



APRIL 17, 2020

Support us at highlandscurrent.org/join



FOOD FOR THE TROOPS — Nearly every day, Jack Miller and his mother, Lynn, a member of the Cold Spring Village Board, make free meals for the staffs at two intensive-care units at Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie. For every \$500 raised at gofundme.com/f/feed-the-front, they assemble 25 to 30 lunches at the family's Veggie Go-Go in Wappingers Falls that Jack delivers to the hospital.

Photos by Ross Corsair

Mask Marvels

Volunteers create 4,000 face covers for medical workers

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

In March, volunteers across Putnam County responded to the COVID-19 threat with a “sew-sew” attitude: They began stitching desperately needed face masks for medical personnel, emergency responders and other essential workers.

A month later, the newly created Putnam County Mask Makers Guild has nearly 600 participants and more than 4,000 masks to its credit in an effort that involves not only seamstresses (those who sew) but others

(Continued on Page 9)



Kei Reing leads the mask-stitching team. Photo provided

Coronavirus Update

Shutdown Extended Until May 15

By Chip Rowe

- State health officials said that, as of midnight on Wednesday (April 15), 573 people had tested positive for the coronavirus in Putnam County, 2,085 in Dutchess, 21,828 in Westchester, 8,752 in Rockland, 761 in Ulster and 5,888 in Orange. Statewide, there were 222,284 positives, including 123,146 in New York City.
 - Statewide, 12,192 people had died as of midnight on April 15, including 32 residents of Putnam County and 40 from Dutchess.
 - Dashboards released by Dutchess and Putnam showed that, as of noon on April 16, Beacon had 98 confirmed cases and Philipstown had 64. The Dutchess site also showed that 212 people have recovered and been released from monitoring.
 - Gov. Andrew Cuomo extended the shutdown in New York until at least May 15. The state also established a hotline at 833-789-0470 to report violations.
 - Cuomo ordered that, as of today (April 17), everyone in the state must wear masks or face coverings in public and in situations where social distancing cannot be maintained, such as on public transportation.
- (Continued on Page 6)

Aid Stalls as Businesses Struggle

Confusion reigns for owners seeking payroll funds

By Jeff Simms

Laura Leigh Abby and her wife, Sam, had planned for contingencies.

Working with a mentor from the federal Small Business Administration, the couple outlined a financially conservative five-year plan before opening The Studio @ Beacon, a boxing and cycling gym, on Main Street in early 2018.

They knew that Beacon was a small city in the midst of big changes and expected a slow start. But as their clientele grew, the studio was on track two years into the

plan. Then COVID-19 hit.

“You work for two years to build a business but you’re not thinking, ‘What are we going to do if there’s a pandemic?’” said Laura, who, along with the studio’s other instructors, was teaching 21 classes per week until Gov. Andrew Cuomo on March 16 ordered gyms, along with bars, restaurants and theaters, to close to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

The Abbys first applied for an SBA Debt Relief loan — they think.

“It’s link after link and you just click yourself into oblivion,” Laura said. “It was a lot of dead ends.”

They finally managed to submit an appli-

(Continued on Page 16)



“Non-essential” Highlands businesses, including in Cold Spring, have been forced to close due to the pandemic. Many have been frustrated seeking federal assistance. Photo by Ross Corsair

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: KELLY PREUSSER

By Michael Turton

Kelly Preusser last month became the new owner of Grey Printing in Cold Spring.

Are you worried that, as owner, you won't be able to do tasks you enjoyed as an employee?

My favorite part of the job is problem-solving: helping customers figure out what product works best, prepping files, staying within budgets, wrestling with machines. It's what keeps it from being boring. I'm sure that as the owner, I will not lose that part of the job.

How has printing changed since you began working at Grey 15 years ago?

The biggest change has been in the capabilities of the machines. Projects used to take several steps. Now they can just run right on the machine. Not only is the quality great, but the production time is much quicker.

Is there a creative or unusual project that stands out?

We've had more than our share from local artists, designers and writers. One that stands out was Ruth Eisenhower's collection of more than 3,000 photos she took of our customers that was displayed on the walls for many years. It was taken down when she retired more than two years ago, but people still ask about them.

Has the coronavirus taken a toll on the business?

People are still printing, but it has dropped off. We're open, but production hours are part-time, Monday to Friday, 12 to 4 p.m., and I'm the only person in the shop.



Before, customers could just walk in and talk to us. Now, with the storefront closed, everything is done by email and phone. It's just not the same. Life as we knew it has changed. We are all trying to figure out our "new normal." That's problem-solving, for sure.

Are there new directions you'd like to take the business?

Nothing in the short term. Grey [Zeien, who founded the business in 1999] will be here for a while to help me with the transition. I'm sure new things will come up that I will want to try, but with the state of things right now I haven't thought too far into the future. I know the name won't change. Kelly Printing doesn't have the same ring to it!

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

If you could travel into space, where would you go?

"The moon. It's the closest, and I could look back at our beautiful planet Earth."



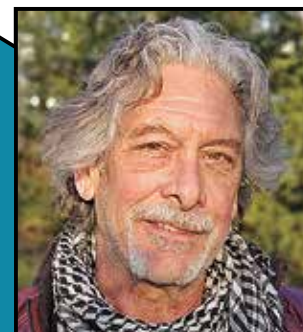
~ Margi Condyles, Beacon

"Pluto, because it's cold and quiet and no longer gets the love it deserves."



~ Justin Honrath, Cold Spring

"Mars. It's most likely to be terraformed; I'm a big fan of the novels *The Martian* and *The Expanse*."



~ Joel Goss, Beacon

objects

BUSTER LEVI
GALLERY

121 MAIN STREET • COLD SPRING • NEW YORK

Gallery will be temporarily closed due to health crisis. Check our website and Facebook page to keep our arts community thriving virtually. Stay Healthy.

WWW.BUSTERLEVIGALLERY.COM

Follow the
The HIGHLANDS
Current
on Twitter,
Instagram,
& Facebook

@highlandscurrent

Stay in Touch !

50% OFF

of all advertising in April!

Here are some things you can say with your ad:

- "We're still here"
- "Thank you to our community"
- "We're open for pickup"
- Offer a coupon or discount
- Feature your website and online ordering

AD RATES:

1/16	\$20
1/8	\$35
1/4	\$75
1/2	\$150

EMAIL
Michele Gedney
ads@highlandscurrent.org

The HIGHLANDS
Current

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS

We are grateful for your support and encourage our readers to shop local.
Contact us: ads@highlandscurrent.org

No Tax Hike Foreseen in Nelsonville

Residents asked to comment on draft budget by April 22

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Nelsonville village officials on Tuesday (April 14) released a tentative budget for 2020-21 that anticipates about \$405,000 in spending. They requested public feedback by April 22.

The Village Board intends to finalize and vote on the draft budget, which is posted at nelsonvilleny.gov, by May 1, before the start of its fiscal year on June 1. The budget for the current fiscal year was about \$325,000, with much of the increase for 2020-21 to be spent on road upgrades and engineering.

Residents can email villageclerk@nelsonvilleny.gov or call 845-265-2500 with

feedback. A printed copy of the proposed budget can be dropped off by request.

According to the draft, Village Board members will earn the same salaries —\$4,600 for the mayor and \$2,675 for each of the four trustees. The village clerk and building inspector will each receive about a 2 percent raise, to \$34,807 and \$6,600 annually, respectively. With the recent settlement of cell tower litigation, legal fees are expected to drop by about a third, to \$20,500.

The cost of fire protection, provided by the Cold Spring Fire Company, would increase by about \$3,000, to \$45,000, along with \$2,500 for hydrants. Snow removal costs would increase by about \$500, to \$10,950.

One budget line went up substantially: contractual engineering expenses, from \$1,500 (later amended to \$8,000) to

\$25,000. Village Clerk Mindy Jesek said Wednesday the increase reflects the need for ongoing expertise on such matters as the pending cell tower installation and possible exploration of sewer system options or similar public works projects. “We are using the village engineer much more than ever,” she said.

The allocation for street and road maintenance also increased significantly, from about \$5,000 to \$30,000. The village expects to spend \$60,000 on upgrades but anticipates receiving a \$30,000 state grant toward those costs.

Nelsonville anticipates receiving about \$284,000 in property taxes, about the same as last year. It also expects to collect \$12,000 in rent for its old firehall, which is used as a Putnam County Sheriff’s Depart-

ment substation.

Other income includes \$10,000 in state money and about \$4,600 from fees. Total revenue would rise about 8 percent, to \$351,000. The village would balance its budget by taking \$54,000 from savings, compared to \$1,635 last year.

In an April 8 workshop that, like all meetings during the current health crisis, was conducted remotely, Mayor Mike Bowman said the state questions accumulation of large reserves, so the village wants to start dipping into its savings to fund infrastructure projects, such as street upgrades.

At the workshop, and the regular monthly Village Board meeting on Monday (April 13), the mayor and trustees discussed likely targets: Secor, Pearl and Pine Streets, part of Division Street, and, first and foremost, Bank Street.

“That road is a disaster,” Bowman said. “It needs to be redone, the whole thing.”

Notes from the Cold Spring Village Board

Budget approved, new market proposed, boat club closes

By Michael Turton

At its Tuesday (April 14) meeting, the Cold Spring Village Board approved the 2020-21 budget, agreeing to spend \$2.48 million in the coming year from the general fund, which supports most village services. The money comes mostly from the \$1.71 million tax levy, which includes the maximum allowed increase under a cap imposed by New York State. Water and sewer expenditures, which are funded by user fees, were approved at \$623,154 and \$561,083, respectively. Public comment on the proposed budget closed on April 10, but no changes were made.

Two residents expressed concerns over the economic challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and urged trustees not to approve the maximum increase in the tax levy.

■ Trustees discussed a request from the Cold Spring Farmers’ Market to hold a Wednesday market in the area of upper Main Street and the pedestrian tunnel, in addition to its Saturday market at St. Mary’s Church and Boscobel. The market would be open from 4 to 7 p.m. from May through October with three or four vendors. Mayor Dave Merandy and Trustee Lynn Miller spoke against the proposed location. Instead, the board will suggest that the smaller market be held at McConville Park, citing safer access and better parking. The spring market continues at St. Mary’s

on Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

■ The Cold Spring Boat Club, which recently began to install docks and receive boats for the season, will close until further notice. In an executive order, Gov. Andrew Cuomo deemed marinas and boat clubs as “non-essential” during the COVID-19 crisis. Owners will be able to go onto the site to check on boats already docked, said Trustee Fran Murphy.

■ Merandy read written monthly reports from department heads into the record and said board meetings will be held going forward on an as-needed basis.

■ Cold Spring Police Department officers answered 60 calls for service in March and issued 28 parking and 37 traffic tickets,

reported Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke. There were no arrests. Chief Tom Merri-gan wrote that the Cold Spring Fire Co. responded to eight calls.

■ Merandy on April 7 reported he is talking to code enforcement officer Greg Wunner regarding short-term rentals that continue to operate in violation of village code. “I want to move forward with enforcing that,” the mayor said.

■ Clearwater informed the village that it has suspended the sloop’s 2020 sailing season.

■ The owner of 212 Main St. asked on April 7 to purchase a small piece of village-owned frontage. The mayor and trustees spoke in favor of the sale, pending details regarding maintenance of a stone retaining wall on the property.

NEWS BRIEFS

Man Allegedly Slashes Tires at Hospital

22 vehicles vandalized at NewYork-Presbyterian

New York State troopers on Friday (April 10) arrested a Peekskill man for allegedly slashing the tires of 22 vehicles parked at the NewYork-Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital in Cortlandt.

Daniel R. Hall, 29, was charged with felony criminal mischief, felony possession of a controlled substance (phencyclidine, or PCP) and felony auto stripping.

Police said they received a call at about 7 a.m. from the hospital.

Hall was arraigned in Westchester County Court and remanded to the county jail in lieu of \$1,500 cash bail or \$5,000 bond. He is scheduled to appear in the City of Peekskill Court on May 18 and the Town of Cortlandt Court on May 21.

Solomon Suspended as Newburgh Police Chief

No reason given for removal of former Beacon leader

Douglas Solomon, who served as Beacon’s police chief from 2012 to 2017 before taking the same position in Newburgh, was suspended on April 1.

City Manager Joseph Donat declined to provide any reason for the suspension. He said Lt. Kevin Lahar had been named officer-in-charge.

In Beacon, Solomon inherited a department under investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice because of earlier allegations of police brutality.

Oversight was lifted in 2016 after the department demonstrated “substantial compliance” with the agency’s recommendations regarding the use of force, the type and quantity of ammunition carried by officers, the system for handling complaints and training methods.

Bridge Authority Won’t Merge

Lawmakers say they blocked proposal

A group of state lawmakers, including Jonathan Jacobson, whose Assembly district includes Beacon, say they have blocked a proposal by Gov. Andrew Cuomo to merge the agency that oversees Hudson Valley bridges with the state Thruway Authority.

The New York State Bridge Authority oversees six bridges, including Bear Mountain, Newburgh-Beacon and Walkway Over the Hudson. It is funded entirely by \$60 million collected annually in tolls.

In a statement on April 1, Jacobson said the effort to kill the proposal had been “a tremendous team effort” between state legislators, the Dutchess County Chamber of Commerce, local elected officials and union leaders.

“The fact that the Bridge Authority will remain autonomous means that funds

generated by tolls on Hudson Valley bridges will stay in the Hudson Valley, and that our bridges will continue to be well-maintained with the lowest tolls in the state,” he said.

Hustis Case Delayed for Fourth Time

Rescheduled to May 6

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 fourth time, until May 6.

According to documents filed in federal court on April 8, Benjamin Gold, who represents the former Cold Spring village trustee and mayoral candidate, is talking with federal prosecutors about “possible disposition of this case without trial.”

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

The HIGHLANDS Current

PUBLISHER

Highlands Current Inc.
142 Main St.
Cold Spring, NY 10516-2819
291 Main St., Beacon NY 12508

FOUNDER

Gordon Stewart (1939 - 2014)

EDITOR

Chip Rowe
editor@highlandscurrent.org

SENIOR EDITOR

Leonard Sparks

ARTS EDITOR

Alison Rooney
arts@highlandscurrent.org

SENIOR CORRESPONDENT

Michael Turton

REPORTERS

Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong
Brian PJ Cronin • Joe Dizney
Pamela Doan • Deb Lucke
Skip Pearlman • Jeff Simms

LAYOUT DESIGNER

Pierce Strudler

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Michele Gedney
For information on advertising:
845-809-5584
ads@highlandscurrent.org
highlandscurrent.org/ads



THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT
(USPS #22270) / ISSN 2475-3785

April 17, 2020
Volume 9, Issue 16

is published weekly by Highlands Current Inc., 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2819. Periodicals Postage Paid at Cold Spring, NY, and at additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Highlands Current*, 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2819. Mail delivery \$30 per year. highlandscurrent.org/delivery delivery@highlandscurrent.org

Distribution audited by the Circulation Verification Council

© Highlands Current Inc. 2020

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form, mechanical or electronic, without written permission of the publisher.

NYFA* Winner: 45 Better Newspaper Contest Awards

* New York Press Association, 2013-18



NNA* Winner: 31 Better Newspaper Contest Awards

* National Newspaper Association, 2016-18



NYNPA* Winner: 8 Awards for Excellence

* New York News Publishers Association, 2017-18

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

COVID-19 response

Before the first coronavirus case even appeared in Putnam County, residents and community leaders embraced the opportunity to set politics aside and work together for the common good, putting health and safety first. That's the kind of leadership people are looking for and what we at Putnam County government continue to represent.

So, I was disappointed and, frankly, stunned to read Philipstown Town Supervisor Richard Shea's letter (*Letters and Comments*, April 10) saying that the county government under my leadership has not taken appropriate action to protect Putnam residents during this awful COVID-19 pandemic.

He is simply wrong. As county executive, I, and the employees who are running the county government with just 50 percent staffing, are laser-focused on protecting our residents, workers and communities from the devastation this global pandemic has caused elsewhere.

I have repeatedly demanded state Health Department officials set up a test site in Putnam so that we could get accurate data quickly and respond appropriately.

Although there are many who would like to take credit for the drive-thru testing the

county Health Department ran recently, all of the credit should go to our incredibly dedicated and hard-working Health Department staff. This limited testing is not enough, as we have let the state know, and we intend to keep pressing the state for more.

Just last week, I requested the Legislature transfer more than \$220,000 in funds to cover the cost of essential personal protective equipment that our Bureau of Emergency Services and Purchasing Department were savvy enough to locate in this time of scarcity. Those supplies will not only go to county first-responders and health care workers, but to first-responder groups from municipalities as well.

Information is vital and so, after every day's conference call with the Health Department, Putnam Hospital President Peter Kelly, relevant county department heads and legislative leaders, we post a dashboard showing our latest COVID-19 data.

In addition to that daily call, I have daily briefings with the governor, the White House, the New York State Association of Counties and Dr. Michael Nesheiwat, Putnam's health commissioner. All of these calls and actions are in service of protecting the 99,000 residents of Putnam County. At the same time, the county leadership is

wrestling with a state budget handed down to us with gaping holes to fill.

Putnam County has teamed up with the United Way of Westchester and Putnam and the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley to provide food to families and seniors who face a new economic uncertainty.

The COVID-19 public health crisis has had an impact on our Main Street economy, our schools and our families. This administration is working hard to aid those businesses, employers, workers and families.

The road to recovery is uncharted, but Putnam County government will be there to assist every step of the way. It would help if we all worked together.

MaryEllen Odell, *Carmel*

Odell is the Putnam County executive.

Thank you, Supervisor Shea, for your letter. County Executive Odell has been invisible in every way. Our neighboring counties have regular updates from their county executive as well as health officials, which I listen to. At the county level in Putnam it has been radio silence.

Thank you also for your updates to the town. I also commend county Legislator Nancy Montgomery for her regular communications. Without both of you, we would be getting no local information from our elected officials.

Margaret Yonco-Haines, *Garrison*

Richard complains that Putnam County has no testing, but the state gives the counties the testing kits. Putnam received 100 kits and there was a drive-thru mobile testing on April 7 and all were used. When the county gets more it will test again — Richard and Nancy knew that. The county is on a phone call every morning with Health Department. Maybe Nancy isn't on them. The county website is updated constantly.

Donna Anderson, *Garrison*

The lack of testing in Putnam may explain why the county's official count of COVID-19 cases remains significantly lower than surrounding counties.

Heather Candon, *via Facebook*

Thank you

We all need to be thankful Cold Spring village has Dr. Cynthia Ligenza. Not only is she caring for all of her regular patients who have COVID-19, she is working 12-hour shifts at the hospital caring for patients who are on ventilators. I know for a fact that patients call her in the middle of the night, never thinking this doctor needs rest to be ready to be out there the next day and the day after that.

Her assistant, Terry Alexander, is out
(Continued on Page 5)



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

there helping as well. Even though people always think that's the way Dr. Ligenza and Terry should perform their service for us, it is obvious this is putting a strain on these medical providers.

Bill Whipp, *Cold Spring*

Putnam contract

If the upper echelon of the Putnam County Sheriff's Department turned back the ludicrous amount of overtime they procured, that could fund the majority of the new contract ("County and Police Reach Contract Agreement," April 3). It is reprehensible that the rank-and-file were without a contract for so long.

Michael Ward, *Mahopac*

Seeing the doctor

Has anyone noticed that getting medical attention from your health care provider is sometimes not possible these days? I received a computer call from CareMount Medical saying I was due for two pneumonia shots. I called for an appointment and was told they were no longer giving shots while all this is going on. I called the pharmacy at Stop & Shop and they also are not giving shots. I believe CareMount may shut its offices soon. I'm 69 years old with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and diabetes. So much for health care! I guess a lot of people in Putnam County will soon be on their own.

Patrick Milo, *Mahopac*

I am over 60 and three of my doctors want me to go to an online portal, all different and difficult to access. Being disabled, I find it too hard. Also, not being able to find toilet paper and having to get my family from New Jersey to mail me some is horrible. And why is there no testing site in the county? I feel we are forgotten! We are on our own, and a text or call from the county to keep us updated is not too much to ask.

Tracey Demarco, *Patterson*

Behind the numbers

Viewing the daily numbers of incidence of virus in Putnam County, I have become increasingly troubled by the seemingly disproportionate numbers with respect to Southeast, Kent and Carmel.

There has been increasing concern that members of minority communities are experiencing incidence and death rates in excess of that of the general population. Underlying health conditions compounded by poverty rates appear to be factors. Putnam County is not isolated from this issue: 14 percent of its population is Hispanic and 2 percent African American and we have a poverty rate of about 5 percent.

Certainly, the appeals from the Putnam Community Action Program, the involvement of churches in housing the homeless, food banks, et al., attest to the necessity for attention to this matter. As of this date, the ethnic breakdown of incidence of the virus and deaths among our minority populations has not been published.

Counting the Highlands

Response rates to the 2020 U.S. census, as of April 15, along with historical data, are at right. If a household doesn't respond online, the agency sends a paper questionnaire. If there is still no response, a census taker will be dispatched over the summer to knock on the door, although those operations are now uncertain due to the coronavirus.

	2020	2010	2000	1990
Cold Spring	53.1	69.1	71	72
Putnam County	50.2	66.8	67	56
Philipstown	50.0	66.2	67	64
National	49.1	66.5	67	65
18th District	47.5	66.0	-	-
Beacon	47.1	67.2	65	61
Nelsonville	46.5	65.8	54	66
Dutchess County	46.3	65.7	68	64
New York State	43.0	64.6	67	62
New York City	38.1	64.0	55	53
Newburgh	29.4	50.2	45	44

Source: 2020census.gov

This is a matter that should be of urgent concern — both for the county Legislature and the Department of Health.

Ann Fanizzi, *Carmel*

Blowing in the wind

Spring is upon us and people will be getting back to their routine lawn care. Yesterday, I witnessed some landscape workers, not practicing social distancing or wearing protective masks, using a leaf blower to clean up grass clippings.

I told my children not to play outside because there was a lot of dust and debris being blown into our yard and all over

our outdoor furniture. Leaf blowers send projectiles, including viruses and bacterium, into the air at a speed of 185 mph.

Not only are they loud and a nuisance, they present a health hazard.

They have been banned in most towns in Westchester, outside of the fall leaf cleanup.

I know this is a controversial issue around here, but I urge our local communities to consider placing a temporary restriction on these blowers during this crisis. With everyone staying at home, the least we deserve is to be able to enjoy our outdoor spaces in safety and in peace.

Kimberly Sevilla, *Cold Spring*

DRUG  WORLD

We are Open!

For Curbside/Delivery Service Only

1. Call 845-265-6352 or email csp@drugworld.com your order

2. We will be your Personal Shopper and bring your prescription and front store merchandise directly to you

3. Provide the time you would like to pickup

4. Call the store upon arrival

No need to get out of your car!

HIGHLAND STUDIO



PRINTMAKERS

FINE ART
PRINTING
SCANNING
LARGE FORMAT

HUDSON VALLEY'S
ARCHIVAL PRINTING
SINCE 1997

PICTURE FRAMING
print & map gallery

845-809-5174

31 STEPHANIE LANE
COLD SPRING, NY
www.thehighlandstudio.com

TIM BRENNAN
GENERAL CONTRACTOR



Building it Right
for
Over 40 Years

Check us out
at
brennanbuilt.com

845-265-4004

Putnam Lic # PC -58
Westchester Lic # WC -A1 00-H 87

Dutchess Democrats Protest Lack of Meetings

Chair says county executive has legal authority to act

By Chip Rowe

A group of Democratic county legislators in Dutchess on Tuesday (April 14) asked the body's Republican chairman to hold its April meeting by videoconference after he suspended the legislature through at least May 11.

The legislators included Nick Page and Frits Zernike, whose districts each cover parts of Beacon. They said Chairman Gregg Pulver did not have the authority to cancel the meeting because the County Charter requires the legislature to meet "at least

once each calendar month."

"Neither Pulver nor any of his fellow Republican legislators have responded to multiple appeals to reconsider," the legislators said in a statement. "Five COVID-related resolutions, put forward for the April meeting, have not been acknowledged."

Legislator Rebecca Edwards (D-Poughkeepsie) said that the legislative bodies of every county outside New York City, except Dutchess, are meeting remotely.

In a memo dated April 6, Pulver said the Legislature could not meet because County Executive Marc Molinaro had banned gatherings of more than 20 people (there are 30 legislators). But Pulver said he might allow legislative meetings in May to be held by

conference call.

But before the Legislature meets again, however, Pulver wrote, "it is necessary and appropriate for the county to have a better understanding of our fiscal status to develop a strategy for which expenses and projects should be pursued, continued or discontinued."

He said that, after consulting with Molinaro, who is also a Republican, "it has been determined that the administration does not need further legal authority, at this time, to expend funds or take action in response to the COVID-19 public health crisis." He said he appreciated Molinaro's efforts to "keep the Legislature fully informed."

In the Democrats' statement, Zernike

said: "The argument that the legislature can't meet because it's a health risk or because there are technical difficulties our IT [information technology] whizzes cannot overcome has it exactly backward. It is more important than ever that the legislature continue its duties and meet now, in the midst of crisis. Otherwise, we call into question the reason for our meeting at all, ever. If we do not meet now, when local leadership is needed more than ever, what does that say about the need for us to meet when things return to normal?"

"We are the 'appropriating and policy determining body of the county,' according to the County Charter," added Page. "We're in the middle of an immense human and financial crisis. I'm astounded that we were told just to come back in May."



Coronavirus Update

(from Page 1)

tation. He also ordered essential business to provide masks to employees who come into contact with customers.

■ Cuomo ordered flags on all state buildings flown at half-staff to honor the dead. The county executives in Putnam and Dutchess also ordered flags on county property be flown at half-staff.

■ Many drivers sounded their horns for two, 1-second blasts at 3 p.m. on Thursday (April 16) to honor transportation workers as part of a #SoundtheHorn campaign. The drivers of MTA and Dutchess and Putnam trains and buses also participated.

■ In response to an urgent need for blood and platelet donations, the Food and Drug Administration related its restrictions on who can donate. It changed the deferral period to 3 months from 12 months for men who have had sex with other men; women who have had sex with men who had sex with other men; people who have recently gotten tattoos or piercings; and people who have traveled to malaria-endemic areas (and are residents of malaria non-endemic countries). In addition, people who had been deferred indefinitely because they spent time in certain European countries or



SHIFTING GEARS — Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro on April 8 visited Unlimited Tomorrow in Rhinebeck, which makes prosthetic limbs with 3D printers but has shifted production to protective face shields for healthcare workers. He is shown with CEO Easton LaChappelle.

County photo

on military bases in Europe and were possibly exposed to Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease ("mad-cow disease") can now donate.

The nearest blood donor center is in Hopewell Junction (2070 Route 52, Building 200). See nybc.org to make an appointment. The center notes that "there is no data or evidence that this coronavirus can

be transmitted by blood transfusion. In fact, there have been no reported cases of transfusion-transmission for any respiratory virus, including this coronavirus." Call 800-688-0900 with questions.

■ Dutchess County launched a COVID-19 History Survey to document the experiences of residents during the pandemic.

Responses to the survey at dutchessny.gov/COVIDhistory will be preserved in the county archives and shared with the public (names will be withheld). "Future generations will look back on the COVID-19 pandemic as a formative moment in our history," said Dutchess County Historian William Tatum III. "Through this survey, Dutchess County residents have the opportunity to ensure future historians will have access to their thoughts, feelings and experiences when seeking to understand the full impact of this pandemic." For information, or to submit photographs, videos and other forms of documentation, email Tatum at wtatum@dutchessny.gov.

■ The Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley announced the first round of nearly \$20,000 in grants to be deployed from its Putnam COVID-19 Response Fund (putnam-covidresponse.org). The recipients were the Brewster Community Food Pantry, Community Cares, CoveCare Center, Food Bank of the Hudson Valley, Gilead Food Pantry, Philipstown Food Pantry and Putnam Community Action Program. Organizations can apply for funds at communityfoundationshv.org.

■ In an update released April 9, Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea said the town had cut staffing levels by over 50 percent to avoid close contact; purchased food gift cards

(Continued on Page 8)

NOTICE

A MESSAGE FROM THE VILLAGE OF COLD SPRING ABOUT YOUR WATER & SEWER BILL

Neighbors,
This week the Village will be sending out the quarterly Water and Sewer Bills. Due to the current COVID-19 Pandemic, the Village cannot accept payments made in person at this time. Your options for making payments are:

- Drop off payments through the mail slot located to the left of the front door as you face Village Hall. Receipts will be held and distributed once restrictions start to ease. Only Checks and Money Order will be accepted. Please do not make cash payments at this time.
- Mail your payment to: Village of Cold Spring, Water Bills, 85 Main Street, Cold Spring NY 10516
- Pay online using a Credit Card or Checking Account. To pay online, go the village website at <https://www.coldspringny.gov/> and click on the Online Payments button on the left side of the page. You will need to have your water account number (located on your bill) to register for this option. There is a service fee charged by the processing company to use this feature.

If you have any questions, please call the Village at 845-265-3611 or email at vcslcrk@coldspringny.gov



When brighter days return, we will be ready for you.

Stay safe, stay well.

Learn more about our trusted team of eye care professionals at www.sdec2020.com



969 MAIN ST. FISHKILL (845) 896-6700 sdec2020.com
Optometrists Dr. Brian Peralta | Dr. Gary Weiner | Dr. Brian Powell | Dr. Weixun Wang

Nursing Homes Especially Vulnerable to COVID-19

For first time, state releases county-level data on deaths

By Leonard Sparks

Coronavirus deaths among vulnerable residents at hundreds of nursing homes continue to rise in New York despite a month-old state order banning visits and requiring employees to wear surgical masks, and as the homes meet a state mandate to admit people discharged from hospitals after being treated for the virus.

As of Wednesday (April 15), the state reported that 2,477 residents at nursing homes had died from complications of COVID-19, which is particularly deadly for older people with weakened immune systems and underlying conditions.

There were 879 deaths between April 6 and 13, including 11 deaths in Dutchess County and 10 in Putnam.

The state lists 13 licensed nursing homes in Dutchess County, including Fishkill Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Beacon and Wingate at Beacon. There are two in Putnam: Putnam Ridge in Brewster and the Putnam Nursing and Rehabilitation Center near Holmes, a hamlet in Dutchess County on the border with Putnam.

While the state is not releasing the number of residents infected or who have died in specific facilities, a representative at Fishkill Rehabilitation said on April 5 that it was isolating several "hospital-admitted COVID-positive residents," none of whom had been infected at the facility.

It said two staff members who tested positive were confirmed to also have been infected outside the facility.

Fishkill Rehabilitation is not the only local nursing home with cases. The Lutheran Care Center at Concord Village in Poughkeepsie notified residents and families on April 9 that it had "isolated cases of COVID-19 in a section of a designated unit with designated staff."

Putnam Ridge, a 160-bed facility in Brewster, also has cases, Administrator Janet Levine said on Thursday (April 16).

"They're designated in one area with dedicated staff," she said.

Nursing homes cannot be "hermetically sealed," and one infected staff member can trigger an outbreak like "fire through dry grass," Gov. Andrew Cuomo said during his daily briefing on Tuesday (April 14).

"You cannot stop it," he said. "That population is so vulnerable, it just takes one staff member, who didn't have a temperature but did have the virus, to walk in and now you're going to have a serious problem."

Of the state's 11,586 deaths through



The Fishkill Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing in Beacon

Photo by L. Sparks

Wednesday, 65 percent involved people over 70 years old, the state said. Nearly two-thirds of the people in that group had high blood pressure, the most common underlying condition in coronavirus fatalities, and more than a third had diabetes, the second-most common condition.

New York's 613 nursing homes care for 95,000 patients, according to the state Department of Health, and as of Wednesday there were 5,894 cases at 346 facilities.

"We're dealing with a highly contagious, invisible virus that knows no boundaries," said Stephen Hanse, president and CEO of the New York State Health Facilities Association, which represents more than 450 nursing and assisted-living facilities.

On March 13, Cuomo announced that nursing home visits would be limited to those deemed "medically necessary," and that facility owners would have to set up ways for families to communicate with residents, including via videoconferencing.

New York also required that employees have their temperature checked when arriving for work and wear surgical masks while on duty. A fever is one of the symptoms of COVID-19.

Infections among employees have exacerbated staffing shortages that pre-dated the outbreak, and facilities have faced challenges getting the necessary protective equipment, Hanse said.

"At first the masks were in short supply; now the gowns are really in short supply," he said.

Dutchess County's Department of Emergency Response has been coordinating the sourcing and delivery of supplies for nursing homes, including surgical masks, N95 respirators, isolation suits and gowns and hand sanitizer, said Colleen Pillus, a county representative.

On March 25, the state told nursing homes that, to free up beds in hospitals,

they must admit people discharged after being treated for coronavirus and readmit residents who had been hospitalized as long as doctors determined they were "medically stable."

Hanse said he received a "multitude of calls" from nursing home operators in response to the notice, which raised fears about admitting infected people.

"It raised significant concerns among nursing homes because they recognize that their population — the men and women who are residents in nursing homes — are the least able to defend themselves against this virus," he said.

Cuomo said on Wednesday that he will be issuing another order requiring nursing homes to report positive cases and deaths to the families of other residents within 24 hours. The Department of Health had recommended the measure, but his order will make it mandatory.

Fishkill Rehabilitation issued a notification to families on April 5, posting a message on its website about its cases among residents and staff. Putnam Ridge also notifies families about positive cases, Levine said.

"We share that with the individual family members and then, of course, anyone that has a loved one here," she said.

New York is also being asked to be more transparent.

Monday was the first day the state began publicizing county-level data on deaths at nursing homes and adult care facilities, but it so far has not revealed the facilities where deaths have occurred.

Cuomo said the state has to weigh the need to release data with the need to protect the privacy of nursing-home residents.

"You pass away in a nursing home or your parent passes away in a nursing home, God forbid, should your parent's picture really be on the front page of the newspaper the next day?" he said on Wednesday.



HOULIHAN LAWRENCE
SINCE 1888



HUDSON RIVER VIEWS

Elegant home on fifteen private acres. Full bath for each bedroom. Fireplace. Minutes to train.
WEB# PO1567556 | Garrison | \$1,649,000



RICH IN HISTORY

A bucolic property with tremendous potential. Three studies. Vintage barn. Sold "As Is".
WEB# PO1589504 | East Fishkill | \$1,300,000



UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

Fourteen acres of waterfront property. Panoramic views of Mid-Hudson Bridge to Hyde Park.
WEB# PO1551146 | Highland | \$899,500



VILLAGE GEM

Stone Cape offers five bedrooms, family room, fireplace, wood floors plus two-car garage.
WEB# PO1573354 | Cold Spring | \$699,000



NEW TO MARKET

Cozy two-bedroom home on almost one acre. Living room offers stone fireplace and wood beams.
WEB# PO2508062 | Garrison | \$389,000



CHARMING RENTAL

Well maintained three-bedroom home offers fireplace, hardwood floors and new appliances.
WEB# PO2508892 | Iacchian Wappingers | \$2,950

COLD SPRING BROKERAGE 845.265.5500
HOULIHANLAWRENCE.COM

“That population is so vulnerable, it just takes one staff member, who didn't have a temperature but did have the virus, to walk in and now you're going to have a serious problem.”

~ Gov. Andrew Cuomo



COPING WITH STRESS

BY MICHAEL MCKEE, PHD

Why shouldn't you worry? Have you heard the news? Rule No. 1: Don't listen to the news so often. It is a useful strategy to turn down the volume on the nerve-jangling stimulus that are the daily headlines.

The current crisis dropped into the tub of worries that we struggle with daily and made a big splash. The splash can turn into a tidal wave. It's called "catastrophizing." We fix our thoughts on an issue or concern and an image appears of the worst possible outcome. We find ourselves on a loop of anticipatory anxiety which takes us through that image over and over: the look on the doctor's face as he gives us the bad news, the foreclosure notice from the bank. Here are some things you can try:

- ◆ Look at worries as problems to be solved, rather than means of averting disaster. Direct your attention to problems that are in your control. Examples of things not your control: the weather, other people. Consult reliable sources of information.
- ◆ Worry is a dead-end dialogue you're having with yourself, so it's best to find ways of using your skills to find a resolution. Seeking reassurance from others gives solace but it's likely to be temporary. Encourage yourself to draw on a variety of resources.
- ◆ As you work through steps toward a solution, you'll find the catastrophe you imagined to be much less realistic. Write down your solutions and give yourself credit for them.
- ◆ Acceptance of the result is next in the process and we'll talk about that in a future column.
- ◆ As you go, calm yourself to the best of your ability using relaxation techniques that work for you. When necessary, distract yourself with projects, thought games, helping others, laughter.

Next week: If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all: Strategies for surviving lockup — sorry, lockdown — with your loved ones.

Michael McKee is a licensed psychologist with offices in Garrison who specializes in Cognitive Behavioral Psychotherapy (CBT). He can be reached at 914-584-9352 or info@mckeetherapy.com. For more information, visit mckeetherapy.com.

ADVERTISEMENT



Coronavirus Update

(from Page 6)

from local businesses to distribute to front-line workers while supporting local business and encouraging residents to do the same; met with state parks Commissioner Eric Kulleseid to address parking issues on Route 9D — "You will see signage as a result of this meeting; ticketing is taking place and law enforcement has the option to order towing," he said; sent a mailer to every household in town to offer assistance with food and medicine for those in need; offered food assistance to residents in Beacon and Newburgh; and set up a COVID-19 section at philipstown.com with updates.

Shea noted that the closest test site for Philipstown residents is at Dutchess Stadium. "You can arrive with your prescription in hand or, better yet, have your doctor fax it over in advance to 845-320-7754," he said. "I have spoken with Sandra Iberger, the head of ambulatory services at Nuvance Health, and she is heading up the testing programs in our area. She gave me a lot of useful information and directed me to the Nuvance Health website COVID-19 section [bit.ly/nuvance-covid19], which gives all the information that people need for testing."

COVID-19 by the Numbers

■ PUTNAM COUNTY

Number of confirmed cases:

573

Philipstown 64, Carmel 249, Kent 114, Putnam Valley 74

Tests administered:

2,127

Percent positive:

26.0

Number of deaths:

32

■ DUTCHESS COUNTY

Number of confirmed cases:

1,975

Beacon 98, Fishkill 160, Wappingers Falls 36, Poughkeepsie 212

Tests administered:

9,584

Percent positive:

21

Number of deaths:

40

Source: Health departments.
Data current as of April 16

■ Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy on April 11 sent out a reminder to residents: (1) "While you enjoy the outdoors — walking, jogging, bike riding — be sure to follow the rules. Unless you are family members or roommates sharing the same home, stay at least 6 feet apart; (2) Help our local businesses as much as you can. While you can't enter most shops, many are doing curbside pickup, delivery, shipping. Check their websites or social media pages for more information; (3) If you need to enter a grocery store, wear a mask and gloves. When you are finished with gloves, please remember they should be disposed of in appropriate garbage containers, not in the street, on sidewalks, lawns, or in the Foodtown parking lot."

■ Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell said that, as of April 11, the Putnam County Golf Course in Mahopac would be closed. The course had been open with restrictions but new guidance issued by the state on April 9 deemed golf courses, as well as boat launches and recreational marinas, non-essential. "Public health always comes first," Odell said in a statement. "We have said all along that we would follow the state's lead on this. We thought, as the state and other counties did until now, that golfers could enjoy one of the few recreational activities where it was easy to practice social distancing."

Under an earlier order by Odell in late March, food vendors, the driving range and the pro shop were closed to the public, golfers were required to prepay for reservations and, to limit contact, no walk-ons were permitted. Items that golfers would touch — rakes, flags, benches, etc. — were removed from the course.

"These are difficult times, but safety comes first," said Michael McCall, general manager of the course, in a statement. "We don't want to put any golfers at risk. When this pandemic passes and we open again, we want them all to come back healthy and ready to play."

On March 27, Legislator Nancy Montgomery, who represents Philipstown, had written Odell to ask that the course be closed. "Our constituents need to get outside, get fresh air and move around, close to home," she wrote. "The Putnam County Golf Course is not a trail, park or sanctuary intended for passive recreation."

■ The state added to its list of "essential" businesses livestock medical services; emergency chiropractic services; physical or occupational therapy prescribed by a doctor; automobile manufacturing; manufacture of "any parts or components necessary for essential products"; telecommunications service for existing customers; delivery for orders placed via phone or online at non-essential establishments as long as only one employee is present at the business for fulfillment; marine vessel repair; landscaping for maintenance or pest control; design, print, publishing and signage companies in support of essential businesses or services; and remote instruction or streaming of classes from public and private schools and health and fitness centers

■ Questions? Dutchess County posts updates at dutchessny.gov/coronavirus and has a hotline at 845-486-3555. Putnam



Song of the Moment

Stephen Clair, owner of the Beacon Music Factory, on April 12 released a song about the effects of the COVID-19 shutdown called "Welcome to the World Now." See stephenclair.bandcamp.com. Sample lyrics:

Everybody's lining up to get on the dole / Without leaving the house or going to school / They pulled another trillion outta thin air / While I barely have the gumption to cut my own hair.

Welcome to the world now / It's something new pal / We're no longer waiting for the other shoe / It came off easy / It nearly hit me / So I just ran inside, hoping to stay alive, and I went online, to tell the whole grapevine.

Nobody's saying what they really think / But they're blowing up the internet meeting for drinks / You can see where this is heading, it's like we've all gone to heaven / Happy hour with your best friends, twenty-four seven

There's people on the front line risking their lives / While the government goes on polishing their knives / Most of us are stuck home but we've got TV / And who knew wine delivery is free?

How will anybody fall in love over Zoom / I think it already happened, a Zoom bride and groom / A little disembodied but I love you for your mind / Honey could you stand where I can see you in the light?

County posts at putnamcountyny.com/health. The state has a hotline at 888-364-3065 and a webpage at ny.gov/coronavirus. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention posts at cdc.gov.



Members of Ladder 50, Engine 89 of the New York Fire Department show off their new protection.

Masks *(from Page 1)*

who sanitize the masks, oversee deliveries and supplies, package the goods and handle other non-sewing functions.

Philipstown guild members include Nancy Montgomery, who represents the town on the Putnam County Legislature, and Kathleen Foley of Cold Spring.

Montgomery said she became concerned in early March about a shortage of personal protective equipment (face masks, surgical gowns, gloves and similar items) for first-responders, health care professionals and social service staff who assist disadvantaged women and children and others at risk.

She said she solicited masks from the construction trades, nail salons, tattoo parlors and similar businesses. In response, she received medical-grade masks, sewing patterns and what Foley termed “innovative thinking by creative people.”

Montgomery recalled that “neighbors started sewing with whatever materials we had in our homes — quilting cotton, lengths of elastic, floral wire for nose pieces.” In western Putnam, the movement “took on a life of its own. Then the east side of the county formed their own group, and we joined the two.”

Initially, the volunteers supplied first-responders. But as demand grew, “we extended help to nursing homes, medical practices and essential workers like grocery store staff, sanitation crews and postal workers,” Montgomery said.

“As word of our production spread, we began getting larger requests from other counties and New York City, including firehouses, the New York City Department of Corrections, children’s hospitals — even an order for 2,000 masks from an EMT union.”

The group also has supplied masks to social service organizations such as the Putnam Community Action Program and the Children’s Advocacy Center, as well as the Philipstown Food Pantry at First Presbyterian Church in Cold Spring and a food bank in Brewster.

Although not on the same front line as hospitals, such agencies need personal protection equipment, Michael Piazza, the county’s social services director, told the Legislature’s Health Committee on Tuesday

(April 14). “There’s not enough of a supply to address the need. That continues to be an issue and a concern, he said.

The Putnam guild has reached across county and international borders to locate supplies to make the masks.

The Philipstown government contributed \$4,000 to buy HEPA filter fabric from a firm in Toronto, using money from a COVID-relief fund established by an anonymous donor. Vincent Montuorno, a New York City firefighter who lives in Patterson, rendered aid, as well. The masks can’t replace high-grade (N95) masks but bridge the gap until more become available.

An Albany company, the Latham swimming pool factory, quickly cut thousands of pieces of filter paper sized for masks. In Manhattan, members of the Local 28 sheet metal union designed an oval die and donated cut stainless steel to replace the makeshift floral wire the first masks utilized.

In his report to the Philipstown Town Board on April 2, Supervisor Richard Shea said the town bought enough HEPA fabric to insert into 50,000 masks.

“I was thinking that was just crazy,” he said. “But we already have orders from mask-making guilds for thousands of these.”

At Putnam Hospital Center in Carmel and

elsewhere, Shea said, “we know they’re being used” because medical personnel “don’t want to keep using the same mask or they want to put these over other masks. They provide an extra layer of protection. We appreciate all the people who are cranking these out.”

Foley said the Putnam guild volunteers include Erin Crowley of Mahopac, who organized “an army” of delivery people while caring for her four children, including 22-month-old triplets; Kei Reing, another Mahopac resident, who leads the stitching team; Jenn Lee and Charlotte Palmer Lane, “professional stitchers” in Philipstown; and Heidi Stephens of Cold Spring, who coordinates supply movements.

Aric Kupper, an emergency room physician at Putnam Hospital who lives in Cold Spring, tried on the prototypes and offered advice.

To help finance its work, the Putnam guild established a GoFundMe campaign at bit.ly/mask-makers-putnam that has so far raised more than \$20,000. (The group also has a website at pcmaskguild.org.)

“We are not selling masks, and no one is making a profit,” Montgomery said. “We are giving them to first-responders and essential workers. Sometimes their parent organizations make donations for materials, and we’re grateful.”



More Putnam Masks

Guild members aren’t the only mask makers in Putnam County. David Chau of Carmel has been making masks by pouring liquid resin plastic into a mold and later adding 3D-printed straps and filter elements.

According to his employer, Synchrony, a financial services firm based in Stamford, Connecticut, Chau and his family have created, packed and distributed dozens of masks. To complement such initiatives, Synchrony on Tuesday (April 14) launched #GearUp, a campaign bringing together local organizations, small businesses, charities and Synchrony employees to produce and distribute masks and other personal protective equipment.

The firm also donated \$5 million to anti-hunger organizations and communities dealing with the economic shocks of the pandemic.



Alana Sweeney, a guild member who is the former president and CEO of the United Way of Westchester and Putnam, sews masks.



Workers at the Latham swimming pool factory in Albany cut thousands of pieces of filter paper sized for masks.

Photos provided

AROUND TOWN



◀ **MAZEL TOV!** — Gabe Lunin-Pack spent a year preparing for his bar mitzvah at Beacon Hebrew Alliance and was determined to go forward with it, even after the March 28 ceremony was canceled due to COVID-19 social-distancing restrictions. With his parents, Jesse Lunin-Pack and Elisabeth Neuberg, and his brother, Seth, in the sanctuary, and Rabbi Brent Spodek and Cantor Ellen Gersh participating from their homes, the family sent out a Zoom meeting invite. About 200 guests signed on from around the world — “more people than could have safely fit in the sanctuary,” noted Jesse Lunin-Pack. “Everyone who was a part of it was amazed at what a moving and meaningful experience it turned out to be.”



◀ **MEDICAL OUTPOST** — As part of a national effort to provide housing for medical personnel who are working with COVID-19 patients and must remain isolated from their families, Joe Volk of Beacon set up his camper outside his home. “While flipping through the TV channels one evening, I noticed someone was sleeping in their garage to self-isolate from their family,” Volk said. “I figured someone could use my truck camper instead of an unheated garage.” Volk also posted his offer at RVs4MDs at facebook.com/groups/rvs4mds.

◀ **GROUP HUG** — Teacher aides at the Garrison School organized a message for students that was posted on Facebook.

Photos provided



▲ **FOOD DELIVERIES** — This past week, Beacon firefighters and police officers delivered lunch to the doctors, nurses and clinic workers at the HRHCare Health Center facility (top photo), while firefighters from Slater Chemical Fire Co. in Glenham prepared and delivered meals to first responders, including those at the Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps and the intensive-care unit at St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital in Newburgh (bottom photo). Slater purchased the food with proceeds from Slaterpalooza, its annual music festival.

Photos provided

Hudson Beach Glass

Shop with us online
HudsonBeachGlass.com

Free shipping, pickup, or delivery (within 10 miles)*

162 Main St, Beacon, NY 12508 *call 845-544-3296 to arrange

Thinking about divorce?

Let's talk. Spare your children the trauma of seeing their parents “battle it out” in court. Work with us to reduce the confusion, conflict, and cost of your separation or divorce.



MAGNUSS Divorce Mediation

Diane Magnusson 914 382-3268

2537 Rt 52, Suite 1 Hopewell Junction NY 12533

www.magnussdivorcemediation.com

The Calendar

Figures for Followers

The offbeat Clutter Gallery turns Beacon into a global destination

By Arvind Dilawar

There are toys, and there are designer toys.

The latter aren't for kids, but for collectors of offbeat and irreverent art. And Beacon has become one of the meccas for the industry.

Josh Kimberg and his wife, Miranda O'Brien-Kimberg, moved to the city in 2010. Josh had studied sculpture at New York University and connected with a designer toy company, Kidrobot, in the early 2000s.

Miranda had founded *Clutter Magazine*, which covers the industry, in England in 2003. After the couple met in 2008, they moved the publication to Brooklyn, then to Beacon, attracted by DIA and provocative local artists such as Ron English.

The Clutter storefront on Main Street began as the magazine's office but evolved into an exhibition space, first for the couple's personal collection and then for monthly shows that open on Second Saturdays. The themes of recent exhibits have played on action figures, bioluminescence and holiday gift-giving.

The collectible figures they promote and sell, usually created in limited editions, are often outrageous and nearly always colorful. They can be understood as pop art, and many are satirical or relay political or social messages.

The toys don't have a following as much as the artists who create them.

"We define a 'designer' toy as a toy sold based on the name of the artist," explains Josh Kimberg.

“You’re buying it because it’s by Ron English, Mutant Vinyl Hardcore, Splurrt, ETC, Quiccs. You’re not buying it because it’s Batman.”

Collectors from around the world — Japan, China, Singapore, Germany, the Netherlands — buy the figures, follow the artists and shop online at clutter-magazine.com. It has made Beacon a hotspot for the industry, and a few artists such as Tara McPherson and Kyle Kirwan have followed the Kimbergs to the city after hearing their rave reviews.

Josh Kimberg says one of the appeals of the designer toy industry is that it's more approachable than the traditional art world.

“We are democratic in a way that the fine art world isn’t,” he explains. “People find that, when they come in, if they want to learn, it’s a lot easier to figure out what’s going on here than at a big art gallery in Chelsea.”

The pieces are also more affordable. On the lower end, there are items such as the \$25 JASPAR by Quiccs, a 3-inch-tall vinyl figure resembling Blinky from Pac-Man, dipped in gold. On the high end, there's the \$15,000 Taxidermy Totem by Liz Mcgrath, which is a ceramic deer's head mantel piece topped by a fox and bat that would be at home in a scene from *The Nightmare Before Christmas*.

Since 2009, the Kimbergs have organized the Designer Toy Awards, where panelists from the industry present honors for Artist of the Year, Toy of the Year and Best Toy Store, among other categories. In 2016, Clutter also began hosting Five Points Fest, a two-day event at the Brooklyn Expo Center. This year's festival, scheduled for May 30 and

31, remains up in the air because of the COVID-19 shutdown.

Clutter Gallery has been closed since March 16, but Kimberg looks forward to opening the doors again for a Second Saturday party. "When we're all up again, come party and hang out, have a beer," he says.



THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

For a complete listing of events, see
highlandscurrent.org/calendar.

COMMUNITY

SAT 18 One Poem a Day Won't Kill You

GARRISON
Desmond-Fish Library | bit.ly/read-poem

Last month, the library and *The Current* teamed up to revive this annual event to recognize National Poetry Month in April. The idea was that community members would be recorded at the library reading their favorite poems. Unfortunately, few recordings took place before the library closed. However, we are able to collect and share poem recordings online. Visit the link above and use your phone, tablet or computer to record a favorite poem to share with the community — something we all may need during this challenging and humbling time, notes Ryan Biracree, the library's digital services coordinator. You can hear the completed readings at highlandscurrent.org.

THURS 23 Paper Crafts Workshop

GARRISON
6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
facebook.com/pg/desmondfishlibrary
This workshop takes place each week via Facebook.

SUN 19 Magic The Gathering

BEACON
2 p.m. Underground Beacon
Message on Instagram for meeting room code; see bit.ly/magic-beacon.
Also FRI 24.

TUES 21 Socrates Cafe

BEACON
4 p.m. Howland Public Library
beaconlibrary.org
Moderator Dan Fisherman will



Magic The Gathering, April 19

explore a philosophical, ethical or socio-political issue using questions that probe underlying assumptions and statements with Socratic dialogue. Email adults@beaconlibrary.org.

WED 22 Get Drastic with Plastic

CARMEL
5 p.m. Cornell Cooperative Extension
putnam.cce.cornell.edu

For Earth Day, learn how to reduce consumption of plastics and why it's needed.

WED 22 Reading with Writers Book Club

COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Split Rock Books
splitrockbks.com/event/reading-writers-book-club

Emily Dykeman will lead this new book club over Zoom, beginning with Anne Lamott's *Bird by Bird*, which is part writing manual, part memoir and part philosophy editorial.

SAT 25 Grow Your Own Vegetables

CARMEL
10 a.m. Cornell Cooperative Extension
putnam.cce.cornell.edu

Learn how to pick a location for your garden, how to plan it and ways to make it a success.

SAT 25 Virtual Earth Day: Uniting From Home

1 – 4 p.m. Citizens Climate Lobby and Braver Angels
bit.ly/virtual-earth

Katharine Hayhoe, a climate scientist, evangelical Christian and host of the podcast *Global Weirding*, will discuss where we are now and what we can do about global warming. Her talk will be followed by break-out discussions.

KIDS & FAMILY

MON 20 Story Time

GARRISON
1:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
instagram.com/desmondfishpubliclibrary
facebook.com/desmondfishlibrary

Lucille Merry and other members of the staff will read children's books aloud. Also WED 22, FRI 24.

TUES 21 New Parents Support Group

GARRISON
11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
Via Zoom. Email beautifulmamas123@gmail.com for registration information. Continues weekly.

VISUAL ARTS

SAT 18 Social Saturday

GARRISON
4 p.m. Garrison Art Center
instagram.com/garrisonartcenter

Join a virtual open studio to stay connected with the arts community and artists. The Zoom meeting ID is 996 412 237. Also SAT 25.

SAT 18 Magazzino da Casa

PHILIPSTOWN
3 p.m. Magazzino | magazzino.art
This weekly series features discussions with artists, Magazzino leadership and collaborators, as well as lectures by leading scholars.

HEALTH & FITNESS

MON 20 Meditation Group

GARRISON
Noon. Garrison Institute
garrisoninstitute.org
Via Zoom. Online registration requested. Offered weekdays.

THURS 23 Resiliency Meditation

BEACON
8:30 p.m. Amy Soucy
bit.ly/resiliency-meditation
Register to join a weekly 30-minute meditation via Zoom about turning fear into resilience.

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 18 Beacon of Light Virtual Cabaret

BEACON
6:30 p.m. Beacon Performing Arts Center
facebook.com/beaconperformingartscenter/
Children and teens from the Hudson Valley will perform. Donations will be accepted for BPAC and the Actors Fund.

MON 20 Live at Five

BEACON
5 p.m. Beacon Performing Arts Center
facebook.com/beaconperformingartscenter
Sing and dance for some fun relief. Offered weekdays.

CIVIC

Meetings are closed to the public but streamed or posted as videos. See highlandscurrent.org/meeting-videos.

SAT 18 Gov. Cuomo Daily Briefing

10:45 a.m. Weekdays
twitter.com/NYGovCuomo

MON 20 School Board Petitions Due

GARRISON
5 p.m. Garrison School
gufs.org

MON 20 School Board Petitions Due

COLD SPRING
5 p.m. Haldane School
haldaneschool.org

MON 20 City Council

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

MON 20 Village Board

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

TUES 21 School Board

COLD SPRING
6 p.m. Haldane School
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

TUES 21 School Board

GARRISON
7 p.m. Garrison School
845-424-3689 | gufs.org



ASCEND
CENTER
ONLINE
ascendcenter.com

Live-streaming classes daily
and video-on-demand
Pilates • Yoga • Meditation
Barre • Gyrokinesis®

Solstad
House

A unique Lifestyle and General Store
committed to providing a warm,
hospitable shopping experience for
Beacon's diverse residents and visitors.



Visit us at SolstadHouse.com

While our doors are temporarily closed to help flatten the curve
of COVID-19 infections, our website is buzzing with new visitors!
Free shipping & delivery in Beacon for orders over \$20.

Follow us!
@solstadhouse
SolstadHouse1



Alice Judson

Beacon Historical Society



"A Bright Day, Beacon, N.Y.," painted around 1920



"Schooner at Anchor, Gloucester, Massachusetts"

The Artist Next Door

Alice Judson

By Alison Rooney

Alice Judson would be surprised to find that her hometown of Beacon has turned into such an art mecca. Yet, she pioneered it.

The most prominent artist in Beacon's history, Judson was born in 1867 in what was then known as Matteawan. After graduating from Matteawan High School (her sister, Jane, taught drawing and painting at the Sargent School), Judson attended the Albany State Teachers College, then headed to New York City.

There she studied at The Art Students League of New York under John Henry Twachtman, who fused techniques of the Impressionists with Tonalism, in which dark, neutral hues dominated compositions.

Judson next returned to the capital district to teach oil portraiture and drawing from cast at the Emma Willard Art School in Troy, according to a biography compiled by Diane Lapis, the president of the Beacon Historical Society, from which many of the biographical details in this story were taken.

Judson's Hudson River roots provided her with a grounding in landscape painting to which she frequently returned; she called the river her greatest inspiration. Her body of work contains many familiar Highlands scenes: *Haystacks* at Glenham, *Lengthening Shadows* at Cold Spring, and depictions of dirt roads still traveled today in Pawling and Hopewell. Several of Judson's canvases were used by *Town and Country* and other magazines as cover illustrations.

She established her Forge Studio on 17 Tioronda Ave. over a blacksmith shop, near the present-day Howland Cultural Center. An undated local newspaper clipping in the Historical Society collection invited those who were "tired of modernistic art and long to see a boat which is a boat and a plowed field which looks as if it would muddy your shoes" to pay her a visit.

The writer went on to call Judson's work "a revelation to Beaconites who little imagined that this quiet, unpretentious person is really such a genius."

Alice was the youngest of three daughters born to Roswell and Harriet Judson, who lived at 9 Leonard St. He was an engineer and ice dealer, and ran a livery stable; his machine shop was located near where the Roundhouse is today. He also served as "president" of Matteawan for a while. (Judson Street in Beacon is named for him.)

Over a span of decades, Alice Judson enjoyed solo shows and participated in exhibitions at galleries, historical societies, museums, municipal associations and cultural centers across the country. She was best known for her Dutchess County landscapes and her seascapes of Gloucester, Massachusetts, reaching the height of her fame in the 1920s and 1930s.

Positive reviews were a staple. In 1921, the art critic at the *Philadelphia Inquirer* wrote that her pastels and watercolors were "so light in texture, and so unpretending in themes, that the garrulous tongue is in check and the ready metaphor baffled. She's anything but impulsive, and is as considered and deft as a butterfly wing and as airy as thistledown."

Still, it was common throughout Judson's working life for female artists to be denied professional reckonings. A *New York World Telegram* article in 1933 noted that six women painters, including Judson, had united as the

The artist was
"a revelation to
Beaconites who little
imagined that this quiet,
unpretentious person is
really such a genius."

Gotham Painters "to prove they are artists, not female daubers." In a statement, the women said they wanted "the world to know that we banded together as a group of artists, not a group of women artists; it's purely accidental that there isn't a man in the number."

A year later, the *New York Post* praised Judson's marine paintings, calling her "the most striking illustration of an artist who has trained herself in the study of a field usually associated with painters of the other sex. Considering that most women have no more than a casual interest in ships, Miss Judson's achievement is something approaching a miracle." Judson attributed her "marine preoccupation" to the fact that "one of my ancestors was a pirate."

While Judson maintained a studio apartment at Manhattan from 1927 through 1947, she had a summer home in Beacon and opened a gallery at what is now the offices of Miller's Minutemen Construction. She curated a show there with a dozen artists, including the president of the National Academy and a curator from the Brooklyn Museum.

In 2000, the Beacon Historical Society received a letter from a former resident, Jean Heichelbech Seamen. Her family had moved to Beacon in 1944 and rented the 9 Leonard St. house from Judson, who had attended the School of Applied Design in New York City with Seamen's aunt. The family agreed to clean out the house for the artist and move the contents to her studio.

"The house had little furniture in it, though there was an oak dining table, covered with empty food tins, and a fine rocking chair, which she sold us," Seamen recalled. "The rest of the stuff to be moved to the studio consisted of a great deal of useless-looking junk, such as old candy boxes, cheap baskets and lots of odd rolls of wallpaper."

"After Alice was moved we worked long

and hard to clean up the place to make it livable and we girls always wondered what treasure still lay upstairs, in those forbidden attic rooms — Alice must have been satisfied because she gave Mama two oil paintings." (The paintings were later donated to the Historical Society.)

"We remember Miss Alice with pleasure," Seamen wrote.

In 1947 Judson lost her lease and was forced to move out of her Manhattan studio. Unable to find other quarters, she put many of her works up for sale. She died on April 3, 1948, and was buried in St. Luke's Cemetery in Beacon, outside the church where she sang as a child.

UNA VISIONE GLOBALE: ARTE POVERA'S WORLDS

Lecture Series:
Michelangelo Pistoletto's Comizi (1965-1966): Pop, Protest, and Politics in Early Arte Povera

Tenley Bick
April 18, 3:00-5:00 p.m. EST on
Instagram Live, IGTV and our website
Live Q+A on Instagram Live on April 18,
2020 at 4:00 p.m. EST

[@magazzino](http://www.magazzino.art/magazzinodacasa)



Rediscovered

In 2014, while cleaning out her family's Poughkeepsie home after five generations, Linda Hubbard discovered a large collection of Alice Judson's paintings, many of them rolled up canvases in a box, others in piles. Hubbard's mother, Edith, had been a longtime friend of Judson.

The works were restored by Paul Gould of Cornwall-on-Hudson and became the focus of a 2013 exhibit at RiverWinds Gallery (where Linda Hubbard was then a co-owner); it paired Judson's paintings with prints restored by Joe Diebboll of the Highland Studio in Philipstown.

Gergely Pediatrics

It has been a busy few weeks here at Gergely Pediatrics trying to keep our doors open and everyone safe.

As of Wednesday March 25, we will be open for telehealth appointments. Please call us if you have a sick child or have any questions. We are here.

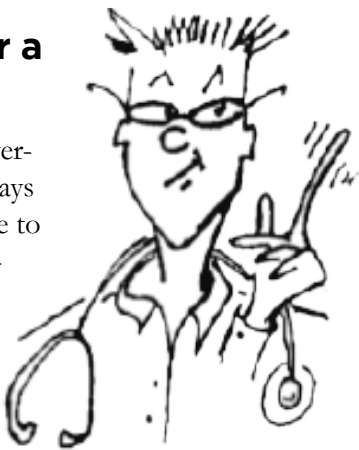
All physicals for children 3 years and older will be postponed and rescheduled for after April 20. If you have a physical in the next few weeks we will be calling to reschedule. If your child is younger than 3 years we will conduct a telehealth visit. Given the difficult circumstances, we will continue to offer the most comprehensive medical care possible for your children via telehealth. Also during this COVID 19 pandemic, office hours will remain as close to normal as possible, Monday through Friday. However we will be closed on Saturdays but still available by phone. If you should get the answering service and feel that you cannot wait until we open up again, please leave a message with the service. We will continue to keep you informed as events change, please continue to check our website for updates too.

What is a Virtual Visit?

Instead of traveling to Gergely Pediatrics, you can video conference with a provider using your mobile phone, computer or tablet device (equipped with a camera) via Zoom or Facetime. You and your provider will be able to see and talk with each other in real time – so you can ask questions and have a conversation the same way you would in your provider's office. Your provider will review your condition, guide you in moving forward after a procedure or have a prescription sent to your pharmacy, or to a lab draw station as needed.

Will my insurance cover a Virtual Visit?

Most insurance carriers are now covering this service, and are waiving copays associated with COVID19. Feel free to call your insurance company's member service number on the back of your insurance card to get exact benefit information for your own plan, as some company plans may vary.



Route 403, Garrison, NY 10524
tel: (845) 424-4444 fax: (845) 424-4664
gergelypediatrics.com

Something You Don't Know About Me

Lydia Rosengarten

By Alison Rooney

Lydia Rosengarten is a senior real estate adviser at a firm in New York City.

Many people become real-estate agents as a second career. Is that the case with you?

Yes. I earned a master's degree in social work from Hunter College in 1992. I specialized in psychiatry. I worked at the old Roosevelt Hospital on 59th Street and spent a year on a schizophrenia research unit alongside a team researching antipsychotic medications. After a year, I was hired by St. Luke's-Roosevelt [now Mount Sinai].

How did the specialization come about?

I did an internship at Payne Whitney [Psychiatric Clinic, on the Upper East Side] in my second year of social-work training and that is where I met this renowned psychiatrist who hired me for his schizophrenia research unit when his social worker went on maternity leave.

What was the work like?

It was incredibly rewarding; I learned a lot from the patients. The stigma about the mentally ill is still pervasive. People believe schizophrenia is synonymous with "crazy" and dangerous and violent. Most schizophrenic people are not. Some are, since one of the main issues facing those with schizophrenia is non-compliance with taking much-needed medication. Some hear voices and get paranoid and can look scary, but many are just struggling day-to-day and trying to live their lives as best they can.

How do medical research and social work intersect at a hospital?

Without treating the family dynamic and educating them to encourage their



Lydia Rosengarten, around the time she was working as a social worker, holding her daughter, Melina Marinakis, and today (left). Photos provided

family members to continue medication post-hospitalization, all the treatment in the world won't matter. Social workers also assist placing patients in after-care day treatment. Unfortunately, many patients don't follow up and relapse. It's a monster of an illness, and without family support relapse is all but guaranteed.

What made you switch careers?

As a single parent at the time, I had to pursue a career that would provide more financial stability. But as far as a sense of gratification, working with the mentally ill stood out for me, and always will, and to this day I think about so many of the patients I saw. I would not trade the experience for anything.

Have you considered returning to social work?

No. But the training comes into use in real estate, such as staying steady, calm, listening to concerns, validating clients. Also, a big one is learning not to take attacks personally. There's a lot of projection that goes on in social work, where patients put their anxiety and issues onto you. Staying calm and being patient are necessary qualities to survive and do well in real estate.

Is there something about you most people in the community aren't aware of? It can be job-related, a hidden talent — basically anything, serious or funny. If you'd like to share your story, email arts@highlandscurrent.org.

Real Estate

Market Report (March)

	Beacon		Philipstown	
	2019	2020	2019	2020
New Listings	10	4	22	12
Closed Sales	3	3	5	10
Days on Market	40	71	114	140
Median Price	\$422,500	\$187,000	\$430,000	\$482,900
% List Received	98.9	86.3	93.1	92.4
Inventory	22	22	75	51

Source: Hudson Gateway Association of Realtors (hgar.com). Excludes condos. Philipstown includes Cold Spring, Garrison and Nelsonville.

Beacon Ink



Tom Cerchiara shows off his 1867 map inked by Evan McGuigan. Photo by Meredith Heuer

By Chip Rowe

In 2017, Tom Cerchiara decided to get a tattoo.

It wouldn't be his first. He had gotten a tribal design on his back when he was 19 (later covered up with an eagle) and two more in his late 30s on his arm representing electronic music, which he says was important to him.

But this piece of art would be more of a commitment for Cerchiara, who owns TEC Land Surveying in Beacon. He wanted a reproduction of an 1867 map of Fishkill Landing and Matteawan, which in 1913 combined to form Beacon.

"In our profession we use old maps for historical research and context," he explains.

"We have surveyed most of the Fishkill Creek for developers and the 1867 map was a good starting point to understand who owned properties, how the roads were laid out — for instance, Tioronda Avenue was moved in the 1860s to make way for the railroad tracks — and how the buildings and lots were laid out.

"I also live in Beacon, so it seemed appropriate," Cerchiara says.

Over three sessions of about two hours each, Evan McGuigan of Graceland Tattoo in Wappingers Falls recreated the map on Cerchiara's right arm. "I want add a few more things — mountain shading, trails — but just haven't gotten back to it," Cerchiara said.

We wondered if anyone else had Beacon or Hudson Valley ink. After surveying local tattoo artists, here are a few we found.



"Long Dock Park," by Matt Montleon, Honorable Ink



"Mid-Hudson Bridge," by Max Shoberg, Hudson Valley Tattoo Co.



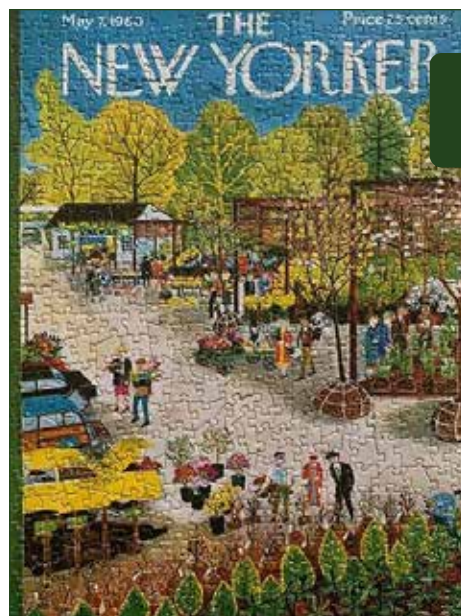
"Dummy Light, Beacon," by Suzanne Baldinger, Honorable Ink



"Hudson Valley Scene," by Jason Carpino, Hudson Valley Tattoo Co.



"12508," by Suzanne Baldinger, Honorable Ink



The Gift Hut

Online Ordering with Scheduled
Curb Side Pickup or Shipping

www.thegifthut.com

86 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY
845-297-3786

Program Suspended, for Now

On March 27, President Donald Trump signed the CARES Act, opening up \$2 trillion in assistance to taxpayers, workers and small businesses through a variety of programs, including an initiative in which businesses can receive a loan for eight weeks of payroll, rent and utilities that will be forgiven if they don't lay anyone off during that time.

As of Monday (April 13), more than 1 million Payroll Protection Program loans had been approved for \$248 billion, according to the Small Business Administration, including 41,000 loans in New York State worth \$11.7 billion. The average loan has been for \$239,000, although 70 percent are for \$150,000 or less. About 25 percent of the money has gone to the construction and manufacturing industries and 8.5 percent to retailers.

Banks say they have been inundated, and the American

Bankers Association, a trade group, acknowledged on Tuesday (April 14) that the program had "encountered challenges from the beginning," although the more than 4,600 banks administering the loans were told of the guidelines only days before the funding became available.

Nearly 300,000 JPMorgan Chase customers were "in some stage of the application process" to receive \$36 billion in funds as of Tuesday, with more than \$9 billion already sent to businesses that employ more than 700,000 people, a representative said on Thursday (April 16). Julia Berchou, an M&T Bank representative, said it continues to process applications "as quickly as possible."

That same day, the SBA announced it would no longer accept applications for the Payroll Protection Program or Economic Injury Disaster Loans until Congress approves more funding.



Laura Leigh and Sam Abby own The Studio @ Beacon.

Photo by J. Simms

Businesses (from Page 1)

cation but never received confirmation that it had been received. The next step was to apply for the Paycheck Protection Program.

While The Studio @ Beacon employs about 10 people, many are independent contractors, so the Abbys were initially unclear whether their payroll qualified for the program. They investigated deferring payments on the loan they took out to launch the business, as well.

As they searched for the program best suited for their situation, the clock kept ticking.

Instructors began posting workout routines on Instagram and, for a modest fee, through Zoom, but whatever money that brought in was only enough to pay the teachers.

"We've hosted those classes to keep people aware of what we're doing, but we're in crisis mode," Laura said.

They're not alone. Despite reports of billions in approved loans, numerous small-business owners in Beacon said this week that they're still having trouble navigating the system.

Laeri Nast, who owns the Play toy store in Beacon, said he, too, is flabbergasted.

As soon as the shutdown began, Nast said he told his three employees that he would pay half their salaries while they stayed home.

"It would only be fair," he said this week. "I didn't know what anybody else was doing, but I didn't want [my employees] to freak out. I wanted them to know they could eat."

Nast said he called the SBA for guidance on getting a loan but kept getting disconnected after long holds. Aside from a few private orders for Easter gifts, Nast said he's done little business in four weeks. "Amazon has us walloped" as far as online sales, he said. "I don't know if I've played the cards right. Everybody that I've talked to — nobody seems to know."

As someone whose work relies on close proximity and physical touch, Beacon massage therapist Karen Meyer finds herself in the same boat.

"I know some therapists have other forms of revenue. They might teach or do something like reiki that they can offer online," she said. "As far as I know, there's nothing I can do that I could charge for."

Meyer, a solo practitioner for the last five years, has applied for unemployment benefits, but like millions of other Americans, she found that process daunting. The state Department of Labor told her this week that her benefits are being temporarily withheld because of confusion regarding

Philipstown Firm is Busy

Rise in videoconferencing fuels surge

By Leonard Sparks

The coronavirus has scattered tens of millions of employees.

Daniel Gilbert and his Philipstown-based tech firm are bringing them back together.



Daniel Gilbert

While bars, restaurants, retailers and other businesses are struggling while their customers shelter at home, CloudVisit Aviation's videoconferencing services are in-demand.

The company, whose headquarters are located on Route 9, has for more than a decade created telemedicine software and videoconferencing software that allows for remote inspections in industries such as aviation and construction.

"We've had an exponential increase in website traffic, telephone calls, leads and interest from venture capital companies and private equities," said Gilbert, the company's founder and CEO.

While many small companies and schools are using ready-made videoconferencing services such as Zoom, CloudVisit works with companies in a broad range of sectors that want customized systems, Gilbert said.

Gilbert believes that businesses forced to embrace teleconferencing and videoconferencing will stay with it once the pandemic ends.

"It has fulfilled a lot of its potential," he said of the technology. "After the restrictions are lifted, these systemic changes are going to be permanent."

her income and self-employed status.

In the meantime, she has launched a GoFundMe page and applied for help through that company's Small Business Relief Fund. Through a partnership with Yelp, QuickBooks, GoDaddy and Bill.com, the fund offers a one-time \$500 grant for businesses that raise at least \$500 on the platform.

"I'm not one for begging, but I don't know how long I'm going to be out of work," said Meyer.

Leonard Sparks contributed reporting. In the interest of disclosure, Highlands Current Inc., the nonprofit which publishes this newspaper, has applied for a Paycheck Protection Program loan but its application has not yet been approved.

BEACON FINE ART PRINTING
 71 MAPLE STREET - BEACON
 914.522.4736
 E: BEACONFINEART@GMAIL.COM
 BEACONFINEARTPRINTING.COM

PARENTING IN CRISIS

Kid Friendly

Working from Home, COVID Style

By Katie Hellmuth Martin

When *The Current* suggested a column about the new perma-work-from-home-with-kids-life, the request came at a particularly sensitive moment. I was working at night from my car in the driveway, with the heat on. My alternative — the shed — was not an option because it has no heat.

As a seasoned work-from-home person, I have many tricks. But this frozen, socially-distanced life has upended everything.

Here is my initial response to the request for a work-from-home column:

I am the queen of working from home. I've lived it for 15 years! Working from home with kids? Nine years! Working from home with kids during a pandemic?

Ha.

Ha Ha.

Hahahahahahahahahahahahaha

Hahahahahahahahahahahahaha

Ahahahahahahahaahahahahahahshsha

The end.



Is that enough? Do you need it shorter to make room for ads?

Ha!

*HaHaHaHaHa!**

In all seriousness, all of my working-from-home advice is still applicable in a pandemic, but with the grand community experiment of distance learning, the triggers to feel Parental Guilt because you are not spending time with your children because you are working go through the roof. Not to mention the amount of distractions. And it's not just distractions from the dishes, but the distractions of life and death, of money and no money.

Should I apply for mortgage relief, or learn what an Economic Impact Payment is? As a small-business owner, am I eligible for unemployment even if I still have some income but lost clients?

Drats, I need to finish the proposal for that big database build-out for the potential medical-device client. And oh, here is that Zoom invite from a mom friend for a group playdate call for my daughter and, oh yeah, here is the Zoom birthday song invite for my niece. And I haven't even downloaded Zoom.

For homework for an article, I need to call the state and Dutchess County coronavirus hotlines to get a checklist to post on *A Little Beacon Blog* of what to do if you suddenly start feeling sick or shortness of breath. Whom do I call first? Which hotline? Or is it my doctor? Or the urgent care? I'm sure I'll get to the hospital somehow, if I need to. I'll call the state's emotional support hotline

*Editor's note: Not that funny.



Work, and play

Photo by K. Martin

start there. (It was a pleasant call, actually.)

All of these thoughts are typical of a single day, but on that particular day I couldn't handle it. It sent me straight to the shed for an evening work session. I needed some space to find some calm and focus with no one around so that I could think.

There is so much going on at the same time. There's Gov. Andrew Cuomo's daily briefing, which I listen to religiously, followed by the White House briefing. In between those, I get texts from my mom in Ohio as she listens to their governor, Mike DeWine, followed by the mayor of Beacon's end-of-day robocall, sometimes. And the Beacon school district's robocall about distance learning advancements, or news about the amazing grab-n-go meal

program with a delivery option. And there is Chris Cuomo's show on CNN that I must watch now that he is suffering from COVID-19.

My devices are never charged all the way. Everything is either at 9 percent or 27 percent, unless it's a good morning when I have all the cords coordinated, and I reach 100 percent for a good slide into the Gov. Cuomo call. Prior to that, no matter what, I have jogged outside, lately in the rain, and hopefully had time to eat breakfast and get dressed before the briefing.

Locations I worked in to complete this column were:

The car in my driveway.

The car at the train station to be near the water while my toddler napped.

The car on Main Street in Cold Spring, where I drove to get my toddler to sleep in the back seat until I could park in a safe place without any people around. Hi, Cold Spring!

Anyway, my advice for working from home is below. It is simple but important:

Get Dressed: Do this before everyone wakes up. If you have little ones, they can make this impossible otherwise.

Eat Breakfast: You must have a good brain.

Wear Shoes: At the end of your work-day, you take your shoes off and put slippers on. This mentally helps you transition from Work to Home.

Dishwasher Ready: Load dishes all day so you have a clean sink at all times. This will help avoid domestic distraction.

Forgive Yourself: Every day will be different. Remember the tiny goals that you did accomplish.

Reporter's Notebook

The Truth Hurts

By Jeff Simms

Sometime during the first week of whatever we're calling "this," my dear, loving 8-year-old son took a break from one of his first at-home learning assignments.

"Daddy, I'm gonna draw a picture of you," he said. "But don't be mad if it's ugly. Be mad at yourself."

The truth hurts, especially during these trying times.

Fast forward five weeks, with more likely to come — not that I'm counting. As we begin our second month of social distancing and virtual schooling, I've been forced to acknowledge a number of other, more painful, truths about myself. Perhaps some of you can relate.

As my family and I have been homebound, I've become grumpy and impatient. I've continued to conduct interviews and write from home, yet I've dropped the ball in helping my son with his schoolwork. And I've disappeared to faraway rooms many times, trying to eke out a minute of the quiet I desperately crave while leaving everything else on my wife's capable but exhausted shoulders.



Jeff Simms' quiet place

Photo provided

None of what's happening in my house is that abnormal, given the circumstances. Many others have it worse. Heidi and I have one child; for families with several children, or those who are dealing with health issues, the stress must be off the charts.

Nevertheless, I haven't been a team player. This week, I reached out for help.

First, I called my son's teacher. Back in the normal world, Michelle Schadeegg manages 14 first-, second- and third-graders for six hours a day at the Hudson Hills Montessori school in Beacon. I don't know that I've ever seen her without a smile.

Michelle suggested seeking a balance between community and independence.

"Children need their families now," she said, but they're also used to being away from home for at least half of the day. So, when issues come up, with schoolwork or anything else, she said, "give them the space to try on their own. They need to search it out."

She also suggested setting aside a dedicated space with pencils, notebooks and other supplies to be used for school, and creating a daily schedule. We'd done that, but as the weeks have gone on, we've drifted away from the schedule and our days have become more hectic.

Make sure to let the weekends be weekends, too, she said. Do something fun — without approaching another human, of course.

Michelle's most essential instruction applies anywhere, but is way too easy to forget. "Remember to treat everyone with kindness. It's what we use in the classroom," she said. "It may sound cliché, but it goes a long way."

Next, I called my yoga teacher.

Raghunath Cappel doesn't live in Beacon — he's about 90 minutes north of us in Columbia County. I trust him implicitly, having sought his guidance many times.

He said much the same thing as Michelle, using different language.

"My best advice is to regulate," Raghunath said. "Regulate your study time and your work time, even if it's in small increments." Make sure to spend ample time outdoors, as weather and distancing guidelines permit, and don't be afraid to let your kids get bored, he added.

"When they're bored, don't try to fulfill them with entertainment, because sometimes it takes boredom to get to creativity and imagination," he said.

As for my frustrations after being stuck in the house, Raghunath, who has three of his five children at home, encouraged me to "notice how you're acting and make a better choice."

It sounds so simple.

"Don't get me wrong — I'm not above any of these things," he explained. "Often I feel like I'm failing on a regular basis. But you get up and show up again. It's an ongoing lesson."



Dining Out at Home

marbled
MEAT SHOP

CURBSIDE PICKUP

PLEASE CALL/EMAIL AHEAD

INFO@MARBLEDMEAT.COM | (845) 265-2830

ONLY WED - SAT 10:00A.M. – 5:00P.M.

3091 US 9, COLD SPRING, NY 10516

marbledmeatshop.com



Flowercup Wine

82 Main Street, Cold Spring

Curbside pickup • Free local delivery of 12 bottles or more • Hands-free, socially distant shopping

845-859-9123 • flowercupwine@gmail.com



DOUG'S
Pretty Good
PUB

Pickup grub at the pub

Due to the widespread panic the pub has been forced to temporarily close.

BUT we do have our menu available for pickup.

Please visit www.dougsprettygoodpub.com for menu and hours.

Call 845-265-9500 to place your order.

We are located at 54 Main Street Cold Spring, NY



115 Main Street, Cold Spring

Call for pick up [845-265-2122](tel:845-265-2122) | [845-490-0228](tel:845-490-0228)
store cell

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

phone: 845.440.6923

online: shop.artisanwineshop.com

pickup and delivery only

storefront closed for now, updates on instagram @artisanwineshop

WE DELIVER TO: Beacon, Cold Spring, Fishkill, Garrison and Wappingers Falls

BEACON, NEW YORK
artisan
wine shop
where food meets its match

your source for organic,
biodynamic &
low-intervention wines

180 main street / beacon, ny 12508 / 845.440.6923 / open 7 days
shop.artisanwineshop.com / www.artisanwineshop.com

Belgian Choc. Walnut Brownie w/ \$25 order

TOWNECRIER CAFE

SINCE 1972
379 Main Street, Beacon

Pick-up & Take-out

Free Delivery

WED - FRI 4 - 8PM | SAT & SUN 2-8PM

Special family menu & beer and wine list

Gift Certificates Available

www.townecrier.com

Order @ (845) 855-1300

Looking Back in Philipstown

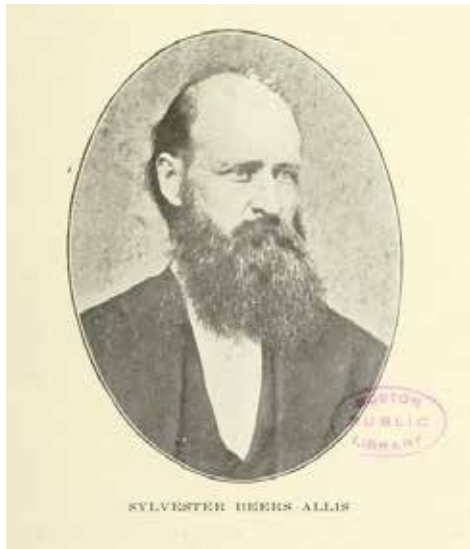
By Chip Rowe

150 Years Ago (April 1870)

A number of surgeons and doctors came to Cold Spring to assist in an operation on the kidneys of Mallachy Hessian, who the *Cold Spring Recorder* reported was doing “as well as could be expected.”

W.W. Wilson, an employee of the West Point Foundry, was unable to work after “having met the common fate of getting iron chippings in his eye,” the *Recorder* said.

The editor of the *Recorder* and the proprietors of *The Gleneida Monitor* in Carmel and *The Fishkill Journal* lobbed insults at each other, with the Fishkill man writing, “Cold Spring is such a bad place that the whole of Putnam County has to be scoured over to find hickory cudgels to lick the inhabitants,” and the Carmel man adding that the *Recorder* editor was “one of the most quiet, inoffensive, meek and lowly gentlemen of the press we have ever met.” The *Recorder* editor, Sylvester Beers Allis, said the barbs only showed that “great wisdom, after running through skulls of such peculiar nature, comes forth terribly distorted.”



Recorder Editor S.B. Allis was formerly the village postmaster.

Dogs killed nine sheep and wounded six more on the farm of William Knapp near the Highland church.

The new pews at the Methodist Church were deemed “very comfortable.”

James Monroe, a painter working in Nelsonville, was thrown from his horse when he let go of the bridle while receiving curbside service at a Main Street cigar store.

John Best, attempting to kill a rat with a hatchet outside his father's paint shop on Stone Street, instead cut his toe.

Mrs. Elwell, who moved to Cold Spring with her husband when the village had three houses, died at age 75.

The village postmaster reported that an honest young boy, John Doyle, put his hand up to the delivery window and said, “Mister Letterman, here's four cents. I find 'em on the winder.” The pennies were nickels that had been given in change to a customer who later returned for the money.

After the schooner Cabinet of Newport ran aground in heavy wind near the West Point lower dock, its captain and one of the two mates took the anchor and about 50 fath-

oms of chain in a yawl and rowed into the river, hoping they could pull the ship's bow off the flats. As the chain was let out, however, the anchor in the aft began to drag the boat down. The two men attempted to swim back to shore but disappeared under the waves.

125 Years Ago (April 1895)

Edward Post, the dry goods merchant, lost a pocket book containing about \$100. He had two boys named McElreth arrested, but Justice Nelson dismissed the case for lack of evidence.

George Mosher Jr. sold his interest in the oyster saloon and general store to his father and brother to open a wholesale candy and cigar business.

At a special meeting of the Nelsonville Village Board, Levi Wood was called to answer to a charge that he had libeled the previous board, and John Utter to answer to an allegation that he had voted illegally. An attorney who appeared on behalf of both men said the board didn't have jurisdiction in either matter.

Sam Lee, the Chinese laundryman (at right), caught 15 trout on the first day of the season.

The Nelsonville board gave permission to the Gouverneur estate to straighten Secor Street.

The superintendent of the West Point Foundry, James Greene, caught his arm in a piece of machinery and would have lost the limb except for the quick response of a workman.

Hamilton Fish, a Garrison resident who was speaker of the state Assembly, introduced a bill prepared by the Putnam County Board of Supervisors that called for all persons convicted as vagrants or tramps in Putnam to be sent to the penitentiary under contract with the state instead of to the county jail or poorhouse.

Jared Barhite, the former principal of the old Rock Street School, published *Our Profession and Other Poems*, which included verse related to teaching, Arbor Day and other subjects. “During the past quarter of a century it has been a pleasant pastime for me to obey the dictates of my feelings and inscribe them upon paper,” he wrote in the introduction. “The intent being good, the fruit cannot be evil.”

A new stoop was built around the train depot.

The New York Times, in an article on the history of the circus, said the first one had been organized in 1827 or 1828 in Putnam County by three men named Angevine, Titus and Burgess. “People think and walk circus there,” the paper claimed.

Messenger Woods, while digging in a garden near West Point, found about \$5 worth of old coins, which he surmised had been buried there by Captain Kidd, who was said to have lived in a hut under Crow's Nest. He hired two men to dig all the next day for more treasure.

The editor of the *Recorder* offered: “A good many of the people who are taking sarsaparilla for the blood at this season of the year would do a good deal better to go



Sam Lee was the owner of the Cold Spring Chinese Laundry. He would go to New York City on his day off. Behind him is Church Street facing east. Putnam History Museum

out every day and take a walk.”

P.J. Miller put on exhibit in the Boyd building a Graphophone, “a machine that talks, laughs, whistles and sings,” according to the *Recorder*.



A Cold Spring merchant in 1895 displayed a Graphophone to attract customers.

Phonogalerie.com

100 Years Ago (April 1920)

Ida Giles, the widow of Dr. Richard Giles, asked the board to rescind a resolution passed the previous month at the request of Alice Haldane to change the name of Oak Street to Giles Place to honor her late husband.

The neighbors of Robert Grindrod thanked him for shopping for them while

the roads bordering the Fahnestock estate were impassable.

James Ladue, the Democratic candidate for the county committeeman to represent Philipstown District 5, lost in the primary, 17-10, to a soldier named F.C. Selleck who ran as a write-in candidate.

William Huestis, a carpenter who, as a young man, built the steeple on the Methodist Church, died at age 74, and John Adams, who came from Ireland at age 21 and worked in the West Point Foundry for 40 years, died at age 71.

The Loretto Council of the Knights of Columbus organized a baseball team.

Eleven applicants were elected at the annual meeting of the Cold Spring Fire Co. No. 1. A proposal to purchase an auto chemical engine was referred to a committee. The secretary reported that the company had responded to one call in 1919, which took only about two hours because the building was already fully engaged. He also mourned the death of David Harkness, the company's founder.

Dorothy Giles complained to the Village Board that Fred Goodfriend was slaughtering pigs inside his Main Street bakery. In his defense, Goodfriend said he was keeping swine only as a patriotic duty to increase the wartime food supply.

(Continued on Page 20)

Looking Back *(from Page 19)*

Mayme English-Lillotte, a friend of bestselling author James Whitcomb Riley, known as the “Hoosier Poet,” read from his works at Town Hall.

A number of Republican women gathered at the home of Mary Haldane to discuss a campaign to support Gen. Leonard Wood for president. [At the convention, Wood led on the first four ballots and again on the seventh, but Warren Harding eventually won the nomination on the 10th ballot.]

The Board of Health noted that all garbage must be in metal containers with lids, barrels of ash must not be too heavy for two men to lift, and horses, goats, sheep, rabbits, etc., must not be allowed to wander.

William Magee of Garrison offered a reward for the return of his black dog, which he had given an unfortunately racist name that the editor of the *Recorder* chose to put in a headline.

As part of its twice-weekly series of silent moving pictures shown at Town Hall, the Old Homestead Club screened *The Trap*, starring Olive Tell, and *Bonnie Bonnie Lassie*, with Mary MacLaren.

75 Years Ago (April 1945)

A fire that gutted a three-story barn on the estate of auctioneer and appraiser O. Rundle Gilbert on Philipse Brook Road in Garrison destroyed 75,000 U.S. patent models dating back a century, representing about half of Gilbert’s collection.



A group of Republican women in Philipstown organized in 1920 to elect Gen. Leonard Wood as U.S. president.
Library of Congress

Gilbert said the models had been submitted to the U.S. Patent Office with applications between 1790 and 1890. [Congress had auctioned off the models in 1925, and Gilbert bought them in 1939. In 1979 he sold what remained — about 800 boxes — to an aerospace engineer; the collection is now at the Hagley Museum in Delaware.]

Hear Now, the magazine of the 111th Battalion, profiled “Sampson” Monroe, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Royal Monroe of



The silent movie, *The Trap*, was screened at Philipstown Town Hall in 1920.

Cold Spring. It noted that the 5-foot-3, 120-pound soldier was one of the strongest men in the battalion.

Staff Sgt. Malcolm Stevenson, a Haldane grad who lived on Garden Street, flew his 25th combat sortie over Europe as a tail turret gunner on a B-24 Liberator.

Word arrived that First Lt. Herbert Ellis Bowden, of Garrison, who was serving with the U.S. Army Air Corps, was killed in action over Iwo Jima.

Marie O’Keefe of Parrott Street left for duty with the U.S. Navy Nursing Corps.

Mr. and Mrs. George Fischer of Rock Street received word that their son, Corp. William Fischer, was a prisoner of war in Germany.

Col. Joseph Haskell of Garrison, a 1930 graduate of West Point, was assigned as commanding officer of the Combat Command B of the 7th Armored Division.

A memorial service held at Haldane Central School for President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who died on April 12, included the singing of “Abide with Me” and “America the Beautiful,” the reading of his favorite Bible passage (I Corinthians 13) and a prayer for President Truman.

U.S. Rep. Hamilton Fish, who lived in Garrison, said he was writing a book called *Now the Truth Can Be Told* with “inside facts” about America’s participation in the war. [Fish later published two books on the subject, including *FDR, The Other Side of the Coin: How We Were Tricked Into World War II* in 1976.]

50 Years Ago (April 1970)

Mr. Jiggs, “the world’s smartest chimp” (who had once appeared on *The Ed Sullivan Show*), and Pop the Magician performed at Haldane Central School in a benefit for the Philipstown chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Salvator Dahlia retired from the Garrison post office after a 52-year career. He began as a clerk in April 1918 and become
(Continued on Page 21)



Marc’s Landscaping & Outdoor Living, LLC.

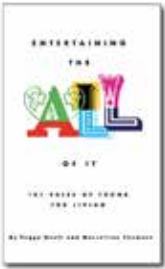
Let us transform your yard into a beautiful setting for you to enjoy and relax in.

SERVICING
Cold Spring, Garrison, Philipstown, Fishkill, Hopewell Jct., Wappingers Falls & Surrounding Areas

All work professionally done with extra attention to detail.

RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL
LANDSCAPE & HARDSCAPE
DESIGN & INSTALLATION

For Appointments call Kathy at 845-590-5283
Licensed & Insured | P.O. BOX 346 Cold Spring, NY 10516



“HEARTWARMING, SOMETIMES INTIMATE, CHAT WITH YOUR NEW DEAR FRIENDS, FULL OF HUMOR AND LOVE, TIPS AND MEMORIES.”

EMILY C. DIMAGGIO

Storytelling featuring your friends and neighbors ...

Robert Cutler –
the art of seeing art with other people

Maryann Syrek –
the art of downsizing with charm

Henry Turner –
an adventurous life birding all over the world

Larry Wiesler – Circe in Chile

Joan Turner –
closer to home with a garden in Garrison

David Duffy –
prescriptive list of movies for humor as therapy

And more. On friendship, becoming a cabaret singer, a road trip in Africa with the Maasai, a mystic tale of Ireland...

Entertaining the All of It: 101 Rules of Thumb for Living
By Peggy Healy and Marcelline Thomson

ON AMAZON:

bit.ly/all-of-it

(Continued from Page 20)

postmaster in 1946. He also was the school district clerk for 30 years and a former president of the Garrison Volunteer Fire Co.

Mary Adamson, a Cold Spring sixth-grader, won third prize in the national Episcopal Church School Essay Contest for “Sunday School — and the Other Six Days of the Week.”

Jacob Glick of Cold Spring celebrated his 100th birthday. He opened a dry goods and clothing store on Main Street in 1906 and had owned it for 64 years. An Orthodox Jew, he credited his long life to working hard six days a week but always keeping the Sabbath.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Budney received word that their son, S/P 4 Edward Budney, had been shot four times during a battle in Vietnam and was recovering in a hospital near Tokyo. The Haldane graduate had enlisted four months earlier.

The Chapel of Our Lady of Cold Spring Restoration Committee elected officers of a newly created corporation that planned to buy the property and remains of the 1834 chapel, which was the first Catholic Church built in the archdiocese outside Manhattan.

Twenty-eight students from the Haldane Junior-Senior High made their annual trip to the Metropolitan Opera in New York City to see Verdi’s *La Traviata*.

William Elmore resigned from the Garrison school board, saying he would not have time to fulfill his duties after becoming editor of the *Columbia Law Review*.

Helen Stephens, who with her husband, Bill, operated Willie’s Esso Service Center, became the first female graduate of the Humble Oil and Refining Co.’s course in service-station management.

A silver tankard and bowl presented to the Cold Spring Methodist Episcopal Church on June 16, 1870, the year its new building was dedicated, was purchased at a local auction by the Putnam County Historical Society.

The Copy Machine Supply Co., owned by John Beale of Nelsonville, was named by the American Photocopy Equipment Co. as its dealer of the year.

KCOR Corp. donated 1.25 acres of land to the North Highlands Fire District for a firehouse.

Seven Haldane students, under the direction of art teacher Mark Giammatteo, built a model rocket during study halls that flew to an altitude of 600 feet.

25 Years Ago (April 1995)

Judith Furnan resigned as president of the Putnam Humane Society, citing the election of the paid shelter manager to the volunteer board of directors, which Furnan called a “serious conflict of interest.”

Megan LaDue made 16 of 25 attempts from the line to win the 13-year-old girls’ title at the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest state championships held at West Point.

Main Street in Nelsonville was closed for more than two hours as firefighters battled a blaze at the D&B Service Station. Officials said the fire may have started when the building’s oil burner kicked on while an employee was draining gas from a car into a bucket.

Eight Haldane High School students completed the Teaching AIDS Prevention program to become peer educators.

Stefan Weinberg, a Holocaust survivor, spoke to 10th-graders at Haldane about his experiences. After four years in a ghetto, Weinberg had been sent to a concentration camp at age 20 with his mother, who was killed.

Nelsonville received a \$50,000 grant from the Hudson River Valley Greenway to analyze the village’s master plan, inventory commercial services, plan hiking trails, and repair sidewalks and plant trees.

A Putnam County sheriff’s deputy and his K-9, Alf, located a lost 2 1/2-year-old boy in Philipstown. The boy’s mother said she had gone inside for a few minutes and came out to find him gone from the yard. Alf located the boy about a half mile into the woods, where he was sitting on the ground crying for his mother.

The Butterfield Library appointed Karen Shea as its director. She succeeded Phyllis Keaton, who took a position in Spring Valley.

Chefalo Brothers completed a balcony inside the Chapel of Our Lady with 20 seats and room for a pipe organ. The \$30,000 project was funded by the estate of Hugh Holt.

Gov. George Pataki, a resident of Garrison, threw out the first pitch for the Little League season.

A man questioned by a Putnam County sheriff’s deputy because he was walking between parked cars at the Garrison train station at 4:30 a.m. turned out to have escaped three days earlier from state custody in New York City.

Solving a Putnam Mystery

Recently, Mari Rosalie Noorai of the Department of Historic Properties at Clemson University in South Carolina contacted the Putnam County Historian’s Office for assistance in identifying Marie, an African American servant seen in an 1871 tintype photo in Clemson’s archives (at right).

The photo shows Marie holding Isabella Floride Lee; years later, Isabella’s daughter, Margaret Calhoun, would donate the image to the university. Margaret was the great-granddaughter of Thomas Green and Anna Calhoun Clemson, who bequeathed their plantation to South Carolina to found Clemson University.

But the photograph wasn’t taken in South Carolina. It was taken in Carmel.

Baby Isabella was also the granddaughter of Gideon Lee, a New York City mayor and Congressman, who in 1869 married Floride Clemson, daughter of Thomas and Anna. The couple moved to the Hazen Hill farm in Carmel, where they built Leaside, a 17-room mansion overlooking Lake Gleneida.

Floride had died just weeks before the photo was taken, and Gideon depended on Marie as his daughter’s nurse for the next nine years. After Gideon remarried, Marie returned to the South in 1879 to work with another family.

The Putnam County Historian’s Office said it was able to identify



Marie with Isabella Floride Lee
Fort Hill: National Historic Landmark Collection, Clemson University

Marie when it found Gideon Lee’s 1894 will in its archives. He left an annuity for “Marie Venning, my daughter’s colored nurse.” (Anna Clemson also left Marie money in her 1871 will as “a token of our appreciation of her devotion and fidelity.”)

“This story is just one example of the importance of our archives and partnership with other historic institutions,” said Putnam County Clerk Michael Bartolotti in a statement. “It’s a long way from Carmel to Clemson, but our records have now added to the narrative of Clemson University.”

Local Bestsellers

Based on combined hardcover and paperback sales reported for March by Binnacle Books, 321 Main St., in Beacon, and Split Rock Books, 97 Main St., in Cold Spring.



ADULT	Position	last month	TITLE		AUTHOR
	1	-	<i>The Mirror & The Light</i>	Hilary Mantel	
	2	1	<i>Weather</i>	Jenny Offill	
	3	-	<i>Untamed</i>	Glennon Doyle	
	4	5	<i>Little Fires Everywhere</i>	Celeste Ng	
	4	-	<i>The Overstory</i>	Richard Powers	
	5	-	<i>The Night Watchman</i>	Louise Erdrich	
CHILDREN	1	1	<i>New Kid</i>	Jerry Craft	
	2	-	<i>Unusual Chickens for the Exceptional Poultry</i>	Kelly Jones	
	3	-	<i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid 14</i>	Jeff Kinney	
	4	-	<i>Stargazing</i>	Jen Wang	

Current Classifieds

SERVICES

PROPERTY MANAGER AVAILABLE — Caretaker with 20+ years of 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.

OBITUARIES

John Driscoll (1949 - 2020)

John Paul Driscoll, 70, of Garrison, the longtime owner of Driscoll Babcock Galleries in New York City, died on April 10 from complications of COVID-19.

He acquired the Babcock Gallery, which was founded in 1852, in 1987 and in 2012 renamed it Driscoll Babcock. It deals primarily in contemporary and classical American paintings.

In a statement, Driscoll Babcock Galleries said: "The family and staff of Driscoll Babcock Galleries mourn the loss of an inimitable scholar, gracious mentor, generous patron and, most importantly, a great friend. His integrity, intelligence, kindness, humor and dedication to art inspired all who knew him."

After receiving his bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota, Driscoll earned master's and doctorate degrees in art history from Penn State. (In 2018 he donated 140 American works on paper to the university's Palmer Museum of Art, where he had worked as a graduate assistant.) Driscoll held positions at the William H. Lane Foundation in Massachusetts and the Worcester Art Museum before establishing his own gallery in Boston.

According to a tribute written by a colleague, Glenn Adamson, Driscoll was a "born collector and dealer," buying and trading early American coins at the age of 10. Driscoll once recalled an epiphany he experienced at about that same time while visiting the Minneapolis Institute of Art with his family. He said that, while wandering around, he looking up to see Rembrandt's "Lucretia."

"That painting went through me like a freight train," he recalled. "I was mesmerized; I just couldn't handle what was

**John Driscoll**

Photo by Kris Graves

going on. [Only later did I find out that] by the sheer work of all of the forces of the universe coming together and putting me in front of that painting, it was probably the single greatest Old Master painting on the North American continent."

Driscoll also collected British studio pottery and was an authority on the Hudson River School of painting, particularly the artist John F. Kensett.

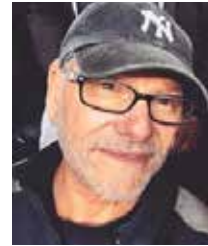
"He was a remarkable and profound conversationalist," Adamson wrote, "As his

daughter Emily puts it, 'When he answered a question, it was as if he had been thinking about it long before you asked it.'"

Driscoll is survived by his wife, Marylyn Dintenfass; his daughters Emily Driscoll (Srineel Jalagani) and Gillian Driscoll; his stepson Robert Katz (Elana Amsterdam) and grandsons Jacob Katz and Ethan Katz; his stepson Marc Katz (Sharon) and grandchildren Shaina, Noam and Ami Katz; and his brothers, Charles Driscoll (Jean) and Robert Driscoll.

Anthony Molinaro (1953 - 2020)

Anthony Molinaro, 67, the father of Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro, died on April 10 at Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla of complications of COVID-19.



"Anthony Molinaro quietly left us this afternoon," Marc Molinaro said in a statement. "I already miss my father but confidently know of his love for my sisters, their mom, my brother and me. And, we are grateful for the moments and memories we shared.

"All of our lives have been touched in some way by the coronavirus, and we know we will never be the same. While it's natural to dwell on the final moments, I know it is the value of all the moments that make up our lives together that matters most."

Anthony Molinaro, who was from Yonkers, worked for the New York Telephone Company (later NYNEX and Verizon) and was a shop steward for the Communications Workers of America. He also coached baseball and youth basketball and was a fan of the New York Mets.

Recent Deaths**Beacon**

Ruth Abbagliato, 96
Christine Barrack, 32
Doris Cabral, 83
Betty Calhoun, 98
Michele Colonna, 64
Jennifer Fetzer, 50
Mary Fierro, 99
Charlotte Frank, 88
Charlie Geysen, 93
Patty Green, 77
Catherine Gregory, 87
Ken Hall, 91
Pete Hustis, 81
Beverly Kellerman, 63
Virginia Klein, 74
Gloria Lane, 97
Donald McNeal, 62
Alice Mellor, 92
Janet Orquist, 87
Jean Ann Osoba, 90
Bob Outer, 79
Jerry Pacilli, 81
Frank Post, 74
Jim Schumm, 75
John Sgorbissa Jr., 65
Roy Staskowicz, 68
Ilmars Upitis, 86
Andrea Vasquez, 79

Philipstown

Ann Beddingfield, 75
Howard Canaan, 77
Ed Cleary, 80
Sandra De Mers, 81
Pierina Federico, 97
Pam Hard, 83
Rhoda Needelman, 89
Peter Rapalje, 69
Gary Ritchie Sr., 88
Darrin Santos, 50

For obituaries, see
highlandscurrent.org/obits.

SERVICE DIRECTORY

**SPACES FOR WORK,
COMMUNITY,
POSSIBILITIES**

coworking + private offices
meeting rooms + events

Est. 2009 in Beacon

beahivebzzz.com



EMPIRE TRACE SERVICES

SYLVESTER HILL

PROCESS SERVER - DOCUMENT SEARCHES
MORTGAGE CLAIMS - PARALEGAL SERVICES - FULLY INSURED

sylvester@empiretraceservices.com
www.empiretraceservices.com

369 Main St. #367, Beacon, NY 12508

Phone: (800) 985-4299 (845) 440-0149 Fax: (866) 250-4339



**ALLENS
DUMPSTER
SERVICE**
LOCATED IN COLD SPRING, NY

(646) 772-2673

allens-dumpster-service.business.site

Lynne Ward, LCSW
Licensed Psychotherapist

*Individuals • Couples • Adolescents • Children
Psychotherapy and Divorce Mediation
Addiction Counseling*

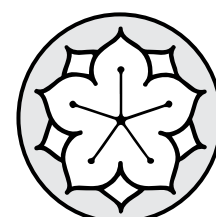
75 Main Street lynneward99@gmail.com
Cold Spring, NY 10516 (917) 597-6905

DR. K
IMPORTED CAR SERVICE & REPAIR



15 TIORONDA AVE.
BEACON, NY 12508
DrKImportedCar.com

Phone/ 845.838.0717
Fax/ 845.440.7541
E-Mail/ drkimportedcarservice@gmail.com



Pamela Petkanas, LCSW
Licensed Psychotherapist

Teletherapy sessions available for individuals, families, & groups including Zoom DBT Teen Groups. Sliding scale available.

pampetkanas.com
ppetkanas@gmail.com

908 230-8131

Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Accelerated Resolution Therapy (ART), and Couples Therapy. DBT coping skills for trauma, depression & anxiety: children, teens, adults.

↑ **HAVE YOUR OWN BUSINESS CARD ?** You can advertise your business here starting at \$20. ↓

Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Pythias' pal

6. Try the tea

9. Cleveland cager

12. Memorable mission

13. "— Little Teapot"

14. Blackbird

15. Make obscure

16. "Material Girl" singer

18. Bold alternative

20. Check

21. Dogtag wearers

23. — good deed

24. Founded (on)

25. Love god

27. Ill-suited

29. Praying bug

31. Tiny

35. Vote for

37. Prego rival

38. Start a rally

41. Moon vehicle acronym

43. — Perignon

44. Shaving cream additive

45. Cut aid

47. Insanity

49. Free of frost

52. Inseparable

53. Bullring bravo

54. Beetle Bailey's bully

55. Commotion

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

56. Trawler need

57. Hiker's route

DOWN

1. Slight touch

2. Hearty quaff

3. Wisconsin's capital

4. Leave out

5. Wanderer

6. Ape

7. Apple product

8. Cushion

9. Christmas candies

10. Warbucks' ward

11. Food item

17. Speaker

19. Grown-up nit

21. Prized possession

22. A Gershwin brother

24. Morsel

26. Spielberg or Soderbergh

28. In the cards

30. — -de-France

32. Fortified Portuguese wine

33. "But — on forever":

Tennyson

34. Summa — laude

36. Storage area

38. Pago Pago's place

39. Savanna grazer

40. Wild West show

42. Interior

45. Capri, e.g.

46. Approach

48. A billion years (Abbr.)

50. Movie trickery

51. Wet wriggler

© 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.

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 ordered by a physician (10)

2 beachwear (9)

3 board room discussions (8)

4 bedspreads (6)

5 birthplace of Starbucks (7)

6 fine china (9)

7 violins and violas (7)

SOLUTIONS

PRES

SEA

ITS

BED

ETI

MSU

POR

GS

TT

ST

LE

AIN

COV

ME

SWI

NGS

RIN

CRI

CEL


ERS

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

SUDO CURRENT

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

Puzzle Page Sponsored by



Country Goose

115 Main St.
Cold Spring, NY 10516
845-265-2122

Answers for April 10 Puzzles

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

1. DEVELOPER, 2. WINSLET, 3. SCRUMPTIOUS, 4. HARMFUL, 5. INNINGS, 6. FANCY, 7. COLANDER

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

SPORTS



Follow us at twitter.com/hcurrentsports



Shianne Twoguns



Bela Monteleone

File photos by S. Pearlman

The Seniors: Haldane Softball

By Skip Pearlman

Members of the spring of 2020 Haldane High School softball team had visions of a third consecutive Section 1 championship dancing in their heads — before the entire spring sports season turned into one big question mark.

Sports, and just about everything else, have taken a back seat to health during the COVID-19 crisis, disappointing area high school athletes, especially the seniors.

On April 11, the executive director of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association said there would be no sports until school was back in session. At least 14 states, including Pennsylvania, have already canceled the spring sports season. Athletic officials for Section 1, which includes 79 schools in Dutchess, Putnam, Rockland and Westchester counties, on Wednesday (April 15) said they would meet again in two weeks to assess the situation.

At Haldane, Coach Nick Lisikatos, whose teams have won three of the last four sectional titles, said he and his players are hoping they will be able to play at least a few games.

“Our goal, absolutely, was to win the section and get up north” to the state Class C tournament, Lisikatos said. “The regionals seem to be our stumbling block, but with the returning players we have, we felt that we could compete. This is one of our more veteran teams; we only graduated one senior last year.

“Everybody would love to get on the field, but I don’t know if it’s the No. 1 thing on everyone’s mind,” he added. “The players understand this is much bigger than high school sports. Everyone is disappointed that

the ‘normal’ they counted on is not there, but they’ll be OK. I’ve been impressed with the girls and the parents who I have spoken with. I’m proud of the way they’ve handled the disappointment, rather than victories. It’s a big challenge, but they’ll get through it.”

The Blue Devils have four seniors on this year’s squad, including **Shianne Twoguns**, a sixth-year varsity player, all-section pitcher, conference player of the year and team captain; **Bela Monteleone**, a fifth-year varsity player, all-section honorable mention second baseman and captain; **Abigail Platt**, a third-year, all-league first baseman; and third-year right fielder **Athena Stebe-Glorious**.

“All four of these senior girls have meant everything to us,” the coach said. “They have a passion not just for the sport, but for competing at Haldane.”

The hope of playing games this spring is still alive, but it’s waning.



Athena Stebe-Glorious

“I had hope in the beginning, but I’ve started to lose it,” said Monteleone. “It makes me sad to think that I don’t get to play my last season, but I know it’s necessary. I can’t remember a time when softball wasn’t a part of my life.”

“I’m still hopeful,” said Twoguns, who first picked up a softball when she was 3 years old. “Even though it won’t be a whole season, it’ll be nice to have that experience one last time. I’ve been playing softball for so long that I rarely think about how lucky I am to be able to play on such an amazing and supportive team with amazing coaches.”

Platt also said she is hopeful that “we can get some games in, but I have to stay realistic. The health and safety of everyone is what’s most important.”

While health remains the priority, the thought of losing school activities for the spring isn’t something senior athletes want to face.

Monteleone remembers when the reality hit her. “I was disappointed, devastated,” she said. “Not only because I couldn’t play, but because everyone around me also



Abigail Platt

Lost Season

This is the third in a series of articles in which *The Current* will profile senior athletes at Haldane and Beacon high schools who are likely to miss their spring seasons.

couldn’t play. I also don’t get to watch my friends play. I don’t get to go to lacrosse games and cheer. There were some games that I didn’t go to last year because I thought I would have this whole season to watch them play.”

“When I first found out [that the season was suspended], I didn’t believe it,” said Platt. “I was so happy after our first practice, but then the season was over. The hardest part of all this is the uncertainty. We’re given little bits of hope. Watching the news, it’s hard to stay positive.”

They also have to wonder what might have been. “We could have had an amazing season,” said Twoguns. Asked how she envisioned it playing out, the pitcher said, with a smile: “Obviously, we’d be undefeated. But the games would be close. It’s more fun to win a nail-biter. During practices and games, we’d have fun but be focused. At the end of the season, we’d go to the state tournament. As long as we remain close as a team and have fun, it will be a worthwhile season.”

“My senior dream season would be to go to states and win,” Monteleone said. “If not that, it would just be to get to play with my team one last time.”

Platt agreed. “My dream senior season right now is any season,” she said. “I miss being out on the field every day. One more practice would be my dream season.”