

The HIGHLANDS Current



Chapel
Restoration
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GREATEST PANCAKE EVER — Burke Hudson, 3, of Cold Spring was so excited about his pancake at the Little Stony Point Citizen's Association annual Maple Syrup Day on Sunday (March 27) that he carried it like this for a good while, taking occasional nibbles. For more photos, see Page 11.

Photo by Ross Corsair

Beacon Wants More Compost, Less Trash

Municipal drop-off sites to open this month

By Jeff Simms

A six-month pilot program to introduce free municipal composting to all residents of Beacon will kick off later this month.

Three drop-off sites — at the city's Recreation Department, at 23 West Center St.;

Memorial Park; and the Churchill Street parking lot, near Hudson Valley Brewery — will be open to residents beginning April 15.

Green bins will be installed at each of the sites for people to drop household food scraps such as vegetables, fruit, egg shells, coffee grounds and filters or bread. In addition, materials not normally acceptable for backyard compost bins, including meat and bones, dairy and "biodegradable" products like paper towels, utensils, cups

and takeout containers, will be accepted at the municipal sites.

The locations will be equipped with signs designating materials that cannot be composted, such as recyclable plastic or glass, Styrofoam, produce stickers or waxed cardboard.

Instructional videos will be posted on the city's sustainability page (bit.ly/beacon-compost) to help residents new to

(Continued on Page 17)

Reporter's Notebook

Zeebuffo Coming to Garrison

By Michael Turton

I wanted to devote this column to a livestock ranch being planned for Garrison, but the property owner, who



asked not to be identified, said the project won't go to the Philipstown Planning Board for another year. She did allow that her 50-acre property will specialize in breeding and raising zeebuffo, the genetically engineered, striped ungulate that combines the best features of buffalo and zebra.

The cross-species recently drew praise in

The Ungulate Times and *Tomorrow's Science Today* for yielding high-quality food while offering significant environmental benefit. The grass-fed, organically raised zeebuffo will be processed on-site, producing meat that is "gluten-free, high in protein, low in cholesterol, more tender than lamb — and delicious," she said. And, unlike traditional beef cattle, zeebuffos don't pass gas, a leading cause of climate change.

Look for the story a year from now. In

(Continued on Page 8)

HVSF Says It Will 'Narrow' Project

Drops plans for indoor theater, 20-room inn

By Chip Rowe

The Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, which has plans for a new home at the former Garrison golf course that have drawn some opposition for its scope, said on Tuesday (March 29) that it would trim back.

HVSF said it is dropping a proposed 225-seat indoor theater and a 20-room inn to "narrow the scope" of its project based on feedback during three public hearing sessions held by the Philipstown Planning Board and public site visits.

In addition, the organization said it would add more greenery and trees to screen the view of its tent from Route 9 and move a planned parking lot out of a designated wetland buffer zone.

The Planning Board is in the midst of a state-mandated environmental review of the project. HVSF said it plans to formally notify the board of the revisions at its April 21 meeting.

"Our goal has always been to be good, collaborative neighbors and thoughtful, intentional land stewards," said Davis McCallum, artistic director at HVSF, in a statement. "To everyone who offered their thoughts and opinions about the project, we are so grateful for your feedback. We heard you. Scaling back our proposal will allow us to prove our commitment over time and assure our neighbors that we are steadfast in our promise to work collaboratively as part of this community."

Losing the indoor theater and the inn will reduce the size of newly constructed structures in the proposal by 30 percent, to 21,800 square feet; reduce water usage by 3,100 gallons per day, or 19 percent from the original plan; decrease the number of performances and duration of the season; and reduce the site's maximum capacity by 27 percent, from 1,100 to 800, HVSF said.

HVSF had envisioned performances at the indoor theater from April to late October, and possibly in December for the holidays. Philipstown in 2005 approved a 40-room hotel and spa for The Garrison country club and golf site, but it was never built.

(Continued on Page 16)

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: PETER ULLIAN

By Alison Rooney

A short story by Peter Ullian, who lives in Beacon, is included in a new anthology of crime fiction, *Say What Now?* published by Murderous Ink Press as part of its Crimeucopia series. See highlandscurrent.org/podcast to hear more from this conversation, which has been edited here for brevity.

When we last talked, in 2014, you were wearing many professional hats, including librettist, puppeteer and security guard. Have you added or subtracted anything?

I'm not working as a security guard. In fact, I let my license lapse. I teach middle school English and reading and sometimes drama at a public school. Since I started teaching, I'm writing more poetry. Teaching takes a lot of mental energy and poems are easier to focus on because they're shorter. They don't take less time to write, but they are more easily digested. I didn't think of myself as a poet, but I've been lucky to have had a chapbook published and poems appear in periodicals and anthologies and in one collection. I still love puppeteering, but mostly do it only on special occasions, at places like the Howland Public Library and at my synagogue for Hanukkah.

What's the story behind your short story?

It emerged as I was beginning to write a novel. It takes place in Los Angeles in 1933. I was doing research about the period and, in particular, about corruption, because it was an incredibly corrupt world. The brother of L.A.'s mayor in the 1930s had a job in the mayor's office, accepting bribes. During the research, I came across an investigation into crimes that involved very rich people. The people who discovered them were limited in what they could do but tried to bring some justice. So, the story exists as a short story and will be woven into the novel.

How do you lay claim to "L.A. noir," which is a familiar genre and setting?

It involves knowing and loving the genre. You need to know enough to draw on the tropes to the degree that they help tell the story but not be handcuffed by them. For example, there are a few catchy phrases that some of the characters might say or think that are to me reminiscent of the great turns of phrase that an author like Raymond Chandler would have come up with, but I don't overdo that. I've been listening to crime and mystery radio dramas from the 1940s and '50s. It's interesting to see how quickly that hard-boiled style was adopted at the time, because they're all written with the same jazzy, descriptive language, with unexpected metaphors.

The anthology has a British publisher. How did you wind up submitting to them?

It had only to do with the length of the story, which is just under 10,000 words. That's long for a short story — not impossible, but long. There are not a lot of publishers of short fiction looking for stories of that length. The average is 5,000 or 6,000 words. Fortunately, Murderous Ink Press puts out anthologies of crime fiction, and they wanted to publish it. It was just kind of dumb luck.



Have you ever used Beacon as backdrop for a story?

I've started poking around with an idea because I realized that it might be nice to do something [about a place] I didn't have to thoroughly research! The story is inspired by a crime that occurred about 20 years ago in Poughkeepsie involving a kickback scheme. I've fictionalized it, but it's modeled after Beacon with the names of every location changed so I won't get myself in too much trouble. Nobody who is a public official in Beacon should think that it's in any way a reflection on their good character. It's just the setting, modeled on the place I know best.

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

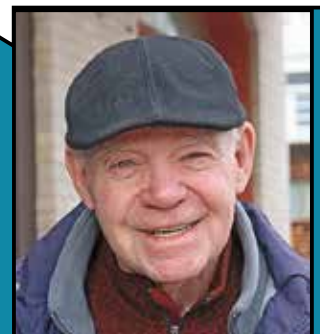
Do you have a spring ritual?

"I love picking berries — strawberries, raspberries and blackberries!"



Maddy Toland, Beacon

"Spring training every year since Ted Williams managed the Senators in '72, but not this year due to the strike."



Mike Cullinan, Cold Spring

"Napping in my hammock; I keep one in the trunk of my car."



Isabela Leon-Ferrer, Beacon

HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER

Fri. Apr 1 – 7 PM
LIT LIT, hosted by DONNA MINKOWITZ
FREE - donnaminkowitz.com/lit-lit

Sat. Apr 2 – 8 PM
SMART MOUTH
A Three-Headed Comedy Tour
Tix: howlandculturalcenter.org



Sun. Apr 3 – 4 pm
NEW YORK POLYPHONY
Howland Chamber Music Circle presents
four-man vocal chamber ensemble
Tix: howlandmusic.org

Sat. Apr 9 – 8 PM
SERIOUS. COMEDY THEATRE presents
COMEDY VARIETY SHOW
featuring Joey Dardano
Tix: howlandculturalcenter.org

Sat. Apr 16 – 1 to 5 PM
ART SHOW "Farm to Table:
The Bounty of Beacon and Beyond"
Continues most weekends through May 29



AND MORE
Apr 5: Women in Business panel
RSVP bit.ly/BustingBarriers

Follow our web media for more info and updates

VAX: Gallery w/mask + Concerts for vaccinated persons w/proof

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Nelsonville's Lost Park?

Lawsuit claims village owns parcel approved for home

By Leonard Sparks

One fact is indisputable about 13 Gate House Road in Nelsonville: 35 years ago, Harold Lyons applied to the Planning Board to subdivide a parcel into four lots, with one designated for use as a public park.

Whether the village ever took or rescinded ownership of the park is at the heart of a lawsuit filed March 23 by the owner of a neighboring property.

Marc Kushner, who lives on Wood Avenue, claims in documents filed in state court that the ongoing construction of a 5,870-square-foot residence on the Gate House Road site is illegal because the

parcel is restricted to use as a village park.

Kushner is disputing a determination by Planning Board Chair Steve Marino that Nelsonville refused to accept the property from Lyons. Kushner said he and his attorney could find no record of the Village Board taking a vote on the matter.

Along with Marino, the lawsuit, filed in Putnam County Supreme Court, names the village and Planning Board; John Duggan, who paid \$275,000 for the Gate House Road parcel in December 2018; and William Bujarski, who as Nelsonville's building inspector issued a construction permit.

Kushner is asking a judge to prohibit further construction and rule that the restriction can only be removed by a vote of the Village Board and the consent of the people who own houses on the three resi-

dential lots created by Lyons' subdivision.

The roots of the dispute date to 1987, when Lyons, said Kushner, received approval from the Planning Board to subdivide 9.44 acres used for his soil-mining operation into four lots: three residential and a fourth of 4.84 acres "proposed as open space for parks and playground."

The property at 13 Gate House Road was designated as a "reserve area," according to a map filed with the Putnam Clerk's Office on June 9, 1987. The minutes for the May 21, 1987, meeting of the Planning Board cited Lyons' request for the subdivision, pending the payment of fees and transfer of the title. Lyons provided \$4,500 to be held in escrow.

Kushner said in the lawsuit that while it appears the deposit was returned to Lyons, it is unclear if a deed for the parcel was ever given to the village. However, he noted that the 1991 master plan references village ownership "a 4-acre tract near Wood

Avenue to be developed for a village park."

Kushner said that while then-Mayor William Merando wrote Lyons in March 2000 to tell him that Nelsonville was unable to accept the lot to create a park, he could find no record of the Village Board formally rejecting the gift.

On June 24, 2021, in a letter addressed to "whom it may concern," Marino, the Planning Board chair, said the property "is considered a buildable, residentially-zoned vacant lot."

He acknowledged the existence of the 1987 subdivision map but described it as "preliminary" and said the village had later deemed the property "undesirable and unacceptable for use as a park." He added that the Planning Board would work with its owner to file an amended map without the "reserved area."

A day later, Bujarski issued a building permit. Construction began in August, said Kushner.

Pirate Fest Decamps from Graymoor

Discouraged by zoning and pushback in Philipstown

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

After encountering zoning obstacles and pushback from residents who feared being besieged by visitors, the lords and ladies of Kingdom Faire last week dropped plans for a nine-week-end carnival at Graymoor in Garrison and decamped to Putnam Valley.

Billed as a family-friendly festival featuring "royalty and rogues," Kingdom Faire Pirate Haven had intended to use the mountaintop home of the Friars of the Atonement, a Catholic religious order, each weekend from April 30 through June 26.

Kingdom Faire's program includes a play and other performances, storytelling, face painting and hair braiding, games, jugglers, craft-makers, vendors, food and other activities and entertainment for would-be pirates or aristocrats and yeomen who are encouraged to arrive in costume.

When tickets became available online, Philipstown officials noted that Graymoor's zoning — institutional conservation — does not allow outdoor events without a permit from the Planning Board or, in some cases, the Town Board.

Supervisor John Van Tassel said he learned of Kingdom Faire's plans shortly before tickets went on sale March 5 and that he and other town officials met with representatives of the parent company, Megara, which also operates an annual Harvest on the Hudson and a Yuletide Faire.

"That size of an event in that location would've been very difficult to manage," Van Tassel said. Before issuing a permit, the town would want to scrutinize traffic flows and any structures that would be put up, he said. He invited Megara to submit plans, "but obviously the timing doesn't work for that for this year."

Some residents objected on social media or in emails sent to Kingdom Faire. "It looks like we were all blindsided by the pirate fair," one wrote, in a message Megara shared with *The Current*. "We don't have

to let it take place at all, but time is getting short. I have some firsthand knowledge about engaging large 'forces' with limited resources. Of course, I don't mean violently, but many of the same strategies work for pacifists as well."

Another note provided by Megara called the fair "a disgrace, an outrage, and shame on Graymoor for leasing land" for "lurid acts, a mermaid show with mermen, too, knife-throwing, whip-cracking, fire-breathing, sword-fighting mayhem, etc. By featuring 'Satanic-lite' titillating shows, the promoters are offering entertainment that should not be at this location" and could draw "as many as 6,000 [visitors] per day."

The company described the emails as "typical of the tone and content of comments we've received" or were voiced "in numerous phone calls to the friars," who were "supportive of us through this entire process and have been the subject of harassment for that." Some opponents even "called the friars 'demonic' for their willingness to partner with us and host our event," Megara stated.

Graymoor did not respond to inquiries.

Megara said that "we were excited about sharing our artistic programs with the community" at Graymoor but were "shocked by the opposition raised by a small group of individuals within and outside of Philipstown." Some used "uncivil and hostile" language that "made members of our staff and partners fear for their safety" and



"Professional water artists" perform a mermaid show as part of Kingdom Faire.

Kingdom Faire

"made some feel the opposition may have been based on biases around race, gender and religion," the organization said.

On March 24, Megara announced it would move the event to a site in Putnam Valley about 2 miles from the Jefferson Valley shopping mall, where parking and a shuttle will be available.

"We are so excited to be working with Kingdom Faire to bring new arts, experiences, business and tourism to the community and region," said Jacqueline Annabi, the Putnam Valley supervisor. Tracey Walsh, Putnam County's tourism director, said she was "thrilled to have a new family-friendly festival finding a home in Putnam County."

The HIGHLANDS Current PODCAST

In a new episode, Arts Editor Alison Rooney speaks with Peter Ullian, a Beacon writer whose short story, "The Sun Sets on the Hall of Justice," is included in an anthology of crime fiction, *Say What Now?* published by Murderous Ink Press as part of its Crimeucopia series.

Visit highlandscurrent.org/podcast



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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Big cats

I enjoyed reading Brian PJ Cronin's *Out There* column on "ghost cats" in the Highlands (March 25).

He wrote: "You didn't just see a mountain lion — probably." Probably not, but there are bobcats in our midst. Motion-sensing cameras captured them on my neighbor's property, not 50 yards west of Route 9, taking a stroll in March and June 2021. These are not oversized house cats — believe me, I have three of those! My wife, who is an early riser, also saw a large cat strolling the edge of our lawn in the morning twilight in February. Maybe it's the same animal. There is no mistaking: The tail tells the tale.

The community should be aware that bobcats wander our more rural (and not-so-rural) areas in Philipstown, so we can act accordingly in terms of their safety and the safety of domestic animals.

Bruce Kapler, *Garrison*

Here's a video from June 2021 of a bobcat in our yard for Mr. Cronin. (Not a housecat.) We often hear them in the woods above our house. They had been noisily active at night for a couple of weeks before.

Michael Emerson, *Philipstown*

Editor's note: We have posted the videos with the story at highlandscurrent.org.

Urban renewal

Thank you, Leonard Sparks, for your comprehensive article about how urban renewal affected the community, my family and me ("Urban Renewal Revisited," March 25). The repercussions have lasted until this very day.

We had the best real-estate land in Beacon, as we overlooked the Hudson, like the Roosevelt and Vanderbilt estates in Hyde Park. Now pricy condos and apartment buildings fill the area and what we knew as the West End exists no more. Our project hopes to rekindle the memories of the West End and why we must never forget our history and where we came from.

Connie Perdreau, *Wappingers Falls*

"Urban removal" was not a well-conceived idea for Beacon or Newburgh. Destroying neighborhoods and history did nothing positive except for the insiders who scooped up properties that they knew were to be included and made a handsome profit on their destruction.

Connie's house is where my father grew up. It belonged to his grandmother who, at one time, owned multiple properties on the west end, including the large house where the high-rise is now. I spent a lot of time at my grandmother's house on Tulley Place.

That street doesn't exist anymore. It went from Dennings Avenue by the Delamaters' house down to Hudson Avenue, where the Laurellis lived on the corner.

Change is not always positive, especially when there is money to be made.

Jim LaColla, *Spring Hill, Florida*

My parents bought the house at 3 Tulley Place from Jim's grandmother in 1961. We owned it until 1977, then urban renewal tore it down.

Julio Velazquez Jr., *Beacon*

Key Food

Everything about this is wrong ("Key Food Confrontation Proves Costly," March 25). The customer was causing problems at the business, not once, but several times. He appeared to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol. He kept his hand in his pocket, suggesting a weapon.

I feel what the worker did was warranted, if the article represents the facts. I would have done the same. The sad part is that the employee got arrested when the offender should have been. The company paid out. This is what they do to avoid further litigation and fees; I understand that. But it does not make it right. To reward this kind of behavior is wrong on so many levels.

Tony Bardes, *Cold Spring*

The video shows the customer carrying the half-gallon of milk, hemmed in by both Dabashi brothers in what appears to be a tight situation. It appears they are threatening him and he has no means of egress. The store employee from the other side of the aisle doesn't miss a beat, finishing his drink before stepping over the injured Medina. Curiously, most of what is reported about Medina is from interviews with the Dabashis and police reports. Why wasn't Medina interviewed for the story?

Tom Tannery, *Cold Spring*

The editor responds: We didn't interview Medina or Emad Dabashi or Moufaq Dabashi. Instead, we relied on hundreds of pages of court documents, including Medina's complaint and depositions given by both brothers, the Beacon police report and an interview with Junior Dabashi, who is a co-owner of the store.

Your article on the incident at Key Food is the most insensitive piece of reporting I have ever read. At first, I was extremely disappointed with your choice of photo, which was misleading visually and in its identification of the roles people played in the incident. But after I read the 475 pages of the court documents myself, I see which details and quotes you left out, which

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

makes this photo and article even more misleading and done for your own benefit to have something more “newsworthy,” as your reporter told the business owner and managers when he came to discuss why they had removed your newspaper box from the front of their store.

The rest of my letter to you outlining why this article was so poorly constructed has been posted on your website with the story, because you told me it was too long for print. Thank you for accepting it. I encourage your readers to read my letter in full, which outlines why I found your article so poorly directed.

Katie Hellmuth Martin, *Beacon*

Editor’s note: Our response is also posted with the story. When reporter Jeff Simms went to Key Food to discuss the published story (not the newspaper box), he did not say that we selected a photo or withheld facts to make it more “newsworthy.” It was already newsworthy, and we used a photo that best reflected the assault charge that was filed. Because of the article, Key Food removed our blue box from outside the store. For a list of other spots where you can pick up The Current, see highlandscurrent.org/locations.

Warner sisters

I enjoyed “Notable Women of Philipstown” (March 25). There are, however, other civilian women buried at West Point besides the Warner sisters, including Louisa Ferguson Weir, the wife of painter Robert Walter Weir, and their daughter, Louisa Weir Seymour, who was married to Gen. Truman Seymour. Robert Weir and Louisa and Seymour are all depicted in Thomas Rossiter’s painting, “Pic-Nic on the Hudson,” which hangs at the Julia Butterfield Memorial Library in Cold Spring.

May I exploit the mention of Julia Butterfield to add that 2023 will be the bicentennial of her birth? Let us have a stupendous village celebration!

Rena Corey, *Cold Spring*

Maggie Dixon, the beloved coach of the Army women’s basketball team, was bestowed the honor of a West Point burial when she died at 28 in 2006. Her final resting place is near the Old Cadet Chapel, where you can also find the gravesites of football great Glenn Davis and the legendary coach Red Blaik.

Veronica Rivera, *Cold Spring*

Fjord Trail

How about they fix the parking situation on Route 9D before starting any new projects (“Fjord Trail Plan Draws Praise and Concern,” March 25)? And how about enforcing the current parking restrictions?

Robert Beyers, *via Facebook*

The parking situation is part of the plan and it’s already underway. Just adding the parking lot across from Little Stony Point has been a huge improvement.

Andrea Hudson, *via Facebook*

I greatly appreciated the front-page space you gave to the Fjord Trail presen-

Corrections

- A story that appeared in the March 25 issue stated that Central Hudson has asked the state Public Service Commission for approval to increase its electric and natural gas delivery revenue. In fact, the request was made by Con Edison. Central Hudson’s three-year rate plan was approved in November.
- In a story on notable women of Philipstown that appeared in the March 25 issue, the photos of Anna and Susan Warner were transposed. In addition, the sisters did not grow up on Constitution Island but moved there as teenagers, and Anna’s *Dollars and Cents* was fictionalized, rather than a memoir.
- In a story on urban renewal in Beacon that appeared in the March 25 issue, Diane Lapis was identified as the executive director of the Beacon Historical Society. In fact, she is the president. The story also should have noted that, along with 142 buildings, 205 homes and 30 businesses were removed. Finally, a post office was proposed but never built on the cleared parcels.
- In a story in the March 25 issue, we reported that construction of a Breakneck connector and a pedestrian bridge over the Metro-North tracks as part of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail is expected to be completed by late 2023 or early 2024. In fact, the expected completion date is late 2024 or early 2025.

tation, but the article did not adequately describe more of the comments and questions from the 50-plus people in the room, especially the ones which radically questioned some proposed aspects of this multi-million-dollar tourist attraction.

I believe there is widespread shock at the size of this project, how it will directly affect the village and local area, and the overall sense that it will bring more people to Philipstown and create more traffic and people problems than we have. This was articulated, as you noted, by Jack Goldstein, the chairman of the Cold Spring Planning Board. If a person of his stature and knowledge believes there are some profound issues with the Fjord Trail as planned, then we’d all better listen to his thoughts, which should, I believe, be further explored and detailed by *The Current*.

Additionally, the so-called main problem that the Fjord Trail presenters believe this project will address — dealing with cars, people and safety issues around Breakneck Ridge — contains a glaring and self-sabotaging contradiction. The plan calls for the continuation of parallel parking along the east side of Route 9D north of the tunnel.

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Voter Ups and Downs

The New York State Board of Elections last month released figures showing the number of active voters by location and party as of February. Compared to the figures for the presidential election of 2016, the number of voters jumped about 10 percent in Dutchess and Putnam. The number of registered Democrats grew by 20 percent in Dutchess, 22 percent in Beacon, 17 percent in Putnam and 25 percent in Philipstown. Registered Republicans increased by 3 percent in Dutchess and 5 percent in Putnam but fell 15 percent in Beacon and 3 percent in Philipstown. The figures do not include registered voters who had not cast a ballot in the previous two federal elections.

Changes in Active Voters

		Nov. 2016	Feb. 2022	% Change
DUTCHESS	Democrat	60,383	72,339	+ 19.8
	Republican	51,863	53,220	+ 2.6
	Conservative	3,619	3,755	+ 3.76
	Other*	11,898	11,481	- 3.5
	No Party	48,974	53,894	+ 10
	Total	176,737	194,689	+ 10.2
BEACON	Democrat	4,264	5,191	+ 21.7
	Republican	1,330	1,126	- 15.3
	Conservative	114	97	- 14.9
	Other*	549	537	- 2.2
	No Party	2,239	2,313	+ 3.3
	Total	8,496	9,264	+ 9
PUTNAM	Democrat	18,504	21,681	+ 17.2
	Republican	21,925	22,972	+ 4.8
	Conservative	1,930	1,740	- 9.8
	Other*	4,224	3,814	- 9.7
	No Party	16,311	18,639	+ 14.3
	Total	62,894	68,846	+ 9.5
PHILIPSTOWN	Democrat	2,762	3,443	+ 24.7
	Republican	1,678	1,623	- 3.3
	Conservative	163	129	- 20.9
	Other*	378	350	- 7.4
	No Party	1,744	1,884	+ 8
	Total	6,725	7,429	+ 10.5
STATEWIDE	Democrat	5,665,105	5,929,375	+ 4.7
	Republican	2,648,842	2,645,799	- 1.1
	Conservative	151,971	152,699	+ 4.8
	Other*	533,607	464,286	- 13
	No Party	2,476,908	2,713,757	+ 9.6
	Total	11,476,433	11,905,886	+ 3.8

Source: New York State Board of Elections

*Combined enrollment for smaller parties; some from 2016 no longer active in NYS in 2022

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 5)

There will be designated parking areas, such as at the old Dutchess Manor, which is great, but how can this idea of using Route 9D be anything other than a continuation of people doing back-parks and three-point turns along this busy roadway, along with many people crossing the highway, even with crosswalks?

This is not getting rid of our No. 1 safety problem. This part of the plan needs to be dropped immediately. The proposed Fjord Trail and the proposed Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival share one obvious and unfortunate thing in common: They are way too big for our beloved town, and will radically change the rural nature here, with untold additional numbers of people and cars coming to Philipstown.

Pete Salmansohn, *Garrison*

The Fjord Trail is going to be a wonderful addition to both Beacon and Cold Spring, but I am concerned about all of the parking that is being planned. I would very much like to see less parking and far more use of mass transit. Four hundred spots are too many and yet, still not enough — if you build it, they will come in far greater numbers than is comfortable and/or safe.

I would like to be able to drive on Route 9D the way I used to, and see no cars parked along its edge. Not only has that proven dangerous for pedestrians, but Breakneck Ridge could use a break (pun intended) from the trampling feet of thousands of tourists, who continue to cause a great deal of erosion and falling boulders.

I don't know why people wait in long lines to go up that trail when there are plenty of other places to explore, but a not-so-subtle way to discourage overuse is by reducing the amount of available parking.

Mary Fris, *Beacon*

Cold Spring policing

Cold Spring Trustee Eliza Starbuck's letter in the March 18 issue made me wonder how policing in the village compares to New York City. A few facts might enlighten this discussion:

■ Cold Spring has twice as many police officers and twice as many police vehicles per capita.

■ The village police budget is 17 percent of the total; the New York City police budget is 5.5 percent.

■ New York City police handle 160,000 major crimes a year. When an assault occurred on my property two years ago, it was immediately turned over to the Putnam County Sheriff's Department. Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke explained to me that the village police do not have the capacity, experience or expertise to handle major crimes.

■ Pre-COVID, the village police issued about 1,000 parking tickets a year. Given a roughly \$500,000 annual police budget, each ticket issued costs Cold Spring taxpayers about \$500.

■ Pre-COVID data provided by Burke showed that parking enforcement officers issue about 15 times more tickets per hour worked than police officers, and the police officers are paid about three times as much per hour. Simple math suggests that parking enforcement officers are 45 times more cost-effective addressing parking issues.

At its March 16 meeting, the Village Board discussed how to hide the cost of police body cameras in the fund balance and use a five-year payment plan so it doesn't look like it will spend \$50,000 (or roughly 10 percent of the police budget) on them.

These facts beg the question: Do we need twice as many police officers per capita as New York City? Is the Village Board being fiscally responsible with our tax money?

Bill Pugh, *Cold Spring*

My letter on the cost of policing in Cold Spring prompted responses that I'd like to address. (In that letter and this one, I speak only for myself and not for any other village trustee.) Village property taxes pay for many vital services, most of which are underfunded. In the draft budget for 2022-23, totaling nearly \$2.7 million, policing absorbs about \$500,000, despite a scarcity of serious crime. According to the village's memorandum of March 23, 2021, on the New York State Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative, our officers' top tasks involve parking violations, calls for service that are mostly requests to aid in emergencies outside the village, traffic violations and false alarms.

Cold Spring's taxpayers lose out in two ways: (1) We receive no compensation for the many requests to aid responders in other jurisdictions, and (2) Despite having our own police, we still pay county taxes to help fund the Sheriff's Department, which can respond to any emergency in the village and is better equipped than the Cold Spring Police Department. Cold Spring taxpayers fund two local police forces, one of which it lends out for free and the other of which it fails to use fully.

To rectify this, the village should start now with the budget. We should base the CSPD's 2022-23 allocation on recent actual expenditures (such as the \$380,000 spent in 2020-21), without an exaggerated cushion. Second, the village could ask Philipstown and Nelsonville to pay for the services that the CSPD provides in their jurisdictions, as they do for the Cold Spring Fire Co.'s services.

Alternatively, the village could limit our officers' duties to the boundaries of the village. We could also limit their duties to daytime hours and rely on the Sheriff's Department to handle overnight calls and patrols. Finally, we should ask the Community Stakeholders Police Review Group to work with the officer-in-charge to design monthly reporting that gives clearer data on when, where and how officers are needed. Requests from the police for more patrols or equipment could be evaluated against this data. Through steps like these, we can preserve safety while freeing up savings to plow into, say, our unsound dams.

Eliza Starbuck, *Cold Spring*

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No Drama Over Sheriff Fund Transfers

But questions arise about Putnam road patrols

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Sheriff’s Department internal fund transfers with no fiscal impact sailed through two Putnam County Legislature committees this month but raised questions about road patrols.

The endorsements by the Personnel Committee on March 8 and Audit Committee on Monday (March 28) clear the way for approvals from the entire Legislature, which meets Tuesday (April 5).

Legislators and Sheriff Kevin McConville explained March 28 that the transfers involve reassigning a patrol officer as a school resource officer (SRO) and placing a position in the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, not in an operations unit as previously listed.

At both sessions, Legislator Nancy Montgomery, who represents Philipstown and part of Putnam Valley, wondered about the

potential impact on road patrols.

“Did we go from six to five [patrols]?” asked Montgomery, the sole Democrat on the nine-member Legislature, on Monday.

McConville said the patrol officer needed to be reassigned as an SRO to cover for a school resource officer dealing with a medical condition.

The switch, effective through Dec. 31, requires moving \$10,280 from the road patrol line to the SRO line, according to committee documents. “Most, if not all, is reimbursable with the school system,” McConville told legislators. He did not identify the district.

Capt. Michael Grossi, who leads the Sheriff’s Department Civil Bureau, said on Wednesday (March 30) that the department is interviewing candidates for the Patrol Division.

“There has been no reduction in the currently budgeted patrols,” he said. When asked how many patrols there are and the number of deputies assigned to each, Grossi said that, because of concerns for deputies’ safety, the department “will never

disclose the deployment level of personnel.” However, he added, “residents, business owners and visitors should rest assured that sufficient patrols are always available.”

At the March 28 meeting, McConville said that a second transfer of \$127,102 reflects the recategorizing of the operations job as a Bureau of Criminal Investigation position.

The Personnel Committee considered the fund transfers on March 8. Montgomery and Legislator William Gouldman of Putnam Valley asked for more information but no Sheriff’s Department official was present to supply it.

Personnel Committee members suggested that McConville could provide answers 20 days later at the Audit Committee meeting.

“There needs to be an explanation to at least bring us up to speed as to why these changes are being made” by McConville, Legislator Ginny Nacerino of Patterson, a Personnel Committee member, acknowledged March 8. “But he runs his department as he sees fit and will make those changes as he sees fit and will make those changes to make his department more effective and

efficient, as he sees it. And he is in charge.”

“But we do have oversight,” Gouldman observed.

Montgomery reminded the Personnel Committee of the grilling then-Sheriff Robert Langley underwent when requesting authorization for similar internal fund transfers. In the November election, McConville, a Republican, defeated Langley, a Democrat (who like McConville and Montgomery lives in Philipstown).

During Langley’s tenure “very minor changes would get scrutiny from each and every member of this Legislature,” Montgomery said. “And it was never said that it was always the sheriff’s purview, that it’s his department, and he can do what he wants.”

Legislator Paul Jonke of Southeast, the head of the Personnel Committee, asserted that in Langley’s first year of office, he, too, “got a great deal of latitude from this Legislature. I want to give the same courtesy to the new sheriff.”

On Tuesday (March 29), Montgomery said the SRO “position swap is still not very clear” and that uncertainties also continue regarding road patrols. “It is my understanding that we’ve gone from six to five patrols,” she said.

Cold Spring Eyes 2 Percent Budget Hike

Also, pilot partnership with the Hub proposed

By Michael Turton

The Cold Spring Village Board inched closer to finalizing its budget for 2022-23 at its Wednesday (March 30) meeting, which lasted nearly three hours.

Minor revisions will likely be made to the spending and revenue plan at the board’s Wednesday (April 6) meeting and it will be reviewed at a public hearing scheduled for April 13 via Zoom.

The board can still make refinements after the hearing. Once adopted, the budget must be submitted to the state comptroller by May 1. The fiscal year begins June 1.

The general fund, which pays for virtually all operations except water and sewer (which are covered through user fees) is expected to be about \$2.69 million.

Under a state tax cap, the village can increase the tax levy for 2022-23 by up to 6.3 percent. The current proposed budget would require a 2.16 percent increase. Trustee Joe Curto said he would like see the increase kept to less than 2 percent, which Village Accountant Michelle Ascolillo said would require a \$3,500 decrease in spending or a similar increase in revenue.

The tentative budget calls for the water usage rate to increase 4.9 percent to 15 cents per 1,000 gallons, while sewage rates would increase by 10 percent to just over 11 cents per 1,000 gallons. Ascolillo noted that the fees have not been raised since 2004 and 2008, respectively. She said most village property owners would see an increase of about \$10 annually for water and the same for sewer.

Mayor Kathleen Foley commented that the village is experiencing the same cost increases that families are facing. The goal of this year’s budget process, she said, is “to keep taxes as low as possible, while maintaining sound operating practices.”

Foley addressed questions she said have been raised about pay increases for members of the Village Board (the mayor earns \$13,296, the deputy mayor \$8,677 and the three other trustees \$7,583 each). “For the record, there are none” planned, she said. “Increases are concentrated on staff.”

In response to a letter from former Trustee Marie Early, who questioned whether raises for staff are appropriate, Foley said that with \$15 million in assets, the village needs to be run like a small business and retain knowledgeable employees over the long term.

The budget includes \$6,500 to purchase four body cameras for the Cold Spring Police Department, although Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke’s request for secu-

rity cameras for the Cold Spring Dock, Mayor’s Park and the Metro-North pedestrian tunnel, areas prone to vandalism, was taken off the table.

Burke suggested that the money that might have been used for cameras instead fund a program in which the Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub provides resources to officers when they encounter residents suffering from mental health issues or drug and alcohol addiction who are now taken to Putnam Hospital in Carmel.

The mayor and trustees were supportive and added \$8,500 to the budget as seed money for the initiative. The village cannot donate funds to a nonprofit such as the Hub, but it can contract for services.

Short-term rentals

■ Board members recently met with the village attorney to discuss possible revisions to short-term rental regulations, which Foley called “a mess.” One shortcom-

ing, she said, is that the Police Department is responsible for enforcement. “It is a civil matter, not criminal,” she said. Curto said he will rescind his permit to operate an STR so he can be take part in discussions.

■ Foley said the heavy stone driveway at Dockside Park is a temporary measure to prevent trucks and heavy equipment from causing damage while the state completes its shoreline protection project. A pedestrian path will replace the driveway, and vehicles will not be allowed in the park. She said the state doesn’t share village concerns over the impact of a boat launch proposed for the north end.

■ Royal Carting, which recently took over collection of trash and recyclables, will deliver garbage bins on April 9 and recycling bins on April 16. Residents will be able to discard their current bins in a dumpster at the Highway Department. Yard waste will be collected on April 14 and 28 and must be in paper bags.

For more news from the Village Board, see highlandscurrent.org.

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

PUTNAM COUNTY				
Number of cases:	Tests administered:	Cases per 100K, 7-day average:	Percent vaccinated:	Number of deaths:
23,550 (+86)	420,246 (+2,721)	12.4 (+4.2)	82.3 Cold Spring (10516): 93.4 Garrison (10524): 86.1	121 ⁽⁰⁾
DUTCHESS COUNTY				
Number of cases:	Tests administered:	Cases per 100K, 7-day average:	Percent vaccinated:	Number of deaths:
63,785 (+157)	1,304,467 (+9,496)	7.6 (+0.3)	76.8 Beacon (12508): 71.6	655 ⁽⁰⁾

Source: State and county health departments, as of March 30, with change over the previous week in parentheses. Percent vaccinated reflects those ages 5 and older who have received at least one dose.



Keep Cats Indoors

Domestic cats make wonderful companions and pets, but when allowed to roam outside, they are the greatest human-caused source of mortality to birds.

Cats now function as introduced predators in many different habitats across the world. When outside, cats are invasive species that kill birds, reptiles, and other wildlife. Because most cats—whether feral or owned by humans—receive food from people, they also exist in much higher concentrations than wild felines do. But despite being fed, they kill wild birds and other animals by instinct.

There are now over 100 million free-roaming cats in the United States; they kill approximately 2.4 billion birds every year in the U.S. alone, making them the single greatest source of human-caused mortality for birds.

Free-roaming cats also spread diseases such as Rabies, Toxoplasmosis, and Feline Leukemia Virus, and face many more threats like vehicles and predators. Living outdoors shortens a cat's lifespan to just 2-5 years, whereas indoor cats can live to be 17 and beyond.

The easiest way you can help prevent needless bird deaths and keep you and your pet safe is by keeping your cat indoors.

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Zeebuffo *(from Page 1)*

the meantime, I'm writing about the pros and cons of being born April 1. Many years after he died, my mom told me that my dad asked the doctor to change my birth certificate by a day. He didn't want me to endure a lifetime of bad jokes and pranks. I thought it was cool that he tried.

Truthfully, I've had little to endure beyond grade school, where the wittiest comment was always, "The joke was on your parents!"

When my sons were 4 and 7, they brought me a birthday breakfast in bed. How loving, I thought! But their giggling and squirming betrayed the conspiracy as they handed me my morning coffee, laced with salt, and a doughnut with Elmer's Glue-All for icing. I admired the attempt and escaped unsalted and unglued.

I was less lucky later. They placed an egg in each of my shoes. They were not hard-boiled.

While working at the Conservation Authority in Ontario years ago, I was aware of the "surprise" birthday cake and all hands gathering in the boardroom. We did that for everyone. My colleague Ava had baked the cake, and bursting with pride, handed me the knife to cut the first slice. It didn't cut easily but I didn't want to embarrass Ava, so I tried harder. No dice. The cake was a perfectly shaped sponge — with great icing. We had a hearty laugh at my expense.

Since then, I have tried to turn the tables, being the prankster rather than the pranked.

One year, I sent a very serious email to my seven siblings and my sons, explaining that my parents and I had kept a secret for many years; I was actually born Feb. 29, but mom and dad didn't want me to have a real birthday every four years, so they let on that I was born April 1.

My younger sister Penny totally bought it. She was *so* happy for me for having shared a secret with our parents for so long. When Drew, my older son, was also buying into the tale, his kid brother, Blair, wisely told him to note the date I had sent the email.

I've also pranked readers here in New York.

Ten years ago, I wrote in this paper about a runaway Russian spacecraft that dumped its fuel on the surface of the full moon, leaving a distinct streak across it that lasted only seconds. A Philipstown woman, I reported,




The logo for a zeebuffo ranch being proposed in Garrison.

Illustration by Scott Emerling

won a major national award for being the only civilian to capture the streak in a photo. At least one reader figured out that the name I gave the Russian spaceship, лунный розыгрыш, translated as "moon hoax."

Perhaps my best work was a story during the Hudson River Quadricentennial about a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' plan to dam the river, drain it and call for volunteers to reclaim, among other things, a cargo of antique toys from a ship that sank off Bannerman's Island in the late 19th century. When an antique dealer told me he hoped to acquire some of the toys, I knew I had done my job.

 As a fact-driven journalist who serves highly intelligent readers, I can assure you this column is totally truthful.

The origin of April Fool's Day may date to 1582, when France abandoned a calendar that began in April, and adopted the Gregorian calendar, with the year beginning Jan. 1. Legend has it that those who were slow to adapt became the butt of jokes. Reports that the whoopie cushion was invented around that same time are suspect; it's probably much older.

As a fact-driven journalist who serves highly intelligent readers, I can assure you this column is totally truthful. Now, I'm off to celebrate my birthday at Doug's Pretty Good Pub, where the zeebuffo burgers are free until 8 p.m.



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Reporter's Notebook

Seeking Diversity and Tolerance

Lack of understanding from classmates, instructors

By Nix Spodek

I was in third grade when, come December, my teacher distributed a large packet to the class called something like “Holidays Around the World.” Naively, I thought the packet would be as described — that I would learn about new customs and holidays from around the world.

But as my classmates and I started flipping through the pages, learning about the customs of various countries, my hopes were dashed. This 30-some page packet contained information about how Christmas is celebrated around the world, rather than the multitude of other holidays that its name implied. There were two measly pages about holidays other than Christmas — Hanukkah and Kwanzaa. I remember sitting in a circle on the blue rug of my classroom, scowling at my packet as the teacher rambled on to us about putting coal in children's shoes.

Six years later, there continues to be a lack of recognition of religious diversity in our public schools.



“Muslim holidays don't get celebrated in school,” said Sarah Jafar, a Beacon High School ninth grader. “People don't get educated about them. They aren't on the school calendar, so we don't get days off for them.”

Jafar said that she has reached out to Superintendent Matt Landahl and the Beacon school board to discuss giving students days off for Eid-al-Ftr, the end of Ramadan, and Eid-al-Ahda, the second of two official holidays in the Muslim year. This year, Eid-al-Ftr begins in the evening of May 1, a Sunday, and ends 24 hours later. Eid-al-Ahda begins on July 9 and ends on July 13.

Landahl said this week that it would be challenging, given the snow days already built into the calendar, to add more days off, “as New York has student time requirements that have to fit between Labor Day and the Regents exams in June.” But he pointed to the “long overdue and incredibly important” declaration of Juneteenth, to mark the emancipation of enslaved African Americans, as a national and state holiday as a sign that change can happen.

Still, “we have a day off for Columbus Day, to celebrate someone who walked into a country and committed mass genocide,” Jafar said.

According to the Public Religion Research

Institute, Dutchess County scores 0.8 out of 1 when it comes to religious diversity. A score of 1 would mean that every religious group is equally represented within the county's population. Dutchess has higher than average diversity, but we still see issues of intolerance frequently.

Thomas Burns, a global studies teacher at Beacon High School, told me that “bullying based on religion is kind of a non-issue now.” But after asking 21 high school students in the Highlands, 14 said that they believe it is still an issue, six said they were unsure and one felt it is not an issue. Not everyone sees the issue and how prevalent it is, which is why I feel it's important to shed light on what's happening — or what isn't.

“All too often, people make ignorant or hateful comments directed at those from cultures different than their own.”

All too often, people make ignorant or hateful comments directed at those from cultures different than their own, and it's especially common within the public schools. For example, Sikhs don't cut their hair, which includes shaving. Avneet Kaur, another Beacon ninth grader, said that she often feels self-conscious when wearing shorts because of the weird looks and comments she hears.

“Someone once asked me if I shaved my legs.

I told them no, but it was a weird question to ask someone you don't know,” she said. “They then added, ‘No offense, but you're really hairy.’ Even without the looks, I feel self-conscious about it because I feel so different, and not in a good way.” Kaur said that she wishes there was more education and awareness about religions such as Sikhism, so people would be less ignorant when it comes to minority students.

I believe that a lack of education is how hate and ignorance begins. Before taking Mr. Burns' global studies class this year, I don't recall learning about other religions in school. The lack of diversity in our curriculum breeds ignorance and fuels a sense of “otherness” from a young age. By the time we reach high school and learn about different cultures and faiths, the habits bred from ignorance have become just that — habits. And habits can be hard to break.

Just three months ago, we left for winter break with a “Merry Christmas” and that was that. But on Jan. 27, Holocaust Remembrance Day came and went, without so much as a hint that anyone remembered. We still have no days off for the Muslim holidays, and they are unmarked on the school calendar. Walking through the hallways of Beacon High School, I hear a kid in front of me make predictable, but hurtful, Nazi “jokes,” while Sarah Jafar must tolerate myriad Muslim terrorist “jokes.”

Spodek is a ninth grader at Beacon High School and a member of The Current's Student Journalists Program.



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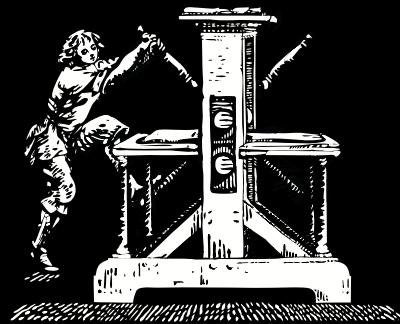
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AROUND TOWN



A RETURN TO BATTER DAYS

The Little Stony Point Citizen's Association hosted its first unencumbered Maple Syrup Day in three years on Sunday (March 27) and had a record turnout. There were free pancakes, local syrup, coffee and hot chocolate, plus live music and children's activities. The event was canceled in 2020 and last year served only snacks.

Photos by Ross Corsair



Taconic Outdoor Education Center
Park & Rec Aide 6, Foodservice Position

The following position is located at 75 Mountain Laurel Lane, Cold Spring NY 10516 in the Taconic Region of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

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TO APPLY: Complete a NYS OPRHP Employment Application, available in all park offices or online at <https://parks.ny.gov/documents/employment/FillableUpdatedParksEmployeeApplicationS1000Part1Taconic.pdf>. Please submit application and/or resume to john.stowell@parks.ny.gov. All qualified persons are invited and encouraged to apply. If you have any questions regarding this position, please contact John Stowell via email or at 845 265 3773.

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New Leaf Restoration, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Philipstown. New Leaf Restoration's mission is to establish an intergenerational, collaborative garden and community resource at the intersection of Routes 9D and 403 in Garrison.
For more information, visit newleaf-restoration.org.

The Calendar



Harpist Maeve Gilchrist (Aug. 14)



Samara Joy (June 16) Photo by Shervin Lainez



Cellist Soo Bae & pianist Mia Chung (April 24)



Damn Tall Buildings (May 13)

The Doors Open at Chapel Restoration

Full calendar of live events planned for summer, fall

By Alison Rooney

The two years in which the doors were closed were not idle ones for the volunteers who run the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring.

Bekah Tighe, a former board member, is now president, overseeing the serene site, which has been a Hudson River landmark since it was built in 1833 in Greek Revival style. As the first Catholic Church north of Manhattan, it initially served West Point Foundry workers and their families.

After it was abandoned in 1906, the weather, fire and other elements took their toll and by 1970, it was in ruins. A group led by Academy Award winner Helen Hayes worked to restore it.

Tighe detailed some of what's been going on, behind the scenes, since the closure.

"We collaborated with the Howland Cultural Center [in Beacon] and the Newburgh Chamber Music Society in an online concert series, AliveMusica, and worked on planning for upcoming events," she says. "Unfortunately, though we had a great lineup, a lot of events didn't happen because of the COVID-19 waves."

"Last year we thought of bringing back outdoor concerts, but then came the [omicron] surge," she says. "It became hard to commit when the amount of work we have to do to keep the outdoors safe is significant. We're determined to have more outdoor events and to make those events safe for the community."

"During COVID, we were able to have the exterior painted, and a lot of trim work repaired," Tighe says. "We also redesigned

our website, with a focus on events."

Wish-list items include better lighting for concerts, and having the interior, with its high ceilings, painted. "This will be a big job," she said. "It needs to be done perfectly to ensure [the space] keeps its pristine beauty."

As an all-volunteer endeavor (with the exception of one paid worker who supervises the many weddings), "if we have 20 events, we're spread thin," she says. "It's the 50th anniversary of Helen Hayes' efforts, and that's served to remind us we will have more to do — for the community, the buildings and the grounds."

Tighe, who grew up in the area, has warm memories of the Chapel Restoration. She recalls attending holiday concerts at which each child received a lit beeswax candle. "It was just gorgeous," she says. Tighe was married in the Chapel and later joined the board because, she says, "I just felt a connection, always. It is a place which can be anything people want it to be. Though it's not a church, it can be an inspiring place, or simply a place of beauty."

The 2022 season, so anticipated, will open at 4 p.m. on Sunday (April 3) with a reading by poet Jeffrey McDaniel, a Cold Spring resident who teaches at Sarah Lawrence College. Expect a vivid combination of content and delivery, animating the usually quiet space, with its rows of pews, light streaming in, and double doors which open onto a portico facing the river.

The event is part of the Sunset Reading Series, organized by Tighe and documentary filmmaker Ivy Meeropol, which has brought many notable writers to Cold Spring. "We love when Jeff reads," Tighe says, "because his writing is great, but he's also such a great performer. The wine and

cheese socializing on the portico after Jeff's readings is always lively."

McDaniel will be followed by the prolific novelist and critic, and National Book Award finalist, Francine Prose on May 1. Prose's latest novel, *The Vixen*, published last year, is loosely based on the case of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg — Meeropol's grandparents and the subject of one of her films — who were executed in 1953 after being convicted of spying for the Soviet Union.

On April 24, classical music returns with the first concert in the Sunday Music Series with Soo Bae on cello and Mia Chung on piano performing Brahms' *Cello Sonata No. 2 in F Major* and *Cello Sonata No. 1 in E minor*. The series, organized by Barbara DeSilva, has been going strong for two decades, and the monthly concerts will run through November.

Along with performances from the traditional classical repertoire, a program with classical guitar coupled with flamenco dance is scheduled for June 5, and, on June 26, the Bohemian Trio, featuring Yosvany Terry (saxophone), Yves Dharamraj (cello) and Orlando Alonso (piano) will play pieces that originated in Cuba and the Americas. On Aug. 14, Celtic harpist Maeve Gilchrist, who lives in Cold Spring, will perform selections inspired by Edna St. Vincent Millay's poem, "The Ballad of the Harp-Weaver."

The volume will get turned up for another music series, Restoration Roadhouse, which presents touring independent rock, blues, folk and bluegrass musicians. The series will make its 2022 debut on May 13 with Damn Tall Buildings, a Boston-based group described by *The Boston Globe* as "the Carter family for the millennial generation."

(Continued on Page 14)



The Chapel Restoration Photos provided



Bekah Tighe, pictured at The Chapel Restoration Photo by A. Rooney

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 2

Bake Sale for Ukraine

COLD SPRING

9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Foodtown
49 Chestnut St.

Local Ukrainians are raising funds to buy lifesaving equipment to send to the country.

SAT 2

Garden Restoration

GARRISON

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. New Leaf
Routes 9D and 403

Help prepare the community garden for the 2022 season, which begins SAT 23. RSVP to info@newleaf-restoration.org.

SAT 2

Highland Lights

GARRISON

11 a.m. & 2 p.m. The Garrison
2015 Route 9 | highlandlights.org

Staff from the Processional Arts Workshop will lead sessions to create and build lanterns for a community celebration of light on SUN 17. This weekend will focus on ideas and wire frames. Also SUN 3, SAT 9, SUN 10. Registration, masks and proof of vaccination required.

THURS 7

PCBC Annual Meeting

COLD SPRING

7:30 a.m.
Taconic Outdoor Education Center
75 Mountain Laurel Lane
putnamcountybusinesscouncil.com

The Putnam County Business Council will honor Mark Snyder of Drug World, review its objectives and introduce new board members. *Cost: \$35*

TALKS AND TOURS

SAT 2

All About Eels

BEACON

11 a.m. Beacon Sloop Club
2 Red Flynn Drive
845-463-4660 | beaconsloopclub.org

Eels are an important part of the Hudson River ecosystem. Learn about them from Benjamin Harris of the state Department of Environmental Conservation and get involved with a community-monitoring project. *Free*

SUN 3

Exploring Clove Creek

PHILIPSTOWN

2 p.m. Hubbard Lodge | 2800 Route 9
putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

Lauren Martin will lead a creekside presentation about macro-invertebrates and their role in fresh water ecology. For ages 9 and older. Registration required. *Cost: \$5*



Easter Egg Hunt, April 9

TUES 5

Medicare 101

COLD SPRING

12:30 p.m. Via Zoom
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

John Bousquet of the Medicare Resource Group will cover how to apply, plan options and costs at this seminar hosted by the Butterfield Library.

TUES 5

Busting Barriers

BEACON

6 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | bit.ly/BustingBarriers

Beacon resident and financial advisor Lena Rizkallah has organized this Women in Business panel with Susan Johnson, owner of the Denning's Point Distillery; Tamar Vezirian, owner of Gotham Glow; Sam and Laura Abby, owners of The Studio; and Randy Patterson, CEO of ProDoula, who will share their experiences. Register online. *Free*

THURS 7

100 Years of Jewish Culture in Beacon

BEACON

4 - 6 p.m. Beacon Historical Society
61 Leonard St. | beaconhistorical.org

The Beacon Hebrew Alliance collaborated on this exhibit about Jewish contributions to the city, including by Samuel Beskin, a founding member of BHA and Beacon's second mayor. The exhibit includes stories, photos and artifacts, as well as a virtual walking tour.

COMEDY

SAT 2

Comedy Night

BREWSTER

6:30 p.m. Tilly's Table
100 Route 312 | 845-808-1840
tillystablerestaurant.com

Joey Kola will be joined by Tim Gage and Evan Weiss. Tickets include a buffet dinner. Ages 21 and older. *Cost: \$45*

SAT 2

All-Star Comedy Night

BEACON

6:30 p.m. Memorial Building
413 Main St. | 845-337-6509

Gene Trifilo and Jeff Norris will hold the stage in this benefit for Guardian Revival Boots & Paws, which provides veterans with trained companion dogs and veterinarian coverage and food for one year. Call for tickets. *Cost: \$30*

SAT 2

Smart Mouth Comedy Tour

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org

The featured comedians will be Ophira Eisenberg, Christian Finnegan and Pete Dominick. *Cost: \$15 (\$20 door)*

FRI 8

Nate Bargatze

POUGHKEEPSIE

7 p.m. MJN Convention Center
14 Civic Center Plaza
midhudsonciviccenter.org

The comedian will perform his new material on The Raincheck Tour following his second Netflix special, *The Greatest Average American*. *Cost: \$36 to \$66*



SAT 9

Comedy Variety Show

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org

Joey Dardano, an actor, comedian and TikTok star, will be the featured performer. *Cost: \$20*

KIDS AND FAMILY

SUN 3

Young Writers Workshop

COLD SPRING

12:15 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Spring will be the focus of this all-ages program to engage the five senses and write and illustrate a book.

TUES 5

Poem in Your Pocket Day

COLD SPRING

3:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Teens will read and discuss poems by Mary Oliver, William Carlos Williams and others and write a poem to be presented on April 23 at an open mic. Other sessions will be offered for middle school and elementary students.

SAT 9

Grasshopper Grove Season Opening

CORNWALL

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Outdoor Discovery Center
120 Muser Drive
845-534-5506 x204 | hnm.org

SAT 9

Easter Egg Hunt

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. Tots Park
Children ages 8 and younger can search for eggs at this event organized by the Knights of Columbus. Bring a can of food for the Philipstown Food Pantry. The rain date is SAT 16.

SAT 9

Spring Egg Hunt

COLD SPRING

2 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org
Meet in the Reading Garden and bring a basket to collect eggs. Registration required. The rain date is SUN 10.

STAGE AND SCREEN

SUN 3

Jeffrey McDaniel

COLD SPRING

4 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.org

The Sunset Reading Series returns. The poet, who lives in Cold Spring, will read from his latest collection, *Holiday in the Islands of Grief*. Proof of vaccination required. *Free*

THURS 7

Vinny DePonto: Mind Reader

BEACON

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

The mentalist has performed on Broadway and television and won critical acclaim for his Off-Broadway show, *Charlatan*. *Cost: \$45 (\$50 door)*



FRI 8

South (1919)

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Via Zoom
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

For this installment of its Silent Film Series, the Butterfield Library will screen Frank Hurley's documentary in which he accompanied Ernest Shackleton and the crew of the *Endurance* on their famous Antarctic expedition.

FRI 8

Ariane Original One-Act Festival

GARRISON

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org

The program for the 10th annual festival will include *Double Date*, by Albi Gorn; *Ode to Flannery*, by Evelyn Mertens; *In This Waterfront*, by Nick DeSimone; *The Patronizers*, by Patrick J. Lennon; and *Coaching Mozart*, by Richard E. Knipe Jr. Also SAT 9, SUN 10. *Cost: \$20*

SUN 10

Poet's Corner

PUTNAM VALLEY

3 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org

Michael Steffen will read from his collection, *Blood Narrative*, followed by an open mic.

VISUAL ART

SAT 2

Make Art, Not Soup

PHILIPSTOWN

3 p.m. Magazzino Italian Art
2700 Route 9 | 845-666-7202
magazzino.art

Silvia Bottinelli of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University will discuss artists who reassemble images and objects to examine women's domestic work. *Free*

SAT 2
116th Annual Meeting
COLD SPRING
4:30 p.m. Putnam History Museum
63 Chestnut St.
putnamhistorymuseum.org

Baseball historian Bob Mayer will discuss the sport's legacy in Putnam County and attendees can tour the new community room and view a portrait exhibition by Annette Solakoglu, *Faces | Graces*. Join in person or via Zoom. *Free*

FRI 8
Jo Baer
BEACON
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Dia:Beacon
3 Beekman St. | 845-231-0811
diaart.org

The exhibit will feature the artist's early paintings from the 1960s and '70s. *Cost: \$15 (\$12 students, seniors and visitors with disabilities; members and ages 12 and younger are free)*

SAT 9
Original Species
BEACON
1 – 7 p.m. Garage Gallery
17 Church St. | garagegallery.com

Paintings by Laura Gurton and photographs by Daniel Kariko will be on view.

SAT 9
Cowgirls: Contemporary Portraits of the American West
BEACON
3 p.m. The Lofts at Beacon
18 Front St. | 845-202-7211
loftsatbeacon.com

Ronnie Farley, who photographed women who work as ranchers or on the rodeo circuit, will speak before a reception from 4 to 6 p.m.

SAT 9
The Transylvania Effect
BEACON
4 – 6 p.m. Bannerman Island Gallery
150 Main St. | 845-831-6346
bannermancastle.org

K.P. Devlin's surrealist paintings of moonlit scenes will be on display through May 29.



New York Polyphony, April 3

MUSIC

SAT 2
Tupelo Honey
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com

This Van Morrison tribute will include selections from his extensive songbook. *Cost: \$25 to \$35*

SAT 2
Joe Louis Walker
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The six-time Blues Music Award winner will perform songs from his most recent album, *Blues Comin' On*. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SAT 2
David Kraai
BEACON
9 p.m. Two Way Brewing Co.
18 W. Main St. | twowaybrewing.com

The country folk artist will perform songs from *North Mountain Rambling*.

SAT 2
The Freejays
BEACON
9 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St.
facebook.com/QuinnsBeacon

Nu Expressions is also on the bill.

SUN 3
New York Polyphony
BEACON
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | howlandmusic.org

In a performance sponsored by the Howland Chamber Music Circle, the vocal chamber ensemble will perform a repertoire ranging from Gregorian chants to modern compositions. *Cost: \$40 (\$10 ages 25 and younger)*

SUN 3
A Tribute to Connie Hogarth
BEACON
6:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

This musical celebration will remember the Beacon resident and "tireless champion for human rights and the environment." Dinner reservations required. *Free*

SUN 3
Queensryche
PEEKSKILL
7:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com

The band, which has 11 gold and platinum records, will perform new songs as well as its hits. Black Dawn and Hittman will open. *Cost: \$49 or \$79*

MON 4
Jazz Night
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St.
facebook.com/quinnsbeacon

Anna Webber, Tim Berne, Adam Hopkins and Tomas Fujiwara will perform. *Cost: \$15*

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

In full costume, the four-piece tribute band will perform Queen's hits and crowd favorites. *Cost: \$29 to \$89*

FRI 8
Pousette-Dart Band
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The 1970s hitmaker of American

music will perform with his band, including Jim Chapdelaine, Steve Roues and Eric Parker. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SAT 9
KJ Denhert
PUTNAM VALLEY
7:30 p.m.
Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org

The singer, songwriter and guitarist will play her signature style of urban folk and jazz with her band: Adam Armstrong, Eric Halvorson, Mark McIntyre and Nicki Denner. *Cost: \$20*

SAT 9
Lez Zeppelin
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com

The all-female quartet founded by guitarist Steph Paynes in 2004 will pay homage to Led Zeppelin. *Cost: \$20 to \$49*

SAT 9
Sawyer Fredericks Band
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The Americana singer and songwriter and winner of Season 8 of NBC's *The Voice* will perform music from his albums, including *Flowers for You*. Aria Anjali, a 13-year-old singer and songwriter, will open. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SAT 9
Johnny Dowd
BEACON
9 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St.
facebook.com/QuinnsBeacon

Tom Gogola's Midnight Cilantro will open.

SUN 10
Benefit for Ukraine
BEACON
6:30 p.m. Reserva Wine Bar
173 Main St. | reservabeacon.com

Hosted by Jen Malenke and Nicole Tori, this concert will include Broadway singers, international musicians and other local acts. Proceeds will benefit Razom for Ukraine.

SUN 10
David Jacobs-Strain and Bob Beach
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The slide guitar player and singer will share the stage with Beach on harmonica as they go through blues to "swampy" rock 'n' roll. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

CIVIC

MON 4
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-5011 | beaconnny.gov

MON 4
School Board
BEACON
7 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road | 845-838-6900
beaconk12.org

TUES 5
Putnam Legislature
CARMEL
7 p.m. Historic Courthouse
44 Gleneida Ave. | 845-208-7800
putnamcountyny.com

TUES 5
School Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Haldane | 15 Craigside Drive
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

WED 6
Board of Trustees
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

WED 6
School Board
GARRISON
7 p.m. Garrison School | 1100 Route 9D
845-424-3689 | gufs.org

THURS 7
Town Board
COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Town Hall | 238 Main St.
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com



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NOTICE OF ANNUAL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET, ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTION AND VOTE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District, Dutchess County, New York, will hold a public hearing on the budget at Beacon High School, 101 Matteawan Road, Beacon, New York, on Monday, May 9, 2022 at 7:00 P.M., for the purpose of presenting the budget document for the 2022-2023 School Year.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required for School District purposes during the 2022-2023 school year (the Budget), as prepared by the Board of Education, as well as the Exemption Report, listing every type of exemption granted, as provided in Section 495 of the Real Property Tax Law, may be obtained by any resident of the District during the fourteen (14) days immediately preceding the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, commencing May 3, 2022, except Saturday, Sunday or holidays during regular school hours, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., at each of the District's schoolhouses, at the Administrative Offices, and on the District's website.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 9:00 P.M., prevailing time, when the polls will be open for the purpose of voting by voting machine:

- A. To elect three (3) members to the Board of Education for three year terms (commencing July 1, 2022 and expiring June 30, 2025).
- B. To vote upon the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures for School District purposes for the 2022-2023 School Year (the Budget).
- C. To vote upon the following proposition: Shall the bond resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York, dated March 21, 2022 authorizing the purchase of school buses at a maximum estimated cost of \$546,000; authorizing the issuance of \$546,000 bonds of said School District to pay the costs thereof; and that such sum or so much as may be necessary shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable real property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided in Section 416 of the Education Law; and providing that, in anticipation of said tax, obligations of the School District shall be issued; determining the period of probable usefulness and maximum maturity thereof to be five years; pledging the faith and credit of said School District for the payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds; delegating powers to the chief fiscal officer with respect to the issuance and sale of bond anticipation notes and such bonds; containing an estoppel clause and providing for the publication of an estoppel notice, be approved?
- D. To vote upon the following proposition: Shall the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District be authorized to establish a capital reserve fund, to be known as the "2022 Facilities Capital Reserve Fund," for the purpose of appropriating sufficient funds necessary for the purpose of financing, in whole or in part, the cost of capital expenditures, including but not limited to: the construction and reconstruction of additions, renovations, refurbishments, replacements and/or repairs to its facilities, including original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith; as well as and to plan for future District-wide capital improvement projects and expenditures, in the ultimate amount not to exceed \$15,000,000 over a probable term of ten (10) years; and that such amount shall be raised from the unexpended and unencumbered general fund balance and such other available funds, of the Beacon City School District?
- E. To vote on any other proposition legally proposed.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that for the purposes of voting, the School District has been divided into two (2) election districts and that an accurate description of the boundaries of these school election districts is on file and may be inspected at the Office of the District Clerk on weekdays when school is in session, during regular work hours, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., at the Administrative Offices, 10 Education Drive, Beacon, New York.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the 2022 Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, will be held at the following polling places in the School Election Districts hereinafter set forth;

SCHOOL ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 1 / POLLING LOCATION: BEACON HIGH SCHOOL

Description: First Ward, First and Second Districts
Second Ward, First, Second, and Third Districts
Third Ward, First, Second and Third Districts
Fourth Ward, First and Second Districts

SCHOOL ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 2 / POLLING LOCATION: GLENHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Description:
Bounded on the north and east by Wappingers Central School District No. 1, Towns of Wappinger, Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, East Fishkill and LaGrange in Dutchess County and the towns of Kent and Philipstown in Putnam County; south by the common town line of the Towns of Fishkill and Wappinger and west by the Hudson River.

Bounded on the north by the common town line of the of Fishkill and Wappinger, east by Wappinger Central School District No. 1 in the Towns of Wappinger, Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, East Fishkill and LaGrange in Dutchess County and the Towns of Kent and Philipstown in Putnam County and Union Free School District No. 3, Town of Fishkill, south by Beacon City line and west by Hudson River.

Bounded northerly by former Common School District No. 4 in the Town of Fishkill and Wappinger, easterly by Central School District No. 1 in the Towns of Wappinger, Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, East Fishkill and LaGrange in Dutchess County and the Towns of Kent and Philipstown in Putnam County and Central School District No. 1 in the Towns of Philipstown and Putnam Valley in Dutchess County; southerly by Central School District No. 1 in the Town of Philipstown and Putnam Valley in Putnam County and the Town of Fishkill in Dutchess County; westerly by the Hudson River and the City of Beacon being the former Union Free School District No. 3 of the Town of Fishkill.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that petitions for nominating candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education must be filed with the District Clerk by no later than 5:00 P.M. on the 20th day preceding the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote Wednesday, April 27, 2022. Such petitions must be signed by at least one hundred (100) qualified voters of the District, shall state the name and residence address of each signer and the name and residence address of the candidate. Petition forms may be obtained at the Office of the District Clerk on weekdays when school is in session, during regular business hours, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. or they can be downloaded from the district website.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District, Dutchess County, New York, has fixed Tuesday, May 3, 2022, at the Administrative Offices, 10 Education Drive, Beacon, New York, as the date on which the Board of Registration of said School District will meet between the hours of 1:00 P.M. and 5:00 P.M., prevailing time, for the purpose of preparing the register of the School District for each election district for the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, to be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at which time any person shall be entitled to have his/her name placed upon such register if known or proven to the satisfaction of the registrars to be then or thereafter entitled to vote. Persons whose registration to vote with the County Board of Elections is current, pursuant to Article 5 of the Election Law, shall be qualified to vote without further registering with the School District's Board of Registration, as well as all persons who shall have previously registered for any annual or special district meeting or election and who shall have voted at any annual or special district meeting or election held or conducted at any time during the **2018, 2019, 2020 or 2021** calendar years.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the register of voters so prepared shall be filed in the Office of the District Clerk and shall be open for inspection by any qualified voter of the District between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., prevailing time, beginning fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote. Said register will be open for inspection in each of the polling places during the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots for the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote may be obtained at the Office of the District Clerk or downloaded from the school district website. The completed application must be received by the District Clerk no earlier than thirty (30) days prior to the election, and at least seven (7) days prior to the election if the ballot is to be mailed or the day before the election, if the ballot will be picked up at the Office of the District Clerk. The completed application can be sent by email, or delivered by a designated agent. Absentee ballots must be received at the Office of the District Clerk by no later than 5:00 P.M., prevailing time, on the day of the election. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available in the said Office of the District Clerk during regular office hours until the day of the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote. Any qualified voter may file a written challenge of the qualifications of a voter whose name appears on such list, stating the reasons for the challenge.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that a qualified military voter who is not currently registered can obtain a military personal registration form on the District's website, or from the District Clerk between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. A registered military voter may apply for a military ballot by requesting an application from the District Clerk in the same manner. Additionally, qualified military voters can contact the District Clerk to indicate their preference to receive a military personal registration form, absentee ballot application or absentee ballot via mail, facsimile or electronic mail. Ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on the date of the election and vote. Military voter registration and absentee ballots shall be administered in accordance with the provisions of Section 2018-d of the Education Law and Part 122 of the Commissioner's Regulations.

Dated: March 21, 2022 By the Order of the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District
Kelly Pologe, School District Clerk



Poet Jeffrey McDaniel (April 3)



Pianist Michael Davidman (May 15)

Restoration *(from Page 11)*

As with other Roadhouse performances, there'll be food and local craft beer for purchase; this date features Caribbean cuisine by Bazodee Street.

Restoration Roadhouse is run by Tighe and Sonia Rzyz-Ryski. To locate bands, they listen to a lot of music and keep an eye on who is opening for bigger-name acts they like. “We are often able to get them when they’re coming through this area en route to bigger concerts nearby,” Tighe says. “We pride ourselves on taking the time and energy to do the research. We think we have a good track record.”

Sunny War, described by National Public Radio as “a funk-punk phenom” with a “guitar style that has been compared to Robert Johnson,” has been booked for Sept. 16.

Another returning series is Jazz at the Chapel, though not much has been booked beyond vocalist Samara Joy, winner of the 2019 Sarah Vaughan International Jazz Vocal Competition, who will appear June 16. “Samara’s voice and her music seem to belong to all time, like she’s connected to the entire history of jazz all at once,” says jazz writer Will Friedwald.

Authors, poets, musicians and others who perform at the Chapel Restoration seem to enjoy their experience, Tighe says. “Many of them don’t know the location, and they inevitably are surprised and pleased when they get here,” she says. “A wonderful thing about performing here is the reader or the musician can look out at the river. And the acoustics are amazing. Really, no one’s ever disappointed.”

The Chapel Restoration is located at 45



Percy Jackson Book Club (Grades 5+)

MON 4, 4 P.M.
Percy Jackson and the Olympians, by Rick Riordan
Butterfield Library, Cold Spring
Register at butterfieldlibrary.org/calendar.

Fiction Book Club

THURS 7, 7 P.M.
The Beginning of Spring, by Penelope Fitzgerald
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring (via Zoom)
Register at splitrockbks.com.

Helen Savoit Book Club

TUES 12, 1:30 P.M.
Klara and the Sun, by Kazuo Ishiguro
Howland Public Library, Beacon
Meeting at Memorial Park
Email community@beaconlibrary.org.

Elementary Book Club (Grades 2-4)

MON 25, 3:15 P.M.
Wings of Fire, by Tui Sutherland
Butterfield Library, Cold Spring
Register at butterfieldlibrary.org/calendar.

Butterfield Book Club

MON 25, 7 P.M.
Poet Warrior: A Memoir, by Joy Harjo
Butterfield Library, Cold Spring
Email janedemic@butterfieldlibrary.org.

Middle School Book Club

WED 27, 3:30 P.M.
Bloom, by Kenneth Oppel
Howland Public Library, Beacon
Meeting at Memorial Park
Email community@beaconlibrary.org.

Beacon Book Club

THURS 28, 7:30 P.M.
Hamnet, by Maggie O'Farrell
Register at meetup.com/Beacon-BookClub.

Market St. in Cold Spring, adjacent to the Metro-North station, where parking is free on weekends. For a full calendar of events, see chapelrestoration.org. Most are free, although donations are welcome. Tickets for Restoration Roadhouse and Jazz at the Chapel concerts are \$25.

Mouths to Feed

Fresh Chowder

By Celia Barbour

Several months ago, my husband and I went to supper at the home of our friends, Kristen and Eric. It was a last-minute invitation, a just-the-four-of-us get-together on a wistful November evening. Though COVID's third wave had not yet gained force, we still felt keenly the preciousness of time with friends, and relished the chance for an evening in good company.

Our hosts insisted that the meal was humble, nothing splashy. But oh Lord, it blew me away: Salmon chowder, rich with corn, potatoes and bacon, served by firelight in lovely china soup bowls. It was so delicious and comforting, so just-what-the-doctor-ordered, that I felt as if I had spent the previous 18 months starving for that exact meal.

Eric (who'd cooked the chowder) wasn't wrong to stress the dish's humbleness. "Chowder is a staple dish — and ranks next to eggs as a makeshift meal for unexpected guests," wrote Mabel G. Hall in the 1930s, as part of the Work Progress Administration's Federal Writers' Project, *America Eats*.

It's worth noting that Hall was writing



from the coast of Maine, a place where every kitchen would have had a supply of salt pork, potatoes and onions at hand, and where, moreover, seafood could live up to her standard: "Served in any form [it] must be not more than six hours out of the water."

Despite the fact that chowder is arguably the quintessential New England dish, its exact origins are jumbled and vague. Some claim the name derives from a French word for a type of cauldron, *chaudiere*; others think it's from an old Celtic word for a fishmonger, *jowter*. It may have first been made at sea, on fishing boats, as some stories have it.

Others point out that chowder-like variations exist in almost every northern seaside culture. (Indeed, I grew up on an onion, potato, fish and milk soup that my mother had grown up eating in Finland, as had her mother before her.) Moreover, its quintessential ingredient, clams, were unfamiliar to America's colonizers until they learned about them from the natives, who had been making them into stews for millennia — minus dairy, which arrived with settlers.

Last weekend, I came home from the market with a particularly lovely piece of salmon. It was Alaskan King salmon, so I suspect it had spent a smidge more than six hours exiled from its watery home. Still, it seemed a fish worth honoring, so I pulled up the recipe I'd asked Eric to send me the day after our supper.

At first glance, it gave me pause: Cream, butter and bacon don't normally gallivant through my family suppers, let alone en masse. But then I did the math and realized that the total fat content per serving was less than a typical cheeseburger, so I sallied forth.

It's worth noting here that I was grateful for the advice of a fish-chowder expert who suggested that, while clam chowder improves with reheating, fish chowder does not, and in fact should be fished-up to order. In other words, make your soup base, then, in a separate pot, heat to simmering only as much as your group will eat at one sitting; add a proportionate amount of fish, cook until not-quite done, then add the cream. (The fish will continue cooking in the heat of the liquid.) If you want seconds, do it again.

And if you want a friend to feel utterly, deliciously cared for, as I felt in November, by all means do it for them.

Salmon and Corn Chowder

Adapted from *The Modern Proper*

Mince or grate one of the potatoes rather than dicing; as it cooks, it will dissolve and thicken the soup.



- 3 to 4 tablespoons butter, divided
- 1/3 pound bacon, cut into batons
- 3 stalks celery, minced
- 1 large or 2 small leeks, white and light-green parts only, sliced
- 1 jalapeno, minced
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 3 cups chicken or seafood stock
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1 1/2 pounds boiling potatoes, peeled and diced, with one potato grated (see headnote)
- Salt and pepper
- 2 cups frozen corn
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1 1/2 lbs. salmon, skinned and cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 to 3 tablespoons minced dill, parsley and/or chives for garnish

In a large, heavy stockpot, cook the bacon, stirring frequently, until crisp and golden. Using a slotted spoon, remove to a plate lined with paper towel and set aside. Discard all but 2 tablespoons of the bacon fat.

Melt 2 tablespoons butter with the bacon fat in the stockpot. Add the celery, leeks and jalapeno and cook, stirring regularly, until quite soft, about 8 minutes. Add the garlic and cook 2 minutes more. Add the stock, milk and potatoes, 2 teaspoons salt and 1/2 teaspoon pepper. Bring to a simmer and cook until the potatoes are nearly tender, 6 to 10 minutes (the exact time will depend on the freshness and variety of potato). Add the frozen corn and simmer 2 minutes more.

Transfer one-sitting's worth of this mixture to a smaller saucepan (see note in text), and heat until barely boiling. Add proportionate amount of fish, reduce heat, cover and cook until nearly done, about 5 minutes; add proportionate quantity of cream and heat just until simmering. Mix in a dollop of butter and serve at once, topped with fresh herbs.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Beacon School Bus Involved in Accident

Thirteen students OK; bus monitor taken to hospital

A Beacon City School District bus taking students to South Avenue Elementary was involved in an accident with a motor vehicle near Brockway Road and Route 9D around 8:20 a.m. on Thursday (March 31). There were 13 students on the bus at the time.

All students and staff were checked out by Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps EMTs at the scene and were reported to be OK. A bus monitor was taken to a hospital.

The students were checked again by district nursing staff when they arrived at South Avenue and no injuries were found.

Dutchess Proposes Cap on Gas Tax

Would limit sales tax to 8 cents per gallon

Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro on March 24 proposed that, in response to rising fuel costs, the local sales tax charged on gas be temporarily capped at 8 cents per gallon.

Dutchess collects 3.75 percent of each gas purchase, but state law allows counties to use a cents-per-gallon formula. For example, the county now collects 16 cents for each gallon sold at \$4.75; that would be capped at 8 cents per gallon.

The county Legislature is expected to consider the proposal, which has support from Republican and Democratic leaders, at its April 11 meeting. Any change would be effective June 1 and expire on Dec. 1, Molinaro said in a statement.

Other surcharges, including a federal tax, state tax, petroleum business tax, state sales tax and commuter tax, would remain unchanged, although state legislators are considering a plan to eliminate tolls during the summer on the state Thruway and/or reduce the 48-cents-per-gallon state tax on gas through the end of the year.

Dutchess Habitat Gets \$1.25 Million

Part of larger gift from billionaire

Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County received \$1.25 million this month and Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh was given \$2 million as part of a \$436 million gift to the national nonprofit by MacKenzie Scott, the ex-wife of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos.

Scott received \$38 billion plus a 4 percent stake in the company when the couple divorced in 2019. She has so far given away \$12 billion, including \$3.8 billion to 465 organizations in the past nine months.

Founded in Georgia in 1976, Habitat for Humanity constructs homes for lower-income families. Five New York affiliates received a portion of Scott's gift, including those in Buffalo, Suffolk County and Rochester. Dutchess Habitat is based in Wappingers Falls.



This rendering from a proposal by the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival for the former Garrison golf course shows the "welcome garden" and performance tent.

HVSF (from Page 1)

Removing plans for the indoor theater and hotel will reduce capacity "to a size that is truly comparable to what our operations have been at Boscobel for 35 years," said Katie Liberman, HVSF's managing director, in a statement. "This amendment ensures that there is no net increase of visitors in Philipstown on any given night. In fact, the new theater tent will have fewer seats than what we have had before," which was 535.

Along with a permanent outdoor tent, HVSF's long-term plans for the site include actors' housing; a 1,200-square-foot visitor center and box office; outdoor pavilion; 4,000 square-foot backstage structure with dressing rooms; paths; picnic lawns; a landscape with meadows, woods, parkland and wildflower gardens; parking; and reconfigured access to Snake Hill Road and Route 9, with a possible traffic light at their intersection. It also would retain The Garrison's restaurant and banquet hall.

If the Planning Board concludes the project will not have a negative impact on the environment, HVSF would need the Town Board to rezone the parcel for performances.

For more than 30 years, before philanthropist Chris Davis gave HVSF 98 acres of golf course land, HVSF rented the lawn at Boscobel in Garrison for its summer productions. While the Planning Board review continues, HVSF has asked Philipstown Supervisor John Van Tassel for

a permit to install its seasonal tent from Boscobel for the 2022 season, which starts July 15.

Asked on Tuesday for comment on the change in HVSF's plans, Neal Zuckerman, the chair of the Planning Board, said: "The Planning Board is committed to fulsome and transparent processes in the evaluation of applications — regardless of size — that come before it. A consistent attribute of those processes is accessible and encouraged input from the community. That is why we (a) took both Zoom and in-person comments and (b) had no time restrictions on individuals' comments. That the HVSF has responded to the voice of the community says that the Planning Board's processes work."



A daily oasis for National Poetry Month

The Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison and *The Highlands Current* are back with another year of *One Poem a Day Won't Kill You!*

Each day in April, a podcast recording will be posted at bit.ly/hear-poem-2022 featuring a community member reading a favorite published poem. The 2020 and 2021 selections are also archived at the site.

Submissions are still being accepted. Drop by the library and ask to read, or email a recording of yourself reading the poem to ryan@desmondfishlibrary.org. For technical assistance, see bit.ly/record-poem.

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Putting Extra Food to Use

State law aims to reduce waste and feed the needy

By Leonard Sparks

Two parts wood chips, one part food scraps and 100 percent nature.

At the rear of C.R.P. Sanitation's facility off the Annsville Circle in Cortlandt Manor, Anthony Carbone showcases 10-foot-high piles of brown material that are undergoing an invisible process that requires little human intervention. In a month, what began as waste from landscapers and leftover food will become nutrient-rich compost.

Carbone's family owns C.R.P., and it was he who turned an interest in composting into the founding of Sustainable Materials Management, the company's organics recycling business, in September 2020. While showcasing the operation in February, Carbone recalled a conversation with a customer who bought 10 cubic yards of the company's first-ever batch last spring.

"He sends us a picture of a 30-pound zucchini; he said he's never grown zucchini that big," said Carbone.

Sustainable Materials Management is among dozens of companies authorized by the state Department of Environmental Conservation to haul and recycle food waste under a state law that took effect Jan. 1.

The law mandates that businesses and institutions averaging more than 2 tons of wasted food each week donate what is edible and recycle scraps such as vegetable peelings if they are within 25 miles of a licensed recycler, such as Sustainable Materials Management.

The list of entities required to donate and

recycle includes colleges such as Marist and Vassar; food distributors; grocery, hotel and restaurant chains, like Applebee's and Adams Fairacre Farms; and Fishkill Correctional Facility and other state prisons.

Hospitals, nursing homes and public schools are some of the institutions exempt from the law, as is New York City, which has its own requirements. Businesses and institutions that would otherwise be eligible can petition the state for a hardship waiver.

Those that remain eligible are essential to achieving the state's goals: to reduce food waste sent to landfills, where it contributes to the greenhouse gas methane, while feeding people in need and increasing composting, which can be used to grow more food.

Carbone said he has seen a recent uptick in food scrap donations, but is not sure it is driven by the law. At Second Chance Foods, a food-assistance organization based in Carmel, Executive Director Martha Elder said she had not yet seen a rise in donations, and noted some shortcomings with the legislation.

One problem, said Elder, is that it lacks funding for organizations like Second Chance that rely on volunteers using their personal vehicles to transport and store excess food. The state should also do more to educate stores about what they can donate, she said.

“We take bones, shells, fish, meat — anything that came from something that was alive, we can compost it.

~ Anthony Carbone

"Without this, stores tend to take the easy route and primarily donate only bakery items," said Elder. "These items are not what we prefer to recover due to poor nutrition."

Brianna Merrill, program coordinator for Hudson Valley AgriBusiness Development Corp., said the "jury is out" on the effects of



Anthony Carbone, president of Sustainable Materials Management, stands in front of a pile of finished compost made from wood chips and food scraps. Photo by L. Sparks

the law but that the mandate at least represents a "normalizing" of donating.

Hudson Valley AgriBusiness administers FeedHV, a regional food rescue organization that collects and distributes excess food and produce to church pantries, shelters and hunger-assistance nonprofits like Fareground in Beacon and Second Chance. Covering Dutchess, Putnam and five other counties, FeedHV delivered food to 62 organizations last year, said Merrill.

"I get emails more often than I'd like about people saying, 'How can we get more donations coming in?'" she said. "We don't have a shortage of people who can take food."

One of the organizations donating to FeedHV is Marist College in Poughkeepsie.

Although Marist is subject to the food-waste law, its dining services, run by Sodexo, has for years donated unused trays of cooked food and composted its scraps, said Nadia Castell, senior general manager for the company at Marist.

"As much as we try to make it so that

it's just the right amount of food that you prepare, you can't predict what kids are going for," she said.

During the fall semester, Marist started a program to educate students about food waste and the cost of filling their plates with food that goes uneaten. Nadia said she has seen much less waste this semester. Peelings and prepared food that cannot be donated because it has been exposed comprise most of what gets composted, she said.

Those are the kinds of ingredients that Sustainable Materials Management relishes.

Carbone had never heard of composting until October 2014. That month, one of C.R.P.'s trash clients, the Peekskill Brewery, held a festival designed to have zero waste, he said. The brewery hired Zero to Go, a Beacon firm run by Sarah Womer, who specializes in organizing events that generate as little waste as possible.

Womer, said Carbone, asked if C.R.P. could drive compostable waste to a facility in Ulster County. "My sales staff didn't know what she was talking about," he said. "Composting? I didn't know what she was talking about, either."

That event, which Carbone said drew 10,000 people and generated less than 10 bags of trash, marked the birth of Sustainable Materials Management.

The facility accepts two kinds of waste: food scraps and compostable products, such as bags and utensils. In addition to commercial haulers delivering scraps from large businesses and institutions, it sends a truck to pick up food waste once a week.

The company also allows individuals to register to drop off, at no charge, food scraps at bins sitting outside its main office. Carbone said the company had about 50 people registered.

"We're very inclusive," he said. "We take bones, shells, fish, meat — anything that came from something that was alive, we can compost it."

Composting (from Page 1)

composting or unsure of what materials are accepted, said Sergei Krasikov, chair of the city's Conservation Advisory Committee, who spoke to the City Council about the program during its March 28 meeting.

The scraps will be hauled away for \$450 per month by C.R.P. Sanitation, a Cortlandt Manor firm that manages food-scrap pickup for more than 20 Westchester County communities and owns its own composting facility, where meat, bones and other materials not normally acceptable for compost break down in high-temperature, high-volume batches.

Sustainable Beacon, a citizen group, and the Conservation Advisory Committee pitched the idea to the City Council in 2020 after surveying the community on ways to improve energy efficiency and reduce waste. Last summer, the council approved spending \$8,000 to launch the drop-off program, as well as a backyard bin pilot effort in which the city purchased 100 bins and sold them to residents for \$10 each — \$45 less than what Dutchess County charges.

The bins, which were distributed last weekend, "sold out like wildfire," said

Amber Grant, a Sustainable Beacon volunteer and former council member. During the pilot period, Sustainable Beacon will provide educational resources and feedback from experts for people using them at their homes.

Neither of the initiatives was a tough sell, City Administrator Chris White said. "It's a relatively small amount of money to gain data on the impact [of composting] and to see if people are willing to participate in the program," he said on Thursday (March 31).

The municipal drop-off program is independent of the services provided in Beacon by the Community Compost Co., which offers, through a paid membership, residential collection or drop-off spots behind the Memorial Building at 413 Main St. and at the Beacon Farmers' Market.

During the six-month pilot, Sustainable Beacon volunteers will again survey community members to gauge interest. The group will also monitor drop sites for contamination and to record usage.

Although the city has not set benchmarks, compost usage could be compared with the quarterly waste audits the city receives from Royal Carting, the company that picks up garbage and recycling. The

hope is that the composting program will reduce the waste stream and be extended long-term, Grant said.

The program will only be open to city residents, not businesses, during the pilot, which ends Oct. 14. Community Compost offers service for commercial clients.

Composting has grown significantly as environmental advocates promote the practice as a viable way to reduce the waste stream. The federal Environmental Protection Agency estimates that more than 30 percent of the organic material Americans throw away is compostable.

Trash collected in Beacon is incinerated in Poughkeepsie, where it releases pollution into the atmosphere, Grant said. She noted that incinerators have historically been placed in or near lower-income residential areas.

"Systemic change is required to address the climate crisis, and this is a step toward creating a more progressive waste stream," she said. "It's a really forward-thinking outlook for the city to take. My hope is that enough communities start to demand composting that the status quo is forced to change and we create less-harmful waste management processes at a reasonable cost."

Composting Picks Up Speed

A map created by the Cornell Waste Management Institute, a program at Cornell University, shows more than 100 compost facilities located throughout New York state at colleges, universities, farms, government sites, prisons and schools.

In February, the Philipstown Town Board unanimously approved a food scrap recycling program. The town will collect food waste at its recycling site on Lane Gate Road before it is hauled away by C.R.P. and composted.

In December, the Village of Rhinebeck approved a municipal compost pilot for 100 households beginning in March and running through August. If it continues, the program will have a monthly fee, based on household size, of \$6 to \$12. Businesses would be charged \$68 to \$340 monthly, based on the number of bins they fill.

Current Classifieds

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NOTICE

The Philipstown Conservation Board will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Tuesday, April 12th, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. virtually via Zoom.**

If you would like to attend, please visit the following link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN_ClzVX8GBSzunRcB2Mco-Sg

Webinar ID: 818 1668 0258 **Passcode:** 392956

Register in advance for this webinar: After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

OR email crockett@philipstown.com to request login information before 7 pm on April 12th, 2022.

If you are unable to join in person, the meeting will be viewable on youtube.com, search for Philipstown Conservation Board April.

NOTICE

The Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Monday, April 11th, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.** in person at the **Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.**

If you are unable to join in person, the meeting will be viewable on youtube.com, search for Philipstown Zoning Board April.

POSITION AVAILABLE

The Town of Philipstown is seeking candidates interested in a position as part time Clerk to the Justice Court beginning as soon as possible. The position is hourly with schedule to be determined. Past court clerk experience and flexible schedule are preferred. Interested parties should please send resume and expression of interest to:

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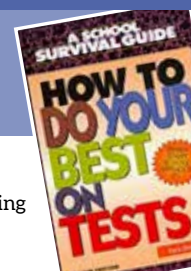
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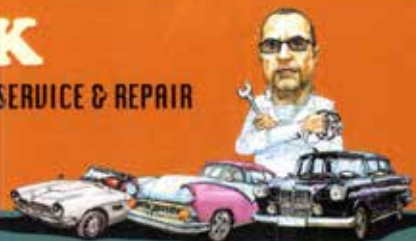
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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Bar legally

6. Decorator's theme

11. Floodgate

12. Apple music service

14. Maidens of myth

15. Nap

16. Doctrine

17. Varieties

19. Up to

20. Casual tops

22. — Paulo

23. Optimum

24. Passover repast

26. Heller and Conrad

28. Chips go-with

30. Small barrel

31. High-ranking angels

35. Nintendo princess

39. Neural transmitter

40. Snitch

42. Eye drop

43. Spasm

44. Croc's kin

46. GI's address

47. Runs off to wed

49. Transforms (into)

51. Safe and sound

52. Dawn-of-mammals epoch

53. Ninnies

11 12 13

14 15

16 17 18 19

20 21 22 23

24 25 26 27

28 29 30

31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38

39 40 41 42

43 44 45 46

47 48 49 50

51 52

53 54

54. "— you!" (challenger's cry)

DOWN

1. Parisian palace

2. Tallied

3. Bit of advice

4. Folksinger Phil

5. Mexican money

6. Identified incorrectly

7. Elevator name

8. Calendar abbr.

9. Foot part

10. Fixation

11. Tizzies

13. Mariners

18. British rule of India

21. Auto style

23. Sire

25. Shred

27. "— who?"

29. Sentence parts

31. Fills up

32. Driven out

33. Highly ornate

34. Perched

36. Figure skater, at times

37. Author du Maurier

38. Got up

41. Actress Marisa

44. Richard of Chicago

45. Crucifix

48. Young dog

50. HDTV brand

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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 on the surface (11)

2 the "N" in NATO (5)

3 removing oneself (11)

4 minimalist (7)

5 brazen (7)

6 relieve (7)

7 fickle (10)

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SUDO CURRENT

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

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Answers for March 25 Puzzles

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

1. MINKS, 2. SNEAKY, 3. CAPITOL, 4. RASHLY, 5. SPIKIER, 6. SCHMALTZ, 7. NIXED

SPORTS



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|PREVIEW|

HALDANE BASEBALL

By Skip Pearlman

After finishing 1-16 and losing in the Class D sectional semifinals to Tuckahoe last spring, Haldane is hoping to see improvement this season, and third-year coach Simon Dudar believes the Blue Devils are on the right path.

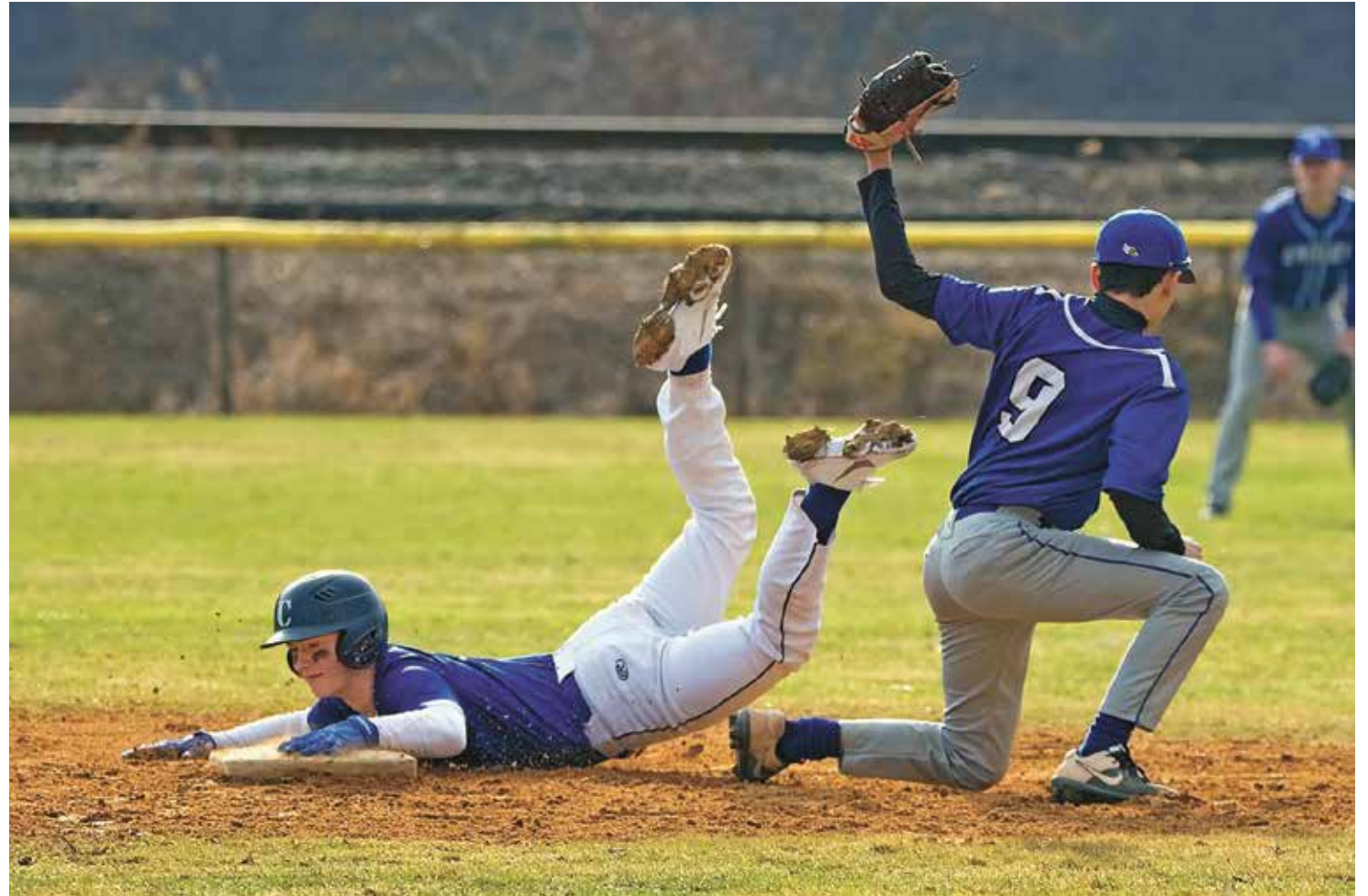
The team will be without All-Section shortstop Jack Jordan, All-League catcher John Bradley and their top pitcher, John Dwyer, who each graduated. But Dudar returns four starters: junior centerfielder John Kisslinger, junior pitcher and second baseman Julian Ambrose, sophomore left-fielder Jeremy Hall and sophomore pitcher and shortstop Trajan McCarthy.

Also returning are junior rightfielder Ryan Eng-Wong, sophomore catcher Scott Bailey and junior outfielder Matt Junjulas, the team captain.

New players include freshman pitcher Milo Pearsall, freshman catcher and pitcher Hunter Erickson, junior second baseman Roy Smith, freshman pitcher and first baseman Jake Hotaling and pitcher Dan Nakabayashi, an eighth grader.

"We don't have a lot of experience," Dudar said. "But once they get some games under their belts, I believe we can be a good team."

Haldane will look to Ambrose and McCarthy — both right-handers — on the mound. "Our pitching staff is a work-in-progress," Dudar said. "We'll need Julian and Trajan to lead the way until some of



Sophomore Jeremy Hall slides in safely at second base during Haldane's season opener on Wednesday.

those other guys gain experience."

Offensively, Eng-Wong will be at the top of the lineup, along with Hall, McCarthy and Ambrose. "I don't think we'll have a lot of strikeouts," the coach said. "They can put balls in play. Hall and Hotaling both give us power."

Dudar said after last year's COVID-restricted regional season, this year's games should be more competitive. "We'll take one game at a time and get guys used to the varsity level," he said. Because Haldane is one of only four schools in Class D in Section I, "we're always in it" for the

tournament, he said.

The Blue Devils opened their season on Wednesday (March 30) at home, dropping a 12-1 decision to Dobbs Ferry. Erickson took the loss on the mound, with relief from Nakabayashi and Hotaling.

Kisslinger drove in Haldane's only run; Hotaling went 2-for-3 at the plate.

Dudar noted the Blue Devils committed only one error and "we got a good look at our freshmen pitchers. We played good defense, and I thought our bats looked good. Everyone put the ball in play. Some

of our guys had some jitters in their first varsity game but they'll settle down.

"Our pitchers did well," he said. "Erickson, in his first game, didn't back down. His velocity was good, and even with guys on base, he worked out of trouble and came out with a positive attitude. And Nakabayashi threw two scoreless innings in his first varsity start, which was impressive."

Haldane is scheduled to visit Yonkers Montessori Academy on Saturday (April 2) and host Palisade Prep of Yonkers at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday (April 6).



Freshman right-hander Hunter Erickson



Sophomore Trajan McCarthy

Photos by S. Pearlman