



SYRUP SEASON — There were plenty of helpers on March 6 along Campbell Road in Cold Spring to collect sap for maple syrup. After a hole is drilled into the tree and a tap is hammered into the hole, a bucket catches the syrup. Heating the sap creates syrup; it typically takes about 40 gallons of sap to create a gallon of syrup.

Photo by Ross Corsair



Maloney



Zhynovitch

Maloney, Zhynovitch Elected in Nelsonville

Potts edged out by two votes

By Chip Rowe

Kathleen Maloney, an optometrist working in corporate strategy, and Maria Zhynovitch, a state appellate court attorney, were elected on Tuesday (March 16) to the Nelsonville Village Board. They will succeed Lisa Mechaley and Dove Pedlosky, who were elected in 2019 but did not seek second terms.

Zhynovitch defeated Alan Potts, a science teacher who served on the board

(Continued on Page 9)

It's School Budget Time

Haldane and Garrison face challenging deficits

By Chip Rowe

The superintendents for the Haldane and Garrison school districts this month released preliminary budget figures for 2021-22; although state and federal stimulus aid has not been finalized, both anticipate significant shortfalls. The Beacon school board is scheduled to review its early numbers, including the stimulus impact on the district, on Monday (March 22).

Haldane

Superintendent Philip Benante presented figures to the board on Tuesday (March 16). Haldane's state-mandated tax cap is 1.88 percent, meaning the tax levy cannot increase more than that amount without approval by at least 60 percent of voters. At 1.88 percent, the levy would translate to

an annual increase of about \$190 in property taxes on a home with a market value of \$600,000, he said.

The district expects revenues of \$25.7 million, which includes an estimated \$2.99 million in state aid, Benante said. He didn't believe Haldane would see much, if anything, from the federal stimulus package, given the district's relative wealth. The budget also anticipates \$21 million from the tax levy, \$800,000 in non-resident tuition from the Garrison district (whose students can attend Haldane High School), \$645,000 from the fund balance and \$250,000 from reserves.

Proposed spending is \$26.9 million, leaving a gap of \$1.2 million.

Benante outlined where the district will immediately save money, such as about \$365,000 from teacher retirements and two positions related to COVID-19 that likely won't be needed next year.

He also recommended reducing the

(Continued on Page 9)



NEW BRASS — Michael Merritt prepares to bump elbows with Beacon Fire Chief Gary Van Voorhis on March 11 after being sworn in by Mayor Lee Kyriacou (in background) as one of the first-ever lieutenants for the department. A second new lieutenant, Eric Schmidt, was also sworn in.

Photo by Jeff Simms

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: REGINA CLARKIN

By Chip Rowe

Regina Clarkin is the co-founder and publisher of *The Peekskill Herald* (peekskillherald.com).

What prompted you to found *The Herald* in 1986?

During the summers when I was attending Marist, I worked at the daily *Evening Star*. It was owned by a chain in Virginia and they didn't pay too much attention to it. After I graduated, I went to the editor who had hired me and said, "I want to start a weekly." He shook his head and said, "There's not enough money in your pocketbook to do that." But Apple had just launched its desktop publishing division, and two other people and I got a \$7,000 credit-card line and bought a Mac 512K. It helped that *The Evening Star* was sold in November 1985 and moved to Yorktown [it was later folded into *The Journal News*]. People were upset. We launched two months later and I sold a year's worth of advertising in advance.

The Herald closed in 2000 and went



away for 18 years. What happened?

I sold the paper in 1999 because I had a little child, which was labor intensive. After a year, the new owner decided he couldn't make money. I think it was the first time in the city's history that it didn't have a local paper.

Nearly 20 years later, you relaunched *The Herald* online. Why?

I wanted to have a vehicle to write about Peekskill. There's so much happening that I

wanted to cover, and Peekskill is so deserving of having its story told. I spent my own money and set up a website for *The Herald* 2.0.

You recently held a fundraiser on Kickstarter. How did that go?

I decided it would gauge community support. We asked for \$5,000 and 110 backers gave us \$7,530. That allows me to pay a reporter, Jim Striebich. He had been working in live events, which of course got shut down by COVID-19.

What has been the most popular story so far?

Initially it was a progress report that Jim wrote about 15 development projects, most of them in downtown Peekskill. That got about 3,000 views. It was surpassed this month by an obituary I wrote for Paul Laubin, a world-renowned oboe maker who died in his studio at age 88. That's at nearly 10,000 views, and one musician submitted a love letter to her Laubin oboe. Coming up, there are going to be Democratic primaries for the City Council, which has not happened in a long time.

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

How good are you at telling jokes?

“

Probably not that good; I like really sarcastic jokes.

”



~Benny Mad, Beacon

“

I'm the funniest person I know. Dad jokes are my second language.

”



~Nicole Jones, Cold Spring

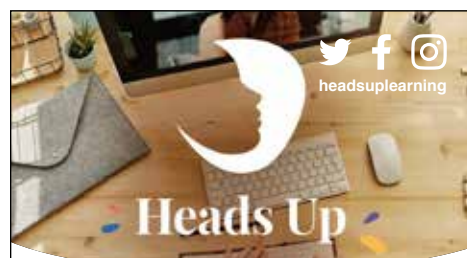
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I have no jokes. I've heard them all. I can't remember any of them.

”



~Todd Hutchinson, Cold Spring



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NEWS BRIEFS

Hustis Sentencing Delayed to April 6

Defense asks for time to review report

The sentencing of Charles E. “Chuck” Hustis III, a former Cold Spring trustee and mayoral candidate who pleaded guilty in November to the attempted receipt of child pornography, was postponed from Thursday (March 18) to April 6.

Hustis’ defense attorney asked for more time to respond to a sentencing report completed on March 5 by a federal probation officer.

Hustis, 37, was arrested in December 2019 by FBI agents in the Foodtown park-

ing lot in Cold Spring, where they alleged he was waiting to meet a 16-year-old for sex. According to an investigator’s report, Hustis solicited explicit photos from the teen via Facebook Messenger.

The child pornography charge carries a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison for a defendant with no prior convictions, although in some circumstances prosecutors can ask for leniency. Hustis pleaded guilty on Nov. 19 as part of a plea deal in which prosecutors dropped a charge of child enticement, which carries a minimum sentence of 10 years.

Mahopac Man Arrested in Capitol Attack

Posted video of himself inside building

A Mahopac man was charged on Monday (March 15) with entering the Capitol during the Jan. 6 riot in Washington, D.C.

Robert Ballesteros, 27, posted a video on Instagram on Jan. 7 of himself inside the building wearing a black mask, according to a federal court document.

According to the FBI, when asked online by another Instagram user if he had been inside the Capitol, Ballesteros said he had “made my stand” and that “some kid told me he tipped off the [FBI] hotline.” He also said he had video of the killing of another protestor, Ashli Babbitt.

Ballesteros faces charges of knowingly entering and remaining on restricted grounds without lawful authority and engaging in disorderly conduct within proximity to a restricted building to impede official functions.

He is scheduled to appear in court again on Monday (March 22).



Dutchess Man Convicted of Shark Smuggling

Kept animals in a pool at his home

A Dutchess County man pleaded guilty on Wednesday (March 17) to illegal possession with intent to sell seven sandbar sharks, a protected species, and was fined \$5,000 by the state.

Joshua Seguire, 40, of LaGrangeville, came to the attention of the state Department of Environmental Conservation in July 2017 when he was arrested in Georgia with five undersized sharks in a circular tank in the back of his truck. Seguire told officers he was taking the sharks to sell in New York.

Alerted by Georgia officials, the DEC found that Seguire, under the name Aquatic Apex Life, had been selling sharks on an online “monster fish” forum.

Equipped with a warrant and accom-

panied by biologists from the Long Island Aquarium and the New York Aquarium at Coney Island, officials discovered an above-ground pool at Seguire’s house with seven sandbar sharks, which cannot be kept in New York without a license. The search also uncovered two dead leopard sharks, a dead hammerhead and the snout of a smalltooth sawfish, an endangered species. The sandbar sharks are now at the New York Aquarium.

Poem-a-Day Returns

Library and Current team up for 2021

For National Poetry Month in April, the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison and *The Current* return with another year of One Poem a Day Won’t Kill You, a concept borrowed from KRBD Radio in Ketchikan, Alaska; organized for the paper by Mary Anne Myers in 2014, 2015 and 2016; and revived by Desmond-Fish and *The Current* last year.

Each day in April, a podcast recording will be released featuring a community member reading a favorite published poem. All the podcast episodes from last year can be accessed at bit.ly/3lhvQrp.

Because of the pandemic, recordings must be made remotely. To be considered, email an audio recording of yourself reading the poem to ryan@desmondfishlibrary.org (for assistance, see bit.ly/record-poem). Or call 845-202-3519 and leave your reading as a voicemail of three minutes or less.

Three Seats Open on Howland Library Board

Nominating petitions due March 29

The Howland Public Library in Beacon is looking for trustees for its eight-member board, which has three open seats.

Two seats have the standard five-year term and one seat is two years to fill a vacancy. Trustees work with the library director to carry out its mission and make long-term plans. The board’s responsibilities include financial oversight, building maintenance, policy creation and advocacy.

Candidates must be U.S. citizens, 18 years or older and have lived in the Beacon school district for at least 30 days before the April 29 election. The district includes parts of the Towns of Fishkill and Wappinger.

Nominating petitions are available at the library; they must be completed with the signatures of at least 25 people qualified to vote in the school district election, notarized and returned to the library clerk by 4:30 p.m. on March 29.

How Much Water Do You Use?

Cold Spring residents can check online

Cold Spring noted this week that its water department has contracted with eyeonwater.com to allow village residents to check on their usage and leak detection.

To use the site, residents must provide an email address and an account number, which can be found on quarterly bills, entered without the period (e.g., XX-YYYYZZ). An app is also available for iOS and Android devices.

Plastic Film OK for Recycling

Beacon will process if dropped in bins

Beacon residents can now bring plastic wrappers and bags to drop-off bins for disposal, the city announced.

The Sustainable Beacon recycling and waste-reduction working group launched

a project to collect filmy plastic so that it can be made into other products. The city is testing a program offered by the Trex decking company for six months.

Drop-off bins are located at Key Food and Memorial Hall during the Farmers Market on Sundays. Compostable bags, pre-washed salad mix bags, frozen food bags, candy bar wrappers, chip bags and six-pack rings are not accepted.

Beacon Changes Web Address

Part of ongoing E-Beacon Initiative

The City of Beacon website has moved from cityofbeacon.org to beaconny.gov to better identify it as an official government site, city officials said on March 12.

In addition, employee email addresses now end in @beaconny.gov. Both changes are part of Mayor Lee Kyriacou’s E-Beacon Initiative, which he said is designed to make city services more streamlined and accessible online.

Residents can use online resources to pay water and tax bills, complete and submit forms for vital records, request services and sign up for alerts. Traffic to the website has increased by 40 percent in the past year, the city said.

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Eric Erickson
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Tell us what you think

The *Current* welcomes letters to the editor on its coverage and local issues. Submissions are selected by the editor to provide a variety of opinions and voices, and all are subject to editing for accuracy, clarity and length. We ask that writers remain civil and avoid personal attacks. Letters may be emailed to editor@highlandscurrent.org or mailed to Editor, The Highlands Current, 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. The writer's full name, village or city, and email or phone number must be included, but only the name and village or city will be published.

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Muted thanks

With the eventual loss of 2 percent of our national family, consider that around 1345, 25 to 35 percent of the European population was lost during one of the recurring plagues ("COVID-19-20-21," March 12).

We are fortunate, all things considered. Records preserved in the Merton College library at Oxford describe a society devastated as persons from top to bottom were obliterated without favor. Who plows, who rules? The history of these horrifying years remains for all to see, with disbelief — and today, with a muted thanks.

William Harris, *Cold Spring*

Cold Spring meeting

The condescending way in which Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy spoke to Trustee Heidi Bender in response to a comment arising from her looking at the budget with fresh eyes — in support of a concern that many residents share — was an egregious abuse of his power and a revealing look into his personal beliefs ("Cold Spring Releases Police Review Draft," March 12).

Moreover, it showed a lack of respect for the voice of a trustee elected by the residents for her values and voice to represent us.

Not only was his outburst humiliating, it

was a waste of valuable time solely for the purpose of belittling Bender. No trustee should be bullied or dismissed if we want to see the type of positive, progressive action that we entrust the board with.

Erika Panasci, *Cold Spring*

That was a disheartening display of bad manners on the part of the mayor and new village resident and uncontested trustee, Heidi Bender. In the fall, Bender told *The Current* that she "planned to do her research and learn from seasoned trustees." If she had done research, she would know that, as the mayor clearly stated, the sanitizing of the public restrooms is in the job description of the Highway Department and finding \$19,000 in the budget for outside vendors was a moot point.

What was far more offensive was when discussing the inclusion of the unfortunate Scott Morris incident in the Police Review Draft, Bender found it necessary to play the race card and slur the three seasoned board members whom she "knew" opposed the inclusion of the Morris incident as "white board members," which implied to my startled ears that by voting not to include the Morris incident in the review, these trustees must be racist. Trustee Fran Murphy

was correct to call Bender out and remind her that race plays no part in serving on the Village Board. Standing in sharp relief to her entrenched position, Bender's beautifully curated shop windows suggest she promotes tolerance and goodwill. As a trustee, she should think before she speaks; that is how you become "seasoned."

Tom Tannery, *Cold Spring*

Scott Morris was a fine officer and a great hire. The Bender/Foley team has arrived in time to foment distrust and create conflict in our local institutions. Bender believes she has all of the answers. White people on a council representing a town that is majority white? Ghastly! Those who actually support law enforcement? Horrible!

Herbert Simon, *Beacon*

Nelsonville

As a resident of Nelsonville, I want to thank all four of these highly qualified candidates for offering to serve our community ("Questions for Candidates: Nelsonville," March 12). It was a difficult decision to vote for just two of them. I also want to thank *The Current* for being the only local newspaper to cover our village election. My vote was more informed thanks to your efforts!

Peter McFadden, *Nelsonville*

After reading the Nelsonville Village Board candidates' statements on the cell tower, I noted that, although their positions differed on what should have been done to fight it, none welcomed its arrival.

The next day, I watched the documentary *Invisible Hand*, in which the people of Grant Township in Pennsylvania succeed in ridding themselves of a hydrofracking waste installation by adding to their governing documents an acknowledgment that nature has rights.

Might Nelsonville take a similar tack? I highly recommend this film to anyone wishing to fight the corporate zombies and their absurd claim to personhood.

Helen Zuman, *Beacon*

Shakespeare plans

Raymond O'Rourke rightly pointed out with his letter in the March 12 issue that Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea's public advocacy of the proposed Shakespeare/Garrison Golf Club development raises questions about the ability of the Planning Board appointed and funded by the Town Board to do its work in an evenhanded way. That's regrettable: The Planning Board is conducting its analysis of the project in a fair, open and transparent fashion.

The core of the problem is not the integ-
(Continued on Page 5)



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

rity of the Planning Board — it's the fact that Shea is unaware of, or dismissive of, the concerns of a substantial and growing number of his constituents. He has at least twice publicly advocated for the project. Board Member John Van Tassel has backed the project, which is all the more concerning since he is running for supervisor. Putnam County Legislator Nancy Montgomery is supporting the project.

None have referenced with any specificity community concerns. Each would do well to change that. They can do so by word, in the columns of our local papers, or, more felicitously, by action. Montgomery, Shea and Van Tassel might consider attending a Planning Board site walk as an acknowledgement at least of the fact that enthusiasm for a project loaded with irrevocable consequences for Philipstown is far from universally acclaimed.

Tim Nolan, *Philipstown*

Open comments

The Cold Spring Board of Trustees draws too strict a boundary between ourselves and the rest of Philipstown, refusing to hear the input at public meetings from our neighbors who don't live in the village.

The board views them as "outsiders," but these are people who in some cases live just a few streets away, whose children attend Haldane and who walk to Main Street after school to see their friends, go to the Country Goose for candy and ride their bikes on side streets. Others are business owners, town residents who come into the village to grab a coffee, go to the grocery store, to work or simply to walk.

How can we say these families are not a part of the village? We need to think in terms of unity with Philipstown, not in terms of outsiders and residents. People who frequently come to the village want to invest in it and share their ideas. We are one town and we already share resources; we should be sharing and respecting one another's voices as well.

I have proposed to my fellow trustees that we amend public comment rules so that Philipstown residents can be heard during Village Board meetings and no one is required to give their full address if they are not comfortable doing so. We are all part of one town and we should listen and learn from one another.

Heidi Bender, *Cold Spring*

Bender is a village trustee.

Sports move

Beacon High School needs better coaching ("Beacon to Move to Section IX," March 12). Changing your opponent isn't going to change the results. Bad move.

David Way, *via Facebook*

Philipstown bronze

Congratulations to Philipstown for reaching the bronze level of the state's Climate Smart Communities program ("Philipstown Achieves Climate Smart Certification," March 5). The town has taken real steps to become a climate leader, but we can achieve even more.



In 2019, New York State passed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act to empower New Yorkers to fight climate change at home, at work and in their communities. This legislation was incredibly important, but with the state facing massive budget shortfalls, what will happen to our commitment?

If the state cuts services for schools, health care and the environment, it would be abandoning New Yorkers in a moment of great need. If the pandemic has shown us anything, these issues don't just go away, they become exacerbated and devastating, modeling what would happen with a climate breakdown: The rich will be mostly untouched, while the most vulnerable among us, including communities of color and lower incomes, will be disproportionately impacted.

Climate change is already upon us. I just turned 21 and it's terrifying that there won't be a planet to live on within my lifetime unless we take action. That's why we need passage in 2021 of the Climate and Community Investment Act. According to a projection by NY Renew, the act would raise \$15 billion annually from corporate polluters to create green jobs, invest in front-line communities, build a renewable economy and help New Yorkers not just survive but thrive.

Kaelin Martin, *Philipstown*

Benefits cut

Is Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney willing to extend the mandated loss of federal benefits not only to past presidents but also to all elected officials who are convicted of a felony during or after their service ("Maloney Introduces Bill to Revoke Benefits," March 5)? An inclusive law would declare the willingness of elected officials to hold themselves responsible for their own actions.

William Cornett, *Beacon*

General consensus

I attended the 2019 public forum in Cold Spring to discuss short-term rentals and came away with the same impression that Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong reported, that the "general consensus" was to "allow them, with restrictions" (*Letters and Comments*,



March 5).

No one suggested at the time that the village ban them. That would only lead to the proliferation of under-the-radar rentals and violations of the current code by unregulated hosts. Also, no one suggested the village take a hands-off approach. Development of an oversight process is near completion with the addition of a chapter to the code governing short-term rentals. There will be a chance for residents to voice their views on the changes at a public hearing.

Lynn Miller, *Cold Spring*

Miller is a former village trustee.

Changing of guard

Like many members of our community, I got comfortable with the idea that Richard Shea would be the town supervisor forever ("Shea, Leonard Will Leave Town Board," March 5). I have never been able to be as involved as I would like because of work and family commitments, so it was always clear to me how much time and sacrifice he and all of the board members — and their families — made.

When I attended meetings, I didn't always agree with the positions of the board but never once ever thought its members were not sincere in their positions and commitments to navigate everyone's opinions and try to find compromise or what's truly best for our community.

Thanks for your service, Richard, John Van Tassel and Michael Leonard, and all of you. It's not easy!

Steve Sterling, *Cold Spring*

Cuomo fate

Gov. Andrew Cuomo has shown us, once again, why we need term limits ("Jacobson, Serino Call for Governor to Resign," March 12). Ten years ago he started out trying to unite New Yorkers and worked across the aisle. Each year after he has become less willing to listen and more willing to push his personal views. He has been using his position for his own political agenda, fighting with both a Republican president and a Democratic mayor of New York City, among others.

He preached "the facts are the facts" and "the numbers are the numbers." But behind

Clarification

A story in the March 12 issue, "Cold Spring Releases Police Review Draft," has been updated online to clarify the role of Sgt. Scott Morris in the 2012 killing of an unarmed Black man in New York City. (Morris was hired by the village but resigned last year when residents protested his role in the shooting.) While we stated that Morris was not "at the scene" of the shooting, according to testimony at the disciplinary trial of Officer Richard Haste, who killed Ramarley Graham, Morris was in the building but not inside Graham's second-floor apartment when the shooting took place. When Haste and another officer kicked in the door and entered, Morris was standing near the top of the stairwell, according to the testimony, with another officer from the narcotics team positioned behind him. Haste said that Graham was standing at the end of a narrow hallway and would not show his hands. Graham retreated to a bathroom, where Haste shot him once in the chest.

the scenes he has changed the numbers and the facts. In doing this Cuomo again proved that "power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely."

Having him resign or impeached is like closing the barn door after the horses left. We need to be proactive to reduce this power abuse in the future, both in the governor's mansion and in the Capitol building.

We need term limits. Two terms for governor and five terms for members of the Assembly and Senate.

Larry Fitzpatrick, *Fishkill*

Editor's note: On March 11, Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, a Democrat whose House district includes the Highlands, also called for Cuomo to step down.

Thanks for hard work

This was a difficult winter, and I am not referring only to the coronavirus but to the accumulation of snow and nasty weather that we seemed to have escaped during the past few years.

When the temperature fell and the flakes started to fall, the Beacon Highway Department was, again, up to the task. It is difficult to imagine a more dedicated, hard-working group of individuals — spearheaded by Superintendent Michael Manzi — who strive to keep our roads clear and the traffic moving. No matter the season, the residents of Beacon can be sure that the roads will be kept safe, the piles of brush will be picked up and that this department is just a phone call away if help is needed. Thank you, Michael, and thank you to the entire department.

Charles Dunn, *Beacon*

Residents Seek Injunction on Tree-Cutting

Company clearing way for cell tower

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

A federal judge on Thursday (March 18) temporarily prevented tree-cutting on the Nelsonville parcel where two firms want to construct a 95-foot cell tower overlooking the Cold Spring Cemetery.

The ruling followed an emergency request from opponents of the tower to prevent the tree removal on Rockledge Road, which Homeland Towers had scheduled to begin today. The judge called for a hearing but said it would not take place before Wednesday (March 24).

In a motion filed on Thursday morning, about 18 local residents, most of whom live in Nelsonville, argued that the tree removal posed a risk of “irreparable damage to the environment” and to a “potentially endangered species” of bat. It also said it would threaten the public’s interest in preserving the “bucolic nature” of the area.

They also claimed that Homeland has not yet proven that it has legal access to the tower site via Rockledge Road, a matter under review by a state court.

Homeland, which is partnering with Verizon Wireless on the tower, mentioned its intention to start cutting trees down in documents that Michael Caruso, an attorney for the tower opponents, filed in U.S.

District Court on Wednesday (March 17).

In a letter addressed to an attorney for the Village of Nelsonville and also sent to Caruso, Robert Gaudio, a Homeland attorney, said the company had a valid building permit and needed to begin removing trees before March 31, when annual restrictions take effect to protect the bats.

Last fall, the tower opponents filed a lawsuit in an attempt to overturn a settlement that the village reached in January 2020 with Homeland Towers and Verizon. The companies had sued the village in 2018 after it refused to issue a permit for the tower.

The residents contend that by accepting the settlement, the village “caved” to a telecommunications industry and its

“sue-and-settle gambit” that forces towers on communities. They asserted that the agreement violates national environmental protection laws and that it and the building permit reflect “arbitrary, capricious and irrational” decision-making.

The judge’s order on Wednesday capped four busy days.

On Tuesday, a federal appellate court refused to order the lower district court to throw out the settlement and building permit. The day before, the district court gave the residents until March 29 to respond to Homeland’s request that the court dismiss their lawsuit.

Nelsonville also has asked the court to dismiss the residents’ complaint, saying its decisions were always “in accordance with law” and that the residents lack sufficient cause to sue.

Nelsonville Anticipates Higher Rent from Sheriff

Board delays Airbnb law until new trustees take office

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Nelsonville expects to increase the rent it charges the Putnam County Sheriff’s Department for the use of the old village firehouse but will assume more responsibility for its upkeep, Mayor Michael Bowman said Monday (March 15).

Bowman said that the Sheriff’s Department, which has used the Main Street

building for several years as a base to serve western Putnam, agreed in principle to a five-year lease that would gradually raise the rent from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per month.

“We recognize how great it is to have the sheriff’s substation in the village,” the mayor said during the Village Board’s monthly meeting, held via Zoom because of the ongoing COVID-19 threat.

Moreover, he said, Nelsonville knows the department “put a ton of work into the building” to rehabilitate it. At a March 10 workshop, he said the Sheriff’s Department improve-

ments required tens of thousands of dollars.

Nevertheless, “we need to start planning for capital projects,” such as a fire escape and a new roof for each part of the two-level structure, he explained on Monday. “We do own it and we can’t depend on Putnam County to incur the expenses.”

In other business, Trustee Chris Winward said the village is still accepting public comments about a draft law to regulate short-term rentals such as those booked through Airbnb. She said the board will finalize the legislation after the two



Nelsonville Village Hall

File photo

newly elected trustees, Kathleen Maloney and Maria Zhynovitch, take office.



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**FRIDAY, MARCH 5**

Movie theaters in New York City were allowed to reopen at 25 percent capacity and a cap of 50 people. Those elsewhere in the state have been operating at 25 percent since October. Masks are required at all times except when seated and eating or drinking, and theaters must have assigned seating. **Pool halls** could reopen at 35 percent in New York City and 50 percent in the rest of the state.

MONDAY, MARCH 15

Wedding receptions and **catered events** were allowed to resume with capacity limits and other restrictions, such as all patrons being tested before the event and socially distanced dancing.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

Restaurants outside of New York City will be able to operate at 75 percent, up from 50 percent. Those in New York City will continue to be limited to 35 percent.

MONDAY, MARCH 22

Home gatherings of up to 25 people will be OK outdoors, as well as **social gatherings** of up to 100 people indoors and 200 outdoors. Indoor fitness classes can resume at 33 percent.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

Indoor family entertainment centers and **places of amusement**, including the Happy Valley Arcade Bar in Beacon, will be able to reopen at 25 percent.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

Travelers entering New York state will no longer be required to quarantine. Outdoor sports stadiums that hold 10,000 or more people will be allowed to operate at 20 percent, such as for Mets and Yankees games, an increase from the 10 percent allowed as of Feb. 23. Smaller stadiums will be able to reopen at 10 percent indoors or 20 percent outdoors. Outdoor performing arts venues that hold more than 2,500 people will be able to reopen at 20 percent.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

Smaller arts, entertainment and event venues will be able to reopen at 33 percent for 100 people indoors or 200 outdoors.

MONDAY, APRIL 5

The 11 p.m. curfew for casinos, movie theaters, bowling alleys, billiard halls, gyms and fitness centers will be lifted. The 11 p.m. curfew for restaurants and bars and the midnight curfew for catered events will remain in effect.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

Outdoor amusement parks, such as SplashDown Beach in Fishkill, will be able to resume operations at 33 percent. A limited number of season passes will go on sale March 22, the park said.

Maloney Predicts Relief Plan Will 'Save Economy'

Democratic legislators in Dutchess County call for local rescue

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, whose House district includes the Highlands, predicted on Monday (March 15) that the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan would "end the pandemic" and "save the economy."

During an appearance on MSNBC, the Democrat cited the legislation's effect on a hypothetical Putnam County family that includes two young children.

"Maybe they have a small business," earn \$70,000 to \$75,000 annually and have health insurance through the federal Affordable Care Act, said Maloney, who lives in Philipstown. The direct cash payments for adults, the tax credit for children and a reduction in health care costs could mean they will receive about \$15,000 in benefits, he said, or 20 percent of their annual household income.

He also said that in his district small-business loans during the pandemic have kept "11,000 businesses [open] and 100,000 people employed."

According to the New York State Asso-

ciation of Counties, the relief plan includes \$3.8 billion for New York, including \$57.5 million for Dutchess, \$19.2 million for Putnam, \$189.1 million for Westchester, \$75.2 million for Orange, and \$63.7 million for Rockland. The counties will receive the money in two payments, the first within 60 days and the remainder next year.

Maloney contended on Monday that Republicans in Congress, all of whom voted against the package, had "no plan, no empathy."

However, he contrasted the "new, radical Republicans in Washington" with GOP leaders in the Hudson Valley. "In my district, all the county executives are basically Republicans; all the town supervisors are Republicans; a bunch of mayors are Republicans," he said. "They all stood with me celebrating the American Rescue Plan."

On Tuesday (March 16), the Democratic caucus in the Dutchess County Legislature called for the creation of a Dutchess Rescue Plan to expand COVID-19 vaccinations through mobile clinics; restore cuts to the health department and family services budget; create a strategy "to address soaring rents" and eviction risks; extend broadband access; and release data on the impact of the pandemic on municipalities and demographic groups.

State Hopes to Cancel School Exams

Waiting for feds to approve plan

By Jeff Simms

The state Board of Regents this week exempted most public high school students from year-end aptitude tests, known as Regents exams, citing disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Whether the exemption will apply to every student who normally takes an end-of-year test will depend on the federal government, which must approve New York's request for a waiver.

The state regents, who are elected by the Legislature to set educational policy, announced on Monday (March 15) that, with federal approval of a waiver request, the state plans to cancel all elementary and middle school assessments as well as the exams for high school students that usually take place in June and August.

If the feds decline the waiver, the state said it would only require June exams in English, Algebra 1, earth science and living environment for high school students and shortened English and math tests for grades 3 to 8. In addition, only the written component of fourth- and eighth-grade science tests would be required.

High school students in New York state must normally pass Regents tests in English, math, science, social studies and a foreign language in order to graduate.

The unanimous vote by the 17-member

Regents Board came after educators statewide criticized the federal Education Department's decision last month not to waive year-end exams for the second straight year. Instead, schools were given the option to delay the tests until the summer or fall and/or give them remotely or in shortened forms.

"The state is making the most of a bad situation by scaling back this year's testing requirements and limiting stress on students who already have gone through so much," said Andy Pallotta, the president of the state teachers' union.

The Beacon school board on March 8 voted to write Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, whose district includes the Highlands, and Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand and Chuck Schumer, urging them to support legislation that would waive testing mandates for the 2020-21 school year. The board argued that most parents will opt their children out of the tests this year, which would make a mandate "an irresponsible waste of taxpayer dollars at a time when state and school budgets are already stretched thin."

Targeted local assessments "would be a better tool to identify individual needs and map a path to improvement," the board said.

“ The state is making the most of a bad situation by scaling back this year's testing requirements and limiting stress on students who already have gone through so much.

~Andy Pallotta, president, New York State United Teachers

COVID-19 by the Numbers

■ PUTNAM COUNTY

Number of confirmed cases:

8,928 (+237)

New Cases in Philipstown: **10**

Tests administered:

179,649 (+5,456)

Percent positive:

5.0 (0)

Number of deaths:

88 (+1)

■ DUTCHESS COUNTY

Number of confirmed cases:

24,282 (+843)

Active Cases in Beacon: **33**

Tests administered:

581,747 (+19,356)

Percent positive:

4.2 (0)

Number of deaths:

418 (+3)

Source: New York State Department of Health, as of March 17, with weekly change in parentheses. New cases in Philipstown is for week ending March 11.

Monthly Cases

	Dutchess	Putnam	NYS
March	547	207	83,712
April	2,455	783	224,602
May	922	267	63,397
June	289	72	22,368
July	291	96	21,688
August	364	80	19,743
September	280	124	24,521
October	417	232	49,704
November	1,789	1,023	145,530
December	5,025	2,053	335,446
January	6,917	2,447	428,453
February	3,091	985	217,516

Source: New York Department of Health

Hearings Set for Power Plant Proposal

Project must prove it fits with state climate goals

By Leonard Sparks

A proposal to replace the part-time Danskammer power plant 5 miles upriver from Beacon with a new, full-time facility is set for public hearings at the end of the month as environmentalists and elected officials challenge the heart of the plan: the project's ability to comply with state greenhouse-gas reduction goals.

Public hearings scheduled for March 31 are the next step in Danskammer Energy's bid for approval to replace its 532-megawatt plant that operates only during periods of high demand with a \$500 million, 600-megawatt facility.

Danskammer says the proposed facility, located on the Hudson River in the Town of Newburgh, could meet state restrictions by converting by 2040 from natural gas to hydrogen or renewable natural gas derived from waste such as trash or manure.

For months, environmental groups have fought the project, including with a motion asking the state Board on Electric Generation Siting to force the company to strike its projections from the application unless



The Danskammer power plant on the Hudson north of Beacon

Danskammer Energy

it could provide more details.

"There are better, smarter alternatives for the site," said Hayley Carlock, director of environmental advocacy and legal affairs for Scenic Hudson. She called the idea that the plant would later convert to hydrogen or renewable natural gas "nothing more than a greenwash intended to masquerade a new fossil-gas plant."

Elected officials in Beacon, Newburgh, Cold Spring and Philipstown have also opposed a full-time plant, saying it doesn't fit with the state's goal over the next 30 years to replace technologies that burn fossil fuels, which contributes to global warming.

Nevertheless, the Siting Board on Feb. 26 declared Danskammer's application to be complete.

On March 12, a panel of administrative law judges for the state Department of Public Service ruled that Scenic Hudson, Riverkeeper and other opponents had "cited no legal authority" that would allow the Siting Board to "strike" parts of the Danskammer application. But it said the groups had "raised relevant questions" that could be explored as the review continues.

Under a law enacted in 2019, state agencies that issue permits for projects such as Danskammer must determine how the

projects will contribute to getting the state to 70 percent renewable energy by 2030, 100 percent carbon-free electricity by 2040 and an 85 percent reduction in greenhouse-gas emissions by 2050.

The Siting Board notified Danskammer in February 2020 that its application had "deficiencies," including an explanation of how it would meet those standards. The company responded in July with a report predicting that, starting in 2025, the plant's power consumption would drop over 10 years by 196,000 tons and its greenhouse gas emissions by 261,000 tons.

"We are confident that our efforts to incorporate and eventually convert to a hydrogen power generation facility are well within the state's mandates," Michelle Hook, a spokesperson for Danskammer, said on Thursday (March 18). "We are committed to immediately lower emissions by upgrading existing equipment and then phase in hydrogen so that we can help the state meet its climate goals."

In addition, the company said the plant's turbines would no longer be cooled with water from the Hudson, but with air. Environmental groups have long expressed concern that the intake from the river and the discharge of heated water kills too many fish.

Danskammer says the project would create 450 construction jobs, which has drawn support from labor unions. The firm also claims it would generate more than \$50 million in tax revenue for local governments and school districts over 15 to 20 years.

State Challenge to Hudson Cleanup Dismissed

Federal judge calls lawsuit an 'overreaction'

By Brian PJ Cronin

A federal judge last week dismissed a lawsuit filed by New York State against the federal Environmental Protection Agency over General Electric's cleanup of pollution it dumped over three decades into the Hudson River, calling it an "overreaction."

In a ruling issued on March 11, Judge David Hurd wrote that although "New York's motives for bringing the case were good ones," the state should have raised its objections earlier. "This lawsuit comes too late and is based on improper theories," he wrote. "It must therefore be dismissed."

Both the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the state Attorney General's Office said they would continue to "pursue all remaining legal options." A spokesperson for the EPA's Hudson River office said the decision "speaks for itself" and declined further comment.

The state lawsuit centered on the EPA's 2019 decision to issue General Electric a "certificate of completion of the remedial action," certifying that the company had completed the required dredging as part of its court-ordered cleanup of what is thought to be at least 1.3

million pounds of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), a toxic human-made substance linked to several types of cancer and a host of other maladies, in the upper Hudson.

In 2002, the EPA ordered General Electric to remove at least 2.65 million cubic yards of PCB-contaminated sediment. After years of legal wrangling, the company began dredging in 2009. It stopped in 2017, saying it had fulfilled its obligations. The EPA issued the certificate of completion in 2019, saying it had no choice based on the advice of its legal counsel. The head of the Region 2 office said he welcomed any lawsuits over the decision as "part of our democratic process."

New York did sue, contending that the cleanup had been shown to be ineffective and that the baseline measurements were inaccurate because they weren't dredging the actual river bottom but a layer of detritus from a paper mill.

Chris Bellovary, the staff attorney for the environmental organization Riverkeeper, said that while he was disappointed with the ruling, he was not entirely surprised.

"When you're going up against the EPA in federal court over Superfund [cleanup], that's always a tough fight," he said.

Hayley Carlock, the director of environmental advocacy and legal affairs for Scenic Hudson, noted that the EPA will continue

(Continued on Page 9)

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Claire has been helping clients
buy homes since 2006. She's a dedicated agent,
is easy to work with, and loves the Hudson Valley.
And we love her! Congratulations Claire!

*Beacon, Q4 of 2019 compared to Q4 of 2020, source Mid-Hudson Multiple Listing Service

Nelsonville (from Page 1)

from 2017 to 2019, by two votes. Potts also was narrowly defeated two years ago, when he finished third behind Mechaley and Pedlosky in a three-way race for two seats. The fourth candidate on Tuesday was George Eisenbach, a retired civil engineer. According to Mindy Jesek, the Nelson-

ville clerk, Maloney received 82 votes, while Zhynovitch had 70, Potts 68 and Eisenbach 59. There was also a write-in vote for Ezra Clemenson, a member of the Planning Board. The turnout was 36 percent among the village's 441 registered voters. One issue in the election was a settlement made by the current board in a lawsuit

CANDIDATE	BALLOT COUNT	ABSENTEE
Eisenbach	53	6
Maloney	77	5
Potts	66	2
Zhynovitch	64	6

filed over a cell tower proposed for a parcel overlooking the Cold Spring Cemetery. Although neighbors of the project, including Eisenbach, have sued to overturn the agreement, Maloney and Zhynovitch each said before the election that the settlement was the best course for the village. Potts said Nelsonville should “look ahead to future challenges.”

School Boards (from Page 1)

number of administrators from seven to five by eliminating the middle school principal position and combining the duties of the director of curriculum and a new position of director of human resources. The elementary or high school principal would assume oversight of grades 6 to 8. These moves could save about \$355,000, he said. The district could save another \$200,000 by reducing the number of teacher aides and \$375,000 by eliminating a special education and a secondary teacher and one or two elementary teachers. If the latter occurs, class sizes at one elementary level would likely increase from 16 or 17 students to 20 or more, he said.

Finally, Benante suggested that the district charge the Garrison school more for its high school students. The current tuition is \$13,980 annually, but the state allows Haldane to charge closer to \$19,000. Benante suggested raising the rate to \$16,264 in 2021-22 and to the full rate in 2022-23.

Benante noted his proposed cuts would generate \$132,000 more than needed to balance the budget. “We won’t need to go this far, but we will have to consider some of this,” he said. “Even with additional state aid, and if some federal stimulus money makes its way to us, it’s not going to add up to \$840,000” needed after immediate savings such as teacher retirements.

A community budget forum is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Tuesday (March 23) via Zoom. The board is expected to adopt the budget on April 20, followed by a public hearing on May 4 and the vote on May 18.

Along with the budget and two trustee seats held by John Hedlund and Margaret Parr (who has said she is not running),

the vote will include a resolution to spend \$175,000 on school buses.

In other business ... ■ The School Reopening Task Force subgroups will discuss a plan to bring students back to campus. In a survey, about 100 families said they would like to complete the year all-remote, but Benante said administrators would reach out to see how many could be persuaded to send students in-person, even if only for the last five weeks in May and June. The district invited all seniors to attend on-campus classes daily starting March 22 and may invite students in grades 9 to 11 to return on April 19, although students could still opt for all-remote.

■ Amanda Cotchen was hired by the board in February for \$69,000 annually to succeed high school guidance counselor Kristen Mosco, who resigned. The board also appointed Kristina Masibo-Roling as girls’ varsity volleyball coach, succeeding Kelsey Flaherty.

■ The first day of school for 2021-22 will be Thursday, Sept. 2.

■ The board’s next meeting is scheduled for 8 p.m. on Tuesday at the school, following the remote budget forum.

GARRISON

The district’s tax cap for 2021-22 is 2.46 percent. The preliminary budget is \$11.7 million, while revenues are projected to be \$10.8 million, creating a deficit of about \$917,000, business administrator Joseph Jimick told the board on Wednesday (March 17).

Superintendent Carl Albano suggested

that the district hire a full-time environmental education/science teacher for all grades at a cost of \$138,000 annually and a full-time director of technology and instructional support. He also suggested replacing middle-school study hall with STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Art and Math) classes. To pay for those additions and close the gap, Albano recommended eliminating a teacher-on-special-assignment position and three of eight full-time aides. The budget also does not include the \$41,000 per month the district is paying for iTutor, a program used by students who are all-remote. About 50 students were using the service in September, Albano said, but that has since dropped to 17.

Jimick said the increase in tuition for high school students proposed by Haldane will add about \$42,000 to 2021-22 expenditures. O’Neill High School in Highlands Falls, the other public-school option for Garrison students, charges the full rate of about \$19,000 per student, he said.

The board has scheduled a community budget presentation via Zoom for 10 a.m. on Monday (March 22). It is expected to adopt the budget on April 7 and hold a public hearing on May 5, followed by the vote on the budget and four board vacancies on May 18.

In other business... ■ Albano said district enrollment is expected to increase from 191 to 207 next year, although he noted that kindergarten is the most difficult to predict. Twelve students are registered so far and the district anticipates 18 by the fall.

■ Albano said the New York/New Jersey Trail Conference has offered to maintain the trails in the Garrison School Forest at

no charge. ■ The board on Wednesday adopted a three-year equity and anti-racism plan developed by a 16-member committee. Its priorities are to implement racially inclusive curricula and assessments; provide professional development and community training; and “create a safe environment of dignity, respect, empowerment and inclusivity.”

■ The board also reviewed a proposed equity, diversity and inclusion policy that states, in part, that “all children deserve to have equal access to opportunity regardless of their sex, race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and expression, age, socioeconomic status, the language they speak, religion or ethical values systems, physical ability or attributes, ability or disability status, political beliefs and other human differences.”

Further, it says, “curriculum and instructional materials for all grades shall reflect diversity and include a range of perspectives and experiences, particularly those of historically underrepresented groups,” and that “all curriculum materials shall be examined for bias by the superintendent or designee(s).”

■ The board on March 3 adopted a policy that allows the use of paper ballots instead of machines for the annual budget and trustee votes, which the district clerk said could save about \$2,000 annually. The vote last year was conducted entirely by paper absentee ballots under COVID-19 restrictions.

■ The first day of school for 2021-22 will be Thursday, Sept. 9.

■ The next meeting of the board is scheduled for April 7.

Hudson Cleanup (from Page 8)

to collect data and should issue a report within five years on whether GE reached the cleanup goals set in 2002. “We think it’s pretty clear that they didn’t,” she said.

Noting that data collected by the DEC about the effectiveness of the cleanup is at odds with that issued by the EPA, Bellovary said the federal agency “does have reasons for wanting to believe that the work is done. The DEC is sitting in a different position and has every reason to think it’s not.” As long as data continues to be collected, the truth will become evident, he said.

If the EPA decides that the cleanup was not effective, it could order General Electric to resume dredging, a fact that Judge Hurd noted in his ruling. “The language of the consent decree leaves a clear opening for the government to come after the company with the full

force of the law to get the job done,” he wrote. GE will also be ordered at some point to provide a cash settlement as part of a claim made by the federal government against the company for the damage it caused to the river, a sum that Carlock said will probably be in the billions of dollars. With those funds, she said the state “could get projects built on the river that will help restore it and improve public access and recreation.” In the meantime, both Carlock and Bellovary said the EPA needs to turn its attention to the Lower Hudson, including stretches in the Highlands. The agency’s data shows that the cleanup has had a negligible effect on the elevated PCB levels in that part of the river, even if they are still lower than those measured above the Troy Dam. “That they have still not done a full exploration of the nature and extent of the contamination [down river] is kind of ridiculous,” Bellovary said.



Market Report (February)				
	Beacon		Philipstown	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
New Listings	8	3	8	4
Closed Sales	9	3	6	10
Days on Market	97	46	138	74
Median Price	\$350,000	\$362,000	\$625,000	\$460,000
% List Received	92.8	97.1	85.5	100.5
Inventory	28	14	73	40

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

AROUND TOWN

It Must Be True ... I Saw it on the Internet!



● Haldane Elementary students assisted with a spring cleanup on March 11 of the school garden.



● The 100th cat — Bulgava — was adopted at the Beans Cat Cafe in Beacon, which opened in November.



● After one of the two benches outside The Clutter Gallery in Beacon was stolen on March 10, a local craftsman offered to replace it at no charge. A new bench was installed and both were bolted down.



● The Shackelford family created a Facebook group called Cold Spring Rocks whose members paint and hide colorful rocks to brighten someone's day. See bit.ly/cold-spring-rocks.



◀ **EVENING SHOOT —**
A cameraman is pushed on a dolly while filming scenes in Beacon on Monday (March 15) for a forthcoming Apple TV+ series, *Severance*. Scenes also have been filmed in Kingston.

Photo by Ross Corsair



◀ **GRIEF COUNSELOR —**
Lulu, a comfort dog at Libby Funeral Home in Beacon, died unexpectedly on March 10. In 2015, the golden doodle became the first therapy dog in Dutchess County to serve families in a funeral home.

Photo provided

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Professor Lucia Re, Research Professor in the Department of Italian at UCLA

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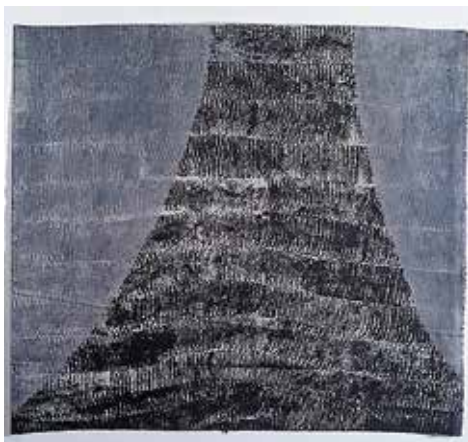
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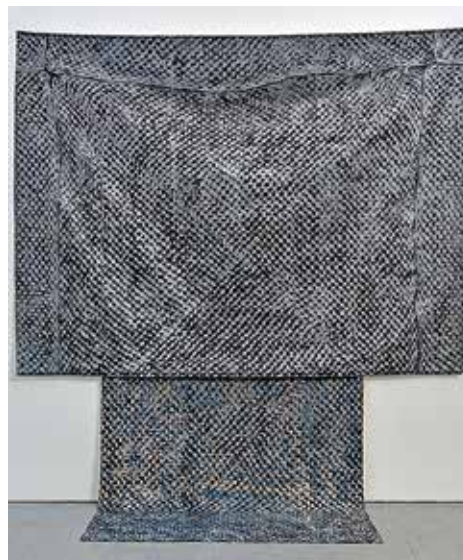
The Calendar



"Incarnation 2"



"Incarnation 27"



"Incarnation 17"



"Incarnation 23"

Blanket Patterns

Artist's work with afghans focus of Garrison show

By Alison Rooney

Caroline Burton gets physical in her line of work — and that line is art. The large, mixed-media paintings she'll be exhibiting in *Incarnations*, a solo show opening Saturday (March 20) at the Garrison Art Center, are hewn from unstretched canvas, textiles and paint, then pulled, sewn, torn again and printed on — but not necessarily in that order.

Burton says her process often involves "cutting a huge piece of canvas and placing it on the floor, adding layer after layer. This becomes the underpainting. In another area of my studio [in Jersey City], I paint an afghan, lay it on top, use a tiny hand-printing roller, then press the paint onto the surface. Then I pull off the afghan from the canvas

to see what's there. Maybe I do another layer or part of the canvas with the same afghan, or a different afghan. Sometimes I rip them up, then sew them together and..."

If you haven't followed all that, you're in good company. "Curators and other artists come to my studio and can't figure out how they are made," she says. "They see a pile of afghans and still don't get how I do it."

The work is "very physical, exhausting," says Burton, who has mounted previous solo shows in galleries in New York, New Jersey, Oregon, Ohio and Vermont. "I'm stepping on them, getting paint all over my feet as I go into this zone of going to see what happens, how they manifest themselves."

"Some artists plan out everything and see the end result before it's there," she says. "It's not often like that with me. I might start out with a composition, but partly because I don't know the pattern that the afghan will make, it's a dialogue between

me and what's happening with the canvas. After days or hours, the image appears."

When Burton was attending graduate school 20 years ago, she wasn't working in this way. "I was fumbling along" with oil paintings, she says. "I started making sculpture to understand what I was painting. I thought I was making art pieces, but they were more like big sketches. The finessing, the surfaces and imagery become richer."

Eight years ago, after experiencing a reaction to the solvents used in oil painting, Burton began "playing around with canvas as an object: dipping it in ink, figuring out how I could make marks on a canvas, ripping it into pieces and sewing them back together, incorporating Bubble Wrap, cut-up denim, chicken wire.

"As I was experimenting, this other body of work started to develop. I started thinking more about my printmaking roots, painting on one surface and transferring it to another."

From her father, an engineer, Burton feels she learned to see things in grids, which she calls "an underlying structural form that holds all the work together. Even if I'm painting an object, the object has a grid in it. I've made some bronze rabbit pelts, I cast them, and I consider the fur to be a grid. Skin cells, under a microscope, look like a grid. A grid holds it all together and makes sense."

But Burton says she wouldn't have become an artist without the influence of her mother. "I was closer to my father, but my mother is the one who gave me permission to go after art. It was always my favorite subject, and she put me in classes outside of normal school hours, which I loved."

She says her mother and high school art teacher talked her father into letting her attend the Cleveland Institute of Art, where she majored in graphic design. ("I needed to earn a living," she says.) She continued her studies at the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University, where she received a master's of fine arts degree.

After moving to New York, Burton stopped making art for a few years. But a monoprint class at the Parsons School of Design introduced her to a new community, inspiring her to start anew, and she hasn't stopped.



"Incarnation 49"



"Incarnation 55"



Caroline Burton is shown at work during a residency at the Virginia Center for Creative Arts, painting an afghan before transferring the paint from the afghan onto canvas.

Photo by Azita Mora

"If you're an artist in your heart, in your soul, you have to make your work," she says. "I was unhappy. Something was profoundly missing. After grad school I had to have a studio, because making art was so much more a part of me and my existence. My studio is a sanctuary, a laboratory. Even if I'm depressed about the world, in my studio I'm very content."

Incarnations will run from Saturday (March 20) through May 2, with COVID-19 precautions in place, at the Garrison Art Center, 23 Garrison's Landing. The exhibition is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except Monday.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 20

Bird Walk

CROTON

8 a.m. Croton Point Park
putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

Be on the lookout for the American woodcock. Register online.

SAT 20

Virtual Trivia Night

COLD SPRING

7:30 p.m. Putnam History Museum
putnamhistorymuseum.org

Bring your team and be ready, via Zoom, for historical trivia about the Hudson Valley, New York state and the U.S. Register online. *Cost: \$10 (members free)*

TUES 23

Philipstown's Economic Future

COLD SPRING

9:30 a.m. Chamber of Commerce
bit.ly/philipsfuture

Register for a Zoom presentation and discussion on the economic development portion of the draft update to the Philipstown Comprehensive Plan.

THURS 25

Cook-a-Long with Shelley Boris

PHILIPSTOWN

6 p.m. Glynwood Center
845-265-3338, x132 | glynwood.org

The co-owner of Dolly's will demonstrate how to make two types of potato pancakes.

Get a shopping list and recipes in advance to follow along via Zoom. The event will benefit the Food Sovereignty Campaign. *Cost: \$50*



FRI 26

Full Moon Owl Prowl

WAPPINGERS FALLS

7:30 p.m. Stony Kill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane
stonykill.org

Meet at the Sierra Trail to search for barred owls. For ages 12 and older. *Cost: \$5*

VISUAL ART

SAT 20

Caroline Burton / Eric Erickson

GARRISON

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Burton's exhibit, *Incarnations*, will feature mixed-media paintings she processes repeatedly by cutting and repainting. See Page 11. Erickson's show is a series of oil paintings with shifting spatial relations. Through May 2.

SAT 20

The Power of Two

PHILIPSTOWN

Noon. Magazzino Italian Art
magazzino.art

In the first of a series of lectures called *Arte Povera: Art of Collaboration*, Lucia Re, a professor at UCLA, will discuss the "paradigms, patterns, challenges and rewards of inter-gender dialogue and creative partnership across literature and the arts in 20th-century Italian culture." *Free*

THURS 25

Michelle Stuart

BEACON

Noon. Dia:Beacon
845-231-0811 | diaart.org

Via Zoom, a curator will discuss Stuart, whose 1976 work, *Sayreville Strata Quartet*, is on long-term view at Dia. It consists of large paper scrolls that "incorporate frottage

with graphite to capture the uneven and unique topography of the earth's surface."

THURS 25

Women in Art

GARRISON

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

An art history student will lead a virtual tour of *Women Picturing Women: From Personal Spaces to Public Ventures* at Vassar's Loeb Art Center.

STAGE & SCREEN

SUN 21

Poet's Corner

PUTNAM VALLEY

3 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
tompkinscorners.org

The featured poet is Jonathan Andersen. Register to read or listen via Zoom.

FRI 26

The Informer

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Butterfield Library
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Register to watch a Zoom viewing of the 1929 silent film about the aftermath of the Irish Civil War, with live music accompaniment by Cary Brown.

KIDS & FAMILY

FRI 26

Confronting Bias

GARRISON

4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Students ages 12 to 18 can share their experiences with hateful conduct online and their ideas for fostering equity and justice.

SAT 27

Jessica Love

COLD SPRING

10 a.m. Haldane Elementary
facebook.com/ediathaldane

Love will read from her books, *Julian at the Wedding* and *Julian is a Mermaid*, and answer questions via Zoom. Books are available at the local libraries or Split Rock Books.

MUSIC

SUN 21

Dashon Burton and David Fung

KATONAH

3 p.m. Caramoor
914-232-1252 | caramoor.org

Bass-baritone Burton's livestreamed performance with pianist David Fung will combine Schumann's *Dichterliebe* with works by John Dowland, Charles



Bird Walk, March 20

Brown, Florence Price, Margaret Bonds, Ernest Charles and William Bolcom, plus a set of spirituals. *Cost: \$15 to \$45 (members free)*

SUN 21

Schroeder Umansky Duo

NEWBURGH

8 p.m. St. George's Church
alivemusica.org

The program, part of the ALIVEmusica series, will include Arthur Honneger's *Sonatine for Violin and Cello* and the Hungarian folk music of Zoltàn Kodàly's *Duo for Violin and Cello*. *Cost: \$20 donation or pay as you wish*



CIVIC

MON 22

City Council

BEACON

7 p.m. Via Zoom
845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

MON 22

School Board

BEACON

7 p.m. Via Zoom
845-838-6900 | beaconk12.org

TUES 23

Board of Trustees

COLD SPRING

7:30 p.m. Via Zoom
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

TUES 23

Budget Workshop

NELSONVILLE

7:30 p.m. Via Zoom
845-265-2500 | nelsonvilleny.gov

TALKS & TOURS

SUN 21

Mysterious Stone Sites

PUTNAM VALLEY

11 a.m.
Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
tinyurl.com/MysteriousStoneSites
Linda Zimmermann, author

of *Mysterious Stone Sites in the Hudson Valley of New York and Northern New Jersey*, will discuss their significance via Zoom.

SUN 21

Just Us

GARRISON

4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
bit.ly/RankineJustus

Register online to watch Claudia Rankine, author of *Just Us: An American Conversation*, discuss the challenges of achieving racial justice and the need to examine white supremacy with Hamilton Fish, editor of *The Washington Spectator*. Copies of the book are available at Putnam County libraries and the Field Library in Peekskill.

TUES 23

Social Media for Businesses

POUGHKEEPSIE

1 p.m. Dutchess Tourism
dutchesstourism.com/lunch-learn-series

Kacie Vassari will discuss building your business through messaging and images.

TUES 23

Graphic Novel Book Club

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Split Rock Books
845-265-2080 | splitrockbks.com

The group will discuss *The Art of Charlie Chan Hock Chye*, by Sonny Liew.

TUES 23

Tools of Women's Equality

BEACON

7 p.m. Beacon Historical Society
beaconhistorical.org

Melodye Moore of the Dutchess County Historical Society will speak via Zoom about radical feminist actions in Beacon and the county led by the Quaker community.

THURS 25

Fiction Book Club

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Split Rock Books
845-265-2080 | splitrockbks.com

This month's selection is Ted Chiang's short story collection, *Exhalation*.

THURS 25

Pandemic Gardening

COLD SPRING

7:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
butterfieldlibrary.org

Join garden coach and *Current* columnist Pamela Doan for a webinar that includes tips and to-do's and lots of time for questions.



Michelle Stuart, March 25

Mouths to Feed

You've Got Kale

By Celia Barbour

Kale's 15 minutes of fame may have long passed, but kale itself isn't going anywhere. Nor, apparently, is the need for great ways to prepare it. Just a few weeks ago, some Zoom friends asked if I had any brilliant kale ideas up my sleeve.

Well, gee, since you ask...

I had assumed that by now, everyone had gathered their own cache of reliable kale-recipe flotsam from the tidal wave of kale enthusiasm that swept the country a decade ago. But maybe it's time for a refresher.

After all, kale doesn't offer up its deliciousness as freely as a luscious summer tomato or delectable spring peapod. And while its hardness is a blessing during these yearning, late-winter weeks, it is bitterer and chewier than other leafy greens such as spinach and Swiss chard. Indeed, kale is a bit like a tough cut of beef: amazing when made well, but in need of a bit extra time and care to get there.

But the very traits that make kale challenging also mean that it holds up beautifully in things like soups, stews and braises, and a kale salad becomes a much happier leftover than one made from its more delicate, wilting cousins.

I've never shared my family's very favorite kale recipe on these pages because I feared that few people would make it. That's because it contains a dark and salty secret: anchovies. Don't get me wrong; I understand why people shun them. Most anchovies are pretty awful. And even the best ones should never, ever sprawl across a slice of pizza, which is how most Americans encounter them. Whoever came up with that idea deserves to be slapped.

But while I don't like to proselytize, you really should give these little oily fish a chance if you aren't already familiar with their magic. A good anchovy or two cooked



long and slow into a sauce adds an irreplaceable layer of depth and complexity, the way vanilla does to a cake, molasses to baked beans or black pepper to a pan of scrambled eggs. You wouldn't eat any of those ingredients by the spoonful either (or for that matter drape them over your pizza), but that doesn't mean you don't appreciate what they bring to your cooking.

Let me put it another way. Yes, OK, I realize that I drag my poor family into this column overmuch. Forgive me; I've had no one else to feed for more than a year. But even in more gregarious times, I don't always trust my own palate (I like pretty much everything). So I figure if all four of them go nuts for a dish, it's probably pretty good. They are my own personal Greek chorus, judges' panel and star-rating system, in other words. That said, if any of you simply cannot bear to encounter them yet again, stop reading now.

To the rest of you, I offer this: My kids have adored this dish, anchovies and all, since they were toddlers. And their eyes still light up whenever I serve it for dinner. Brighter even than for pizza? "Oh hell, yeah," says Dosi.

Caramelized Kale and Tomato with White Beans

Total time: 1 hour**Active time: 20 minutes**

Note: Save the water used to blanch the kale in Step 2, and use it to cook the pasta — you'll regain some of the vitamins that leached into the water. As for which anchovies to choose, try a small jar from Agostino, Ortiz or Roland.

INGREDIENTS

2 tablespoons olive oil

½ red onion, thinly sliced

2 to 3 anchovy filets (see note)

1 28-ounce can tomato puree

3 bunches lacinato kale

1 pound orecchiette or other pasta

Salt & pepper

1 15-ounce can white beans
(cannellini or great northern)

Heat your largest skillet over medium, warm the olive oil, then add the sliced onion. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the onion begins to color, about 5 minutes. Add the anchovy and mash to a paste with the back of a wooden spoon or fork. Add the tomato, raise the heat to medium-high and bring to a boil, then lower the heat and cook at a bare simmer, stirring occasionally, until the sauce is reduced by about a third, thick and rust-colored, about 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, bring a large pot of water to a boil; salt generously. Strip the kale leaves from the stems (holding the stem in one hand, grasp the leaf at the base with your other hand and slide towards the tip). Discard tough stems. Add leaves to water and blanch 4 to 5 minutes. Remove and drain kale, reserving water (see note). When kale is cool enough to handle, rough-chop and add to the skillet. Toss to coat, then cook, stirring occasionally, about 30 minutes, until the kale is deeply caramelized: chewy-soft and nearly black, adding a splash of water if the vegetables are drying out.

Meanwhile, bring the kale water back to a boil, add the pasta and cook according to package directions.

About 5 minutes before the pasta is done, drain and rinse the beans, then mix into kale-tomato mixture. Add salt and pepper to taste. When the pasta is nearly finished, drain, reserving a cup of the water, then toss together with the kale mixture. Heat through and serve.

HELP WANTED

The Village of Cold Spring has Two Immediate Part-Time Openings:

Mechanic: Responsible for maintaining Village fleet and equipment. Valid NY State Driver's License required. Flexible schedule. Salary commensurate with experience.

Driver: New York State Class B Commercial Driver's License (CDL) required. Must be available to work on Tuesday and Friday. Salary commensurate with experience.

Submit a resume and letter of interest by March 31st via email to vcscclerk@coldspringny.gov or by mail to: **Village of Cold Spring, Attn: Mechanic/Driver Position, 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516**

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2021 College Scholarship Guide

The list below includes scholarships available to high school seniors or college students in the Highlands and/or Putnam and Dutchess counties. It does not include awards specific to individual schools. To search for scholarships from state and national organizations, see directories such as scholarships.com, fastweb.com and collegeboard.org. Each listing includes who qualifies to apply, the amount of the award and the application deadline. Apply at cfhvn.org for scholarships marked with an asterisk. For others, contact the guidance office at Haldane High School or Beacon High School or see highlandscurrent.org/scholarships for links and updates.

HIGHLANDS

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

AIAWHV Foundation
Putnam or Dutchess college students studying architecture.
| \$7,000 | April 9

Beacon Elks Lodge 1493
The Elks offer the Rush Greenough Scholarship to a BHS or Haldane senior with “extraordinary community service” and the Doc Roberts Scholarship to a BHS senior who plans to pursue an engineering or technology-related degree.
| \$750 | May 1

Daughters of the United States Army
Senior who is the child or dependent of an active, retired or deceased U.S. military service member whose family resides within a 35-mile radius of West Point.
| April 15

Elena Eckert Memorial Scholarship*
Putnam or Dutchess seniors who are children or grandchildren of a current or former member of the armed forces, a police officer or a corrections officer.
| \$1,500+ | April 1

Firemen’s Association of the State of New York
FASNY reimburses tuition for active volunteer firefighters attending a New York community college or taking online courses through Empire State College.
| \$1,250 | ongoing

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

Jean DeGrace Crandall Memorial Scholarship*
Migrant farmworker or child of migrant farmworker (preference for those from Mexico) with history of migration to Putnam or Dutchess.
| \$1,000 | April 1

Mid-Hudson Ivy Foundation
Seniors from the Mid-Hudson Valley. Sponsored by Alpha Kappa Alpha.
| \$500 to \$2,000 | March 27

Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation
Putnam and Dutchess seniors whose lives have been affected by breast cancer.
| \$2,000 to \$5,000 | April 1

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

Professional Nurses Association of Dutchess/Putnam
Putnam or Dutchess seniors or college students pursuing a career in nursing.
| \$500 to \$1,000 | May 12

St. Luke’s Cornwall Health System
Seniors who plan to enter the medical field.
| \$1,000 to \$1,500 | April 12

Tony Schembri Memorial Scholarship
Seniors from the Mid-Hudson Valley. Sponsored by the Newburgh-based chapter of the veterans’ organization Rolling Thunder 3.
| \$500 | April 15

PHILIPSTOWN

Alice Reilley Schatzle Memorial Scholarship
Haldane senior who plans to major in education, library sciences or another field that serves others.
| Varies. | May 14

Betty Budney Community Service Award
Sponsored by the Philipstown Democratic Committee, the scholarship is presented to a Philipstown senior who contributed to the community through volunteer service.
| \$500 | May 14

Blue Devil Booster Club
A male and female senior who have been involved in the Haldane athletic program and demonstrated honesty, self-discipline, commitment and team play.
| \$500 | May 14

Cold Spring Lions Club
The Frank Milkovich scholarships are available to Philipstown seniors on basis of need, scholarship and potential to succeed.
| Varies. | May 10

Cold Spring Police Benevolent Association
Haldane seniors, for community service and potential for success.
| May 14

Glaser Orthodontics
Haldane seniors who plan to pursue a career in a health field.
| \$1,000 | April 15

Joseph Percacciolo Memorial Award
Haldane seniors who have demonstrated service and dedication to the community.
| May 14

Knights of Columbus Scholarship
Philipstown seniors, with preference to Our Lady of Loretto and St. Joseph’s parishioners.
| May 14

Kristofer J. DiNatale Scholarship
Presented to a Haldane senior who has demonstrated a strong interest and commitment to technology.
| May 14

Liz Bono Memorial Scholarship
Haldane senior preparing for a career in business management or planning to start his or her own business.
| \$500 | May 14

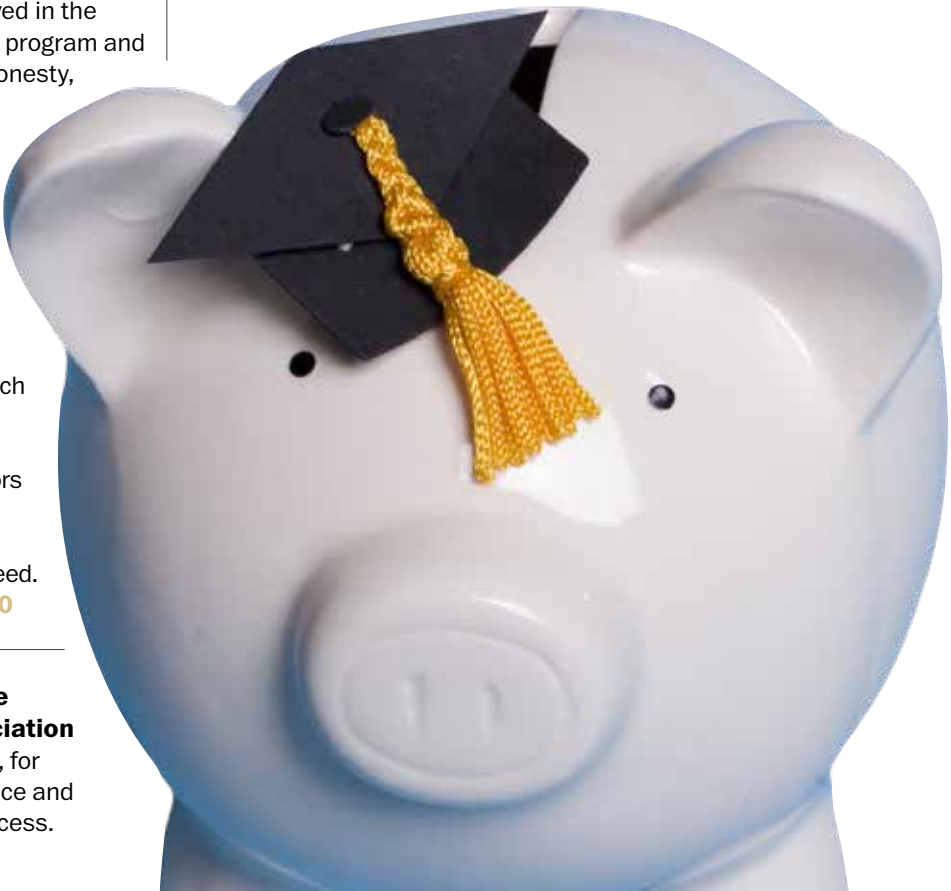
Lori Isler Teacher Scholarship
Haldane senior who plans to pursue a teaching career and is involved in community service.
| \$1,000 | May 14

Magazzino Educational Scholarship
Haldane junior or senior with a strong interest in visual art or museum management. Includes a paid internship at the museum. Presented by Magazzino Italian Art in partnership with the Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce.
| \$1,000 | June 7

Master Gardeners
Putnam County seniors who plan to pursue a degree in plant science, horticulture, floriculture, architectural landscape design, forestry, botany or another environmental-related program. Sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension.
| \$500 | April 30

Mental Health Association in Putnam County
Putnam seniors who plan to pursue a career related to mental health or in human services such as social work, psychology, nursing, education, counseling, community mental health, or child and family studies.
| \$500 | March 26

NewYork-Presbyterian/Hudson Valley Hospital Auxiliary
Senior who plans to pursue a career in the health field.
| \$1,000 | May 3



Philip Baumgarten Memorial Scholarship

Philipstown senior who volunteers for a local nonprofit and/or has worked for a local business. Sponsored by the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. | **Varies.** | **April**

Philipstown Republican Committee

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

Putnam County Children’s Committee

Putnam seniors who exhibit a “commitment to service to the community, and strength of purpose in achieving an educational goal, ability and maturity.” | **\$500** | **April 14**

Putnam County Sheriff’s Police Benevolent Association

Putnam seniors, on basis of need and potential for success. | **April 15**

BEACON

Andy Vito/Harold Tompkins/Ron Vece Scholarship*

Funded by the Hudson Valley Umpires Association, this scholarship is for seniors in Dutchess County who played high school baseball. | **\$750 to \$1,000** | **April 1**

ATHENA Adult Scholarship*

Dutchess females who have been out of high school or college for five years and are pursuing degrees at a New York or online school. | **\$1,000 to \$2,000** | **April 1**

Beacon Community Lions Club

BHS senior with a GPA of 3.0 or better who submits an essay on leadership and the importance of community service. | **\$500** | **April 1**

Beacon Schools PTOs

The Parent-Teacher Organizations at J.V. Forrestal, Glenham, Sargent and South Avenue elementary schools offer scholarships to Beacon seniors who attended each of them. The Beacon High School PTO also offers scholarships. | **\$300 to \$1,500** | **May**

Bianca Knight Memorial Scholarship

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

Big Horizon/Howland Cultural Center

Beacon High School seniors who are pursuing a career in the arts. Two scholarships will be awarded. | **\$500** | **April 2**

Charles E. and Mabel E. Conklin Scholarship

Dutchess seniors who rank in the top 10 percent of their class can attend Dutchess Community College for two years at no cost. | **Varies.** | **June 18**

Charles S. North Scholarship for Music and Art*

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

Dustin James Fallen Police Officer Memorial Fund

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

Dutchess County Agricultural Society

Dutchess seniors and college students who plan to pursue a degree in agriculture, horticulture or human ecology, or a career related to agriculture or horticulture. | **May 11**

Dutchess County Music Educators Association

Dutchess seniors who plan to major in music or the arts. | **\$500** | **May 17**

Dutchess County St. Patrick’s Parade Committee

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

Dylan Feller Memorial Scholarship*

Dutchess County BOCES/CTI student who plans to major in photography or graphic communications. | **\$1,000** | **April 1**

Eileen Hickey Nursing Scholarship*

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

Frank Thomas Groff Scholarship*

Dutchess seniors who are members of the Roman Catholic Church. | **\$1,000 annually** | **April 1**

George A. and Catherine V. Quill Scholarship*

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

H. Normington Schofield Scholarship*

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

Honorable Anthony L. Pagones Memorial Scholarship*

Dutchess senior, preferably a Beacon resident, who intends to study law, political science/ government or criminal justice. | **\$1,000** | **April 1**

Hudson Valley Financial Professionals*

Dutchess seniors who plan to pursue a career in the financial services industry such as banking, finance, insurance or investment banking. | **\$500** | **April 1**

Hudson Valley School Food Service Directors

BHS seniors planning to study food service, hospitality, hotel management or dietetics. | **\$1,000** | **April 19**

Joseph H. and Mildred C. McManus Scholarship*

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

Joseph H. Gellert/Dutchess County Bar Association*

Dutchess students enrolled in law school. | **\$1,000** | **April 1**

Joseph S. Guarneri Sr. Memorial Scholarship*

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

Juan Lafuente Leadership Scholarship*

Dutchess seniors who demonstrate academic achievement (especially in math and science); leadership contributions to school and community; and character. Students must attend a New York college. | **\$1,000 to \$1,500** | **April 1**

Landon R. Gray Memorial Scholarship

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

Leslie C. and Irene G. Roe Athletic Scholarship*

Dutchess seniors who have demonstrated outstanding athletic skills and will attend a New York community college or SUNY/CUNY school. | **\$1,500 annually** | **April 1**

Linda and Steven Lant Family Scholarship*

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

Marjorie A. Rifenburg Scholarship*

Dutchess seniors of Native American, American Indian, First Nation or Indigenous descent. | **Up to \$4,000** | **April 1**

Mary McKenzie Memorial Scholarship*

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

Maynard and Ferne Brownell Family Scholarship*

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

Michael P. Murphy Public Service Graduate Scholarship*

Dutchess graduate students planning a career in government. | **\$1,000+** | **April 1**

Norman and Rita Nussbickel Memorial Scholarship*

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

R&M Promotions Latino High School Scholarship

Dutchess seniors of Hispanic origin. | **Varies.** | **April 9**

Richard W. Mitchell Memorial Scholarship*

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

Robert K. and Clara Lou Gould Memorial Scholarship*

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

Sal & Pat Trocino Scholarship

Dutchess seniors who have a minimum GPA of 3.25; preference to students with financial need. | **\$1,000** | **April 16**

Stephanie D. Brown & Barbara M. Murphy Memorial Scholarship*

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

TEG Joyce A. Betros Scholarship

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

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Roots and Shoots

Plant a Garden, Now or Later

By Pamela Doan

Happy vernal equinox! My last column was nine weeks ago, when the outdoors looked and felt much different. In it, I laid out resolutions for my own gardening plans this year. As an update, I have a few varieties of seeds started for the garden and hope to direct-sow the early starters — lettuces, fava beans, radishes and peas — during an upcoming weekend. Once the soil is warm enough to work (meaning unfrozen enough to cover a seed) early spring vegetables can be planted.



With the right timing, they are ready to harvest by early summer, just as the temperatures are getting too hot for their liking. This makes space in the garden for another round of vegetables or herbs to go in, too.

Succession planting always gives you something ready to harvest and optimizes every inch of soil during every day of the growing season. When you get into planting vegetables as early and as late as possible, the growing season can potentially last from March through November or December, depending on the weather, without any special equipment. Row covers, a hoop tunnel, cloches or a cold frame would all enhance those conditions with a greenhouse-like effect.

Seed packets list the number of days until harvest. By counting backward from May 15 or Oct. 15, the first and last frost dates, you can tell if there is enough time to get a harvest before the end of the season.

Here is an example of succession planting. Fava beans will be sown directly into garden on March 21. They need 75 days to mature so I'll be able to start picking them around mid-June. Fava beans are climbers, and, to save time, I will plant runner beans in the same spot to avoid redoing the trellis.

I planted the runner bean variety I chose, Kelvedon Marvel, last year and it was prolific. If I plant in late June or even early July, I will have 60 days to maturity, bringing me to early September when I can start eating. I can wait another two to three weeks if I want dried beans.

In my microclimate — an east-facing, higher-elevation slope with southern exposure — the temperatures will drop sooner. Even though frost doesn't typically happen sooner, the lowering angle of the sun combined with cooler temperatures means I need to plan my garden to wrap up sooner than if I were closer to the river and at a lower elevation. Or I need to use season-extending equipment to keep the soil warm.

Not ready to prepare the garden now? If you can't start until summer, here are some choices to still grow your own food: Beets (45 days), lettuce (35 days, on average), scallions (35 days), kale (60 days), carrots (70 days) and other greens can all be planted for a fall harvest.

The seeds of vegetables that survive the



My seed filing system repurposes a holiday box that is perfectly seed packet size. The dividers keep seeds organized by when to sow indoors or outdoors.



Two rounds of seed planting ready to go.

Photos by P. Doan

frost, such as kale, kohlrabi, beets, turnips, pumpkins and winter squash, can also be sown directly in the garden for a late fall or winter harvest.

The good news is that even though it's spring and it seems like the pressure is on to plant now, maybe you're a fall or winter gardener. Take your time. It's a blessing, not a chore.

My garden plan gets both more elaborate and organized each year — two characteristics that inevitably become a bit overwhelming at the peak of the season. I should take my own advice! Fresh vegetables, herbs and berries are too delicious to deny my time and energy. I'd like to think I get better at growing since each garden is a learning experience, but there are so many factors I can't control, weather being foremost.

Of interest to gardeners

Orders are due by Wednesday (March 24) for seedling trees and perennials in the Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation District's annual plant sale. See putnamcountyny.com/keepputnamgreen.

Orders are due by Thursday (March 25) for herb and vegetable starts in the annual plant sale at Stony Kill Farms. See stonykill.org

The Native Plant Center sale ends March 31. See nativeplantcentershop.org.



Residents participating in music therapy and arts and crafts in anticipation of St. Patrick's Day

Photos provided



The bird-and-butterfly garden outside the Howland House

Ready to Return

Howland House residents wait out the virus

By Alison Rooney

“You can't miss it — it looks like the Welcome Center of Beacon,” says Fran Ferrusi, describing Howland House, a home to 14 people with intellectual and physical disabilities that she watches over on Howland Avenue.

In government-speak, Howland House is an “individual residential alternative” that provides 24-hour care and supervision. It is operated, along with other homes in New York and Connecticut, by the nonprofit Ability Beyond. Ferrusi, a registered nurse, is the services manager for the homes in Beacon and Mount Kisco.

Before the pandemic, residents might be spotted around the city visiting the pet store or the Howland Public Library, or watching the ducks on Fishkill Creek. Still, Ferrusi said she doesn't believe most Beacon residents are aware of Howland House. “I don't think we're out there as much as we'd like to be,” she said.



Fran Ferrusi

No visitors have been allowed inside the facility since the pandemic shutdown began a year ago but the staff has helped residents keep in touch with family and friends online. The facility has not had any COVID-19 cases, Ferrusi said.

Located adjacent to the Swann Inn, the Howland House was built in 2013 on what had been a wooded lot. The intention was to operate it as an “intermediate care facility,” which helps people with intellectual

disabilities become independent.

Instead, under its newer categorization as a residential alternative, Howland House helps residents develop group-living skills and has fewer strict regulations. “People think cold, sterile, institutional, but it's not like that at all,” she said. “It's a loving environment. I'm always happy to show the place off because it's not what you think when you hear ‘group home.’”

The schedules and the level of care vary by resident. “Some eat through tube feeding, about half eat by mouth,” Ferrusi said. “Throughout the night, they are repositioned in the bed. Everyone gets cleaned up in the morning.” After breakfast, the residents are brought to a common area for daytime programs.

“With the pandemic, we space everyone out because we can't go outside,” she said. “We have a sensory stimulation room with bubble tubes and fiber-optic strands and a projector; there's arts and crafts to keep everyone engaged; and tactile stimulation, like hands in sand. We also try to keep them up on current events.

“In the summer, we have large, raised garden beds, potting soil and a bird-and-butterfly garden with hummingbird feeders. We have massage and hair brushing, and we work on communication goals — some have iPads or other devices to make their needs known. We also have a beautiful three-season porch, where residents can eat, play music and hold reading groups.”

The first residents to move into Howland House in 2013 were referred by state institutions where all had lived for their entire lives. Today, some residents come from their homes, some from nursing homes and others from a hospital where they were deemed homeless because they had no family to take them in, Ferrusi said. “We tend to take the most medically needy individuals” because the Beacon facility has 24-hour nursing support.

“Some residents have had cognitive difficulties since birth, others have suffered a

traumatic brain injury, while others have developmental disabilities,” she explained. “You can tell by subtle gesture after you get to know each person, because the nonverbal communication is amazing. Sometimes it's hard to determine a person's cognitive ability because of the inability to communicate,

but even with residents who can't communicate, you can tell they're happy to be there.

“One gentleman, who is 92 and blind, loves Sinatra,” she said. “He hardly makes a peep, speaks in groans, but we'll see him tap his foot when we play Sinatra — he keeps in rhythm to the music.”

COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES



**Herb Farm,
Previously, Certified Organic**
6,800 ± SF | 4.85 ± Acres
\$475,000



**Live / Work - Elevator Building
Poughkeepsie CBD, Opportunity Zone**
3 Levels | 5,790 ± SF
\$795,000



**Southern Dutchess; Old Rt 9
Myers Corners / Middlebush Rd**
2,844 ± SF | 1 Acre
\$395,000



**Fishkill, NY I84 & US Rt 9 Area
Freestanding Commercial Building**
1,760 ± SF | 0.23 Acres
\$425,000

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Looking Back in Philipstown

By Chip Rowe

150 Years Ago (March 1871)

At a special meeting of School District No. 16, which served residents of Breakneck, no agreement could be reached to fund the construction of a schoolhouse and residents had to continue to send their children to Rock Street.

Some flakes in a sudden snowstorm appeared to be an inch in diameter.

The wheel of a heavily loaded carriage ran over the chest of John Jaycox, 7, but he was expected to recover.

Cold Spring residents voted against incorporating the village, 243-44. Those in opposition cited a reluctance to give too much fiduciary power to the trustees.

The soprano Clara Louisa Kellogg, "America's most talented singer," purchased a 25-acre estate on the Hudson opposite West Point and named it Clarehurst.

A Place to Unwind

In her 1913 autobiography, *Memoirs of an American Prima Donna*, Clara Louisa Kellogg recalled her summer home in Philipstown:

"My mother and I spent many summers at Clarehurst... The Vanderbilts' railroad, the New York Central, ran through Cold Spring, so that my Christmas present from William H. Vanderbilt each year was an annual pass... My place at Cold Spring was where I went to rest between seasons, a lovely place with the wind off the Hudson River, and gorgeous oak trees all about. When the acorns dropped on the tin roof of the veranda in the dead of night, they made an alarming noise like tiny ghostly footsteps.

"One day when I was off on an herb-hunting expedition, some highwaymen tried to stop my carriage, and that was the beginning of troublous times at Cold Spring. It developed that a band of robbers was operating in our neighborhood, with headquarters in a cave on Storm King Mountain, just opposite us. They made a specialty of robbing trains, and were led by a small man with such little feet that his footprints were easily enough traced — traced, but not easily caught up with!

"He never was caught, I believe. But he, or his followers, skulked about our place; and we were alarmed enough to provide ourselves with pistols. That was when I learned to shoot, and I used to have shooting parties for target practice. My father would prowl about after dark, firing off his pistol whenever he heard a suspicious sound, so that, for a time, what with acorns and pistols, the nights were somewhat disturbed."

John Dillon escaped serious injury when he was thrown from a handcar loaded with men and tools onto the tracks in front of the car. The car hit him and derailed.

Jacob Southard opened a clothing store at the corner of Main and Garden streets.

The Rev. S.I. Ferguson, the pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, addressed members of the local chapter of the Good Templars, exhorting them to "look not upon the wine when it is red, for it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder."

Haight sued Knapp for \$49 in damages he claimed had been done by Knapp's trespassing fowls and cattle, and for wood he said Knapp had cut.

The Rooster, an improvised instrument that made its way to Cold Spring from New York City, consisted of an old tin box or fruit can expertly played by urchins to produce a din the *Cold Spring Recorder* compared to "the squawk of a kidnapped centenarian hen" or "the bray of a superannuated jackass."

The Nelsonville store of Isaac Biggs narrowly escaped burning to the ground when a wooden spittoon filled with sawdust caught fire because of a lit cigar or match. Fortunately, the tenants living above the store discovered it in time.

The horse pulling Thomas Hustis' milk wagon took off when the driver went to a store on West Street. The animal broke and ran toward Breakneck, leaving pieces of shaft and harness along the way and nearly reaching Fishkill Landing [Beacon].

125 Years Ago (March 1896)

The Rev. J.W.A. Dodge of Cold Spring accepted a call to St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church of Peekskill. He succeeded the Rev. Angelo Ostrander, who left for Trinity Church in Poughkeepsie.

The propeller steamer Daniel S. Miller left New York City at 2 a.m. and by 5 a.m. was stuck fast in the heavy ice off Cold Spring.

The 50 delegates of Group 7 of the New York State Bankers' Association, which included Gen. Daniel Butterfield of Cold Spring, passed a resolution calling on the national organization to "secure a plain and unequivocal declaration on the maintenance of the present gold standard."

100 Years Ago (March 1921)

The trustees of the Butterfield Memorial Hospital met in New York City to plan its construction using a \$100,000 bequest from Julia Butterfield.

The whistle of the Cold Spring Textile Works blew for the first time to summon its workers.

Mr. and Mrs. William Church Osborn sailed for a three-month trip to England, France and Italy.

The Recorder editorialized: "We notice in the *Putnam County Republican* an article printed from the *Brewster Standard* stating that there are four pieces of state road to be built in the Town of Southeast during the coming year. What is the matter with our supervisor and the town officials of Philip-



The soprano Clara Louisa Kellogg bought a Philipstown estate in 1871.



Fourteen Cold Spring Boy Scouts watched this silent film in Peekskill in 1921.

stown? Philipstown has never had a mile of state road... but our town has had the privilege of paying its part of the county taxes to build state roads in Putnam Valley, Patterson, Carmel and Southeast."

J.W. Dubois related that, while he had his hands full standing outside his shop, the wind took his hat. He instructed his dog to retrieve it, but he had a bone in his mouth. Dubois claimed the dog turned the hat over with both paws, dropped the bone inside and carried the hat to the shop.

The Village of Cold Spring was forced to borrow voting booths and boxes from Patterson for its March 15 election because Philipstown inexplicably refused. The Village Board passed a resolution to "deplore the strange action" by the town.

The Village Board voted to extend voting hours from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. for workers who arrived home on the 7 p.m. train.

Fourteen members of the Cold Spring troop of the Boy Scouts of America hiked 12 miles to Peekskill and watched *Huckleberry Finn* at the Hudson Theatre before taking the 5:50 train home.

The officers, teachers and students of the Sunday school at the Methodist Episcopal church wrote to the Village Board and state officials to report that "intoxicating drink is being sold in our villages in open violation" of federal temperance laws, and consumed by "those of foreign

birth in our village." An official with the state Department of Excise noted that Cold Spring had not had a temperance agent in nearly two years because of budget cuts but that it would forward the complaint to the Putnam County sheriff.

A state Supreme Court judge ruled in favor of William Church Osborn and Frederick H. Osborn, who had been sued by Charlotte McCoy over land she sold them in 1914. She claimed her signature had been forged, but her husband, who co-signed the deed a week after their marriage, testified for the defense.

The cast of the Knights of Columbus' first annual minstrel at Loretto Hall was declared by the *Recorder* to be the "blackest, funniest, most gorgeous of the brotherhood of burnt cork." Along with solos such as "Mammy," the show included a baton and fire-stick swinging by Haldane student Walter Callahan.

Thirteen men were granted citizenship by the Supreme Court at Carmel, including Frederick Hocking, John Phelan, Agostino Lemo, Alfonso Cretazzo, George Toukatos and Harry Cox of Cold Spring, and George Rattle of Garrison.

John Tilden, the president of an underwear manufacturing company and owner of a grand home at Manitou, was ordered to pay \$15,000 to a former employee who

(Continued on Page 20)

(Continued from Page 19)

claimed Tilden had assaulted him two years earlier.

75 Years Ago (March 1946)

M.D.V., a native of Cold Spring, wrote to the newspaper advice columnist Helen Worth to say that the author of the book *Wide, Wide World*, mentioned in an earlier column, was Anna Warner. "She and her sister, Susan Warner, lived in a wooded section known as Warner's Island [now Constitution Island]," M.D.V. wrote. "I was born in the town of Cold Spring and when the colorful Warner sisters rode forth in their surrey, they created more than a mild sensation for the residents."

A Cold Spring attorney, Francis Dale, defended a cabinetmaker from Danbury, Connecticut, who was arrested for possessing a firearm. Dale said an "alert policeman" had searched his client's parked car with a "fine-toothed comb" and discovered two unloaded revolvers. The man pleaded guilty and paid a \$50 fine.

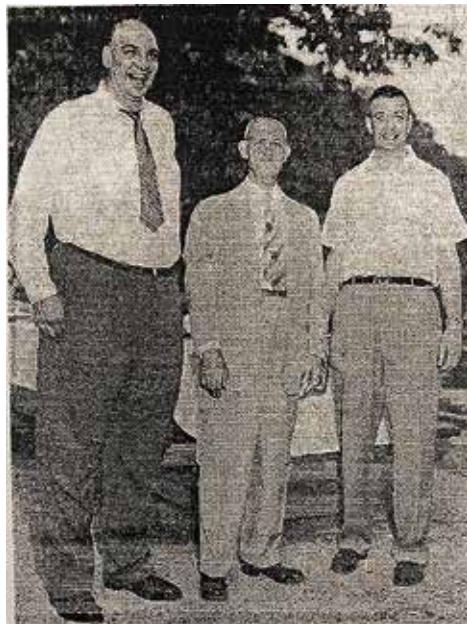
50 Years Ago (March 1971)

The Haldane boys' basketball team, under Coach John Rath, upset Millbrook in overtime, 52-51, in a Bi-Valley Dutchess League game. With the game tied in the fourth quarter, the Blue Devils held the ball for the final 1:43 but missed a last-second shot.

Joseph Percacciolo Jr. and Frank Eaton met with members of Environmental Concern to discuss recycling projects in Philipstown. They noted that while newspapers, rags and magazines could be dropped at the Methodist Church, the Grand Union or Guinan's, there was no place to recycle glass.

Jacob Glick died at age 100 at his home at 15 Orchard St. The dry goods and clothing store he operated on Main Street was still open, operated by his children. Born in Hungary, he came to the U.S. at age 17 and lived in Yonkers before moving to Newburgh in 1892 to work in a tavern. In 1906, he learned of a small store for sale in Cold Spring. An Orthodox Jew, Glick credited his long life to working hard six days a week and keeping the Sabbath and a kosher home.

Tom Impellittere, an Italian immigrant who had lived in Cold Spring since 1915 and



Tom Impellittere (who went by Tom Impell), center, with his sons, Ray and Gerard, in 1957. Ray owned an auto dealership in Cold Spring and Gerard was a barber, like his father.

Putnam History Museum



In 1970, Bruce Metzger of Philipstown was stationed in Antarctica.

was a barber at the Officers Club at West Point for 43 years, died at age 87. He had cut the hair of Gens. Eisenhower, MacArthur, Taylor, Marshall and Westmoreland.

Al Ireland of Nelsonville was presented by Notre Dame University with the middleweight boxing trophy he won in 1954 during its annual Bengal Bouts. At age 36, Ireland had been the oldest champion in the tournament's history. Soon after his victory, he had been sent to Indianapolis for a military checkup and missed the awards ceremony.

The Independent Party candidate, Raymond LeFever, was elected mayor of Cold Spring, succeeding James Early, who did not run for re-election. He received 351 votes against 287 for Edward Mancari of the People's Party in the first contested mayoral election in 10 years. In Nelsonville, Franklin Dorsett was elected village justice after drawing straws with his opponent because both received 96 votes.

William Stolecki, president of the parish council at Our Lady of Loretto, called for support of a bill proposed in Albany that would give \$150 annually to parents who sent their children to private schools, such

as that run by the Cold Spring church. He said the money would not be a "hand-out" but a refund of a portion of "what the nonpublic school parent has already given in the first place for the education of children in our own community."

Navy Airman Apprentice Bruce Metzger of Philipstown was serving at McMurdo Station in the Antarctic.

A dance organized at Our Lady of Loretto for juniors at Haldane High School turned out to be "an outright disgrace," according to Mayor LeFever, who was one of its five chaperones. About 10 of the teens procured alcohol before the dance; three got drunk and threw up on the dance floor, and a 15-year-old ended up at Butterfield Hospital.

25 Years Ago (March 1996)

A 23-year-old Beacon woman gave birth to a baby girl at Papa John's Restaurant on Route 9 in Philipstown at 7:15 p.m. on a Wednesday night. Owner Frank Broccoli, staff members Octavio Buitrago, Luis Criollo and Maria Figueroa, and Putnam County Sheriff's Deputy Robert Ferris assisted. Broccoli was photographed standing next to a sign that read, "We Deliver!"

Deputy Ferris tracked down a 42-year-old woman who had knocked on the door of a Philipstown resident at 9:15 p.m. during a snowstorm, asking for something hot to drink but refusing to come inside. The officer followed footprints in the snow and found the woman hiding in a vacant barn. She told him she had been staying in the barn for 10 days. He arranged for her to be placed in a shelter.

Janet Ribertone, the former owner of Janet's Country Kitchen in Highland Falls, opened a restaurant in Cold Spring called 76 Main Street.

Margaret Guinan of Garrison's Landing was named Police Woman of the Year by the Westchester County Committee of the American Legion Auxiliary. She was the only woman on Yorktown's 51-member force. She had joined the department in 1983 as an office assistant.

The Haldane High School girls' basketball team won the state Class D public school championship by defeating Westport, 67-29, at Hudson Valley Community College in Troy. Kristen Faust was named the MVP. It was the second title for Coach Ken Thomas. The Blue Devils reached the finals by upsetting No. 1 West Canada, 59-56, in overtime. The team also defeated the state private school champion, Sacred Heart of Long Island, 49-39, for a second title.

The Cold Spring Village Board and County Executive Robert Bondi discussed establishing a 24/7 emergency room at the Craig House in Beacon. The building had been purchased by Putnam Hospital Center as a 54-bed psychiatric center and already had a doctor on duty.

Six Cold Spring and Nelsonville students, ages 12 to 14, were charged with throwing rocks at the tile roof of the bandstand, causing \$3,000 in damage.

Cold Spring Mayor Anthony Phillips said residents should not be alarmed by the removal of five trees at the waterfront. "New trees will be planted," he said.

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A HAHNEMÜHLE CERTIFIED STUDIO

Reflections of a Cold Spring Native

By Rita Ferrara

It was a special and adventurous time for me growing up in the village of Cold Spring in the 1930s and 1940s.

My first memories are centered at the first house my family occupied after I was born. I was brought home from Butterfield Hospital to a little brick house about a half block from the mighty Hudson. The house still exists and whenever I go to Cold Spring, I drive by it to fire up the memory box.

As I reflect on my childhood, I can't help but think how fortunate and blessed I was to spend my early years in Cold Spring. That conclusion, of course, was reached by comparison to the world that developed after leaving the village. Life was simple, sincere and secure, an aura that would fizzle as my world increased in its complexities.

My family eventually moved to a three-story building on Main Street. My father, John Bonacio, had a tailor shop and dry-cleaning business. Most all of the village residents frequented his store; some of the more notables were Hamilton Fish Sr. and Jr. and Robert Patterson, who at the time was the U.S. undersecretary of war under President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Our house was a block from the New York Central Railroad station. My friends and I would visit Mr. Tierney, the station master, regularly. He always found time to speak with us, which was typical of most everyone in the village. The Depot Restaurant now occupies the site of the former depot. Trains traveled night and day, leaving behind dense smoke pockets since most engines were coal-fired. The loud railroad noises interrupted everyone's sleep for miles around.

Main Street in Cold Spring was always the hub of activity. Cars and trucks traveled to

and from the railroad and businesses were situated primarily on Main Street. East of the depot was the movie house and Charlie McConville's bar. There was the post office, Burns Restaurant, *The Putnam County News*, Sam Sunday's barber shop, Elliott Hammond's grocery, the A&P grocery, Cold Spring Lumber and a Greek confectionary store that sold homemade ice cream.

On the other side of the street was my father's shop, Joe Jones Printing, the Grand Union on the corner of Main and Rock, the firehouse, the police department, the VFW, Percaccioro's deli, Glick's department store and McKeel's hardware. There were many restaurants.

Our Lady of Loretto school and church was a short distance away. When Catholic students completed grade school, they matriculated to Haldane High School, which was equipped with all things applicable to a great education, as well as sports such as baseball, softball, archery, basketball, etc. It was a short, easy walk to the Butterfield Library and the Butterfield Hospital, which was small but well-equipped.

We made our own fun. The Hudson River was a major attraction and focal point. We would swim, fish, canoe or ice skate when the river froze over.

“ We made our own fun. The Hudson River was a major attraction and focal point. We would swim, fish, canoe or ice skate when the river froze over.

My mother, who was “courting” my father, and Mrs. Impellitteri, the mother of heavyweight boxing title contender Ray Impel, frequently walked across the frozen river to West Point to visit my father, when he was employed there.



Main Street in Cold Spring, looking east, in the 1930s

Putnam History Museum

Sitting by the river we would watch for the day liners cruising up from New York City. Two that I recall were the Alexander Hamilton and the Mary Powell. We often enjoyed picnics by the river and listened to music at the bandstand on weekends. Often we would take boat rides to West Point to watch the cadets parade, an awesome spectacle.

Roller skating and sleigh riding from the Town Hall to the railroad tracks was exciting. Another favorite pastime was to

hopscotch and kick-the-can. Our park and playground was Kemble Field, where there were most always picnics and ballgames.

We spent many hours in the woods behind our house. The treehouses that we built were our treasured hideaways where we played games and read books.

My mother attended the old Haldane School, which was on Route 9D. It was later demolished; apparently it was too small for the growing number of people moving to the area.

There was a sand quarry on Route 9D with an extension over the railroad tracks to deliver sand to the trains when there was ice and snow on the rails. As part of our childhood excitement, we would climb to the top of the sand pile and slide down.

I am in my 80s now, and living in Fish-kill, but I often drift into moments of nostalgia and revisit this wonderful village, which had become such a part of me. It will always remain the same for me as it was many years ago.

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Desperation Heave Dooms Haldane Boys

Last-second bank shot falls in semifinals

By Skip Pearlman

The Haldane High School boys' basketball team, undefeated in 10 games, lost a heartbreaker on March 11 when a Lakeland player put up a desperate, last-second jump shot that banked in for a 51-50 victory.

The top-seeded Blue Devils had hoped to advance to the championship game in the Putnam-Northern Westchester regional playoff tournament for smaller schools. Instead, No. 5 Lakeland went on to upset No. 2 Briarcliff (11-1) to win the title.

Playing at home, Haldane led Lakeland

for much of the game, including by five points at halftime and seven points at the end of three quarters.

But the Hornets cut into the deficit in the fourth quarter and were down 50-49 when the winning shot was made with 1.4 seconds remaining. A shot by Haldane at the buzzer did not fall.

"That was an extremely difficult loss," said Coach Joe Virgadamo. "We were the better team. But thankfully we had the game, and we had 11 games."

"It felt good to have some fans there" after Section I officials allowed limited spectators, he said. "I'm super-proud of the team, the way they handled themselves and their intensity. Our rebounding was unbelievable against Lakeland; we outthrustled them."

Matteo Cervone led Haldane with 19 points, Dan Santos added 12 and Soren Holmbo had 10. This week, Cervone was named All-Section and All-League, and named league MVP. Dan Santos, Darrin Santos and Holmbo were also selected for the All-League team.

The Blue Devils will lose five players to graduation — Darrin Santos, Dan Santos, Vincenzo Scanga, Christian Pezzullo and John Bradley — but expect to return three starters.

"The offseason work will tell how good they can be," Virgadamo said. "We have a lot of talent returning, and talent coming up. I thank everyone who made this season happen — the kids needed it more than we know, and it was a ton of fun."



READY FOR SOFTBALL — Despite a cold wind on Sunday (March 14), more than 50 girls kicked off the Philipstown Little League softball season with practice at the Haldane school. This is the largest turnout for softball in at least 10 years, said Megan Cotter, a Little League board member and lifelong softball player who has a daughter in the program. Opening day is scheduled for April 10. *Photo provided*

Football *(from Page 24)*

will be a third-year starter. Darrin is an All-League running back and linebacker.

In addition, wide receivers Ryan Irwin and Soren Holmbo, outside linebacker Will Etta, guard/defensive tackle Jake Mason

and senior tight end/linebacker Doug Donaghy all bring experience.

"Those are our playmakers," McConville said. "We have a good group of running backs and receivers, and I'm looking for them to create some big plays. And, hopefully, some of the success will carry over from the basket-

ball team [which finished 10-1], because we have a lot of the same guys."

The Blue Devils are scheduled to open the season on Saturday at Dobbs Ferry, followed by Blind Brook at home on March 27 at noon. They will also host Woodlands and Valhalla, and travel to Rye Neck.

OBITUARIES

Mattie Alyea

Marion R. "Mattie" Alyea, 98, of Beacon, died March 5 in the house she had lived in for nearly 100 years. She was the youngest of six siblings.



Two years after the end of World War II, at age 25, Mattie began a 58-year career with the Beacon school district. She served as a senior account clerk, office manager and treasurer. At her retirement in 2005, Mattie was one of the five longest-serving public employees in the state of New York.

For decades, Mattie and her sisters, Jean and Peg, lived in the house in Beacon, near Main Street. In 2003 and 2004, the Alyea sisters were the largest donors to a community fundraiser to support the commissioning of the mural on the front of the Howland Public Library on Main Street.

Although Mattie gradually lost her eyesight, she never lost a particle of the mental acuity and strong-mindedness that marked her tenure as treasurer. She loved listening to books on tape, and to the radio, following with keen interest the doings of politicians of every stripe. She followed baseball and football and made many trips to West Point for football games.

She leaves behind three nieces and two nephews and many lifelong friends and acquaintances — neighbors on her street who would stop and say hello as she enjoyed the afternoon sun on her front porch.

Mattie's life was celebrated at a small Mass at St. John the Evangelist on March 8. Memorial donations may be made to the church (stjoachim-stjohn.org), or to the Animal Rescue Foundation of Beacon (arfbeacon.org).

Sheilah Rechtschaffer (1938-2021)

Sheilah Rechtschaffer, 82, died of cancer on March 13 at her home in Garrison.



She was born on June 6, 1938, in New York City, the daughter of Nathan and Charlotte Sarett. She earned a bachelor's degree in education in 1959 from Boston University and a bachelor of fine arts in 1981 from SUNY Purchase.

Sheilah met her future husband, Dr. Bert Rechtschaffer, in New York City in 1961, when they worked on different floors of an advertising agency. Bert had enlisted in the U.S. Air Force as a dentist and taken a temporary job while waiting for his certification.

After he was assigned to serve at a base in Newfoundland, they kept up a long-distance relationship. When Sheilah visited, Bert recalled he was in the middle of making a martini for her "when the phone rings and it's my commanding officer, who says, 'There's a retired general here, I want you to come over.' When we got there, Sheilah started preaching to the guy about disarmament. I was kicking her under the table."

The couple moved to Garrison in 2000, after dividing their time between Manhattan and Croton, where Bert had a practice for 30 years.

"I think most good art is made in the subconscious and only becomes clearer as you stay in the game," Sheilah told *The Current* in 2016.

In 1992, with Livia Monaco, she co-founded the nonprofit Accademia Caertie Inc. in Ceri, Italy, a workshop dedicated to continuing the traditional tech-

niques of fresco painting and scagliola.

Sheilah had many solo shows of her pastels between 1985 and her death. Her most recent series included *Threads*, *Green in Vietnam*, *Memory Language* and *Listening to Jazz: A Journey*.

From 1999 to 2009, Sheilah and Bert traveled to Brazil, St. Lucia and Vietnam to perform volunteer work through the East Meets West Foundation. He volunteered as a dentist and she taught art classes to orphans and underserved children.

Sheilah was active in the earliest days of the anti-war movement of the 1960s; the anti-nuclear movement of the 1970s and '80s; and in the anti-war and environmental movements from the 2000s until the end of her life.

Along with her husband of 58 years, she is survived by her children, Jonathan and Jessica; her daughter-in-law, Debbie; and a granddaughter, Zoe.

A graveside service was held March 16 at the natural burial grounds at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Sugar Law Center for Economic & Social Justice (sugarlaw.org); the Garrison Art Center (garrisonartcenter.org); the Coalition for Institutionalized Aged & Disabled (ciadny.org); or the National Jazz Foundation of America (jazzfoundation.org).

Other Recent Deaths

Philipstown

Dorothy Bolte, 89
Andrew Dubler, 74
Nancy Esposito, 92
George Lisikatos, 82
Rose Marie Markey, 89
Tim Maxwell, 51
Sonny Moran, 82

Murray Prescott, 83
Polly Rick, 92
James Ridgeway, 84
Thomas Russell Jr., 74
Gil Tarbox, 73
Connie Tuomey, 91
Erna Vecchione, 84
Penelope Wilson, 97

Beacon

Eunice Aliotta, 99
Meghan Ashcroft, 37
Chub Baxter, 81
Lou Boccia, 92
Joe Bradley, 57
Domenica Brunetti, 88
Anna Burke, 61
Jim Foy, 78
Winifred Gage, 85
Scott Garrett, 62
Bill Hamilton, 78
Genevieve Hart, 89
Glenn Houghtalin, 78
Joanne Kearns, 87
Thomas Magagnos, 70
Joe Manetta Jr., 63
Arlene Matteis, 84
Gung Papula, 85
Edie Peña, 91
Rosa Penfield, 81
Filomena Piccone, 88
Pat Pucino, 72
Chickie Robertson, 83
Julieann Roccio, 57
George Sialmas, 88
Myra Spaulding, 79
Marianne Thorn, 84
Don Tomlins, 52
Gladys Viera, 78

For more obituaries, see highlandscurrent.org/obits.

Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Gearwheel tooth

4. Baby elephant

8. Bar bills

12. Coffee vessel

13. — about (circa)

14. Panache

15. Salty expanse

16. Chills and fever

17. — avis

18. Driver's aid

21. Superlative suffix

22. Inlet

23. Protractor measure

26. Actress Lucy

27. "See ya!"

30. Old salts

31. *The Bells* author

32. Edge

33. Sea, to Henri

34. Periodical, for short

35. Belt holders

36. Summer cooler

37. *Alice* waitress

38. Fortress on the Thames

45. Pearl Harbor site

46. Stage show

47. Docs' bloc

48. Alum

49. Give temporarily

50. Use a ray gun

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51. Bygone jets

52. Talks nonstop

53. Before

9. Jai —

10. Hoedown site

11. Unforeseen problem

19. Morays

20. Vichy water

23. \$ dispenser

24. Scot's denial

25. Spike's warning

26. Journal

27. Buddy

28. Shrill bark

29. Type measures

31. Magnificent array

32. Benefit

34. Ruin the veneer

35. British insurer

36. Vendettas

37. Be on either side of

38. Raiments

39. Rowboat needs

40. "Huh?"

41. Dog bane

42. Stupor

43. Actor Epps

44. Scruff

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7 LITTLE WORDS

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

CLUES

1 children's writer Cleary (7)

2 at odds (7)

3 place to find flights (9)

4 swapping for a better model (9)

5 asymmetrical roof design (7)

6 planks and squats (9)

7 one with a fine palette, say (7)

SOLUTIONS

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SUDO CURRENT

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

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Answers for March 12 Puzzles

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

1. TALKATIVE, 2. LUNG, 3. DUSTER, 4. KLUM, 5. HAIRBRUSH, 6. FOUNTAINS, 7. EVADED

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

SPORTS



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Haldane quarterback Dan Santos



Coach Ryan McConville instructs his team during a practice this week; Haldane will open its season on Saturday at Dobbs Ferry.

Football? Football!

After delay, teams gear up for spring

By Skip Pearlman

After a six-month postponement because of the pandemic shutdown, the Beacon High School football team is poised on Saturday night under the lights at Brewster to open what the state athletic association is calling the “Fall II” season.

It will be the first day of spring.

The football season typically begins in September. Instead, local high school football teams will each play five games in March

and April, barring quarantines, followed by a sectional tournament. On Monday (March 15), Section I officials said they will allow attendance by two spectators per player at home and away games for Fall II sports.

Beacon this season will miss two experienced linemen lost to graduation: Santino Negron, who was All-Section, and George Pinkhardt, who was All-League. But everyone else returns.

“That allows us to move a lot faster” getting ready for the season, said Coach

Jim Phelan. “We’ve also picked up some new faces; our special teams are much improved with the addition of some soccer players.” He said he may also deploy some of the soccer players at the wide receiver position. “These guys can catch the ball.”

Last year the Bulldogs went 2-6. As the No. 16 seed in the playoffs, they lost to John Jay Cross River in the first round.

The key returning players include a group of three-year starters: quarterback Jason Komisar; running back/linebacker Isaac Hanson, center/defensive end Tyler Haydt, guard/defensive tackle Amir Bell and cornerback/wide receiver Cody Shields; as well as seniors Mike Hernandez and Dennis Mann.

“With the short season, we need our experienced guys to not only step up their play but

their leadership,” Phelan said. “Defensively we’ll be much more athletic and physical.”

The Bulldogs will have their hands full. After Brewster, they will take on Tappan Zee, Mahopac, Somers and Lourdes.

“I always believe the only way to get better is to play the best teams and coaches,” Phelan said. “The boys are fired up; it’s been a long eight months.”

HALDANE

Coach Ryan McConville compared his Blue Devils football team this week to a hungry, caged animal waiting for the gate to be opened.

The six-month wait for the season to start included many moments of doubt, he said.

“Now that it’s reality, we’re going to smile and enjoy ourselves, no matter what happens,” he said.

Last year’s team went 2-7, losing to Tuckahoe in the Section 1 championship game. (As the only Class D teams, the teams play each year for the title.)

This year McConville is going all-in on analytics. He said that because of the condensed preseason, his team is focusing on maximum effort and maximum attention to detail, putting three hours of work into half that time. The idea is to avoid burning players out in lengthy practices.

“The goal this season is to compete with some teams we haven’t played in a few years,” he said. “We will play Tuckahoe for the championship, so we’ll build toward that. There might be some early bumps in the road, but we’re focused on our key concepts.”

The Blue Devils had no seniors last year, so they return the entire squad. Key players include seniors Dan and Darrin Santos. Dan is an All-Section honorable mention and second-team All-State quarterback who

(Continued on Page 22)



Beacon opens its season on Saturday night under the lights at Brewster.

Photos by S. Pearlman



Beacon quarterback Jason Komisar