

The HIGHLANDS Current

Big
Questions
Page 9



FEBRUARY 21, 2020

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WINTER COLORS — RiverWinds Gallery in Beacon hosted a workshop on Saturday (Feb. 15) on how to paint trees. For more photos, see Page 8.

Photos by Ross Corsair



Putnam Legislators to Consider Union Contract

But two others remain in limbo after years of talks

By Leonard Sparks

The Putnam County Legislature is expected to vote March 5 on a new contract with the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA), which represents 327 of its employees, but negotiations continue with two smaller unions.

The contract, if approved, would cap three years of negotiations with the union, which represents health, social services and highway employees.

County officials expressed optimism that agreements will soon be reached with sheriff's deputies, jail guards and support staff, but those talks also have been going on for years, in part because, under state law, public employees face heavy fines if they strike.

The previous CSEA contract expired in 2016; the new contract would cover 2017 through 2022. The Legislature's Personnel Committee unanimously approved the proposed six-year contract with the CSEA at its Feb. 11 meeting.

"It's a very fair and equitable contract," said Legislator Ginny Nacerino (R-Patterson), who chairs the committee.

Under the proposal, CSEA employees would receive salary increases of 1.25 percent for 2017 and 1.5 percent for 2018. Instead of making retroactive payments

for those years, the county will pay \$1,500 to each employee hired in 2017 or earlier, and \$500 to each hired in 2018.

Union members will receive a 1.75 percent increase for 2019, with retroactive payment, and 2 percent increases in 2020, 2021 and

2022. The agreement was approved by members, 256-42, in a vote on Feb. 5.

Janet Canaday, president of CSEA Unit 8150, said she was "very happy that the county and the CSEA have come to this agreement," adding that "this has been a long time coming."

(Continued on Page 6)

Four More Firefighters for Beacon

City also considers revisiting 17-year-old site cleanup

By Jeff Simms

Beacon hired four new firefighters this week, who, once trained, will bring the force to 16 full-time, or "career," members — the most it has ever had.

The additions, announced during the City Council meeting on Tuesday (Feb. 18), followed the hire two weeks earlier of a firefighter days after he had been laid off from Newburgh's department due to budget cuts.

Three of the hires were funded with a federal grant that pays a portion of their salaries for three years. The other two filled staffing gaps.

While the hires were applauded, a number of active and retired firefighters criticized Mayor Lee Kyriacou's recent decision to close the 130-year-old Beacon Engine station, one of the city's three firehouses.

Earlier this month, Kyriacou exercised an escape clause in the city's contract

(Continued on Page 7)



WHERE'S MY PHONE? — Re-enactors from the 4th Connecticut Regiment, 5th Connecticut Regiment, 5th New York Regiment and Lamb's Artillery Company & Morgan's Rifle Corps gathered on President's Day weekend at Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site in Newburgh.

Photo by Ross Corsair

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: MIKE HEINTZMAN

By Alison Rooney

Mike Heintzman will perform “a short evening of short plays” with John Pielmeier at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 29, at the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring.

How did you and John find each other?

I had written some pieces and, at the last minute before a show, I had an actor drop out of a very specific role: a 12-year-old. I thought, “What am I going to do?” Then it came to me — “John Pielmeier could play a 12-year-old!” He was perfect. It turned out to be the best way to hear the rhythm of the language. We started doing shows together at Butterfield in 2015. We basically wanted to see if we could make the librarians laugh. We didn’t think other people would show up.

What are some of the setups in this year’s show?

Let’s see — we have something on the World Bank using Venmo; a dharma talk for a yoga class; two truckers talking about romance novels; a development director trying to raise \$2.5 million between stops on the F train; seniors getting stoned; a guy being interrogated for tearing the Do Not Remove tag off a mattress — and more!

Do you tailor your comedy writing to your audience?

No, aside from sprinkling it with a few local references. I don’t think you want to gear it toward any demographic unless you’re going to get political. Most of my writing is character-driven; I’m better at people than plot. I’m always watching everyone. Just this morning I was studying a guy doing an oil change, thinking, “Where could I put you?”

You’re from North Dakota. What should people know about the state?

Hmmm ... I actually don’t pay much attention anymore. That’s horrible! That’s where I come from. It’s surprisingly beautiful? They eat a lot of this Norwegian thing called lefse — I think it’s a pastry [it’s actually a potato crepe]. Also, the governor laughs at my jokes. We went to

college together and are still buddies. He was my manager when *Ted Mack’s Amateur Hour* toured campus, and I wound up winning. He predicted it. He whispered to me backstage, “There are two piano players before you, so you’re going to win!”

After many years in Cold Spring, you and your wife, Patti Pelican, moved to Newburgh. How is that going?

I love it over there. You can feel sort of isolated in Cold Spring sometimes.

We hadn’t intended to move to Newburgh but looked at a place and wound up loving it. It’s on a quiet street in a little city, and it feels different. The locale throws you out of your comfort zone — you start to write differently. I don’t like change, but it’s always good for the writing. What I really like about Newburgh is that there are some weirdos walking down the street, such as a guy dressed like Charles Dickens. It’s like being back in New York City. It’s nice to have the weirdness.



ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

If you could appear on stage with any performer, who would it be?

“Right now, Billie Eilish would be the most fun.”



~ Shelby Siepp, Beacon

“Are you kidding me? Foo Fighters!”



~ Gail Prue, Beacon

“It would have to be Matisse, that border collie on *Britain’s Got Talent*.”



~ Caroline Kasterine, Garrison

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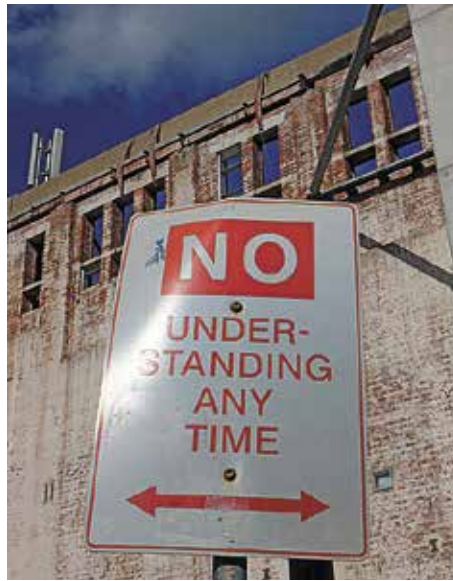
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A car using two lanes, and a puzzling sign



Photos by M. Turton

Reporter's Notebook: In Search of the Perfect Sign

*Some help, some confuse,
some are just funny*

By Michael Turton

My dad gets credit for my habit of paying attention to signs. When I was a kid in Ontario, he once said, "Michael, in Windsor there's an intersection where the street signs read Sandwich and Chew It."

I didn't believe him, so he took me there. To my amazement, he was right. It was the corner of Sandwich and Chewett streets.

I've been noticing signs ever since and have determined there are three types: those that provide crystal-clear directions; those that do the opposite; and those that make you chuckle.

The clearest sign I've seen was at a ski resort in northern Michigan, where snow was piled 10 feet high in front of the lodge. Parking there would be unwise and the sign made that abundantly clear. It read, "Do not even THINK about parking here." The Cold Spring police might try that near the pedestrian tunnel on Main Street where drivers regularly park beneath the standard "No Parking" signs.

Other signs are murkier. A couple of sections of Route 9 in Garrison direct drivers to "Use Two Lanes." I have straddled the white line more than once, using two lanes, hoping to be pulled over by the local constabulary so I could argue that I was only doing what the sign instructed me to do.

A sign on Route 301 leading into Nelsonville merits nomination in the annual head-scratcher-signage awards. It reads, "Speed Zone Ahead." If logic

applied, the sign would instead read "Slow Zone Ahead."

Despite such astute observations, I've never claimed to be the brightest interpreter of signs. When I first became of age to legally enter a pub, I was delighted to see an attractive sign that read "Free Beer Tomorrow." I was disappointed the next day. And the day after that.

Now that I've established my fallibility, let's turn to stupid signs.

How is it that I can stand for hours by a "No Standing" sign and never be ticketed, but if I sit in my car beneath the sign I will be fined? Note: if the sign read "Do not even THINK of standing," it would do nothing to clear the fog.

A sign I came across in Australia when visiting my son was even more puzzling. It read "No Under-Understanding Any Time." My son was equally baffled. Neither of us understood.

The lack of punctuation can muddy the signage waters, too. Consider those "Slow Children Playing" signs, which are not actually meant as a comment on the IQ or dexterity of neighborhood kids.

My favorite punctuation-challenged sign appeared outside a restaurant in Ontario's Bruce Peninsula that was known for its fried chicken and Friday-night hoedowns. That one read: "Chicken Dancing Every Friday."

I can also lay claim to having been in the world's smallest place, even though

its sign made no mention of the population — its name, Arner, appeared on both sides of its sign. The only way Arner could have been smaller was if the sign was made from half-inch rather than inch-thick plywood.

While the Arner sign is a good example of understatement, others tend to overstate things. Emerging from the Detroit Tunnel when driving from Michigan into Ontario, Canada welcomes visitors with a sign

that reads "All Highways — Turn Left." Really? All highways? Ventura Highway? Alligator Alley? Route 9D?

Scotland, though, may have produced the best of the best with a sign that is clear yet makes the viewer chuckle, while questioning if it is to be believed. Full disclosure: I did not see this sign firsthand, but a visitor to the Scottish Highlands, who happens to be my ex-wife, showed me the photo after a business trip there. In those other Highlands, where sheep graze on ridiculously steep slopes along a winding rural road, was a distinctive black-on-yellow sign that read "Beware of Falling Sheep."



RIVER VISITOR — Kevin Bierfeldt was walking his dog on the Cold Spring waterfront on Sunday (Feb. 16) when he spotted a harbor seal swimming in the Hudson River. His fiancée, Brena Negersmith, posted a video on Facebook, from which this image was taken. The state Department of Environmental Conservation says it's not unusual to spot seals in the estuary. Last March a seal was seen on an ice floe in Albany, about 150 miles inland from the Atlantic. They swim upriver looking for fish.



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The *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 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

Pride parade

I sincerely hope that the lesbian couple who moved to Brewster find a sense of welcome and belonging there ("Perspective: In Search of Progressive Putnam," Feb. 14). I look forward to the Pride parade in Cold Spring this June — a great idea and many thanks for their leadership on this issue — and I hope there will be as many LGBTQ bars, businesses and community centers in Brewster as there are in the "gay-flight meccas" of Cold Spring, Beacon and other river towns very soon.

But to all on the progressive left in Putnam County, how about this: let's each of us be a friendly, caring neighbor to someone with a Trump sign on his lawn, whether the gesture is reciprocated or not, lest we come across as narrow-minded and bigoted as we often accuse our conservative counterparts of being.

Tomorrow, I'll fly back to my job in Texas, where I spend much of my time teaching college English to, interacting with and enjoying the company of persons not at all assumed to vote as I do. I've never been assigned a course called "My Political Soapbox" (although some of my colleagues seem to teach only that course), so my right-wing students are as glad for my interest in their

learning and success as are my left-wing ones. My Republican landlady and I also get along great. Our bond was strengthened when I was able to play a supportive role during her bout with breast cancer.

It was the kind of crisis that put my regular disagreement with her own yard signage into much-needed perspective.

Jacqueline Foertsch, *Cold Spring*

I have lived in eastern Putnam County for 10 years. It still amazes me how accepting many of the locals are to us. Yet, those same individuals voted for Trump and still believe in what he stands for. What's really surprising is the number of LGBTQ people in Putnam who also voted for him. I even know of a lesbian-owned eatery that threw a party on election night to celebrate his win. That's what we are up against.

Michael D'Alessandro, *Carmel*

It is wonderful of Eileen McDermott and the Pride Day committee to organize Putnam's first Pride Parade and join the rest of the world on Pride Day. I hope the committee will honor some of the wide range of gay women and men from Putnam who have contributed so positively in the

past and present to our community. There are many gay leaders who have served, and are serving now, on boards of local organizations such as Scenic Hudson, Boscobel, the Desmond-Fish Public Library, Manitoga, Constitution Marsh, the Putnam History Museum, to name a few, and the Cold Spring and Beacon councils — to say nothing of Sean Patrick Maloney, who represents us in the U.S. House in Washington. I hope the day will be a positive expression of Putnam County.

Joe Chapman, *Cold Spring*

Speeding in Beacon

In his letter in the Feb. 7 issue, Joe Manglass mentions that Beacon could "make a fortune" if officers wrote more speeding tickets on Verplanck Avenue.

In the past few years, towns and cities across the U.S. have lost court cases after they were found to have targeted citizens when issuing traffic violations to generate fortunes to balance their budgets. Be careful that the role and goal of maintaining civic law and order is not targeting and revenue-generating. It's a lesson some of our neighboring towns, hamlets and cities need to learn.

Kim Ward, *Beacon*

Drag-queen stories

Father Frank Samoylo of St. Columbanus Parish in Cortlandt Manor was simply exercising his constitutionally guaranteed right to speak out in the public square when he criticized the Drag Queen Story Hour at the Putnam Valley Library. Despite Eileen McDermott's broad brushing of Catholic priests in her Feb. 7 letter to the editor, the overwhelming majority are good, decent and honorable men.

The story hour is also an example of free speech, but deeper questions have yet to be addressed: Was this in good taste? Was it wise? Was it responsible? And is it the purpose of the public library to indoctrinate and put forward agendas, be it political, ideological or societal?

Another reader posted on Facebook that "this is what happens when moral moorings are removed and situational ethics and relativism becomes the norm." There is a strong ring of truth in that.

Bruce Kelly, *Mahopac*

Gun protest

I would like to thank the Cold Spring community for its support during our demonstration on Feb. 14 to remember the victims of the 2018 massacre at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, and oppose gun violence.

(Continued on Page 5)



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

I want to thank everybody who attended the protest despite the bitter cold and the few people who were less-than-welcoming to our chants of "Not one more." We cannot forget that no child should ever live in fear of being shot. As a country, we can begin to accomplish this by passing universal background checks. Until something is done to protect my friends and me, as well as countless children across the U.S., we will continue to protest.

Liliana Cappello, *Cold Spring*

Political money

Thank you for your thorough reporting on local political donations ("Whom Does the Highlands Support?" Feb. 14) and the recent voting record of our representatives in Albany ("How They Voted," Feb. 14). It is incredibly helpful to have this efficiently presented all together. I hope it continues.

Carinda Swann, *Beacon*

Pedal power

It's all well and good to install bike paths separated from vehicle traffic on Route 9D but only if you also widen the road, add off-highway parking and keep all the walkers from randomly stepping into traffic ("Philipstown Plans More Bike Paths, Sidewalks," Feb. 14).

Charles Symon, *Beacon*

Bike paths and sidewalks are great for safety, but they have to enforce the speed limit, too, especially on Route 301 and Fishkill Road.

Francesca Robledo, *via Facebook*

Historic districts

The handful of objectively important historic sites in Beacon are already preserved, and the proposal to expand the historic district is nothing more than an attempt to prevent development and force existing property owners to pony up for it ("Do You Want a 'Historic' Home?" Feb. 14). The new mayor and the City Council are hyper-focused on jacking up the price of homes in Beacon.

Brandon Smith, *Beacon*

Politics and the law

The abuse of the justice system to harm one's political enemies and protect one's friends undermines the basis of a free and just society ("Putnam Settles Hossu Case for \$750,000," Feb. 14). This is standard practice in corrupt, authoritarian states such as North Korea and Russia and much of the Middle East. It's only our dedication to impartial justice that truly separates us from them. We can never let that become the norm in the U.S., or we're done.

Steve Laifer, *Cold Spring*

Decatur Myers

It saddened me to hear of the passing of newspaper deliveryman Decatur Myers ("Reporter's Notebook: From One Paperboy to Another," Feb. 7). I had many a good chat with him. One day he came knocking on my door because he needed help pulling his car out of the woods. He was lucky that day. The last time he came down the driveway, he told me he had lost weight. Now I know what happened.

Charles Nolen, *Cold Spring*

Thank you for the wonderful tribute to my father-in-law, Decatur. My husband and his family greatly appreciate it, and it's great to know everyone thought so highly of him. He did have quite the personality! He is greatly missed, but I'm sure he's looking down smiling and loving this.

Joanne Myers, *via Facebook*

House plans

As they say, "change is the only constant." Route 9D in Garrison is a great place to watch change and expansion daily as, one-by-one, small homes are sold, updated and enlarged.

Because I live across the street from 529 Route 9D, where the Rasic family hopes to build a home that is under review by the Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals [as reported in the Jan. 17 issue], I have given this matter a lot of thought.

Tim Rasic has proven himself in Philip-

stown to be an outstanding architect with an impeccable record. The Rasics have a dream that is in the midst of being fulfilled but for a neighbor's preference that (to listen to the testimony at a January hearing) would keep things pretty much the same.

The Rasics, like everyone else, submitted their plans. The plans were approved and the 60-day window for objections elapsed. In a situation such as this, when a neighbor's claims of wrongdoing are shown to be without merit, the ZBA has a duty to follow precedent and honor agreements that are in line with the building code.

Instead, it has allowed an ongoing smear of the building inspector and the Rasics, and seems to be seriously considering the complainants' assertion that the inspector tried to impede their ability to appeal within the required 60-day window.

That argument seems disingenuous; their lawyer never stated that his ability to appeal was impeded. On the contrary, he said that when he told the building inspector on Aug. 12 that his clients would appeal, the inspector's reply was, essentially: "You have to do what you're going to do."

The Rasics have been subjected to months of complaints and legal fees defending themselves. They complied with the zoning ordinances and procedure. The ZBA has the responsibility to provide good governance and support the laws of the town, which apply to established residents and newcomers equally.

Rachel Evans, *Garrison*

Corrections

In a chart in our Feb. 14 issue called "Whom Does the Highlands Support?" we neglected to include the amounts contributed to two party committees. One Beacon resident gave \$250 to the National Republican Congressional Committee and two Beacon residents gave a total of \$360 to the National Republican Senatorial Committee.

A quote pulled from a story in our Feb. 14 issue about the Beacon school board considering reducing its size was credited to Ellen Pearson Gersh but should have been attributed to Meredith Heuer.

A story in our Jan. 24 issue concerning the prosecution of Charles E. Hustis III, who is accused of a single count of attempted enticement of a minor, stated that the former Cold Spring trustee faces "up to 10 years in prison" if convicted. In fact, he faces a minimum of 10 years.

HELP WANTED

The Town of Philipstown is seeking any person interested in serving on the Planning Board. There are currently 2 vacancies. If interested please send resume to:

Town Clerk
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or email
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NOTICE

The Nelsonville Village Board will hold budget workshops on Thursday, February 27, Monday, March 2 and Thursday, March 5 (if needed), to plan the 2020/2021 Nelsonville Village Budget, at the Municipal Building 258 Main St. at 7:30PM.

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Union Contracts *(from Page 1)*

County Attorney Jennifer Bumgarner said the county had anticipated raises for CSEA members, so the money is in the budget.

One of the sticking points during negotiations, said Personnel Director Paul Eldridge, was how to incorporate 911 dispatchers into the CSEA contract. The state Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) in 2016 approved moving the dispatchers to the CSEA from the Putnam County Sheriff's Employee Association (PCSEA).

"A lot of the time was spent on incorporating a 24/7, 365-day operation into an agreement that didn't have any other employees who operated like that," Eldridge explained.

The police union

While the CSEA contract awaits approval by the Legislature, the county continues to negotiate with the PCSEA and the Putnam County Sheriff's Police Benevolent Association (PBA), which represents law-enforcement officers and has 80 members. Like the CSEA deal, both expired at the end of 2016.

A proposed six-year contract with the PBA that included 2 percent annual raises, with the possibility of higher increases depending on inflation, was unanimously rejected in July 2017 by the Legislature as "fiscally unsustainable."

The proposal also would have increased holiday pay and eliminated a requirement that deputies train as first responders.

The rejection angered PBA leadership, which filed an "improper practice" charge with the Public Employment Relations Board against County Executive MaryEllen Odell, claiming that while she publicly supported the deal, her administration privately lobbied against it. (The PERB dismissed the accusation.) In a Facebook post that has since been removed, the PBA mocked Odell as "The Empress" and showed a doctored image of her riding a horse at Tilly Foster Farm.

The union also purchased a billboard on Route 9 in Philipstown criticizing members of the Legislature for giving themselves a 14 percent raise in December 2017 that brought their part-time salaries to \$40,000 annually.

Andrew Quinn, the PBA's attorney, did not respond to an email requesting comment. But he told the *Putnam Examiner* last year that if Odell had agreed to an "unsustainable" contract, "then she's reckless," and if she signed a contract that was sustainable but the Legislature said it wasn't, "they're liars. So it's one or the other."

The county and PBA entered mediation on Dec. 20, according to a Facebook post by Legislator William Gouldman (R-Putnam Valley). If mediation fails, the negotiators will have to resolve their disputes through binding arbitration, in which both sides would be compelled to accept a third party's decision. Patricia Stone, Odell's chief of staff, said the administration was "hopeful" for an agreement "in the very near future."

Dutchess Approves Raises for Police

Moves money around to cover increases

By Leonard Sparks

The Dutchess County Legislature on Feb. 10 approved moving \$2.4 million to cover the cost of new union contracts for its sheriff's deputies, correction officers and support staff.

Legislators authorized two amendments to the 2020 budget: \$2.07 million to cover raises for members of the Dutchess County Sheriff's Employee Association (DCSEA); and \$375,000 to cover raises and other costs for members of the Dutchess County Police Benevolent Association (PBA).

The DCSEA members, which include guards and office and building maintenance staff, approved a contract covering 2017 through 2021 that includes annual raises of between 2 percent and 2.25 percent the first three years, 2.75 percent for 2020 and 2.5 percent for 2021. The total cost will be \$7.6 million over five years.

Under the new four-year contract with the PBA, which represents deputies, sergeants and lieutenants, Dutchess will pay \$4.01 million in raises and other costs between 2020 and 2023. Union members will receive 2.5 percent raises in each of the first three years and 2.75 percent in 2023.

Jail employees

Accusations following a vote also colored recent negotiations with the Putnam County Sheriff's Employee Association, which has 71 members who work as jail guards and support staff.

After its contract expired in 2011, the union negotiated with the county for three years before reaching an agreement that covered 2012 through 2016. When union members voted it down, the county filed an "improper practice" charge with the Public Employment Relations Board, accusing PCSEA leaders of negotiating an agreement, then urging members to reject it.

The state panel upheld the charge and, as a result, the contract went into effect without a union vote.

The negotiations on a contract for 2017 through 2023 are at a stage where the county just sent the union's attorney a draft memorandum of agreement, Eldridge said. The agreement will "hopefully" be finalized soon after the Legislature approves the CSEA contract, he said.

"We're getting close," Eldridge said.

Holly Crocco contributed reporting.

Nelsonville Continues Debate Over Easement

Also discusses 5G regulation, sewer breakdown

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The fate of 4.2 tree-covered acres on Secor Street dominated the agenda twice in six days as the Nelsonville Village Board and residents continued debating whether to protect them with a conservation easement.

At the first session, on Feb. 12, the board also reviewed results of a survey in which 75 of 94 respondents backed measures to safeguard the village-owned parcel.

When the discussion resumed on Tuesday (Feb. 18), the focus included the role, if any, of a public referendum.

For months the board has considered incorporating the land into an easement adopted by Nelsonville and the Open Space Institute 20 years ago to protect the adjacent, 112-acre Nelsonville Woods. Under that agreement, the village owns the woods, which OSI oversees.

Zoned for multi-family housing, the Secor property, which contains wetlands, was eyed in 2017 as a possible location for a cell tower that will be constructed on Rockledge Road overlooking the Cold Spring Cemetery.

In the latest go-round, as on previous occasions, some residents strongly backed the OSI-village agreement. Others opposed it or wanted a public vote.

"Why can't we just leave it and not have OSI involved?" resident Gloria Van Tassel asked on Feb. 12. "Just let the property be there."

Mayor Mike Bowman responded that the proposed OSI deal "takes the possibility of this property being misused off the table," preventing a future board from selling it for development or allowing a commercial venture to occupy it. To protect it, the OSI easement "is the best option," he said.

Under a draft agreement, even if the acreage is included in the conservation easement, the village could, with OSI's permission, build a modest structure such as a restroom or education center, create a playground or tap underground water for village needs.

Resident Heidi Wendel urged the Village Board to avoid building anything there. "Land is finite" and "every inch should be preserved to the maximum extent possible," she said on Feb. 12. During the Feb. 18 follow-up discussion, she added that "there's enormous community sentiment that the land be preserved" and encouraged the board to promptly finalize arrangements with OSI.

Another resident, Kenneth Levine, argued against the easement. "How does this benefit the village?" he said on Feb. 18. "I understand green space. I love it. But why would you give away something we might need in the future?"

Bowman emphasized that "we own the property now and we will own it after OSI puts a conservation easement on it."

Former Trustee Alan Potts advocated letting voters decide, and on Feb. 12, proposed a question: "Do you support signing away the village rights to the land?"

Potts pressed the issue again on Tuesday and accused board members of backsliding. He said that, during a meeting in August, Bowman had endorsed a public referendum.

The mayor responded that the board relies on guidance from its lawyer, Brian Morgan, and that over the months since it has better understood when to call referendums. He reiterated what he and Morgan had asserted the week before: That no citizens' vote is needed to make an agreement with OSI.

Further, Bowman said on Tuesday, "I don't see the point" of a referendum, "other than just another opportunity to go out there and scream that we're giving away a piece of property, which is not what we're doing, or that we're relinquishing our rights to a piece of property, which is not what we're doing. We're protecting a piece of property."

Future tech

Also on Tuesday, the board held a public hearing on its draft law to regulate 5G telecommunications installations, which sometimes are installed on utility poles and structures and are seen as likely successors to cell towers.

After receiving a few low-key comments from audience members, the board planned to tweak the draft before a vote.

"It's our responsibility to pass this, because this technology is going to be here tomorrow," Bowman said.

Bowman noted that on Jan. 29 the federal judge hearing a lawsuit brought by Homeland Towers and Verizon against the village over the Rockledge cell tower project ratified a negotiated settlement that the board approved on Jan. 21.

Pearl Street sewer

The mayor announced on Tuesday that a partial collapse in a private sewer line on Pearl Street required emergency repairs by the village because it posed a public health threat. Most Nelsonville properties depend on septic systems, but a handful tie into the Pearl Street line, which connects to nearby Cold Spring sewer pipes.

The latest crisis "just highlights the need" for residents who use the Pearl Street sewer "to figure out a long-term solution," which "is not going to be very cheap," Bowman said. He said that residents probably will need to establish a sewer district.

Firefighters *(from Page 1)*

with the Beacon Engine Fire Co. to leave the historic station by the end of April. The City Council said it cannot house modern fire apparatus and needs costly upgrades.

Firefighters will man the two other stations, the Mase Hook and Ladder and Tompkins Hose stations — with two people on duty at all times in each — while city officials consider plans for renovating those facilities.

“I accept that you’re going to close Beacon Engine,” said Tom DiCastro Sr., a former Beacon fire chief. “My wish is that you’d close all three of them and build a brand-new structure.”

Kyriacou reiterated on Tuesday that he hopes to utilize Beacon Engine as a historical or landmark building.

Site cleanup

A resident’s question may lead to yet another delay in the approval of a commercial and residential development proposed for 248 Tioronda Ave.

A 100-unit housing development was approved for the site in 2015, but numerous delays and zoning changes in the Fishkill Creek zone prompted a revised plan with 64 apartments and 25,000 square feet of commercial space.

Bryan Quinn, an environmental planner who owns the OneNature firm in Beacon, told the Planning Board on Feb. 11 that he had submitted a Freedom of Information Law request to the state Department of Environmental Conservation for documen-



Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou (right) swore in four newly hired firefighters — Ahmed Ismail, Kari-Leigh Lahey, Kevin Glinksy and Dar Sims — with Fire Chief Gary Van Voorhis, second from right.
Photo by J. Simms

tation about a cleanup two decades ago of toxic materials at the former industrial site, which is 9 acres, located south of Wolcott Avenue/Route 9D and between Tioronda and Fishkill Creek.

Quinn said the DEC responded that it had gathered a 22-inch-thick folder of documents but that providing a copy would require a fee of \$880.

“There is good reason to question the type and relevance of the previous remediation,” Quinn wrote in a letter to the board. “There is also good reason to suspect HAZMAT

[hazardous materials] additions have occurred since the cleanup, especially through building demolition and illegal dumping.”

The developers of 248 Tioronda responded during the meeting that the DEC removed the site in 2003 from its hazardous waste disposal registry.

However, a bare-bones Planning Board (only three members were present) suggested that the city hire an environmental consultant to study the site further. The board members did not indicate how such a study might impact their own conclusion in June,

following an environmental review, that the project could proceed.

“The concern right now is born more out of the lack of available information,” said Board Member Len Warner. “It’s not that anybody has observed signs of an ongoing release” of hazardous materials.

Without a quorum the board was unable to vote, but the issue is expected to be on its agenda next month.

A study “may not be necessary,” said John Gunn, the board chair. “But it may be necessary for us to feel like we’ve satisfied a level of concern that still remains.”

Moratorium extended

After receiving only one comment (in favor) during a public hearing, the City Council voted on Monday to extend a moratorium on new residential and commercial construction projects until early June while consultants continue making repairs to the city’s network of drinking water wells.

New pumps are scheduled for installation in two of Beacon’s wells, while a third, newly discovered well is being prepped to be added to the system. City officials have indicated many times that the city has more than enough water and that the well measures are preventative.

At the same time, the council granted the Edgewater project six-month extensions of its permits to build 246 apartments uphill from the Hudson River shoreline. The developer requested more time because Dutchess County clerk and health officials had been delayed in signing off on aspects of the project.

Putnam’s Emergency Response Team

Leaders brief legislators on operations

By Holly Crocco

When law-enforcement officials in Putnam County are notified of crises such as bomb threats or hostage situations, a group of specially trained officers is ready to spring into action.

The Putnam County Emergency Response Team, formed 15 years ago, combines the skills of 25 officers from the Sheriff’s Department and Carmel and Kent police departments, as well as negotiators.

Lt. Kevin McManus of the Sheriff’s Department leads the ERT, and Lt. John Dearman of the Carmel Police is the assistant commander. During the Feb. 11 meeting of the Protective Services Committee, McManus and Dearman gave legislators background on the team and how it works.

“We don’t really know a lot about the ERT, but lately, in the last couple of months, thank God you guys are there to help with specific dangerous situations,” said Legislator Neal Sullivan (R-Mahopac).

The emergency-response team is called out, on average, four times per year, McManus said. “A request can be made by anyone through any of the [police] departments,” he explained.



Members of the Putnam County Emergency Response Team conducted a training exercise in Carmel in 2018 that simulated a hostage situation on a school bus. *PCSD*

Once ERT leaders are briefed, they decide whether the team will respond.

“If there’s an armed, barricaded subject, if there’s a barricaded EDP [emotionally disturbed person] in the house who wants to hurt himself or someone else, that certainly would constitute a response,” he said, as would “any hostage situation or any bomb threat — anything where there’s an

imminent threat of violence.”

Depending on the threat, a request is sent to team members and, similar to volunteer firefighters, anyone who is available can respond. “You could have four or five guys there quick, and four or five guys who get there in half an hour,” explained Dearman.

When team members arrive, they work with any officers already there. The ERT is

“a tool to be utilized by the department that calls us out,” Dearman said. “We don’t just get to go off and do what we want. We have to work within the jurisdiction we’re in.”

The team is funded through a grant from the federal Department of Homeland Security that covers about half of its training costs, McManus said.

In addition, Putnam allocates \$35,000 for equipment and \$10,000 to reimburse the towns of Carmel and Kent for its officers.

“We were sharing services before it was politically cool to say ‘sharing services,’” Dearman said. “We knew no department could man and equip a team, so we did it together.”

ERT members train once a month for eight hours, either at the Paladin Center in Carmel or the county’s fire-training center, and at shooting ranges in East Fishkill and Westchester County. Members also use local temples and schools to practice responses.

“The temples asked us to go up there,” McManus said. “In light of everything that’s going on nationally and internationally, it’s good practice for us and hopefully that makes them feel better that we have a little better understanding of the inside of their structures.”

Legislator Ginny Nacerino (R-Patterson) said she found the discussion enlightening. “These are little pockets of things that are done under the radar,” she said. “The training and expertise that go into this are not things that people are widely aware of.”



Conjuring SPRING

On Feb. 15 at the RiverWinds Gallery in Beacon, Karl LaLonde led a group in the fine art of painting trees.

Photos by Ross Corsair



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Howland Playhouse
and Hudson Valley Theatre Initiative present:
"The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane"

Fri. Feb. 28 – 8 pm *
Howland Playhouse
and Romanian Cultural Institute present:
"Why the Child is Cooking in the Polenta"

Sun. March 1 – 4 pm
LINCOLN TRIO
Howland Chamber Music Circle
www.howlandmusic.org

Sat. March 7 – 2:30 to 4:30 pm
ART OPENING RECEPTION
Women's History Month exhibit

Sat. March 7 – 8 pm *
JAZZ PIANIST MATTHEW SHIPP
Presented by Elysium Furnace Works

AND MORE

Tues. Mar. 10 – Old-Timey Southern Fiddle Tunes Jam
Fri. Mar. 13 – Hudson Valley Poets
Sat. Mar. 14 – Blind Tiger Improv
Sun. Mar. 15 – Classics for Kids, WindSync wind quintet
Sun. Mar. 15 – Howland Chamber Music Circle
present: WindSync wind quintet

477 Main Street, Beacon, NY 12508
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The Calendar



A statue of Socrates by Leonidas Drosis at the Academy of Athens

By Alison Rooney

Dan Fisherman is a professional philosopher. Thus, you won't hear him say, "Do not question why."

Instead, the Beacon resident and former college professor leads the Socrates Cafe each month at the Howland Public Library, encouraging participants to develop the skills to participate in discussions of questions for which they may not have ready answers.

Fisherman, who taught educational philosophy at Montclair State University for eight years, also leads a Young Philosophers Cafe at the library for students in grades 6 to 9. Additionally, he teaches philosophy to home-school students at classes held in Beacon and to inmates at the Downstate Correctional Facility.

"Watching pundits, it feels like they're screaming at each other to adopt their position," Fisherman says of the discourse common on cable television. "If one of the goals of learning was to conduct intellectual discourse, adults would be less prone to talk at each other."

"Here, the goal is to come to an idea with humility: Maybe I have something to learn from somebody else," he says. "This isn't innate; it's a skill. To be able to overcome your assuredness is tough."

Regardless of a participant's age, Fisherman says "it's best when you get someone who has no idea what it's all about and they become open to questions they've never considered. It's harder with adults because they have such a grounding in their world view."

Fisherman earned a master's degree in analytical philosophy from the University of Pennsylvania but left its doctoral program and became a musician. Years later, when one of his children was attend-

(Continued on Page 12)



Dan Fisherman

Photo provided

Deep Thoughts

We asked Dan Fisherman to share 10 questions he might pose during a philosophical cafe.

- ▶ Might advanced AI robots deserve human rights?
- ▶ Can we know that we don't live in the Matrix?
- ▶ Is a brain-dead, but otherwise living, human a person?
- ▶ Can non-humans be people?
- ▶ When should we not be held responsible for our actions?
- ▶ Can an unpopular work of art be termed a masterpiece?
- ▶ Can a depraved film be considered a masterpiece?
- ▶ Could God make a square circle?
- ▶ Is there more to a family than its members?
- ▶ Do we need our body in order to be ourself?



The cast and musicians of *The Count*

Up for The Count

Depot Theatre to present new musical

By Alison Rooney

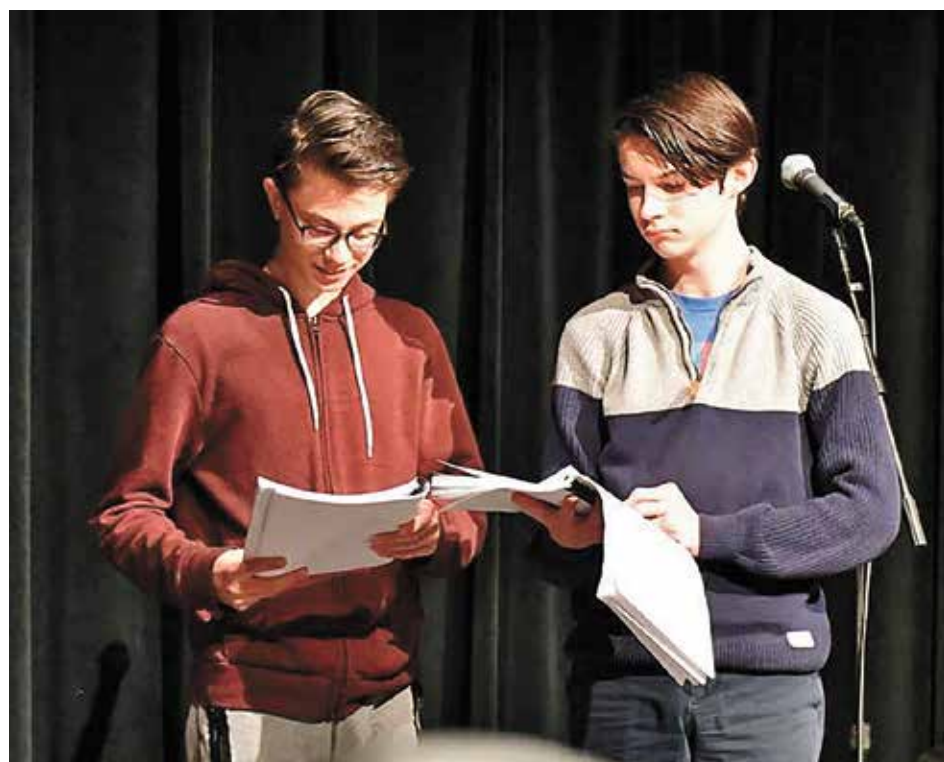
Brion Winston and David Hollander have known each other for years — they bonded over Ultimate Frisbee, and then invented their own version, Mini Ultimate, that spread around the world.

Today, Winston is a cardiologist who lives in Albany. But three years ago, after he had written the music and lyrics for a drama about a compulsive gambler who's modeled after his father, he asked Hollander, who lives in Cold Spring and teaches fiction in the graduate program at Sarah Lawrence College, if he could construct the dramatic arc.

The result is *The Count: A Musical*, which will make its local debut on Saturday (Feb. 29) as a staged reading as part of the Flipside series at the Philipstown Depot Theatre in Garrison. The music — a mixture of gospel, hip-hop and rock — will be performed by a five-piece band that includes Winston on acoustic guitar.

The story follows Ray Conte, aka The Count, who is trying to rise above his past as a gambler, petty criminal and flimflam artist. But an encounter on his wedding day with an old acquaintance from the Elizabeth Group Home for Wayward Boys threatens to bring him down.

(Continued on Page 12)



Cold Spring's Alex Danilov and Sam Bates, reading from *The Count*

Photos provided

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 22

Community Soup-Making

BEACON

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. More Good
383 Main St. | commongroundfarm.org

Home cooks will be able to make soup in support of Soup4Greens using a professional kitchen. Email 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

Intro to Beekeeping

WAPPINGERS FALLS

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Stony Kill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane | stonykill.org

Learn how to care for a hive. *Cost: \$45*

SAT 22

Renegades Game Day Job Fair

WAPPINGERS FALLS

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Dutchess Stadium
1500 Route 9D | 845-838-009
hvrenegades.com

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

SAT 22

Maple Sugar Tours

CORNWALL

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Outdoor Discovery Center | Muser Drive
845-534-5506 x204 | hhnm.org

Learn how sap is collected and turned into syrup. There are two



Intro to Beekeeping, Feb. 22

tour options: the Sugar Bush tours at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. include a 1-mile moderate hike through field and forest to the Sugar Bush Shack; or the Maple Lane tours, at noon and 3 p.m., include a short walk from the Visitors' Center. Also SUN 23 and weekends through March 15. *Cost: \$10 (\$8 children and teens; members \$8/\$6)*

SAT 22

Solar Gathering at the Farm

PHILIPSTOWN

3 – 5 p.m. Glynwood Farm
363 Glynwood Road
hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com

Join Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea and representatives from Hudson Valley Community Power to learn more about enrolling in the solar option, which will generate funding for the town's Refrigerant Management Program.

SAT 22

Roaring '20s Costume Ball

BEACON

6 – 9 p.m. St. Rocco Society
26 S. Chestnut St.
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*

SUN 23

Party for Your Mental Health

BEACON

Noon – 3 p.m. Towne Crier
379 Main St. | 845-855-1300
townecrier.com

Members of the Sikotabs Art Project will read from their new picture book on coping 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*

SAT 29

Polar Fest

WEST POINT

11 a.m. – 7 p.m. Victor Constant Ski Area
732 Victor Constant Road
845-938-8810
westpoint.armymwr.com/programs/victor-constant-ski-area

The annual festival includes skiing, snowboarding, a paintball relay, live music and food. *Cost: \$19 to \$40*

SUN 1

Gardening for the Birds and Bees

GARRISON

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

Kim Eierman, author of *The*

Pollinator Victory Garden, Philipstown Garden Club members and Master Gardeners will discuss ways to create supportive habitats.

SUN 1

Clearwater Gala

GARRISON

3 – 7 p.m. The Garrison | 2015 Route 9
845-265-8080 x7119 | clearwater.org

Tom Chapin will be honored on his 75th birthday for his environmental advocacy during this annual fundraiser for the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater. *Cost: \$250*

TALKS & TOURS

THURS 27

Bail Reform Forum

POUGHKEEPSIE

6:30 p.m. Boardman Road Library
141 Boardman Road | dcpaa.org

This forum, organized by the Dutchess County Progressive Action Alliance and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie, will include speakers from the New York Civil Liberties Union, the Dutchess County Public Defenders' Office and other organizations on a newly enacted state law that reduced the number of suspects who can be detained before trial.

THURS 27

Stop the Money Pipeline

GARRISON

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

Activist Krystal Ford will connect the roles of banks with the climate crisis and suggest ways consumers can influence them.

SAT 29

Bail Reform Forum

GARRISON

Noon. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley Jr. will share his views on the new state law.

SUN 1

Cultivating Active Hope

PHILIPSTOWN

1:30 p.m. Cheerful Strength
3182 Route 9

Organized by Hudson Highlands Extinction Rebellion, and using

Joanna Macy's *The Work That Reconnects* as a guide, this four-hour workshop will explore how to channel sorrow over the climate crisis into change. *Cost: \$40 to \$95*

KIDS & FAMILY

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

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

SAT 22

Middle School Night

GARRISON

7 – 10 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive | 845-424-4618
philipstownrecreation.com

Philipstown residents in grades 6 to 8 are invited to play games in the tournament room and sports in the gym. If the ice skating rink is not open, there will be a showing of *Detective Pikachu*. Concessions will be available. *Cost: \$5*

THURS 27

Paint Your Own Tote

BEACON

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

Personalize a canvas reusable bag. For ages 11 and older. Supplies provided. Registration required. *Free*

FRI 28

Free Solo

BEACON

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

As part of the ongoing Reel Life Film Series for middle and high school students, the library will screen this 2018 documentary about an attempt by Alex Honnold to become the first person to climb the 900-meter vertical face of El Capitan with no cables. Filmmaker and amateur climber Dana Bol and climbing guide Doug Ferguson will answer questions following the film. Pizza will be served. Registration required.



Paint Your Own Tote, Feb. 27



Free Solo, Feb. 28

MUSIC

SAT 22
Hudson Valley Gospel Festival

POUGHKEEPSIE
dutchess tourism.com/ticketinfo

This festival will include concerts by Everett Drake, Edwin Sutton, the Livingstone College Gospel Choir and others, as well as workshops, a Gospel Walk Through History and a hat parade. Also SUN 23. *Cost: \$50 to \$125*

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 of the Gin Blossoms will be the guest vocalist following the death of Pat DiNizio. *Cost: \$29 to \$59*

FRI 28
Joseph Arthur

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

The storytelling singer will be playing songs from his new release, *Come Back World*. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SAT 29
Lez Zeppelin

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

The all-female Led Zeppelin tribute band will play the *Physical Graffiti* album. *Cost: \$20 to \$49*

SAT 29
Cherish the Ladies

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

The Grammy-nominated Irish-American group is celebrating its fourth decade. *Cost: \$40 (\$45 door)*



Lez Zeppelin, Feb. 29

SUN 1
Lincoln Trio

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

The Grammy nominees from Chicago will perform as part of the Howland Chamber Music Circle series. Their program includes a Beethoven piano trio and a work by composer Debra Kaye. *Cost: \$30 (\$10 students)*

STAGE & SCREEN

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 Hudson Valley Theatre Initiative production of Kate DiCamillo's novel, a vain but fragile toy rabbit learns about love. Suitable for ages 8 and older. Also SUN 23. *Cost: \$15 (\$10 children)*

TUES 25
The Help

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

Bring a Southern-inspired food or beverage to add to the shared meal during this screening of the 2011 film as part of the library's Edible Flicks series.

FRI 28
Brother Outsider

BEACON
7 p.m. First Presbyterian Church 50 Liberty St. moviesthatmatterbeacon.org

This 2003 documentary, which will be shown as part of the Movies That Matter series, follows civil-rights activist Bayard Rustin, who

over 60 years formulated many of the strategies that propelled the movement. Because he was openly gay, however, he worked mostly behind the scenes. *Free*

FRI 28
Sebastian Maniscalco

POUGHKEEPSIE
7 & 9:30 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center 14 Civic Center Plaza | 845-454-5800

The comedian bridges the gap between his Old World Italian-American upbringing and the contemporary world with sarcasm and exasperation. Also SAT 29, SUN 1. *Cost: \$75 to \$391*

FRI 28
Why the Child is Cooking in the Polenta

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

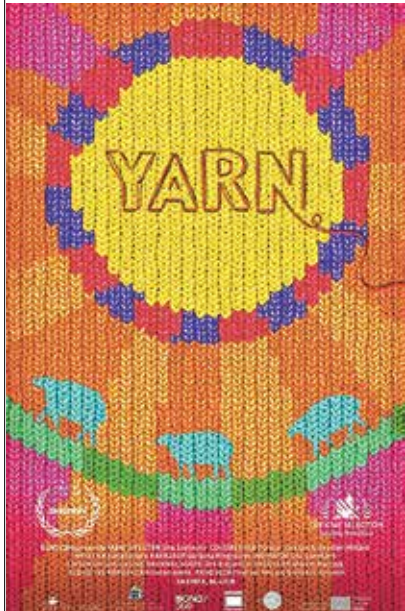
Based on the 1999 semiautobiographical novel by Aglaja Veteranyi, this play follows a girl traveling through Europe with her circus family while exploring the complexities of immigrants, language and identity. Starring Edith Alibec and directed by Dana Parashiv, it will be presented by the Howland Playhouse and the Romanian Cultural Institute. *Cost: \$15 (\$20 door)*

SAT 29
Maker Film Festival

BEACON
1 p.m. Story Screen 445 Main St. | 845-440-7706 storyscreenbeacon.com

This festival, curated by Melanie Falick of Beacon, author of *Making a Life: Working by Hand and Discovering the Life You Are Meant to Live*, focuses on the global made-by-hand movement. It opens with *Yarn the Movie* and continues at 3 p.m. with *Woven Lives: Contemporary Textiles from Ancient Oaxacan Traditions*; six short films at 6 p.m., followed by a discussion with makers featured in Falick's book; and *Wax Print*, a documentary about African batik fabric, at 7 p.m. On SUN 1 the festival will screen *The True Cost* at 1 p.m., which will be followed by a panel about the "slow fashion" movement; six shorts at 4 p.m.; and

The New Bauhaus, a documentary about designer Laszlo Moholy-Nagy, at 6:30 p.m. In addition, from 1 – 5 p.m. there will be a Pop-up Maker Market in the lobby. *Cost: \$10 per screening*



SAT 29
The Count: A Musical

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

A staged reading of a musical by Brion Winston and David Hollander chronicles a gambler's odyssey through Brooklyn. See Page 9. *Cost: \$20*

SAT 29
Winter Follies

COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave. 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Michael Heintzman and John Pielmeier will present a series of comic scenes. See Page 2. *Free*

HEALTH & FITNESS

MON 24
Aging at Home

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

In this informational program, a new nonprofit will discuss government services and how to create mutual volunteer support for older people.

WED 26
Be an Empowered Health Care Consumer

MAHOPAC
1 p.m. Mahopac Library 668 Route 6 | 845-628-2009 mahopaclibrary.org

The League of Women Voters of Putnam County will host this discussion with advocacy groups We the Patients and Say Ah! to offer tips for getting better care and navigating the system.

THURS 27
Intro to Yoga

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

Kathie Scanlon will lead gentle stretches and strengthening poses specifically for people dealing with osteoarthritis and osteoporosis.

CIVIC

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.

MON 24
City Council

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

MON 24
School Board

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

TUES 25
School Board

COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Haldane High School (Room 211) 15 Craigsides Drive | 845-265-9254 haldaneschool.org

TUES 25
Board of Trustees

COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St. 845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

THURS 27
Budget Workshop

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

SAT 29
Community Development Forum

BEACON
10 a.m. Memorial Hall 413 Main St. | 845-838-5011 cityofbeacon.org

Organized by the mayor, this forum will include a discussion of the comprehensive plan, development activity and recent zoning changes.

The Count (from Page 9)

In his work on the show, Hollander (whose second novel, *Anthropica*, will be published in May) says he found himself, for the first time, writing monologues instead of dialogue. There were other firsts. “My fiction tends to be heavy on irony and sometimes nihilistic, whereas working on *The Count* has been very warm, with lots of compassion,” he says. “Also, brainstorming with Brion has been great, because as a fiction writer you sit alone in a room.”

The initial idea for *The Count*, Hollander says, was to make it a one-man show, with songs connected by monologue. “The audience would essentially turn into members of Gamblers Anonymous, listening,” he says. After reading Winston’s draft, Hollander asked him for more information and, in response, “Brion sent me liner notes for each song, helping me understand.”

After *The Count*’s first public performance, the collaborators decided to expand it dramatically. “We wanted it to begin with The Count on the day he’s going to get married, and we needed to create more dramatic tension,” Hollander explains. “Brion imagined someone from The Count’s past — and that became Baron, who shadows The Count all the way through. Between Baron and The Count’s fiancée, that gave us two forces pulling in opposite directions.”

“We also addressed some confusion with switches in time, by creating boys from



David Hollander

Photo by A. Rooney

a group home, who are metaphorical,” he says. “They create levity and humor and at the same time help the audience understand how we’re moving around.”

The cast of the Garrison production, which includes Haldane High School students Sam Bates and Alex Danilov, has been rehearsing in Albany. The performance will be directed by Amanda Brinke, stage-managed by Hollander’s 13-year-old daughter, Percy Parker, and cheered on by his other daughter, Lily, 10, a veteran of several Depot Youth stage productions.

The Philipstown Depot Theatre is located at 10 Garrison’s Landing. Tickets for the performance, which begins at 7 p.m., are \$20 at brownpapertickets.com/event/4493777.



“The Death of Socrates,” painted in 1787 by Jacques-Louis David, hangs at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

Philosopher (from Page 9)

ing the Randolph School in Wappingers Falls, he was asked to talk about philosophy with the students. About the same time, he discovered a program at Montclair State and returned to school for a doctorate in educational philosophy. He would go on to teach at the Randolph School for 15 years.

When Fisherman took over facilitating the Howland library sessions about 18 months ago, he had no experience working with adults. He says participants at the Socrates Cafes range from novices to other philosophy professors who “wish to ‘do’ philosophy as opposed to studying it.” He adds: “What I do is a social experience. It’s communal. You can learn the issues on your own by studying philosophy, but this isn’t about studying the canon as it was written. This is about asking questions of yourself as a starting point.”

The discussions vary with children. “With younger kids [in home-school classes], I focus on listening and learning how to ask a philosophical question,” he explains. “For years I tried to explain what a philosophical question was, but that didn’t work well. Now I don’t explain. Rather, I encourage them to figure it out.”

Fisherman says he typically begins by reading a paragraph or vignette. “Young kids, developmentally, are focused on the tangible, as opposed to the abstract or conceptual,” he says. “If the question is, ‘Why did Pixie get up and speak to her mom like this?’ the immediate answer might be, ‘I don’t know.’”

“So I’ll ask, ‘What do you think are the reasons?’ I’ll focus on the passage that has

them and, lo and behold, magically, a 6-year-old will have asked the question that’s at least proto-philosophical in some manner.

“We’ll do that for a few weeks, and by then I don’t have to direct them, they come up with the questions. The basic formula is: What does it mean for something to *be* something? What does it mean for a thing to be a thing?”

Building analytical skills takes time, Fisherman says, “but eventually they’re able to reflect on the arguments and counterarguments. You want to foster process — listening, hearing what the other person is saying, getting someone else to agree by offering reason. As you get older, you expect more complexity to the arguments.”

Most of the older students who attend Fisherman’s discussions at the Howland library are home-schoolers, which makes sense, he says. “You need a particular kind of parent — one who values this kind of engagement. As parents, they’re questioning. The process focuses on learning to ask good questions, finding the assumptions you have about the world, and questioning those.”

“You can look at this academically, from the development of skills, but there’s also the aspect of meaning. It’s great to know the philosophical questions, but it’s also being inspired by the question, by the discourse, so that life has more meaning. It’s about finding a perspective, opening up to the world.”

The next session of the Socrates Cafe, which meets on the third or fourth Tuesday of each month at the Howland Public Library, 313 Main St., is scheduled for March 24. The next Young Philosopher’s Cafe will be held at 4 p.m. on Wednesday (Feb. 26).

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Looking Back in Philipstown

By Chip Rowe

150 Years Ago (February 1870)

James Secor returned to Cold Spring after spending a few months in the West. He recounted that, while traveling through the British Dominions [Canada], 60 miles west of Suspension Bridge [over the Niagara River], his train hit a broken rail. He was thrown to the floor as the car rolled on its side, and then saw the glowing stove coming toward him. He was able to stamp the fire out through the windows onto the snow. Other men extinguished fires caused by the lamps. One man in the car was found to have been killed.

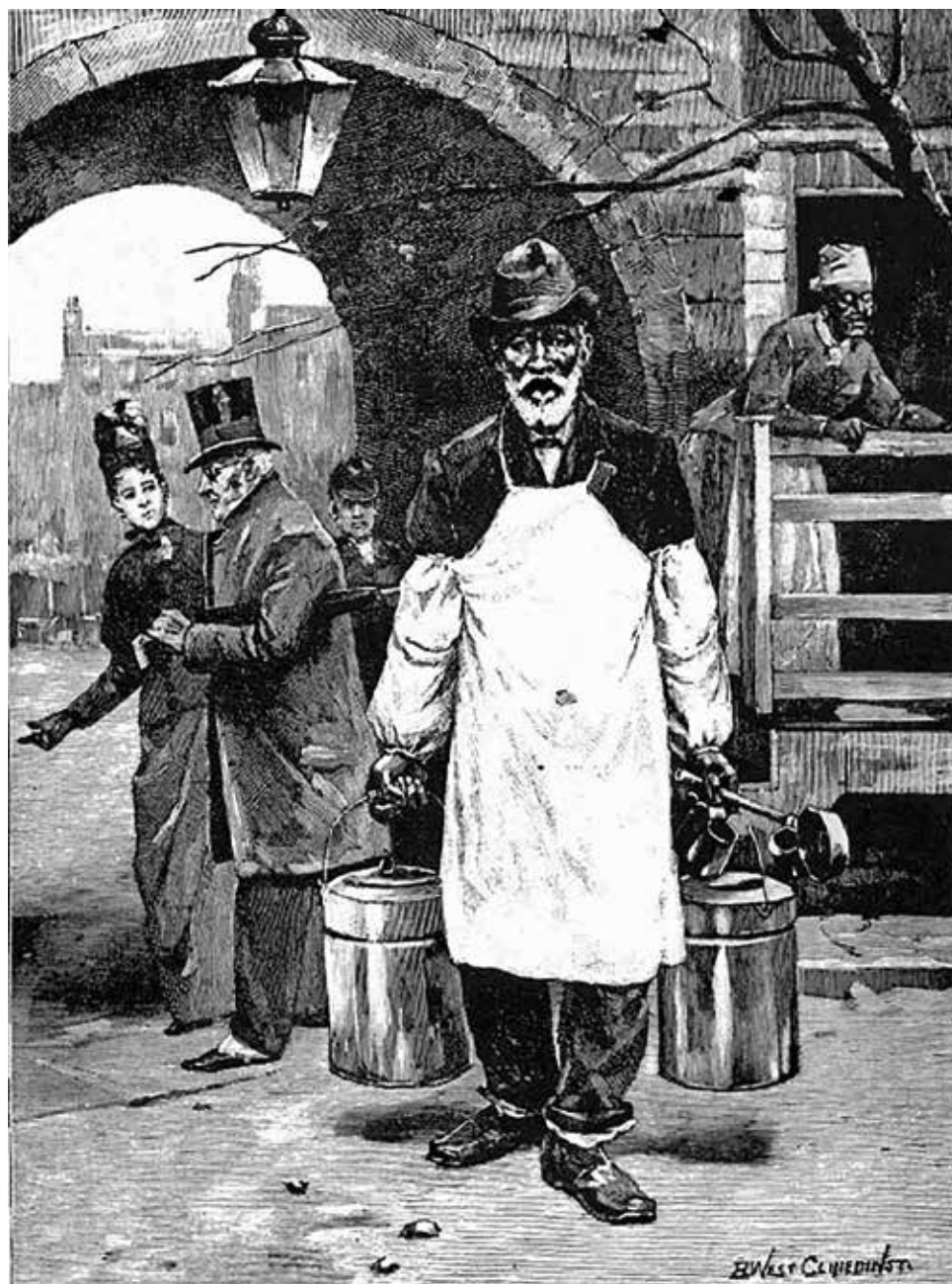
The *Cold Spring Recorder* noted peddlers were going door-to-door in the village selling oysters from kettles.

Constable Dore arrested a homeless woman on suspicion of infanticide after witnesses said they had seen her with an infant in Garrison the day before, but with only baby clothes the next day. The woman said she had no baby but hoped to have one. She was sent to the Overseer of the Poor in Nelsonville.

Michael Fallon was seriously injured when the elevator at the top of the furnace descended suddenly while he was unloading a wheelbarrow of ore.

The frescoes on the walls of the new Methodist Church were nearly complete.

The brook opposite Wood's blacksmith shop burst during a heavy afternoon rain, sending water down the south gutter of Main Street that met the tide at Gilmore's Hotel. By evening, the torrent was so great the express trains had to be stopped in both directions, a lake formed at Chestnut and Main, cellars below the tracks filled with mud and William Wright's barn near the paper mill was carried away with his horse inside. The next week, there were sugges-



Peddling oysters in Baltimore

Harper's Weekly

tions that a deep sewer be constructed from the Chestnut tree hill to the dock.

An officer from the U.S. House came to Cold Spring to summon an unnamed resident to Washington, D.C., to testify about the illegal sale of appointments to West Point. [The scandal led three House members to resign.]

The Garrison school held its first exhibition, with students performing declamations, dialogues, readings and songs.

125 Years Ago (February 1895)

A soldier from West Point stole a pet fox owned by James Ryan, but the animal, named Dick, was recovered.

A Friday night snowstorm delayed the milk delivery until Saturday afternoon, and grocers, bakers and butchers were forced to bring orders in baskets. Six railroad cars filled with sheep rode out the weather parked in Breakneck Tunnel.

Dr. C.D. Gilson, a graduate of the New

York College of Dentistry, opened a practice in the Grove Building at the corner of Morris and Main.

A young man accused of assaulting his father who was being served with an arrest warrant at his home by a village constable asked if he could be excused for a few moments. The *Recorder* noted that the constable, who agreed to the request, still had the warrant.

A Valentine Party at Town Hall organized by the Ladies' Auxiliary of St. Mary's Church featured a one-act farce called *The Obstinate Family*.

At a school board meeting, the principal reported that, of 323 children ages 5 to 18 in the district, 299 were registered, and the average daily attendance was 242. The library committee also reported it had purchased 81 books, including *Civics for Young People*, *Madam How and Lady Why*, *Swedish System of Educational Gymnastics*, *When I was a Boy in China*, *American Football*, and *Photography Indoors and Out*.

Charles McClary finished a 22-foot-high water tower covered with cedar shingles on the Parrott Street property of Capt. Henry Metcalfe.

Francis Lipsey, the watchman at the Main Street crossing of the Hudson River Railroad, was confined at home for a week with the flu.

Republicans had a clean sweep during county elections in Carmel, winning the positions of collector, justice of the peace, commissioner of highways, assessor, commissioners of excise, election inspectors, overseer of the poor and constables. They even won in Democratic strongholds such as Carmel and Putnam Valley.

Frederick Osborn's St. Bernard was found shot dead in Garrison, but there were no suspects. Soon after, Lumps, a Hungarian hound owned by Gen. Daniel Butterfield, was killed in Cold Spring by a train.

The grocers Perry & Reilly had on exhibit at their store a "petrified potato" that was found in a load from Putnam Valley.

Two gamblers from New York City conducted a "shell game" in Garrison and fleeced several residents out of \$5 to \$15 each. One man lost \$25 but raised such a ruckus that the shell man refunded his money.

(Continued on Page 14)

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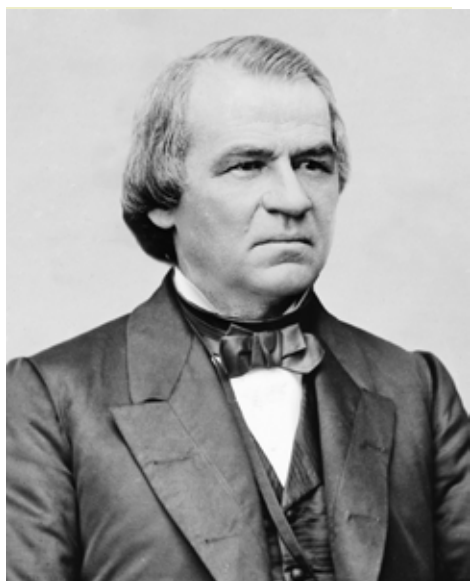
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Andrew Johnson

Local Connections to Impeachment

William Evarts, a Garrison resident who died in 2013, was the great-great-grandson of William Evarts, one of the lawyers who defended President Andrew Johnson in his impeachment trial in the U.S. Senate in 1868, while Clara Longstreth, of Garrison, is the great-great-granddaughter of Salmon Chase, the chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court who presided over the trial.

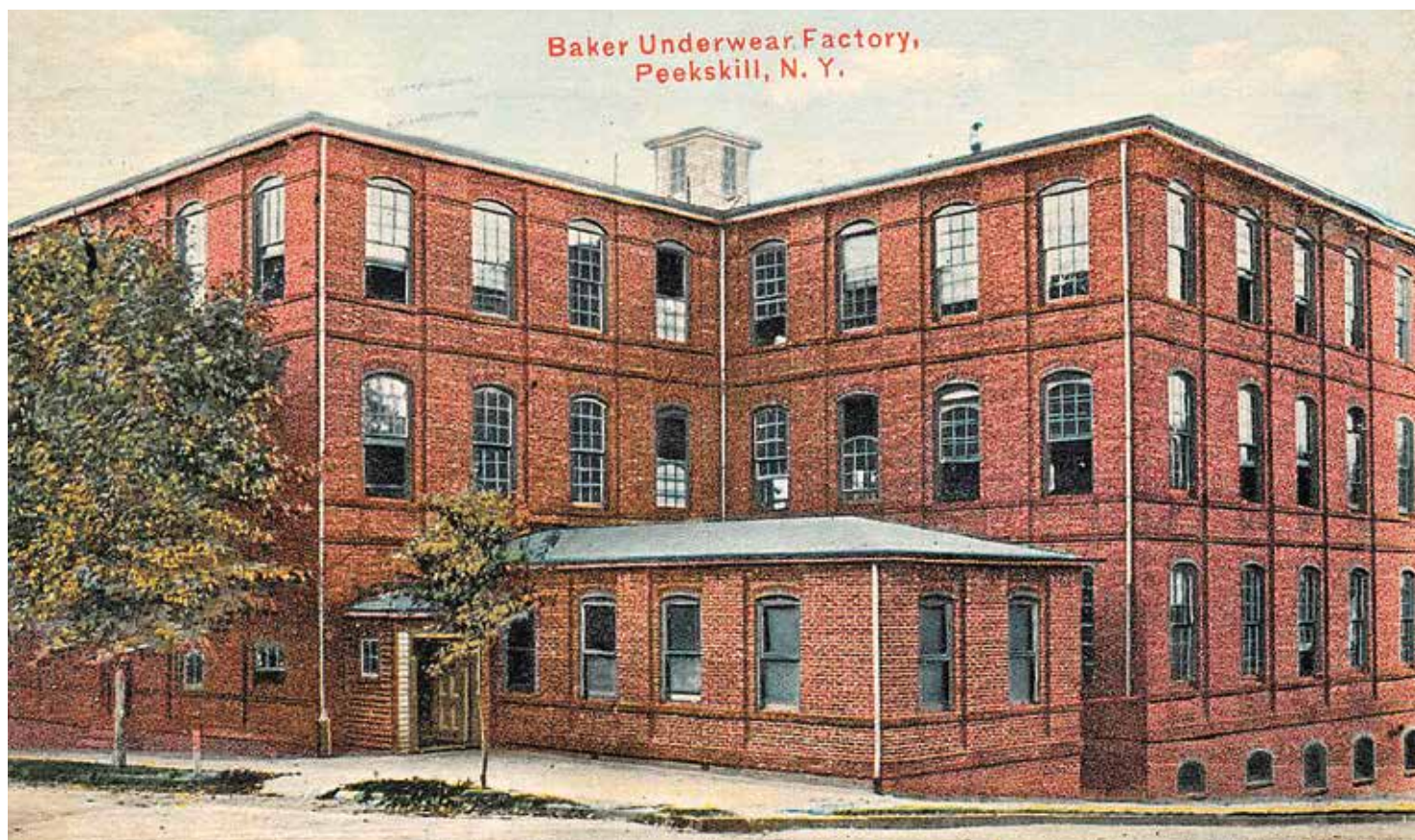
A Life in Livestock

Maria Elena Hardman dropped off at *The Current* office one of the unused tags she had purchased at an antique shop in Hudson, asking if we knew anything about it.



A little digging revealed it had belonged to Delos Luther, a livestock and farm equipment auctioneer who lived at 19 Parsonage St. in the 1940s. By 1948 he and his family had moved to Wassaic, a hamlet in eastern Dutchess County, where for the next three decades his wife Queenie, their son David and their grandson Delos II ran Luther's Livestock Commission Market.

From the mid-1950s to the late 1960s, the market moved 2,000 calves per week, but the large farms of Wappinger and Fishkill were eventually covered by IBM, motels, restaurants and schools. Delos died in 1983, at age 73.



In February 1920, two Garrison residents landed jobs at the Baker Underwear Factory in Peekskill

Looking Back (from Page 13)

Garrison hosted horse races with entrants from nine river towns. Ed Rockett of Sing Sing won the three-quarter-mile, which was best three times in five, and J.W. Tompkins of Sing Sing took the trotters' division, with George Garrison of Garrison finishing fourth.

The *Recorder* ran a list, dating to 1825, of when the frozen Hudson had re-opened to boat traffic. The dates ranged from Feb. 4 to April 13.

The state allocated 10,000 brown and 15,000 brook trout to the Cold Spring-on-Hudson Fish and Game Protective Association.

Progressive euchre was said to be a fad among Garrison residents.

P.A. July, who had recently opened a Main Street barber shop, announced he also would sell plates, chemicals and papers for amateur photographers.

A young man who passed through the village claimed to be one of the 20 survivors of the Jan. 31 sinking of the ocean liner SS Elbe in the North Sea. He said he was coming from Buffalo, where he had visited

his brother, a lawyer, to prepare a lawsuit.

100 Years Ago (February 1920)

A state representative visited Town Hall to distribute forms and explain the newly adopted state income tax law, which required all single people who made more than \$1,000 annually [about \$13,000 today] and all couples who made more than \$2,000 to file by March 15.

Snow drifts after a storm prevented the coal men from making their deliveries. The temperature on one Sunday morning plunged to 16 below; because of the frozen ground, the bodies of many residents who died had to be stored in vaults at Cold Spring Cemetery.

The annual meeting of the General Chemical Co. of Philipstown was held at its offices near Manitou station.

Because of a backlog at the Secretary of State's Office, drivers were allowed to display their 1919 license plates until March 1.

Katherine Scullion and Kathleen Nichols of Garrison both landed jobs at the Baker Underwear Factory in Peekskill.

F.C. Dale, the proprietor of Blackfriar

Farms in Cold Spring, offered at "bargain prices" any surplus from a carload of middlings, oats, corn, gluten, cornmeal and alfalfa meal; a carload of No. 2 hay; and a barrel of raw linseed oil.

The Knights of Columbus offered \$10 in gold for the best essay by a Haldane student on "Benefits of an Enlistment in the United States Army."

A federal prohibition agent warned merchants that signs advertising liquor needed to be removed to avoid "drastic steps" by law enforcement.

The local Boy Scout troop took a trip to the Newburgh YMCA, where six members passed the swimming test and three completed a 14-mile hike.

75 Years Ago (February 1945)

The Field Artillery Team from West Point took on a team from Beacon at the Lions Club Athletic Carnival at the Haldane school. The event benefited the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis [the March of Dimes], which fought polio. The West Point team

(Continued on Page 15)

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(Continued from Page 14)

featured Harry Boykoff, a 6-foot-10 former center for St. John's University who would later play in the NBA.

Thomas Clune, a sophomore at the Peekskill Military Academy and the son of K.H. Clune of Manitou, defeated Eugene Pardini at 1:08 in the second round of a boxing match at Vasa Temple in the Bronx.

50 Years Ago (February 1970)

Joseph Lahey, the superintendent of highways for Philipstown for the previous eight years and town supervisor from 1944 to 1956, died at Butterfield Memorial Hospital at age 72. He had 26 grandchildren, all living in Cold Spring.

Jane Polhemus of Manitou was named Haldane's Homemaker of Tomorrow after getting the high score on a test of knowledge and attitudes prepared by Betty Crocker. Polhemus planned to become a nurse.

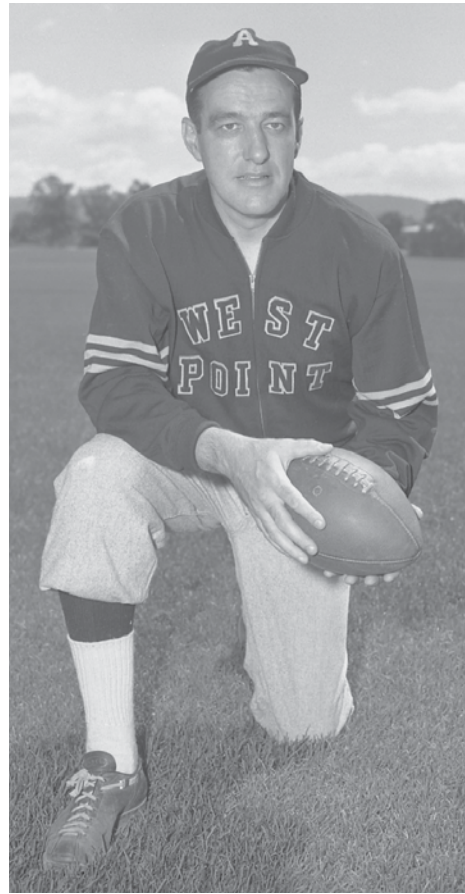
Thomas Perna of the New York State Pure Waters Authority reviewed the final phase of a preliminary sanitary sewage system survey with Nelsonville officials. The Cold Spring Village Board proposed that Nelsonville lay out a 10-inch water main through Pine Street to the village line.

The Hudson View Inn, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Link, reopened its bar after a month-long renovation.

St. Philip's in Garrison said it planned to invite the three past rectors who were still living to each preach in 1970 as part of a celebration of the church's 200th anniversary.

Coach William Merante organized a nine-

member wrestling team at Haldane High School that competed in two scrimmages and one meet. The team members were Jim Roberto, Wayne Merritt, Jeff Consaga, Lou Sabatini, John Lastrom, Frank Torchia, Joe Vitanza, Charles Mills and Frank Gallio.



Army Coach Tom Cahill spoke to the Cold Spring Lions Club in 1970

Walter Rathjen, who operated the local Ford agency, Cold Spring Auto Sales, for 20 years before moving to Poughkeepsie, died at age 70.

Marguerite Walker Rogers of Cold Spring donated a collection of gowns to Ladycliff College in Highland Falls, including dresses worn by her mother, grandmothers and a great aunt that dated to the Civil War.

Tom Cahill, Army's head football coach, spoke to the Cold Spring Lions and shared film highlights from the 1969 season. The Lions also heard at a second meeting from Nelsonville resident James Helbock, the commanding officer of the photographic section of the New York City Police Department, who spoke about forensic photography.

25 Years Ago (February 1995)

A group called the Bannerman's Castle Trust, headed by Neal Caplan and headquartered in Brooklyn, launched a campaign to restore Bannerman's Island.

The Philipstown board discussed closing a portion of East Mountain Road so Beacon could repair its water reservoir near Esselborne Road. The work would create a 3-mile detour for residents.

Jim Gordon of Putnam Valley, the voice of the New York Giants on WOR Radio for 18 seasons, was fired. He had been hired in 1977 to succeed Marv Albert. Gordon, who also served on the Putnam County Legislature for 10 years, was best known for his call of Scott Norwood's 47-yard field goal attempt with eight seconds left in Super Bowl XXV (1991), which Norwood missed.

[Gordon died in 2003 at age 76.]

A Putnam County sheriff's deputy shot a 19-year-old man dead in Kent after he ignored orders to drop his weapon and instead shot through the door of a residence. The man, who was armed with a stolen Glock 40, was found to be wearing a bulletproof vest.

The Putnam County Supreme Court dismissed a lawsuit filed by New York State to re-open a right of way established in 1909 across private property in Garrison to allow a second access point to Arden Point, near the train station. The family that owned the land fought the easement because it wanted to construct a development known as Kendronkill Landing on the site.

Joey DeMarco recorded his 1,000th career point for the Haldane varsity boys' basketball team a week after scoring a school-record 41 points in a victory over Lourdes. DeMarco became the fourth Haldane player to reach 1,000 points, after Mike Kiefer, Damon Perpetua and Jenny Moran.

Boscobel named Charles Lyle, a former director of the Maryland Historical Society, as its new executive director. He succeeded Frederick Stanyer, who retired after 31 years.

Putnam County sheriff's deputies, using a K-9 officer named Alf, located two 8-year-olds who were lost in the woods near Old West Point Road in Garrison.

Patrick O'Sullivan opened Limited Edition Realty at 155 Main St.

The Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival announced that, for its ninth season, it would present *The Tempest* and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*.

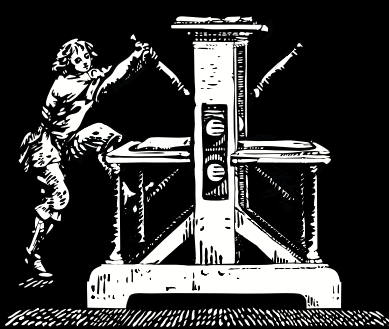
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 3/7 Ivy Omere, My Story, My Voice (*one-woman play*)
 3/8 The Pollinators (*film*) presented with Glynwood
 3/13 Night Train: an evening of storytelling, featuring Adam Wade of The Moth (*storytelling*)
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SUMMER VEGETABLE APPRENTICE — The Glynwood Center for Regional Food and Farming is seeking a summer Vegetable Apprentice to work from May 18 to Aug. 7. Primary duties of the position are: seeding and transplanting, green house management, cover cropping, irrigation, season extension, pest and disease control and weed management. This position works outdoors in all weather conditions. Qualified candidates should email a cover letter and resume to jobs@glynwood.org. Please indicate Summer Vegetable Apprentice in subject.

FOR SALE

MINI-FRIDGE — *The Current* moved to its new offices and has a Danby 3.2 Cu. Ft. Compact Refrigerator – Black, \$100. Also, Philips VIC WK1016A5B large-screen TV stand with assorted screws, \$15. Email tech@highlandscurrent.org with interest.

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Ninth Grade

Principal's Honor Roll

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High Honor Roll

Mateo Alvarado, Andre Alzate, Isabella Boswick, Isabella Bottiglieri, Kaylee Broas, Scott Bunker, Margot Burke, Alexander Clay, Christopher Crawford Jr., Parijat Das, Madison DeLeo, Brianna DeMilio, Jason Derasmo, Beatrice Dowd, Laney Ebeling, Journey Fleming, Gabriela Foret, Elizardo Garriga II, Darien Gillins, Layla Graham, Justin Jackson, Alexander Khalil, Campbell Kitzrow, Gavin LaDue, Sharon Li, Sabrina Lin, Tylynn Lindsay, Moa Lopez, Lillian Magurno, Nuriya May, Elijah McKible, Brianna Moleano, Gia Moreno, Erin Nicholson, Aydin Ozkurt, Natalie Quintero, Thomas Rapp, Thomas Robinson, Liam Rumnit, Adam Sendelbach, Joseph Vollaro, Jeffrey Wolfe III

Honor Roll

Tianna Adams, Adrian Beato, Derek Bilyeu, Anaya Camacho, Kevin Candia Candia, Logan Claudio, Hope Cleveringa, Grace Cohn, Jhanelle Duncan, De Mya Elliott, William Fahlman, A'Janae Foreman, Adrian Gallego, Leutrim Gecaj, Dylan Howard, Liam Istvan, Zakayah Johnson, Sydney Jones, Juliette Lasser, Jeremiah Long, Gabriella Manzoeillo, Abigale Martin, Brandon Maupin, Taylor Meeuwisse, Shema Ntaganzwa, Jaelyn O'Connor, Cole Peifer, Ella Pessoni, Henry Quinn, Mia Ramirez, Natalee Reynolds, Abigail Salazar, Juliana Sulsona, Jaden Taylor, Jacob Tumidaj, Liam Vedesi

Tenth Grade

Principal's Honor Roll

Gretta Anderson, Madeline Bobnick, Jeremy Brinas, Jack Cleary, Allyson Correllus, Lucia Diebboll, Cassandra Garrett, Chase Green, Dillon Kelly, Kayla Lare, Cherlin Liao, Simrat Mann, Ava Muscat, Kathryn Park, Nora Phelan, Emma Sandison, Alexia Segarra, Lauren Shanahan, Carissa Smutny, Aiden Tripaldi, John Urban-Quezada, Alexander Wyant

High Honor Roll

Joseph Baffuto III, Lotus Blumenthal, Bella Carassone, Sulayman Ceesay, Lindsay Darcy, Alexandria Faiella, Yahli Felixbrodt, Hunter Ingold, Synasia Johnson, Inessa Joseph, Veronica Klein, Sydney Kurtz,

Evan LaBelle, Aileen Li, Benjamin Lieblein, Andrew Lucas, Amatullah Muhammad, Rosa Nunez, Ayanda Nxumalo, Yahya Ouildane, Alondra Ramirez Paredes, Jose Resendiz, Anthony Riccoboni, Leanna Rinaldi, Lulu Romer, Kenneth Rosa, Thomas Santoro, Mia Scarchilli, Kalyn Sheffield, Samantha Sovik, Olivia Spiak, Brandon Thomas, Caleb Ullian, Cleveland Wright

Honor Roll

Brock Barna, Ahmir Bell, Shiann Boyd, Owen Browne, Makkaila Caputo, Christian Carvalho, Amare Coakley, Olivia Corneyea, Claire Derrenbacher, Cleo Fiedler, Sarah Gibbs, Daniel Gilleo, Ashley Gonzalez, Samuel Harle, Tyler Haydt, Faith Hoops-Mitchell, Flynn Johnson, Evan Kumar, Maura Lane, Christina Merola, Kailey Mesorana, Michael Millan, Marissa Mora, Daniel Nelson, Anastacia Ozkurt, Michael Pirrone, Arielle Prince, Braden Schetter, Keira Seaman, Ariana Shatlaw, Olive Smith Quiana, Hannah Smith, Nicholas Thivierge, Jake Titka, Lucas Vermeulen

Eleventh Grade

Principal's Honor Roll

Aidan Alvarado, Hannah Burch, Rebecca DeLeo, Lejdina Gecaj, Sofia Hockler, Natalie Khalil, Thandiwe Knox, Regan Ladue, Michael Lepere, Michael Levy, Ryan Liao, Beyonce Otero, John Padoleski, Jessica Pavone, Eliza Principe Garcia, D'Anna Williams

High Honor Roll

Tamar Adams-Pinnock, Vincent Bouderau, Wesley Brooks, Zachary Cader, Jesse Campanelli, Ella Casserly, Eva Chapin, Sara Chin, Maycol Cuautle Toral, Rhan Dabashi, Dylan Derasmo, Carter Detoro, Gabriela Diaz, Kaitleen Dixon, Kaylah Dixon, Joshua Espinosa, Marilyn Gamey, Dania Gillins, Sofia Gonzalez, Jaeda Green, Mark Guzman Lizarazo, Samaya Harris, Angelica Hibbert, Aidan Kidd, Bernadette Kish, Charles Krachy IV, Makayla Lesniak, Abigail Magurno, Malaika Malik, Elizabeth Martin, Sophie Mercado, Anna Miller, Alexandra Moroch, Amanda Moroch, Reily Mowen, Kelly Murphy, Michael Musacchio, Natalie Negron, Isabella Ortiz, Marianna Pastorello, Tahji Patterson, Justin Piciacchio, Mya Pierce, Ryan Rabenda, Anastazia Sakowicz, James Sarnes, Stephen Schneider, Jason Simon, Gianna Thompson, Katelin VanBuren

Honor Roll

Mia Amoroso, Damon Angelo, Christian Aquino, Na'ila Baldwin, Liam Byrne, Pearl Byrne, Ashley Casserly, Shane Creighton, Rayham Dabashi, Gabriela Del Castillo, Samantha DeLuise, Tatyanna Fernandez, Adrianna Fish, Aaliyah Fretwell-Cross, Aiyana George, Ila Harvey, Jackson Jackson, Evan Janks, Kieran Kacur, Jimmy Kuka, Arianna Llivipuma Herrera, Yusef Lokman, Yahya Lorick, Joren Madigan, Emily Maggio, Dennis Mann, Matthew Manzoeillo, Jade Matias, Makayla Meacham, Matthew Montaldo, Andrew Moroch, Jeremiah Murcia Booth, Romeo Nunez, Alyssa Oberle, James

Patino, Jorge Ramos Hernandez, David Reilly IV, Kimberly Romine, Isabel Santos, Kenneth Schulze, Sebastian Scott-Hamblen, Liam Sheehan, Anna Slackman, Jessica Spadafino, Nathalia Thomas, Amaya Thompson, Brielle Travis, Allison Varian, Jeremiah Vital

Twelfth Grade

Principal's Honor Roll

Hanna Alfieri, Robert Atwell, Ian Bautista, Ziara Beato, Zachary Blum, Michael Brown, Analiese Compagnone, Erika DeHaas, Adriana Dugger, Dior Gillins, Shane Green, Patrick Lewis, Catherine Mitchell, Isabella Nocerino, Eric Ostrow, Benjamin Price, Philip Rossignol III, Olivia Salcedo, Cassandra Smutny, Shekeia Sterling, Katherine Stojakovic, Rachel VanBuren, Selena Virtuoso, Roswell Wendel, Jordan Zinserling, Justin Zinserling

High Honor Roll

Omar Abdo, Grace Affeldt, Victoria Albra, Almaas Ali, Riley Antalek, Kiara Aviles, Allison Bierce, Maury Bravo Jr., Skylah Browne, Jason Callaway, Diana Campos, Jian Carter, Gianna Claudio, Finnian Costello, Lionel Cumberbatch III, John Darcy, Autumn DiGiovanni, Omar Dolmus, Kimberly Drew, Kahlia Durso, Angel Feliz, Peter Fernandez, Angelina Finateri, Carolina Foster, Marianne Fultz, Gulien Gentle, Sierra Giamportone, Aine Gunn, Angelique Hall, Kayla Heady, Ka jae Hill, Kaleb Istvan, Sheridan Kolozy, Josephine Kurtz, Jolene Lagunda, Irijah Leiner, Ty Long, Olivia Lynch, Miles McCabe, Samantha McDowell, Amanda Montaldo, Santino Negron, Jah'el Padilla-Colon, David Paschal, Christian Pillcurima, Kenneth Rapp, Julissa Reyes, Rhema Reynolds, Mia Ricottilli, Analuz Rivera, Lauren Simon, Alexis Thompson, Gabriella Traviglia, Sabrina Tutasi, Elizabeth Urbanak, Nayelie Vasquez, Alyssa Vollaro, Dylan Whalen, Christina Wurtz, Samantha Yanqui, Lila Young

Honor Roll

Arissa Anderson, Kaitlyn Antonio, Mia Beaty, Nikita Borshchov, Alden Brandt-Cannon, Rontezajah Braxton, Kaljay Brown, Yazmine Cabrera, Shianne Canada, Ryan Chin, Aiden Davis, Besim Dika, Samantha Fellenz, Julianna Firpi, Kayla Graham, Francesca Groza, Kiara Hernandez, Elizabeth Herrera, Carter Hull, Jillian Jimenez, Kenneth Jones-Saunders, Cierra Lassiter, Kyrstin Lawrence, Sean Lise, Jacob Lombardo, Trista Maloney, Nyeema McGawn, Alexandra McKeon, Madalyn Miller, Liam Murphy, Tessa Nilsen, Giovanni Piccoli, Brianna Richardson, Richard Rinaldi, Enita Rodriguez, Alexis Rosa, Katelyn Rosa, Sharina Rutherford, Sarah Seymour, Alyana Soto, Harley Taran, Jennifer Toujiline, Mackenzie Wakley, Ravyn Way, Nathina Yarborough

BOCES CTI

High Honor Roll

Maycol Cuautle Toral, Kayla Heady, Evan Janks, Yahya Lorick, Romeo Nunez, Liam Sheehan, Katelin VanBuren

Honor Roll

Ryan Chin, Taina Fernandez, Aiyana George, Makayla Meacham, Giovanni Piccoli, Javier Piguave Espin, Ravyn Way

Rombout Middle School Honor Roll

Students recognized for second-quarter grades

Eighth Grade

Principal's Honor Roll

Isabella Amundson, Emma Campagiorni, Ella Cason, Rubio Castagna-Torres, Eleanor Cunningham, Olivia Del Castillo, Marina Elias, Jayden Featherstone, Sara Gonzalez, Tiana Gonzalez, Jacqueline Griesing, Harsh Gupta, Serena Jabar, Georgia Kane, Olivia Lapaz, Myasia Lewis, Evan Lombardo, Bryce Manning, Nico McKible, Isabella Migliore, Karimah Muhammad, Emilia Pastorello, Vanessa Piciacchio, Nahari Powell, Henry Reinke, Kiarra Rodriguez, Elizabeth Ruffy, Matthew Sandison, Kasey Senior, Rachel Thorne, Peter Vermeulen, Emily Wei, Wallace Wei, August Wright

High Honor Roll

Imroz Ali, Zaida Burgos, Sophia Campagiorni, Vanessa Campanelli, Douglas Capawana, Sean Cleary, Nicole Coliman, Ayla Cruz, Grace Delgado, Damani Deloatch, Chelsea DerBoghossian, Nora Folkes, Ariana Gallego, Christopher Gonzalez, Jessica Gonzalez, Sienna Gorey, Isabella Haydt, Cadence Heeter, Keira Istvan, Emma Joyce, Devyn Kelly, Gabrielle Kuka, Meara Kumar, Tiannah Lindsay, Jonathan Lobato Colon, Samantha Lopez, Leonides Lopez IV, Owen Lynch, Alexandria McCollum, Stephen McDowell, Gia Morgan, Elisa Pahucki, Julia Pedersen, Ricardo Ramirez Paredes, Marilyn Rinaldi, Nina Rivers, Keira Robinson, Anisa Shtanaj, Owen Skorewicz, Samsa Superville, Allison Thomas, Michael Varian, Xiomarys Williams

Honor Roll

Nicole Agudelo, Abir Ahmed, Jack Antalek, Ronnie Anzovino, Wiles Assael, Jackson Atwell, Alyssa Barna, Ikaika Baysa, Chloe Bennett, Briana Bilyeu, Michael Fontaine Jr., B'sette Garcia Santiago, Sean Heath, Leslie Ilouga Wandji, Bryana Kelliher, Zakary Krachy, Shy'anne Kush, Amerie Madigan, Hannah Marin, Anthony Marzovilla, Aryah Montefusco, Khalilah Muhammad, Liam Murphy, Mia Nelsen-Cheyne, Twyla Nelson,

Thomas Nocerino, Lillie O'Leary, Amarii Pearson, Aniyah Pearson, Alexander Quintana, Jayden Quintana, Kyla Richardson, Luis Rivera, Sinai Sanchez, JonAy Taylor, Isabella White, Jon-Paul Wood, Noelle Young, Ryan Zingone Redfield

Seventh Grade

Principal's Honor Roll

Beckett Anderson, Anabelle Arginsky, Taryn Beardsley, Jeiden Brereton, Isabel Bunker, Lila Burke, Elizabeth Carbone, Christine Chen, Evelina Diebboll, Willa Freedman AvaMaria Gianna, Derrick Heaton, Sarahlynn Jaafar, Jeannae' Jean-Francois, Avneet Kaur, Charlie Klein, Lani Lopez, Ela Lyons, Josephine Mallon, Allen McKay, Jada Medley, Emma Merola, Ryann Meyer, Addison Miller, Ronan Moran, Amelia Padilla, Mackenzie Phillips, Josue Pintado, Breanna Rudolph, Katherine Ruffy, Anastasia Santise, Jacob Signorelli, Sarah Spodek, Serena Stampleman, Mika-Gisselle Tates, Amya Thompson, Sophia Tonyes, Sortia Tripaldi, Francis Zezza

High Honor Roll

Riley Adnams, Nicholas Albra, Kendall Alston, Matthew Apostolou Jr., Isabella Baffuto, Kekoa Baysa, Jessica Belgrave, Sally Betterbid, Daniel Bridges, Shyla Camacho, Avery Davis, Danica del Puerto-Vitti, Amadea Ferris, Tayler Finley, Lucas Foret, Tori Foster, Lee Humphreys, Mercer Jordan, Angel Jurado, Alex Labodin, Rory LaDue, Reilly Landisi, Lily Larson-Wolbrink, Paige McCredo, Madison Mianti, Zoe Moreno, Lance Morgan Jr., Rory Mowen, Sariah Paulin, Alexander Quinci, Christine Robinson, Daveya Rodriguez, Bethany Rudolph, Gabriel Salcedo, Kayli Shand, Kayleigh Sheehan, Chloe Sheffield, Kyla Smith, Emma Soltish, Natalia Sulsona, Brody Timm, Charles Zellinger

Honor Roll

Christopher Amon Ortega, Angelina Bottiglieri, Draven Bridges, Ahmaria Bunn, Devin Byrne, Jaidyn Caccomo, Ayanna Dennis, Sofia Diaz, Chiara Fedorchak, Amir Figueroa, Messiah Gardner, Graham Goodman, Shane Griffin, Andrea Guzman

Colon, Noelle Haase, Autumn Hoppe, Hunter Humeston, Vincent Komer, Rowan Lane, Ethan Maignan, Julianna Montero, Darryl Montgomery Jr., Megan Nicholson, Brianna Perez-Sample, Fia Rumnit, Mehr Sagri, Sabina Shafi, Serenity Smith, Michael VanBuren, Sierra VanDemark, Christopher Weise, Sevana West, Holly Whittemore, Saniyah Wiltshire

Sixth Grade

Principal's Honor Roll

Alianna Alijaj, Farhana Antora, Patrick Apmann, Mira Bagriyanik, Owen Bergin, Alexander Browning, Parker Capawana, Henry Clair, Christian Clay, Erin Cleary, Peter Cohen, Diego Dickinson Case Leal, Tye Elias, Teo Fairbanks, Marisah George, Kayla Hammond, Zenia Haris, Ruby Hotchkiss, Milo Isabell, Everly Jordan, Alina Joseph, Gabrielle Khalil, Aidan Kinsley, Kiran Kumar, Cheranaye Louis, Brayden Manning, Clyde Marshall, Alma Mart, Oscar McKible, Jayden Mihalchik, Mira Miller, Eli Netboy, Jaiere Newton, Aiden Nieves, Matilda Perks, Liliana Rybak, Juan Tutasi Machado, Mandy Zhang

High Honor Roll

Nadeen Ahmed, Camryn Aquino, Ashland Assael, Grace Beston, Logan Blum, James Bouchard III, Ella Brill, Leylani Candia

Candia, Mirianjelis Chavez, Lola Ciccone, Alistair Cunningham, Emmanuel Dickinson Case Leal, Samiria Ferrer, Isabella Galbo, Ayden Gilleo, Gabriel Godbee, Christina Hernandez, Dylan Hetrick, Grace Hockler, Chance Hunter, Michael Jones, Cameron Just, Griffin Kitzrow, Savana Kush, Carlos Lampon III, Ryan Landisi, Aron Li, Frankie Lin, Anthony Lopez, Anselm McKee, Jahsaia Monelle, Payten Muse, Annabelle Notarthomas, Maliah O'Connor, Adrien Okoye, Nolan O'Malley, Victoria Reyes-Miele, Jonathan Richards, Mikaela Sanchez, Yosef Sanchez Redondo, Zachary Schetter, Thomas Senior, Kira Sheehan, Katrina Skorewicz, Desirae Smith, Noah Spiak, Aiden Spiecker, Jonathan Trentacosta, Marcos Velasco, George Walker, Easton Weise, Alexander Young

Honor Roll

Eduardo Arellano, Jahcier Ballard, Ethan Bernabel, Allyia Best, Jayden Bostick, Keyon Brown, Piper Bruno, Gavin Campbell, Sofia Domanski, Jazmine Gonzalez Aguilar, Javier Gutierrez Jr., Natalie Hayden, Eliana Herrera, Tyler Horton, Vincent Joao Jr., Shay Kane, Taylor Kelliher, Anajah Lamb, Tania Lindsay, Kayleigh Martinez, Julia McGuire-Soellner, Julius Miles, Annalea Miller, Francisco Monteiro Jr., Aiden Montleon, Jalen Morton, Silena Negron, Stori Owen, Caleb Pfetzing, Zachary Phillips Jr., Michael Ramos, Jaiden Rivera, Anthony Sarchilli Jr., Dominic Sceppaquercia, Zion Segarra, Kyan Spirig, Emma Sweet, Matthew Tumdaj, Amaya Vazquez, Mya Wright

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Learn how to prick out the germinated seedlings into larger rounds to take home and grow in your garden.

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The HIGHLANDS

Current

7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

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Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
46/24	52/27	54/35	48/37	54/31	43/25	35/17
Milder with plenty of sunshine	Mild with plenty of sunshine	Mainly cloudy and mild	A wintry mix possible in the a.m.; rather cloudy	Mostly cloudy, chance of a little rain in the p.m.	Icy mix in the a.m.; cooler, a shower in the p.m.	Mostly cloudy and colder
POP: 0%	POP: 5%	POP: 25%	POP: 30%	POP: 30%	POP: 75%	POP: 0%
W 7-14 mph	W 4-8 mph	S 4-8 mph	S 3-6 mph	NE 4-8 mph	WSW 6-12 mph	WNW 8-16 mph
RealFeel 44/23	RealFeel 53/27	RealFeel 53/37	RealFeel 51/33	RealFeel 56/31	RealFeel 39/13	RealFeel 26/9

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

Snowfall	
Past week	0.5"
Month to date	0.9"
Normal month to date	6.0"
Season to date	14.4"
Normal season to date	24.8"
Last season to date	21.4"
Record for 2/21	8.0" (1947)

SUN & MOON


Sunrise Sat., 2/226:42 AM

Sunset Sat. night, 2/225:37 PM

Moonrise Sat., 2/226:31 AM


Moonset Sat., 2/224:42 PM

New




Feb 23

First




Mar 2

Full



Mar 9

Last



Mar 16

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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Satchel

4. Nowhere to be seen

8. Visored military cap

12. — out a living

13. State

14. Object of worship

15. Have a bug

16. Dilute

18. Up to

20. Finish

21. Second letter

24. Sponsorship

28. Negative aspect

32. Took the bus

33. Fire residue

34. Oodles

36. Wager

37. Amorphous lump

39. Onion rings, e.g.

41. Takes to the skies

43. Carry on

44. “That feels so good!”

46. Black board?

50. Exemplar of dullness

55. Cattle call

56. Leading man

57. Volcanic flow

58. Request

59. Floor cleaners

60. Gasoline, e.g.

61. Born

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
18				19				20				
			21		22	23		24		25	26	27
28	29	30					31		32			
33				34				35		36		
37			38		39				40			
41				42		43						
			44		45			46		47	48	49
50	51	52				53	54			55		
56					57					58		
59					60					61		

DOWN

1. Suitor

2. Related

3. Moolah

4. Anarchic

5. Eggs

6. Prepared

7. Genealogy chart

8. Actress Margot

9. “Green” prefix

10. “Bam!”

11. Hostel

17. Genetic stuff

19. — Saud

22. Twitches

23. Fire-fighting legend Red

25. Asian desert

26. Mid-month date

27. Green or Rogen

28. Slight touches

29. Norway’s capital

30. “Halt!”

31. Icelandic poetry

35. More than just a few

38. Lullaby composer

40. Society newbie

42. Tool with teeth

45. 50 percent

47. Muscat’s land

48. Small winning margin

49. Oxen’s harness

50. Water barrier

51. Berlin’s “What’ll —?”

52. Potential syrup

53. Greek cross

54. 56-Across’ partner

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Answers for Feb. 14 Puzzles

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

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

1. SUBTRACT, 2. CONTINENT, 3. SULKIER, 4. TEARDROPS, 5. INTOLERANT, 6. POMPOMS, 7. DELICATE

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

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 E.T. or Lamb Chop (6)

2 highway pinchpoint (9)

3 make fun of (8)

4 British comedian Peter (7)

5 poorly made (6)

6 Tupperware contents (9)

7 Appalachian Trail travelers (6)

SOLUTIONS


PUP	ERS	TH	TO	IC
OO	LEF	RS	SHO	HI
DDY	ERS	SE	RID	LLB
ULE	KE	PET	TOV	LL

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SUDO CURRENT

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

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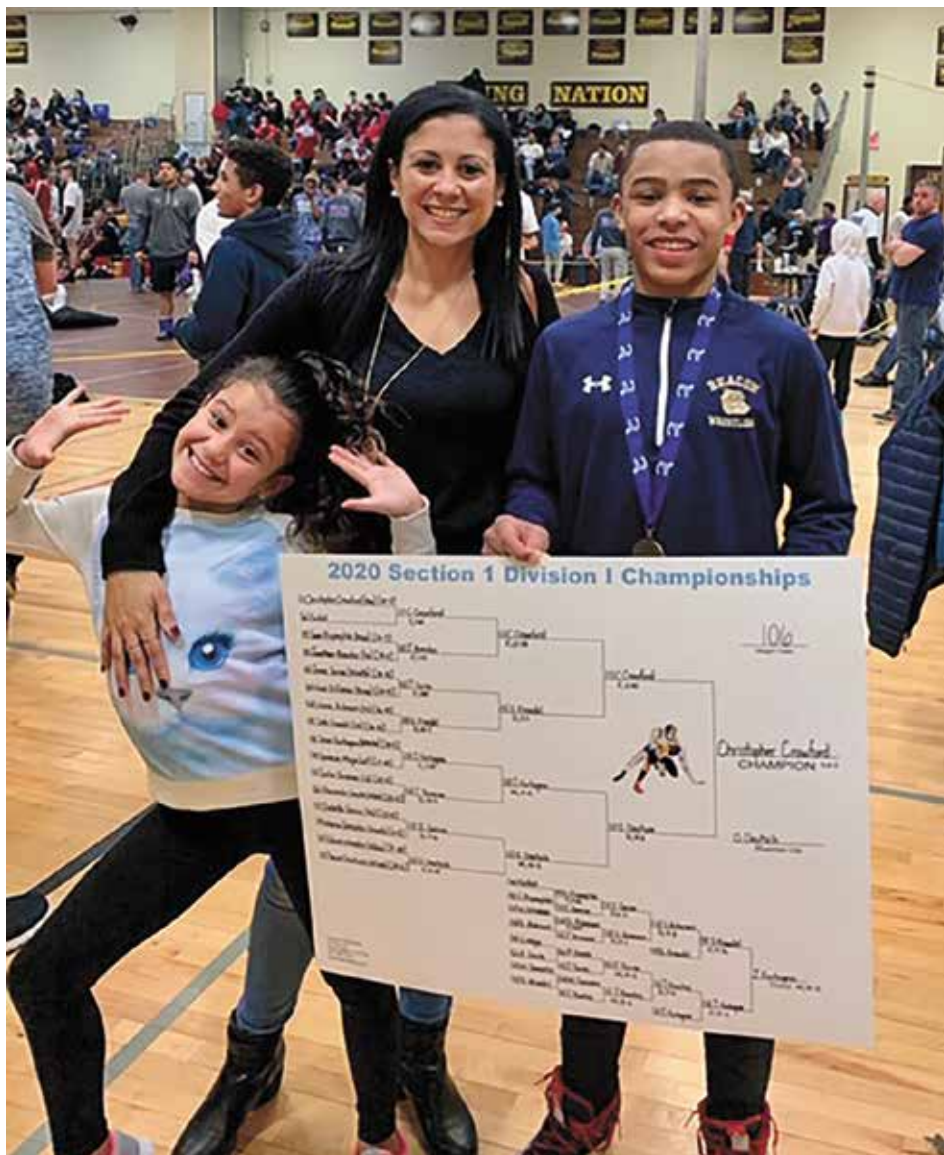
SPORTS



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Chris Crawford Wins Section 1 Title

Freshman advances to state championships



Chris Crawford with his aunt, Brooke Simmons, and niece, Madison Simmons, after his title match

Photo provided

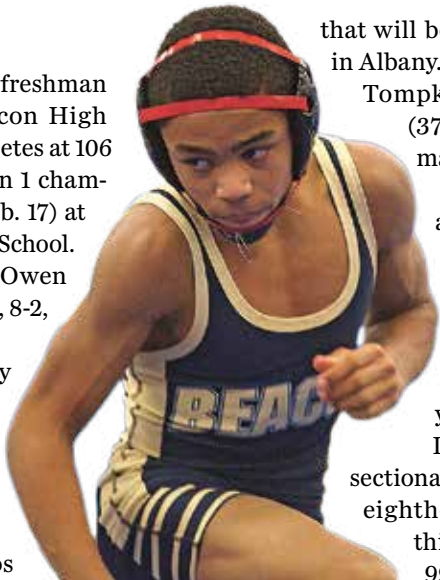
By Skip Pearlman

Chris Crawford, a freshman wrestler at Beacon High School who competes at 106 pounds, won the Section 1 championship on Sunday (Feb. 17) at Clarkstown South High School.

Crawford defeated Owen Deutsch of Mamaroneck, 8-2, in the title match.

“He wrestled a very conservative match,” said Coach Ron Tompkins. “He did what he had to do to win. He was solid.”

Crawford advances to the state championships



that will be held Feb. 28 and 29 in Albany.

Tompkins said Crawford (37-3) has a chance to make some noise.

“He’s been improving all year, and he’s peaking at the right time,” the coach said. “He has a good mental approach, and he’s more mature this year.”

It was Crawford’s first sectional title. Last year, as an eighth-grader, he finished third while wrestling at 99 pounds.

Big Wins for Beacon

By Skip Pearlman

Beacon Girls 54, Saunders 46

The Bulldogs won their Section 1, Class A basketball qualifier on Saturday (Feb. 15), upsetting Saunders, 54-46, in a game played in Yonkers.

Beacon (9-12), which is seeded No. 20 of 20 teams in the tournament, is scheduled to travel to No. 4 Harrison (14-6) today (Feb. 21) for a 6 p.m. tipoff. Saunders, which was seeded No. 13, finished at 11-10.

Coach Christina Dahl said she liked the way her team worked together to reach the first round.

“We got a balanced effort,” she said. “All five of our seniors started, they all chipped in, and all played good defense. We had a game plan and did a good job

executing it.”

Grace Affeldt led the Bulldogs with 11 points, while Skyler Kurtz had 10, Anita Rodriguez and Analiese Compagnone each had nine, and Devyn Kelly added six.

“Kelly and [Tianna] Adams were great off the bench,” Dahl said. “Those are two freshmen who we will be seeing good things from in the future. Dior Gillins also played well.

“We’re looking forward to Harrison,” she said. “We’ll need to go in with good energy and limit them to one shot [on each offensive trip]. And we’ll have to be able to put the ball in the basket. When we can do that, we can be good.”

Beacon Boys 57, Somers 37

The Bulldogs made short work of visiting Somers on Saturday (Feb. 15), rolling over the Tuskers, 57-37, in a Section 1, Class A basketball tournament qualifying playoff game at Beacon.

Beacon (9-12), seeded No. 13 of 20 teams, is scheduled to visit No. 4 Poughkeepsie (14-6), the defending Class A state champions, today (Feb. 21) at 5 p.m. in a first-round game. The winner advances to the quarterfinals on Wednesday (Feb. 26).

The Bulldogs took care of business early against No. 20 Somers (8-13).

“The game was all about our defense,” Coach Scott Timpano said. “We only allowed 11 points in the first half — that’s a season best, and that’s an incredible accomplishment. We limited their second-chance opportunities. We knew they like to shoot three-pointers, and we didn’t allow them to get going outside.”

Quazir Hayes led the Bulldogs with 15 points and 10 rebounds. Kam Torres added 15 points, eight rebounds and four assists, Shane Green had 10 points and eight rebounds, and Tristen Reid chipped in eight points, three rebounds and five steals.

“Quazir had a tremendous game for us,” Timpano said. “Somers was not able to handle his athleticism. And Kam was everywhere; he was the spark we needed. Ian Bautista was also rock-solid.”

The Bulldogs lost to Poughkeepsie at home on Dec. 10 by 24 points but were



Quazir Hayes had 15 points and 10 rebounds for Beacon in the win over Somers.

Photo by S. Pearlman

more competitive on the road on Jan. 7, losing by 13.

“Poughkeepsie is fast and aggressive,” Timpano said. “The big thing for us will be to try to slow them down and limit second-chance opportunities. And you have to be able to handle their press. We have to be as close to flawless as we can get.”