't due to a soccer injury. The boys on the wrestling team encouraged her to join the team, even for only one season.

Canada said while there was a bit of good-natured teasing from her teammates, being a girl in a sport dominated by boys hasn't bothered her. That's not a universal experience

## Bulldogs Put on Show on Senior Night

*Sprint past Lourdes to rise in playoff rankings*

By Skip Pearlman

The Beacon High School boys' basketball team saved its best play for late in the season, giving fans one of its best performances of the winter on Feb. 6 while rolling to a 61-49 victory over visiting Lourdes.

Beacon (8-12), seeded No. 13, is expected to play a qualifying game in the Section 1, Class A tournament on Saturday (Feb. 15), likely at home against No. 20 Somers (7-13). The winner will play at No. 4 Poughkeepsie (14-6), the defending state champions, in the first round on Feb. 21.

Against Lourdes (12-8), which is seeded No. 10 in the section, the Bulldogs fed off the energy of the crowd and started the game with a 14-3 run.

The Warriors fought back and stayed close until the fourth quarter, when the Bulldogs closed the game with an 18-8 run.

(Continued on Page 21)



Shianne Canada during a match in December

File photo by S. Pearlman



Senior Quazir Hayes Photo by S. Pearlman

(Continued on Page 20)