Beacon Makes Electric History

Council passes fossil-fuel ban on new construction
By Jeff Simms

Beacon on Monday (March 20) banned the use of fossil fuels in all new construction and major renovation projects, a move that the City Council hopes will lead New York State and other municipalities to follow suit.

The law, which was adopted unanimously, goes into effect Jan. 1 and will prohibit the use of fossil fuels such as natural gas and heating oil. Renovations of buildings that involve more than 75 percent of the heated floor area and the replacement or installation of a heating or hot water system must also use electric equipment, but all other existing structures will not be affected.

With the move, Beacon became the third municipality in New York state to limit greenhouse-gas emissions in buildings. A New York City law adopted in 2021 limits the emissions allowed in newly constructed buildings, with exceptions for hospitals, laundromats and crematoriums, but is not an outright fossil-fuel ban. Also (Continued on Page 8)

A New Home for Veterinarian — His Garage

Seeks permit to operate in North Highlands
By Michael Turton

Dr. Peter Bach and his Animal Hospital of Cold Spring are in transition, moving from its longstanding village location to the North Highlands.

After receiving pets for nearly 18 years at his offices between Drug World and Yannitelli’s Fine Wine and Spirits at 53 Chestnut St., Bach closed the office on Dec. 31. He has since asked the Philipstown Planning Board for a special permit to operate in a 400-square-foot space that had been a garage at his home on Fishkill Road, near the intersection with Lake Surprise Road.

Bach’s most recent lease agreement, which expired Oct. 31, was not renewed. The building is owned by Andon Associates, and Donnie Yannitelli said he and the other owners of the firm did not want to comment on plans for the space.

In January, Bach began renovating the (Continued on Page 8)

What to Do With Hamilton Fish?

Garrison library reviewing founder’s Nazi sympathies
By Leonard Sparks

A nita Prentice, board chair of the Desmond-Fish Public Library, and Dede Farabaugh, its director, stopped at a table displaying a new collection. Arranged in a semicircle, the book covers blared ominous titles: Black Mail, a history of franking, the system that allows elected officials to send free mail; Hitler’s American Friends: The Third Reich’s Supporters in the United States; and George Sylvester Viereck: German-American Propagandist.

The books, along with two dissertations, represent the first step in what may be a long process for the Garrison library: deciding how to respond to pro-Nazi sentiments attributed to Hamilton Fish III, the late U.S. House member who in 1980 founded the library with his third wife, Alice Curtis Desmond.

In October, Rachel Maddow devoted (Continued on Page 9)
Did birding benefit from the pandemic?

Yes. When people were home, they started looking up. Birding is the most popular recreational activity in the country. Audubon has 93,000 members, with 27 affiliated chapters in New York state. You can bird anywhere, anytime and you don’t need paraphernalia, because most birding is learning the calls and the songs, and going out on a walk. People found it was peaceful, and could be done with kids. I started to get more “I saw this little yellow and black bird, what was it?” calls. Once they start, people stay with it.

The next stage is that people begin to care for birds’ needs. They get to thinking about their habitat, and plant native bushes. Soon you have backyard birds. You begin to understand the mechanism of how nature works and the amazing coordination through millennia.

Was your childhood spent in the woods?

No. I grew up in the city, but the city and I weren’t compatible. I came to this area and stayed here. Though actually, it all began for me in Central Park, with a statue of a marmot. His name was Balto, and he had saved young children in Alaska. I saw the statue, then read all the stories about him. That led to an interest in wolves, and I wound up working with them my whole life. Wolves have no interest in harming humans. In fact, they’ll go out of their way not to hurt people. They’re only interested in surviving.

Eventually the tree failed, and they left. It was the perfect spot, and when it was gone, they were gone. None of the birds came back; they found another spot they preferred, which shows how attached they are to a certain tree. Eagles do it, too. Sometimes you’re trying to save one tree to save an eagle’s nest.

You spent 17 years on the staff at Constitution Marsh. How would you make the site more accessible with the limited parking nearby?

You’re up against the topography of the marsh and the fact that you have homes right there. New York state parks opened up the waterfront area, so it became a recreational destination. That’s when it became a problem. It becomes an awful issue if you’re living right there. Eventually, it got shut down, then the marsh lost its parking. There’s no other place at the marsh you can put parking; you’d be destroying the marsh to do it. I don’t have a solution. You can’t come in canoes and kayaks, because people go off into the side channels, and that’s where birds are breeding. We’ve talked about satellite parking and bike racks, but everything is problematic. You don’t want it overrun. You have to plan ahead. It’s not going to be any easier.

You can bird anywhere, anytime and you don’t need paraphernalia, because most birding is learning the calls and the songs, and going out on a walk.

What’s your favorite regional bird?

Cedar Wax Wings! When I worked at the marsh, I had a large ash tree which was in the process of dying at my home. The birds would come in a flock, the same time, every night. Such beautiful, medium-sized birds. When the setting sun hits them, they’re gorgeous.

They’re fruit-eaters and I started thinking, “What can I have for them? Dogwood? Berries?” They disperse the seeds they eat. Eventually the tree failed, and they left. It was the perfect spot, and when it went, they were gone. None of the birds came back; they found another spot they preferred, which shows how attached they are to a certain tree. Eagles do it, too. Sometimes you’re trying to save one tree to save an eagle’s nest.
EPA Seeks Lower Limit On ‘Forever Chemicals’

Beacon currently below proposed new standard
By Leonard Sparks

The Environmental Protection Agency is proposing its first-ever enforceable standards for a class of toxic chemicals that closed drinking water sources in Newburgh and Putnam Valley and are present in Beacon’s system.

The proposal requires that municipalities notify the public and take steps to lower concentrations of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) exceeding 4 parts per trillion — significantly lower than the EPAs existing advisory guideline of 70 ppt and New York state’s maximum of 10 ppt.

These new federal standards will mean many more water systems will require treatment, and many more of our neighbors will be protected from exposure to these risky forever chemicals,” said Dan Shapley, the organization’s co-director of science and policy.

Both are the most widespread polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), a large group of chemicals used since the 1940s in products ranging from nonstick and stain- and water-resistant coatings to foams used by firefighters to suppress blazes caused by highly flammable liquids like jet fuel.

Researchers have linked PFAS, which are called “forever chemicals” because they do not easily degrade, to a range of health problems, including kidney cancers, developmental delays in children, high blood pressure in pregnant women and increased cholesterol.

The levels of PFAS in Beacon’s water supply ranged between 1.31 and 3.33 ppt, and PFOA levels were measured as high as 1.96 ppt in 2021, according to the city’s most current available. Cold Spring’s numbers were not immediately available.

Riverkeeper predicted that the proposed standards, which also require that public water systems be monitored for mixtures containing one or more of four other PFAS chemicals, will spur cleanups.

“Once in force, these new federal standards will mean many more water systems will require treatment, and many more of our neighbors will be protected from exposure to these risky forever chemicals,” said Dan Shapley, the organization’s co-director of science and policy.

One such exposure took place in the Putnam Valley Central School District, which is suing nearly two dozen companies that manufactured products containing PFAS, including 3M and DuPont, over the contamination of the well that supplies drinking water to students, faculty and staff at its elementary school.

School officials discovered the contamination in December 2020, when quarterly trations as high as 23.3 ppt for PFOA and 38.3 ppt for PFOS, well above the state’s drinking-water limits.

At the time of the results, students and staff were using bottled water instead of the contaminated well, and Newburgh and Putnam Valley are not the only victims. The chemicals also contaminated a well at Hudson Valley Regional Airport in Wappingers Falls, triggering a lawsuit by Dutchess County against manufacturers. They have also been found in the system supplying water to the middle and high schools in Dover.

In March 2022 the state Department of Environmental Conservation announced the start of an investigation into pollution from the chemicals at Dutchess County’s fire training facility in Hyde Park.

**Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Limits**

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<td>140-170 ppt</td>
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</table>

PPT = Parts per trillion

(1) 2021 testing
(2) December 2020 test
(3) Washington Lake, 2016

Cold Spring numbers were not immediately available.

Firefighting foams have also been implicated in the high PFAS levels that forced the closure of the City of Newburgh’s primary water supply, Washington Lake, in 2016 after sampling showed concentrations between 140 and 170 ppt.

State investigators traced the contamination to the use of the foams at Stewart Air National Guard Base.

In addition to closing the lake, the state Department of Health launched a testing program for Newburgh residents. Results for the first 370 people tested showed a middle level of 16 parts per billion, three times higher than the national figure of 5.2. For current residents of Newburgh the average was even higher, about 20 parts per billion.

New York also funded the installation of a new water-filtration system, but Newburgh officials decided to continue drawing water from New York City’s Catskill Aqueduct.

A five-year national study of the health effects of PFAS chemicals is underway, and includes residents from Newburgh.

Newburgh and Putnam Valley are not the only victims. The chemicals also contaminated a well at Hudson Valley Regional Airport in Wappingers Falls, triggering a lawsuit by Dutchess County against manufacturers. They have also been found in the system supplying water to the middle and high schools in Dover.

In March 2022 the state Department of Environmental Conservation announced the start of an investigation into pollution from the chemicals at Dutchess County’s fire training facility in Hyde Park.

**Welcome to New Members and Thank You to More**

The Current is pleased to add these members who joined in the last few days:

- **PARTNERS ($120-$599)**
  - David Elzer
  - Peter Endler

And we appreciate the generosity of these members, whose names were inadvertently left off our membership list published last week:

- **ALSO PARTNERS**
  - Rob Abbot and Claire Cifaloglio
  - Sherrie and Nikolai Nachamkin
  - Jacqueline Azria
  - David and Ann Provan
  - Marilyn Minter
  - Alexander and Duncan Regan

Membership is very important to our nonprofit news organization, accounting for 70% of our revenue. To join, please go to:

highlandscurrent.org/join

For questions, email:

membership@highlandscurrent.org
Tell us what you think

The 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.

Thefork mob would be out predicting the demise of old Breakneck Lodge. True, the Greenport Hotel parking lot was being proposed today, the same pitchfork mob was out predicting the demise of our village without offering any solutions. Tom Cerchiara, Beacon

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Electric rides
I have been an electric-vehicle owner since 2018 and am happy to see adoption increasing (“Owners Get Charge From EVs,” March 17). I would love to see more DC fast chargers instead of the slow Level 2 chargers. DC fast chargers can charge in 10 to 20 minutes while the Level 2 chargers at the DMV parking lot could take four to six hours. When we consistently block the chargers with the Beacon Farmers Market or close the fire station lot, it leaves EV owners out dry. It’s like closing all the gas stations in town every Sunday.

Tom Cerchiara, Beacon

Fjord Trail
Re: “Grassroots Group Wants Shorter Fjord Trail” (March 10), how is it better that village locals will need to get in their cars and drive to access the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail? People will continue to walk unsafely down Fair Street and Route 9D and there will be no access for children and senior residents to enjoy this beautiful linear park. If the Cold Spring Metro-North station was being proposed today, the same pitchfork mob would be out predicting the demise of our village without offering any solutions.

Tom O’Quinn, Cold Spring

Fjord Trail
I find it alarming that Fjord Trail staff say “it’s a state parks project,” and the state parks staff say “it’s the Fjord Trail’s project.” Who’s in control? Who’s going to pay? The best public-private partnerships clearly and openly delineate roles and responsibilities. But we have not seen any memorandum of understanding or contract between the state and the HHPT. Further, we have seen no estimated construction and operating budgets. Pilings in the river and a 12-foot-wide elevated boardwalk can be pricey. And ongoing maintenance, security, liability, administration and repairs will add up quickly. The only significant asset will be Dockside Park. Think Bryant Park in a residential area. Restaurants, bars, ice skating rinks, holiday gift booths, bumper cars, film festivals, concerts — all to pay for an attraction that they claim will transform the region. Is that what Cold Spring needs or wants?

Grechen Dykstra, Cold Spring

A method of eliminating parking along Route 9D could be for the state to make all 9D parking illegal, raze the old Breakneck Lodge and build a five-story parking structure with a ground-level lot for oversize vehicles such as pickup trucks and passenger vans. The state could collect a daily parking fee and use that money to offset the cost of running a free shuttle bus loop to all of the trailheads from the parking site.

Charles Park Jr., Cortlandt Manor

For a column on the Dutchess County Convention and Visitors Bureau, see highlandscurrent.org/ads.

The HHFT traffic consultant noted that only 2 percent of hikers access Breakneck from the Cold Spring Metro-North station and Fair Street. The fantasy that a Dockside trailhead would somehow eradicate pedestrian congestion in the village is only in service of (at most) this 2 percent, who may not utilize a prospective Dockside trailhead. The NIMBYs of Fair Street are the biggest local proponents of the trailhead not because they value the plan but because they speculate they will see less residential area. Restaurants, bars, ice skating rinks, holiday gift booths, bumper cars, film festivals, concerts — all to pay for an attraction that they claim will transform the region. Is that what Cold Spring needs or wants?

Grechen Dykstra, Cold Spring

Constitutional County
Should the resolution requested by County Executive Kevin Byrne be adopted, Putnam would apparently be stating its intent to violate any law some of its citizens do not care for (“Byrne Wants to Make Putnam ‘Constitutional County,’” March 17).

The remedy for complaints an individual may have is to run for public office, vote at every opportunity and continue to monitor the official and unofficial activities of elected officials. We the people have merely crowd other access points.

Derek Graham, Cold Spring

Route 9 Warehouse
I’m all for solving traffic problems but honestly I don’t get how this warehouse project has anything to do with Philipstown, as Diana Hird argued in a letter in the March 17 issue (“Dutchess Mall Plan Approved,” March 10).

A quick glance at Google Maps shows this project is a good 2-plus miles from the county line, so I wouldn’t say it’s “on the border with Fishkill.” I don’t think anyone from Philipstown has any claim to influence this project, and we need the jobs around the area and to get rid of the mess that has been rotting there for 20 years.

Tad Lacey, Beacon

Beacon CCA
I’m not sure if I follow why Beacon won’t join the community choice aggregation (CCA) program this time around (“Energy Collective to Relaunch, Without Beacon,” March 17).

The Current reported that the city administrator “received many complaints from residents upset that the city had joined the CCA on their behalf.” I’m curi-
LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Follow the Money

By Krystal Ford

Let’s face it, fossil-fuel companies are incapable of reining themselves in; they have no intention of switching their business practices. They will frack, blow up mountains, drill and destroy a beautiful, pristine, arctic wilderness, home to wildlife and Indigenous people, until the last drop of gas, coal or oil is extracted and our world is a wasteland.

They’ve known, for a very long time, the consequences of their products and they do not care. But they have not acted alone. The government gives them access to public land and subsidies, and banks are all too eager to lend them money. What’s in your wallet may be another tool to fight for a livable world.

According to Banking on Climate Chaos, an annual report issued by the Rainforest Action Network (bankingonclimatechaos.org), the top four banks financing the fossil-fuel sector since the Paris Agreement in 2016 are (drumroll, please): JP Morgan Chase ($382 billion), Citibank ($285 billion), Wells Fargo ($272 billion) and Bank of America ($232 billion).

Without banks lending money and without insurance companies’ underwriting, the fossil-fuel industry wouldn’t be able to expand extraction. Even though most major U.S. banks have agreed, in principle, to align their business practices with the emissions-reduction timeline in the Paris Agreement, the reality is another story.

Locally, Janet Apuzzo is one of many activists who have been targeting banks with equal parts protest (to get banks to cut their funding to fossil fuels) and public education (to get people to move their money if the banks won’t listen). Apuzzo, who lives in Wallkill, in Ulster County, is part of a group called Extinction Rebellion Mid-Hudson (facebook.com/xrmh). They call themselves “the roving rebels,” and they show up outside a new bank every other Thursday.

Earlier this month, the group did an action at the Chase Bank in Fishkill. Seven people turned out, holding signs and singing. “The police met them there, which Apuzzo said she found exciting. “I guess we are on their radar,” she told me. “They don’t want us going in and telling the truth that people should divest their money from Chase.” We’re just here to raise consciousness and educate people, get them to move their money to a local bank and get people to tell their friends.”

She said that Chase in 2021 invested $61.7 billion in the fossil-fuel industry, far surpassing its competitors. There are a number of resources with information about how to individually divest, such as Rivers and Mountains Greenfaith (rivers-mountains-greenfaith.org) and Stop the Money Pipeline (stopthemoneypipeline.com).

Many investment funds also support the fossil-fuel industry. Public pension funds for teachers, public employees and firefighters, for example, are some of the biggest investors in the country and are often overseen by elected officials, who must answer to voters. For your own investments, asset managers pool money from a variety of sources, such as pension funds, individual retirement accounts and endowments, and invest for their clients.

That means companies such as BlackRock, Vanguard and State Street own significant shares of banks and fossil-fuel companies. Keep an eye on shareholder season between April and June, when publicly traded companies hold their annual meetings — shareholders can vote on resolutions that provide direction for how a company does business, including climate.

It will take time to transition away from fossil fuels, but for banks to keep funding new exploration makes them culpable in the climate emergency. It’s time to hold them accountable, too.

Activists from the Rainforest Action Network protested against Chase in Manhattan in December 2018.

Photo by Michael Ngoro/RFN

Living Green

Glass blower

This woman is very special (“5 Questions: Kathleen Andersen,” March 10). She is exceptionally kind and totally brilliant. Don’t let her humble nature mask any of that! She has made glassblowing experts of me and my children for years and years.

Louise Darhansoff, via Instagram

Housing crisis

Developers build what makes a profit. New construction for “low- to moderate-income people” doesn’t often pencil out without government (or philanthropic) intervention (“Wide Angle: Priced Out, Part III,” March 10).

James Petty, via Instagram

Celebrating wins

Why do we all need to suffer from excessive noise when a team at Haldane wins a game? It’s too late at 11 p.m. to run firetrucks and police cars up and down Main Street. Every time a team wins, my kids need to be woken in the middle of the night? Plus, how many tax dollars are wasted on gas and wages for this nonsense?

Sean Hackett, Cold Spring

Correction

An article in the March 17 issue about King • Curated stated that the jeweler only sells lab diamonds. In fact, it offers both lab diamonds and natural diamonds. In the March 17 issue, The Current reported that, based on information posted by the state Board of Elections, Beacon City Council Member Molly Rhodes is running for the county Legislature. In fact, say the Beacon Democrats, the BOE site is in error and Rhodes is campaigning to retain her City Council seat.

In a story in the March 17 issue, we reported that York County, West Virginia, had declared itself to be a “constitutional county.” In fact, it was York County, Virginia.
Putnam Opens Veterans Court
Prioritizes treatment for former military members

A new specialized treatment court for military veterans is now open in Putnam County, Administrative Judge Anne E. Minihan of the 9th Judicial District announced on Tuesday (March 21). Putnam County Judge Joseph Spofford will preside over the court, which will be available to veterans charged with felonies or misdemeanors who have problems with addiction, mental health or combat-related issues.

To be eligible for the court, a veteran cannot be considered a public-safety risk and must agree to conditions, including counseling. Those who complete the program can have their charges dismissed or reduced.

Spofford also presides over the county Drug Treatment Court.

Buffalo opened the country’s first Veterans Treatment Court in 2008 and there are now 37 in 26 counties. Beacon City Judge Greg Johnston presides over Dutchess’ Veterans Treatment Court for misdemeanor cases, and County Judge Jessica Segal supervises veterans charged with felonies.

State Bill Would Expand Permit Parking Legislation would add 20 streets in Cold Spring

State Assembly Member Dana Levenberg, whose district includes Philipstown, has introduced legislation that would add 20 streets to the list where Cold Spring can institute a residential parking permit system.

Levenberg said the village’s plan to place meters on Main Street and the opening of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail will push more visitors to side streets.

Under state law, Cold Spring could only issue residential permits on Main, New, West, Fish and Market streets; Northern and Railroad avenues; Kemble Avenue from Main Street to Wall Street; and Church, Cross, Furnace, Garden, Haldane, High, Rock and Stone streets.

Levenberg’s bill would add Main Street from the Metro-North tracks to Parsonsage Street; Benedict Road, Fishkill Avenue and Grandview Terrace; and Academy, B, Cherry, and East and West Belvedere streets.

It would also add Locust Ridge, Maple Terrace and Whitehall Place; Marion, Mountain and Paulding avenues; and Hamilton, Orchard, Parrott, Parsonsage and Pine streets.

Dutchess Sheriff Rolls Out Cameras
Designed to provide greater transparency

Dutchess County Sheriff’s deputies began wearing body cameras on March 18.

The cameras have been given to deputies “to provide greater transparency, build community trust, and further honor the commitment to our Police Reform and Modernization Plan,” the Sheriff’s Department said in a statement.

The cameras, made by Axon, will be in use when deputies “respond to incidents or take official action, including but not limited to using force and making arrests,” it said. “The cameras are expected to be of significant overall benefit to both the deputies and the public that they serve as we move forward and get better together.”

Two Nelsonville Board Members Elected
Incumbent and newcomer run unopposed

Maria Zhyrovitch was elected to a second term on the Nelsonville Village Board and Travis Biro to his first during voting on Tuesday (March 21).

Both ran unopposed and will serve a 2-year term on the five-member board. Biro, who works for IBM, succeeds Kathleen Maloney, who did not run for a second term. Biro received 44 votes and Zhyrovitch received 44, representing a turnout of 97 percent of registered voters. Alan Potts and Michael Jones each received a write-in vote.

The other members of the board are Mayor Chris Winward and Trustees Thomas Campanile and David Moroney, whose seats will be on the ballot next year.

Dutchess County Seeks Committee Members
Deadline March 31 for Human Rights commission

The Dutchess County Commission on Human Rights is seeking candidates for four vacancies on its 14-member volunteer board.

The commission, which meets monthly, works to advance human rights and ensure the county is “an inclusive and respectful community for all.” Each member serves a three-year term. See dutchessny.gov/human-rights. The deadline is March 31.

Comptroller Details Relief Spending
Dutchess has spent $19.6 million

The Dutchess County Comptroller’s Office on March 16 released a report on spending of federal pandemic relief funding during the last three months of 2022.

The county received $751 million in funding through the American Rescue Plan, of which it spent $3.27 million during the fourth quarter. That brought its total spent to $19.6 million. The money must be obligated by Dec. 31, 2024, and spent by Dec. 31, 2026.

The largest expenditures during the fourth quarter, according to the comptroller, were $817,456 for demolition and design of a new community center in Poughkeepsie; $425,366 to Family Services Inc. for facilities renewal project; $394,697 for county payroll and benefits; $392,991 for a splash pad at Wilcox Park in Stanfordville; and $222,554 for design services for Dutchess Stadium (whose name is changing to Heritage Financial Park).

New Area Code Takes Effect
329 now available in Putnam, Dutchess

Beginning today (March 24), residential and mobile phone customers in the 845 area code service area who request service or an additional line may be assigned a new area code. The state issued the new code in Putnam and Dutchess counties.

The Public Service Commission approved the 329 code in 2022. The numbers will not be assigned until the remaining 845 numbers are exhausted. The 345 code covers Putnam, Dutchess and eight other counties.

## Real Estate Market Report

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## Around the Region

### Albany:
**Bill Proposes Renaming Trump State Park**

Dana Levenberg, whose district in the state Assembly includes Philipstown, introduced a bill that would require the parks department to determine if it can legally change the name of the 436-acre Donald J. Trump State Park, which straddles Putnam and Westchester counties. Brad Hoylman-Sigal, who represents part of Manhattan, introduced the measure in the Senate.

“I have received many unprompted messages from constituents who are dismayed at driving past signs for Donald J. Trump State Park,” Levenberg said in a statement. “Frankly, it is triggering for many people to have a daily reminder of the hatred and vitriol Donald Trump unleashed in our nation’s politics.”

The bill was first introduced in the 2015-16 session. It passed in the Senate in 2022.

### Wappingers Falls:
**Stadium Gets New Name**

The Hudson Valley Renegades, the minor-league baseball team associated with the New York Yankees, announced on Tuesday (March 21) that Dutchess Stadium will be renamed as Heritage Financial Park after the team sold the naming rights to Heritage Financial Credit Union.

The company’s logo will also be added to the team’s uniforms. The deal lasts for 10 years. The cost was not revealed but the company committed “to provide greater transparency” in its dealings.

### Peekskill:
**FBI Arrests Alleged Hacker**

FBI agents arrested a Peekskill man on March 15 for allegedly stealing personal data online.

Conor Brian Fitzpatrick, a 2021 Peekskill High School graduate, appeared in court in White Plains and was released on a $300,000 bond signed by his parents, according to the Peekskill Herald. He was scheduled to appear today (March 24) in federal court in Alexandria, Virginia.

The FBI agent who made the arrest stated in a court document that Fitzpatrick admitted he was known online as Pompompurin, which received 44, representing a turnout of 97 percent of registered voters.

“The cameras are expected to be of significant overall benefit to both the deputies and the public that they serve as we move forward and get better together.”
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY FOR GARRISON FIRE COMPANY

GARRISON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

THIS TIME, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

WHO WILL ANSWER THE CALL?
When you dial 911, do you ever wonder who will answer the call? What happens when no one answers the call? When your house is on fire, you’ve been in a car accident, or you’re injured in the woods; your local volunteer fire company is there for you. With a growing population and an increase in modern safety issues, the Garrison Volunteer Fire Company is calling on you, to answer the call in your community.

NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

FREE TRAINING
• Free training in Firefighting, Rescue, First Aid and CPR. Your gear and uniform are supplied at no cost.

FREE GYM ACCESS
• A full gym located at our Headquarters is available to all of our members at no cost.

RETIREMENT BENEFITS
• Length of Service Award (LOSAP) is a incentive/retirement stipend.

CONTRIBUTE ACCORDING TO YOUR LEVEL
• Driver
• Pump Operator
• Scene Support
• Exterior Firefighter
• Interior Firefighter

HOW CAN YOU ANSWER THE CALL
• Protect our land and property from spreading brush fires.
• Operate lifesaving tools to extract patients from vehicles.
• Search, evacuate, and extinguish house fires.
• Inspect fire alarms and provide community awareness.

JOIN TODAY!
We are always looking for new volunteers to join! Additional information and our training schedule can be found on our website.

GarrisonFD.org
garage, which is accessed by a driveway off Fishkill Road. However, Phillipstown issued a stop-work order because he had not obtained the needed building permits or the special permit required to operate a veterinary hospital in a rural residential zone. The town also identified a number of code violations.

“We were doing emergency care and urgent care for a while until the town issued the stop-work order,” said Bach, who has been a veterinarian for 36 years. “I’m hoping we don’t lose too many clients; some have had to go elsewhere,” Peter Bach said. Andrea Bach, who works at the practice with her husband, described the response as “heartwarming” and said they have received more than 30 letters to date, with others sent directly to the town.

“I’m hoping we don’t lose too many clients; some have had to go elsewhere,” Peter Bach said. “I’m a Phillipstown resident, I’ve practiced here for many years, and I think I have contributed a lot to the community.”

If approved, the project will have to meet criteria such as providing adequate parking, limited signage and no exterior storage of materials unless hidden by screens. The exterior of the residence also cannot take on the “appearance of a business” or alter neighborhood character.

To bolster their application, Bach and his wife, Andrea, have solicited letters of support from clients and community members. Andrea Bach, who works at the practice with her husband, described the response as “heartwarming” and said they have received more than 30 letters to date, with others sent directly to the town.

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also could be referred to other town, county and state agencies for comment.

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The Assembly’s plan calls for new buildings of six stories or less to go electric by 2026, and 2029 for taller buildings. It also directs the Department of Public Service to determine electricity capacity for particular regions and projects.

Hochul has proposed prohibiting the use of fossil fuels in new construction of single-family homes or apartment buildings of three stories or less by Jan. 1, 2026; other buildings would follow three years later. With both houses of the Legislature and the governor more or less on the same page, it’s possible a statewide law could be approved as part of the 2023-24 budget, which is due for passage by April 1.

If that happens, the impact could be substantial. According to the state Climate Action Council, which was appointed in 2020 to create a roadmap for achieving New York’s climate goals, buildings account for 32 percent of the state’s greenhouse-gas emissions, the most of any sector. By one estimate, a statewide ban on fossil fuels in new construction would be equivalent to keeping 870,000 cars off the road for a year.

If a state law isn’t adopted this year, Beacon’s legislation was written so it could easily be replicated by other municipalities. For example, it includes a handful of exemptions — some of which, such as laboratories or hospitals, are unlikely to apply to Beacon — that state energy officials have said would likely be included in a state law.

The city based its law on concepts already studied by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, including the exemptions, Beacon City Administrator Chris White explained. “This is a groundbreaking law in its simplicity and in its modeling,” he said. “We’re just accelerating the timeline for implementation.”

During the rally before Monday’s vote, Aymar-Blair noted that, with the law’s passage, Beacon has already reached its peak for greenhouse-gas emissions. “The only way we can go is down from there,” he said. “We should all be proud of the moment we turned the ship.”
Hamilton Fish (from Page 1)
a segment of her MSNBC podcast series Ultra to Fish’s statements in support of the Nazis and the use of his franking privileges as a congressman to disseminate antisemitic materials provided by Viercek, a U.S.-based Nazi propagandist seeking to keep the U.S. out of World War II.

This year, a subcommittee created by the 26-member Desmond-Fish board (which includes Hamilton Fish V, a grandson of Hamilton Fish III) has not only been researching the history of Fish’s relationship with Nazi Germany and generating ideas for public programs, but taking up the question of whether the library should be renamed.

“We don’t know what the end result will be, but it is something that has to be addressed,” said Farabaugh.

Both Farabaugh and Prentice said they were aware of Fish’s opposition to U.S. involvement in World War II but were surprised when some patrons alerted them to the content of Maddow’s podcast [msnbc.com/rachel-maddow-presents-ultra].

Fish is the focus of the fifth part of the eight-part series, which is described by MSNBC as “the all-but-forgotten true story of good, old-fashioned American extremism getting supercharged by proximity to power.”

The library issued a statement that condemned “all anti-Jewish actions, statements and beliefs.” To investigate, at the board’s meeting in January trustees approved a resolution forming a subgroup of its Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee. The subgroup includes board members, staff and residents.

Hamilton Fish V said that his grandfather’s experiences leading an all-Black regiment into combat during World War I influenced his opposition to U.S. involvement in World War II, and he denounced Maddow’s reporting.

“When you pick out one or two highlights, there’s a huge potential for getting it wrong,” he said. “For all of his extreme politics and behavior and his associations throughout his life, setting him up as a poster child for an antisemitic sympathetic Nazi is just not accurate.”

While Maddow’s podcast focused on Fish’s statements supporting Hitler’s regime and the Franking scandal involving Viercek, the library found two dissertations devoted to his isolationist views that noted some of his contradictions.

For instance, while Fish in 1938 addressed a group of German Americans during a German Day rally at Madison Square Garden, in 1939 he spoke on behalf of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League and sponsored legislation banning Nazi-organized associations, clubs and military organizations.

He denounced Germany’s persecution of Jews, but once said that he preferred “the Hitler regime to any form of Bolshevism, with its class and religious hatred and avowal of world revolution.”

Fish faced allegations that he was antisemitic, a charge he always denied, and associated with people like Father Charles Coughlin, a Catholic priest who used his national radio show to make anti-Jewish statements. A group that supported U.S. intervention in World War II claimed in 1941 that Fish allowed his franking privileges to be used to mail antisemitic literature.

“We’ve heard from people who feel hurt and don’t want to come to the library if it has the name Hamilton Fish on it, and we’ve heard from people who feel differently,” said Prentice. “So, we need to have a process that can enable all those voices to be heard.”

At the forefront of that process is the subcommittee. In addition to researching Fish’s history, its members have been generating ideas for programming and reviewing policies that other institutions, including colleges and museums, have for renaming buildings.

“Inevitably, there’s going to be people who are unhappy with the result whatever it is,” said Farabaugh. “But if we have a good process that is transparent and accessible, hopefully you can’t fault the outcome, even if you don’t agree.”

In the meantime, the library has postponed an exhibit it had planned at the Putnam History Museum about Nicholas Fish, Hamilton Fish III’s great-grandfather. Instead, it selected Jews Don’t Count by David Baddiel, for a “community read” scheduled for April 18.

The Racial Equity and Social Justice Committee is contemplating other programs, including additional readings and panel discussions. Hamilton Fish V said he has stepped down as the committee’s chair, and the group has tried to stay off the sidelines and not make it anymore awkward than it already is for the people in the institution who work every day there, and also for the board members, all of whom contribute immensely,” he said.

What to Do With Audubon?

Three board members for the National Audubon Society quit after the organization voted this month to keep the name of John James Audubon (1785-1851), who enslaved people and held racist views. The vote capped a process that took more than a year and involved research on Audubon and survey responses from more than 2,300 people, according to the organization. The society outlines its namesake’s sins at audubon.org/content/john-james-audubon.

Library Statement

Hamilton Fish III and the Desmond-Fish Library

The Desmond-Fish Public Library was founded in 1980 by Hamilton Fish III (1888-1991) and his wife, Alice Curtis Desmond. Fish represented the Hudson Valley in Congress from 1920 to 1945.

Recent episodes of the podcast Ultra, hosted by Rachel Maddow, reported actions and statements in the late 1930s by Hamilton Fish III that were in support of Hitler and his regime. Fish’s congressional office distributed harmful antisemitic propaganda, and he made racist remarks against Jews. Fish spoke at a Nazi rally in New York where he strongly opposed U.S. involvement in World War II.

The Wikipedia entry for Congressman Fish provides further detail on this chapter of his long life and political career.

The morning after Pearl Harbor, Congressman Fish denounced the attack and expressed his support for Roosevelt’s Declaration of War. He also later signed a House resolution condemning Germany’s abhorrent treatment of Jews. Fish was defeated for re-election in 1944 and never held elected office again.

As individuals and as an institution, all of us associated with the Desmond-Fish Public Library, including descendants of Hamilton Fish III, strongly condemn all anti-Jewish actions, statements and beliefs. As citizens of our community and stewards of the library, we are dedicated to working actively against racism, bias and discrimination in all forms.

We are committed to learning about and growing from our history alongside the community. Questions and comments are welcome at all times. Those wishing to discuss this matter are invited to contact Library Director Dedé Farabaugh at director@desmondfishlibrary.org or Board President Anita Prentice at anitaprentice@gmail.com.
Philipstown Asks State to Assist With Housing, Not Impose Rules

Nelsonville mayor also expresses misgivings
By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Town of Philipstown on Wednesday (March 22) officially lent its voice to the outcry against a proposal by Gov. Kathy Hochul to force municipalities to increase housing stocks, an idea that critics regard as an attack on local autonomy.

At a workshop session, Board Members Robert Flaherty, Judy Farrell and Jason Angell voted unanimously for a resolution urging the state to preserve local authorities regard as an attack on local autonomy. Supervisor John Van Tassel and Councilor Megan Cotter missed the meeting.

Hochul wants to increase housing across the state by 800,000 units in 10 years and to require communities served by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, including the Metro-North train system, to increase housing by 3 percent in the first three years of the program, which has multiple 3-year cycles.

Her proposal also would allow affordable-housing developers to bypass local zoning laws if the community fails to meet quotas and ease environmental reviews for developments around transit stations. Communities beyond the MTA’s reach would be required to increase housing stocks by 1 percent every three years.

The initiative has drawn bipartisan criticism.

The Philipstown resolution acknowledges the need for housing but says the state should cooperate with municipalities and help them address the costs of the increased water and sewer infrastructure, schools and services that additional housing and larger populations would require. It also declares that many communities, including Philipstown, have policies that promote affordable housing.

As examples, it cites a 2006 Philipstown law encouraging the creation of accessory units — apartments or cottages on lots occupied by a main house — that can supply housing while avoiding the environmental impact of new developments. The town’s 2021 comprehensive plan also refers to a “chronic need” for a wide range of housing so that people who work in Philipstown can also live there. That helps enhance Philipstown’s “small-town character,” according to the plan.

“Regulating residential housing falls squarely under the purview of municipal home rule,” the resolution asserts, asking the state to “uphold local authority” in any housing programs it creates.

Philipstown officials aren’t the only ones in the Highlands skeptical of the governor’s proposal. Mayor Lee Kyriacou of Beacon recently said Albany should “leave enough local control for the local governments,” while Mayor Kathleen Foley of Cold Spring, calling the idea “overreach,” urged Albany to “give us parameters and goals” and, above all, resources, but to not completely override local review.

Nelsonville Mayor Chris Winward joined the chorus on Monday (March 20). At a Village Board meeting, she said that it’s “not that we don’t have enough housing” for that. But the state plan, as drafted, could undermine local zoning and planning laws, she said, and “I don’t think losing our independence to developers, etc., is worth it.”
State Denies Nelsonville Plea to Cut Speed Limit

Also, village moves ahead on sewer research

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

New York State last week turned down a plea from Nelsonville to reduce the 40 mph speed limit on state Route 301 at the eastern edge of the village, citing research revealing that no crashes occurred in that stretch in a six-year period.

Mayor Chris Winward announced the Department of Transportation’s decision at the Village Board meeting on Monday (March 20). Last summer, village officials asked the state to review the speed limit, after years of complaints about traffic-related dangers to pedestrians and bicyclists on Main Street as it snakes through the village.

In a letter addressed to the mayor, the DOT said that a study it conducted found “no identified pattern of crashes” on the relevant stretch and that data showed “the existing road conditions along this segment of Route 301 do not support a lower speed limit.”

The agency said it based its conclusion “on the necessary criteria used in determining a lower speed limit,” but did not define the criteria. The letter was not signed by anyone at DOT and contained only an email address for an internal unit.

The Current asked DOT to define the criteria it cited; a DOT representative said on Thursday that it included “speed and crash data and roadway geometry.”

The mayor noted at Monday’s meeting that the speed limit remains 55 mph on Route 301 coming west from Route 9. It then becomes 40 mph, even after it crosses the village border. Farther into the village, it drops to 30 mph.

“There’s no reason to go 55 mph” west of Route 9, Winward said. “Home rule doesn’t apply because it’s a state road?” asked Trustee Thomas Campanile. “It’s crazy.”

In November, the Town of Philipstown passed a resolution supporting Nelsonville’s request but also asking DOT to reduce the speed limit from 55 mph to 45 mph on Route 301 between the Route 9 intersection and Jaycox Road.

Although it declined to reduce the speed limit, DOT did fulfill another Nelsonville request: It repainted the crosswalks on Route 301/Main Street. Next, Winward said, Nelsonville plans to apply for devices with flashing lights and a nob for pedestrian use at crosswalks, as well as roadside radar signs informing drivers of their speed.

Notes from the Cold Spring Village Board

By Michael Turton

■ The board continued deliberations on the 2023-24 budget, focusing on proposed spending and revenue for the water and wastewater department. The first draft of the complete budget is expected by April 5.

■ A discussion of options for replacing the lighting on the village dock was delayed until next week, pending further bid information. The lights have been inoperable due to vandalism.

■ The board accepted bids for a variety of expenditures, including $13,125 to resurface the basketball court at Mayor’s Park; $11,632 to replace the computer server at Village Hall; $11,632 to replace the Police Department’s server; $6,126 to replace three desktop computers and add signage as part of the village parking plan. A change order for $4,000 requested by Taconic Engineering related to inspection of the village dam was also approved.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

Sewer study

The board voted 5-0 to spend $26,000 in American Rescue Plan federal grant money to hire consultants to study the feasibility of installing sewers in the central portion of the village, where historic houses, shops and other buildings stand closely together. Neuer homes in the outlying mountain-residential zoning district usually sit on larger lots.

Unlike Cold Spring, Nelsonville has no sewer system, although it gets drinking water from Cold Spring’s water system.

According to the mayor, residents from Nelsonville families extending back generations, as well as newcomers, have increasingly asked about sewers. “It’s an issue that cuts across everybody,” she said.

Winward said that typically properties, at best, have a septic system that doesn’t function well or, at worst, a cesspool — a pit dug in prior centuries to collect sewage and wastewater piped from homes and other buildings.

“People are actually falling into these old cesspools in our backyards all the time,” she said.
ARDON TOWN

**DIRECT FROM SCOTLAND** — Heron Valley, whose members hail from different corners of the Scottish Isles (Oban, Lewis, Cowal, Glasgow and Stirling) performed at the Tompkins Corner Cultural Center in Putnam Valley on Sunday (March 19). Abigail Pryde plays the fiddle and sings.

**STATE VISIT** — Lt. Gov. Antonio Delgado visited Cold Spring on March 10 to discuss infrastructure needs, the governor’s proposed housing compact plan and state assistance with tourism management. From left are Nelsonville Mayor Chris Winward, Cold Spring Fire Co. president Aaron Leonard, Cold Spring Mayor Kathleen Foley, Delgado and Fire Chief Jeff Phillips Jr.

**START HERE** — Edward Bauer, an aspiring Eagle Scout, rehabilitated the trail kiosk at the Pearl Street entrance of the Nelsonville Woods by replacing its roof; cleaning up the map and Plexiglass; and adding mulch.

**LIFE TRAINING** — Sandy Bohl (center), a captain with the Garrison Volunteer Fire Co., led a CPR certification class on March 16 at the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring.

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The Calendar

WOMEN FINDING BALANCE

CoMFY art exhibit returns to Beacon library

By Alison Rooney

ack for a seventh go-round, the members of CoMFY, the Beacon-based collective of women artists, are climbing the walls at their annual Howland Public Library exhibit. Their artwork is, too, inspired by this year’s theme, “balance.”

The notion of balance was one of the founding principles of the group, which was created by Kat Stoutenborough and Jennifer Blakeslee in 2011. Its initial discussions focused on how women could balance jobs, parenting and family with being an artist.

“Women came together to share strategies, bounce ideas and encourage each other,” the women recalled in a written history of the group. One informal rule was that the participants could only talk about non-art priorities in the context of how they impacted their art.

Michelle Rivas, the community engagement librarian at Howland (and a member of the board of Highlands Current Inc., which publishes this newspaper), says that when CoMFY members began dropping off their work for the exhibit “they all seemed so excited about the prospect of being in the same room together after so much time” because of the pandemic shutdown.

For the March 2020 show, “we thought we would just reschedule the opening or have a closing party, not knowing there would soon be a stay-at-home order,” Rivas recalls. “The group hung its 10th anniversary exhibit in 2021 but was again unable to gather.”

That exhibit stayed on the library walls for two years, “like a time capsule,” Rivas says.

The opening reception for the 2023 exhibit, held on March 11, drew a sizable crowd, prompting Rivas to extend the show a month, through April 28. The exhibit was curated by the library, with installation assistance from CoMFY members Jan Dolan and Anna West.
THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)
For a complete listing of events, see highlandscurrent.org/calendar.

COMMUNITY

SAT 25
White Elephant Sale
GARRISON
9 a.m. – 2 p.m. St. Philip’s Church
1101 Route 9D
The church’s nursery school will hold its annual fundraiser in the parish house.

SAT 25
Rabies Clinic
CARMEL
10 a.m. – Noon, Memorial Park
201 Gipsy Trail
845-808-1390 ext. 43160
putnamcountyny.com/health
Putnam County residents can bring a dog, cat or ferret for a free vaccination. Proof of prior vaccination and residency required.

SAT 25
Veterans Stand Down Event
BEACON
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. VFW Post | 413 Main St.
This event will include assistance with disability services, housing, food and clothing, mental health, education and employment. Presented by the Dutchess County Office for the Aging and Mental Health America.

SAT 25
Newburgh is a Broadcast
NEWBURGH
1 – 6 p.m. 162 Broadway
Following lunch, Johanna Porr will present “Newburgh is a History” at 2 p.m., followed by a community conversation with Dale Velazquez at 3 p.m. and a music artist showcase with Angel Lau, Kelly Quigley and Nicole Davis at 4 p.m. At 11 a.m. on SUN 26, there will be a children’s story time and an all-ages experimental music performance with Nicole Lattuca and Matt Mottel.

SUN 26
The Gardens of Paris
GARRISON
2 p.m. Boscoite | 1601 Route 9D
845-265-3638 | boscoite.org
CeCe Haydock, a garden historian and landscape architect, will talk about the memorable parks and gardens in Paris throughout history. Cost: $30 ($15 seniors)

SUN 26
The Clean Water Act at 50
THURS 30
WAPPINGERS FALLS
10:30 a.m. Butterfield Complex
1601 Route 9
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org
2 p.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D
The Wappinger of the Hudson Highlands
SUN 26
PUTNAM VALLEY
2 p.m. 128 Mill St., in a program that will also be available via Zoom.

SAT 25
Planting for Birds and Pollinators
PUTNAM VALLEY
2 p.m. Putnam Valley Grange
128 Mill St. | putnamvalleygrange.org
Catherine Serreau-Thompson will lead a presentation about how to provide food and habitat in your yard and create a supportive ecosystem. Cost: $50 per family ($15 door, members free)

FRI 31
Frida Kahlo
COLD SPRING
3:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org
Flora, the special projects manager for BHS, will speak about Van Tine’s life and career at 7 p.m. on TUES 28 at the St. Joachim School Hall, 51 Leonard St., in a program that will also be available via Zoom.

SAT 25
The Eyes of History
BEACON
1 – 4 p.m. Beacon Historical Society
61 Leonard St. | beaconhistorical.org
This exhibit highlights the work of Harry Van Tine, a Beacon native who was the president of the White House News Photographers Association. See Page 17. Diane Lapis, the special projects manager for BHS, will speak about Van Tine’s life and career at 7 p.m. on TUES 28 at the St. Joachim School Hall, 51 Leonard St., in a program that will also be available via Zoom.

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WED 29
Frida Kahlo
COLD SPRING
3:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org
Make flower headbands and paint a self portrait while learning about the Mexican artist as part of Women’s History Month.

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**TUES 28**

**Killer Queen**

**POUGHKEEPSIE**

7:30 p.m. MJN Center
14 Civic Center Plaza
midhudsonciviccenter.org

Patrick Myers, portraying Freddie Mercury, will lead this tribute band’s performance of Queen’s hits. Cost: $45

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**SAT 25**

**Daisy Jopling Band**

**PEEKS PKL**

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-855-1300 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

The multi-instrumentalist Sharp will collaborate with McKenzie, a percussionist and composer. Presented by Elyssium Furnace Works. Cost: $20 ($30 door)

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**FRI 31**

**Denise Reis**

**BEACON**

7 p.m. Reserve Wine Bar
173 Main St. | reservebeacon.com

The Brazilian guitarist and vocalist will share songs from her recordings.

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**SAT 25**

**Just Jim Dale**

**GARRISON**

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

The Americana duo will perform with Rachael Sage and Noga Cabo. Cost: $25 ($30 door)

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**FRI 31**

**The Best of The Eagles**

**PEEKS PKL**

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-855-1300 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

The tribute band will play hits from the classic rock band. Cost: $29 to $45

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**STAGE & SCREEN**

**SAT 25**

**Poetry Reading**

**PEEKS PKL**

8 p.m. Reserve Wine Bar
173 Main St. | reservebeacon.com

This one-woman show, the voice behind the Harry Potter audiobooks behind the Harry Potter audiobooks, will talk about his life and career. Cost: $10

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**SUN 2**

**Matthew Spireng**

**PUTNAM VALLEY**

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

The poet will read from his latest collection, Good Work, as well as other poems, followed by an open mic. Cost: $10

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**CIVIC**

**MON 27**

**School Board**

**GARRISON**

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

In this one-man show, the voice behind the Harry Potter audiobooks will perform. Cost: $25

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**MON 27**

**City Council**

**BEACON**

7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-5011 | beaconny.gov

The show, hosted by Ame, will feature Beacon Burlesque dancers Champagne Vizzen, Ello Di Michelle and Meowie Wowie. Cost: $40

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**WED 29**

**Velvet Underground**

**BEACON**

7 p.m. Reserve Wine Bar
173 Main St. | reservebeacon.com

The singer will perform traditional and classic blues, jazz and folk music. Cost: $20

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**THURS 30**

**Visual Arts**

**PUTNAM VALLEY**

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

The photographer will talk about his exhibit, Uncontaminated Sound: Reflections, which continues through April 9.

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**THURS 30**

**Casting the Past: Arte Povera and Classical Sculpture**

**PHILIPSTOWN**

Noon, Magazzino Italian Art
2700 Route 9 | magazzinoart.org

The scholar-in-residence, will present her work on classical statuary focusing on Jannis' Kounellis, Giulio Paolini and Michelangelo Pistoletto. Cost: $10 ($5 residents and seniors, free for students)
Looking Back in Beacon

By Chip Rowe

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

150 Years Ago (March 1873)

According to *The Newburgh Telegraph*, “the good people of Fishkill Landing are horrified at the fact that one of their most honored citizens has taken unto himself the wife of another man and left for parts unknown.”

Augustus Mosier caught a fox at Verplanks dock after it was driven into a crevice by a dog.

David Forshay, 18, of Matteawan, was sentenced to three years in the Albany penitentiary for stealing and general vagrancy.

The coroner reported that, over six years, there had been five people found dead who were never identified. Each was buried in a crevice by a dog.

Two brothers, the sons of Jesse Mead of Matteawan, were never identified. Each was buried in a crevice by a dog.

Verplanks dock after it was driven into a crevice by a dog.

The ferry track between Newburgh and Fishkill Landing was resumed by cutting a channel through 15 inches of ice.

Two brothers, the sons of Jesse Mead of Matteawan, was notified by the guard.

In each hand, press it against a grindstone.

Forty street lamps were erected in Matteawan, powered by gas mains.

Aft...
completed their 47th year working together at a Fishkill Landing factory. They had missed only five or six days.

At the Matteawan Hospital for Insane Criminals, Dr. H.E. Allison, the superintendent, asked George Appo, a notorious pickpocket, about his craft. Appo smiled and explained his method. When he was finished, he handed Allison the roll of bills that had been in the doctor’s vest pocket.

100 Years Ago (March 1923)

Emilie Van Renselaer prepared to leave for Syria so she could be closer to the Holy Land for the end of the world. She planned to join a mission there led by Bishop Ryan, an evangelist she heard at the Free Reading Room in Beacon.

Robert Kent Jr., a farmer from Glenham, was charged with assault for punching and choking the attorney of a man suing Kent over a debt. The Beacon lawyer said he was questioning Kent about his finances when the farmer said that “you won’t get a damn cent” and punched him in the jaw, then choked him on the floor until another lawyer intervened.

The construction of the Chelsea Hospital, which was expected to cost $1.1 million, was causing a surge of kindergarten and first-grade students. A Union Street resident told police that someone hit his car at Wolcott and Teller and drove off. After canvassing the area, officers found a vehicle with fresh damage parked outside a diner and arrested the 20-year-old owner, who was eating lunch.

A reappraisal of properties in Beacon at 100 percent of market value raised the total assessed value from $11 million to $17 million, costing the school district about $41,000 ($512,000) in state aid.

Burglars stole $1,000 worth of fountain pens and pencils from K.T. Van Tine’s stationery store at 177 Main St. A 28-year-old Beacon man who had convictions for assaulting women in 1940 and 1947 was arrested in connection with an attack in Poughkeepsie.

Police searched a wooded area east of Route 9D for a man accused of stabbing a woman inside a Marlboro tavern the day before. He had been aboard a train to New York City; when police stopped it at Beacon to arrest him, he jumped and fled into the freight yard.

A 31-year-old Beacon woman was arrested after she allegedly bit the ear of another woman during a fight. The woman required seven stitches. 

50 Years Ago (March 1973)

The Beacon High School boys’ basketball team finished 21-1 (losing only to Poughkeepsie) and won the Section I, Class B title. The team members were Dave Lucas, Armie Hicks, Rodney Paulin, George Hughes, Tom Powers, Joe Powell, Mark DiRocco, Lewis Brown, Steve Armstrong, Tony DeGelormo, Dan Lucas and Joe Simmons.

The Republican Committee considered six candidates for mayor before selecting Francis Moore, a member of the Dutchess Legislature. The Democrats endorsed incumbent Robert Cahill.

Developers asked the Planning Board to approve a 52-unit condo development at Sargent Avenue and Wodenethe Street. The board chair noted it had heard four proposals for the site over 10 years but none had panned out.

Two hundred firefighters from eight companies fought a blaze for 11 hours that destroyed three buildings in the urban renewal area. The former Inflated Rubber Products factory and two houses on River Street slated for demolition were destroyed. Hundreds of spectators watched from higher ground.

25 Years Ago (March 1998)

Carl Lindquist opened Carl’s Beacon Market at 400 Fishkill Ave., in the former 17,800-square-foot A&P supermarket.

A 32-year-old Newburgh man jumped to his death from a girder on the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge on a Monday evening after talking with police negotiators for eight hours. Two of the three westbound lanes of Interstate 84 were closed during the ordeal, creating a three-hour wait for drivers crossing from Beacon.

For the first time, a Beacon High School production included movable sets, for Hello, Dolly! It was only the second musical performed by students. Pat DeLeo, the director, said they had already done five Shakespeare comedies “and I didn’t think the tragedies would attract an audience.”

A state review found the Beacon school district had made academic progress in the lower grades but was still lagging at the high school. Only 26 percent of the Class of 1997 graduated with Regents’ diplomas, compared to 46 percent of students in similar schools, and 23 percent had been suspended at some time during the previous year for disciplinary reasons.

Martina Heath of Beacon High School finished third in the high jump at the New York State Championships.

The state opened a dedicated E-Z Pass lane on the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge after complaints from drivers who said they were repeatedly stuck behind drivers who didn’t have correct change or used commuter toll booklets.

Once a week, employees of the Dutchess County Health Department visited Beacon to stop teens and young adults on the street and offer pamphlets about HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases, condoms and instructions on how to sterilize needles.

The City Council approved a special-use permit for Doug Berlin, who planned to demolish three buildings at 446-452 Main St. to construct a restaurant, storefront and four apartments. “It’s amazing how fluid this process is,” Berlin said.

Department of Public Works employees made a gruesome discovery on a Wednesday afternoon at Riverfront Park: five decapitated pit bulls. Police said they had no leads.

Beacon had spent $4 million of $8 million budgeted to repair the worst 75 of its 220 streets. The city asked homeowners to pay half the cost of repairing sidewalks in front of their properties.

Teachers and students at Glenham Elementary School organized a Pounds of Pennies fundraiser to help fix the roof at the Howland Cultural Center. One pound equals 100 pennies; the school had collected 1,340 pounds.

A Beacon Native at the White House

As part of the centennial celebration of the White House News Photographers Association, the Beacon Historical Society will host an exhibit on one of its founding members, Harry Van Tine (1885-1968), a native of Fishkill Landing (now Beacon). The Eyes of History opens from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday (March 25) and continues through May 6.

“Harry developed a keen interest in the nascent field of photography at the turn of the 20th century,” said Diane Lapis, the special projects manager for the BHS. “His early photographs were printed on hundreds of souvenir postcards and sold by the thousands at the Van Tine stationery store, creating a visual history of the Hudson Valley.”

While working as a photojournalist for Hearst in New York City, Van Tine was sent in 1915 to open a bureau in Washington, D.C. The WHNPA was founded in 1921 to get photographers better access to the White House.

Van Tine spent more than 50 years photographing presidents and other leaders, historical figures and world events. He also served as a manager for the International News Photo agency.

The Eyes of History includes seldom-seen photos from the WHNPA archives. Along with 12 panels recounting 100 years of White House and presidential history, the BHS exhibit documents Van Tine’s life.

The Beacon Historical Society, at 61 Leonard St., is open from 10 a.m. to noon on Thursdays and from 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturdays. See beaconhistorical.org. Lapis will speak about Van Tine at 7 p.m. Tuesday (March 28) at St. Joachim’s School Hall, 51 Leonard St. The event will also be accessible via Zoom.
Pandemic Stories

Beacon author compiles recollections of 2020

By Alison Rooney

In the 10th-grade English classes he teaches, Steve Fowler tries to emphasize empathy. With the world thrown into a seesaw of fear and inertia during the pandemic, Fowler, like many people, sought connections.

He channeled his desire into a book, *Hindsight: Untold Stories from 2020*, which contains 32 stories, written by people from around the world, about the strange days that began in March 2020. Collectively, the stories synchronize with each other.

Fowler says he hoped to capture the pandemic from the perspective of the everyday. “How often does everyone on the planet experience the same thing?” he asks. “How often is there any phenomenon that transcends geographical, cultural, political and social boundaries? For a time in 2020, everyone on Earth faced the same threat, the same dilemma, the same fear.”

In an explanatory note, Fowler writes: “What I set out to do was to put together a history book — a record of important events told from the perspective of the average person. What I ended up with was a human book — a collection of critical days in people’s lives during a time unlike any other in the last century.”

Fowler, who has lived with his wife in Beacon for six years, came up with the idea for the book in August 2020, soon after making a decision to shift careers. He left a job as a writing coordinator at Mount St. Mary College in Newburgh to earn a master’s degree so that he could teach. When he began the book, he also left his position as the food and drink editor at Hudson Valley Magazine.

While embarking on his master’s program, and the chaos of doing his own student teaching amid constant format changes during the pandemic, Fowler built a project website and developed a social-media plan.

On Jan. 1, 2021, he began soliciting stories, setting a 2,000-word limit. “In my experience reading personal essays, after that point a lot of stories bring in information that’s not needed,” he says. The stories also had to be unpublished and factual.

Soon, unexpectedly, Fowler had received hundreds of submissions from writers in 28 countries. “Everyone had a story to share,” Fowler says. “The outreach was a bear, but it was also so exciting, because you never knew what would come up.” The 32 stories he selected include seven by writers from outside the U.S.

One group he didn’t hear from initially were first responders. “How do you have this book without the voices of front-line workers?” he says. “They were living it.” He reached out to a nurses’ union, which solicited members in its newsletter.

Story by story, the book began to take shape. “What it came down to, I was in a way putting the book together for me,” Fowler says. “There was no particular wish list of topics.”

Despite the number of submissions, there were aspects of life in 2020 that don’t make an appearance, such as the Black Lives Matter movement and the presidential election. Fowler said he would have liked to include both, but “ultimately [activism and politics] wasn’t the angle the book was winding toward.”

Instead, the stories include those by a Czech nurse in New York City; an Australian woman who watches her favorite hiking preserve consumed by wildfires; a Texas man who wonders what will happen to his boom-town after the price of oil plummets; a British father who works to help his mentally ill son during lockdowns; and an Alabama woman selected for one of the first vaccine trials.

The overwhelming response Fowler says he has received from the writers is gratitude for being included.

Dutchess County Names Poet Laureate

Will promote poetry in county

The Dutchess executive last week appointed Stephanie JT Russell as the county’s 2023 poet laureate.

Russell, who lives in Poughkeepsie, said in a statement that she stays grounded in poetry that underscores our common humanity and offers a lifeline to empathy.

Her most recent creative nonfiction book, *One Flash of Lightning*, is a poetic treatment of the classical Samurai code, and last year she was the overall winner of the Wirral Poetry Festival in the U.K.

The poet laureate program was launched in 2016 by then-County Executive Marc Molinaro, and is an unpaid, one-year role. Arts Mid-Hudson manages the nomination process.
When the National Audubon Society published its first field guide to mushrooms in 1981, fungi weren’t even considered a separate kingdom—they were essentially thought of as plants. Climate change wasn’t on most people’s radar, either. But a lot has changed in 42 years, and to reflect those changes the Audubon Society is rolling out an updated series of guides that demonstrate how our knowledge of the natural world has evolved over the past four decades, and how the climate crisis demands that we reconsider our own role in nature.

In 2021, the society published new versions of its iconic field guides to the trees and birds of North America. On April 11, new guides to mushrooms and wildflowers will follow.

“The better we understand the plants, animals and fungi that co-inhabit this planet with us, the far greater likelihood we will find a sustainable, or even regenerative, path forward.”

— Shyla Stewart
President and CEO of Fieldstone Publishing

With the recent proliferation of interest in mushrooms and fungi, and in light of the overarching surge in interest in nature and the natural sciences, we felt it imperative to create a new, wholly updated guide as part of the larger reimagined Audubon series,” said Shyla Stewart, president and CEO of Fieldstone Publishing.

The hefty tomes — these are backpack guides, not pocket guides — feature all the usual things you’d want in a guidebook: multiple photos of each flower and fungi at different angles and stages in its life cycle, maps of their known growing ranges, details as to which ‘shrooms will thrill you and which ones will kill you. There’s also a surprising amount of information about DNA sequencing, something that most of us aren’t thinking about when we’re in a meadow.

“With global temperatures increasing as a result of human activities instead of vigorous plant growth, there are theories and hopes that more robust fungal networks could boost trees’ ability to suck carbon out of the atmosphere. As tantalizing as the prospect is, Vandergrift was in Miami, serving as the plant pathologist at the federal plant inspection station there.

The proliferation of DNA sequencing has led to a surge in how much we know about the kingdom of fungi, but also a humbling realization of how much we still don’t know. The golden chanterelles of the Mediterranean and the identical-looking golden chanterelles of the Pacific Northwest, for example, were assumed to be the same fungus, until DNA sequencing revealed them to be two species. That led to further examination and the discovery that they interact with their environments in different ways.

“How enzymes are they producing?” asked Vandergrift. “How are they interacting with their host trees? What are the host trees that they’re interacting with? Those things that are fundamental to their ecological function in the systems that they’re embedded in — those things turned out to be completely different. There are doors being opened with DNA sequencing and I don’t think we really know what’s on the other side.”

A greater understanding of how individual fungus species interact with their environment could unlock access to new tools for dealing with climate change. It wouldn’t be the first time fungi have changed Earth’s atmosphere. Around 300 million years ago, in what’s known as the Carboniferous Period, an explosive increase in the amount of plant life on Earth led to a global cooling period, as the flourishing tree populations sucked more and more carbon out of the atmosphere. Fungi, responding by evolving the ability to more efficiently break down dead trees, returning the carbon that the trees had captured back into the atmosphere, “fixing” the global temperature.

With global temperatures increasing as a result of human activities instead of vigorous plant growth, there are theories and hopes that more robust fungal networks could boost trees’ ability to suck carbon out of the atmosphere. As tantalizing as the prospect is, Vandergrift offered a cautionary caveat: Any carbon that trees sequester is only temporarily stored in — those things turned out to be completely different. There are doors being opened with DNA sequencing and I don’t think we really know what’s on the other side.”

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Sarah Ghent (1941-2023)
Sarah Virginia Ghent, 81, a lifelong resident of the area, died March 11, surrounded by family members.
She was born in Fishkill on Dec. 29, 1941, the daughter of Willie and Eliza Ann (Hill) Woodward. Her husband, Major Ghent Sr., died in 1994.
Sarah worked for 20 years at the Castle Point VA Medical Center. After her retirement in 1985, she spent many years with her granddaughters and her daughter, Leona.
She enjoyed reading and listening to oldies music, walking the Beacon High School track with her granddaughters and classic TV shows. Her favorite times were family gatherings, whether birthday parties or picnics — anywhere that the family gathered.
Sarah also played an instrumental role in the lives of many children of her family and friends, who sometimes needed a little help along the way, her family said.
She is survived by her children: Leona Ghent of Kingston; Major Ghent Jr. (Rosie) of Pleasant Valley and Derek Ghent (Deborah) of Beacon; her granddaughters, Isabella Ghent and Gabriella Ghent, both of Beacon; and her sister, Madeline (Mattie) Woodward of Glenham. Her family gathered for a graveside service at Fishkill Rural Cemetery.

Elida Villa Peña (1955-2023)
Elida “Kathy” Villa Peña, 67, of Beacon died March 7 in Poughkeepsie.
She was born May 16, 1955, in the Dominican Republic, the daughter of Jacinto Villa and Antonia Peña, and came to the U.S. in her early 20s.
A strong, determined, and passionate woman, she pushed herself to learn English and was employed for many years at the Marriott at IBM, working her way up from a frontline worker to a bilingual supervisor. She was also an entrepreneur and established great friendships within the community, her family said.
Elida was independent and hardworking. She enjoyed being sole proprietor of a retail fashion store, 3 Bs (Bueno, Bonito y Barato), that she opened in 1996. She also opened a store on Main Street in Beacon known as Casa de Jonsi.
She is survived by her children, Awilda Mendez, Stephanie Leticia Hudson and Tilly (Timmy) Hudson Jr. (Marlena Scroggins); and her grandchildren, Isabella Mendez and Gabriella Mendez, both of Beacon; and her sister, Madeline (Mattie) Woodward of Glenham. Her family gathered for a graveside service at Fishkill Rural Cemetery.

John F. Gilsenan (1934-2023)
John F. Gilsenan of Garrison passed away peacefully with his family by his side on March 19, 2023, at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. He was 88.
He was born on September 28, 1934, in New York City to the late Phillip and Elizabeth Pratt Gilsenan.
John enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving his country during the Korean War.
He was a member of the Knights of Columbus Loretto Council, the Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 18, Peekskill and the American Legion Post 275, Cold Spring.
John was a retired corrections sergeant for the New York State Department of Corrections at the Fishkill Correctional Facility until his retirement in 1996. After retirement he worked for the Garrison school district as a school bus driver as well as a bus driver for the Philipstown Seniors.
John will be remembered as a kind-hearted man who enjoyed a parade a good meal and his family. His favorite holiday was St. Patrick’s Day, which he celebrated heartily in March and September.
He also is survived by his loving brother, Dan Gilsenan of Cold Spring, and his dear nieces and nephews.
John is survived by his loving children: John F. Gilsenan of Garrison; Shawn Gilsenan and his wife Maureen, and Christina “Crissy” O’Neill and her partner Jack Ward; his cherished grandchildren — Dylan Gilsenan, Devon O’Neill, Thomas O’Neill, and Shane Gilsenan; and his dear great-grandchildren — Isabella Mendez, Stephanie Leticia Hudson and Zoé Hudson.
John will be remembered by many — family, friends, neighbors, those who worked with him, and his community.
A service was held March 13 at Doyle Funeral Home in Poughkeepsie.

Other Recent Deaths
Beacon
Gregory Bentley Sr., 65
Elinor Coleman, 90
John DeSouter, 74
William Fuller, 83
John Komorik Sr., 58
Ed Malouf, 88

For obituaries, see highlandscurrent.org/obits.
Puzzles

**CrossCurrent**

**ACROSS**
1. Blunder
5. Sir’s partner
9. Witty one
12. Massage target
13. Lamb alias
15. Dairy aisle purchase
17. Zodiac feline
18. Indiana city
19. TV’s DeGeneres
21. Rejection
22. — buddy
24. Bears’ hands
27. Candy-heart word
28. Ashen
31. “— Believer”
32. Epoch
33. Actress Ruby
34. Attire
36. The whole enchilada
37. Barking mammal
38. Dark and gloomy
40. “I see”
41. Shrek princess
43. Scents
47. Adj. modifier
48. Canning jar feature
51. King, in Cannes
52. Tale teller
53. “Woe —!”
54. World Cup cheer

**DOWN**
1. Stare stupidly
2. Twice cuatro
3. “Hmm, I guess so”
4. Criminals
5. Office note
7. Be sick
8. “This — no sense!”
9. Built to last
10. Downwind
11. Thug
16. Punk-rock subgenre
20. Prune
22. Strapping
23. Track shape
24. Pot-bellied pet
25. Docs’ bloc
26. Dunkirk or Platoon, e.g.
27. Faucet problem
29. Meadow
30. Snaky fish
35. Chignon

**Solutions**
1. DOMES, 2. CRUDDY, 3. ICKIEST, 4. BOWLS, 5. ABRASIONS, 6. TAJIKISTAN, 7. PHYSICIST

**7 LittleWords**

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. hardy plantlike organisms (6)
2. E.B. White’s mouse Stuart (6)
3. Alanis’ little pill quality (10)
4. 007, for one (5)
5. soared (6)
6. moves in great numbers (6)
7. audible wave (5)

**SudoCurrent**

Answers for March 17 Puzzles

For interactive sudoku and crossword answers, see highlandscurrent.org/puzzles.
TITLE GAME (from Page 24)

After Randolph went up four points again, Eng-Wong scored once more with 33 seconds left, but an ill-timed turnover gave the ball back to Randolph. Haldane fouled with 16 seconds left, and Randolph hit one free throw to put the team up by the final margin.

Eng-Wong — who was a member of Haldane’s state championship boys’ soccer team last fall (along with Nachamkin) — finished with 12 points, including nine in the fourth, and senior Will Bradley and Nachamkin each finished with eight points.

“Everyone is just heartbroken — we’re shocked,” Eng-Wong said afterward. “We fought so hard, that’s why it hurts. We got so close.”

Of his fourth-quarter hot hand, Eng-Wong said: “I always try to come through when the game’s on the line. The whole team does. Whenever adversity hits, we always rise. I’m so proud of everyone here.”

The loss was a bittersweet ending for the Haldane seniors, including Cervone, who finished his four-year varsity career with 1,222 points and was named on Monday (March 20) to the All-Section team. “It sucks,” said the forward, who will play next year for the opportunity to play together.”

Haldane finished the season 21-5. Coach Joe Virgadamo, who was making his second trip to the title game (the Blue Devils were also runners-up in 2016), said that while his team had chances at the end, Randolph’s three-point barrage throughout the game was the difference.

“I feel so bad for these guys,” he said. “They deserved this one, but this wasn’t our night. It was the difference. The team had chances at the end, Randolph’s also runners-up in 2016), said that while his contributions from Ben Bozsik, who opened the game into overtime knotted at 48-48. In the extra session, the Blue Devils got big 3-pointers) and Cervone (five points). But the Golden Bears came back with a 13-5 second quarter to take a 19-16 lead at halftime.

Canton continued to roll with a 20-11 third quarter that put the Golden Bears up 39-29 at the end of three. But Cervone and the Blue Devils responded in the fourth, forcing turnovers, not allowing Canton second opportunities and hitting shots to send the game into overtime knotted at 48-48.

In the extra session, the Blue Devils got big contributions from Ben Bozsik, who opened the period with a floater to give Haldane a lead it would not give up. Bozsik finished with 14 points, including six in overtime; Cervone had 21 points, and dominated the fourth with nine; and Eng-Wong finished with 10, including four in overtime. Nachamkin had six points, and Evan Giachinta came up with two key buckets and a block in overtime.

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“I feel so bad for these guys,” he said. “They deserved this one, but this wasn’t our night. Randolph shot well, and we have no regrets. We had three shots at the buzzer — that’s why I love this team. I’m going to miss them.

“These guys represented Haldane on and off the court, and the ride to get here was amazing. What a great season — second in the state, and to have all these memories forever. That’s what high school sports are all about.”

The Blue Devils had to expend a great deal of energy against Canton on Friday (March 17) to reach the title game, coming back from 10 points down to force overtime,

Ben Bozsik scored six points in overtime to help defeat Canton.

Matt Nachamkin scored six points in the semifinal against Canton.

Ryan Eng-Wong prepares for a Canton double team. Photos by Amy Kubik

3-pointers) and Cervone (five points). But the Golden Bears came back with a 13-5 second quarter to take a 19-16 lead at halftime.

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For more photos, see highlandscurrent.org.
THE ROAD TO THE FINAL
Despite late comeback, Blue Devils lose by three

By Skip Pearlman

After winning 16 straight games — including a double-overtime thriller against Hamilton, a grind-it-out sectional championship battle with Tuckahoe and victories over Rhinebeck, Pierson and Canton that put Haldane in the state title game at Cool Insuring Arena in Glens Falls, only one thing was certain: The boys’ basketball Class C final on Saturday (March 18) against Randolph was going to end in elation or heartbreak.

Against Canton in the semifinal, Haldane overcame a 10-point deficit going into the fourth quarter to force overtime. Against Randolph, the deficit was 18 points. This time, a frantic comeback attempt fell one basket short when three long shots by the Blue Devils in the final seconds wouldn’t fall. The final was 58-55.

Randolph burned up the nets behind the three-point line, hitting 15, including eight by Jaiden Huntington, a 6-4 senior who finished with 28 points. Randolph scored all of its points in the first three quarters, except for two baskets, via the three.

The Blue Devils were outscored 20-8 in the third quarter but senior Matteo Cervone gave his team a shot in the arm by scoring Haldane’s first six points of the fourth (he had 10 of his 20 points in the period). The Blue Devils made their biggest push in the final 1:08, when senior Ryan Eng-Wong banked in a three-pointer to make it 55-50. Haldane forced a quick steal, and junior Matt Nachamkin scored to make it a 55-53 game with 49 seconds remaining.

(Continued on Page 22)