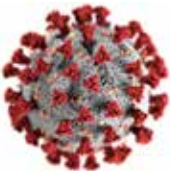




UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE — Jennifer Sandlund (left) updates the sign at St. Philip’s Episcopal Church in Garrison, which canceled services, as well as two recitals scheduled for March 21 to dedicate its new organ. At right, Putnam County Legislator Nancy Montgomery, whose district includes Philipstown, put out a call online for six volunteers to help restock at Foodtown in Cold Spring after a truck of groceries arrived. *Photos by Ross Corsair*



Coronavirus Update

Disruption

Do We Have Enough Hospital Beds?

Region has fewer than 75 for intensive care

By Leonard Sparks

A 1,000-bed U.S. Navy hospital ship plans to deploy to New York City harbor in April as Gov. Andrew Cuomo and other state officials warned of a potential shortage of intensive-care beds and ventilators to treat coronavirus patients. Of New York’s 50,000 hospital beds, 3,000 are designed for intensive care and 80 percent of those are occupied, including with 65 COVID-19 patients, Cuomo said on Monday (March 16). The state also has between 5,000 and 6,000 ventilators that would be needed by patients with the most serious cases, he said. Closer to home, the five hospitals in Dutchess and Putnam counties, along with Montefiore St. Luke’s Cornwall in

(Continued on Page 7)

Putnam Has Its First Cases of Virus

Governor closes schools, restricts gatherings

By Chip Rowe

■ On Sunday (March 15), Putnam County reported its first two cases of coronavirus, or COVID-19. The county Health Department said the individuals have been quarantined at home and will be monitored. “Contact tracing is underway and those that are found to have had contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case will be notified and precautionary or mandatory quarantine will be established for each person,” the department said. In a statement, Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell said: “This is not an unexpected event, nor should it cause alarm. We knew eventually a positive case would be confirmed.” By Thursday (March 19) the number of cases in Putnam had increased to five.

(Continued on Page 6)

Reporter’s Notebook

Running on Empty

By Jeff Simms



With a few exceptions, I have covered every Beacon City Council meeting since the fall of 2015. Most have been newsworthy; a few have been entertaining. But none have been like this week’s. While civics in much of the Highlands grounded to a halt after last week’s mass cancellation of public events and social distancing guidelines were imposed by

the governor, the City of Beacon remained open for business. It was announced on Friday (March 13) that Monday’s council meeting would be held not at City Hall but across Route 9D in the basement of the Lewis Tompkins fire station, which has capacity for up to 200 people. I ran into Mayor Lee Kyriacou on Main Street on Saturday (no handshakes; we bumped elbows) and he said he felt it important for the city government to stay open. Closing up shop would be giving in to the hysteria, he said, but, at the same time, city officials would use common sense. There was little of consequence on the Monday agenda, but I wanted to see how this would work. As the 7 p.m. hour approached, however, I admit I’d begun to feel apprehensive. As I walked the half-mile from my house

(Continued on Page 3)



Audience members kept their distance at Monday’s Beacon council meeting. *Photo by J. Simms*

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: MARIANNE SULLIVAN

Marianne Sullivan, of Garrison, is a professor of public health at William Paterson University in Wayne, New Jersey.

Putnam County has five cases of 2019 Novel Coronavirus, and Dutchess has 31. Why should we be concerned?

Those are the *reported* cases. We are so behind on testing that we don't yet understand the magnitude. In Seattle, which has more confirmed cases, researchers urged the health department to act early on because a genome analysis showed that the virus had already had several generations, meaning it likely had been circulating in the community undetected, possibly since January. In the absence of knowing who has the disease and its prevalence, we have to go to social distancing.

A big deal here is that it appears the virus may be passed even when a person doesn't have symptoms, or when he or

she has mild symptoms. It's not like with other viruses, where if you stay home when you have symptoms, other people might be OK. If the healthcare system becomes overwhelmed [with serious cases], it will be challenging for providers to save as many lives as they could. That is what physicians are very concerned about in Italy.

This pandemic is not something that most Americans could have imagined. As we were sliding toward this weeks ago, my students were even asking, "Do you really think they'll shut the university down?" Every time we met things got a little more serious.

Coronavirus has been compared to the flu. How is it different?

A report in *The Journal of the American Medical Association* predicts the fatality rate could be 1 percent. As many as 50,000 people

die in the U.S. each year from seasonal flu, but it's fatality rate is around 0.1 percent. If 100 million people in the U.S. were to get COVID-19, and the fatality rate is 1 percent, that's a million deaths. Unlike the seasonal flu, we have no known immunity, and no vaccine.

But there is hope. South Korea has shown you can slow the spread of the virus if you do widespread testing, isolate infected people and their contacts and do some social distancing, and it's done that without infringing much on people's liberties to the extent that China has done. I hope the U.S. can get up to speed and limit the surge. We can get a handle on it, but we have to work hard.

Is there a feeling among public health professionals that this was inevitable?

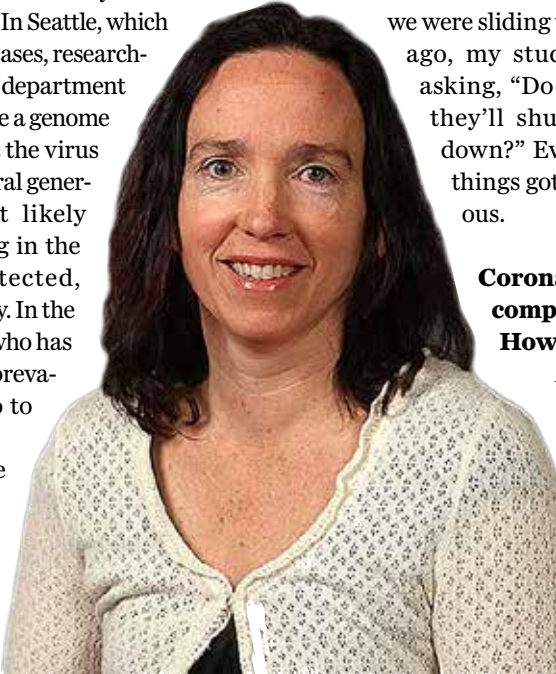
Yes, absolutely. The conversation about pandemic preparedness really got going after 9/11 and the anthrax attacks, which got people thinking about large-scale public-health disasters. Big-city health departments made plans, but, even so, it's shocking to see it happening. One problem is that local and state public health departments have been underfunded for so long. When I worked in public health in California and Seattle there was never a time that our budgets were safe from cuts. The public health system is also a patchwork. For rural counties and poorly resourced cities, it's going to be challenging.

Why did you go into public health?

It was the HIV epidemic. It was interesting to me how a health issue could become a larger social issue, and how existing inequalities could be exacerbated. It's a recurrent theme in public health. This pandemic has brought out many the same sort of issues with racism and stigmas, seeing other people as the source of infection.

You have two sons. What have you told them about what's going on?

I'm told them this is a very unusual situation and why we need to practice social distancing. We've been working on handwashing. And we talked a little bit about how numbers grow exponentially.



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ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What are you doing to combat the stress of the coronavirus?

“ Spending a lot of time with family. My fiancée and I are doing meditation and exercise. ”



~ Jason Melikian, Beacon

“ Taking some time off to stay at home, enjoy the warmer weather — and not panic. ”



~ Kaylaen Scott, Beacon

“ I'm teaching myself to play jazz guitar. ”



~ Francisco Mena, Cold Spring

Reporter's Notebook

(from Page 1)

to the fire station, a few scenarios ran through my head.

Should I wear gloves to open the door? Should I pull my scarf all the way over my face? Does that look weird? Will I be able to find a seat with 6 feet of open space on every side? What if I can't — do I stand?

When I arrived, the smell of bleach almost knocked me over. This place had been *cleaned*.

There were about 15 plastic chairs that someone must have lifted from a middle-school classroom strategically placed around the room and a long row of tables for the council members and city staff that nearly stretched the entire width of the hall.

The meeting began at 7:04 p.m. Including the mayor, there were six council and staff members in attendance. Four members called in. There were seven people in the audience, including myself and Pete Skorewicz, who films meetings, parades and everything in between for the city. Pete's a pro; it seemed like just another day at the office for him.

Kyriacou began the meeting with a series of COVID-19 announcements: City buildings are being cleaned twice daily. All business in City Hall, whether you want to reach the mayor, the Building Department or the city



The mayor, council members and staff spread out at Monday's meeting.

Photo by J. Simms

clerk, will be conducted through the window where you pay your water bills. If you see establishments violating the 20-person-to-a-group rule, call the police.

He then moved on to public comment and two public hearings. Theresa Kraft — far and away the city's most prolific public-commenter — called in and made four comments during the segments. Truthfully, I think the familiarity of her voice put us regulars more at ease.

From there I expected the council members to breeze through the rest of the

agenda, but they proved me wrong. One by one, city staff and council members spoke about programs like Mutual Aid of Beacon, a grassroots citizen group that's sprung up in the wake of COVID-19, or the need for state and federal representatives to advocate economic stimulus for the small business owners and other citizens affected by this topsy-turvy situation. Or simply a reminder to take care of your neighbor.

"Beacon, this is where you shine," said Council Member Dan Aymar-Blair.

The council did move quickly through the administrative portion of the agenda, setting a slew of public hearings for next month and authorizing the use of nearly \$10

million in bond funding to make improvements to City Hall, as well as Beacon's sewer lines, water treatment plant, and water supply treatment and distribution system. We may be looking at increases on our water bills to pay for those expensive but necessary upgrades, but it's too early to say for sure, City Administrator Anthony Ruggiero told me later in the week.

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m., and no one hung around for longer than they had to.

As I walked home, a cool breeze helped lift away the scent of bleach. There's rarely much going on along Main Street at 9 p.m. on a Monday, but this time it felt even more quiet than usual.

Hustis Case Delayed for Third Time

Rescheduled to April 8

The prosecution of Charles E. "Chuck" Hustis III, who was arrested by the FBI in Cold Spring on Dec. 16 and accused of soliciting a minor for sex, has been delayed a third time, until April 8.

According to documents filed in federal

court on March 11, Benjamin Gold, who represents the former Cold Spring village trustee and mayoral candidate, is talking with federal prosecutors about "possible disposition of the case without trial."

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



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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

Coronavirus

Your online posting of the latest local information regarding coronavirus updates and cancellations is an invaluable service to our community. This is the most relevant and otherwise least accessible information needed for us to remain calm and take intelligent action in line with what serves both our personal well-being and the well-being of the community as a whole.

Melissa Meyers, *Garrison*

As I am reading your excellent coverage of the spread of COVID-19, I am thinking about the fact that the whole planet is facing the same threat. We are united in that, even as we continue to think of others as "other." We are, all of us on this planet, experiencing the same threat, the same fears, the same losses.

The coronavirus plague could have a silver lining if it would help us to recognize each other as human beings rather than identified by race, religion, nationality or any of the other false dividers that separate us from each other and perpetuate hatred.

If our community could embrace this concept, perhaps other communities would follow.

Cali Gorevic, *Cold Spring*

The pandemic is already having an effect on Main Street. Many business owners are concerned that customers will be staying away for the foreseeable future.

Last Sunday (March 8) we had a beautiful spring day and there should have been hundreds of visitors with packed streets in Cold Spring. Instead it was fairly dead with few shoppers, more like what is seen during the winter months.

If this keeps up for weeks or months, I don't know how many business owners will be able to hang in there. Regardless of how much money we make or how bad things get, we still have to pay our rents and overhead. Our wonderful restaurants seem to be hit the worst, especially since they have such high overhead and perishables to deal with. We should all go out of our way to patronize them, if at all possible.

I wrote County Executive MaryEllen Odell asking her to see if she can get emergency aid from the federal government for Putnam's small businesses. People need to realize that taxation is not a one-way street. We are entitled to get something back for all the money we pay to every branch of government. This pandemic could put a lot of people out of business. Let's hope and

pray it doesn't come to that.

Patty Villanova, *Putnam Valley*

Victory gardens

Victory gardens came about during World War I, following an idea by George Washington Carver. In March 1917, Charles Lathrop Pack organized the U.S. National War Garden Commission and launched the war garden campaign. To support the home garden effort, a U.S. School Garden Army was launched through the Bureau of Education. During World War II, victory gardens also played a part.

I have been thinking of these gardens since reading in *The Current* about Chevron trying to sell its old industrial property in Glenham ("Old Texaco Site for Sale," March 13).

It reminded me of another local big piece of property, the old Beacon Prison. I had been involved some years ago in trying to get that back to farmland and make space. Given the world situation, it might be a good idea for the City of Beacon to ask the state for the right of a temporary eminent domain so we could immediately put in an emergency crop of root vegetables. I spoke to a farmer and a farm administrator over the weekend about the feasibility of this plan, including the city designating emergency funds for a tractor or two, fencing and seed.

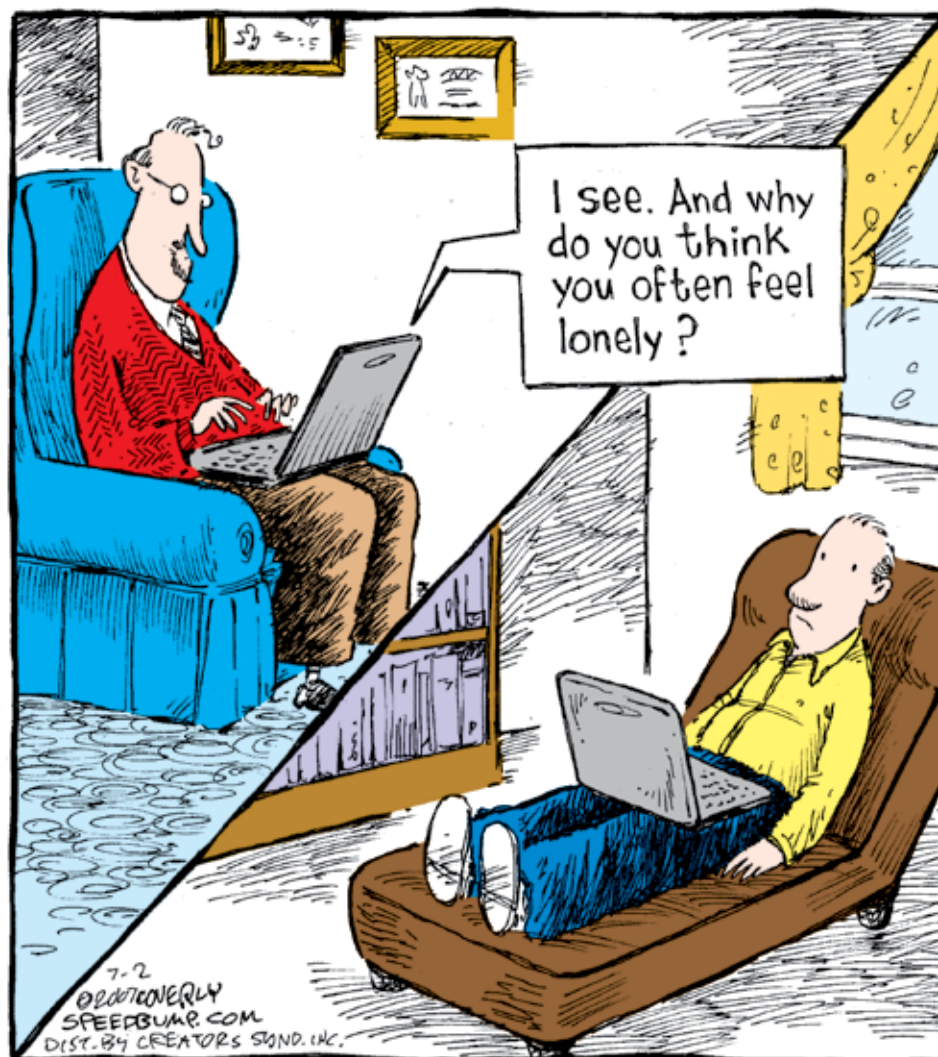
The world economy is in the process of being decimated by the response to the coronavirus. Many of our jobs in the modern era are decidedly non-essential. After who knows how many months of lockdown, a great deal of those jobs will never come back. The rebuilding process, even to a 1917 level, will be long and difficult.

At some point, rationing may come into play. On March 1, 1943, canned fruits and vegetables were rationed in the U.S. Having a local supply of vegetables to supplement distributed canned goods will be of great value, especially if the money system is eventually compromised. It can also be a morale booster. And in times of social distancing, being outdoors and far enough apart can help build and sustain community cohesion.

In December 1941, shortly after the U.S. entered World War II, Agriculture Secretary Claude Wickard began promoting Victory Gardens. The Department of Agriculture produced pamphlets to guide urban and suburban gardeners, magazines and newspapers published helpful articles, and patriotic posters urged participation.

There will be plenty of farmhands available, as many members of the community are already being laid off in these early days. While the city may take longer to react, it might be prudent to tear up your lawn this spring and plant a garden. It

(Continued on Page 5)



A Note to Readers

Due to concerns about the coronavirus, *The Current* has discontinued its regular business hours. The best way to reach our staff is by emailing me at editor@highlandscurrent.org or Michele Gedney at ads@highlandscurrent.org for advertising. We will continue to publish the print paper, although distribution will be limited because many of our usual drop-off locations are closed.

The locations where you can find the paper are below. Alternatively, we offer mail delivery for \$30 per year or \$50 for two years. Write us at 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516 or see highlandscurrent.org/delivery. Or become a sustaining member of *The Current* by donating \$10 or more per month and mail delivery is included. See highlandscurrent.org/join.

Chip Rowe, *Editor*

Blue Boxes

Cold Spring

- Current Office, 142 Main St., Cold Spring
- Moo Moos Creamery, 32 West St., Cold Spring
- Tourist Information Booth, foot of Main Drug World, 55 Chestnut

Philipstown

- B&L Deli, 3182 Route 9

Garrison

- Garrison Cafe, 1135 Route 9D

Beacon

- Beacon Bread Co., 193 Main
- Beacon Natural Market, 348 Main
- Key Foods, 268 Main

Other Locations

Cold Spring

- Foodtown, 49 Chestnut
- Cold Spring Coffeehouse, 92 Main
- Country Goose, 115 Main
- Foundry Cafe, 53 Main
- Garden Cafe, 116 Main
- Angelina's, 41 Chestnut
- Cold Spring Farmers Market @ St. Mary's
- NYP/Hudson Valley Hospital, 1756 Route 9D
- Yannitelli Wines, 55 Chestnut

Philipstown

- Round-up Texas BBQ, 2741 Route 9
- Vera's Philipstown Farm Market, 3091 Route 9

Garrison

- Appalachian Market, 1467 Route 9
- Garrison Gulf, 1122 Route 9D
- Garrison Post Office, 1145 Route 9D

Beacon

- Bank Square Coffeehouse, 131 Main
- Beacon City Hall, 1 Municipal Plaza
- Beahive, 291 Main
- Big Mouth Coffee, 387 Main
- Forrestal Heights, Route 9D (lobby)
- Towne Crier Cafe, 379 Main

(Continued from Page 4)

would be a good thing to order seed now.

Form a neighborhood committee, with an experienced gardener at the helm. During World War II, pamphlets were the key communication for these gardens. We now have the Internet, and there has been a resurgence of interest in local farming in the last decade or two, so there are many valuable resources.

Mark Roland, *Beacon*

Saving peepers

Loved the March 13 *Out There* column by Brian PJ Cronin on helping amphibians cross the roads ("Big Night," March 13). Kudos to the Frog Squad!

Suzie Gilbert, *Cold Spring*

What a delightful story! I had no idea about Big Night and the frog helpers.

Joan Martorano, *Beacon*

I'm so happy to know there are people out there doing this. I've been moving frogs and salamanders in the rain since I was a kid. We also held post-rain roadside funerals. I'm very aware of the amphibians crossing when I'm driving in the rain, so I slow to a crawl in those areas, but I don't think most people notice.

Rebekah Tighe, *via Facebook*

Count me in for the next mission.

Elizabeth Arnold, *via Facebook*

Heard the peepers the other night, one of spring's great joys — thanks to all who helped them!

Irene O'Garden, *via Facebook*

Home dispute

Zoning Boards of Appeals must be established when a municipality enacts zoning ("ZBA Extends Review of Disputed House Plans," March 6). State, town and village laws endow ZBAs with appellate power to hear appeals of rulings by the code enforcement officer as well as interpretation of the zoning code. In this capacity, the Zoning Board sits as if it were a court.

According to the state's Local Government Handbook, "ZBAs function free of any oversight by the municipal legislative

LETTERS AND COMMENTS



CORRECTION

In our March 13 issue, we stated that the postmark deadline to apply to vote by absentee ballot for the April 28 presidential primary is April 3. In fact, that is the deadline if you are not already registered to vote and would like to cast a ballot in the general election in November. The postmark deadline for absentee ballots for the primary is April 21. See elections.ny.gov/votingabsentee.html.

body. Where the Zoning Board of Appeals has final decision-making authority, the legislative body may not review the grant or denial of variances..." The ZBA is the sole interpreter of the town's ordinance.

In the case of 529 Route 9D in Garrison, both the timeliness of the appeal and the incorrect granting of the building permit are before the Philipstown ZBA. The ZBA is in the process of interpreting these issues, and as a quasi-judicial body has the sole right to do so. The Philipstown Town Board has no power to intervene in this appeal. If it did, what would be the purpose of a ZBA or a Planning Board? They would

be superfluous, and in direct conflict with state, local and municipal law that ensure the creation of these independent agencies.

Joan Turner, *Garrison*

Main Street benches

The benches along Main Street are used by seniors who need a seat ("Talking About Tourists," March 13). They are placed along the way so that frail seniors, people with disabilities and parents with young children can sit and rest or catch their breath. The bench outside Hudson Hill's should be returned — taking it away targets the vulnerable.

Patricia Byron, *via Facebook*

Nuclear pipeline

I moved upstate to get away from the mess with the pipeline going through at the Indian Point nuclear plant, but folks need to do the right thing ("Letters and Comments," March 6). Fossil fuel does not belong in bed with nuclear energy.

Katharine Stigdon, *Philmont*

Breakneck fire

Along with all of the wonderful first responders who fought the fire at Breakneck Ridge last week, let's not forget to thank the state park staff who take care of the Hudson Highlands year-round and work with first responders on rescues and other emergencies ("Breakneck Burns," March 13).

Dana Dalton, *via Facebook*

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NOT EVERYONE CONVINCED — A sign in a window at Doug's Pub in Cold Spring expressed skepticism about the shutdown. Photo by Ross Corsair

Coronavirus Update

(from Page 1)

■ New York on Wednesday (March 18) opened a drive-thru COVID-19 testing center at the Anthony Wayne Recreation Area on the Palisades Parkway in Rockland County. You must have an appointment; contact your doctor or the state Health Department at 888-364-3065. The hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Due to the testing, Exit 17 will have limited access.

■ Compass Arts in Beacon said it was informed that an adult who had attended a program at its 395 Main St. location on March 9 and 10 was confirmed to have the COVID-19 virus. "Her husband has also tested positive and her two children are showing symptoms," it said in an email. "We were already taking precautions with disinfecting at Compass Arts but feel it is our responsibility to make sure all who were at the center last week are aware of this in case you begin to show any symptoms. If so, we hope that this information may help you to receive testing more quickly."

■ The U.S. Small Business Administration began to offer low-interest federal disaster loans of up to \$2 million to small businesses, nonprofits, agricultural co-ops and aquaculture enterprises in Dutchess, Putnam and Westchester counties that have suffered "substantial economic injury" as

a result of the coronavirus. The loans can be used to "meet financial obligations and operating expenses" such as fixed debts, payroll and accounts payable "which could have been met had the disaster not occurred," the agency said. The interest rate is 3.75 percent for small businesses and 2.75 percent for nonprofits, with a maximum repayment term of 30 years. See disaster-loan.sba.gov/ela or call 800-659-2955. The deadline is Dec. 16.

■ Dutchess County and a number of economic development groups created a network at dutchessbnn.com to share updates with businesses and nonprofits.

■ Gov. Andrew Cuomo enacted a law on Wednesday (March 18) that provides sick and disability leave for individuals while they are quarantined. The state also agreed to a permanent paid sick leave policy that Cuomo pushed for in his 2021 budget proposal. That policy goes into effect in six months and requires employers, depending on their size, to provide each employee with five to seven days of paid sick leave annually.

State Sen. Sue Serino, whose district includes the Highlands, did not vote on the bill, which passed the Senate 50-6. But in a statement, she said she objected to the fact it made permanent changes to sick leave rather than simply addressing the COVID-19 emergency. "This is politics at its worst," she said.

(Continued on Page 8)

A Village Adjusts

Cold Spring businesses cope with coronavirus

By Michael Turton

Cold Spring is a very different village than it was a week ago. With schools, libraries and government offices closed, most businesses remain open but must cope with the coronavirus. Some are doing OK while others struggle. Some are getting creative while others question their future. All are trying to figure out what might work best.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo on Monday (March 16) ordered all bars and restaurants to close by 8 p.m.; many eateries have already altered their business plan in light of the ruling, which also prohibited indoor dining but allows takeout and delivery. Others ponder what to do.

"We're going to try to stay true to the community," said Bob Hayes, co-owner of Hudson Hills Cafe and Market. "We're offering a limited menu from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. so people who are tired of cooking at home can come and pick up food."

Hayes said the cafe will also offer delivery within Philipstown, which can include alcohol following a state ruling allowing restaurants with liquor licenses to sell packaged beer and wine. He is considering other ideas such as regular Friday night fried chicken dinners, which until now have only been available on First Fridays.

Greg Pagones, owner of The Cold Spring Depot, said he is still weighing his options. "We're doing takeout for now until we figure out what's going on; it's been difficult," he said. By Tuesday afternoon, he had received only five orders for corned beef and cabbage dinners, the traditional St. Patrick's Day dish.

"I'm deciding whether it's worth it to stay open at all," he said. Pagones said he hopes that by next week, after people have stocked up on groceries, they'll be looking to pick up some different foods. "They may be getting a bit stir-crazy," he said.

The Riverview Restaurant in Cold Spring locked its doors on Thursday (March 19) after offering takeout earlier in the week. "Business was good, but we're in a danger zone now," said owner Jimmy Ely. After talking to his staff members, some of whom were being pressured by family members not to work, Ely opted to close. "We just don't want to put anyone at risk," he said.

(For a list of Highlands restaurants and their pickup and takeout policies and hours, see highlandscurrent.org.)

Business has been brisk at local wine and liquor stores. "We've been in business for 90 years and seen a lot, including world wars, but never anything like this," said Donnie Yannitelli, owner of Yannitelli Wines & Spirits. "We've been very, very busy." He said hoarding that is happening industry-wide should stabilize soon. "These are uncharted waters, let's give it a week and see where it goes," he said.

Eliza Starbuck, co-owner of Flowercup



Eliza Starbuck



Greg Pagones



Juanita Rincon

Photos by M. Turton

Wine and president of the Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce, agreed. "It's one of those storms before the quiet," she said. "We've been busy, but we anticipate things dropping off dramatically at some point."

She said the shop's weekly wine tastings have been suspended but customers can call in orders for pickup or receive free delivery on cases. "We're happy that we can provide something that gives people some calm and relaxation during this crisis," she said.

Business has also picked up at The Country Goose. "I'm selling a lot of coffee," said owner Leonora Burton, who also noted that customers have been practicing "social distancing" by waiting outside her Main Street shop and entering only after the previous purchaser leaves. Chocolate and toys and games for the kids have been big sellers.

Things have been considerably slower at Juanita's Kitchen in Nelsonville, even though owner Juanita Rincon continues to offer her full Mexican menu as takeout. On St. Patrick's Day she even offered green soup. "Customers can also get delivery through

(Continued on Page 8)

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HOSPITAL	LOCATION	BEDS	ICU
MidHudson Regional	Poughkeepsie	243	8
Montefiore St. Luke's	Newburgh	242	10
NYP Hudson Valley	Cortlandt	128	10
Northern Dutchess	Rhinebeck	84	7
Putnam Hospital Center	Carmel	164	10
Vassar Brothers	Poughkeepsie	365	27
		1,226	72

Source: New York Department of Health and hospitals

Hospital Beds *(from Page 1)*

Newburgh, have 1,226 beds and 72 intensive-care beds. Assuming 80 percent of those ICU beds are already occupied, that would leave 14 immediately available for COVID-19 patients.

Public health officials say that while most people infected by COVID-19 will likely experience only mild symptoms — fever, cough and shortness of breath — and not require hospitalization, even the relatively small percentage who suffer severe symptoms could overwhelm the system.

New York had 4,152 confirmed coronavirus cases as of Thursday (March 19), including 31 in Dutchess, five in Putnam, 798 in Westchester, 51 in Orange, 53 in Rockland and 10 in Ulster. Twenty-one people have died.

Under one projection, Cuomo said, the state could need 110,000 hospital beds, including 37,000 ICU beds with ventilators, within 45 days.

“We can’t build new hospitals in 45 days,” Cuomo said on Wednesday. “The federal government can be extremely helpful here and we need the federal government’s help.”

Cuomo asked the Trump administration to call in the Army Corps of Engineers and military personnel to build hospitals and repurpose buildings.

The Department of Defense said Wednesday that the USNS Comfort would head to New York City after it finishes undergoing maintenance in Virginia.

Its role would be to care for patients suffering from ailments other than COVID-19, officials said. Another ship, the USNS Mercy, will deploy to the West Coast.

The state, in collaboration with the Army Corps of Engineers, is also identifying existing facilities that could be repurposed as hospitals, Cuomo said on Thursday.

The state Department of Health on Monday issued guidance to hospitals seeking emergency approval to repurpose their space, install tents or trailers, exceed their bed capacity or use off-site spaces to treat patients.

On Thursday, Cuomo said Health Commissioner Howard Zucker is preparing new regulations based on how many beds can be added to existing hospitals.

In New York City, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced a plan to add 8,300 hospital beds, “creating them where they’ve never existed before” in places such as North

Central Bronx Hospital, which has two vacant floors, and a recently built but unoccupied nursing home in Brooklyn.

In the Hudson Valley, Northern Dutchess Hospital in Rhinebeck, Putnam Hospital Center in Carmel and Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie are part of the Nuvance Health System, which includes four other hospitals in western Connecticut.

The system has “an adequate number of required rooms and supplies, including ventilators,” the company said in a statement. It said its system also has 100 “negative-pressure rooms,” which are used to contain airborne contaminations, and can readily expand its isolation space.

“One of the many benefits of being part of a health system with seven hospitals is we can work together to help balance and accommodate a shifting census if we see an influx in patients,” it said.

Nuvance this week joined the growing list of hospitals, including MidHudson Regional in Poughkeepsie and Montefiore St. Luke’s Cornwall, prohibiting visitors except for pediatric and maternity patients.

The NewYork-Presbyterian system, which includes Hudson Valley Hospital in Cortlandt, has instituted the same visitation rules and canceled elective procedures and surgeries.

“The health and safety of our patients, visitors, employees, and our communities remain a top priority,” the hospital said on Facebook.

Questions?

The Dutchess County Health Department posts updates at dutchessny.gov/coronavirus and also has an informational hotline at 845-486-3555.

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, and a webpage at ny.gov/coronavirus. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is posting updates at cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov.



August Wright works at home Thursday (March 19) on his Rombout schoolwork.

Photo by Meredith Heuer

Students and Teachers Adjust to New Plan

With schools closed, districts set up ‘remote learning’

By Jeff Simms

Thousands of students and teachers in the Highlands this week began adjusting to the “virtual learning” platform, which will serve as a substitute

classroom until at least March 31, according to an order to close public and private schools throughout the state.

The Beacon school district has more than 2,800 students who are now spending their weekdays at home, while Haldane has more than 800 and Garrison about 220.

As instructors adapt to full-time virtual learning, the biggest challenge “will be to help [students] learn without being in the same room with them,” said Monica Paredes, the math coordinator at Rombout Middle School in Beacon. “It’s going to absolutely be a different experience for everyone involved.”

Paredes said her students already have some experience with a “flipped classroom”

(Continued on Page 10)



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Coronavirus Update

(from Page 6)

“Our small businesses are the backbones of our communities. As they do their part to help keep our communities safe and healthy, many of them are feeling tremendous pressure. They do not have time to monitor or speak out against proposals moving rapidly through Albany that could have serious long-term consequences for them.”

■ Cuomo and the governors of Connecticut, Pennsylvania and New Jersey jointly ordered a capacity limit of 50 people for social and recreational gatherings. In Beacon, Mayor Lee Kyriacou said in a statement: “Dutchess County and the City of Beacon collectively have the authority to enforce this limitation through our police, fire and building departments, and will promptly begin doing so.”

■ Cuomo ordered businesses to have 75 percent of their employees stay at home, effective today (March 20), except for those involved in the media, shipping, warehousing, grocery and food production, health care, utilities, banks and related financial institutions, and other industries critical to the supply chain.

■ The governor ordered restaurants and bars to close except for takeout and delivery. Those selling liquor were given waivers to sell carry-out alcohol and to offer home delivery of packaged beer through at

least April 15. A number of restaurants in the Highlands began to offer takeout and curbside pickup. (See Page 6.)

■ Cuomo ordered the closure of movie theaters, gyms, casinos, shopping malls, amusement parks and bowling alleys. He also advised that essential services and businesses — groceries, gas stations, pharmacies and medical facilities — stay open daily after 8 p.m.

■ Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro declared a state of emergency; suspended all social, community and public events or gatherings of more than 20 people; ended visitation at the county jail; postponed civil service exams; and closed county senior centers.

■ In Putnam County, Odell on Sunday signed an executive order to prohibit public gatherings or events of more than 20 people, as well as buffet-style food service or sales. Two days later she recommended limiting gatherings to 10 people. Also on Tuesday, she ended public access to county facilities. She pledged that “essential county services will continue” and that “for emergencies and emergencies only, the public should contact the department directly via phone.” She said residents can use drop boxes at the county office building in Carmel to submit documents and that the county intends “in the near future” to install boxes elsewhere.

(Continued on Page 12)

Governments React to Threat

Close meetings to public, shutter services

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The spread of the coronavirus this week forced local governments to reduce their staffs, derailed public meetings, closed senior centers, potentially sabotaged nuptials and delayed village elections until April.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo on Monday (March 16) ordered local governments, including those in Cold Spring, Philipstown and Beacon, to cut on-site staffing by 75 percent and allow non-essential employees to work from home and directed that no gatherings of more than 50 people occur. The staffing limit does not apply to the police, fire, water, sewer, code enforcement or other departments deemed essential.

Putnam County

County Executive MaryEllen Odell said she is collaborating with the county Legislature on coronavirus (COVID-19) policy.

Legislative committee meetings scheduled for Thursday (March 19) were listed on the calendar on Monday morning but were removed later that day. Other committee meetings are still listed for next week. Toni Addonizio, who chairs the Legislature, did not immediately respond to an inquiry about its plans.

County Legislator Nancy Montgomery, whose district includes Philipstown, said that “the Legislature is an essential operation. We can meet and, hopefully, we will.” Under the governor’s emergency orders, elected bodies can prevent public attendance and utilize conference calls and similar mechanisms to meet but must record and broadcast or telecast such sessions.

County Clerk Michael Bartolotti urged residents to avoid the clerk’s office in Carmel except “in an emergency situation” and said appointments are required to visit

the DMV in Brewster, which will be open only to county residents. (See putnamcountyny.com/dmv.) A drop box is available for relinquishing license plates, he said.

“If you must visit our offices,” he cautioned, “we will only have limited resources to assist our customers.” For both the clerk’s office and DMV, he promised he will “relax these restrictions when it is safe to do so.”

Bartolotti said residents should use the drop box for pistol permit transactions, business certificate filings, judgment transcript filings, non-emergency court filings, notary public renewals and land recordings.

Philipstown

On Monday, Supervisor Richard Shea suspended all non-essential town operations and asked residents to avoid going to the temporary town hall, justice court or Building Department and to contact agencies by phone or email. The town had already shut down the Recreation Center and its programs and postponed Depot Theatre productions.

The supervisor also offered assistance to anyone needing help in obtaining necessities such as food or medications. His office phone is 845-265-5200.

“We must think not only about ourselves but also about our neighbors,” Shea wrote in an open letter. “This is a time when we need to check on the most vulnerable to make sure that our neighbors are safe and well. The crisis will end.”

Cold Spring

Village Hall shut down as of Monday and the village canceled meetings of its Historic District Review Board, Planning Board, Recreation Commission, Tree Advisory Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals. On Tuesday, the village announced that Board of Trustees meetings would continue but be closed to the public and videotaped and posted on YouTube within

(Continued on Page 12)

Village Adjusts (from Page 6)

GrubHub.com,” Rencon said, adding that a Haldane student is helping with deliveries.

The Cold Spring Coffee House is launching a website for pick-up orders, including a limited pastry menu, dry goods, and refrigerated items such as milk, yogurt and cider. Coffee orders will be taken at the door. “It’s going to evolve depending where demand is,” manager Mia Klubnick said. She is also planning new offerings such as fresh-baked bread and home baking kits and will post a video soon featuring activities for families.

In the past week, binge buying has at times emptied shelves at Foodtown, although “distribution channels throughout the industry are sound,” said Noah Katz, co-president of the grocery chain, in an email. “Some items may be limited, but overall there is plenty of food. We ask

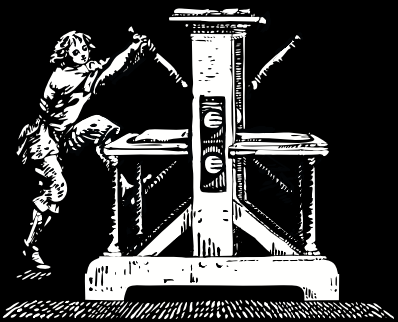
people not to ‘binge’ as we get the stores stocked as fast as possible.”

Laura Strange, senior vice president with the National Grocers Association echoed that in an email. “We encourage all customers to buy only what they need to ensure as many of their neighbors as possible are able to purchase what they need, too.”

Restocking has also posed a challenge at Drug World. “Thermometers, sanitizers and hand-cleaning products are pretty much sold out,” pharmacist Jo Ann Caban said. The 25 hand sanitizers delivered almost every morning are usually sold out within an hour or two.

Caban said that when they can, customers are refilling inexpensive prescriptions for up to two months at a time. She added that a number of New York City residents who have second homes in Philipstown have moved north, transferring their prescriptions to Drug World.

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The Calendar



"Melida," by Rafael Ferrer



"Doris," by Alex Bradley Cohen



"Emile," by Rafael Ferrer



"Jackson," by Alex Bradley Cohen

By Alison Rooney

Painters Alex Bradley Cohen (born 1989) and Rafael Ferrer (born 1933), are the seventh and eighth artists paired off by Parts & Labor Beacon in their gallery template that teams the works of a contemporary artist with works done by another in earlier years.

In this instance, Cohen's more recent paintings share space with art created in the early 1980s by Ferrer, who is still painting.

"This is the first show where you really get confused as to which work was done earlier," says Nicelle Beauchene, who co-owns the gallery at 1154 North Ave. with Kent Henriksen and Franklin Parrasch.

This is the fourth show at Parts & Labor has mounted since it opened in May. "I hope we're bringing something to Beacon that's fun and different," Beauchene says. "Hopefully, through this collaborative project, people will see the differences between 'historical' art and work being done now. We know that someone off the street isn't going to know who either artist is, and that's totally fine."

Two Painters, One Time

Gallery pairs artists born in 1933 and 1989

As with other Parts & Labor shows, this one will run for several months. It opened in early February and runs through May 3, although because of concerns about the coronavirus, it is open only by appointment (email info@partsandlaborbeacon.com).

Beauchene says portraits by Cohen, whom her eponymous New York City gallery represents, are about the "kinship and the interior lives" of his subjects. He paints "friends, family members and colleagues in scenes of everyday moments of connection. He spends hang-out time with them. So, in a way he's painting a self-portrait. They've become autobiographical as he's grown into his practice and his own language. They visualize the complexities of belonging in relation to others."

The portraits are made from personal

photographs and memories rather than direct observation, she notes. "Friends appear across shared lunch tables or relaxed in their living rooms, either gazing at the artist, caught mid-conversation, or lost in their own thoughts."

Ferrer's work was more conceptual when he first emerged as an artist in the 1960s. Initially a musician, the native of Puerto Rico began to draw and paint while at college, galvanized by a 1953 trip to Paris. By the late 1950s he was experiencing success as a process-based artist, and was a part of a groundbreaking 1970 exhibit, *Information*, at the Museum of Modern Art.

"Ferrer began to weave more personal elements into his work, a shift seen in his solo exhibition *Museo* (1972) at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago,"

Beauchene says. "He was greatly stimulated by Chicago's scene. That exposure helped to confirm for him the course he had intuitively been taking in his work."

By the late 1970s, Ferrer had returned to figurative painting, and the Parts & Labor show features neo-expressionist portraits he did in Puerto Rico in the early 1980s. "He's painting the people from where he grew up, and he's skewing the figures, making arms tiny and taking other liberties when rendering them," Beauchene explains.

Ferrer spends part of the year in Puerto Rico and the remainder in Greenport, New York. Beauchene thought she would like to see his work paired with "a young contemporary artist with a little more street credit and grit."

While pitching the idea to Ferrer, Beauchene spent a lot of time talking with him about the premise and visiting his studio. She didn't need to do much coaxing with Cohen. "Although Rafael fell off the page a little — history can swallow older artists up — Alex knew who he was and was excited about being in the dialogue. These collaborations are just so rare — the opportunity to show like this."



Suzie Gilbert

Photo by Russell Cusick

How to Hide an Eagle

Novel introduces intrepid wildlife rescuer

By Alison Rooney

Suzie Gilbert was stuck, inside and out. Holed up in solitude in a house in the woods, she spent two years trying to write a book which just wasn't flowing. While "whining" to her agent about "how badly this book was going", she stopped and told him a funny wildlife rehabber story.

"He stopped me, and said 'Why are you writing what you're writing?'" she recalls. "That story you just told me — why don't you write a novel instead? Go figure it out."

So Gilbert, who first book was a 2006

memoir titled *Flyaway: How a Wild Bird Rehabber Sought Adventure and Found Her Wings*, made her first attempt at fiction. The first of four attempts, as it turned out.

"The first draft was all over the place," she says. "So was the next. I did three full drafts, sent each to my agent thinking, 'Oh, he's just going to love this' and hearing back from him that there were big problems."

"I wasn't hopeful about the fourth. Instead, he called me and said 'I absolutely love this,' which shows that I should not be an agent."

The result is *Unflappable*, which will be released on March 24. (It is actually her second work of fiction, but *Hawk Hill*, published in 1996, was written for chil-

(Continued on Page 10)



Remote Learning *(from Page 7)*

model through her video homework assignments. “Two or three times a week, they go home and watch a 10-minute video and take notes and answer a couple of questions online and hit ‘submit,’” she said. After the assignment, she’s able to group students according to their results and “help them directly where they’re struggling, as opposed to standing up and lecturing.”

With the fourth quarter of the academic year set to begin in early April, some teachers may opt to skip non-essential curriculum while reviewing important concepts taught earlier in the year as preparation for Regents and final exams, Paredes said.

Bill Castaldi, the social studies coordinator at Rombout, said that teachers used a March 13 professional day to prepare two to three weeks of material in anticipation of closing. If it appears school will be shuttered past April 1, “that would give us time to fully change over, if need be, to a distance-learning model,” he said.

In his classes, Castaldi said, every lesson covered so far this year has been posted on Google Classroom, so students can review older material.

Teachers also began working with new software this week to engage virtually with students as much as possible. How well that works will likely vary from one instructor to the next, Castaldi said.

“We’re in uncharted waters here,” he said. “It’s going to be a challenge for each individual learning community, and we

have to allow those communities to figure out what works best for them.”

At Haldane High School, Principal Julia Sniffen said teachers haven’t been structuring the virtual school day to match the typical 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. schedule. She noted that with many classes already using online interfaces, some students have already been learning “on demand.”

There was more emphasis this week, Sniffen said, on addressing the issue of households without reliable internet access. Haldane has been working with local cable providers on providing free Wi-Fi and, in cases where that’s not an option, providing mobile “jetpacks” for students to connect.

She hopes those measures will be temporary.

“My hope is that we have students back on campus, because the thing we do well is the relationship — understanding the whole child,” Sniffen said. “That’s the piece I’m most concerned about.”

Haldane Superintendent Philip Benante added in an email that one challenge, and concern, for the district “is how we can best support those students with learning needs and supports” who must study from home.

As for students’ impressions of the virtual platform this week, Paredes said she received nine emails (out of the roughly 60 students she teaches) on Monday alone.

“Some are feeling overwhelmed,” she said, while others sought clarification on assignments. “And then I had one who told me she was already bored.”

THE WEEK AHEAD

Because so many events have been canceled, we will post listings only online at highlandscurrent.org/calendar for the time being. Email updates to calendar@highlandscurrent.org.

Hide an Eagle *(from Page 9)*

dren.) Gilbert is scheduled to read from the novel at the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison on April 26.

At first, Gilbert attempted to write a murder mystery, but found she was “terrible at it,” she says. Dissatisfied with the “depressing, lyrical, introspective nature of environmental stories,” she “wanted to tell an adventure — a fast-paced, funny story that had a heart as well, and also to show what wildlife rehabbers really do. It has wound up more like *Thelma and Louise* — a road trip with suspense, thrills, chills, sex, violence, everything, thrown in there.

“It’s not completely slapstick, there are dark parts in it,” she says. “I hope it appeals to a bigger audience than the environmental crowd. It’s hard to spread the word when our culture is so driven by gadgets.”

Gilbert describes the caffeinated plot this way: “A young woman, Luna, wildlife rehabilitator, is smuggling a full-grown bald eagle out of her billionaire estranged husband’s private zoo in Florida, hoping to reunite the bird with its mate, and transport them from Key West up to Ontario, where there’s an eagle sanctuary ...

“There’s a large cast of characters, some helping her, and some trying to stop her, as she moves up through the country through an underground network of wildlife rehab-

bers. A tech guy is dragged along with her.”

After growing up in Oyster Bay on Long Island, Gilbert lived in New York City for a long time, something she doesn’t want to do again. “I could never live in the city,” she says. “I’m too much of a woodsy girl. I don’t know that I could ever move from this area. You can still find places here to walk for miles and not see anybody.”

Moving to Garrison in 1990, Gilbert connected with wildlife right away. “I was always into animals, though not necessarily birds,” she says. “A friend said, ‘You should go to Rhinebeck and check out the Hudson Valley Raptor Center.’ That was it — I worked there for 11 years, then opened my own rehab in my home.”

She doesn’t do rehab anymore but still does rescues and still considers wildlife rehabilitators her “tribe,” saying: “They want to save their corner of the world, and almost kill themselves doing so.”

Asked why birds capture her heart, Gilbert’s answer is to the point: “They can fly.” She adds: “Birds are magical. They’re beautiful creatures. People think of birds as little robots with wings, yet every wild bird I’ve ever rehabbed, of which there are many, had a distinct personality — from great blue herons to sparrows.”

Her favorite? Surprisingly, it’s the crow. “They’re so smart, so funny, and have such extreme personalities,” she explains.

Note to Readers

As art exhibitions, music and theater performances and other events are on hold for the near future, *The Current* would like to use this lull to turn the spotlight on the community and introduce more members of it to each other.

Do you have an unusual background you’d like to share? Does your elderly uncle have amazing stories? Is your neighbor an amateur painter but has never shown her work? Is your babysitter particularly creative in entertaining your kids?

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Alison Rooney, *Arts Editor*

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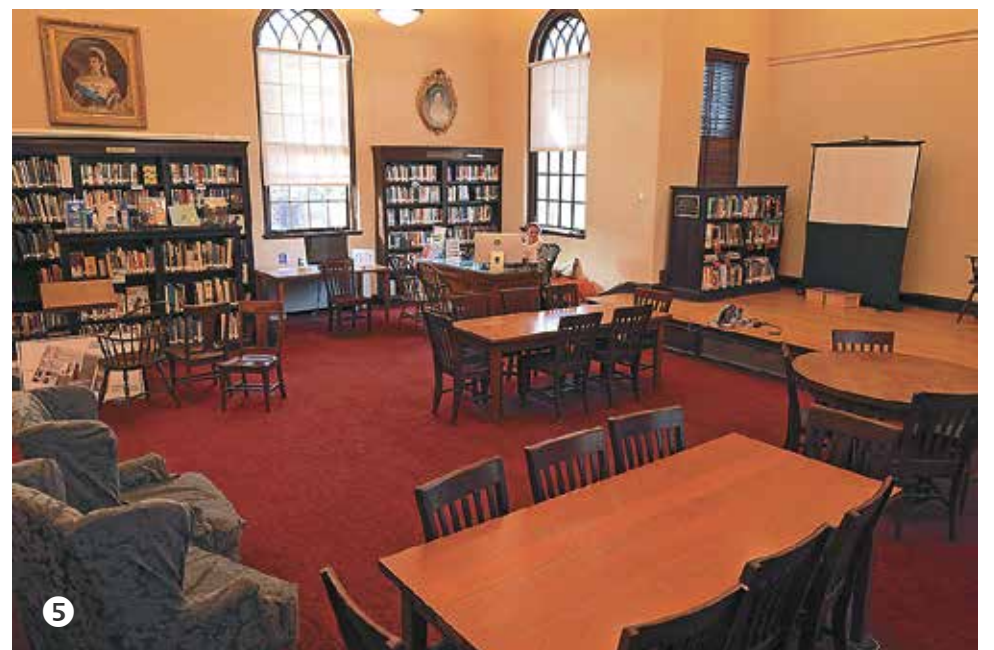
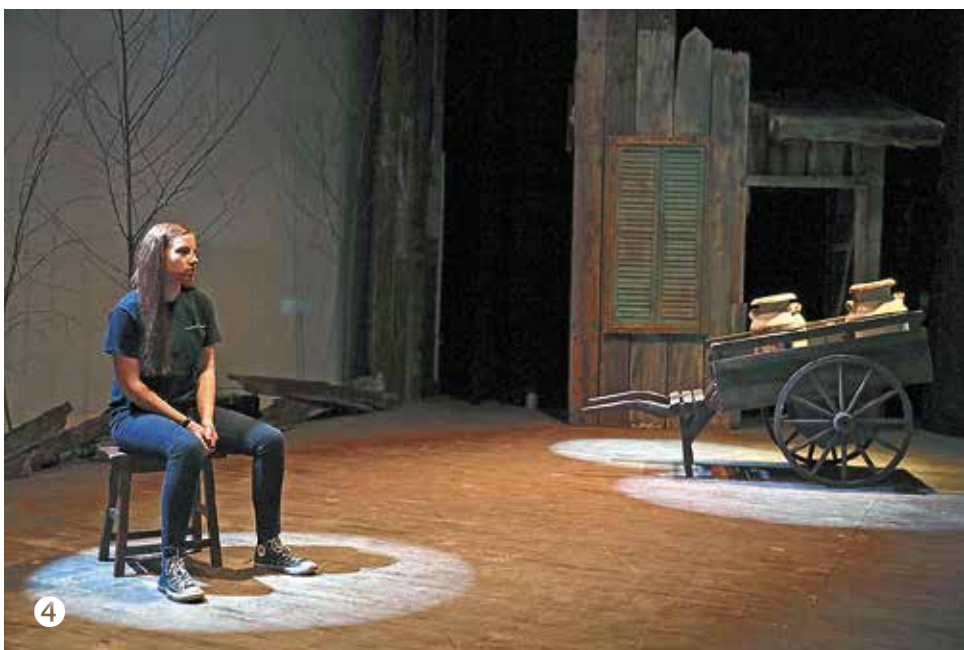
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❶ Nancy Romano, technology specialist, Garrison School | ❷ The Rev. Amanda Eiman, St. Philip's Church, Garrison | ❸ Bob Hayes, co-owner, Hudson Hill's Market & Cafe, Cold Spring | ❹ Quinn McDonald, Haldane senior and lighting technician, on the set of *Fiddler on the Roof* | ❺ Johanna Reinhardt, librarian, Butterfield Library, Cold Spring



Coronavirus Update

(from Page 8)

■ Cuomo waived the requirement that schools be in session for 180 days each school year to receive state funds. Districts are required to develop and submit their plans for alternative instructional options (including distance learning); the distribution and availability of meals; and childcare, especially for parents of first responders and health care workers.

■ Molinaro closed schools until at least March 31 and suspended extracurricular functions, although schools may remain open for administration and staff. His order did not include private day care facilities, Head Start or other day care programs.

■ Odell on March 15 ordered all public and private schools in Putnam to close for at least five days, as well as day care centers and nursery schools, although the state did not require the latter. She allowed day cares and nursery schools to re-open on Wednesday following Cuomo's order that required school districts to have plans to provide childcare for first responders and health care workers.

Putnam Legislator Amy Sayegh, who chairs the Health Committee, defended Odell's order, saying in a statement: "If on the one hand we are telling [residents] to stay home and keep their school-aged children home, how can we then tell them to drop their little ones at day care?" Odell said that "residents who have any questions about whether their business should be opened or closed in an effort to flatten the curve of COVID-19 infections should direct their questions to the governor's office."

■ Odell closed the county's four senior centers, including the Philipstown Friendship Center in Cold Spring, for at least two weeks. Michael Cunningham, director of the county Office of Senior Resources (OSR), said on Wednesday that although the centers are inactive, two crucial services continue: deliveries of meals and phone calls to check on the elderly, both those who had been homebound before the crisis and those who frequented the senior centers and now are cut off from them. So far, he said, no dramatic changes have occurred in the volume of meals delivered. He noted that some residents who had eaten lunch at a senior center have now requested deliver-



The Slater Chemical Fire Co. in Glenham offered some advice to passersby last week.

Photo by Brian PJ Cronin

ies, but others who had meals delivered have stopped because family members are not commuting to jobs and can provide meals.

Before the crisis, the county delivered 120 to 140 meals a day, including eight to 10 in Philipstown, he said. In Philipstown, there are now 10 to 15 recipients, he said, adding that a slow increase has begun county-wide. Before the closure, Cunningham said, 200 to 220 people used the senior centers daily and the shutdown generated "a lot of disappointment, a lot of concern, but not real surprise." The OSR staff, now working half-day shifts, also feels the anxiety, he added. "The biggest issue is concern for the seniors."

■ The Garrison School announced that it will be closed, and all transportation and activities suspended, through April 13. Distance learning began for students on Wednesday. In explaining the decision to close longer than mandated by the state, interim Superintendent Debra Jackson wrote to parents: "Limiting social interaction controls the rate of infection. As such, it only makes sense that we request you practice the same measures according to your capability: Stay home. Wash hands. Avoid socializing, play dates, parties, sleepovers, movie theaters, malls, etc. Try to limit your exposure and only venture into public areas when necessary. If we all participate in social distancing, the lives saved will be profound. If we treat this closure as we would a typical break, we will undermine the purpose of this closure. The good news is that it is getting warmer and outdoor

activities such as hiking, biking and running are encouraged."

■ During her first week as a remote student, Cora McMahon, a fifth grader at the Garrison School, organized a "virtual Spirit Week" for her classmates, with "wear your pajamas to 'school' day" on Monday followed by dress-up day, wacky Wednesday, VSCO girl (a teenage fashion trend) or sports player, and Garrison School gear. Students were asked to post photos of themselves in their outfits.

■ "This may go over like a lead balloon, but if you are one that thinks everyone is overreacting, then this message is not for you," wrote Timothy Haskell, owner of the Cold Spring Cheese Shop, on Facebook. "I'd just like to remind all parents that they canceled school to keep kids from congregating. Although kids don't get very sick from this, they apparently are excellent carriers, hence eliminating social interaction at school. I am mentioning this because I have seen several large groups of kids just hanging out in town enjoying their very prolonged spring break. This defeats the whole purpose. I know everyone is stir-crazy and this truly blows, but I think everyone would like for this to be over sooner rather than later, so please do your part and allow it to suck for a little while."

■ Troop K of the New York State Police, which is based in Poughkeepsie, advised anyone calling 911 to advise dispatchers if they or any members of the household are

experiencing flu-like symptoms. This information will ensure first responders can prepare to prevent the spread of any illnesses.

■ The Beacon City School District continues to provide breakfast and lunch to students daily at the Beacon High School parking lot from 10 to 10:30 a.m. and at South Avenue Elementary from 10:30 to 11 a.m. Haldane is delivering breakfast and lunch to eligible students.

■ A message on the Putnam County Health Department site reads: "We've received many complaints that you are calling the Health Department and are not receiving an answer after leaving a message. We do apologize that our nurses are inundated with calls. Please know that you are among many other people with concerns and questions. We are attempting to contact everybody who leaves us a message."

■ The Hastings Center, a think tank based in Garrison, has posted links at thehastingscenter.org to essays on COVID-19 published in its *Bioethics Forum* and *Bioethics Briefings*, including two from China on transparency in fighting coronavirus and others on New York City's response to the pandemic, the crisis of trust and pandemic ethics.

■ Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley Jr. suspended visitation, church services, outside work details and programs for inmates at the Putnam County jail. "We know that these steps will be difficult for the families of inmates and the inmates themselves, however we must ensure that we protect everyone's health, especially those confined to close quarters," he said in a statement.

■ A Little Beacon Blog published a *(Not) Happening This Weekend Guide*.

■ Putnam County warned residents about scams in which callers claim to be from the federal government and offer to send a coronavirus test kit if the person will provide a name, address and Social Security number. "No government agency would ever call and request your Social Security number," said Legislator Addonizio. Other reported scams include texts that offer free iPhones to help pass the time at home and emails from hackers with subject lines promising cures.

■ Dutchess County on March 19 closed the Beacon DMV from March 23 to April 3.

Government Reaction

(from Page 8)

48 hours. Services such as police, water, and garbage and recycling pickup will continue, village officials said.

In a message posted online, Mayor Dave Merandy said that the village staff continues to check phone messages (845-265-3611) and emails "so let us know if there is anything we can do to help." He also noted that "many of our local businesses have been shuttered" in the epidemic but "are offering take-out or delivery service. Please try to do what you can to help them stay afloat. Call your favorite restaurant, pub or gift shop to see what they are doing. If you

can, order pizza, burgers or family dinner" or a gift. "I'm sure whatever each of us does will be appreciated."

Nelsonville

The Village Board canceled its Monday meeting and, as the state mandated, moved its election for mayor, two trustees, and justice court judge from Wednesday to April 28 to coincide with the presidential primary vote. All meetings are postponed until at least March 30.

Mayor Michael Bowman backed the election postponement. "The governor absolutely made the right decision to err on the side of caution," he said.

Residents can email mayor@nelsonville.

ny.gov with questions or requests for assistance.

Beacon

Mayor Lee Kyriacou said the service window at the front of City Hall would remain open during regular city government hours. "Municipal buildings are being cleaned twice a day and are safe for the public," he said. However, he encouraged residents to contact officials by phone or email.

The city clerk suspended appointments for those seeking marriage licenses.

On a trial basis, officials moved civic meetings to a larger space inside the Lewis Tompkins Hose Co. at 13 South Ave. to allow more social distancing. (See Page 1.)

Trash collection, handled by a private contractor, will continue on schedule, the city said. The recycling and transfer facility on Dennings Avenue also remains open for some services.

Justice Courts

New York on Monday ordered town and village justice courts to postpone all non-essential activities. It stated that one special court per county will handle urgent matters such as arraignments and orders of protection. After-hours urgent matters may be handled in a town or village courtroom, it said.

Arts Groups Feeling Pinch

By Alison Rooney

We asked a number of local arts organizations how they are coping with the shutdown because of concerns about the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Craig Wolf

Howland Cultural Center, Beacon

Not much is happening publicly here at our little nonprofit. We are an arts center that normally produces and presents performances and exhibits, largely administered by volunteers, most of whom are older, falling within the age zone of higher concern.

We can't do what we normally do right now. The impact is hard for us not only because we must cancel near-term events, but because it is not yet clear when we will be able to go forward with events that are further out on our calendar. Every day has brought another conversation with a presenter, producer or renter about whether their plans can go forward, and so far, the answer has been "No."

The impact of not producing events is a significant loss of revenue. It is through doing what we do that we earn a good chunk of our keep. We regret that the postponements include our annual gala. What's left on the revenue side for now is donations. Thankfully, many friends have responded to our annual campaign, which we now call Friends of the Howland Center.

Alex Bloomstein

Ballet Arts Studio, Beacon

Our faculty and staff live, as most artists do, from paycheck to paycheck. So this situation will be extremely worrisome and stressful for them. More importantly, all of us are saddened by the impact this situation will have on our students. These dancers have been working

diligently and with commitment all year on their craft, only to have their momentum abruptly interrupted. We are considering "video classrooms" but are aware that, because dance instruction is so immediate and interpersonal, we will have to work hard to make that platform effective.

Barbara DeSilva

The Chapel Restoration, Cold Spring

The Chapel Restoration is a small organization with a big architectural, historical and cultural presence. We will be deeply affected by this state of emergency, especially if it proves to be prolonged. We do not have paid staff. We can't afford it — all of our activities and programs are administered by volunteers. But we are concerned about the performers and writers who will be unable to present their work. We often form unusually personal relationships with the artists who perform at the Chapel and we know that many of them will suffer financial hardship as a result of being unable to perform.

The Chapel Restoration itself will be severely impacted by the loss of revenue. We do not schedule programming and weddings during the winter months because of icy, windy conditions at our site. Events during our active season from April through November provide a major part of our revenue, through donations at free events and tickets sales at others. Maintaining our historic building and grounds in the absence of this revenue will be a challenge. And we regret the loss to the community of the high-quality programs we provide, including an increasing number of events featuring local talent.

We look forward to welcoming visitors and guests back to the Chapel as soon as possible and we send best wishes to all for a healthy outcome.

Amy Dul

Philipstown Depot Theatre, Garrison

Like everyone, we're doing our best to cope with a new reality. Like many organizations whose mission is, in part, to bring people together, we have shut

down. This spring's Mainstage play, *Morning's at Seven*, has been postponed until 2021, as well as our March and April events. With luck, we will reopen in June with a full and exciting schedule: Depot Docs: *The Apollo* on June 12; *Night Train: An Evening of Storytelling* on June 13; Depot Dance on June 14; and *Glass Ceiling Breakers One Acts* on June 19 to 21.

Once this crisis passes, we will return to the stage with gleeful enthusiasm. Our actors, designers, directors and producers are all eager to get back to work. Until then, we wash our hands and wish good health for all the members of our community and a quick recovery to anyone who is suffering.

Carla Goldberg

Beacon Artists' Union Gallery

Our current way of dealing with the temporary closure of our brick-and-mortar gallery is to not give up completely. We did hang our March show, which celebrates each artist's experimentation and interpretation of the word *roots*. We hung a much smaller show closer to the windows so that people can enjoy the art if they walk by. We hope the art pieces bring a moment of joy and light in this time of uncertainty. We will continue to do this until we can open again.

In the meantime, we have images of the individual works in the show at baugallery.org and will share on social media. People can contact the gallery via email if they are interested in a piece and want to help support us. When we do re-open, our gallery is spacious and clean and easy to social distance in. Artists are still making art for future shows and we can't wait to share those works with our audience. For now, we go with the flow.

Katie Schmidt-Feder

Garrison Art Center

Closing the art center to wait for the COVID-19 storm to pass was a difficult decision because we were about to install two solo exhibitions: Caroline Burton (mixed media) and Eric Erickson (paintings). They have been rescheduled to 2021. The spring class session was to have started last Sunday. Not only are we concerned about the financial impact, because the art center derives a large chunk of its operating funds from classes, exhibitions and events, but we also are sad to put on hold the valuable social interaction and multiple benefits of art-making that our students enjoy.

We are encouraging community members to continue to create at home and share their work via #GAC_QuarantineArt. We are looking to social media to stay connected and

will be posting virtual content — maybe even some short technique videos provided by our instructors, as well as other virtual tours, and art education resources.

The Riverside Art Auction remains scheduled for Saturday, May 9. We realize there is a strong possibility the auction will need to be postponed or made virtual, but at this point we will forge ahead.

Our galleries are currently empty — back to bare white. This could feel a little sad.

But we will look instead, for the next couple of months, to the wisdom expressed in the final line in the musical based on the life and art of George Seurat, *Sunday in the Park with George*: "White. A blank page or canvas. His favorite. So many possibilities."

Davis McCallum

Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival

A prolonged state of emergency would be disastrous not just for the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, but for our entire not-for-profit arts sector.

Freelance artists, many of whom are familiar faces at HVSF, have already seen many of their gigs at other theaters evaporate.

Though the present crisis is most harrowing for them, institutions like ours are subject to the same pressures. At HVSF, we are lucky to be in a strong financial position in the short term, and also fortunate that we're not yet in production, which would mean expenses going out the door with no certainty of our ability to produce a play or gather an audience for it.

The big picture is just as troubling: Our nonprofit business model relies almost equally on ticket sales and contributed revenue, so the dire economic climate affects our delicate finances hugely. When the box office slows to a trickle and the donations freeze, even healthy and vibrant organizations like HVSF are quickly vulnerable.

Where does that leave us? Well, we are hoping our patrons will embrace our flexible exchange policy and buy tickets even in this moment of uncertainty, which would then afford us the cash flow to pay our artists. Should we have to cancel a show due to COVID-19, we'll hope that some of our patrons will consider a donation or conversion to a gift certificate to be redeemed whenever the world rights itself and we are again able to produce theater, even if that means the following season.

At this point, we're considering every ticket sold as a gesture of solidarity and support, an instance of our loyal patrons stepping up at a precarious moment to protect the institution they love and the artists who make it so special.



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2020 College Scholarship Guide

By Chip Rowe

The list below includes a sampling of scholarships available to high school seniors in Philipstown and Beacon — visit highlandscurrent.org/scholarships for links and information on how to apply. Each listing includes who qualifies, the amount of the award and the deadline.

HIGHLANDS

Acacio “Roger” Rodrigues Memorial Scholarship

Putnam or Dutchess seniors or undergraduate college students who plan to study in a field that will lead to a career in the building/construction industry. **\$2,000+ annually | April 1**

AIAWHV Foundation

Putnam or Dutchess college students studying architecture. **\$7,000 | April 6**

Daughters of the United States Army

Senior who is the child or dependent of an active, retired or deceased U.S. military service member whose family resides within a 35-mile radius of West Point. **April 17**

Elena Eckert Memorial Scholarship

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

Hudson Valley Guns and Hoses Scholarship

Putnam or Dutchess senior planning to major in criminal justice, fire science, public administration or related fields. | **\$1,000+ | April 1**

Lower Hudson Council of School Superintendents

Hudson Valley students pursuing a career in law, education, engineering, architecture, science, math or technology. | **Varies. | April 23**

Mid-Hudson Ivy Foundation

Seniors from the Mid-Hudson Valley. Sponsored by Alpha Kappa Alpha. **\$500 to \$2,000 | March 28**

Mid-Hudson Psychiatric Society

Seniors who plan to pursue a

career in mental health, such as psychiatry, psychology, psychiatric nursing or social work. **\$125 to \$500 | May**

Nebraska Foundation Scholarships

Seniors in the Hudson Valley “who may not fit the traditional four-year college model” but plan to pursue vocational or technical education. | **\$2,500 | April 15**

New York Schools Insurance Reciprocal

Haldane or Beacon seniors who are (1) enrolled in special education, (2) have demonstrated resourcefulness and ingenuity to overcome a puzzling creative obstacle, or (3) plan to attend a New York college and have a record of involvement and work for a cause or organization that promotes social justice, equal opportunity, relief of human suffering or similar aspirations. **\$3,000 to \$5,000 | March 27**

Professional Nurses Association of Dutchess/Putnam

Putnam or Dutchess seniors or college students pursuing a career in nursing. **\$500 to \$1,000 | May 12**

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Lower Hudson Valley seniors who demonstrate an interest in U.S. history. **\$250 | April 15**

St. Luke’s Cornwall Health System

Seniors who plan to enter the medical field. | **\$1,000 to \$1,500 | April 1**

Tony Schembri Memorial Scholarship

Seniors from the Mid-Hudson Valley. Sponsored by the Newburgh-based chapter of the veterans’ organization Rolling Thunder 3. **\$500 | April 1**

BEACON

Beacon Elks Lodge 1493

Beacon High School (BHS) seniors with a record of “extraordinary community service” or plans to pursue an engineering or technology-related degree. | **Varies. | May 6**

Beacon Schools PTOs

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

Bianca Knight Memorial Scholarship

Dutchess seniors pursuing careers in human services or ministry. | **\$1,000 | May 6**

Camerata Chorale Scholarship

Dutchess seniors pursuing careers in music or music education. | **\$1,000 | May 1**

Charles S. North Scholarship for Music & Art

Dutchess seniors who plan to major in music performance, music/art education or visual arts (ceramics, drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, design, crafts, photography, video, filmmaking and architecture). **\$1,000 to \$1,500 | April 1**

Dustin James Fallen Police Officer Memorial Fund

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

Dutchess County Agricultural Society

Dutchess seniors and college students who plan to pursue a degree in agriculture, horticulture or human ecology or a career related to agriculture or horticulture. **\$2,000 annually | May 8**

Dutchess County Counseling Association

Dutchess senior with 90 average or better. **\$1,000 | April 24**

Dutchess County Music Educators Association

Dutchess seniors who plan to major in music or the arts. **\$500 | May 1**

Dutchess County St. Patrick’s Parade Committee

Dutchess seniors and college students of Irish descent. | **\$1,000 | April 30**

Eileen Hickey Nursing Scholarship

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

George A. and Catherine V. Quill Scholarship

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

H. Normington Schofield Scholarship

BHS seniors who plan to major in environmental studies or education. **\$1,000+ | April 1**

Honorable Anthony L. Pagonis Memorial Scholarship

Dutchess seniors, preferably Beacon residents, who intend to study law, political science/government or criminal justice. | **\$1,000 | April 1**

Hudson Valley Financial Professionals

Dutchess seniors who plan to pursue a career in the financial services industry. **\$500 | April 1**

Hudson Valley School Food Service Directors Scholarship

BHS seniors planning to study food service, hospitality, hotel management or dietetics. **\$1,000 | April 20**

Jennifer Coudrey Memorial Scholarship

Female Dutchess seniors who intend to pursue a career in physical therapy. **\$1,000 | April 1**

Joseph H. and Mildred C. McManus Scholarship

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

Joseph S. Guarneri Sr. Memorial Scholarship

BHS seniors “who has overcome or is overcoming personal, financial, family or emotional difficulties.” **\$650+ | April 1**

Juan Lafuente Leadership Scholarship

Dutchess residents attending a college in New York state who demonstrate academic achievement, especially in math and science. **\$1,000 to \$1,500 | April 1**

Landon R. Gray Memorial Scholarship

Dutchess seniors who are African American and plan to pursue a degree in education, human services, technology or media. **\$1,000 | May 6**



Mary McKenzie Memorial Scholarship

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

Maynard and Ferne Brownell Family Scholarship

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

Norman and Rita Nussbickel Memorial Scholarship

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

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity – Upsilon Tau Chapter

Dutchess seniors with 85 or better average.
Varies | March 25

R&M Promotions Latino High School Scholarship

Dutchess seniors of Hispanic origin. | Varies. | April 3

Richard W. Mitchell Memorial Scholarship

Dutchess seniors with “significant economic, physical, developmental or emotional barrier(s)” who will enroll at a New York college.
\$1,000 to \$1,500 | April 1

Robert K. and Clara Lou Gould Memorial Scholarship

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

Stephanie D. Brown & Barbara M. Murphy Memorial Scholarship

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

Steven and Linda Lant Family Scholarship

Dutchess seniors or college students pursuing a degree in business or finance at a New York school.
\$2,500+ | April 1

TEG Betros Scholarship

Dutchess seniors who are TEG Federal Credit Union members (or whose parent or guardian is) who demonstrate academic achievement and commitment to community.
\$1,000 | April 1

TWINKS Social and Civic Club – Poughkeepsie Chapter

Dutchess seniors who are African American.
Varies. | April 15

PHILIPSTOWN

Alice Reilley Schatzle Memorial Scholarship

Haldane seniors who plan to major in education, library sciences or another field that serves others. | May 29

Blue Devil Booster Club Scholarship

A male and female senior who have been involved in the Haldane athletic program and demonstrated honesty, self-discipline, commitment and team play. | \$500 | May 12

Cold Spring Lions Club

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

Cold Spring Police Benevolent Association

Haldane seniors, for community service and potential for success.
Varies. | April 30

Glaser Orthodontics Scholarship

Haldane seniors who plan to pursue a career in health care. | \$1,000 | March 31

Joseph Percacciolo Memorial Award

Haldane seniors who have demonstrated service and dedication to the community.
May 29

Knights of Columbus Scholarship

Philipstown seniors, with preference to Our Lady of Loretto and St. Joseph’s parishioners. | April 24

Kristofer J. DiNatale Scholarship

Presented to a Haldane senior who has demonstrated a strong interest and commitment to technology.
May 29

Liz Bono Memorial Scholarship

Haldane seniors preparing for a career in business management or planning to start their own business.
\$500 | May 29

Lori Isler Teacher Scholarship

Haldane seniors who plan to pursue a teaching career and are involved in community

service. | \$1,000 | May 29

Master Gardeners

Putnam seniors who plan to pursue a degree in horticulture, environmental science, sustainability and similar subjects. Sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County.
\$500 | April 30

Mental Health Association of Putnam County

Putnam seniors who plan to pursue a career related to mental health or human services. | \$500 | March 27

Philip Baumgarten Memorial Scholarship

Philipstown seniors who volunteer for a local nonprofit and/or have worked for a local business. Sponsored by the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.
\$1,000 | April 12

Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps

Offers the Robert Christie Memorial Award for a Haldane senior involved in community service and volunteerism.
May 29

Philipstown Republican Committee

Awarded to a Philipstown senior who demonstrates leadership qualities, participates in extracurricular activities and demonstrates superior moral character. | \$250 | April 17

Putnam County Children’s Committee

Putnam seniors who exhibit a “commitment to service to the community, and strength of purpose in achieving an educational goal, ability and maturity.” | \$500 | April 24

Putnam County Sheriff’s PBA Scholarship

Putnam seniors, on basis of need and potential for success | April 29

The VFW Leadership Scholarship Award

The James Harvey Hustis Veterans of Foreign War post 2362 offers a leadership scholarship to graduating Haldane seniors with leadership qualities who participate in extracurricular activities and community service and demonstrate a high moral character. | May 29

How to Read and Compare Financial Aid Awards

By Sandra Moore

With the deadline for committing to a college — May 1 — around the corner, now’s the time to review financial aid award letters carefully. Since these notifications are not standardized, the information they contain is often incomplete and confusing. Here’s how to make sure that you’re comparing apples to apples:

Determine Cost of Attendance (COA)

For each school, verify actual direct and estimated indirect costs for the academic year in which the student will begin study. For most colleges, direct (“billable”) costs include tuition and room and board; some also add in fees and/or health insurance premiums, although the latter can be waived with proof of family coverage. Indirect costs typically include books and supplies, travel and personal expenses.

Compare Awards

Enter the above data in an online comparative tool, such as the one provided by the College Board (collegeboard.org).

Subtract Gift Aid

First, minus out the “free money” from federal, state, institutional and any outside sources (e.g., need-based grants and merit scholarships) from the total cost to calculate a net price.

Review Self-Help Options

Next, look at each award package to see if it includes Federal Direct Subsidized and/or Unsubsidized Student Loans (formerly known as Stafford Loans) and work-study availability to see what the student qualifies for.

Calculate Loan Repayment

If awarded a student loan or loans, determine how much of the total loan amount is acceptable based on the interest rate and re-payment schedule. (Remember: Unsubsidized loans accrue interest throughout the college years that must be repaid by the student; currently, for subsidized loans, interest accrued during that time is absorbed by the federal government.) To help you complete this task, use the College Board’s online repayment calculator.

Important Reminders

- If a work-study amount is included, that money is not a given and must be earned. Accordingly, it cannot be counted as a gift and should not be deducted from net price; be sure to check with financial aid offices about job availability, wages, schedule, etc.
- A family’s net price should only reflect gift aid, not loans or work-study. However, it’s useful for budgeting purposes to also calculate the out-of-pocket cost: the amount the family will actually have to pay for each year of college. To do this, subtract total acceptable student and parent loan amounts.
- Before signing on the dotted line, families must compare the bottom-line price of each college with their own budgets to determine which one best fits their financial situation. It’s not a good idea to raid retirement fund or emergency savings and/or apply for additional private loans to cover any gap. With so many affordable college options out there, don’t allow the student to choose schools that may risk the family’s fiscal future.

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

Current Classifieds

FOR RENT

COLD SPRING — Furnished village home, short walk to Metro-North, convenient to local shops, supermarket, drugstore, restaurants. Near hospital extension. No car needed. Close to hiking trails, parks nature preserves and riverfront. Elegantly maintained backyard and garden. Laundry, all utilities and Wi Fi. Full basement. Direct to owner; no brokers. Email ben.f@thirdfloorllc.com.

FOR SALE

CONCRETE BLOCKS — Brand-new and well-seasoned 12" x 16" concrete blocks, \$1 each. Call 845-424-4244 (answers as Life & Funding Group of Garrison). Leave name, number and best time to return call.

MISCELLANEOUS

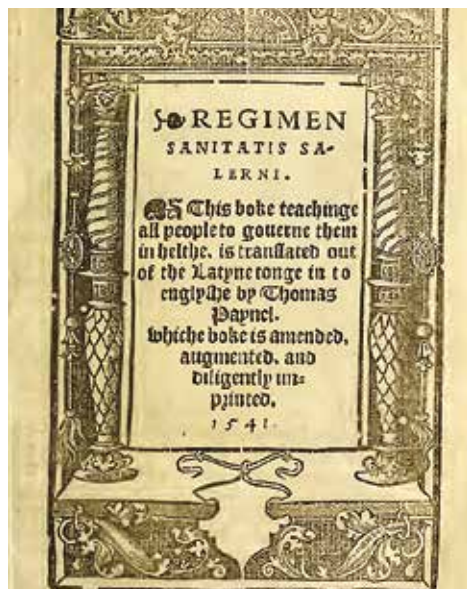
VENDORS NEEDED — The Putnam County Wine & Food Fest is seeking vendors, volunteers and sponsors for its 10th anniversary event, which will be held Aug. 8 and 9 at Mayor's Park in Cold Spring. 15% early bird for vendors until March 20. For more information, call 845-842-0575 or visit putnamcountywinefest.com.

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HOUSEKEEPING AND SUPPORT — Housekeeping, cleaning, laundry, ironing, house sitting, running errands, accompanying patients to hospital appointments and procedures, elderly care and support, also experienced executive assistant and business manager. Able to provide support either for an hour or more at your convenience in Philipstown, Fishkill, Garrison, Beacon and Wappingers. Email sandiafonso70@gmail.com or text/leave message on 845-245-5976.

CARETAKER/PROPERTY MANAGER — Caretaker with 20+ years' experience available to: Manage operations of property; maintenance, repairs, painting; gardening, landscaping; convenience services (errands); pet care. Loyal, trustworthy; flexible to a variety of needs; insured. Resume and references available. Contact Greg at 914-618-2779 or gproth24@gmail.com.

TAG SALE? Car for sale? Space for rent? Help wanted? Place your ad here for \$4.95. See highlandscurrent.org/classifieds.



In 1870, a Cold Spring resident owned a copy of this 1541 book.



The Waverley bicycle, popular in 1895, was made in Indianapolis.

Looking Back in Philipstown

By Chip Rowe

150 Years Ago (March 1870)

The night watchman at the depot reported that the engineer and the brakeman of a freight train had a fight while the cars were stopped at the Cold Spring station. "It seems that the engineer put the brakeman off the locomotive, and the latter sneaked behind him while oiling some portion of the machinery and struck him a heavy blow from behind," the *Cold Spring Recorder* reported. "The brakeman got an axe from the caboose but the conductor got the train under motion and the instinct of their trade took each to his respective post."

The directors of the Cold Spring Reading Room, founded seven years earlier and supported by annual subscriptions paid by residents, voted to close.

Thomas Vance challenged any reader of the *Recorder* to "combat with me in figures, including examples based upon algebra and arithmetic, to be decided by three judges and place of solving said examples at the discretion of the one who returns this challenge."

A propeller steamer forced its way from Garrison through the ice to a point opposite Cold Spring, cutting a channel between the village and West Point. The captain was paid but then his ship became stuck "as if melted lead had been poured around her."

A load of hay driven by John Baxter of Philipstown got so tightly wedged in the passage between the stores of Robert Smith and T.B. Truesdell that it had to be unloaded.

Matthias McCaffery reported that he had in his possession a book published in London in 1655, *Private Devotions for Several Occasions, Ordinary and Extraordinary*. William Paulding then reported that he owned a medieval poem about daily hygiene and diet called *Regimen sanitatis saleni* [commonly known as *The Flower of Medicine*] published in London in 1541.

Miss E.J. Pierce, M.D., of Newburgh, delivered a lecture at Town Hall illustrated with oil paintings and entitled, "Diseases Peculiar to Women."

The roof of a barn in Nelsonville owned by Daniel Griffin was blown off in a gale, with

one half going north and the other half south.

A hailstorm caused many cancellations.

After decapitating two turkeys in the street in front of his store, Stephen Pierce left them in the snow and went inside his home. When he returned, two men were seen making their way up the street with one of the fowls. When confronted, they claimed they had been playing a joke.

When hearing complaints that the village streets were overdue for repair, the editor of the *Recorder* said he would reply, "Did you vote in the last election?" When the reply was "no," "we frankly expressed our opinion that the village matters were none of his business — that he didn't live in these parts and should shut his mouth."

125 Years Ago (March 1895)

E.L. Post, the dry goods merchant, was attracting attention with his window display of gent's furnishings.

Thieves ransacked the residence of James Ladue of Chestnut Street while he away because of an illness in his family. They took a pot of butter, food and clothing.

George Ferris left for Fire Island, where Rep. Hamilton Fish of Garrison secured him a position as watchman. Rep. Fish also secured \$15,000 in state funds to complete the road between the State Camp and Garrison.

Sixty-three votes were cast in the annual Nelsonville village election for trustees, clerk, collector, treasurer, assessors, street commissioners and pound master. The following week, the newly elected board passed ordinances banning the playing of marbles on the sidewalks and "fast driving."

The board called Levi Wood to appear before it to explain why he was claiming that members of the previous board had "expended money for which they gave no account, to the amount of over \$100."

Alexander Spalding purchased a vacant lot at the corner of Main and Furnace.

"Eggs are the latest fad with women," the *Recorder* noted. "It has become a common sight at leading ladies' restaurants in the New York shopping districts to see whole regiments of women file past the man at

the counter busy breaking eggs in wine glasses. The beverage is then tossed down in a single swallow."

A flock of 20 eagles in the lower cove caught the attention of travelers on the railroad.

In Garrison, Eugene Crawford purchased a new Waverley bicycle that weighed 22 pounds.

George Smith, the telegraph operator, returned home after visiting friends in Connecticut.

Prof. P.A. Carciofini, of West Point, who gave a boxing class in the village last year, was hired by Princeton College in New Jersey to teach "the manly art of self-defense" to students. [Later that year, the *Princeton Bric-a-brac* reported: "Prof. Carciofini started a boxing class and incidentally tried to get up a prize fight among the fellows. The faculty promptly sat on the preliminaries and the professor imported a couple of would-be sluggers, and held a séance at Kingston, attended by a few students and much disappointment."]

The proprietor of the Pacific Hotel said he planned to remodel its interior and change its name to the Burnett House.

The *New York Evening Post* reported that a group called the Prison Association of New York was agitating for the abolition of the county jail system in the state, citing as an example the situation at the Putnam County jail, which during an inspection had 86 prisoners in a 32-by-32-foot area designed to hold 18. When asked about the overcrowding, the sheriff replied that the jail had held up to 160 prisoners in the space.

The St. Mary's Athletic Club hosted a running high jump competition. The bar began at 2.5 feet and progressed one inch at a time. William Bell won by clearing 4 feet, 7 inches, and the top three finishers each received souvenir spoons.

After the young sons of Green Crookston and Meade Van Tassell got into a scrap, the fathers did, as well, which resulted in Crookston suing Van Tassell for \$1,000 in damages. [Crookston, a Civil War veteran, died 25 years later, in March 1920.]

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Allchin had planned to move to Coney Island but decided to continue living at the Garrison Hotel for another season.

(Continued on Page 17)

(Continued from Page 16)

James Dibbell, the librarian of the Garrison Reading Room, visited New York City to purchase books with funds donated by the Social Club of Garrison.

Three copperheads were spotted sunning themselves near the Main Street railroad crossing.

The Garrison Walking Club took its first venture of the spring, going from West Point to Central Valley, then to Newburgh, and returning home by rail.

The *Recorder* noted in a correction that John Donohue had a yoke of oxen, not a team of horses, for sale at the Garrison Hotel stable.

100 Years Ago (March 1920)

Henry Metcalfe recalled in a letter to the editor that about a year before she died in 1913, Julia Butterfield had asked him what he thought she could do for the medical welfare of the village. He suggested “a visiting nurse, to live in a little dispensary, stocked for simple emergency cases.” He noted that “she had grander ideas.” [In her will, Butterfield bequeathed \$150,000, or the equivalent of \$3.8 million today, to build Butterfield Hospital.]

The New York State Police opened a substation in Cold Spring at the residence of Mary Royce on Main Street. Any call for assistance could be directed to telephone 47-J.

A gunshot heard near Fair Street turned out to a resident firing at a prowler.

A state examiner sent to Cold Spring to look at the village books declared that a \$5 payment made to place a wreath of flowers on Mrs. Butterfield’s grave was illegal.

After a complaint by the Village Board to the railroad company about Train 160, which was typically 60 to 90 minutes late bringing about 75 commuters home each day from Beacon, the train began to arrive at its scheduled time of 5:34 p.m.

At the request of Alice Haldane, the Village Board changed the name of Oak Street to Giles Street to honor the late Dr. Richard Giles, a longtime Cold Spring physician.

After the village election for treasurer ended in a tie, the winner was chosen by drawing one of two ballots from a hat.

The chairman of the Memorial Day Committee offered to donate to the village the gun and carriage that had been made at West Point Foundry and used in a number of village celebrations.

The Cold Spring Light Co. installed wire to supply electricity to a new hat shop on Market Street.

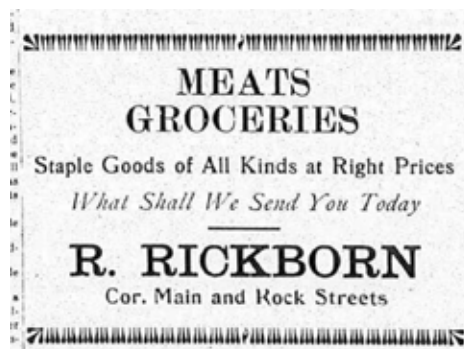
The Village Board voted to move its meetings from Fridays to Tuesdays.

75 Years Ago (March 1945)

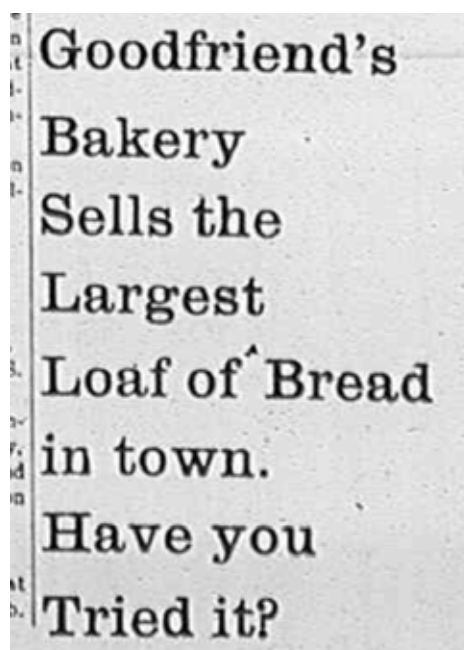
The Hudson River Conservation Society held its annual meeting at the Essex House in New York City, under the leadership of President William Church Osborn of Garrison, to discuss “safeguarding the shores,” the *Recorder* reported.

The parents of Pvt. Robert Thom, 19, of Pine Street in Nelsonville, received a telegraph saying he had been wounded in combat in Luxembourg.

The trustees of the Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Hospital announced that Minnie Boyd had bequeathed the hospital



FREE DELIVERY — A 1920 advertisement from the *Cold Spring Recorder*



BREAD WARS — Competing ads in a 1920 issue of the *Cold Spring Recorder*

her property on the west side of Paulding Avenue known as the Boyd Estate, which it planned to sell.

Putnam County Sheriff Scofield Palmer led an assembly for students at Haldane Central School that included a demonstration of various types of firearms and their safety features. The chemistry class later presented an assembly that included a demonstration of how to make cold cream.

Frederick Mosher Sr., 64, a North Highlands farmer, died of a heart attack while working in his fields.

Jessie Farman and Dorothy Rogers of Garrison each received one-sixth of the \$1.5 million estate of their aunt, Mary Wiltsie Fuller, the founder of the Wiawaka Holiday House at Lake George.

The Westchester-Putnam Scholastic League champion Haldane Central basketball team defeated a squad of All Stars from other schools in the league, 40-22.

Sgt. Robert Howlett, a Haldane graduate and former Cold Spring resident, was awarded a Purple Heart for a combat injury suffered in Belgium in November 1944. He had been wounded again in February and

was recovering in a French hospital.

The southbound Empire State Express destroyed a car stalled on the tracks at the Manitou crossing at 8:30 p.m. on a Friday. The driver, a Westchester County deputy sheriff, abandoned the car when he saw the train’s lights. He said he had taken a wrong turn driving to Garrison and stopped on the tracks when he realized his headlights were reflecting on the Hudson River.

Lt. Paul Mansell, formerly of Cold Spring, died with 15 others when an Army transport plane crashed while flying from London to Paris. The passengers included seven USO entertainers.

Pvt. William Puckey, 29, of Annsville, whose aunt and uncle lived in Nelsonville, died of wounds suffered five months earlier during combat inside Germany.

The parents of Pvt. Dominick Bocchino of Parsonage Street, who had been reported missing in action, received word that he was a prisoner of war.

First Lt. Herbert Bowden, of Garrison, who served with the U.S. Army Air Corps, was killed in action over Iwo Jima.

50 Years Ago (March 1970)

The Continental Village Republican Club hosted a talk by Lucy Muscarnaro of the Movement to Restore Decency that included two short films on “sensitivity training and sex education in the schools.”

Cold Spring Mayor James Early signed a contract with the State Pure Waters Authority for a \$1.9 million project that would “substitute modern waste management for the village’s current practice of pouring raw sewage into the Hudson.”

Dave Mattern of Haldane finished third in a free-throw shooting contest sponsored by Dutchess Community College. Mattern and a teammate, Bob Heady, were each named to the 10-player Putnam All-County Basketball Team by *The Reporter-Dispatch* in White Plains.

Milton Powers, chair of the Philipstown Board of Assessors, returned from the annual meeting of the Association of Towns of the State of New York, where he attended a seminar on “real property exemptions.” He noted that Philipstown had the highest percentage of tax-exempt property in the county, at 43 percent, compared to 19 percent in Carmel and 18 percent in Putnam Valley. Of the Philipstown parcels, 14 percent were schools, 14 percent religious, 5 percent hospital and 1 percent owned by the state.

Four members of the Putnam County Board of Supervisors visited pulverizing installations in Madison, Wisconsin, and Albuquerque, New Mexico, to see if grinding methods could help resolve Putnam’s waste-disposal problems.

The Cold Spring Lions Club held its 31st annual Charter Night Celebration at Gino the Chef’s Restaurant. Four charter members of the club, which was founded in 1939, were able to attend.

About 125 residents showed up for a meeting of the Garrison school board to discuss a proposal to hire an assistant principal for \$15,000 annually [about \$100,000 today].

A science teacher at Haldane High School, Jon Lovelet, organized a modern folk music club for students.

Edward Sharples of Nelsonville was named Dutchess County’s first commissioner of aviation.

The Army announced that Constitution Island would be opened during the summer as a recreation area for cadets. The DeWitt Wallace Fund provided \$250,000 for a five-year project to add pavilions, restrooms, a lodge, concessions, picnic tables and possibly a pool.

According to the Army, Specialist John Jay Bennett, 23, whose wife lived on Hamilton Street in Cold Spring, was killed in Vietnam by a booby trap in an abandoned building. An Army officer from West Point and a priest delivered the dispatch. Bennett was scheduled to be discharged in April.



John Jay Bennett died in Vietnam on March 2, 1970.

25 Years Ago (March 1995)

Haldane said it would need to add a fourth kindergarten class because enrollment was projected to increase by nearly 10 percent.

Gov. George Pataki, of Garrison, and his wife, Libby, joined about 130 other people at the Plumbush Inn to honor Abby Hartman on her retirement as chair of the Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals.

The Garrison school board voted 5-2 to give the superintendent a raise for the past year, present year and coming year.

In their fifth trip to the Class D state tournament semi-finals in eight seasons, the Haldane girls’ basketball team lost to Pine Valley, 65-53.

Anthony Phillips won re-election as Cold Spring mayor over Antonia Godsey, 410-128.

Voters approved a proposition, 204-187, to provide Cold Spring firefighters with “service awards” at age 62 of \$10 monthly for each year on the force.

Putnam County Legislator Vinny Tamagna, whose district included Philipstown, said he would push to make Continental Village a part of the Garrison postal district, instead of Peekskill’s.

Brion Travis of Garrison was appointed to head the State Board of Parole.

Putnam County sheriff’s deputies arrested a 27-year-old Philipstown man whom they accused of selling five pounds of marijuana to an undercover agent over a two-month period.

SPORTS

Follow us at twitter.com/hcurrentsportsSeason Over? *(from Page 20)*

working athletic administrators who will make the best of the situation.”

At Beacon High School, Athletic Director John Giametta said the district would “do everything we can” to salvage a partial season for spring sports. “We’ve never seen anything like this, and we all feel for our student athletes — our seniors in particular,” he said. “It’s very hard to predict, because things have been changing so fast. I like to prepare for the worst and hope that we are pleasantly surprised, and that we are able to get kids on the field again.”

The worst case is a season lost.

“Our coaches have all offered to play whenever and wherever, and extend the season,” Giametta said. “They are all devastated, just like everyone in athletics.”

Although some athletes have been work-

ing out in small groups, athletic directors say they shouldn’t be because of directives to distance socially to slow the spread of the virus.

“We’ve instructed all of our coaches to tell the kids not to” have private practices, Salumn said. “Workouts should be on their own. Stay in shape. But do it on your own. If I was talking to a group of kids I would tell them, in a respectful way, that it’s for your own health and safety — getting together is not recommended.”

The vast majority of winter athletes were able to conclude their seasons. The exceptions were those who were involved in state tournament competition. In the Highlands, that included Beacon bowler Selena Virtuoso, who qualified for the sectional All-Star team. It was scheduled to compete in Syracuse on March 14 before the event was canceled.



Senior Grace Affeldt (left) and her teammates face the prospect of missing this year’s lacrosse season. Photo by S. Pearlman

At Haldane, the girls’ basketball team had its Class C regional game moved twice, from a high school in Westchester County to Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh and then to Haldane, where it was played without spectators. Millbrook defeated the Blue Devils to advance, but the state tournament was then suspended. The Putnam Valley girls’ team also had reached the Class B regional title game after a stellar season.

“Our girls were very appreciative they got to compete,” Salumn said. “To get to that point, and to get to play that last game — not only will they appreciate it, but they will cherish it.”

Bela Monteleone, a senior who was named MVP of the Section 1 championship game, said moments after Haldane hoisted the gold ball at the Westchester County Center for a seventh consecutive year: “We are so grateful that we got to play this game.”

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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Do arithmetic

4. Long tales

9. Stitch

12. Take to court

13. Treasure cache

14. Work with

15. Newlyweds' trip

17. Siesta

18. Chicken-king link

19. Waldorf salad ingredient

21. Floated on air

24. Remain

25. Ostrich's cousin

26. Blue

28. Ruhr Valley city

31. Tear

33. Cry loudly

35. Apiary structure

36. Boredom

38. Solidify

40. Morning moisture

41. Village People hit

43. Express sorrow for

45. Like a duck's feet

47. — Jima

48. Past

49. Wealthy one

54. Beer container

55. Over

56. Life story, for short

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14

15 16 17

18 19 20

21 22 23 24

25 26 27 28 29 30

31 32 33 34 35

36 37 38 39 40

41 42 43 44

45 46 47

48 49 50 51 52 53

54 55 56

57 58 59

57. Praise in verse

58. "When pigs fly!"

59. Conclusion

DOWN

1. Fire residue

2. Pair

3. Lair

4. Fashions

5. Fleets

6. Sticky stuff

7. Acknowledges

8. Washington group

9. Optimist's part of the street?

10. Jacob's brother

11. Cried

16. Dine

20. Whip

21. *The Way We —*

22. "So be it"

23. Sense of humor

27. Pooch

29. Tied

30. Mr. Gingrich

32. Foolish

34. Accept as true

37. *The — Cometh*

39. Attorney

42. Pueblo brick

44. Unruly bunch

45. Texas city

46. "Zounds!"

50. Autumn mo.

51. Honest politician

52. Martini ingredient

53. Turf

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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 like a good raincoat (10)

2 drew back (from) (6)

3 eye makeup (7)

4 Brolin and Groban (6)

5 place for a play (5)

6 in need of a nap (6)

7 gym sessions (8)

SOLUTIONS

WA HES SHR RP MA

OF SL TS STA WOR

GE PY ARA ANK RO


SC KOU TE EE JOS

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

SUDO CURRENT

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

Puzzle Page Sponsored by



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Answers for March 13 Puzzles

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

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

1. ENVISION, 2. STAIRWAY, 3. FUCHSIA, 4. TRUTHFUL, 5. FUNDRAISER, 6. DETERMINE, 7. LIVEABLE

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



Is Season Over Before It Began?

Athletes and coaches may have to forego spring sports

By Skip Pearlman

As responses to the coronavirus crisis continue to change on a daily (and even hourly) basis, high school athletes, coaches and administrators are trying to keep a glimmer of hope alive for spring sports.

On Monday (March 16), athletic officials for Section 1, which includes the Highlands, suspended practices and games for baseball, boys' tennis, golf, lacrosse, softball and track until at least March 30, when they said the situation will be "reassessed."

Local coaches and athletes, particularly the seniors, remain hopeful.

"This is something we've never seen, and our athletes, students and coaches are handling it as well as possible," said Haldane Athletic Director Chris Salumn. "Everyone's health is the most important thing. Athletics are on the back burner. Of course, we hope to save some portion of the season, and we have a lot of hard-

(Continued on Page 20)



Bela Monteleone drives against Millbrook in a game played at Haldane High School on March 11 shortly before the state tournament was suspended.

Photo by S. Pearlman



A quiet place to sit on Trout Brook

Photo by B. Cronin

Out There

Trails Less Traveled

By Brian PJ Cronin

In some ways, we're lucky.

It may not seem like it, with many of us isolated. Businesses are closing, jobs are being lost, and we're all home-schoolers now. But the outdoors is still open.

For those of you who are New York City expats, imagine what this time would be like if you still lived in that apartment with all those roommates who refused to practice basic hygiene and the community garden on the block having been long since bulldozed for apartments. (On a related note, is there a long German word for the opposite of nostalgia?)

Most park facilities, including education centers and restrooms, are closed. But trails and parks are all open, and entrance fees have been waived. Park rangers are still on the job but practicing good social distancing measures, so if you see them, thank them for their service from at least 6 feet away.

My inbox exploded this week with press releases from such organizations as the state's Department of Environmental Conservation, the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference and Scenic Hudson, urging me to remind you of the many physi-

cal and mental benefits of being outside. As Lori Moss of the DEC said: "Scientific studies show that time outside in nature, especially among trees, significantly reduces stress and anxiety, lowers blood pressure, improves mood, energy and sleep, and boosts the immune system."

The obvious problem is that many people are hitting the same trails, crowding Mount Beacon, Breakneck Ridge and the trails at Bear Mountain, which defeats the purpose of social distancing. If you're all going to be in the same place, they might as well reopen the bars.

We're here to help. For as long as it's needed, each week I'll profile a Trail Less Traveled that is kid-friendly to some degree. For those of us who became teachers' aides overnight, you'll find the outdoors is a great way to sneak in some educational programming. Dust off those Peterson's field guides, and I also recommend the works of Tristan Gooley, particularly *The Natural Navigator* and *The Lost Art of Reading Nature's Signs*.

No guidebooks? Both Binnacle Books in Beacon and Split Rock Books in Cold Spring are doing online ordering, with delivery-via-bike from the former and curbside pickup from the latter. If you don't have maps, Mountain Tops Outfitters in Beacon is also doing online ordering and local delivery. The DEC has educational resources at dec.ny.gov/26.html.

Or, just go out hiking with the kids for recess. It's worth asking yourself what you want your children to remember most about this time. I figure that if my son can look back at the disruption as when he got to know and love the place he lives even more, that's worth more than trying to find a Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

TRAIL LESS TRAVELED NO. 1

Wiccopee Pass

NYNJ Trail Map #103

This one's a little more than 2.5 miles round-trip, with about 500 feet of climbing. There's an option for a shorter, flatter hike of about a mile round-trip for little legs as well as adults if you prefer an easy hike because you're too exhausted from, well, *everything*.

Punch 78 Trout Brook Road in Cold Spring into your GPS. The trailhead is to the left of the driveway, and on the other side of the trailhead is a parking pull-off. Follow the yellow trail markers around the gate and over Trout Brook.

This is a great hike during this time of the year when the trees and bushes are still bare because you'll be able to see the ruins of old farms off-trail. Soon after you pass through the gate you'll see a ruined stone chimney to the left and a silo to the right.

After a quarter-mile the trail splits, with an unblazed trail going to the left and the yellow Trout Brook trail continuing straight ahead. If you'd like an easy hike, head left and take the quarter-mile unmarked trail which follows the brook. You'll find another old stone chimney, some benches for sitting, and down the hill past the benches the ruins of a dam as well as two beaver dams.

Back on the yellow trail, you'll continue straight ahead for another quarter mile before the yellow trail ends and you're in the middle of the blue Charcoal Blazers trail. Hang a left here and follow the trail as it winds and weaves up the pass, sometimes sharply. After 1.3 miles from the trailhead — you'll know you're almost there when you pass two chest-high boulders on the left of the trail — a splendid viewing ledge opens up on the left.

The blue trail continues past the viewing ledge, but we'll stop here for today. The ledge is a great place to stop for a picnic and take in the view of Fahnestock below and Shenandoah Mountain in the distance. And the ledge is wide enough, and large enough, that if another family is already there, there's still plenty of room for both families to relax together while still keeping your distance.