

The HIGHLANDS Current



Fiddler Page 9

MARCH 6, 2020

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Coronavirus on the Move

— Multiple cases confirmed in Westchester —

By Chip Rowe

Many Highlands residents began preparations this week for what appears to be the inevitable arrival in Putnam and Dutchess counties of the coronavirus.

On Tuesday (March 3), officials confirmed that a Westchester County lawyer in his 50s was the second person in the state known to have 2019 Novel Coronavirus, or COVID-19. Two days earlier, a 39-year-old health care worker in Manhattan who recently returned from Iran was the state's first confirmed case.

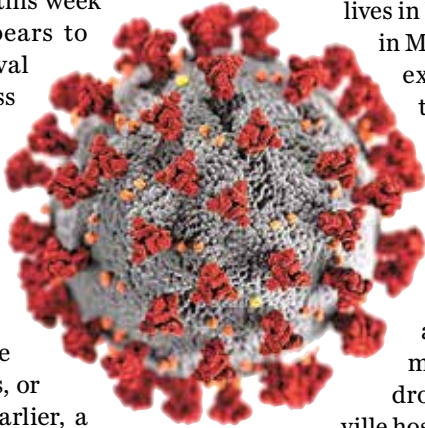
By Thursday, the state had confirmed 18

cases in Westchester, three in New York City and one on Long Island.

The first Westchester patient, who lives in New Rochelle and works in Manhattan, had no known exposure from global travel. By Thursday, officials announced that his wife, son (a student at Yeshiva University in Manhattan) and teenage daughter had contracted the virus, along with a friend of the man, the neighbor who drove the man to a Bronxville hospital, and the neighbor's wife and three children.

"While we should treat this as a seri-

(Continued on Page 5)



This illustration above, created by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, represents the 2019 Novel Coronavirus. The spikes that adorn the outer surface give the look of a corona when viewed through an electron microscope.

A Voice from China

— Businessman discusses situation in his home city —



Dong Xin Gong

Photo provided

By Michael Turton

Dong Xin Gong, a retired industrialist who lives in Xuzhou, China, visited Cold Spring several times on business between 1980 and 2010. *The Current* spoke with him by video conferencing on Feb. 26. His responses have been edited for brevity.

What is the situation in Xuzhou?

The city is quiet. All public places, including malls, restaurants and parks have been closed. Only grocery stores and supermarkets have remained open. My city of 8 million has 60 to 70 cases of coronavirus but no deaths, and no new cases have been reported in the past two or three weeks. Measures are tough. Families are given a permit allowing one person to go out every two days. If you don't cooperate, obey the rules, you are detained, possibly for two weeks.

What is the mood?

Nobody is happy. The Spring Festival is the

(Continued on Page 7)

Is Bail Reform a Bust?

Sheriffs say yes, but others cheer changes

By Leonard Sparks

New York prosecutors, sheriffs and police chiefs have waged a coordinated campaign against the 2-month-old bail-reform law, alleging that dangerous criminals who would have been jailed under the old system were released

to commit more crimes.

Largely ignored, say defenders of the law, have been far more common cases in which suspects have returned to court to face charges without being accused of additional crimes.

The reform law, which went into effect on Jan. 1 and eliminated cash bail for most misdemeanor and nonviolent felony charges, is designed to prevent the detainment of people accused of relatively minor crimes who cannot afford bail.

Opponents of the law claim "all these violent people are being let out of jail, and that's just not the case," said Alex Rosen, criminal division bureau chief with the

(Continued on Page 5)



Nicole Scalzo and her mother, Sandy, with family photos

Photo by J. Simms

The Scalzo Way

City honors family's history while juggling requests

By Jeff Simms

There are nearly 100 names of Beacon residents who died in wars on the bronze marker in front of the veterans' Memorial Building at 413 Main St.

Twelve soldiers died in World War I; 67 more in World War II. About a dozen perished in Vietnam. There was only one

local soldier, however, who died in the Korean War: Anthony Scalzo.

A 21-year-old private, Scalzo was wounded in action in December 1952. "Somebody needed to go over the hill to see if the enemy was there," said Sandy Scalzo, who in 1979 married one of Anthony's nephews, "and they were. He died a hero. He volunteered."

Later this spring, the city will install a second, slightly smaller street sign on Henry Street to honor Anthony and the rest of the Scalzo family, generations of whom lived there over nearly a century, until last year, when the last Scalzo family member living on the street put his home on the market.

(Continued on Page 16)

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: GALINA KRASSKOVA

By Leonard Sparks

Galina Krasskova, who lives in Beacon, practices heathenry, a polytheistic religion that honors Norse gods such as Odin and Thor. She is also a spiritual counselor.

How would you describe your belief system?

I believe in many gods, although I'm dedicated to Odin and have been for 30 years. Heathenry teaches you to honor your gods, honor your ancestors, don't be obnoxious to other people's gods or ancestors, and honor the land, which is a living thing; it's filled with spirits. Also, that you should take care of your family and your community, and that your word is your bond.

Were you a heathen from the start?

I grew up a devout Catholic, so the idea of being deeply engaged with one's religion, of prayer and contemplation, that the holy powers are able to interact with us — none of that was foreign to me. I had good devotional models that taught me about discernment and the need to stay grounded and to pray. But I knew by age 12 that, while I believe all gods exist, Jesus was not my deity. So I refused to be confirmed.

What kinds of issues bring people for counseling?

It depends on the person. I don't just counsel heathens. I have different polytheists. I have a few Christian clients. At one point, I had a few Jewish clients; I had a few Muslim clients. The questions are the questions. How do I do this right? I'm hurting and feeling isolated from my god or gods. They want to know what they can do to feel connected. Or they might be having specific problems in which the question is, Does my god care for me?

What do you think of the Marvel portrayals of Odin and Thor?

I love you so much for asking that question. I have seen one movie and bits and pieces of others. They

are problematic, although the actors are marvelous. I have a problem with the way that popular culture creates a sense that we are better than our gods and that humans should put the gods in their place. I find it impious and obscene, a violation of the natural order. Those movies are entertainment. They should in no way be taken as theology.

What do you think of the use of pagan mythology by white supremacists?

It's horrible. Neo-Nazis took the Rune Othala and use it on their flag.

When I first saw that, it made me sick, because the runes are sacred to Odin. Othala is about home and family; it is your connection to your ancestors. It has nothing to do with race. I look for opportunities to have these conversations with people, where I can say, "Yes, these symbols have been misused. But so has the cross, and so has the crescent."



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WORKSHOP DATES:

Wednesday, February 12	6:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 12	9:00 a.m.
Wednesday, March 18	6:00 p.m.

at the Garrison School Library

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

If you won \$50 million, what causes would you support?

“Renewable energy, vegan food production, organic farming and integrating alternative therapies into health care.”



~ Dana Cannella, Beacon

“Animal rescues, Alzheimer's research and Bernie Sanders' campaign.”



~ Mark Goldstein, Beacon

“Cancer research, animal shelters, childrens' hospitals and shelters for the homeless.”



~ Judie Gordon, Cold Spring

ZBA Extends Review of Disputed House Plans

Questions over 'timeliness' and jurisdiction

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals this week again postponed action on a home transformation project after a memo from the town attorney sparked debate over the board's jurisdiction.

The disagreement stems from plans by architect Timothy Rasic to convert a small, circa-1960 ranch-style house at 529 Route 9D in Garrison into a taller — or, critics contend, larger — home.

The ZBA got involved in November after Jose Romeu and Sidney Babcock, who live next to the property, brought an "appeal," on complaint, about a building permit issued for the project. In January, the ZBA opened a public hearing that continued in February and on Monday (March 2), and will resume next month.

Romeu and Babcock claim that the demolition of the original structure required not only a building permit but a special-use permit from the ZBA because Rasic's planned house far exceeds the size allowed by town code.

The Rasics maintain that Romeu and Babcock waited too long to object.

In an opinion prepared at the request of the Philipstown Town Board, Stephen Gaba, the town's legal counsel, linked the timeliness issue to the ZBA's authority.

When an appeal is not filed by the deadline, "the ZBA lacks jurisdiction and cannot hear and decide the matter" and "the building inspector's decision stands," he wrote. Gaba did not attend the hearing, but ZBA Chair Robert Dee read the memo aloud.

Under local and state laws, Gaba wrote, aggrieved parties must file an appeal within 60 days of either the building inspector's issuance of a permit or the onset of visible construction. He noted that in legal documents Romeu and Babcock reported they realized by July 24 that

construction was underway. However, they did not file an appeal until Oct. 10.

Gaba acknowledged allegations that the Building Department had denied Romeu and Babcock ready access to materials on the Rasic project but said that even if the department had delayed their review, "it seems clear" they got the information in time to file an appeal before the deadline.

Since they missed it, their "appeal is untimely and the ZBA lacks jurisdiction," he advised board members. "I'm sure you can appreciate the need for the ZBA, like all other municipal boards, to comply with the law in regard to the limits of its jurisdiction."

Dee concluded that "our hands are tied" and that Gaba "is telling us that we lack jurisdiction" to proceed. "I've no intention of breaking the law."

Offering clarification, Adam Rodd, the lawyer for the ZBA (and Gaba's colleague), said the board still "needs to act on the appeal" and dismiss it as untimely or, alterna-

tively, accept it as properly filed and consider the underlying arguments of the case.

Romeu said he and Babcock could not comprehend the scope of the project until they saw the Building Department documents on Aug. 12, after four unsuccessful attempts. "How could I file something if I didn't get the information or paperwork?"

Joan Turner, a former ZBA member, said she was at the Building Department on other business and saw "uncooperative" staff rebuff Romeu. Turner termed the ZBA "a quasi-judicial body" whose members "do have the right" to act in the case. "This undermining of the appellate function of the ZBA by the town attorney is absolutely outrageous," she said.

Frank Smith III, the Rasics' attorney, urged the board to immediately rule in their favor. "The law is clear," he said. "You are being asked to disregard the law, and that's highly inappropriate."

But with two members missing from Monday's discussion and complex matters to weigh, the ZBA chose to continue deliberations in April. "I don't like it any more than anybody else," Dee said of the delay.



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Tell us what you think

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

Indian Point

Every step of the fossil-fuel process, from extraction, transportation to its end use, burning it, and releasing carbon is destroying our planet and putting our health and lives at risk.

A report released by the Office of the Inspector General of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Feb. 26 showed how agency staff misled the public and others about the safety of building a massive, 42-inch, high-pressure gas pipeline under the property of Indian Point to carry fracked gas to Canada for export. It's yet another gross example in a long list of fossil-fuel companies putting their profit before our lives — 20 million lives to be precise — and our government failing to protect us.

In the words of NRC Commissioner Jeff Baran, the inspector general "found multiple significant problems with how the NRC staff analyzed the safety of siting a new natural gas pipeline underground near the Indian Point nuclear power plant. That's totally unacceptable. The staff needs to explain how they are going to make this right."

While Gov. Andrew Cuomo, U.S. Sens. Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand and U.S. Rep. Nita Lowey each opposed construc-

tion of the Algonquin Incremental Market (AIM) Pipeline expansion in 2015, none took decisive action to stop it. Now, what elected officials, safety experts and grassroots environmental organizations have been saying for years has been proven true.

Enbridge Energy Partners, the company that operated the pipeline, cannot be allowed to put our safety in jeopardy for its profits. The pipeline must be shut down immediately until public safety can be ensured. Enough is enough.

Gov. Cuomo should direct the relevant agencies to exert their powers to protect the people of New York state by seeking an injunction to halt the flow of gas under Indian Point.

Krystal Ford, *Garrison*

In a statement, Sandy Galef, whose state Assembly district includes Philipstown, called for the pipeline to be shut down and the NRC to hold public hearings. "Such reckless behavior demands accountability," she said.

Dutchess DMV

State employees are not permitted to strike, but the Dutchess County DMV's unwillingness to process ID applications from non-

Dutchess residents is tantamount to a strike ("Letters and Comments," Feb. 7). The state should step in and demand that the Dutchess County DMV serve all state residents equally.

The state knew these new, enhanced driver's licenses and IDs were coming long ago and should have prepared accordingly. Perhaps they should authorize other facilities to handle the applications — libraries, post offices, municipal offices and police departments. This is causing a tremendous hardship for many folks, especially elderly residents who do not drive but need an ID.

In addition to not being able to use a driver's license or ID to board planes, a minor inconvenience for many, without a valid ID you cannot open a bank account. Want to move some money from a non-interest-bearing checking account into a CD at another bank? You can't unless you have a valid (non-expired) ID.

I know because we tried! I have called state Sen. Sue Serino and intend to call the other reps for this area as well. I am hoping other people will do the same and that *The Current* will continue to keep this situation in the public's eye.

Sue Gunther, *Beacon*

Bag ban

I've always been sort of familiar with having to bring your own bags to the grocery store ("It's Time: Bring Your Own Bags," Feb. 28). Back in the 1950s, my grandmother always brought her own. Hang on long enough and everything comes back.

Ginny Buechele, *via Facebook*

Saving The Underground

As the saying goes, "It takes a community" ("A Lifeline for The Underground," Feb. 28). Thank you, Albert Mas, for allowing the children a safe haven at your shop and a happy place to hang out. Thank you to those who came to the rescue!

Cathy Greenough, *via Facebook*

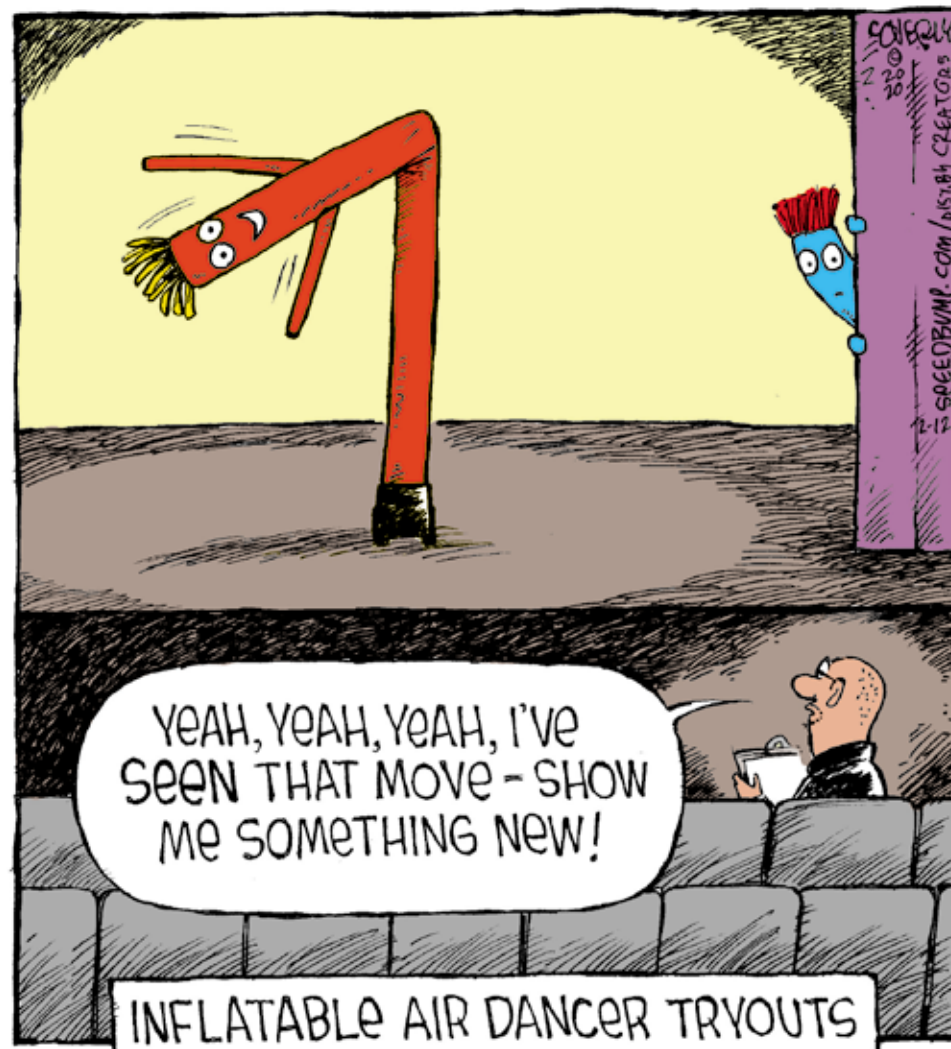
It wasn't just me who helped Albert! Maggie Dickinson and James Case-Leal also deserve credit — and lots of other parents who got the word out and came to shop and support The Underground Beacon. So glad Albert can keep it going!

Julie Shiroishi, *via Facebook*

Insulin costs

My daughter is also a Type 1 diabetic and we have witnessed firsthand the absurdity of this situation ("Insulin: A High-Priced Shot at Life," Feb. 28). She has five prescriptions and costs fluctuate based on providers and insurance plans. Enough!

Laura Klehr-Keyes, *via Facebook*





Josephine Foley-Hedlund, with Isabella Tavares and Gabriela Perilli, holds a report detailing their plans to build and install mini-libraries in Cold Spring. Photo by M. Turton

Mini-Libraries Coming to Cold Spring

Also: Board approves 11 parking waivers

By Michael Turton

Haldane School's Discover, Create and Innovate (DCI) program keeps finding ways to make village life better.

At the March 3 meeting of the Cold Spring Village Board, seventh graders Gabriela Perilli, Isabella Tavares and Josephine Foley-Hedlund outlined the program's latest project: the construction and installation of a number of "mini-libraries" in which residents can donate, take and return books.

The wooden libraries, which are 2.5-feet high, will be placed on the riverfront, at Tots Park and at the Locust Ridge crosswalk on Main Street. Gabriela, Isabella and Josephine will build the structures with guidance from their teacher and DCI adviser, Gabe Horn.

The project report presented to trustees included design, funding, construction and maintenance details. "We hope that these libraries will last a long time and become a good outlet for people to read and trade books," it stated.

Board members unanimously endorsed the project.

Past DCI projects have included creating a map of Main Street, video interviews with local business owners, the painting of the Metro-North pedestrian tunnel and construction of bicycle racks.

In other business ...

- The board accepted the resignation of Carolyn Bachan from the Historic District Review Board, on which she had served for 10 years. Lloyd DesBrisay, an architect with more than 30 years' experience, was appointed to succeed her.
- The mayor was authorized to send service-termination letters to the owners of nine properties in Nelsonville and Philipstown who have not paid their water bills.
- Trustee Fran Murphy presented a draft application form for organizations requesting permission to hold parades.
- The mayor was authorized to sign a contract with the Cold Spring Film Society for its summer movie series at Dockside Park.
- After a recommendation by the Planning Board, the trustees on Feb. 25 granted 11 parking waivers at \$250 each for 114 Main St., where Paulette's, a cafe and women's clothing shop, is scheduled to open in May. Because off-street parking spaces required by the village code are rarely available, businesses can pay a one-time fee for each required space.
- Trustees on Feb. 25 approved Superintendent of Water and Wastewater Matt Kroog's request to spend \$8,856 to upgrade the alarm system at the Kemble Avenue pumping station and relocate a manhole monitor to Lower Main Street.



Shannon Wong of the New York Civil Liberties Union (left, with microphone) and public defender Alex Rosen (right) spoke at a Feb. 27 forum on the state's bail reform law.

Photo by L. Sparks

Bail Reform (from Page 1)

Dutchess County Public Defender Office, during a Feb. 27 forum in Poughkeepsie.

Another panelist, Shannon Wong, director of the Hudson Valley chapter of the New York Civil Liberties Union, said there has been "a lot of misinformation and fear-mongering" about bail reform. She said the law fixed a situation in which "each year, tens of thousands of New Yorkers sat behind bars, pulled away from work and family simply because they couldn't afford to pay their way out on bail."

Proponents often cite the case of Kalief Browder, a Bronx man who was jailed at Rikers Island after being charged with

stealing a backpack. Unable to post the \$3,000 bail, he remained at Rikers for three years until the case was dropped in 2013. (Browder committed suicide in 2015.)

But critics say the law removes any discretion from judges, potentially allowing violent offenders back on the street. Under the law, judges cannot impose bail even if they believe a suspect could be a danger to the public.

Changes coming?

The criticism by prosecutors, police and state legislators such as Republican Sen. Sue Serino, whose district includes the Highlands, has prompted discussion about revising the law to restore discretion to judges.

(Continued on Page 17)

HELP WANTED

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Join us! Beautiful work setting on Hudson River

The Garrison Institute, a non-profit retreat center and events venue overlooking the Hudson River in Garrison, NY is seeking part-time dishwashers/cleaners to join our team. Responsibilities include dish washing, sweeping and mopping floors, cleaning common spaces and bathrooms, and waste/compost removal.

Candidates must have: 2+ years of cleaning work experience; a positive attitude with strong sense of customer service; be capable of physical labor; have a valid driver's license; speak English; and able to work under deadlines as well as evenings/ weekends. Competitive part-time wage, beautiful work setting, employee perks.. References with work experience are required. To apply, email a note with resume to: jobs@garrisoninstitute.org. Please, no phone calls.

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NOTICE

Haldane Transportation Requests Due by April 1st

Haldane Central School District is accepting applications for Private/ Parochial School Transportation for the 2020/2021 school year. Completed applications should be mailed to:

Haldane Central School District
15 Craigsides Drive
Cold Spring, NY 10516

ATTN: Transportation Dept. and received not later than **April 1st, 2020**

Contact Elisa Travis at the Haldane Transportation Department at **845-265-9254** ext. 171 if you have any questions.

Applications can be found on the haldaneschool.org website

NOTICE

PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD

Public Hearing – March 19

The Philipstown Planning Board for the Town of Philipstown, New York will hold a public hearing on Thursday, March 19th, 2020 starting at 7:30pm located at 107 Glenclyffe Dr, Garrison, New York to consider the following application:

Joseph Pell Lombardi, 19 Fieldstone Ridge, Cold Spring **TM#16.11-1-9,7&5**
(Sub-division approval to adjust the line dividing lands of leach from lands of Lombardi)

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

Dated at Philipstown, New York this 20th of February, 2020

School Response

Local school officials have reassured parents that they are prepared to respond to an outbreak of the COVID-19 virus.

At Haldane, Superintendent Philip Benante wrote on Feb. 27 that the district has been in contact with health officials for guidance, and noted that the custodial staff cleans and disinfects classrooms, offices and bathrooms daily. He asked that parents keep home any child with a fever or cough until they are fever-free for at least 24 hours without medication.

At Garrison, interim Superintendent Debra Jackson wrote on Feb. 27 that the staff has been cleaning surfaces as recommended by the state Department of Health and federal Centers for Disease Control.

In Beacon, Superintendent Matt Landahl wrote on March 2 that the district has been in contact with the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health and that the school staff has been cleaning all “high-touch” surfaces and disinfecting bathrooms on a daily basis. He also said the district had increased its “custodial coverage” of all buildings, and that school nurses and teachers were reminding students to wash their hands.

Questions?

- The Dutchess County Health Department can be reached at 845-486-3402 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays or 845-431-6465 otherwise, or see dutchessny.gov/coronavirus.
- The Putnam County Health Department has posted information at putnamcountyny.com/health/coronavirus.
- New York State has created a coronavirus hotline at 888-364-3065, or visit health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus. The CDC is posting updates at cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov.

Travel Plans?

Kim Wilson, the owner of Hollowbrook Travel in Fishkill, said she had her first cancellation on Tuesday (March 3) that could be attributed to the coronavirus, by a couple planning a summer trip to Italy. She said that airlines are not waiving cancellation penalties for June and July flights, which cost the couple \$900.

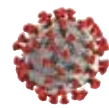
Putnam County is prepared.

~ Health Commissioner Dr. Michael Nesheiwat



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention activated its Emergency Operations Center in response to the coronavirus outbreak.

Photo by James Gathany/CDC



Coronavirus

(Continued from Page 1)

ous public health issue, please keep in mind that there is no reason to panic,” said state Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, whose district includes Philipstown, in a March 4 statement. “The vast majority of people who have contracted the virus have not become seriously ill and only a small percentage require intensive care.”

“New Yorkers should focus on facts not fear as we confront this evolving situation, and the facts do not merit the level of anxiety we are seeing,” said Gov. Andrew Cuomo in a statement on March 5. “The number of cases will increase because it’s math — the more you test, the more cases you find.”

COVID-19 is believed to have originated in Wuhan, China, in December and has spread around the globe and infected tens of thousands of people. Thousands of people have died, including 10 in the U.S. as of Thursday evening.

Symptoms of infection include fever, cough, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, and gastrointestinal problems or diarrhea. Milder cases may resemble the flu or a cold, but serious cases cause lung lesions and pneumonia, and the virus appears to be more deadly than the seasonal flu. It is estimated that symptoms occur 2 to 14 days after exposure.

Residents of Cold Spring and Beacon over the past two weeks stocked up on hand sanitizer, antibacterial wipes and groceries as they anticipated extended periods of isolation. Some also purchased medical-grade respirator masks, although the U.S. surgeon general has dismissed their effectiveness for the general public and warned of a shortage for medical professionals.

In Dutchess County, the Department of Behavioral and Community Health issued a public health alert on Jan. 24.

In Putnam County, health officials say they are ready for any outbreak. Three weeks ago, on Feb. 11, Dr. Michael Nesheiwat, the health commissioner, briefed legislators on his agency’s preparations. He said that, like other counties in the state, Putnam follows the guidance from the state Department of Health in Albany and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta.

At the time, he noted that travelers from mainland China entering the U.S. were allowed to continue on their travels if they showed no symptoms after screening at the airport by the Port Authority and CDC. Those authorities contacted local health departments to make them aware of travelers from China.

In Putnam, Nesheiwat said his agency in early February placed two individuals under 14-day “restricted movement isolation,” or “active monitoring,” during which health officials visited twice a day to check for fever. He said both patients were “very cooperative” and understood the need for the restrictions.

Nesheiwat said his agency was attempting, through social media, the county website and the news media, to educate residents about the virus. His staff also was meeting with hospitals and health care providers to discuss how to handle patients who presented symptoms of what might be COVID-19.

Dr. Valerie Cluzet, an infectious disease specialist with Nuvance Health, which owns Putnam Hospital Center and six other facilities, said in a statement that the company was “working closely as a multidisciplinary team to ensure we are prepared for this quickly evolving outbreak.”

Nesheiwat told legislators on Feb. 11 that he had briefed County Executive MaryEllen Odell, department heads, sheriff’s and corrections officers and first responders about the virus. He said the county also had “reached

(Continued on Page 7)

CDC: What May Happen

In a post on its website dated Feb. 29, the federal Centers for Disease Control offered this forecast:

“More cases of COVID-19 are likely to be identified in the coming days, including more cases in the U.S. It’s also likely that person-to-person spread will continue to occur, including in communities in the U.S. It’s likely that at some point, widespread transmission of COVID-19 in the U.S. will occur.

“Widespread transmission of COVID-19 would translate into large numbers of people needing medical care at the same time. Schools, child care centers, workplaces and other places for mass gatherings may experience more absenteeism. Public health and health care systems may become overloaded, with elevated rates of hospitalizations and deaths.

“Other critical infrastructure, such as law enforcement, emergency medical services and transportation industry may also be affected. Health care providers and hospitals may be overwhelmed. At this time, there is no vaccine to protect against COVID-19 and no medications approved to treat it. Non-pharmaceutical interventions would be the most important response strategy.”

An Ounce of Prevention

Health officials recommend these steps to stop the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

New York Numbers

Source: NYS Department of Health, as of March 5



(Continued from Page 6)

out to facilities in case, God forbid, we need to house” a large number of patients.

“Putnam County is prepared,” he said. “The staff at the Department of Health is doing an outstanding job, working seven days a week around the clock.”

Legislator Nancy Montgomery, whose district includes Philipstown, asked Nesheiwat if the county could also coordinate with NewYork-Presbyterian/Hudson Valley Hospital in Cortlandt because most residents on the western side of Putnam go to the Westchester County facility rather than Carmel. “These viruses don’t know borders,” she noted.

She also asked Nesheiwat if the county

had enough supplies, such as respirator masks. He assured her that the hospital in Carmel is “well-equipped” and that the Health Department “has plenty of N95 masks. I don’t believe there’s a shortage.” He said the county Bureau of Emergency Services has protocols in place to respond to an outbreak and that “most of the volunteer firefighters” in the county are equipped with medical-grade masks.

On Feb. 27,, Montgomery asked Nesheiwat if he could attend a March 5 Philipstown Town Board meeting to provide an update; Odell responded that Nesheiwat would not be available because he was attending a meeting of the New York State Association of County Health Officials.

Montgomery also had asked about the

availability of N95 masks; Odell wrote that the Health Department “is not required to have supplies on hand for all residents. I have researched myself and verified with Dr. Nesheiwat that these supplies are available on Amazon; also local drugstores should have them on hand.”

Last week, Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea said: “I found her advice to go on Amazon and get masks to be completely outrageous. This response does not instill confidence in our top elected officials to lead us through a large public health threat.”

Shea also said the town had not been informed of a meeting organized by the county in Carmel on Monday (March 2) for first responders and stakeholders to discuss the response to the virus.

Latest Developments

- Last week Gov. Andrew Cuomo requested an emergency appropriation of \$40 million from the state Legislature for the Department of Health to hire staff and purchase equipment to battle the pandemic.
The request was quickly approved, passing 53-4 in the Senate with support from Sue Serino, a Republican whose district includes the Highlands, and 122-12 in the Assembly with Democrats Sandy Galef, whose district includes Philipstown, and Jonathan Jacobson, whose district includes Beacon, voting in favor.
However, Serino and other legislators from both parties protested provisions in the initial proposal that would have greatly expanded the governor’s ability to declare states of emergency and suspend legislative oversight. That provision was peeled back to limit each state of emergency to 30 days and give lawmakers the ability to

- overturn them.
- “While I am incredibly disappointed by the process that unfolded last night, ensuring that the state has the funding and the tools necessary to effectively combat this pandemic needs to be a top priority,” Serino said in a statement on Tuesday. “I will remain vigilant to ensure that the intent behind the new law — protecting New Yorkers in the wake of a health emergency — is followed closely and the powers that come along with it are not abused.”
- Cuomo announced a directive that New York health insurers must waive co-pays for in-network testing related to COVID-19 at medical offices and urgent care centers, or at emergency rooms. Residents receiving Medicaid will also not be required to make co-payments.
 - The Wadsworth Center at the state Department of Health said it would expand its testing from 200 to 1,000 samples per day by instructing hospitals how to replicate its test and providing funds to purchase equipment. The federal Food and Drug Administration on Feb. 29 approved a test for the virus developed by Wadsworth that can be completed within five hours. The state had been sending samples to Atlanta for testing by the Centers for Disease Control.
 - The state instituted new cleaning protocols for schools, and the MTA announced it would disinfect its buses and train cars, including on Metro-North, every 72 hours. Turnstiles, handrails and ticket machines will be disinfected daily.
 - Cuomo said he planned to amend the sick paid leave law, which took effect in 2014, to allow people who are quarantined because of the virus to continue to be paid by employers.
 - Study-abroad programs run by SUNY and CUNY in China, Italy, Japan, Iran and South Korea have been suspended, and the universities are bringing home students, faculty and staff in those countries to begin 14-day quarantines. On Feb. 29, Marist College suspended its program in Florence.

Voice from China *(from Page 1)*

biggest holiday in China. Everything was canceled because of the virus. No family events or social activities — nothing.

How has travel been affected?

Businesspeople still go to other parts of China for projects, but not to Wuhan, the epicenter. We use the bullet train more than airlines and it has continued to operate. My son, daughter and grandchildren usually come from Canada and the U.S., but their visits were canceled.

How are hospitals coping?

The hospitals here are not busy. The government ordered all small community clinics closed. Only fully equipped hospitals were allowed to stay open to care for people with symptoms.

How have students fared?

All the schools are closed but are expected to reopen in March. Teachers have formed study groups, taught and assigned homework online.

What is the situation for businesses?

People have continued to work from home via the internet and some are starting to go back to work. They are checked for symptoms at the factory gate or office entrance. Everyone has to wear masks. At lunch people don’t eat together in the canteen — they eat alone in their office. Malls have started to reopen but there aren’t many people yet.

Could the outbreak have been handled better?

My understanding is the central government responded fast. Local governments like Wuhan, where leaders have experience in industry but not this type of situation, had real problems responding immediately. In their hearts they were concerned that it was Spring Festival. They had to stop all festival activities and tell people to go home and do nothing. That’s a hard decision. The central government ordered Wuhan locked down on China’s New Year’s Eve — no people out, no people in. Hospitals didn’t have the capacity to take care of all the patients. Doctors and nurses were sent to Wuhan from all over China to relieve exhausted medical workers there.

What do you think caused the virus?

The government is trying to trace the cause. There are rumors it started with people eating bats. There are parts of southern China where bats are eaten but not in Wuhan. However, wild animals were traded at the seafood market there. Most people think that was the cause. Last week the government passed a law prohibiting the trading of wild animals. If you get caught, you go to jail. Everybody supports that new law.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

AROUND TOWN



◀ **BEACON'S FUTURE** — Mayor Lee Kyriacou led a two-hour discussion on Feb. 29 about development in the city. He was joined by City Planner John Clarke. Residents voiced concerns about rising rents, disappearing galleries and artists, the lack of sidewalks on side streets and a shortage of parking.

Photo by Ross Corsair



▲ **BUTTERFIELD FOLLIES** — Mike Heintzman and John Pielmeier presented an evening of short, humorous plays to a packed house on Feb. 29 at the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring. The free event came with a money-back guarantee for anyone who was not amused.

Photo by Ross Corsair



◀ **FORMER DEALERSHIP SOLD** — The quarter-acre property at 37 Fair St. in Cold Spring, formerly Impellittiere Motors, was sold on March 2. It was listed for \$795,000. The new owner, artist Nina Chanel Abney of New York City, plans to create a live-work space and gallery on the site. The Ford dealership opened in the 1950s and operated for about 40 years.

Photo by Michael Turton

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8:30 pm Aztec Two-Step 2.0
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SATURDAY, MARCH 7

6:00 pm Jerry Lee - No music cover

8:30 pm Slam Allen Band
+ Dan Brother Band

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

11:30 am Dan Stevens - No music cover

7:00 pm Skeleton Keys

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

7:00 pm Boom Kat - No music cover

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

7:00 pm Toland Brothers - No music cover

8:30 pm Latin Jazz Express Dance Party

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

8:30 pm Tom Chapin & Friends

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

11:30 am Marji Zintz - No music cover

7:00 pm Flash Company: Music of Ireland

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

7:00 pm That1Guy

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

8:30 pm Willie Nile Band

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

8:30 pm Stephane Wrembel

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The Calendar



Quinn Petkus



Jaclyn Landolfi



Maya Gelber, Celia Drury and Mary Junjulas

Photos by Jim Mechalakos



Sophie Sabin



Curtis Huber

By Alison Rooney

Every time *Fiddler on the Roof* is performed, the comment is inevitably made that it couldn't be more topical or relevant. Or melodic, or funny, or wrenching. It's a shared global experience.

Despite being set in a (fictional) traditional Jewish Russian village, the story's tug-at-the-heart universality is acknowledged to be the primary reason for its consistent popularity since its 1964 debut on Broadway. A contingent of Haldane drama students will call Anatevka their home when the musical is performed on March 13, 14 and 15 at the high school in Cold Spring.

The Fiddler at Haldane

Drama students connect with Broadway classic

Fiddler's success was unexpected. In fact, the production had difficulties attracting producers. According to Alisa Solomon, in her cultural history of the play, *Wonder of Wonders*, the concern was that "a story about a Jewish family set in Czarist Russia in 1905" would not be a wide draw.

Those fears proved groundless; the show was an instant hit, running eight years on Broadway. Hundreds of productions have taken place around the world since.

The creators of the production based the musical on short stories by Yiddish writer Sholom Aleichem, which they found full of "humor and humanity," according to Solomon. Still, it faced early criticism from Jews who felt *Fiddler* betrayed the Aleichem stories "by presenting audiences with a phony image of shtetl life," she wrote.

Few others seemed to mind, moved by the family drama sprinkled with comedy and its depiction of displacement and the forces

always threatening — as its most well-known song states — tradition. Though *Fiddler* may not be historically correct, it has, as is frequently described, become Jewish mythology.

Timing played a role in its success, as well, Solomon noted. "The civil rights movement lent urgency to the theme of tolerance even as it ignited a widespread passion for reclaiming ethnic roots."

And there is the music. Many of its songs have entered the collective consciousness, including "Sunrise, Sunset," "Matchmaker" and "If I Were a Rich Man." The famous Bottle Dance, performed with precariously balanced glass bottles, is forever a crowd-pleaser.

(Continued on Page 12)

Building with Pieces

Beacon artist deconstructs, and reconstructs

By Alison Rooney

Matthew William Robinson deconstructs buildings.

He does this on canvas, using string, cut-up magazines, paint and ink, energizing the architecture with new rhythms and spatial dimensions.

The structures in Robinson's paintings are abstract but take their cues from awnings, tarps or Tyvec or other, more innate, features. Some are imagined, others inspired by actual sites. They're designed so that the elements join with colored pencil lines to create the illusion of depth.

Robinson's work will be on display in a solo exhibit, *Everything, 2020*, that opens at the BAU Gallery on Second Saturday, March 14, with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. It continues through April 5.

Robinson says he has been influenced over the years by architecture that intruded. When he grew up in Connecticut, "there was a lot of nature and space," he recalls. "My dad and I used to hike on the tractor paths through the woods and make wreaths out of spruce." But the fields were eventually overtaken by "McMansions that looked so large and foreign," he says. "They were just plopped into a field, almost like towers."

Attending Montgomery Community College near Gloversville, in upstate Fulton County, he saw another type of architecture: distressed. "There was a lot of beauty in the leather-making buildings," he says. "There was a plant built, then it just stopped. A dam too. It was an eye-opener."

He continued his studies at Central Connecticut State University, in New Brit-

(Continued on Page 12)



Matthew William Robinson, holding one of his works

Photo provided

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 7 Maple Sugar Tours

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

Learn how sap is collected and turned into syrup. There are two 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; the Maple Lane tours at noon and 3 p.m. include a short walk from the Visitors' Center. Also SUN 8, SAT 14, SUN 15. *Cost: \$10 (\$8 children and teens; members \$8/\$6)*

SAT 7 Animal Rescue Foundation Penny Social

BEACON
1 – 4 p.m. VFW Hall | 413 Main St.
845-831-5161 | arfbeatcon.org

ARF Beacon will host this annual benefit that combines an auction with bingo and a flea market. The calling starts at 3 p.m. Get 25 tickets for \$1 and browse tables with gift baskets, toys, appliances and gift certificates.

TUES 10 Local Philanthropy

GARRISON
9 a.m. Garrison Cafe | 1135 Route 9D
coldspringnychamber.com

Learn about smart ways to support local nonprofits and cultural organizations and organize your business' philanthropy at this Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce event. Coffee and pastries provided. *Cost: \$20 (\$15 members; \$15/\$10 before MON 9)*

TUES 10 CineHub Mixer 2020

BEACON
7 – 10 p.m. 2 Way Brewing Co.
18 W. Main St. | thecinehub.com

This ninth annual networking event is designed for people



Maple Sugar Tours, March 7-8

working in the television, film and video production industry.

SAT 14 Soup and Bake Sale

COLD SPRING
9 a.m. – Noon. Methodist Church
216 Main St. | 845-656-5810

The annual fundraiser will include six varieties of soup at \$4 per pint or \$8 per quart, plus assorted baked goods. Order ahead by phone or email csumw@aol.com.

SAT 14 Art & Feminism Wikipedia Edit-a-thon

BEACON
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

As part of an annual international

campaign, participants will receive an editing tutorial and reference materials to contribute to the largest online resource on the subjects of art, feminism and Beacon.

SAT 14 Maple Fest

WAPPINGERS FALLS
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Randolph School
2467 Route 9D | 845-297-5600
bit.ly/randolph-maple

In its 11th annual event, the private school will have a pancake breakfast beginning at 11 a.m. plus maple-sugaring demonstrations, music, storytelling, face painting, crafts and hikes on the forested property. *Cost: \$10 adults (\$5 children)*

SAT 14 Parade of Green

BEACON
Noon – 3 p.m. Main Street
facebook.com/paradeofgreen
This annual parade will travel down Main Street from Polhill Park to the Dummy Light at East Main Street.

SAT 14 Outlaw Derby!

COLD SPRING
8 p.m. St. Mary's Parish Hall
1 Chestnut St. | bit.ly/outlaw-derby

Support local Scouts in this second annual, adults-only pine-car derby, which unlike the youth version, has no restrictions or rules. Drinks, trophies and "intense competition" provided. *Cost: \$20*

SUN 15 Parisian Gala

BEACON
4 p.m. Dutchess Manor | 263 Route 9D
845-203-1316 | bannermancastle.org

Proceeds from this fundraiser will support Bannerman Castle Trust programs and its ongoing preservation of the island. Enjoy French food, a preview of the upcoming *Hunchback of Notre Dame* performance and a silent art auction and raffle. *Cost: \$75 to \$110*

ANIMALS & NATURE

SAT 7 Seed-Sowing Workshop

COLD SPRING
9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Stonecrop
81 Stonecrop Lane | 845-265-2000
stonecrop.org

In Part 1, learn about seed propagation and techniques for sowing annuals. In Part 2, on April 11, learn how to thin and transplant seedlings at home. *Cost: \$80 (\$60 members)*

SAT 7 Black Bears in the Hudson Valley

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

In this talk organized by the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society, Emily Carrollo, a wildlife biologist for the state Department of Environmental Conservation, will discuss her work, the lives of local bears and how to manage human-bear interactions.



SAT 7 Owl Prowl

WAPPINGERS FALLS
7 p.m. Stony Kill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane | 845-831-3800
bit.ly/owl-prowl-3-7

After a talk about owls and their habitat, head out with flashlights to spot owls in the forest and field. Registration required. *Free*

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 7 Balloonapalooza

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

Students in grades 5 and up will learn to create balloon animals and other figures. Pizza will be served. Registration required. *Free*

SAT 7 Laurie Berkner

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

Berkner, who has released 13 albums, including her most recent, *Waiting for the Elevator*, will perform her greatest hits. *Cost: \$25 to \$100*

FRI 13 St. Patrick's Day Party

COLD SPRING
5 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org
Slime will be involved.

SUN 15 WindSync

BEACON
Noon. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-765-3012
howlandmusic.org

In this installment of the Classics for Kids series presented by the Howland Chamber Music Circle, a quintet will demonstrate how wind instruments make sound, dance to different rhythms, travel to outer space and make music with the audience for the finale. *Cost: \$10 (children free)*

TALKS & TOURS

TUES 10 Spotting Fake News

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

This nonpartisan workshop will be presented as part of the library's Digital Literacy Series. *Free*

WED 11 Clean Power Breakthroughs

BEACON
6 p.m. Water Ecology Center
199 Dennings Ave. | bit.ly/clean-power-hv

As part of its Conversations series, *Chronogram* will team with Sustainable Hudson Valley and *Upstate House* to assemble a panel of specialists to discuss how New York State could switch to 100 percent renewable energy sources within the next decade. *Cost: \$10*

THURS 12 Ecology and Activism Book Club

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

For the first meeting of this newly formed book club, participants are invited to bring a vegetarian



Parade of Green, March 14

or vegan dish to share during a discussion of *Active Hope: How to Face the Mess We're In Without Going Crazy*.

VISUAL ART

SAT 7
Women's History Month Art Show
BEACON
2:30 – 4:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org
This is the opening reception for an exhibit showcasing works by 50 Hudson Valley women. Poet Mandy Kelso and storyteller Donna Minkowitz will perform. Through March 29.

SAT 7
Maria Lago
MARLBORO
4:30 – 6:30 p.m. The Falcon
1348 Route 9W | 914-844-8739
marialago.com
The Beacon artist and gallery owner will exhibit her paintings. Through April 29.

SAT 7
School Invitational Exhibition
GARRISON
5 – 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3960
garrisonartcenter.org
The annual School Invitational Theme Exhibition, or SITE, will include work by student artists from five counties, including Dutchess and Putnam.

SAT 7
Carl Craig and Moritz von Oswald
BEACON
7 p.m. Dia:Beacon | 3 Beekman St.
845-440-0100 | diaart.org
As part of the opening for Craig's commissioned exhibition, *Party/After-Party*, the artist created a site-specific performance with the Berlin-based Oswald to bring together the Detroit and Berlin techno traditions. *Cost: \$60 (\$40 students, \$30 members)*

THURS 12
Artist Talk: Jeanne Silverthorne
PEEKSKILL
6 p.m. Hudson Valley MOCA
1701 E. Main St. | 914-788-0100
hudsonvalleymoca.org
Silverthorne will discuss her work in the *How We Live* exhibit. *Cost: \$20 (\$10 members)*



THURS 12
Steve Rossi
BEACON
7 p.m. Beahive | 291 Main St.
845-418-3731 | beahivebzzz.com
Rossi, an artist whose sculptures have appeared in *Beacon 3D*, the annual outdoor exhibit, will talk about his work.
SAT 14
Song Art Exhibit
PUTNAM VALLEY
3 – 5 p.m.
Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org
Artists were asked to interpret the word *song* as part of a celebration of Irish music and stories. Through April 5.

MUSIC
SAT 7
The New Blue
COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St. | 845-265-5537
chapelrestoration.org
Yale's oldest all-female a cappella group, featuring Haldane graduate Allie LaRocco, will perform. *Cost: \$10*

SAT 7
Matthew Shipp
BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
shipp.bpt.me
The composer will perform music from his forthcoming album, *The Piano Equation*. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SAT 7
Slam Allen Band
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The inductee into New York's Blues Hall of Fame mixes soul

and R&B. Dan Brother will also perform. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*
SAT 14
Brian Conway and Brendan Dolan
PUTNAM VALLEY
7:30 p.m.
Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org
This celebration of Irish music features Conway on fiddle and Dolan on keyboard. *Cost: \$20 donation (children 12 and younger free)*

SAT 14
Greater Newburgh Symphony
NEWBURGH
7:30 p.m. Mount Saint Mary College
Aquinas Hall | 845-913-7157
newburghsymphony.org
In a performance titled *Transfiguration*, the orchestra will perform works by Strauss, Wagner, Tchaikovsky and Missy Mazzoli. *Cost: \$25 to \$50 (students free)*

SAT 14
Fay Victor's Barn Songs Trio
NEWBURGH
8 p.m. Atlas Studios | 11 Spring St.
845-391-8855 | atlasnewburgh.com
As part of the Jazz at Atlas series, the improvisational vocalist will perform with Marika Hughes on cello and Darius Jones on alto sax.

SAT 14
Tom Chapin and Friends
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The three-time Grammy winner is celebrating his 75th birthday with bandmate Michael Mark, who is turning 70. They will play a mix of ballads and comedic and political songs. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SUN 15
WindSync
BEACON
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-765-3012
howlandmusic.org
The woodwind quintet's program will include Beethoven contemporary Antoine Reicha and funky contemporary Chicago composer Marc Mellits. Presented by the Howland Chamber Music Circle. *Cost: \$30 (\$10 students)*

SUN 15
Flash Company: Music of Ireland
BEACON
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The band will perform a mix of classic and contemporary Celtic music. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SUN 15
Enter the Haggis
PEEKSKILL
7:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The Canadian band mixes bagpipes and fiddles with a rock rhythm to create an eclectic Irish sound. *Cost: \$25 to \$37.50*

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 7
Climate Action Film Festival
BEACON
7 p.m. Story Screen Beacon
445 Main St. | storyscreenbeacon.com
Hosted by SunCommon as a benefit for New Yorkers for Clean Power and the Student Climate Coalition, this festival features short films about climate crisis solutions being implemented around the world. Also SUN 8. *Cost: \$10*

FRI 13
Fiddler on the Roof
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Haldane Auditorium
15 Craigsdrive Drive
haldaneschool.org/arts/performing-arts
Haldane drama students will perform the classic musical. See Page 9. Also SAT 14, SUN 15. *Cost: \$15 (\$8 students; seniors free; children under 8 free at Sunday matinee)*

SECOND SATURDAY

SAT 14
We Persist!
BEACON
5 – 7 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
This reception will open an exhibit of works from more than 20 women artists who, in honor of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, were asked to respond to the theme, "She persisted." Through April 5.

SAT 14
Matthew William Robinson
BEACON
6 – 9 p.m. BAU Gallery | 506 Main St.
845-440-7584 | baugallery.org
Robinson creates abstracts environments using collage and mixed materials. See Page 9.

CIVIC

SAT 7
Voter Registration
NELSONVILLE
Noon – 5 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St.
845-265-2500 | nelsonvilleny.gov
The village election will take place March 18.

MON 9
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

MON 9
School Board
BEACON
7 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road | 845-838-6900
beaconk12.org

TUES 10
Board of Trustees
COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

WED 11
Village Board
NELSONVILLE
7 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St.
845-265-2500 | nelsonvilleny.gov

THURS 12
Putnam State of the County
BREWSTER
6 p.m. Tilly Foster Farm | 100 Route 312
845-808-1001 | putnamcountyny.com

Fiddler on the Roof (from Page 9)

The central character is Tevye, a milkman who first appeared in an Aleichem story in 1895. Tevye was at the center of a play performed at the Yiddish Art Theatre in Manhattan's Lower East Side in 1919, and took the stage again in an off-Broadway production in the 1950s, before being claimed forever by the creators of *Fiddler*.

Quinn Petkus is putting on the full Tevye beard for the Haldane production. Like other cast members, he said he was able to connect the family story in *Fiddler* to his own heritage.

"I come from a few different parts of the world, but I'm predominantly Italian American," he says. "My great-grandparents lived pretty similarly to the people of Anatevka — Tevye in particular. They had little money and possessions, so they relied a lot on family togetherness and traditions. One thing my great-grandfather did have was musical ability. In fact, the violin used in the show was his!"

Other cast members who have a Jewish heritage connect even more intimately to the story. "In the early 1900s my great-



Conrad White and Sasha Levy; for more cast photos, see highlandscurrent.org.

Photo by Jim Mechalakos

grandmother lived through the pogroms," says Sophie Sabin. "Russian soldiers beat up her brothers and stole their food. Before she emigrated to America, her family was starving. She survived but, because of

hunger, she was always very small."

Curtis Huber's family story resonates, too. "My great-grandfather, Sam Gurland, lived in a small town in Lithuania very much like Anatevka. There were frequent

pogroms and his family was eventually driven out. One of his grandfathers was a butcher. The other was a rabbi, as was Sam's father. Some of the family emigrated to South Africa via England. In 1918 Sam came to New York when he was 16 years old. He came by himself and lived in the Bronx with an uncle who taught him to be an electrician. He loved *Fiddler on the Roof* and saw it at least twice."

Familial ties aren't a prerequisite for connecting with *Fiddler*. A hit in Japan, it has been produced there countless times since its 1967 debut. As Solomon wrote: "The librettist, the late Joe Stein, loved to tell about a producer there who asked how Americans could understand a story that was 'so Japanese.'"

Fiddler on the Roof, which is directed by Martha Mechalakos, with choreography by Katie Bissinger, will be performed on March 13 and 14 at 7 p.m. and March 15 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8 for students at haldanedrama.ticketspice.com/fiddler-on-the-roof, or at the door. Seniors are admitted free. Children under 8 will be admitted free with a paying adult at the Sunday matinee.

Robinson (from Page 9)

ain, which he describes as a "Stanley tools town, a city built around an industry." There he observed "the idea of the neglected — these booming places, once so elevated, with large Victorian houses, people riding carriages to massive church buildings, beautiful street lighting, an amazing infrastructure. Then a big flood, and later much of it was ripped down to build towers."

All of these meditations proved compelling. After graduation, he moved to Brooklyn and savored the architecture of his neighborhood around the Pratt Institute, where he earned an MFA in painting and art education. "There was lots of urban renewal, towers built during the Robert Moses era, many closed-up areas," he says. "These things fed into the artwork."

In the city, Robinson found himself "influenced by the urban time capsule and the alteration to the city structure that was happening, like the Barclay Center, built over

the train tracks, and epic, beautiful structures being used for a cool flea market. Nowadays it might be a boutique hotel or condos."

His work from that time reflects his fascination. "I'd take collage elements of structures and piles of stuff I saw that I was drawn to and create a painting around these fragments," he says. "They were like disorienting collages which lost a lot of their original intent, but they were recognizable as abstracted buildings."

After graduation, Robinson taught at public schools. He and his wife, Romina, whom he met at Pratt (the couple is expecting their second child), relocated to Beacon after discovering it through visits to Dia. After spending a few years working on their new home, Robinson found the time and space to begin painting again about 18 months ago.

He began by drawing, then in the spring turned to painting. "I made a series based on digital collages of Beacon architecture," he says. "It referenced my earlier work, but I dealt with more interiors and experimented

with the limitations of my painting skills."

Robinson began to construct his abstracted buildings from photographs that he manipulated digitally, then painting from those images. "Because the work had already been made, I found it not as organic, and instead very rigid," he says. "I discovered that I don't really love just doing photography. It's more fun responding to things in a live, spur-of-the-moment way — getting into strange problems that you have to solve aesthetically."

Robinson's work was first displayed in Beacon last year in a group show at Big Mouth Coffee Roasters.

"I'm grateful to be able to show work," he says. "It lets you know that you're communicating effectively, or at all, and you're not just speaking to yourself in your studio. It drives it further, having people see your vision."

The BAU Gallery, at 506 Main St. in Beacon, is open from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.



"Torch," a painting and collage by Matthew William Robinson

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Lights, Camera, Taxes

Why more films are being shot in the Hudson Valley

By Brian PJ Cronin

In show business, it's all about who you know.

That's how the six-part HBO miniseries *I Know This Much Is True*, based on the bestselling novel by Wally Lamb, came to be filmed in the Hudson Valley. A producer on Jim Jarmusch's zombie movie *The Dead Don't Die* mentioned to someone working on the series what a positive experience they'd had filming here.

That comment led to the series, in which Mark Ruffalo plays twin brothers, being shot entirely in the Hudson Valley for more than a year, through November. Even with the series set to premiere next month, the crew was still out locally this week getting a few last shots.

A member of the production team on *I Know This Much Is True* mentioned to a production member of another upcoming HBO series, *The Undoing*, starring Nicole Kidman, how easy it was to close down a road here for filming. As a result, *The Undoing* was filmed in Dutchess County, as well.

"I've never met anyone who didn't love filming here," said Laurent Retjo, the founder and director of the Hudson Valley



Chairs for John Krasinski and his co-star (and wife) Emily Blunt at Beacon Natural Market during the filming in 2018 there of scenes from *A Quiet Place*.

Photos provided

Film Commission, at a seminar about the local film industry presented at CineHub in Beacon on Wednesday (March 5) to a standing-room-only crowd. "And the film business is very small. Everybody knows each other."

Over the past few years, film and TV production has exploded in the Hudson Valley, Retjo said, increasing by 55 percent in 2019 over the previous year. That translates to \$46 million in spending and 42,000 booked hotel rooms.

And that's only the direct impact of the film industry, he said. There's also the indirect impact, that's harder to quantify, of tourists who want to see where their favorite films were made.

"We're already getting those calls," said Melanie Rottkamp, the vice president of Dutchess Tourism. "*A Quiet Place* has been huge for us," she said, referring to the 2018 thriller that had scenes filmed in Beacon. A sequel, also filmed locally, is due out this month.

The Hudson Valley has numerous qualities that make it attractive to movie-makers, such as its stunning landscapes, stately mansions and picturesque mountain towns, Retjo said. Its proximity to New York City also means that an unusually high number of qualified, union professionals live here, including actors.

But the boom in local filming has to do with something a lot less glamorous, he said: The bottom line, which until recently

didn't work in our favor.

For decades, film unions required additional fees for anything shot outside a 25-mile radius of Manhattan's Columbus Circle. The state tried to offset the costs by offering a tax break to filmmakers who worked upstate, but defined "upstate" as "north or west of Albany."

New York has since extended the tax breaks to include the Hudson Valley. And for the production of *I Know This Much Is True*, producers were able to convince the unions to not charge additional fees within a 25-mile radius of the IBM campus in Poughkeepsie, where the film's production



Actor and director John Krasinski (center) prepares to shoot a scene at the Beacon Natural Market for *A Quiet Place*.

office was based. HBO then hired many Hudson Valley union members.

Nevertheless, "we still lose films every day," said Retjo. Canada's favorable exchange rate makes it an attractive option; the TBS comedy *People of Earth*, despite being set in Beacon, was filmed near Toronto. And state tax credits only reimburse productions for a percentage of crew costs, not for actors and directors. That's why the state lost the film *Joy* to Massachusetts, which was willing to cover 30 percent of Jennifer Lawrence's \$15 million salary.

How to Become a Star

- Submit your property as a possible film location

dutchesstourism.com/film-in-dutchess

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Eat Your Yard 2

More ideas for edible landscaping

By Pamela Doan

Last month, I laid out a plan for a mixed garden of perennial and annual flowers, herbs and vegetables that would be food and habitat for humans, insects and wildlife alike. Research shows that personal landscape practices can benefit nature when we choose plants with an ecological perspective.

This month, I'm using the Fedco Seeds catalogue as the basis for adding woody plants — shrubs, bushes and trees — for the same purpose. For this planting, I envision a mixed, tightly spaced planting, known as a hedgerow.

Hedgerows differ from hedges in biodiversity. Hedges are typically monocultures of single species like boxwood or evergreen that popped up in American gardening as borders and for privacy. Hedgerows can do the same thing but look more interesting and offer bounty.

Each of the following recommendations can be found at fedcoseeds.com. Based in Maine, the worker co-op has grown organic stock for nearly 40 years and its catalog and resources are conscientious, thorough and good reading for cold days.



Low-growing

- Bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*)
With evergreen leaves in winter and edible bright-red berries (cooked for humans and raw for wildlife) reaching 6 to 10 inches in height, it's useful as a border around the hedgerow.

- Low bush blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*)

Known as the "true blueberry" from Maine, it's easy to grow, ranges in size from 6 to 24 inches and can be mixed into the border for easy access. If you want to harvest the blueberries, it will have to be protected from birds and other animals.

Mid-range height

- Nanking cherry (*Prunus tomentosa*)

This fruiting shrub delivers beautiful flowers early in spring, followed by lush foliage and berries, topping out at 6 to 10 feet. You'll need at least two to produce fruit.

Studies have found that cherries can support nearly 500 species of moths and butterflies, so they're high value in a landscape. When you have moths and butterflies, you get birds that need caterpillars to feed their young. This cycle of life may not be readily visible but it's happening when you provide certain plant species.

- Black chokeberry (*Aronia melanocarpa*)

The chokeberry is another high-impact host plant for hundreds of moths and butterflies. Either the red or black berries will do. It grows up to 6 feet.



The copper-red foliage of blueberry in fall adds color balance to a hedgerow.

Photo by P. Doan

- Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*)

Its varieties grow from 6 to 12 feet, reaching full height in a season. They can produce berries as soon as the second year. The berries have a lot of uses for cooking, syrups and as herbal remedies.

- Shadbush (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)

This native bush has multiple stems, and early white flowers in spring, and tops out at 10 feet. It bears purple berries that birds love. There are many cultivars within *Amel-*

anchier, and they can be chosen for the traits you appreciate. This is an important forest understory tree in the Hudson Valley. Plant two for the best results in fruiting, although they can self-pollinate.

- Lingonberry (*Vaccinium vitis-idaea*)

Its many varieties grow from 4 to 15 feet tall. These tasty berries are well-suited to our growing zones and some produce twice in a season.

Tall trees

- Hazelbert or hazelnut (*Corylus*)

The American hazelnut tree can grow up to 18 feet. The shorter cross of hazelnut with European filbert, hazelbert, is bushy and grows up to 12 feet. Both will bear nuts after three years and be a food source for bluejays and other wildlife. They can be self-pollinating, but plant two for best results.

- Dogwood (*Cornus kousa*)

At 20 to 30 feet, this dogwood has everything: blossoms for a month and a half, edible fruit and lovely fall color.

- Mulberry (*Morus alba*)

Choose a spot carefully for this tree and avoid areas where the fallen fruit can stain or be messy for walkways or buildings. It's a big attraction for birds and will grow quickly, up to 30 feet.

- Shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*)

This beautiful, nut-bearing tree takes 40 years to produce so it's an investment. It can reach 80 feet tall.



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Cold Spring's Sustainability Warrior

Catherine Leist brings nature to the classroom

By Michael Turton

Catherine Leist, who lives in Cold Spring, is head naturalist and assistant coordinator of environmental education for the Putnam Northern Westchester Board of Cooperative Education, or BOCES. On Tuesday (March 3), she visited the Haldane Middle School in Cold Spring with an owl and a hedgehog.

What one environmental concept do you want students to understand?

Interconnectedness, or the idea that, down to the breath we emit, we're connected to every single carbon-based life form on this planet. Our everyday actions have a profound effect on the rest of the world.

What are teachers asking for these days?

Our programs are aligned with New York State science-learning standards, which is a high-demand subject area. It's science through the lens of the environment. The environment is science and science is the environment — whether it's ecology, water chemistry, sustainability or physics.

Who are the best learners?

I love my kindergartners and first graders; they inherently know what's good. They know to make the right decision. We use guided facilitation, ask certain questions, and then let them shine, to figure out their own path. All it takes is the right question.

What do you tell students about hunting?

I'm not against hunting or fishing. If you hunt, fish and harvest responsibly, allowing natural reproduction to occur, I don't see an issue. Don't overhunt. Don't overfish. We sustained life for thousands of years as responsible hunters.

How is climate change addressed?

Requests from teachers for specific climate-change programs have declined because it is so ingrained in everything we teach. If we're studying hibernation, for instance, I relate the decrease in hedgehog populations to changes in climate.

Are field studies more effective than classroom learning?

You can do both at the same time. I went to BOCES to study environmental science. My mentors had us immersed in conservation work while also doing some intense academics. Paul Smith's College, my alma mater, is a perfect example of how classroom



Catherine Leist (left) gives Dylan Ambrose, a Haldane sixth-grader, a closer look at a hedgehog.

Photo by M. Turton

work can be integrated with the outdoors. You might be studying writing and rhetoric, but it was in an outdoor classroom.

What do you see as the biggest threat to our environment?

Assumptions. People assume there is such a place as "away." But away is always someone else's backyard, or an animal's drinking water, or soil to grow food. People assume someone else is taking care of environmental problems. Humans are innovative but sometimes we assume short-term solutions will fix the world. We want instant gratification. We assume new technology will change history forever. We're not horrible

beings; trial-and-error is natural to the human condition. We just have to figure out the best way to solve problems long-term.

Do you talk about recycling?

It's a complicated issue, but reusing, repurposing, passing things along hand-me-down style — using what we have and taking better care of it — is probably the best choice. My mom is a hairdresser, and one of the best ways to deter deer in a garden is to spread hair clippings. It's convenience that drives decisions that are not so great in the long-term. Attitudes become behaviors; behaviors influence habits.



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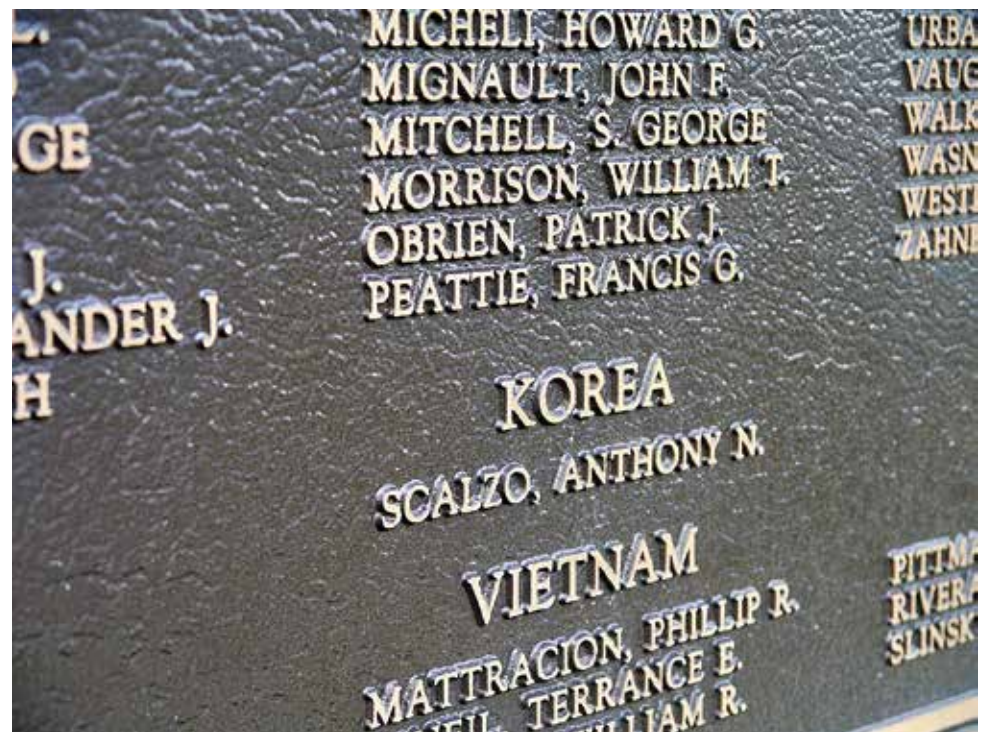
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Anthony Scalzo is remembered on the Beacon War Memorial on Main Street.

Photo by J. Simms

Scalzo Way (from Page 1)

After learning that her cousin planned to sell the home, Nicole Scalzo, a fourth-grade teacher in the Wappingers Central School District, contacted the Beacon City Council to ask about renaming the street for her family.

"I didn't have the money to buy the house," said Scalzo, the great-granddaughter of Salvatore and Eleanore Scalzo, Anthony's parents, who moved to Henry Street in the 1920s. "But I had to do something. I wanted people to know there was history on this road."

In February the council told her the street name couldn't be changed; it has established businesses, and renaming it after so many years could hinder emergency services. But the council did approve an honorary name: Scalzo Way.

When Salvatore Scalzo immigrated to New York from Italy as a 14-year-old around 1904, a number of his siblings had already made the voyage.

"His mother raised silkworms, and when she had enough silk to make some money, she would send another one of her kids to America," explained Sandy Scalzo, Nicole's mother.

Salvatore settled in an area between Cold Spring and Beacon then known as Storm King, where he met Eleanore Chiarella, who later became the local postmaster (and his wife). The couple moved into Beacon, which had been incorporated just a few years earlier. There they bought a house on the north side of Henry Street, on a parcel that is now the Health Center parking lot. Around 1930, they moved the house by horse and carriage to the other side of the road, where it remains.

Salvatore was for decades the caretaker at Bannerman's Island, as well as for other mansions along what is now Route 9D. He died in 1992, a month shy of his 103rd birthday. Another of his sons, Salvatore Jr., received two Purple Hearts for his service in World War II and, upon returning home, worked for IBM for decades.

Nicole Scalzo's request to the Beacon City

Council was not the first of its nature. Last year, the council was asked to name two Memorial Park baseball fields: one to honor Shawn Antalek, a lifetime member of the Mase Hook and Ladder Co. and longtime coach who died in 2010 at the age of 48, and the other to remember Jack Dexter, a three-term Dutchess County supervisor and four-decade member of Beacon softball leagues, who died in August.

Both requests were approved, but the frequency of renaming asks led the council to adopt a policy to manage future appeals.

"The naming of a public asset is an important and long-lasting decision for a community, and should not be undertaken haphazardly or simply at an interested party's request," Mayor Lee Kyriacou said. "Some choices are obvious — naming Beacon's waterfront park after Pete and Toshi Seeger — but the choices should be based on a consistent process and standards."

The policy states that the naming or renaming of a city asset should assist the public in identifying its location and may be related to significant events, people or places. Requests for honorary street names are subject to review by local historians and, after 15 years, the city can reevaluate whether to keep the name.

Many places in Beacon already bear the names of historical figures. J.V. Forrestal Elementary School, for example, was named years ago for James Forrestal, the country's first secretary of defense, who was born in 1892 in Matteawan, which is now part of Beacon.

Not all new requests "have to rise to that level," City Administrator Anthony Ruggiero said, but they should honor "people who invested their lives in contributing to the betterment of the city."

As Beacon grows, Sandy Scalzo believes her family's ancestors fit that bill. It's important to remember the immigrants who helped build the city, she said: "I don't think in his wildest dreams Salvatore would have imagined his family being as successful as it was. They flourished using sweat and blood."

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Bail Reform *(from Page 5)*

One proposal, introduced by Democratic senators from Long Island, would eliminate cash bail altogether but give judges the power to jail suspects under certain circumstances, such as the belief that the defendant is dangerous.

Assemblyman Jonathan Jacobson, a Democrat whose district includes Beacon, called the Senate bill a “step in the right direction.”

“What has to be done is to give some discretion concerning keeping people off the street that could be of harm to themselves or others, with specific guidelines, and still getting away from the cash bail that was imposed in too many nonviolent crimes,” Jacobson said. “There should be specific reasons if you want to keep someone in jail.”

Another aspect of the law that has raised objections requires judges to wait 48 hours before issuing a bench warrant for a defendant who misses a court date.

When people get warrants, “it’s usually not because they’re fleeing facing the consequences of their case,” Rosen, the public defender, said. “Usually it’s because they couldn’t get a ride to court or their mother was sick or they were in the hospital or they couldn’t find a babysitter and they didn’t come or they legitimately just forgot about the court date.”

Serino doesn’t buy it and has introduced a bill in the Senate that would eliminate the grace period.

Lawmakers seem unlikely to repeal the bail-reform law. However, Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, a Democrat whose district includes Philipstown, joined Jacobson in predicting they will approve changes.

“I don’t think we’re going to go back to giving total discretion to judges because I think some of the problems probably related back to the judges,” she said. “But I would like judges to be able to look at other transgressions that somebody has had.”

“We just need to be sure that the wrong people are not out on the street,” she said. “But also, if somebody has a minor offense, to be sitting in jail because they can’t pay bail is not what we’re about.”

New York judges can set bail for people charged with violent felonies, sex crimes and some domestic violence charges. And for some suspects who qualify for release

without bail, judges can mandate conditions that don’t involve money, such as pretrial supervision and electronic monitoring.

Under the bill introduced by the Long Island Democrats, judges could decide on a case-by-case basis whether someone should be jailed. However, a suspect could only be imprisoned for specific reasons, including if he or she were judged to be a danger to public safety.

Putnam County

Two days after the Poughkeepsie forum, Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley Jr. spoke at the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison about his opposition to the law.

Unlike other sheriffs, Langley soon after the law went into effect named the suspects he had released and their alleged crimes.

Later, in additional press releases, Langley said the law twice required the release of a New Hampshire man, Rattana Phimmavongsa, who was arrested on Jan. 18 on charges he stalked a woman in Southeast and again on Feb. 11 after he allegedly violated an order of protection by repeatedly calling her.

Langley claimed on Feb. 29 that the bail-reform law creates a “revolving door that gives somebody the opportunity, over and over, to repeat-offend.”

“Let’s write something good, something

that works, that protects everybody,” said the sheriff, who lives in Philipstown. “Nobody is disagreeing that bail reform is needed. But not like this.” He said legislators failed to consult law enforcement when drafting the law but that officers “are willing to help” fix it. “We can do this right. We can do this fair.”

Langley suggested that the bail law change also could adversely affect those addicted to drugs. While in jail, addicts could “receive a lot of care.” Now, he added, “that tool is removed. There’s no intervention.”

Similarly, those living on the streets will likely feel the impact, he said, observing that “Putnam County has no shelter” for the homeless. He noted that some commit minor offenses in winter hoping to be sent to jail, a warm place with regular meals. Their crime sprees end in summer, he said.

Members of the audience, which included lawyers, responded that anyone accused must be presumed innocent until proven guilty; that under the old law bail practices could differ from judge to judge, producing gross inconsistencies and inequity; and that an alleged offender with enough money could pay bail and go home to await trial while those lacking money were confined in jail.

The sheriff replied that someone’s inability to pay bail reflects a problem with the amount, the failure of a poor suspect’s lawyer to challenge high bail charges, and inadequate state funding for overworked public defenders who represent indigent clients.

Langley also said that bail reform and discovery reform — which requires pros-

ecutors to provide the defense with all the evidence it has collected within 15 days of an arraignment — burden law enforcement with new demands and estimated that his agency and the district attorney will each require an additional \$500,000 annually to meet them.

Shrinking jails

In the meantime, the number of inmates in county jails has decreased, although Langley said the Putnam population was “in slow decline before the bail reform law came in” and that local crime has dropped by 25 percent in each of the past two years.

In Putnam, the average number of “unsentenced” inmates (suspects awaiting arraignment, trial or sentencing, or newly arrested parole violators) in February was 18, compared to 24 for December and 37 in February 2019, according to statistics compiled by the state Division of Criminal Justice Services.

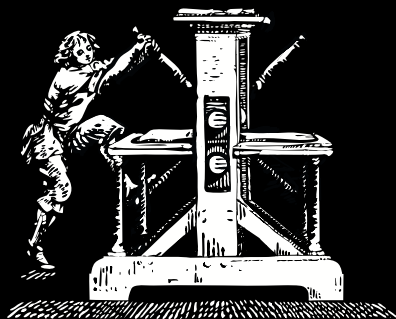
In Dutchess County, the average number of unsentenced inmates was 101 in February, down from an average of 158 for December and 234 in February 2019. The county last year scaled back a proposal to build a new jail by 2023 with about 600 beds to what could end up being fewer than 300. The plan was revised after an analysis by the Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council that included alternatives to incarceration and the expected effects of bail reform.

Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong contributed reporting.



Phimmavongsa

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The HIGHLANDS

Current

7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

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Saturday 45/25  Some clouds, then sunshine POP: 0% N 8-16 mph RealFeel 39/20	Sunday 57/35  Mostly sunny POP: 0% W 7-14 mph RealFeel 56/32	Monday 65/46  Partly sunny and warm POP: 10% WSW 7-14 mph RealFeel 65/44	Tuesday 62/29  Cloudy and mild; rain possible in the afternoon POP: 35% WSW 6-12 mph RealFeel 61/28	Wednesday 51/28  Cooler with rain possible, mixed with snow early POP: 35% ENE 4-8 mph RealFeel 51/11	Thursday 50/31  Snow, sleet and rain possible in the morning POP: 35% N 8-16 mph RealFeel 44/27	Friday 46/39  Sun followed by increasing clouds POP: 10% NNE 4-8 mph RealFeel 48/30
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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	Trace
Month to date	0.0"
Normal month to date	0.8"
Season to date	14.4"
Normal season to date	28.1"
Last season to date	28.1"
Record for 3/6	5.0" (1967)

SUN & MOON

Sunrise Sat., 3/7	6:20 AM
Sunset Sat. night, 3/7	5:54 PM
Moonrise Sat., 3/7	3:27 PM
Moonset Sat., 3/7	5:19 AM

Full

Last

New

First

Mar 9

Mar 16

Mar 24

Apr 1

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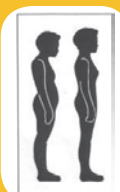
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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. TGIF part

4. Bing's buddy

7. Block the flow

12. Just out

13. "Hail!"

14. Become one

15. Meadow

16. High-flying tourist

18. \$ dispenser

19. Soviet cooperative

20. Genius

22. Decorate Easter eggs

23. Boast

27. Discoverer's cry

29. Weaken, in a way

31. Nary a soul

34. Star in Orion's left foot

35. "Now" or "never"

37. Drench

38. TV dinner veggies

39. "Go, team!"

41. Wild and crazy

45. Rescues

47. *The Raven* writer

48. TV show for entrepreneurial hopefuls

52. Transgression

53. Asian nation

54. Hockey surface

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6. White or Grable

7. One-on-one fight

8. Pismire

9. Bay State sch.

10. Multipurpose truck

11. Apiece

17. Start a garden

21. Regions

23. All-out attack

24. Carpet

25. Consumed

26. Solidify

28. That woman

30. Anger

31. Siesta

32. Praise in verse

33. Eggs

36. Unruly kid?

37. From what place

40. Use

42. Church recesses

43. Din

44. Busybody

45. Old card game

46. Distort

48. Tackle moguls

49. Scuttle

50. Exist

51. Scale notes

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7 LITTLE WORDS

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

CLUES

1 audibly weeping (9)

2 presentation of photos (9)

3 where school lunch is served (9)

4 jeers (6)

5 change to serve new function (7)

6 rocks gently in one's arms (7)

7 couch seat (7)

SOLUTIONS

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SUDO CURRENT

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

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Answers for Feb. 28 Puzzles

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

1. POINT, 2. ALEXA, 3. TEAPOTS, 4. CLIENTS, 5. GUESSES, 6. SCRATCHED, 7. SPLASHY

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

SPORTS



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Haldane's Essie Florke drives against Leffell.



Coach Joe Virgadamo talks strategy with the team before the start of the fourth quarter.

Haldane Boys Upset in Tournament Heartbreaker

Girls' team cruises to easy victory to advance

By Skip Pearlman

Nothing went the way the Haldane boys were hoping it would go in the sectional semifinal of the state basketball tournament on Monday (March 2) against Tuckahoe at the Westchester County Center in White Plains.

The Blue Devils were the No. 2 seed of the four qualifying Class C teams in Section 1, with the Tigers at No. 3. Haldane had defeated Tuckahoe (11-10) by 15 points during the regular season.

But the Eastchester school used that loss as motivation and kept Monday's game close before pushing ahead just enough in the final seconds to win, 42-38.

Tuckahoe will play in Saturday's title game against No. 1 Hamilton, which, like Haldane, defeated the Tigers by 15 points during the regular season. Haldane ends its season at 15-6.

The Blue Devils, who had not played since their regular season ended on Feb. 10 with a win at Putnam Valley, didn't look comfortable from the start and never got into an offensive flow. But they played good defense, and that kept the game close.

Haldane led by a point with two minutes to play, but Tuckahoe went up 36-34 with 1:30 left and never trailed again.

Tuckahoe increased its lead to four with 24 seconds left, then hurt Haldane by hitting two free throws to make it a 40-34 game seconds later.

Haldane got it back to two (40-38) with 6.7 seconds left on a Mame Diba bucket, but Tuckahoe hit its free throws to close it out.

"The 50-50 balls [when a rebound or

loose ball could go to either team] went their way, and they hit big shots in key situations," said Coach Joe Virgadamo.

The coach said his team never found its scoring rhythm. "We struggled in the second half," he said. "We turned the ball over a bit, and that hurt us in the long run.



Matteo Cervone delivers a pass against Tuckahoe.

Photos by S. Pearlman

"We wanted [the final score] to be in the 60s," Virgadamo said. "But for some reason we didn't run. It was a defensive game, and we played good defense at times. It was an extremely disappointing loss. We had four seniors committed all year, but we couldn't get the big win tonight."

Diba led Haldane with 12 points, Matteo Cervone and Matt Champlin each added seven, and Darrin Santos and Dan Santos had five apiece.

Girls advance to final

The girls' team, seeded No. 2 of four qualifying Class C teams in the section, made short work of No. 3 Leffell on Feb. 29 in the semifinal at the Westchester County Center, winning 63-20.

Haldane (11-10) will face No. 1 Tuckahoe (13-8) at 2 p.m. on Saturday (March 7) at the County Center for the Section 1 title. The winner advances to the regionals.

With Haldane having won six Section 1 titles in a row, and Leffell a first-year varsity program, few expected a competitive game. But a combination of Haldane's defense and Leffell's nerves resulted in the Lions scoring just a single basket in the first half and only four points by the end of the third quarter.

Bela Monteleone lead the Blue Devils with 15 points, Liv Monteleone added 12 and Maddie Chiera had 10. Coach Jessica Perrone said it was good for the Blue Devils to get everyone in the game, including three players brought up from the junior varsity, so they could get experience playing at the County Center.

Perrone said "the girls are pretty excited" about Saturday's game, "and there's a little bit of pressure because we don't want to be the ones to snap the streak. But they respond well to pressure, and we're ready to go."

Beacon Wrestler Finishes Fifth

Reaches semifinals of state tournament

Chris Crawford, a freshman wrestler at Beacon High School who won the Section 1 title at 106 pounds, finished fifth at the state tournament on Feb. 29.

Crawford, who finished the season with a record of 39-5, defeated Shane Meenaghan of Chaminade, 6-1, in the opening round and Vincent Zaccardi of Kings Park at 4:27 before losing in the semifinals to Tyler Ferrara of Chenango Forks, 7-5. Crawford then defeated Justin Morales of Middletown, 4-3, in the fifth-place match.

In the 99-pound division, P.J. Duke, 13, a seventh-grader at George Fischer Middle School in Carmel, won the state title and finished his season at 45-0.

Former Blue Devil Named to All-Decade Team

2008 grad went on to star for Pace

Brittany Shields, a 2008 Haldane High School grad who went on to star for Pace University, was named by d2easthoops.org to the second team of its Division II East Region's All-Decade squad as one of the best players of the 2010s.

Shields, who scored 1,757 career points and grabbed 1,006 rebounds for the Setters, is an assistant coach with the team.