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# The HIGHLANDS Current

JULY 22, 2022

NYPA Newspaper of the Year

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Jeff Battersby, who lives near the private Mount Beacon Monument Road, displays a mapping app that identifies it as a public route to the reservoir. Photo by J. Simms

## Who Rules Mount Beacon?

*Drowning draws attention to confusing boundaries*

By Jeff Simms

The drowning of a Beacon man earlier this month has highlighted the issue of trespassing at the Mount Beacon reservoir, a problem made more complicated by the tangled web of municipalities and agencies that have jurisdiction over the remote site.

A 911 caller reported Robert “Bobby” Anspach, a 34-year-old artist, missing at around 9:20 p.m. on July 5. Emergency responders, using a drone with thermal imaging supplied by the Dutchess County

Sheriff’s Office, searched the reservoir until 1:30 a.m. and then resumed the next morning. State police divers found Anspach’s body about 30 feet offshore.

While drownings are not common, the problem with trespassing at the reservoir and on Mount Beacon Monument Road, the winding gravel road that leads to it, “goes back for many years and many administrations,” said Chris White, Beacon’s city administrator.

Penelope Hedges, who lives on Mountain Lane, a stone’s throw from Mount Beacon Monument Road, said that her family installed an iron gate at the base of the private gravel road in the 1950s. However, in recent years, after the family  
*(Continued on Page 7)*

## Dia Workers Join Union Wave

*Seeking better pay, benefits*

By Leonard Sparks

More than 100 employees of the Dia Art Foundation, which operates a museum in Beacon and exhibition spaces in New York City and on Long Island, are seeking to join a recent wave of labor organizing at museums and cultural organizations.

The UAW’s Technical, Office and Professional Union, Local 2110, announced on July 15 it had submitted organizing petitions to the National Labor Relations Board on behalf of 135 Dia employees, the first step toward holding a vote.

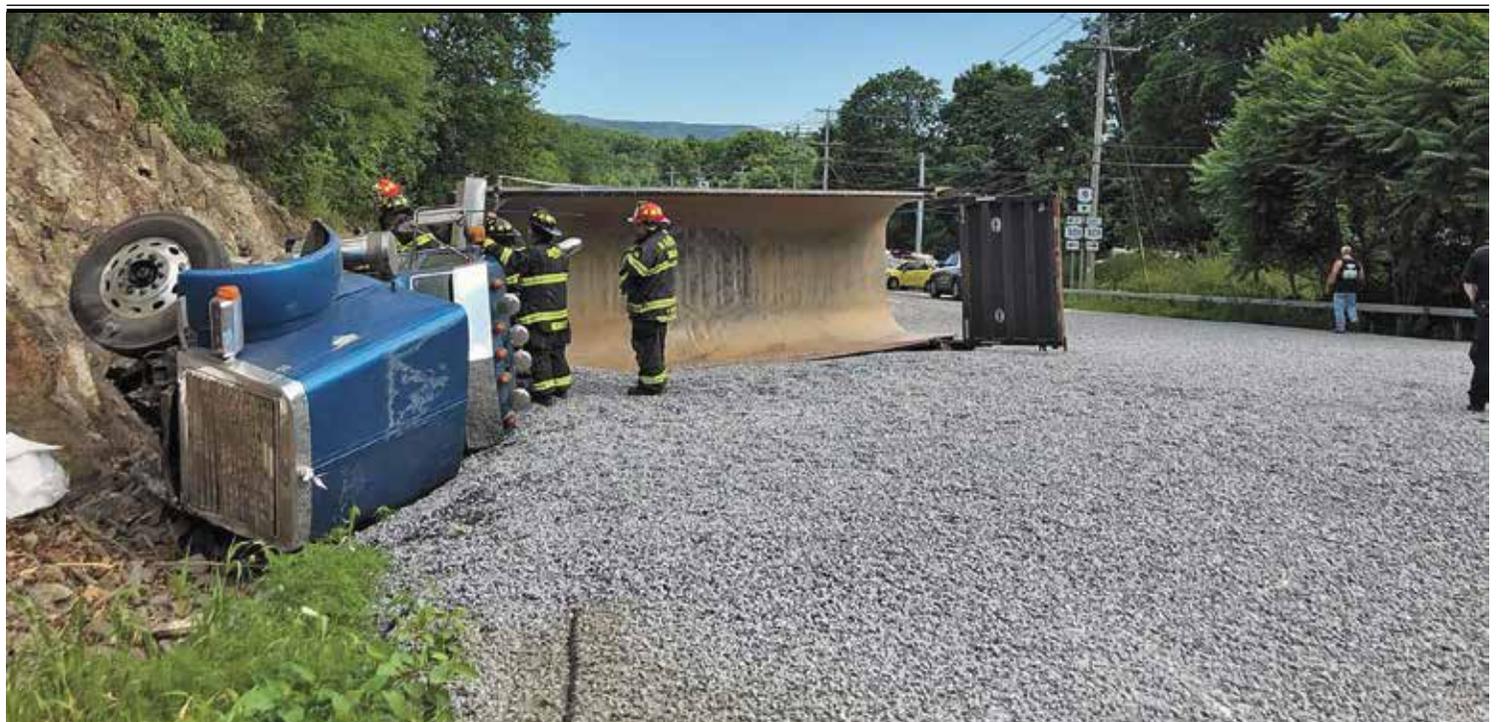
Among the goals, according to the union, are higher pay and better benefits.

A representative for Dia said the nonprofit recently raised its minimum wage by \$1, to \$16 an hour. At Dia:Chelsea, the starting pay for gallery attendants is \$18 an hour.

Despite the raise, “it still leaves us below a livable wage for a single person in Dutchess County,” said Joel Olzak, a gallery attendant at Dia:Beacon. “Dia’s development in Beacon has actually driven up the cost of housing here. Most of us can’t afford to live in the area — not on Dia wages.”

Dia said in a statement that it “supports our staff’s desire to consider and evaluate union representation. We remain committed

*(Continued on Page 9)*



**STONE SPILL** — A gravel truck that missed a red light at Routes 9 and 301 in Philipstown on July 15 struck two cars and overturned, closing Route 9 for 4½ hours. There were no serious injuries. The Putnam County Sheriff’s Department said the truck was driven by a 22-year-old Garrison resident, and both cars by Cold Spring residents. Photo by Maya Beck/Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corp

## Customers Sent Back to Central Hudson

*Electricity supplier defaults on CCA agreement*

By Jeff Simms

About 25,000 households and businesses that had been benefiting from fixed electricity rates as members of a collective purchasing agreement will be sent back to Central Hudson after an energy supply company defaulted on the agreement.

Columbia Utilities was last year awarded

a three-year contract to supply clean energy at a fixed rate to members of Hudson Valley Community Power, which includes Beacon, Philipstown, Cold Spring and seven other municipalities, through what is known as community choice aggregation (CCA).

Because it buys in bulk, a CCA can often secure members better rates than individuals would pay. Residents and business owners in participating communities were automatically enrolled but could opt out.

Over the last year, Columbia supplied

CCA customers with electricity generated from renewable sources for 6.6 cents per kilowatt-hour for households and 7.1 cents for businesses. The electricity continued to be distributed through Central Hudson, which also handled billing.

The change doesn’t necessarily mean CCA customers will pay more for electricity, only that the monthly charges won’t be consistent. Central Hudson’s current rate of 5.8 cents per kilowatt-hour is lower than the agreement

*(Continued on Page 9)*

# 5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: ALETHEA HOHENBERGER

By Alison Rooney

**A**lethea Hohenberger owns Love Letter, a lingerie shop at 153 Main St. in Cold Spring that offers bra fittings. It opened last month.

**What led you to open the shop?**

Bras are one thing I feel passionate about and they were hard to find in this area, especially bra-fitting services. Our bodies change so much throughout our lives, and I felt this was a real need. I've been a professional photographer for a long time, but I also wanted to do this, so I went to bra-fitting school and I have a mentor who's a bra whisperer. It's an art. We have A through H cups; sizing varies from brand to brand, so you need to do it in person, with care, attention and time.

I've had women in their 70s who've never had a fitting come in. The other day a young girl came in for her first bra fitting. I look forward to serving everyone in between because there are days when you just don't want to be thinking about your bra! Some days, maybe it's a focus, and that's lovely, too. The fitting is a joyful exchange for me and my customers.

**Why do so many bras feel great for the first few hours, then turn into**



**instruments of torture?**

They don't last forever. When you are being fitted, select a bra that you can wear comfortably on the last hook, so when it stretches out, you can tighten it. With the pandemic, and people favoring less-restrictive clothing, a lot of people are getting away from underwire, so I source bras that don't need it to feel supported. It's good to have five or so bras that fit you well. All manner of things can come from an ill-fitting bra: your back can be hurting, or if you're wearing the wrong band size, it's sliding down all the time.

**There are times, I confess, when I hold a bra up and think: "This little thing costs this much?" Help me understand.**

Although I stock some indulgent items, my main goal was to make this shop affordable because it's not something that should be an indulgence. Some of the brands I carry, particularly the European ones, have been in business since the early 1900s.

They are experts in the construction of a well-made bra, but make affordable bras you wear every day. We're also looking at sustainability. One brand from Denmark manufactures its bra materials from recycled bottles.

**With gender fluidity, has there been an expansion in the range of sizes and designs for undergarments?**

Yes! In fact, I'm talking to a company I work with about developing a boxer brief that will be comfortable for people who were designated female at birth. That has been hard to find. I carry bras that are suitable for all people. Love Letter is a place for everyone to come and feel safe and welcome.

**Who do you think gets more delight from lingerie: the person wearing it, or the person looking at it?**

Wow. I would hope both would derive equal pleasure.

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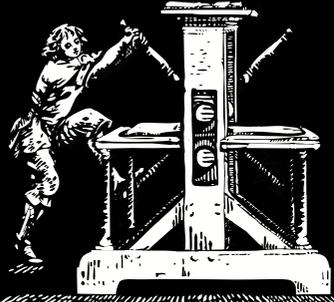
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## ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

Which amusement park rides do you love, and avoid?

“ I don't like anything that spins; give me the world's biggest roller coasters. ”



Doug Donaghy, Philipstown

“ I like spinning, in two directions; I avoid shoulder harnesses and going upside down. ”



Beatrice Chaudoin, Beacon

“ I avoid anything with a big drop. I love going upside down! ”



Bella Monteleone, Cold Spring



A resident of Nelsonville has sued the village, saying a neighbor's home (shown in March) is being built on what was designated as parkland. *File photo by Leonard Sparks*

## Nelsonville Asks State Judge to Dismiss Lawsuit

*Neighbor says parcel was reserved for park*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Nelsonville last week asked a state judge to dismiss a lawsuit filed by a resident who contends that the construction of a home on Gate House Road violates a long-dormant plan to use the land for a park.

In a filing dated July 14, the village asserted that Marc Kushner, who sued Nelsonville in March, lacks legal standing. A village lawyer, Thomas Cummings, said he plans to formally seek dismissal of the lawsuit at a hearing scheduled for Aug. 16 in Carmel.

Kushner wants the court to permanently stop construction on the 4.4-acre site and invalidate a 2021 building permit, and for the village to force owner John Duggan to tear down the 5,870-square-foot home, which is under construction. Duggan purchased the property in 2018.

The underpinnings of the dispute date to 1987, when Harold Lyons subdivided 9.4 acres into four parcels, three for homes and a fourth that he wanted to give to Nelsonville for use as a park. A plat map recorded in Putnam County that year designates the fourth parcel, now owned by Duggan, as a “reserved area — not a building lot.”

Thirteen years after Lyons offered to donate the land, the village's then-mayor wrote to tell him that Nelsonville “was unable to accept the 4.4-acre lot reserved for recreation.”

However, according to both sides in the present lawsuit, the Village Board never took a vote to officially reject Lyons' gift.

Cummings said in the July 14 filing that the Village Board plans to adopt a resolution formally rejecting Lyons' long-ago

offer. As of Wednesday (July 20), it had not scheduled that vote, said Mayor Chris Winward.

In a June 2021 letter, Steven Marino, who chairs the village Planning Board, called the 1987 map “preliminary” and stated that Nelsonville regarded the parcel as “a buildable, residentially zoned vacant lot” that is “undesirable and unacceptable for use as a park.” A day later, the village issued a building permit.

In his lawsuit, Kushner, who lives on an adjacent property on Wood Avenue, asserts that the notation on the 1987 map forbids construction and that Duggan's deed to the site calls attention to its “reserved” status. His lawsuit names Duggan, as well as the village.

Nelsonville argued in its response that Kushner has no case because, among other things, “there is absolutely no indication that Lyons intended to benefit [Kushner] specifically” in 1987 or allow any member of the public to enforce a restriction. It further said that Kushner had not complained to the Zoning Board of Appeals and thus had not “exhausted his administrative remedies” before suing.

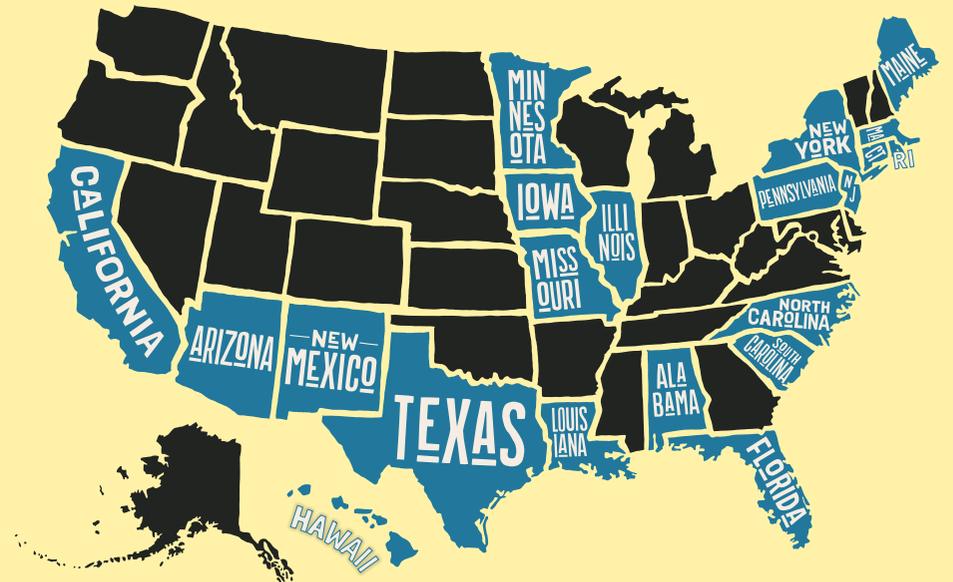
Citing previous court decisions, the village claimed it is not obligated to enforce the notation on the 1987 plat map and that neighbors have no right to demand rigorous enforcement of land-use laws on someone else's property.

According to court documents, Kushner recently wrote neighbors to explain his concerns and forwarded a letter by his attorney, Scott Steiner, addressed to the Planning Board, urging it to order Duggan to raze the home and restore the land to its previous state. Such action is necessary because the Planning Board “has abdicated its responsibility,” Steiner stated. If the board fails to act, the letter warned, the village can expect another lawsuit.

The HIGHLANDS  
**Current**

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## Tell us what you think

**T**he *Current* welcomes letters to the editor on its coverage and local issues. Submissions are selected by the editor (including from comments posted to our social media pages) to provide a variety of opinions and voices, and all are subject to editing for accuracy, clarity and length, and to remove personal attacks. Letters may be emailed to editor@highlandscurrent.org or mailed to The Highlands Current, 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. The writer's full name, village or city, and email or phone number must be included, but only the name and village or city will be published. For our complete editorial policies, see highlandscurrent.org/editorial-standards.

## LETTERS AND COMMENTS

### Why no name?

In your report in the July 15 issue on an arrest in Cold Spring related to road rage, is there a reason the name of the 18-year-old Philipstown woman who was involved was not published?

Fern Sartori, *Wappingers Falls*

*The editor responds: The Putnam County Sheriff's Office declined to release either name but the Cold Spring Police Department provided the name of the male driver. Even if the woman's name had been released, we typically only identify people charged with serious crimes, e.g., felonies, as outlined in our editorial standards at highlandscurrent.org/editorial-standards.*

### Gun laws

The theme which underlies this new round of restrictions is that the politicians do not trust their fellow citizens ("Gun Owners Have Questions," July 15). Once it was determined that citizens have a constitutional right to be armed, the politicians swooped in with a long list of places where that right is abridged, making it all but impossible to exercise that right without committing a felony. Particularly noteworthy is that to exercise the First Amendment right to gather and/or protest, you must surrender your Second Amendment right to be armed.

Why should we respect and trust our elected officials when they have made it clear that they do not respect or trust us?

Further, often the response to a tragedy is to believe that you must "do something" to prevent it ("Gun Signage Law Blocked in Dutchess," July 15). Unfortunately, that urge to do something often has results which do nothing useful or place additional restrictions on people who are innocent of any involvement and unlikely to engage in conduct which would cause a tragedy.

If anyone thinks that warning signs will deter human tragedies, consider all the signs and warnings already in place to avoid them. People still smoke. All our roadways are posted with warnings about the need to reduce speed — warnings that are regularly ignored.

William Cornett, *Beacon*

The International Organization for Standardization defines a safety label as a "label on a product that informs the observer of one or more potential hazards and describes the safety precautions and/or actions required to avoid the hazard(s)."

Thus we have safety labels on plastic bags ("danger of suffocation"), cigarettes ("may cause heart disease, lung cancer and complications in pregnancy"), alcoholic beverages ("may cause birth defects") and

even candles ("never leave unattended").

But no warning labels on guns, despite the tens of thousands of deaths each year that are caused by firearms.

The Westchester County Legislature unanimously passed a bill mandating a warning sign at places that sell guns. I wrote to Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro urging him to take up the issue. His office responded that I should "contact my local legislator" because the bill was still being considered.

As good as that might sound, the bill never made it out of committee.

Yvonne Caruthers, *Beacon*

### Good cookin'

I know there's a lot going on, but the dog days of summer, with their relaxed weekends and get-togethers, seem a good time to appreciate the always-welcome recipes from your columnists Celia Barbour and Joe Dizney.

With every issue, I look forward to what's cooking, and I'm never disappointed. The recipes are doable, healthful, often surprising and take good advantage of what's local and in season. Gonna try Celia's Blueberry Bars (July 8) next, and Joe's "small soft cake of summer fruits" (Aug. 21, 2020) is in constant rotation when it's my turn to bring dessert. (You might see a theme here, but the many veggie dishes are delicious, too.)

Simple, home-cooked food that we make and share is a tradition as old as time that nurtures the body and soul, our families, friends and ourselves. I've been meaning to send this note for some time but the blueberry bars were the tipping point.

Deirdre Mullane, *Cold Spring*

### Philipstown trail

So we can't have a safe, simple footpath from Cold Spring to Garrison, which would mostly serve residents who live in Philipstown, because Philipstown Councilor Megan Cotter is fearful of where people will park ("Full Agenda for Philipstown Board," July 15)?

Cotter said: "Adding this trail just might break us." Are you kidding me? The community is already negotiating this much-needed solution for parking with the Fjord Trail project, which is expected to be the main attraction for tourists as it connects to Breakneck. The obsession with curbing tourism at the expense of what local residents actually want is getting tired.

Tom O'Quinn, *Cold Spring*

It would be good to have a path to Garrison, and we all will have to accommodate more people if built. Many locals are certainly getting tired of all the accommodations we're making for tourists. But it would be interesting to know what locals think, rather than guessing.

Aaron Wolfe, *Cold Spring*





## The Story Behind Those Beacon Banners

### *DAR campaign honors local veterans*

By Michael Turton

Sometimes things appear seemingly out of nowhere, including last year in Beacon, when banners honoring veterans began popping up on utility poles.

Drivers must have wondered who was behind the project: It wasn't the city, the American Legion or the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Instead, it was organized by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The banners feature photographs and service information for veterans who served from World War I to the present. They are becoming more common throughout the Hudson Valley, showing up recently in Kingston, East Fishkill and Wappingers Falls, and the Town of Philipstown and Village of Nelsonville boards are considering allowing them.

Asked why veterans should be honored beyond Memorial Day and Veterans Day, Joan Miskell, who chairs the banner committee for the Melzingah chapter of the DAR, quoted Gen. Mark Milley, chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who recently addressed the DAR's 131st annual convention in Washington, D.C.

"If it weren't for those veterans," he said, "you might not be able to say what you want

to say in the newspaper!"

The DAR focuses on projects related to history, education and patriotism. Founded in 1890, the organization has 190,000 members nationwide. Members must be descended from a person involved in the colonial efforts toward independence. Miskell, for instance, descends from Elisha Richards, a patriot who died in combat on July 3, 1778.

The Melzingah chapter, based in Beacon, formed in 1896 and has 150 members. The group received permission from the City of Beacon to launch the banner project, as well as from Central Hudson to use its utility poles.

Miskell said the banners are installed before Memorial Day (the last Monday in May) and removed after Veterans Day on Nov. 11.

Friends, relatives or organizations can

sponsor a banner for \$125 to recognize any veteran, living or dead. So far, the Beacon banners honor 88 veterans and hang mostly along Route 9D/Wolcott Avenue. "I'd like to see them all along 9D, from Beacon's southern to northern border," Miskell said.

Portraits of two Beacon residents who were active in the Revolutionary War — Maj. Gen. Alexander Hamilton and Maj. Henry Schenck — appear on opposite sides of a banner adjacent to the Veterans Memorial Building on Main Street, which houses chapters of the American Legion, VFW,

Nam Knights and Marine Corps League, as well as Guardian Revival, all of which have supported the DAR initiative.

James Forrestal, who served as secretary of the Navy during World War II and later as the first secretary of defense, also appears on a banner.



Joan Miskell

But it is some of the less famous service members whose stories most resonate with Miskell, such as William B. Wilson, the first soldier from Beacon to die in World War I. He was killed, Miskell said, while trying to rescue a friend from Newburgh who had been wounded.

She is also moved by the story of Nicholas Calaluca, who in 1960 was a 19-year-old firefighter aboard the Navy destroyer USS Daly. "His ship was hit by a 20-foot swell and went into a 65-degree roll," she said. "He was swept overboard and drowned."

Four prisoners-of-war are also recognized, including Army Pfc. John Paul Grudzina, who, during World War II, was captured during the Battle of the Bulge but managed to escape.

Miskell would like to see the program expand, both in numbers and diversity. There are no Civil War veterans, such as Gen. Joseph Howland, whose family founded the Beacon public library that is this year celebrating its 150th anniversary, she noted.

In addition, the banners only include four African Americans and four women.

For more information about sponsoring a banner, email Miskell at [jwmiskell@gmail.com](mailto:jwmiskell@gmail.com).



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## WHAT'S ONLINE THIS WEEK The HIGHLANDS Current

### VIDEO: Chakra's Garden

Ross Corsair visits with Chanthou "Chakra" Oeur, a native of Cambodia and artist and poet who discusses the garden he maintains along Route 9 in Philipstown. many of his own stone or wood sculptures complementing the space. He and his wife, Sokhara, came to the U.S. after fleeing the Khmer Rouge regime.

### PODCAST: Stone Walls

Chip Rowe speaks with Susan Allport, the author of *Sermons in Stone: The Stone Walls of New England and New York*, about the origin and uses of the rocky ruins that crisscross our landscape.



## NEWS BRIEFS

## Dutchess Confirms Monkeypox Case

*County: No risk to general public*

The Dutchess health department on Thursday (July 21) confirmed the first case in the county of monkeypox, part of a national outbreak of the viral infection.

Health department staff is monitoring the individual and has started contact tracing. Monkeypox is similar to smallpox, but milder and rarely fatal. Symptoms include a rash that can look like pimples or blisters and appears inside the mouth or on the face, hands, feet, chest, genitals or anus. There have been 670 cases reported in New York State, mostly in New York City. The virus is spread through close, physical contact.

"While monkeypox has been making headlines, it is certainly not a pandemic and residents should not have undue concern," said Dr. Livia Santiago-Rosado, the health commissioner.

## Director Resigns at Philipstown Rec

*Will take new position with Boscobel*

After 19 years as head of the Philipstown Department of Recreation and Parks, Amber Stickle will leave on July 31 to become director of audience engagement and programs at the Boscobel, a few miles north of the Recreation Center on Route 9D.

Stickle announced her resignation in a July 7 letter to Supervisor John Van Tassel. He said that Cecily Hall, the department's recreation leader, would take over on an interim basis while the town posted the job.

In her letter, Stickle recalled that when she started, the department was housed in Town Hall but moved almost immediately to the Claudio Marzollo Community Center in Garrison, otherwise known as the Rec Center. Soon after, she wrote, the department launched its popular summer camp program.

Van Tassel noted that when Hurricane Irene devastated Philipstown in 2011, town officials opened the Rec Center as a shelter. Although Stickle then lived in Wappinger, and roads were closed, "she was there before the ambulances brought people to the shelter to get them out of the flooded area," he said.

## Millie Solomon to Step Down at Hastings

*Will leave bioethics think tank next year*

Millie Solomon, who has been president for 10 years of The Hastings Center, a bioethics think tank based in Garrison, announced this week she plans to step down in June 2023.

"It has truly been a privilege to lead such an intellectually



Solomon

rigorous and influential organization," she said in a statement.

Founded in 1969, The Hastings Center was the first research institute in the world devoted to bioethics. Its scholars address ethical questions related to COVID-19, biomedical technologies, health equity and death and dying. Solomon will remain involved with Hastings and also continue her role as a professor of global health and social medicine at Harvard Medical School.

The nonprofit said its board has formed a search committee to identify Solomon's successor. Comments, suggestions of candidates and applications can be sent in confidence to Flip Jaeger at [hastingspresident@spencerstuart.com](mailto:hastingspresident@spencerstuart.com).

## Applications Being Taken for Head Start

*Federally funded program for preschoolers*

Astor Services for Children & Families is accepting applications for the federally funded Head Start programs at its Beacon location.

There are two free programs: one for pregnant mothers and children up to age 3, and another for preschoolers ages 3 to 5. Eligibility is based on income and includes weekday breakfast and lunch, vision and hearing screenings and parent workshops. For information, call 845-838-9904 or see [astorservices.org](http://astorservices.org).

## Driver Arrested Twice for DWI

*Deputies stop man in Putnam Valley*

Putnam County sheriff's deputies arrested the same driver twice on the same day in Putnam Valley on charges of driving while intoxicated, the agency said this week.

On Sunday (July 17), a deputy pulled over a 23-year-old Ossining man on the Taconic State Parkway at 3 a.m. when he was observed driving 30 mph in a 55 mph zone while swerving. He was arrested and given a court date.

At 9:20 p.m., a different deputy observed the man's vehicle swerving on Peekskill Hollow Road, and he was again arrested on suspicion of DWI.

## New Managers for Beacon Nursing Home

*Taconic Health Care rebrands three facilities*

Taconic Health Care announced on Wednesday (July 20) that it had assumed management at Wingate at Beacon, a skilled-nursing facility on Hastings Drive, and rebranded it as Taconic Rehabilitation and Nursing at Beacon.

The firm also assumed control and renamed Wingate at Dutchess in Fishkill and Wingate at Ulster in Highland.

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More details at:  
[highlandscurrent.org/icecream](http://highlandscurrent.org/icecream)



### BEACON

- Beacon Creamery, 134 Main St.
- Zora Dora's, 201 Main St.
- Shmuck's Sweet Stuff, 288 Main St.
- The Vegan Stuff, 504 Main St.

### PHILIPSTOWN

- Bozerino's, 120 Main St.
- Homestyle Creamery, 351 Main St.
- Sweet Harvest, 82 Main St.
- Rincón Argentino, 21 Main St.
- Understory Market, 44 Main St.

Thank you to our partners



## Mount Beacon *(from Page 1)*

granted easements to the various agencies that need access to the road, the gate has been vandalized and its lock stolen or, other times, filled with glue.

Hedges said this week that it's been impossible to consistently monitor the gate, so it stands open, allowing access to anyone daring enough to brave the steep and rocky road.

Atop Mount Beacon Monument Road, signs indicate that swimming is prohibited at the reservoir, one of three maintained by the City of Beacon as part of its drinking water supply. But a quick online search confirms that the signs do little to discourage swimming at the site.

About a quarter-mile from the South Mount Beacon fire tower, "social trails" also lead hikers to the reservoir, said Evan Thompson, the manager of Fahnestock and Hudson Highlands State Parks.

There also have been complaints for years about people driving all-terrain vehicles, Jeeps and trucks up the mountain, which tear up the roads and trails. Long before it was state parkland, adventure-seekers would run trap lines on the mountain, camp overnight and haul up building materials to construct their own makeshift cabins. In the 1960s, gearheads stripped down Volkswagen Beetles, converted them to dune buggies and rolled around on the mountain to their hearts' content.

Then, as now, one of the obstacles to enforcement is that the trails pass through land controlled by several parties. "The City of Beacon gets the brunt of the complaints when something goes up there because everyone associates Mount Beacon with Beacon," Douglas Solomon, then the police chief, told *The Current* in 2015. "Which seems obvious. But once you go a hundred feet up Monument Road, you're out of our jurisdiction. And once it's on Scenic Hudson [now state] lands, it's technically their problem."

The maze of agencies is confusing.

Beacon owns the reservoir, but the land around, which lies in the Town of Fishkill, is part of the Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve. "That's the problem: If you're swimming and get out of the water and walk 10 feet, you're in Fishkill," said Matt Ciccone, Hedges' son.



A gatepost and damaged fencing near the entrance to Mount Beacon Monument Road

Photo by J. Simms

So while Hedges, Ciccone and another neighbor, Jeff Battersby, say they routinely see cars driving up Mount Beacon Monument Road, which, at its base, is located within city limits, there's often little the Beacon police can do.

For example, Sands Frost, Beacon's current police chief, pointed to a 2009 case in which a 23-year-old Syracuse man killed his wife and drove 220 miles to dump her body in the Mount Beacon reservoir. The man was arrested after walking into the Beacon Police Department and admitting to the killing, but the department turned the case over to state police, Frost said, because of the city's limited jurisdiction.

Although the Town of Fishkill has no policy for patrolling near the reservoir, it purchased a \$30,000 Polaris all-terrain vehicle to respond to emergencies on Mount Beacon, along Fishkill Creek and, once it's open, on the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, said Supervisor Ozzy Albra on Tuesday (July 19).

The police have yet to use the vehicle, he said. During the Fishkill Town Board meet-

ing on Wednesday, Chief Keith Dworkin explained that it's logistically challenging to patrol the reservoir. Because vehicular access is difficult and cellphone service spotty, "that's basically a lost officer," he said, if the town were to send someone regularly.

Lt. Paul Schettino said the area is patrolled, especially in the summer, by state Parks Department police and Department of Environmental Conservation forest rangers.

The Parks Department said its staff members, such as Thompson, visit the area when they can and alert police to trespassers. But only three park police officers are assigned to the Taconic Region, which includes Columbia, Dutchess, Putnam and Westchester counties. New hires will attend a training academy this fall, but "we probably won't see anybody for at least a year," Thompson said.

In addition to officers from Beacon, Fishkill and the Parks Department and DEC, the New York State Police, the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office, emergency responders and vehicles associated with the radio and telecommunications towers on Mount Beacon also require access to the reservoir area

at times.

Next spring, the city will begin rehabilitating the reservoir dam. After that project is complete, White said there's been talk of partnering with the Parks Department to reinstall a gate on Mount Beacon Monument Road.

An electronic gate with keypad has been discussed before but, out of all the agencies in the area, "no one wanted to take care of it," Matt Ciccone said.

Moments after he shared that last week, on a Friday afternoon, a woman drove a sedan up Mount Beacon Monument Road. Seeing Ciccone and Battersby, she rolled down her window to ask if she was on the right road.

The woman said she'd driven from Queens after reading online about swimming in the reservoir, and she wanted to let her dog get in the water.

Battersby advised the woman that swimming is prohibited at the reservoir and showed her where she could turn her car around. He said she was welcome to pull into his driveway near the base of the road and let her dog splash in a stream that runs through his property.

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		<b>27,051</b> (+194)	<b>8.8%</b> (-1.5)	<b>83.2</b>	<b>126</b> (+1)
				Cold Spring: <b>95.5</b> / Garrison: <b>87.5</b>	
	<b>DUTCHESS COUNTY</b>	Number of cases:	Positive Tests, 7-day average:	Percent vaccinated:	Number of deaths:
		<b>72,637</b> (+410)	<b>12.1%</b> (+0.1)	<b>77.6</b>	<b>673</b> (+2)
				Beacon: <b>73.0</b>	
	<small>Source: State and county health departments, as of July 13, with totals since pandemic began and change over the previous week in parentheses. Percent vaccinated reflects those ages 5 and older who have received at least one dose.</small>				

# Dutchess Opposes Tax Breaks for Power Line

*Cable under Hudson would supply New York City*

By Leonard Sparks

**D**utchess officials are opposing proposed tax breaks for a \$3 billion transmission line that will be buried under 31 miles of the Hudson River in the county as it carries hydroelectric power from Canada to New York City.

The Blackstone Group, an investment company that says it manages nearly \$900 billion in assets, owns 89 percent of the 339-mile Champlain Hudson Power Express transmission line, which is supposed to deliver 1,250 megawatts from renewable sources to New York City when completed in 2025.

New York State considers the transmission line key to fulfilling the goals of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, legislation passed in 2019 that calls for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent and supplying 70 percent of electricity through renewable sources by 2030.

The U.S. portion of the line begins under Lake Champlain and passes through 15 counties, 60 towns and 60 school districts, including Beacon's. The developer, TDI-USA Inc., has applied for tax breaks from county industrial development agencies along the route, including in Dutchess.

The Dutchess County portion is expected to cost \$167 million and pass through the City of Poughkeepsie and six towns: Fishkill, Hyde Park, Poughkeepsie, Red Hook, Rhinebeck and Wappinger.

“Exempting county sales tax for a project driven by New York State that is likely to proceed without such a benefit, and with concern for drinking-water supply, is not going to happen.”

~ Marc Molinaro

Village of Rhinebeck Mayor Gary Bassett, who chairs of a group of seven municipalities that draw drinking water from the Hudson, urged the Dutchess County Industrial Development Agency (IDA) to deny TDI's request for \$105.5 million in property-tax breaks over 30 years, plus \$13.6 million in sales-tax relief and \$1.3 million in mortgage taxes.

In a letter dated July 12, Bassett said that

the Hudson River Drinking Water Municipal Council fears the plan to bury cables under the riverbed will disperse potentially contaminated sediment toward water intakes.

In addition to Rhinebeck, the council includes the City of Poughkeepsie and the towns of Esopus, Hyde Park, Lloyd, Poughkeepsie and Rhinebeck.

Those municipalities unsuccessfully petitioned TDI to route the line overland instead of under the river, said Bassett, adding that he also has asked the company to reduce the impacts of its trenching.

While some county IDAs, such as Warren-Washington, have approved tax breaks, others are being asked to reject TDI by county and local officials concerned about drinking water and balking at forgoing tax revenue while assisting a project they say largely benefits New York City.

The concerns of the drinking water coalition were highlighted by the Ulster County Legislature in a March resolution asking its IDA to reject the tax breaks.

In Dutchess, TDI is applying for the type of tax breaks that require consent from every affected tax jurisdiction, including fire departments, said Assistant County Executive Ron Hicks. County Executive Marc Molinaro said he opposes giving TDI any breaks on county sales taxes.

“Exempting county sales tax for a project driven by New York State that is likely to proceed without such a benefit, and with concern for drinking-water supply, is not going to happen,” he said.

Dutchess IDA members were scheduled to take up a resolution approving tax breaks for the project at their July 13 meeting, but Chair Tim Dean announced that a representative for the project had asked that the resolution be withdrawn.

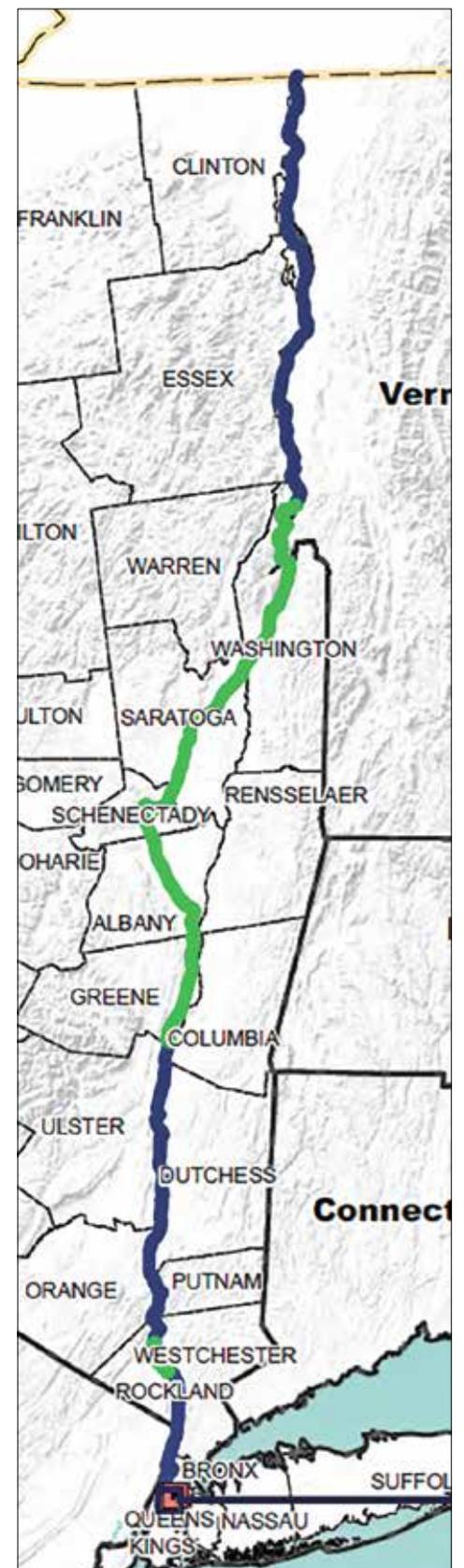
A spokesperson for TDI said on Tuesday (July 19) that “it became clear that additional discussions needed to be held with stakeholders in the context of tax certainty for Dutchess County.”

Construction is supposed to start this fall on the transmission line, which won approval from the Public Service Commission, the state's energy regulator, in 2013. Along with Blackstone, Transmission Developers, a Canadian company, owns 9 percent, and National Resources Energy owns 2 percent.

Josh Bagnato, the vice president of development for TDI, told the Warren-Washington IDA last month that the company is awaiting approval from the state for its environmental management and construction plan for the first segment of the line. It hopes to finalize financing this summer and begin construction in Washington County in the fall.

Under the plan, the transmission line would tie into a grid operated by Hydro-Quebec, a Canadian company that says nearly all its electricity comes from renewable sources, and enters the U.S. through cable buried under Lake Champlain.

Some sections of the line will be buried on land, but 60 percent of the project will be underwater. Along with Lake Champlain and the Hudson River, sections will run under the



In this map of the line's proposed route from Quebec to New York City, the blue sections are underwater and the green sections under land.

Harlem River before the line terminates at a converter station in Astoria, Queens, that will connect to Con Edison's grid.

According to TDI, the cable under the Hudson River will bypass a section of river contaminated by General Electric that underwent a cleanup overseen by the Environmental Protection Agency, and a section of Haverstraw Bay that is a breeding and spawning habitat. The company says the machine that carves a trench in the riverbed operates without dispersing large amounts of sediment.

The company also agreed to spend \$117 million over 35 years on restoration and other environmental projects at Lake Champlain and along the Hudson, Harlem and East rivers.

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## Central Hudson *(from Page 1)*

with Columbia. But Central Hudson's rate in February rose to 21.6 cents.

Joule Community Power, which oversees the CCA, received a letter from Columbia Utilities in February alleging that ongoing technical issues with Central Hudson's billing system were harming Columbia's efforts to provide service. Columbia secretly filed notice in April with the state Public Service Commission that it wanted out of the two years remaining on its contract with Joule.

A state judge last month issued a temporary restraining order to give the parties time to negotiate, but during the Beacon City Council meeting on Monday (July 18), City Administrator Chris White said he had been notified that Columbia had already been kicked out of a state energy marketplace.

On Tuesday, Joule CEO Jessica Stromback explained that Columbia had failed to make scheduled payments to the New York Independent System Operator, a nonprofit corporation that operates the bulk electricity grid, and had been removed by the state as a supplier.

As a result, the CCA, which was the second formed in New York State, after Sustainable Westchester, will begin transitioning its 25,000 members from the fixed rate to a variable rate. Joule expects the

## What Did You Pay?

Prices in the Highlands for residential service, per kilowatt-hour

12-month average				Feb. 10			
	Standard	Peak	Off-Peak		Standard	Peak	Off-Peak
Central Hudson	9.1¢	12.9¢	6.1¢	Central Hudson	21.6¢	18¢	14¢
CCA	6.6¢	6.6¢	6.6¢	CCA	6.6¢	6.6¢	6.6¢
July 13				Nov. 10			
	Standard	Peak	Off-Peak		Standard	Peak	Off-Peak
Central Hudson	5.8¢	23.7¢	4.4¢	Central Hudson	7.4¢	8.9¢	6.0¢
CCA	6.6¢	6.6¢	6.6¢	CCA	6.6¢	6.6¢	6.6¢

Sources: Central Hudson, Hudson Valley Community Power

move to take about a month.

Sustainable Westchester has encountered similar problems. In a letter dated July 1 addressed to members in 24 municipalities, including Peekskill, it said its CCA would be "paused" and customers transitioned back to Con Edison because its supplier, Westchester Power, could not provide a fixed rate for a contract to replace one that expired June 30. The reason given was "extreme volatility in electricity prices."

Joule and municipal officials will soon begin looking for ways to restart the CCA,

Stromback said. She said the program had saved members \$8 million over the last year.

"Everybody's unhappy that Columbia broke their contract but, if anything, I think they're seeing the value of the CCA," Stromback said. "It's much more a question of, 'This was valuable — How do we maintain it? How do we move it forward?'"

White told the City Council on Monday that Beacon would support any legal action Joule takes against Columbia. "The municipalities are not at fault; this is squarely the fault of Columbia Utilities," he said.

Earlier this month, the Philipstown Town Board voted to join any litigation filed against Columbia, which is based in Brooklyn. A legal agreement accompanying its resolution stated that any money awarded the plaintiffs would go toward Joule's expenses and then to CCA members.

Councilor Jason Angell noted that Philipstown had "helped push the CCA forward" and that it saved some residents \$200 per month over the winter, when Central Hudson rates soared. "So it's a big deal," he said. "Getting kicked off is going to hurt people."

## Dia Union *(from Page 1)*

ted to supporting all staff and we will work openly and cooperatively throughout this process."

Local 2110 UAW represents employees at the Guggenheim, the Jewish Museum, the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Brooklyn Museum.

At the Guggenheim, the art handlers, maintenance workers and other staff voted in 2019 to join Local 2110. In October, they were joined by conservators and curators. Staff at the Brooklyn Museum voted in August to join.

More recently, in May, educators, teachers and other employees at the American Museum of Natural History voted to have District Council 37 of the AFL-CIO represent them in labor negotiations.

In addition to higher pay and stronger job protections, Dia employees like Alex Vargo, who has worked in the foundation's Learning and Engagement Department for seven years, say they are organizing because of a "lack of recognition."

"All workers at Dia contribute to making art accessible to the public, and unionizing recognizes the importance of our contributions and gives staff a greater collective voice in shaping Dia's future," he said.

Museum employees are not the only workers opting to unionize. Between Oct. 1 and June 30, the number of petitions filed by workers seeking to organize rose by 58 percent — to 1,892 — compared to the same period a year earlier, the National Labor Relations Board reported on July 15. The board also said that charges for unfair labor practices rose by 16 percent, to 12,819.

Starbucks employees in Buffalo and in New York City have voted to form unions, and in April, workers at an Amazon warehouse on Staten Island became the first

at any of the company's facilities to organize. On July 15, staff members for the state Senate, in a letter to Majority Leader

Andrea Stewart Cousins, announced that they had formed New York State Legislative Workers United.

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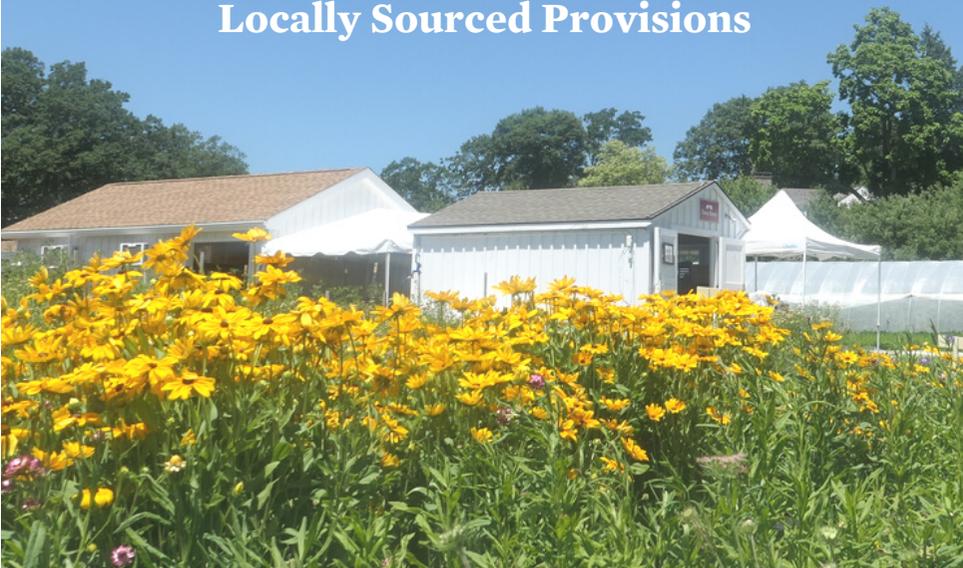
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AROUND TOWN



◀ **STATION FIXES** – Metro-North has begun replacing the edges of the station platforms at Cold Spring and Garrison (shown here), work that will continue through October. From 11 p.m. on Fridays to 4 a.m. on Mondays, all trains will operate on one track.

Photo by Chip Rowe



◀ **CHAMBER CONCERT** – The Doansburg Chamber Ensemble, with Christine Smith of Mahopac (flute and alto), Joy Plaisted of Garrison (harp) and Susan LaFever of Saddle River, New Jersey (French horn), performed at St. Mary's Church in Cold Spring on July 16.

Photo by Ross Corsair



◀ **OFFICIAL VISIT** – Lt. Gov. Antonio Delgado (right) visited Guardian Revival in Beacon on Tuesday (July 19) to discuss suicide prevention for veterans and first responders and cut the ribbon on the organization's new headquarters in the Veterans Memorial Building. Here he speaks with Alex Othmer, the nonprofit's executive director.

Photo by Michael Turton



◀ **HIKING FOR HARRIET** – Ken Johnston, who lives in Philadelphia, is marking abolitionist Harriet Tubman's 200th birthday by hiking from Maryland, where she rescued her two enslaved brothers in 1854, to St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada, where she lived for a time before returning to New York. Johnston, who stopped in Cold Spring on Tuesday (July 19), expects it will take six weeks to cover the remaining 500 miles. He sleeps in a tent but welcomes tips about overnight hosts and messages of encouragement. Email ourwalktofreedom@yahoo.com.

Photo by Michael Turton



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Chef Kristian Meixner checked all the boxes for The Bird & Bottle's new owners.



The Bird & Bottle Inn is located in Garrison off Route 9.

Photo by Chip Rowe



Marjorie Tarter stands on the porch of the newly renovated Bird & Bottle.

## The Calendar

# The Bird & Bottle Returns

### *Famed restaurant and inn has another go*

By Celia Barbour

For its first 155 years, beginning in 1761, the property now known as The Bird & Bottle Inn remained in the hands of one family.

Since 1916, it has been bought and sold seven times.

The latest owners, Marjorie Tarter and Brendan McAlpine of Beacon, acquired the inn in 2020 for \$1.25 million, undertook a major renovation and opened the restaurant and tavern off Route 9 in Garrison in April of this year. (The guest rooms are not yet receiving visitors.)

So poor was the food during an earlier phase of its ownership that in 1985 a restaurant critic for *The New York Times* described the entrees as “insulting. That they were served at all seemed to indicate considerable contempt for the diner... The chicken liver pate should have been fed to the cats.”

Though things improved in subsequent decades, the inn came to be seen by many as a beloved but tired relic.

So what convinced Tarter and McAlpine that they could turn around an enterprise that had struggled for years?

“Maybe we’re crazy and just fell in love with how old and special the inn was,” said Tarter, hopefully. “Or maybe we didn’t really know it was a mess?”

“Oh, I knew,” said McAlpine.

“So what made us think it was OK to do this?” Tarter asked.

“I don’t want to sound arrogant,” said McAlpine, “but if you make something good, if you execute a vision the way that I know we can...”

“If you make something delicious and do it right?”

“I knew that we’d be OK,” said McAlpine. “If you build it, they will come.”

And come they have. Since its opening on April 11, the restaurant has been bouncing from Wednesday through Sunday evenings, and, since May, during weekend brunches, as well.

Yet there are no easy rides in the restaurant business. Even the most beautifully executed vision can require months of tweaking, and the tiniest misstep comes with a hefty price. It helps, McAlpine said, that he’s stubborn. “I won’t give up on something. If it isn’t working, we’ll figure it out.”

It helps, too, that the couple brings more than grit to the endeavor. Tarter, a history buff, built a marketing career in Manhattan before returning to Beacon, her hometown, and joining the Beacon Historical Society. While advising on the reconstruction of the Beacon Theater, she met McAlpine, one of its new owners. He is an attorney-turned-

developer whose previous projects included renovating The Roundhouse with his father. Their transformation of an abandoned factory campus into a successful restaurant and hotel helped attract investors for the Garrison project, she said.

Tarter was also fired up about the history of what she calls “The Bird” — not just its legendary phase as a Revolutionary War-era tavern and stagecoach watering hole, but as a chic destination for epicures during the 1940s and 1950s. So hot was The Bird & Bottle during this heyday that it attracted the likes of Joan Crawford, Vincent Astor, Greer Garson and Veronica Lake.

It owed no small part of its popularity to the menu, developed by Lena Richard, a renowned New Orleans chef, cookbook author and restaurateur, as well as a groundbreaking Black entrepreneur. “She’s the unsung hero of this place,” said Tarter. “I’m sure the idyllic setting helped, but people raved about her Creole and Cajun flavors.”

After Richard’s departure, the inn owners hired a little-known caterer named James Beard to take over as menu consultant.

Adding to The Bird & Bottle’s mid-century fame was a widespread wave of

nostalgia for colonial Americana. Starting during the lead-up to World War II and through the 1950s, America was infatuated with its past (the noblest aspects of it, at least). Garrison’s “historic up-country tavern” embodied that retro-chic.

Tarter and McAlpine have aimed to tease out the best threads from this past without becoming mired in historical fidelity. “We didn’t want to do Colonial Williamsburg,” said Tarter. Instead, they aimed for a hipper, more relaxed, and at times even ironic take on the past.

Consider, for example, the reproduction portrait of a Victorian gentleman with ink dripping over his face hanging in the map room. A mural inspired by the Hudson River School covers the dining room walls and the lounge features leopard-print upholstery on the side chairs.

Their goal was to create a place as compelling to locals as to out-of-towners. “We didn’t want to be just a special occasion or tourist destination,” said Tarter. The key was to offer a great meal. The couple interviewed dozens of chefs. They wanted someone open to playing with old recipes that tell stories, said Tarter, as well as catering experience, since The Bird will host weddings. “And we wanted someone who wasn’t at the tail end of their New York City career, looking to retire to the country.”

(Continued on Page 15)



The cozy bar at The Bird & Bottle

Photos by John Meore/USA Today Network



The lounge features leopard-print upholstery on the side chairs.

# THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

## COMMUNITY

SAT 23

### Pet Rabies Vaccination Clinic

PHILIPSTOWN

10 a.m. – Noon. Hubbard Lodge  
2880 Route 9 | 845-808-1390  
putnamcountyny.com/health

The Putnam County Department of Health will vaccinate leashed dogs and cats and ferrets in carriers at this free clinic. Bring proof of prior vaccination and residency.

SAT 23

### Community Day

GARRISON

Noon – 3 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
desmondfishlibrary.org

The outdoor festivities will include a climbing wall, music performances, storyteller Jonathan Kruk, square dancing and free hot dogs and ice cream.

SAT 23

### Sacred Sites Open House

GARRISON

Noon – 5 p.m. St Philip's Church  
1101 Route 9D | nylandmarks.org

The historic church, designed by Richard Upjohn and constructed in 1861, will be open as part of the New York Landmarks Conservancy's 12th annual weekend featuring the architecture, art and history of ecclesiastical buildings. Also SUN 24.

SAT 30

### Great Newburgh-to-Beacon Swim

NEWBURGH

9:45 a.m. Unico Park | riverpool.org  
Although registration is closed

for swimmers at this 18th annual event to benefit the River Pool, spectators can cheer as participants finish at the Beacon Institute dock.

## KIDS & FAMILY

MON 25

### Sail On!

BEACON

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

Children ages 4 through the fifth grade are invited to make a boat from a kit. Registration required.

SAT 30

### Pirates: Lost at Sea

GARRISON

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

Talewise will perform a story with science and music.

## VISUAL ART

SAT 23

### Midsummer Evening

BEACON

5 – 8 p.m. Dia:Beacon | 3 Beekman St.  
845-231-0811 | diaart.org

The cafe will serve wine and food during the museum's extended hours. *Cost: \$20 (\$18 seniors, \$12 students, visitors with disabilities, \$5 ages 5 to 11, 5 and younger free)*

SAT 23

### Beacon Open Studios

BEACON

Noon – 6 p.m. Various  
beaconopenstudios.com

Also SUN 24. A musical showcase is planned for 4 to 7 p.m. on SAT 23

at Reserva Wine Bar, 173 Main St., and the River Valley Guild Market at 4 Hanna Lane will be open from noon to 6 p.m. both days. The website has a list of participating studios and a map. *Free*

SAT 23

### Upstate Art Weekend

HUDSON VALLEY

Various locations  
upstateartweekend.org

More than 145 galleries, artist studios, arts organizations and projects have signed on to participate in this annual event across eight counties, including Putnam and Dutchess. See the website for a map and guide. Also SUN 24.

## TALKS AND TOURS

TUES 26

### The Life of Eliza Howland

BEACON

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

Emily Murnane, a Beacon Historical Society trustee, will reenact moments from the life of the woman who co-founded the Howland Public Library in this performance as part of the 150th anniversary of the library. Registration required. See Page 15. *Free*

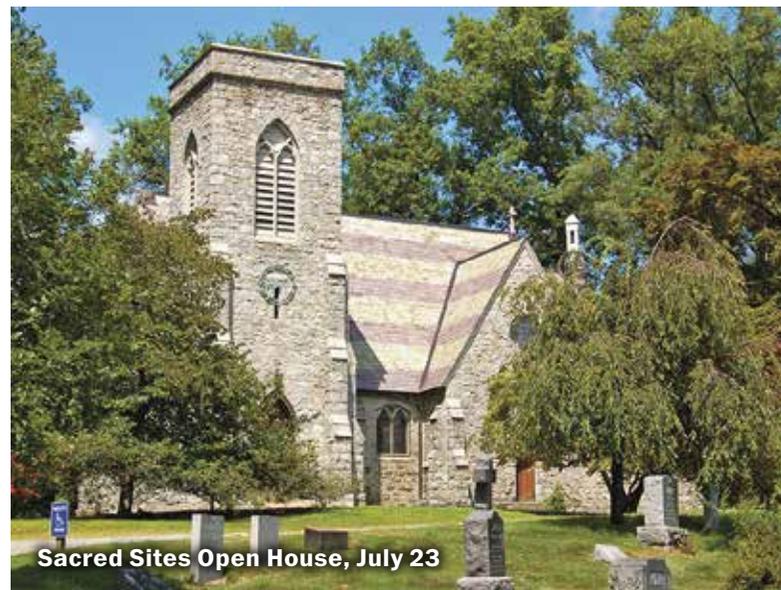
THURS 28

### Health & Wellness Workshop

COLD SPRING

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

Life coach Katie Brennan will explain basic practices to relieve stress.



Sacred Sites Open House, July 23

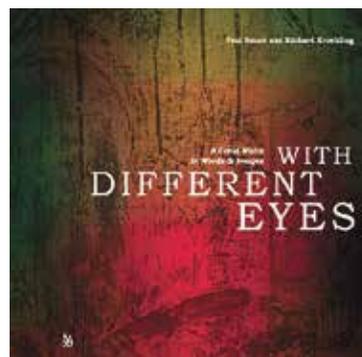
SAT 30

### With Different Eyes

COLD SPRING

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

Richard Kroehling, an artist, and Paul Smart, a journalist, will discuss their book, subtitled "A COVID Waltz in Words and Images," which came out of a year-long project.



## STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 23

### Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play

GARRISON

7:30 p.m.  
Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival  
2015 Route 9 | 845-265-9575  
hvshakespeare.org

After the electrical grid fails, a group of people come together to share memories and stories that

have been lost on hard drives. Also MON 25, WED 27, FRI 29, SUN 31. *Cost: \$10 to \$95*

SAT 23

### The Sound of Music

GARRISON

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

Young actors will perform the classic musical under the direction of Elaine Llewellyn, Percy Parker and Oliver Petkus. Also SUN 24. *Cost: \$12*

SAT 23

### Scotland Road

BEACON

6 & 7 p.m. Boats leave dock  
845-831-6346 | bannermancastle.org

The thriller by playwright Jeffrey Hatcher, performed on Bannerman Island, will unravel the story of a woman rescued at sea at the end of the 20th century who claims to be a Titanic survivor. Also SUN 24. *Cost: \$65*

SAT 23

### Do the Right Thing

COLD SPRING

8:30 p.m. Dockside Park  
coldspringfilm.org

The Cold Spring Film Society will screen the 1989 Spike Lee film starring Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee and Danny Aiello about what happens on a hot summer day when hate and bigotry turn into violence. *Free*

SUN 24

### Romeo and Juliet

GARRISON

7:30 p.m.  
Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival  
2015 Route 9 | 845-265-9575  
hvshakespeare.org

Kurt Rhoads and Nance Williamson star in this interpretation of the fated lovers' story directed by Gaye Taylor Upchurch. Also SUN 24, THURS 28, SAT 30. *Cost: \$10 to \$95*

THURS 28

### Cinderella

GARRISON

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

Directed by Lisa Sabin, young actors will perform the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical. Also FRI 29, SAT 30, SUN 31. *Cost: \$12*



Great Newburgh-to-Beacon Swim, July 30

SAT 30

**Heroes, Monsters & Madmen**

BEACON

3 & 4 p.m. Boats leave dock  
845-831-6346 | [bannermancastle.org](http://bannermancastle.org)

Craig Schulman will perform songs on Bannerman Island from his many Broadway roles during a benefit dinner prepared by the Chefs' Consortium. The event was rescheduled from an earlier date.

Cost: \$165

**MUSIC**

SAT 23

**Sultans of Swing**

NEWBURGH

4 p.m. Mount Saint Mary College  
330 Powell Ave. | 845-913-7157  
[newburghsymphony.org](http://newburghsymphony.org)

The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra will perform its annual summer pops concert at Aquinas Hall with music made famous by Ella Fitzgerald and Frank Sinatra.

Cost: \$25 to \$50 (students free)

SAT 23

**Trove**

GARRISON

5 p.m. Manitoga | 584 Route 9D  
845-424-3812 | [visitmanitoga.org](http://visitmanitoga.org)

Ben Neill and Eric Calvi will present an immersive sonic performance designed for the Quarry Pool and the surrounding landscape.

Cost: \$40 (\$35 members)



SAT 23

**Stampin' Our Feet with Pete**

BEACON

5:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | [howlandculturalcenter.org](http://howlandculturalcenter.org)

Join a sing-a-long led by David

and Jacob Bernz, Thom Joyce and the Beacon Sloop Club to celebrate the release of the Pete Seeger Music Icons series postage stamp.



SAT 23

**Open Book**

PUTNAM VALLEY

6 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center  
729 Peekskill Hollow Road  
[tompkinscorners.org](http://tompkinscorners.org)

Singer-songwriters Michele and Rick Gedney will perform selections from their four albums in a benefit for the cultural center.

Cost: \$20

SAT 23

**Forrest Gump**

BEACON

7 p.m. The Yard  
4 Hanna Lane | [annalyseandryan.com](http://annalyseandryan.com)

Local musicians, including Annalyse & Ryan, Brad Hubbard, Cary Brown, the Costellos, Dan Hickey, Daria Grace, Dimitri Archip, Drew Murtaugh, Jaana Narsipur, Jonathan Frith, Matt Dickey, Peter Sparacino, Stephen Clair, Tristen Napoli and the Whispering Tree will perform music from the film during the first concert of the Summer Night Soundtracks series.

Cost: \$30 to \$50 (ages 12 and younger free)

SAT 23

**Night at the Movies**

WEST POINT

7:30 p.m. Trophy Point  
[westpointband.com](http://westpointband.com)

The West Point Band will perform music composed for the big screen.

Free

SAT 23

**Alex and Bobby Yaps**

BEACON

7:30 p.m. Reserva Wine Bar  
173 Main St. | [reservabeacon.com](http://reservabeacon.com)

The singer and her accompanist

will perform witty songs with a timeless edge. Free

SAT 23

**Stephen Clair and the Royal Peep**

BEACON

9 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St.  
[facebook.com/quinnbeacon](http://facebook.com/quinnbeacon)

The Beacon musician will be joined by Nate Allen and Aaron Latos.

SUN 24

**CUPS**

BEACON

9 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St.  
[actblue.com/donate/quinn072422](http://actblue.com/donate/quinn072422)

The husband-and-wife duo of Yuka Honda (co-founder of Cibo Matto) and Nels Cline (the guitarist for Wilco) will perform to raise campaign funds for Julie Shiroschi, a Beacon resident who is a Democratic candidate for the state Senate.

Cost: \$20 to \$250

MON 25

**George Muscatello Trio**

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St.  
[facebook.com/quinnbeacon](http://facebook.com/quinnbeacon)

The trio will perform as part of Quinn's weekly jazz series.

Cost: \$15

FRI 29

**New York Bee Gees**

MAHOPAC

6:30 p.m. Putnam County Golf Course  
187 Hill St. | 845-808-1880  
[putnamcountygolfcourse.com](http://putnamcountygolfcourse.com)

The cover band will perform disco classics. The ticket price includes a barbecue buffet.

Cost: \$44 (\$50 door, \$22/\$25 ages 12 and younger)

FRI 29

**The Midnight Anthem**

KENT LAKES

7 p.m. Arts on the Lake  
640 Route 52 | [artsonthelake.org](http://artsonthelake.org)

A trio of cousins will perform original music and covers with country flair as part of a summer concert series. Donations welcome.

Free

FRI 29

**Don Lowe**

BEACON

8 p.m. Two Way Brewing Co.  
18 W. Main St. | [twowaybrewing.com](http://twowaybrewing.com)

The Americana performer will



Open Book, July 23

share music from his forthcoming album.

FRI 29

**Stella Blue's Band**

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | [townecrier.com](http://townecrier.com)

Stella is known for her high-energy jams and improvisation.

Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)

SAT 30

**Stone Temple Pilots**

PEEKSKILL

4:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
[paramounthudsonvalley.com](http://paramounthudsonvalley.com)

The concert, which also features the School of Rock, Kings X and Steven Adler of Guns N' Roses, will benefit the David Z Foundation, a nonprofit that provides music education to children from low-income families.

Cost: \$79 to \$149

SAT 30

**Head Games**

BREWSTER

6:30 p.m. Tilly's Table  
100 Route 312 | 845-808-1840  
[tillystablereastaurant.com](http://tillystablereastaurant.com)

This Foreigner cover band will perform the band's hits. Parking is \$10.

Cost: \$30

SAT 30

**Michael Bisio**

POUGHKEEPSIE

8 p.m. Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center  
9 Vassar St. | [bisio.bpt.me](http://bisio.bpt.me)

Bisio will perform work from his latest recording, *Inimitable*, to kick off a music series organized by Eluysium Furnace Works.

Cost: \$15

SAT 30

**The Chris O'Leary Band**

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | [townecrier.com](http://townecrier.com)

The former lead singer of Levon Helm's band, the Barnburners, will perform blues from his latest release, *7 Minutes Late*.

Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)

**CIVIC**

MON 25

**School Board**

BEACON

7 p.m. Beacon High School  
101 Matteawan Road | 845-838-6900  
[beaconk12.org](http://beaconk12.org)

WED 27

**Village Board**

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.  
845-265-3611 | [coldspringny.gov](http://coldspringny.gov)

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845-219-5210



## 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.

\* Paid for by a concerned citizen

### Mouths to Feed

## Drink Pink

By Celia Barbour

A few weeks ago, I ran into my dear friend Jane at a party in a meadow under a sprawling old oak tree. With typical warm enthusiasm, she told me that both she and her aunt had recently made “that wonderful drink” I wrote about in this paper many years ago.



While I scratched my head trying to remember *which* drink she was referring to, she proceeded to tell me that my cocktail had become a summertime standard for both herself and her aunt.

My slipshod memory notwithstanding, this was cheering news. I am always deeply gratified to learn that one of my culinary creations has gone out into the world and found a happy new home. The truth is, whenever another person loves anything I love — a song, a dish, a park, a pastime — the world feels somewhat less lonely.

Paradoxically, letting go of something dear also foreshadows a bigger loneliness, and in particular the loneliness of parenting: You create something you love, then release it into the world.

It so happens that the Spring Tizzy (which I later discovered was the name of the drink now in Jane's repertoire) was the last cocktail recipe I ever published here. That was in 2014, when all three of our kids were still in middle school. This coming fall, our youngest will begin college, and his older brothers are already well past legal drinking age.

When the kids were little, I frequently made smoothies on summer nights, particularly if we'd sat down to a dinner devoid of vegetables. If supper had consisted of nachos or pasta, for example, “dessert” would be frozen berries, a banana, orange juice and some kind of alt-milk whirred together in a blender. We all loved them.

Back in those days, I also often liked to invent cocktails for special occasions, drinks that might play off against the flavors of a holiday feast or birthday dinner. The Spring Tizzy began as one of those.

These days, any cocktail ingredients that find their way into my house are less likely to turn up in a new libation than to pile up in resealable plastic bags in my freezer: three-quarters of a bottle of prosecco that I opened for a recipe requiring a half-cup; half a can of coconut milk or crushed pineapple; and lime juice squeezed from zested limes that were starting to mummify on the counter.

After my conversation with Jane, I decided it was high time to share a new cocktail recipe, and soon realized that it had to be chilly in anticipation of this week's heat wave. Back in May, I'd come across an intriguing recipe by a bartender named Marlowe Johnson of Detroit's Candy Bar. The combination of ingredients lodged like a burr in my brain, but when I went to make it I couldn't find the recipe so I improvised



## Pink Drink

NOTE: When I originally made this, I used leftover prosecco and coconut milk that were stored in my freezer, and the drink came out extra creamy, and needed no additional ice. If you make it with chilled or room-temperature ingredients, add ice to the blender to create a thick, frozen drink.

### For 2 to 3 servings:

- 2 cups frozen strawberries
- 4 ounces gin
- 4 ounces light coconut milk (see note)
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice, plus more limes for garnish
- 1 tablespoon agave or simple syrup, or to taste
- 1 cup ice, optional (see note)
- 8 ounces prosecco (see note)

Place the strawberries, gin, coconut milk, lime juice, agave and ice (if using) in the blender and whirl until thick and smooth. Add the prosecco and blend briefly, just to combine. Serve at once, in chilled glasses, with a lime wedge as garnish.

and messed it up — in a good way, I think.

The first time I made it, most of the ingredients came from my freezer: not only the strawberries, but also the coconut milk and the prosecco. The result was thick and creamy, and both my son, Henry, and his girlfriend gave it an enthusiastic thumbs-up.

I made a few test batches the other night and offered a sample to his brother, George. He took a sip.

I watched him. What? Too much gin? Not enough coconut? More agave?

He tasted again. Then his face cracked into a grin. “This is a smoothie!”

And you, dear child, are an adult.



Emily Murnane



Eliza Howland

Photos provided

## Beacon History, Up Close and Personal

*Historian will portray library founder Eliza Howland*

By Alison Rooney

The Howland Public Library, which began in the building on Main Street in Beacon that is now the Howland Cultural Center, this year celebrates its 150th anniversary.

To kick off a schedule of events in July, August and September, Emily Murnane will portray library co-founder Eliza Woolsey Howland in a program on Tuesday (July 26). During *My Heart Toward Home*, Murnane will share the story of the Civil War nurse, philanthropist and historical writer in Howland's own words, using her writings.

“When we know the names of people who helped us build our home, it turns them from something unreachable to being our neighbors.

~ Emily Murnane

The free performance, which begins at 7 p.m., is a collaboration between the Beacon Historical Society (where Murnane is a trustee), the library and the cultural center.

The presentation was inspired, Murnane says, by the historical society's Ghost in the Mist tours that ran from 2017 to

2019. The brainchild of Robin Lucas, the tours included costumed actors stationed throughout the city portraying figures from Beacon's past. They shared their stories in the first person with tour guests who strolled by candlelight, led by a guide.

Howland was not one of the characters, Murnane says — “instead we had Nancy Lamont, a librarian, but the crowd reaction to her wasn't that strong. We wanted someone more recognizable, so in 2019 we switched to Eliza.”

For her performance on Tuesday, Murnane prepared by researching primary sources, “taking the words directly from things Eliza wrote. No one's going to know her story better than her.”

She says she avoided creating a timeline but instead looked for highlights such as major life changes or “perhaps a moment of drama. We prefer storytelling, not a walking history book. A person's values, the things most important to them, are what we focus on, not rattling off dates.”

Her presentation will include a slide show of archival materials playing in the background, with images from Howland's world, “anything visually we can use to tell the story and also show what we have in our archive.”

During her hours spent researching Howland's life, “I've really fallen in love with her,” Murnane says. “She was the fifth of eight children, all sisters, raised by their mother. She was an outspoken abolitionist, and was involved with public works and the church. Among her contributions, she built the Tioronda School and founded the Highland Hospital, but the library was her

whole team is “amazing.”

Nonetheless, during the months leading to The Bird's reopening, Tarter feared that locals were anticipating another flop. In early May, she and McAlpine were buoyed during a visit by the inn's previous owners, Elaine and Mike Margolies, who now live in Florida. “They looked around and said:

## COMING UP

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the Howland Public Library and the building, designed by Richard Morris Hunt, that it occupied until 1976. The structure now houses the Howland Cultural Center. Along with the Beacon Historical Society, the library and cultural center are planning a series of events in August and September to celebrate.



**MONDAY, AUG. 1**

### Mini-Library Kit Contest

9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
Howland Public Library, 313 Main St.

Adults are invited to stop by and pick up a kit to make a bookshelf diorama. The submission deadline is Aug. 19.

**FRIDAY, AUG. 5**

### Celebration Storytime

3 p.m. Howland Public Library

Stories will be geared to children in pre-K to second grade, but all are welcome. Register at [beaconlibrary.org](http://beaconlibrary.org).

### 150th Anniversary Celebration

5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St.

Raise a glass at the original site of the Howland Circulating Library.

### People Make it Happen (Opening)

6 p.m. Howland Cultural Center

Browse an exhibit of works by Donna Mikkelsen and Jean-Marc Superville Sovak. An artist's talk with Sovak is scheduled for Aug. 13.

**SATURDAY, AUG. 6**

### Howland History Exhibit

1 – 3 p.m. Beacon Historical Society  
61 Leonard St.

Explore material from the society's archives about the library and building.

**MONDAY, AUG. 8**

### Tintype Studio Visit

3:30 p.m. Beacon Tintype, 149 Main St.

Teens are invited to learn how photographs were made in the 19th century.

**SATURDAY, AUG. 13**

### Keeping the Books (Opening)

Noon – 3 p.m. Howland Public Library

This exhibition will include photos and ephemera from Howland Library scrapbooks compiled from the 1870s to the 1970s.

**MONDAY, AUG. 15**

### Call for Art:

### Words Unbound

Howland Public Library

Today is the deadline for submissions to a group exhibit curated by Theresa Gooby of art inspired by libraries, literature, physical books and the printed word. See [beaconlibrary.org/callforart](http://beaconlibrary.org/callforart).

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 21**

### Richard Morris Hunt in Beacon

Howland Cultural Center

Steven Balstas will discuss three buildings in Beacon designed by Hunt and commissioned by Gen. Joseph Howland: the library, the Presbyterian Church and the Tioronda Music Room.

See [beaconlibrary.org/howland150](http://beaconlibrary.org/howland150) for more info and to register.

great achievement.

“Despite all these accomplishments, she was notoriously shy and never wanted to be recognized or celebrated — she was fond of making donations in other people's names. She wanted to do what was right without being recognized for it. She championed the humane treatment of people with mental illness. She's unique in being so socially conscious beyond her time. She would fight the good fight today, as she was passionate about education, equality and mental health.”

Murnane says she feels bringing historical figures such as Howland to life is essential,

because otherwise “history can feel far away and long ago. When we know the names of people who helped us build our home, it turns them from something unreachable to being our neighbors. It gives you a sense of pride and ownership when something becomes more than just ‘that building on Main Street.’”

*The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St. Spectators must show proof at the door of full vaccination and wear masks. The event also will be streamed. See [beaconhistorical.org/calendar-of-events/eliza-howland](http://beaconhistorical.org/calendar-of-events/eliza-howland) to RSVP or for the Zoom link.*

## Bird & Bottle (from Page 11)

One day, “in walks Kristian Meixner,” said Tarter. Not only did he have skills, he checked boxes for intangible qualities. “There are so many egos in the restaurant world. And he's just a great egg.” Indeed, the couple frequently stressed that their

“You did it! You did what we could never imagine,” Tarter recalled.

“They were both in tears,” said McAlpine.

Mike Margolies admitted that he'd struggled to attract weeknight customers. “He told us, ‘I never could make it work. We lost money the entire time,’” said Tarter. “I was like, ‘Thanks for telling us now!’”

Despite signs they've turned it around, Tarter sometimes feels daunted by the magnitude of their undertaking. “The Bird is way bigger than Brendan and me. We feel like stewards and not owners of this place.

“Did we do it justice?” she asked. “Whenever people tell us they love it, it's such a huge sigh of relief.”

# Looking Back in Beacon

By Chip Rowe

*Editor's note: Beacon was created in 1913 from Matteawan and Fishkill Landing.*

## 150 Years Ago (July 1872)

Eugene Schmidlein was arrested in Fishkill Landing on charges that he stole gold and silver watches from a jeweler where he had once worked. According to jailers, Schmidlein wrote his father in Germany, saying he needed money because he was in trouble for shooting a man, which he calculated would generate more sympathy than thievery. It did, eliciting a draft for \$400 in gold.

## 125 Years Ago (July 1897)

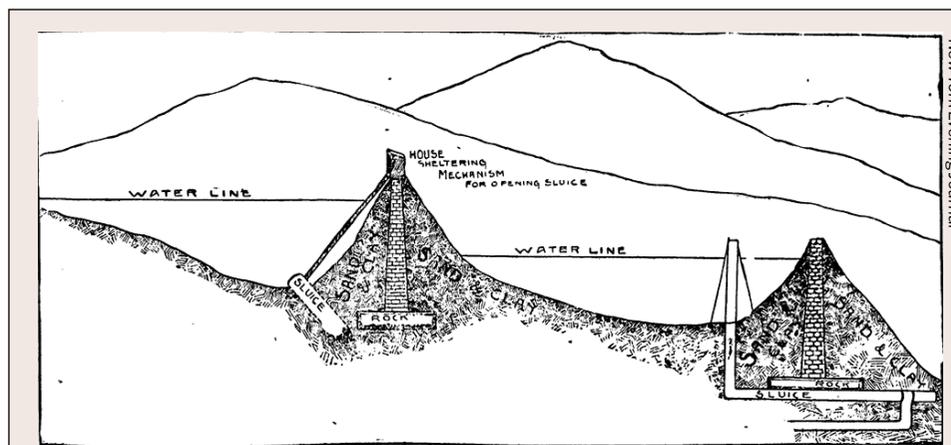
Although she was 98 years old, Mrs. Horace Riggs of Matteawan walked to the store each day to buy meat and bread, and to the Baptist Church every Sunday.

Authorities investigated the death of Selma Larsen, a Swedish woman who became ill on the train to New York City and died mysteriously at the Matteawan hospital. She had been working as a parlor maid for the Dinsmore family in Staatsburg, who said she planned to visit her sister in Manhattan. Suspicions arose that she had been poisoned, perhaps by a spurned lover (a butler had stolen two bottles of wine for her to take on the trip, and paid for her ticket). But following an autopsy, a doctor concluded that she had died from a stomach ulcer created, he surmised, when she mistakenly took a tablet used to kill insects instead of a potash pill for coughs. A coroner's jury ruled out intentional poisoning.

Fannie Waring Korn, 43, who had escaped two years earlier from the State Hospital for Insane Criminals at Matteawan, was recognized and arrested by a detective on West 47th Street in Manhattan, where she had opened a boarding house. Korn had been sent to the facility in 1893 when a jury found she had been insane when she killed her 6-year-old daughter. She was returned to Matteawan, but her lawyer argued that his client was no longer insane; a judge agreed and ordered her released.

Howard Rees, 35, president of the Phoenix Gas Co. of Matteawan, was detained after his father, the vice president, said his son was on the verge of insanity through liquor. After being sent to a sanitarium in Orange County, Rees escaped through a bathroom window. He reached West Point at daybreak, where he borrowed 15 cents to be rowed across the river to Garrison, and another 25 cents to take the train to his lawyer's home in Matteawan. Rees agreed to admit himself to the Hudson River State Hospital while the lawyer argued that the father's concern was a ploy to take control of the firm. Nevertheless, a judge ordered Rees to remain at the state hospital for a month for evaluation.

Joseph Moshier, 8, of Brynesville, near Fishkill Landing, was trying to catch a ride on a freight train at Dennings Point when



Upper and Lower Dams, Showing Destruction and Cause of Accident.

## The Day the Dams Burst

In the early morning hours of Wednesday, July 14, 1897, the 10-year-old Melzingah dams, which supplied Fishkill Landing and Matteawan with drinking water, failed and sent a deadly torrent into a settlement at Frank Timoney's brickyard.

A witness said the water came in two waves. After the first, he came outside the boarding house where he was living with his wife and five children and found the water was 4 feet deep and had carried away the stoop. The second, a 15-foot-high wave that carried with it uprooted trees and the debris from two bridges, tore the frame house from its foundation and destroyed it. Two adults and four children were killed, along with a Hungarian laborer in another building. One victim, Mrs. John Conroy, had been saved by her future husband during the Johnstown flood in 1889 in Pennsylvania that killed 2,200 people. John Conroy survived Melzingah but could not save her a second time, or their two children.

A subsequent investigation by the *New York Evening Journal* said that, instead of masonry, the 28-foot-high dams had been constructed of cobblestone and silt and were only 10 inches thick at the top. Authorities accused the Fishkill & Matteawan Water Co., based on

Wall Street, of building on the cheap, but the firm was unrepentant. Its president said he only knew what he read in the papers, and the on-site superintendent said the disaster had been "grossly exaggerated."

In later testimony, the superintendent said he could not account for the overflow unless it had to do with the three days of heavy rain that preceded the disaster. He also revealed the firm had a watchman on duty but he was not expected to check the structures every day.

Timoney, whose yard employed 200 men and produced 24 million bricks annually, sued for damages, as did relatives of the victims. A coroner's jury found the water company "in a large measure responsible" but did not recommend criminal charges.

An inquest by the district attorney concluded the dams were, in fact, solidly built but had insufficient spillways, which allowed water to run over and eat away at the stone following heavy rains. At the inquest, a civil engineer noted that the spillway for the upper reservoir had been constructed 4 feet lower than the crest but later raised, apparently to increase capacity. He said water had been cascading over the upper dam for at least six hours before it gave way.

## 100 Years Ago (July 1922)

The Dutchess County sheriff was searching for a craps player — thought to be a professional from Rockland County — who shot a woman dead during a brickyard game near Beacon after she "crossed his bet."

The federal Veterans' Bureau was negotiating to purchase Summerfield, a 208-acre estate with a 20-room mansion about 2½ miles from Beacon, to construct a \$1 million hospital for up to 1,500 patients.

Albert Belle Isle, whose brick company had stockpiled 115 tons of coal at Long Dock, said he would defy an order from the city to preserve it because of a shortage at the Southern Dutchess Gas & Electric Co.

Mrs. Cornelius Kelisher of Beacon said she owned a lotus twig with a tag attached that read: "From the tree under which General

Lee gave his sword to General Grant near the battlefield and where the last battle was fought, Appomattox, Va., April 9, 1865."

Alexander McKim, a state inspector, said the hollow spots in the Mount Beacon reservoir dam he had documented 10 years earlier had not been corrected. An engineer hired by the state said the city should construct a new dam at least 1,400 feet long and 20 feet high on Fishkill Creek for peak loads.

Peter Tomasilli of Beacon was indicted for blackmail after he wrote his parents threatening to kill them unless they withdrew a charge that he had attacked his father with an ax handle. Soon after, a guard at the Dutchess County Jail found eight hacksaw blades concealed in Tomasilli's mattress. They had been smuggled in by the wife of inmate John Muscullo, who was being held on charges that he stabbed a man during the greased-pole fracas at the celebration of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Poughkeepsie.

A report presented to the City Council noted that samples of milk distributed by two of four dealers in the city had more bacteria than the legal limit, including one with 8.5 million bacteria, or 8.3 million more than allowed. The mayor recommended a law that required pasteurization.

After the Beacon Taxpayers' Association sued the city because it had rented a 5-ton truck from a supplier outside the city, Public Safety Commissioner John Cronin dismissed the group as a "coterie of disgruntled politicians, a sorehead newspaper editor, politicians and near-officeholders."

## 75 Years Ago (July 1947)

The Rev. John Lovejoy, 90, made 440 biscuits for a strawberry festival hosted by the Young People's Society at the First Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Fishkill, where he was the temporary minister. Lovejoy said he didn't weigh or measure the ingredients but went by instinct. "My mind was never clearer," the Beacon resident said. "I don't live in the past. By having something to do, I live for the Sunday that's coming."

Police investigating the report of a prowler inside a South Avenue boarding house for women found the contents of its bathroom hamper on the roof.

The owner and a bartender at George's Tavern on the Beacon-Cold Spring road were charged with selling alcohol to two underage girls who were rooming at the tavern. The girls were arrested as wayward minors, and a 21-year-old Beacon man faced morals charges.

Although reports of flying saucers were widespread, there had been no reports in Beacon or Dutchess County, which Sheriff Fred Close attributed to the fact that "our citizens all get to bed early."

James Forrestal, a Beacon native, was appointed by President Truman as the first U.S. secretary of defense.

Beacon High School announced it would have a football team for the first time in 35 years. The district hired a coach but said community members would have to raise the money for equipment and uniforms.

Construction began on Mount Beacon for the Hudson Valley's first frequency modulation (FM) transmitter, which would power

(Continued on Page 17)

(Continued from Page 16)

a new station, WHVA.

The Van Wyck Players opened a weeklong engagement of *Springtime for Henry*, starring Hollywood character actor Edward Everett Horton, at the Roosevelt Theater. The performers who traveled the summer circuit with Horton included Lilian Bond. The show was followed by a week of *Arsenic and Old Lace* starring Ruth McDevitt, who had played Aunt Abby more than 800 times on Broadway.



Edward Everett Horton

During a performance of *High Tor* at Van Wyck Hall in Fishkill, a Beacon woman in the front row was struck by a .22-caliber bullet fired by the sound effects man. David Pritchard, 19, of Washington, D.C., was charged with assault and held overnight in the Beacon jail. During the scene, three actors portraying bank robbers shot

at ghosts of Dutch sailors on the Hudson River. Pritchard fired the round from the fly gallery above the stage into a washtub filled with sand, but the slug pierced 3 inches of flooring and hit Joan Clarke, 26. The next day, the theater manager said it was unclear how five bullets were loaded into the rifle instead of blanks but praised Clarke for her "admirable calm" after she was wounded — she rose from her seat and walked to the exit as the play continued. He said that evening's performance would use recorded effects.

**50 Years Ago (July 1972)**

A 17-year-old was arrested after someone called the Beacon Police Department about a burglary in progress — across the street from the station. An officer found the teenager halfway through a window at a doctor's office at 436 Main St.

A squirrel climbed onto a transformer at the relay station on a Friday night and knocked out power on the west side of the city for 22 minutes.

In a report, a Dutchess County grand jury criticized the actions of four Beacon police officers and suggested they be disciplined or fired for "gross misconduct." In response to an unruly 18-year-old burglary suspect they had arrested, the officers restrained and beat him. Asked to comment on the report, Mayor Robert Cahill said he had conducted his own investigation and saw no need for a grand jury. He later suspended each of the officers for two days without pay.

Two members of the Planning Board ques-

tioned a proposal to build 150 to 180 condos on a state-owned parcel near Asylum Road. One board member said the project would only "solve problems of overcrowding in Yonkers and White Plains" while straining the school district. However, other members noted a shortage of affordable housing for young married couples.

Beacon hosted seven teams for the 21st annual Upstate New York Babe Ruth baseball tournament. Saratoga defeated Beacon, 2-1, in the title game.

According to the dog warden, the city spent \$2,000 in three months to kennel 93 strays. Only 13 were claimed, the rest destroyed. The commissioner of public safety recommended the warden respond only to complaints. "We don't have the money to pick up all the stray dogs in the city," he said.

“During a performance of *High Tor* at Van Wyck Hall in Fishkill, a Beacon woman in the front row was struck by a .22-caliber bullet fired by the sound effects man.

In a contract dispute, the 196-member Beacon Teachers Association accused the school board of "outright neglect" for its failure to advance negotiations. The board president replied that, because of summer

vacations, it was difficult to get all nine members together for discussions.

The Beacon-Fishkill Area Chamber of Commerce suggested that, to encourage shoppers, an urban development on Main Street between Teller and North Chestnut should not include parking meters. Mayor Cahill responded, "No way."

**25 Years Ago (July 1997)**

Scott Robinson, 29, of Beacon, won the Tri-State Natural Body Building Competition at Tarrytown, capturing the Novice, Open and All-Around contests. He had been training at Body Werx in Beacon for a year.

According to reports filed with the federal government, IBM's East Fishkill semiconductor plant released 186,188 pounds of chemicals into the environment in 1995. By comparison, Chemprene of Beacon, which made rubber products, released 65,444 pounds and the Tallix art foundry released 250 pounds. In Rochester, Eastman Kodak released 7.9 million pounds.

Mike Pomarico of Beacon had a seven-point lead in the Rookie Street Stock Championship series going into a race at the Orange County Fair Speedway. He had substituted the previous year for his brother, Don, when he had work conflicts, and won four of his first seven races.

To protest General Electric's pollution of the Hudson River, the City Council cut ties with Coregis, an insurance firm owned by the company. The city moved its policies, and \$161,000 in annual premiums, to Reliance.

STATE OF NEW YORK  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**NOTICE OF HEARING**

CASE 7006 - Petition of the Town of Fishkill, pursuant to Section 90 of the Railroad Law, for an order of the Commissioner approving the construction of a new above-grade crossing over Metro-North Commuter Railroad Company's (Metro North) Hudson Line at MP 54.52, north of the Breakneck Tunnel, Town of Fishkill, Dutchess County.

PETITIONER'S REPRESENTATIVE AND ADDRESS: Ozzy Albra, Supervisor, Town of Fishkill, 807 Route 52, Fishkill, NY 12524-3110.

\*\*\*

**NOTICE** is hereby given that a public hearing will be held in the above-entitled matter before the Honorable Dustin B. Howard, Administrative Law Judge, New York State Department of Transportation, at the Town Hall Community Room, 807 Route 52, Ground Floor, Fishkill, NY 12524 on July 27, 2022 beginning at 11:00 AM.

By a letter received April 13, 2022, the Town of Fishkill requested a hearing to consider its request for construction of a new above-grade crossing over Metro-North Commuter Railroad Company's (Metro North) Hudson Line at MP 54.52, north of the Breakneck Tunnel, Town of Fishkill, Dutchess County.

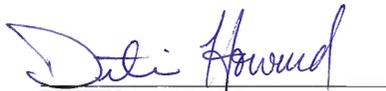
This hearing will establish a record and enable a determination as to whether such modifications are in the public interest of the People of the State of New York.

Parties are requested to advise the Office of Proceedings (518-457-1182) if a sign language interpreter, an assistive listening system or any other accommodations will be required to facilitate participation in this hearing.

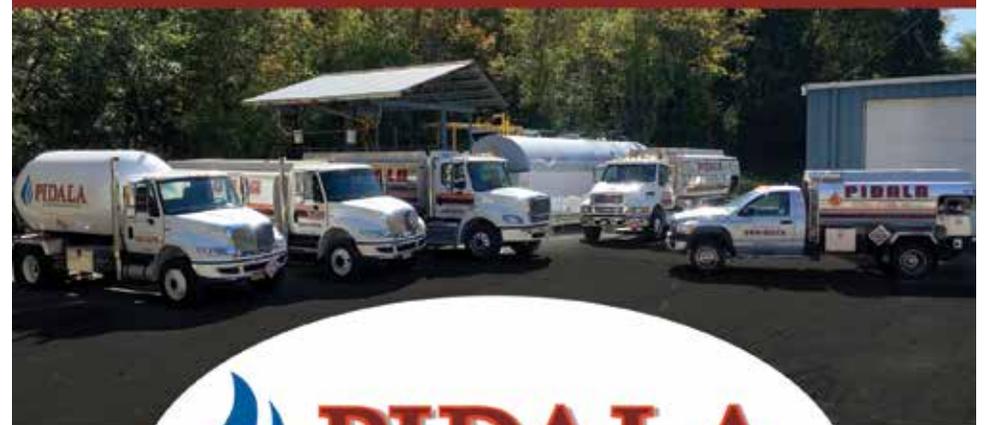
Parties who are planning to attend this hearing should confirm the day before the hearing that the hearing has not been adjourned, especially in case of inclement weather, by calling the Office of Proceedings at the telephone number listed above.

Parties who wish to receive a copy of the final report that is issued in this case must send a written request to the Office of Proceedings, NYSDOT, 50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12232.

July 14, 2022

  
DUSTIN B. HOWARD  
Administrative Law Judge  
Office of Proceedings

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Roots and Shoots

# What You Need: More Plants

By Pamela Doan



It's that moment in the season when my inbox is full of photos of chewed leaves, discolored leaves, sad flowers and other garden imperfections. Plants have matured and are either meeting expectations or lacking. Gardeners want answers and action.

I confess that in my early years of gardening, I found a parsley plant covered in caterpillars and nearly defoliated. My instinct was to pull them off and send them away. Pausing for a moment to try to understand the situation, I did a quick image search and identified the caterpillars and decided that losing the parsley was worth it. If I'd done otherwise, I would have taken out a family of swallowtail butterflies.

Many times, we don't pause, however. Any insect that is eating our plants is presumed bad. Growing vegetables and other food requires a different approach, of course, but our conditioning is to relate to insects and plants in combination in a defensive way.

That aisle at the garden center full of chemicals beckons with promises to fix our problems: pesticides and fertilizers, fungicides and herbicides all ready to make it better.

Research shows that we are consistently jumping at those choices. Cornell Cooperative Extension, by analyzing sales data, found that between 100,000 to 200,000 gallons of pesticides were applied or sold in Putnam County in 2017, the most recent figures avail-



It took a few minutes of observation to realize the bit of fluff at center was moving. A Master Gardener helped identify it as a wavy lined emerald moth caterpillar feasting on the echinacea. Photo by P. Doan

able. (Pesticides include herbicides, insecticides, fungicides and rodenticides.) That's as many as 813 gallons per square mile, even when including sales to farms.

In Dutchess County in 2017, between 200,000 to 500,000 gallons, or up to 606 gallons per square mile, were applied or sold.

Whatever action we take when applying pesticides in our yards, either non-organic or organic, has an ecological impact and should be carefully considered. Setting aside the "insect armageddon" and fertilizer overuse (which I will address in future columns), let's take a look at some possibilities for switching the lens on what's happening to our landscape plants, woody plants and trees.

I get it. I've spent hours out there prepping and sowing and planting and transplanting and pruning and watering and hoping, too. Waiting for the bloom or berry, the results! We are owed something after all that effort.

I also see all of the imperfections, just less often because I have so many plants. This brings on several advantages and a few consequences.

### Dense plantings hide imperfections

I like to have a filled-in garden. My gardens are not a showcase for mulch. When the lower leaves of the tall asters turn brown or fall off, it doesn't matter because the lower stalks are hidden in a cluster of cranesbill, Liatris and Joe Pye weed. The bleeding heart, which looks glorious in spring but fries out by mid-summer, is blocked from view by a planting of wild indigo, prairie clover and mountain mint.

### Chewed up leaves are a sign of success

All my native perennials and grasses and woody plants are host plants for insects. Their purpose is to be food and habitat. If they are intact, something isn't working.

### Mass plantings disguise imperfections

The trick is to have lots of plants, not just one or two of each species. The more plants you have, the less noticeable the damage. If I'd had 10 parsley plants, I would have cared less about losing one. It's unlikely all the species will be fodder.

### Have more plants than you can look after

The internet is full of memes about gardeners' insatiable need for plants. Lean into that. The more plants you have, the less you can fuss over aphids or powdery mildew. You will not have the time to care. You have a stock of seedling trees on the patio that need to be planted and there's that shade garden to weed and a plan for more grasses in the back corner, etc. Keep planting and ignore the problems.

In all seriousness, pause before acting to understand what's happening between a plant and an insect or a pathogen. Build your tolerance for imperfections. Most of us aren't trained in pesticide application and we can inadvertently expose ourselves and our environments to hazards that aren't necessary. Choose wisely or, better yet, find ways to avoid that aisle at the garden center.

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# Puzzles

## CROSS CURRENT

**ACROSS**

- 1. Baseball's Ripken
- 4. Glacial
- 7. Mrs. Flintstone
- 12. Baton Rouge sch.
- 13. Extinct New Zealand bird
- 14. Figure of speech
- 15. "— showtime!"
- 16. Parthenon locale
- 18. *The A-Team* actor
- 19. *Le* — (French news-paper)
- 20. Pear type
- 22. Sugary suffix
- 23. Actress Tyne
- 27. Director Howard
- 29. Cut up, as a pizza
- 31. Metric measure
- 34. Desert haven
- 35. Tam topper
- 37. Ray Donovan actor Voight
- 38. Money maven Orman
- 39. Vichy water
- 41. Latin love
- 45. Shadow
- 47. Mimic
- 48. Maryland's capital
- 52. Composer Rorem
- 53. Got wind of
- 54. Kreskin's claim
- 55. Big D.C. lobby
- 56. Authority

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14					
15				16				17					
18				19									
20				21		22				23	24	25	26
				27	28			29	30				
31	32	33						34					
35						36		37					
38						39	40			41	42	43	44
						45				46		47	
48	49	50	51								52		
53								54			55		
56								57				58	

- 57. ACLU issues
- 58. Small batteries
- DOWN**
- 1. Scale
- 2. Houston player
- 3. Has an intense craving
- 4. Mosque leader
- 5. Butterfly protector
- 6. Tales
- 7. Use a sponge
- 8. Altar promise
- 9. Dogpatch adjective
- 10. Miss Piggy's pronoun
- 11. Early hrs.
- 17. Rhyming tributes
- 21. Thin pancake
- 23. Hunting goddess
- 24. Rm. coolers
- 25. Island garland
- 26. QB's gains
- 28. Spanish gold
- 30. Privy
- 31. Vinyl records
- 32. Debtor's letters
- 33. Celeb gossip site
- 36. Office note
- 37. Legal expert
- 40. More skilled
- 42. Food from heaven
- 43. Verdi work
- 44. — a beet
- 45. High hairstyle
- 46. Nile vipers
- 48. Spa sounds
- 49. PBS funder
- 50. Opposing vote
- 51. MGM motto start

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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 unlike (9)
- 2 bewildered (9)
- 3 buttery, soft candies (8)
- 4 where laundry is hung (11)
- 5 free from particulates (8)
- 6 wapitis (4)
- 7 uninterrupted speech (9)

**SOLUTIONS**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

DIF	LINE	OXED	NT	RAM
UMM	ESS	OGUE	DUS	MON
TL	KS	CLOT	CA	FL
ELS	OL	FERE	EL	HES

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## SUDO CURRENT

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

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**Answers for July 15 Puzzles**

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

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

1. THREW, 2. CONICAL, 3. SEGUES, 4. FLOUNDERED, 5. BATONS, 6. ENSCONCED, 7. DENTISTS



# BEACON BASEBALL ROUNDUP

By Skip Pearlman

Beacon's summer travel team for players ages 12 and younger stayed hot last week, along with the weather, picking up two Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League victories: a 7-2 win on Sunday (July 17) over New Paltz and a 9-2 win on Wednesday over a team sponsored by the Hudson Valley Renegades.

On Wednesday at Shepherd Park in Fishkill, Parker White started for the Bulldogs and went three innings, striking out seven and allowing two hits and no runs, to earn the victory. Elijah Epps pitched two innings, and Naim Dika closed.

Epps had a big day at the plate, going 3-for-3 with a pair of two-run homers. Nolan Varricchio and Dika each drove in two runs, and Connor Varricchio had a RBI.

"For a hot day — it was 100 degrees when we started — the kids stayed with it," said Coach Ryan Koval. "It was the same for both teams, but we got a great job from White — he took it to them. He was in the zone from the get-go, and never faced a threat. And both relievers looked strong.

"Offensively our guys had good at-bats," he added. "We've been trying to get them to understand that there are lots of ways to have 'team-first' at-bats, and they've been doing a great job of it."

On Sunday at Memorial Park, Beacon was led on the mound by Nolan Varricchio, who started and picked up the win, and



Catcher Mikey Fontaine puts the tag on a runner at home in Wednesday's 10-9 victory.

Dika, who closed.

White provided the offensive power, bashing a pair of home runs and finishing with five RBI. Dika homered and went 2-for-2 and Hudson Fontaine drove in a run.

"Varricchio threw well early," Koval said. "And Dika gave us three innings on 30 pitches. White has been heating up at the plate at the right time."

The team closed out regular season play this week and is preparing for the playoffs. "We just want to keep it rolling and fine-tune," the coach said.

Apparently inspired by a pregame visit from former Beacon High School pitcher Lenny Torres Jr. (below), the 15U team fought back from a seven-run, third-inning deficit to edge the Northeast Pride, 10-9, in a Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League game played Tuesday at Beacon High School.

The Bulldogs (18-2), who have played outstanding this summer, fell behind 3-0 in the first inning, gave up a run in the second and were victimized for three in the third.



Jackson Atwell had an RBI in Beacon's comeback win on Wednesday night.

Photos by S. Pearlman

"They get kind of ornery when they're behind and not playing well," said Coach Bob Atwell. "They had a choice of packing it in or fighting; they decided to fight. You could see the different demeanor after the third; they weren't playing the way we were accustomed to playing."

The Bulldogs scored four runs in the third and trailed 8-7 entering the sixth and final inning.

With two out in the top of the sixth, Beacon rallied for three runs. Liam Murphy started it off with a double, then Jackson Atwell and Derrick Heaton each drove in runs, leading to Mikey Fontaine's RBI double, the eventual difference-maker.

Mercer Jordan picked up the win in relief, with Nick Albra earning a save. Heaton started the game, and Anthony Borromeo also pitched.

"We got some clutch hitting in the sixth inning, and in each of the last four innings," Atwell said. "And we also got a great job from our relief pitchers — Jordan gave us quality innings, and Albra came in and shut it down."

Earlier, on July 16, Beacon won both games in a doubleheader against the Hudson Valley Renegades, 16-2 and 15-5.

Fontaine picked up the win in the first game, striking out nine in four innings. Heaton drove in three runs, Ronnie Anzovino went 3-for-3 with two RBI, Jordan was 2-for-4 with two RBI and Murphy drove in two runs and went 2-for-3.

Anzovino got the win in the second game, going three innings without allowing an earned run, and striking out three. Borromeo got the save. On offense, Murphy went 4-for-4 and drove in three runs, Atwell went 2-for-4 and drove in three runs and Fontaine was 2-for-4 with three RBI.

The Bulldogs are scheduled to close the regular season at Lagrangeville on Thursday (July 21) and at Stamford, Connecticut with a doubleheader on Saturday (July 23). The playoffs start next week.



**LENNY VISITS** — Former Beacon High School pitcher Lenny Torres Jr. (fifth from right), who plays in the Cleveland Guardians minor-league system, stopped by the school's baseball field on Tuesday (July 19) to visit the 15U travel team. Some of the players were freshmen when Torres Jr. graduated in 2018 and was selected as the 41st pick in the Major League Baseball draft. "Lenny knows a lot of the players from having them in camp four years ago," said Beacon's varsity coach, Bob Atwell. "The guys love to see him." Although Torres Jr. is 21, Atwell said his players tried to convince him to pitch a few innings in their game that day, which wouldn't have sat well with their opponent or the Guardians. Torres Jr. is on the roster this season of the Lake County Captains near Cleveland, which competes at the same minor-league level as the Hudson Valley Renegades. He is temporarily inactive with the team following the death of his father to cancer on July 7.

Photo provided