

# The HIGHLANDS Current



Art on a Pole  
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After being caught as a stray near the Garrison train station, Oreo found a new home in Sleepy Hollow. Photo provided

## More Pets Being Abandoned

Shelters concerned about capacity

By Joey Asher

It's been a crazy couple of months for Oreo, a black Lhasa Apso mix found wandering in February without a collar near the Garrison train station. The 3-year-old pup became a minor sensation in the Philipstown Locals group on Facebook when someone posted a photo of the dog eating a dead rabbit on Upper Station Road. After being caught and transported to the Putnam County Humane Society in Carmel, Oreo has a new home with Karin Eade in Sleepy Hollow, where he is reported to be chasing tennis balls and snuggling with Eade's mother, a cancer survivor. (Continued on Page 20)

## Women in the Ranks

Female firefighters a boon for struggling companies

By Michael Turton

Across New York state, 90 percent of fire departments are operated solely by volunteers — and virtu-

ally all of them need more. A large but untapped demographic may be the key to providing service: According to the U.S. Fire Administration, a division of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, women are vastly underrepresented in the ranks. Only 1 in 10 volunteer firefighters is female.

This weekend, the Firefighters Association of the State of New York is organizing RecruitNY, an annual event in which fire departments host open houses to show off their equipment and explain what they do and how to volunteer. Women contemplating the pros and cons of joining a fire company don't have to look beyond the Highlands for role models. Dawn Baisley has been a firefighter with (Continued on Page 8)



**FEMALE FIREFIGHTERS** — Back row: Lillian Moser (Cold Spring), Maggie Gordineer (Cold Spring), Juliann Ettinger (Beacon), Wendy Heintz (Garrison), Kristin Van Tassel (North Highlands), Alyssa Fry (North Highlands). Front row: Lauren de la Vega (Cold Spring), Dawn Baisley (Cold Spring), Lauren Scherer (North Highlands), Karolina Monroe (North Highlands) Photo by Ross Corsair

## Beacon Schools Propose 3.3% Budget Increase

Voters will decide May 16; four board seats open

By Jeff Simms

Although Gov. Kathy Hochul and state legislators have yet to resolve New York State's budget, the message around education funding has been clear enough for the Beacon school board on Monday (April 17) to adopt the district's 2023-24 proposed spending plan.

The \$81.3 million budget, up 3.3 percent over the last fiscal year, will be on the ballot May 16 for voter approval, along with four seats on the nine-member school board and three propositions related to student transportation. After accounting for Beacon's tax base growth factor, which is one of the highest in Dutchess County, the school district will be allowed to collect \$45.9 million in property taxes — an increase in its levy of 3.64 (Continued on Page 9)

## New Cold Spring Zoning Within Sight

Public hearing set for April 26

By Michael Turton

Cold Spring is on the final leg of a journey that began in 1967, when the village enacted its zoning law. The Village Board, at its Wednesday (April 19) meeting, continued its discussion of an extensive update of that zoning, Chapter 134 of the village code, which details how land within the village can be used. A public hearing is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Wednesday (April 26) at Village Hall. Residents can attend in person or via Zoom

and submit comments through May 16. The update is needed in part because the zoning was based on land-use regulations designed for postwar suburban communities, not a village incorporated in 1846. For residents, one consequence of that has been the need to routinely apply for variances from village boards, even for minor changes, which costs time and money. That burden, for residents as well as board members, will be lessened under the new zoning, which reduces the number of "nonconforming" situations. The comprehensive plan, adopted in 2012 (Continued on Page 3)

5Q

FIVE QUESTIONS: VIRGINIA SOLE-SMITH

By Chip Rowe

Virginia Sole-Smith, of Philipstown, is the author of *Fat Talk: Parenting in the Age of Diet Culture*. She will discuss the book at 3 p.m. on Saturday (April 22) at the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison.

How did you come to this topic?

I was a women's magazine writer for a long time, and I wrote weight-loss and diet-culture stories: how to get your best bikini body, that kind of thing. When I became a parent, I didn't want to pass on all of the stuff I'd learned about the "right way to have a body" or the "right way to eat." I wanted to do something different, but I wasn't sure what.

I started reporting on what we actually know about the relationship between weight and health and discovered it's usually not a causal relationship — people in larger bodies tend to have more health problems, but nobody really knows why, and weight loss isn't usually the fix. With kids in particular, we know that going on diets and having anxiety around weight are the top predictors for eating disorders.

You discuss what you call "the myth" of a childhood obesity epidemic but note that more children are now considered obese than 50 years ago. How is it a myth?

How we collect the data changed. They only added the "obese" category to pediatric growth charts in 2010. The same thing happened with the adult BMI [body mass index] scale in 1998 — about 29 million Americans moved from overweight into obese, just because they changed the way they calibrated it.

The BMI scale was never meant to be a measure of health — it was developed by a Flemish statistician in the 19th century to measure the average man. The standard growth chart we use to measure kids is based on data collected between 1963 and 1998, so we're measuring them against their parents and grandparents. American kids today, as a whole, are a much more diverse population.



Photo by Gabrielle Gerard

Many studies start with the knee-jerk assumption that a fat kid is unhealthy, and we need to intervene, instead of saying: "OK, it looks like kids are getting bigger. What is this telling us about their health?" We're not seeing skyrocketing rates of Type 2 diabetes, but we are seeing a huge rise in eating disorders. If you want to protect someone's long-term health risk, preventing an eating disorder in the teen years is a great way to do that.

We have gotten it really backward. I was just looking at a workout program for kids on YouTube that was like, "Burn fat and get a flat tummy." It was aimed at 6-year-olds. The American Academy of Pediatrics released a new set of clinical guidelines encouraging doctors to prescribe weight loss to kids at about the same time that weight-loss drugs were approved for children as young as 12. A lot of us on this beat have been teasing out the financial entanglements.

Why doesn't dieting work in the long run?

Body size is much less under our control than we think. It's probably at least 60

percent genetics. No matter how much you diet, no matter how much you exercise, there's only so much progress you're going to make because we have set points with our weight that our bodies fight to defend.

Many of us spend our entire adult lives on that hamster wheel of gaining and losing, feeling it's our fault when, in fact, it's how dieting works. These industries have sold you this message that you should have total control and that they are going to tell us the right way to eat to have the perfect body. When it doesn't work, they blame us for not following the plan closely enough or not having willpower or not trying hard enough.

Fat kids have always been teased. How do you prevent that?

I would be naive to say we can completely dismantle anti-fat bias. Fat kids can expect to be teased, and they can expect that their teachers, parents and doctors are not going to stand up for them. That's where we can make some change.

What can parents do?

They can say: "In our house, your body is safe and loved and totally respected. And we're going to make sure you know that. When you encounter teasing, it's not your fault. We're going to stand up for you and help you learn to navigate." Parents of thin kids need to do this, too, because I was a thin kid who's a fat adult — size is not guaranteed!

When young children first call someone fat, they're not saying it out of malice, they're just noticing a body difference. Parents will rush in. "Don't say that. That's not nice." Instead, you could say, "Yeah, that person has a bigger body. We don't really talk about people's bodies without their permission, but bodies come in different shapes and sizes." That's a subtle shift. When I was a kid, people called each other "gay" as an insult all the time. That has changed dramatically. We've moved these needles before, so we can do it again.

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What's your fast-food guilty pleasure?

“Chicken nuggets with every kind of sauce possible.”



Leo Grocott, Garrison

“I skip class all the time to get fries.”



Lucas Garnier, Garrison

“McDonald's fries. They're evil but taste so great.”



Elena Lombardi Labreche, Cold Spring

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## Zoning (from Page 1)

and intended to protect the small-town, historic and diverse character of the village, went so far as to state that Cold Spring could not be rebuilt under its existing zoning.

The proposed update will bring regulations into harmony with the comprehensive plan, a requirement of New York State law.

The update will also enable the village to move forward with its Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. That initiative, through which the village can access federal and state grants for various projects, was put on hold in 2012 pending completion of the revised zoning.

In the updated Chapter 134, zoning for the former Marathon Battery site will change from industrial to planned mixed-use, following a comprehensive plan recommendation that the 12-acre site be “well integrated in the fabric of the community.”

Commenting on Marathon’s future development, Mayor Kathleen Foley said lessons were learned when the last large property in the village was redeveloped — the former Butterfield Hospital site on Route 9D.

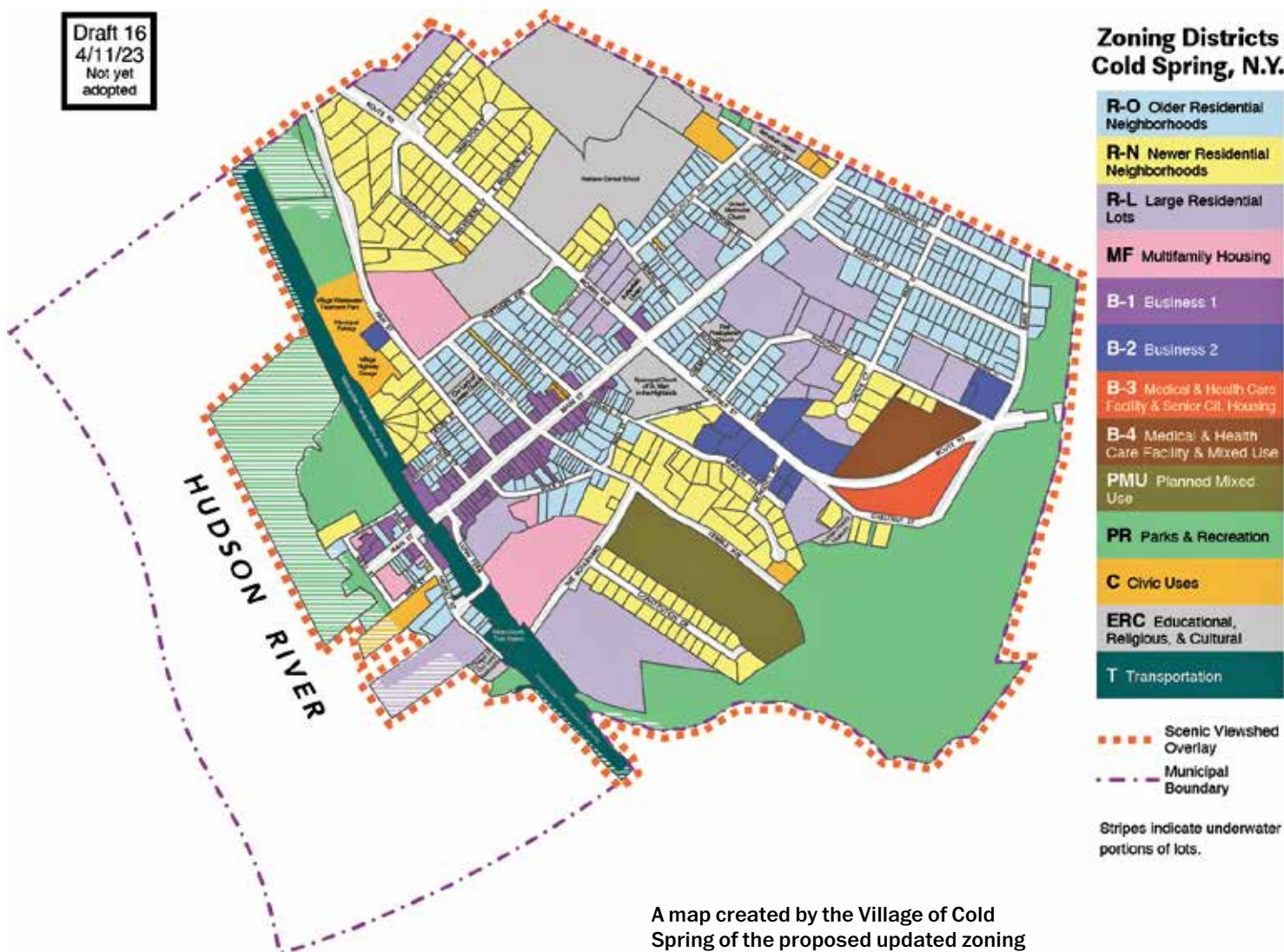
“Details were looked at first and then the overall picture,” she said. “Analyses should have happened earlier, and the public didn’t have an understanding of the overall impact of the project until very late in the game.”

Foley said the proposed zoning change contains several elements to ensure that situation is not repeated at Marathon.

“We want the village to be in the driver’s seat,” she said. “And we want the public to be engaged at every step.”

Zoning will also change for Mayor’s Park and the highway garage, from industrial to parks and recreation, and civic uses, respectively.

During public comment at the meeting, Michael Reisman expressed concern that



meetings of the ad hoc working group on the zoning update meetings held over the past three months were not open to the public. Village attorney John Furst said that because ad hoc committees are only advisory and don’t make decisions, they are not subject to the Open Meetings Law.

Tara Vamos advocated inclusion of

housing that would be affordable for middle-income residents as part of any redevelopment of the Marathon site.

Mike Armstrong asked that an exception to maximum-height restrictions for buildings in flood-prone areas be considered in light of the expected significant rise in sea levels over the next 50 years. He also advocated changing the

2½ story maximum for homes in the proposed “large residential lot” section be changed to three stories, pointing out that his three-story home on Morris Avenue would not conform.

The proposed update is posted at [bit.ly/cold-spring-zoning](https://bit.ly/cold-spring-zoning), along with Chapter 134 and a PowerPoint presentation from April 19 on its development and major elements.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Philipstown Bans Parking South of Breakneck

*Also adds restrictions to north Fair Street*

With a 4-0 vote on Wednesday (April 19), the Philipstown Town Board prohibited parking on both sides of state Route 9D between the Cold Spring border and the Philipstown line — effectively anywhere along the highway south of the Breakneck Tunnel.

The measure also bans parking along a portion of Fair Street that stretches about 600 feet from the edge of Cold Spring to the intersection with Route 9D at Little Stony Point, another state park site that draws crowds.

The board instructed the Philipstown Highway Department “to post appropriate ‘no parking’ signage forthwith.”

Although New York has jurisdiction over Route 9D, the town government has authority over the shoulders, or verges, allowing it to forbid parking.

Supervisor John Van Tassel said an April 14 discussion involving Philipstown; Cold Spring, including its police; the Putnam County Sheriff’s Department, Fishkill police, New York State Police and the state

park police touched on the lack of local regulations along Route 9D, so “we needed to tighten that up a little bit.”

### Howland Library to Vote

*Proposes 7% budget increase*

The Howland Public Library District in Beacon will hold a vote on Thursday (April 27) asking residents to approve a 7 percent increase to its budget and fill two seats on its nine-member board.

The state tax cap for the library for 2023-24 is 1.02 percent, or \$21,000; the board voted in February to exceed the cap with a 7 percent increase, or \$90,000, for a tax levy of \$1.37 million.

Director Kristen Salierno said that if the budget passes, it will allow the library to expand its collection and pay staff members who hold four-year degrees or higher “what is considered a livable wage in Dutchess County.”

There are four candidates for the two board seats, which have five-year terms: Elizabeth Murphy, Emily Pullen, Joseph Vergolina and Margaret Watkinson. Their statements are posted at [bit.ly/howland-vote-2023](https://bit.ly/howland-vote-2023).

The polls will be open at the library from

noon to 8 p.m. All registered voters in the Beacon City School District are eligible, and absentee ballots are available.

### First Petitions Filed for Election

*Who will be on ballot in Philipstown, Beacon, Dutchess*

Judy Farrell and Robert Flaherty, both incumbent Democrats, have filed to run for re-election to the Philipstown Town Board. Neal Tomann, a Republican, also filed to run for one of the two open seats.

They were among the candidates submitting designating petitions to the Putnam County Board of Elections by the April 10 deadline. The election will be Nov. 7.

Supervisor John Van Tassel and Town Clerk Tara Percacciolo also submitted petitions for re-election. Adam Hotaling, who ran unopposed in 2022 to fill the remainder of the term of Highway Superintendent Carl Frisenda, who resigned for health reasons, filed to run for a full four-year term.

In addition, Angela Thompson-Tinsley, a Democrat, and Randall Chiera, a Republican,

filed to run for a town justice seat held since 1996 by Stephen Tomann, a Republican.

Cold Spring will have three seats on the ballot: for the job of mayor, held by Kathleen Foley, and the trustee seats held by Cathryn Fadde and Eliza Starbuck. Petitions for those positions are due May 30.

In Beacon, five of the seven Democrats on the City Council filed for re-election, including Mayor Lee Kyriacou, Molly Rhodes (Ward 1), Wren Longno (3), Dan Aymar-Blair (4) and Paloma Wake (at-large). Jeffrey Domanski is the Democrat candidate for Ward 2; Justice McCray is not seeking re-election for a second term.

The candidate for the other at-large position is Pamela Wetherbee, a former council member. George Mansfield, who has been on the council since 2009, will not run for an eighth term. No Republicans filed petitions.

Nick Page, a Democrat who represents District 18 in the county Legislature, which includes three wards in Beacon, is seeking re-election to a fourth term. In District 16, which includes Ward 4 in Beacon, Yvette Valdés-Smith, the first-term incumbent Democrat, will again be challenged by Ronald Davis, who filed for the Republican line.

# 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

### Fjord Trail

The Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail is a solution for managing tourism in the region that will also give people of all ages and abilities greater access to the beauty that surrounds us. Recently, a handful of opponents of the project have been spreading the falsehood that the Fjord Trail will bring 600,000 new visitors to the region. That is categorically false. At no point has anyone from the Fjord Trail stated that the project will bring 600,000 new visitors.

In 2021, New York State Parks estimated that annual visitation to Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve was 480,000. Environmental review consultants with expertise in park usage project that, by 2028, when the Fjord Trail is scheduled to be completed, there will be an additional 120,000 visitors annually. Working with recreational visitation management experts, we are continuing our analysis of traffic patterns and usage through this summer. This analysis, other data we have gathered and the community input we receive will continue to inform this projection and our decision-making on management and operations.

The Fjord Trail is a park, conceived and initiated by local residents to help manage the impacts of increasing tourism in the region. The vision has grown over 15 years to reflect community input and changing conditions on the ground. Its thoughtful and strategic design will disperse visitors across the 7.5-mile path, from Beacon to Cold Spring, with six unique access points, drawing hikers away from Route 9D and neighborhood streets, alleviating the burden on local neighborhoods and village infrastructure.

The Fjord Trail will also provide and manage critical amenities and infrastructure that residents have sought for years,

including parking, additional sidewalks, signage, garbage collection and restrooms. It will ensure that seniors, people with disabilities and families with small children have access to the riverfront and trails.

We recognize that there is a lot of interest and excitement — as well as many concerns and questions — about the Fjord Trail, and how it will serve Cold Spring and Philipstown. To that end, we will always do our best to clarify misinformation.

The community forum scheduled for May 8, hosted by the Town of Philipstown, the Village of Cold Spring and the Village of Nelsonville, will provide another excellent opportunity to learn more about the project and help further shape the new trail so that everyone benefits from it.

Amy Kacala, *Poughkeepsie*  
Kacala is the executive director of Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Inc.

### On board

Philipstown couldn't ask for a better steward or voice of their interests than Richard Shea ("Former Supervisor Joins Fjord Trail Inc.," April 14). How can this once-in-several-generations opportunity be wasted?

Christopher Daly, via Facebook

### Route 9

These projects don't just happen ("Route 9 Projects Rile Residents," April 14). They are approved by town boards. If you are in opposition, you need to go to the meetings and do research. That's all public info that can be accessed easily. In this case, someone left the barn door open and the cows are already out. You need to be there to shut the door.

I wonder where our self-appointed nonprofit guardians of nature that proliferate in this area were on this one. It might be a good idea to "follow the money," as they say, to get answers to that.

Tony Bardes, *Philipstown*

## Corrections

In the April 14 issue, Celia Barbour's *Mouths to Feed* had an incorrect author photo. This is Celia. →



In the April 14 issue, we identified a co-sponsor of a memoir-writing group at the Butterfield Library as People Aging at Home. In fact, it is Philipstown Aging at Home (paah.net).

In the *Roots and Shoots* column in the Feb. 17 issue, we stated that Carol Deppe, author of *The Resilient Gardener*, died in 2022. In fact, according to the Open Source Seed Initiative, which Deppe founded, reports of her death are exaggerated.

### Town halls

Unlike prior members of Congress representing Philipstown, our congressman, Mike Lawler, has been resistant to responding to constituents calling for him to hold frequent town halls across the district at times that most can attend. He has been presented a petition with just short of 400 signatures asking for this.

His unwillingness to respond to constituents who want to ask him questions and hear his views on a variety of issues is revealed by the fact that he has instructed his staff to claim that the few daytime "mobile office hours" his office has held (where individual constituents meet with a staff member to get

(Continued on Page 5)



(Continued on Page 4)

## LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

help with private matters) are, in fact, “town halls.” Mobile office hours are important but not sufficient.

Only after significant pressure from many calling his office did our congressman show up, unannounced, at the recent “office hours” held in Mahopac — which he tried to pass off as a town hall.

The congressman, by the end of this impromptu meeting, vowed to hold town halls throughout the district, during evening and weekend hours, and respond to questions directly from attendees, to make himself accessible to his constituents. Let’s hold him to that promise.

Margaret Yonco-Haines, *Garrison*

## Indian Point

I have been following your reports on the tritiated water release from the former Indian Point nuclear power plant but can’t find the most important piece of information: How much tritium is Holtec intending to release? (“Holtec Halts Indian Point Release,” April 14). The numbers everyone is reporting are for the overall volume; I couldn’t find anywhere how contaminated that water is. It would obviously make a huge difference if the water is very contaminated or lightly contaminated.

Guy Garty, *Irvington*

*Editor’s note: A Holtec representative says “the amount released would be consistent with historical discharges and*

*the measured dose would be equal to or less than previous years due to there no longer being a source (fuel) in the water and decay occurring every day.” A chart provided by the company shows that the “total whole body dose from Indian Point liquid effluent releases” between 2005 and 2021 ranged from 0.000458 millirem (2014) to 0.011966 millirem (2021). The federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission allows up to 3 millirem of radioactive liquid effluent releases annually.*



### A daily oasis for National Poetry Month

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

Each day in April, a podcast recording will be posted at [bit.ly/hear-poem-2023](http://bit.ly/hear-poem-2023) featuring a community member reading a favorite published poem. The 2020, 2021 and 2022 recordings are also archived at the site.

## WHEN *The Current* WINS, YOU WIN

Being named **Newspaper of the Year** for the second year in a row is a mark of *The Highlands Current's* commitment to you and all in our community. It is both a measure of the hard work on the part of the team that brings you the news and an inspiration for them to serve the Highlands better than ever.

As the Board of Directors of *The Current*, we congratulate editor Chip Rowe and his editing, reporting, advertising, photo and design team for their distinguished work in achieving this honor.

In judging the 2,657 entries from 154 newspapers in the New York Press Association Better Newspaper Contest this year, members of the Colorado Press Association singled out *The Current* with first-, second- and third-place awards in many areas. And their comments highlight the paper's efforts to keep you informed:



**“Great work localizing national and regional trends and finding community voices to tell those stories.”**

To Leonard Sparks and Jeff Simms for their coverage of health, health care and science

**“These stories reflected great beat coverage. . . . They answered the question: Why should I care?”**

To Leonard Sparks, Joey Asher and Jeff Simms for their coverage of education

**“This reporter . . . mixed impactful, clear, concise and informative writing that flowed with a wide range of elements.”**

To Brian PJ Cronin for his coverage of the environment

**“Keep up the powerful work.”**

To Chip Rowe and Leonard Sparks for their Black history series “Always Present, Never Seen”

**“You can see that the photographer values the community by getting out and embedding himself into many walks of life.”**

To Ross Corsair as a Photographer of the Year

**“The [ad] quality and layout & design are first rate, as is the copywriting.”**

To Michele Gedney for advertising excellence

**“Really excellent, especially in the sports photos department.”**

To Pierce Strudler for photo layout design

And to *The Current* for overall coverage:

**“An excellent paper.  
It has excellent community engagement.”**

Thank you to all on the staff for your dedication to keeping our community well-informed each week.

And thank you to you, our readers and members, for supporting our nonprofit publication.

~ *The Highlands Current* Board of Directors ~

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Provide & manage critical **amenities & infrastructure**, which local municipalities have not been able to afford

Create riverfront & trail **accessibility** for seniors, people with disabilities & families with children

**Protect our local environment** by repairing erosion, managing invasive species & increasing shoreline resiliency to sea level rise

*"The Fjord Trail will connect Beacon and Cold Spring in a way that celebrates and respects nature, restores wildlife habitats, and allows a connection to the shoreline that has been restricted."*

- Melissa McGill, City of Beacon resident

**We encourage you to learn more about the Fjord Trail:**  
visit **hhft.org** / email **info@hhft.org**

## Living Green

## What's Your Future?

By Krystal Ford

I am great at picturing our climate-induced, dystopian future. I can imagine food and commodity shortages, mass migration, trigger-happy racist militias — basically the Dust Bowl meets Fascism 2.0, sprinkled with *The Handmaid's Tale*.

Humans are storytellers and we are good at telling stories about the breakdown of civilization. It's a Hollywood genre. Too many of us can say what we don't want but come up short when asked what we do want.

Have we lost our ability to imagine progress? Why don't you ever hear the word *utopia* anymore? Sadly, we are conditioned to low expectations. That sentiment is reflected in a quote, variously attributed to philosophers Fredric Jameson or Slavoj Žižek: "It's easier to imagine the end of the world than to imagine the end of capitalism."

But imagine we must. The future will be a battle of ideas; if we don't want disaster capitalism to write our story, it's time for us to put pen to paper.

I decided to ask community members what they wanted the world to look like in 2050 but realized I had never attempted the question myself. So this month, I will do my best to imagine a better future, and next month, I will share thoughts from others. Here goes:

I'm 67, sitting on my porch. The air smells clean and fresh, no traces of diesel exhaust or gas fumes. I can hear the trees rustling in the breeze and birds chirping and I have long forgotten what leaf blowers and mowers sound like. The manicured green lawns that used to cover 40 million acres of the U.S. are now meadows, native grasslands, tended vegetable gardens or returned to forests. A civilian corps tends the vegetable gardens planted for anyone who needs assistance. Local food security is a priority. No one is hungry.

Car traffic is prohibited on main streets across the country. It's all one walkway with places to sit, eat, shop and interact. I feel safe riding my electric bike because priority is given to pedestrians and bikers when planning roads and streets.

The population is healthier because of the food we eat, the air we breathe, the water we drink and the diminishing time we sit at desks, which is great news because it costs less for our universal health care.

All living things, including trees, oceans, animals and mountains, have rights just as humans have rights. Once this passed, lots of progress was made to reverse mass species extinction. We put an immedi-



ate ban on harmful fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides and factory farming. A wildlife corridor was built from Mexico to Alaska. Traditional lands have been returned to Indigenous tribes.

When I go and visit my grown children, who live several states away, it's not a big deal because high-speed trains can take you most anywhere. Public transportation is so reliable you only need to use the communal car on occasion.

The promises of technology are shared with all. The workweek is four days for five hours a day, leaving plenty of time for people to volunteer and take care of their children or aging parents. Everyone receives a basic income, allowing people to raise their children, start businesses, farm, create art or find meaningful employment or just dream for a moment.

Democracy is much more participatory and diverse. Citizens' assemblies are used for the big problems — a cross section of the public is recruited to study selected issues — overcoming the hurdles that arise between elected representatives and the electorate, and their lack of deliberation on the tough issues most politicians wouldn't touch for fear of losing their seats.

Local governments run their own clean electric utilities and use some of the proceeds to pay residents to sequester carbon.

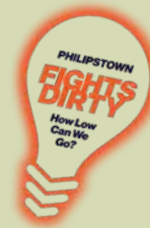
The economy is decoupled from growth. We don't track gross domestic product but measure success by the health of nature, happiness, education, food sovereignty and what our carbon balance worksheet looks like.

We celebrate the first day it snows every year. When the first white flakes arrive everyone takes the day off to enjoy its wonder. We aren't in a hurry to go anywhere and no longer consider snow a nuisance but a reminder of what we almost lost if we hadn't acted when we did decades ago.

As I sip my coffee, my 67-year-old self is holding my grandchild and I am overcome by gratitude that the species took all its intelligence and ingenuity and put it to good use, so we could continue on — that we found a better way to be in this world.

Have your own vision of 2050?  
Email four to five sentences to  
[livinggreen@highlandscurrent.org](mailto:livinggreen@highlandscurrent.org).

“Have we lost our ability to imagine progress? Why don't you ever hear the word *utopia* anymore?”

HEY, PHILIPSTOWN!  
5 EARTH DAY ACTIONS

- 1 **Donate to the Philipstown Climate Fund and help a neighbor take climate action.**  
visit [ecologicalcitizens.org/philipstownclimatefund](http://ecologicalcitizens.org/philipstownclimatefund)
- 2 **Sign up to recycle your food scraps**  
email [foodscraprecycle@philipstown.com](mailto:foodscraprecycle@philipstown.com)
- 3 **Attend a Climate Smart task force meeting**  
email [csphilipstown@gmail.com](mailto:csphilipstown@gmail.com)
- 4 **Pledge your annual household's climate action and be counted for our community.**  
visit [philipstownfightsdirty.org](http://philipstownfightsdirty.org)
- 5 **JOIN THESE EARTH DAY EVENTS!**

## Saturday, 4/22

**10am -1pm Philipstown Earth Day Fair + Cold Spring Farmers Market** at Hudson Valley Shakespeare @ 2015 Route 9, w/ market vendors, music, food, picnicking, arts & crafts, 11am hikes led by Philipstown Trails Committee, lending library by Butterfield w/ storytimes at 10:30 and 12, Repair Cafe, electric lawn equipment & vehicles, informational booths by Climate Smart Philipstown, Haldane's Habitat Revival Club, Sustainable Putnam, Putnam CCE, Philipstown Garden Club & more!

**10am -1pm Little Stony Point Earth Day + Clean up** @ 3011 Route 9D w/ speaker Heather Bruegl, land acknowledgement by Haldane 4th grade students, snacks & drinks, music by East Mountain Studio.

**10am -4pm Extending the pollinator garden** at Philipstown Town Hall @ 238 Main St. Community volunteers & local experts together will expand the garden, including opportunities to speak to garden pros.

**11am -6pm 2nd Annual Main Street in Bloom** @ Main Street in Cold Spring, a celebration of the blossoming of spring and our history as a Village! Come stop by the event table in front of Village Hall to pick up the trivia map & information about the events, grab self-guided tour information from the Putnam History Museum, enter the raffle with numerous prizes donated by local businesses and more!

**11am -7pm Earth Day Pop-Up Thrift Sale** at St. Mary's Church @ 1 Chestnut St. Sale of clothing and accessories for ages 7+. Featuring a mending station.

**6pm-9pm Highlands Lights: Ad Astra** at Hudson Valley Shakespeare @ 2015 Route 9. 6pm family hike w/ Hudson Highlands Land Trust + 7:30pm lantern procession. Attendees are invited to wander the landscape at will as they explore the heavens, carrying mini-planetarium lanterns to guide them, eventually gathering around the fire for drinks and stories. Registration requested at [hvshakespeare.org](http://hvshakespeare.org).

## Saturday, 4/29

**2pm-3pm Community Plant Swap** at Julia L. Butterfield Library @ 10 Morris Ave. Bring a plant, leave with a plant!



Learn more about how Philipstown can become carbon neutral at [philipstownfightsdirty.org](http://philipstownfightsdirty.org)



## Firefighters *(from Page 1)*

the Cold Spring Fire Co. for 11 years. She had convinced her son to join, in part to bolster his community service credentials for college applications. But she had an unexpected reaction while watching his training sessions.

"I remember thinking, 'This is really interesting; this is what I want to do,'" she recalled.

Baisley has since completed more than 500 hours of training and is qualified to fight fires both outside and inside buildings. She recently finished training for electric-vehicle fires.

She has served as the department's safety officer, completed officer training as a first and second lieutenant and serves on the fire company's board of directors.

"I like being able to help people, especially on some of the worst days of their lives," she said. "And I love challenging myself."

Some calls stick more than others. One of the worst for Baisley involved a boy who had fallen into a quarry. "He didn't make it," she recalled. "We had to bring him out."

Baisley is also part of the new Putnam County Technical Rescue Team. Its first call involved a horse in North Salem stuck in mud up to its chest.

As one of four women at the Cold Spring department, she has straightforward advice for women contemplating becoming a volunteer. "You're capable of more than you know," she said. "Don't hold back or worry about what somebody else thinks. If you're feeling it, go for it."

Wendy Heintz is one of two female fire-



Dawn Baisley joined in Cold Spring after watching her son train for the department.

Photo by Ross Corsair

fighters with the Garrison Volunteer Fire Co. Now a second assistant chief, she joined 26 years ago because her husband was a member. She said she hadn't realized women could serve as firefighters.

"Garrison is small," Heintz said. "We can use all the manpower and womanpower we can get."

Because many volunteer firefighters work outside the area, daytime calls can pose a challenge. "But I'm home and close to the firehouse," she said. "I can go on calls during the day when getting people can be difficult."

Kristin Van Tassel, one of five female

firefighters with the North Highlands Fire Co. in Philipstown, joined when her father, John Noschese, was the chief.

That was 34 years ago. She is qualified as an interior firefighter but admits age is a factor. "As fit as I like to think I am, I'm 50, and after a good training day I feel it in my shoulders, my back," she said. "And that's in a controlled environment."

"The amount of training required is the hardest part" of the job, Van Tassel said. "It's like a second job that you don't get paid for."

She said recent brush fires have been exhausting and time-consuming. "It's physically demanding," Van Tassel said. "A firefighter might have had plans for the weekend but spent 16 hours fighting brush fires over two days," as happened last weekend in Garrison.

There are also emotional challenges.

"I've been to some serious car accidents, attempted to save people's lives and seen them die," she said.

So why does she still do it?

The camaraderie of the "brotherhood/sisterhood" is an important plus, she said. "We do a lot of social events, within our firehouse and with other fire departments," she said. "You meet a lot of new people, similar people."

"Firefighting is unique, a different kind of volunteering," she said. "Your goal is to help protect life and property; it's a dedication and a gratification like no other."

She thinks necessity has made gender less of an issue in firefighting than years ago. "Volunteerism is hurting across the board, in every organization," she said. "There is no room for discrimination."

The Beacon Fire Department has both paid firefighters and volunteers. Kari Lahey, the department's first full-time female firefighter, was hired in 2020. Its other female firefighter, Juliann Ettinger, is a volunteer who joined four years ago after volunteering with the East Fishkill Fire Department for a year.

Ettinger feels women interested in firefighting need to prioritize getting and staying in shape, and physical strength.

"When 5-inch hose lines are charged, every 1-foot section contains a gallon of water," she said. "Hundreds of feet of hose get extremely heavy."

Gender matters, she said, but only in terms of muscular strength. "Men typically

## Open Houses

### Continental Village

12 Spy Pond Road, Garrison  
Sunday, April 23 | 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

### Garrison

1616 Route 9  
Sunday, April 23 | 9 a.m. – Noon

### Wappingers Falls

2582 South Avenue  
Saturday, April 22 | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.



**SENATOR VISITS** — Sen. Chuck Schumer visited the Cold Spring Fire Co. on April 10 to announce a plan to allocate \$16.5 million in federal funding for first responders in the Hudson Valley. Schumer was joined by officials from the Cold Spring, North Highlands and Garrison fire companies and Philipstown Supervisor John Van Tassel.

Photo provided

put on muscle better than women," she said. "A 6-foot-2, 220-pound man carrying 75 pounds of gear" is one thing, she said. "But I'm 5-foot-7, 150 pounds — that gear is half my body weight."

That, she said, is why, especially as a woman, she never downplays the importance of strength and physical fitness.

Although the fire company is nearly all men, Ettinger said she has been welcomed and supported since Day One. "Every one of my instructors, my lieutenant and my chief have been exceptionally encouraging," she said. "In my training and physical tests, it's almost like they wanted to see you make it more than the men."

But it doesn't make the training any easier. "There's not a lower standard for women. There's just the firefighter standard," she said.

Fire companies across the state would relish seeing several Maggie Gordineers show up at the firehouse, eager to sign up. The 16-year-old is a junior firefighter with the Cold Spring company.

"I come from a long line of firefighters," she said, including her older brother, Jack, who just finished his stint as a junior firefighter with Cold Spring and became a firefighter.

"The firehouse has been super welcoming," Maggie said. "Everyone wants to be there, dedicating their time to help other people. It's an uplifting environment to be in."

## HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER

**Sat. Apr 22 + Sun. April 23 – 1-5 PM**  
Two Exhibits in One equals Family Fun  
**Imagination & THE MACHINE**  
Exhibit of never-before-seen sculptures that blur the line between real and imaginary objects  
**PLUS - A Storywalk Alongside Frog And Weasel!**  
Original drawings from the book A SUNDAY DRIVE

**Sat Apr 22 – 8 PM**  
**JOHN JOHN BROWN performs:**  
Music, Stories & Art: Lessons from Strangers  
"An imaginative musical performance woven into a unique visual experience." Kerrville New Folk winner John John Brown weaves together storytelling songs and visual arts. Unfolding is an imaginative and colorful world revealing the idea that all people, strangers alike, have a story we can learn from.  
Tix: \$20 adv / \$25 door: howlandculturalcenter.org

**Sun. Apr 30 – 4 PM**  
**WINDSYNC WOODWIND QUINTET**  
Howland Chamber Music Circle  
Tix: howlandmusic.org

**Sat & Sun JUNE 17+18**  
**Beacon LitFest - Program and Workshops**  
With special guest New York Times and NPR puzzlemaster Will Shortz  
**Get your tickets TODAY! Seats are limited**  
Tix: howlandculturalcenter.org

**Other Shows Tickets On Sale**  
**OLD BONES ODYSSEY** - May 6  
**HALYCON** - May 13  
**Coming Soon**  
Mystery at the Library - June 10  
David Amram & Friends - Aug 12  
Steve Katz - Sept 30

477 Main Street, Beacon, NY 12508  
www.howlandculturalcenter.org (845) 831-4988  
facebook.com/howlandcenterbeacon  
howlandculturalcenter.org

## HIGHLANDS CHAPEL

Home of the Highlands Choral Society

**JOIN US. WORSHIP. SONG. REFLECTION. FELLOWSHIP.**

**SUNDAYS 11:00 AM**

**APRIL 23**  
Kristin Sorenson

**APRIL 30**  
Lucy Taylor

**MAY 7**  
Rev. Bill Weisenbach

**MAY 14**  
Rodney Dow

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

The Highlands Choral Society is a nonprofit organization offering nondenominational services, fully-staffed Children's Hour, youth choir, and community outreach.

216 MAIN STREET COLD SPRING, NY  
**HighlandsChapel.org**

# Haldane and Garrison Adopt Budgets

*School district residents will vote May 16*

By Joey Asher

The Haldane and Garrison school districts have adopted final budgets for the 2023-24 academic year to present to voters on May 16.

The Haldane board on Tuesday (April 18) approved \$28.2 million in spending and a 1.96 percent property tax increase. That matches the tax cap calculated by the state

for the district for 2023-24.

The budget includes funding for a class for as many as eight kindergarten, first- and second-graders with autism or similar needs (\$166,000); a new special education teacher at the secondary level (\$91,000); a French teacher (\$91,000); and equipment to teach coding, robotics, design and engineering (\$13,500).

Superintendent Philip Benante said the district benefited from a 25 percent increase in state aid, amounting to \$719,509, and a 51 percent jump in state

pre-K funding (\$118,800).

There will be one seat on the ballot for the five-member school board, with incumbent Peggy Clements as the only candidate for her fourth, 3-year term.

Meanwhile, the Garrison school board adopted its \$12.56 million budget last week. It includes a 3.3 percent property tax increase, matching its state cap for 2023-24.

The Garrison budget calls for the district to spend nearly \$700,000 of its savings and make \$220,000 in cuts, including changing the art teacher from full-time to part-time; eliminating the part-time Committee on Special Education chair and assigning

those duties to the school psychologist; and dropping a bus from its contract fleet and adjusting routes to allow for one less driver, perhaps stopping service for any child who lives within 2 miles of the school.

There will be three candidates on the May 16 ballot — incumbent Jocelyn Apicello and newcomers Jennifer Harrington-Wilson and Dan Jasnow — for three vacancies on the seven-member board. The two candidates who receive the most votes will serve three-year terms, while the other candidate will complete the final year of the term of Madeline Julian, who resigned March 31.

## Beacon Budget *(from Page 1)*

percent, or \$1.6 million — without exceeding its state-mandated tax cap. However, because state aid accounts for the bulk of the remainder of the budget, estimated tax implications on district residents were not immediately available.

Hochul and state Senate and Assembly leaders are three weeks past the April 1 deadline to pass a budget, but the holdups have largely been around bail reform and housing plans. The governor's proposed spending calls for \$34.5 billion in school aid, including a \$2.7 billion increase in foundation aid, an all-important allocation which uses a formula to send money to schools with high-need students.

Funding for free school meals, a lighting-rod issue since federal funding for the program expired last year, is also included in the Senate and Assembly's budget proposals.

If adopted, the Beacon schools budget would add a full-time pre-K staff member, allowing the district to offer six full-day pre-K classes at its elementary schools. A world language teacher would be added at Beacon High School, replacing a retiring staff member, and a second social worker would be hired, giving the district full-time social workers at the high school and Rombout Middle School.

The budget would also add a world language teacher at the middle school, reducing class size there and easing the burden on language instructors who have been teaching extra classes. A part-time music instructor and full-time teacher to support students not meeting grade-level expectations would also be added.

A teacher assigned to assist staff in devel-

oping strategies to help struggling elementary and middle school students would also be added, as well as a social/emotional coordinator at the elementary level and two math intervention teachers in the elementary schools.

Superintendent Matt Landahl called the staffing proposals a "next step" in the district's plan to create mental health and academic support structures for students.

The budget also includes funding for new musical instruments, art supplies in the elementary schools and general support for clubs and other afterschool activities and family events, such as kindergarten orientations at all four elementary schools. If approved, the funding would allow the district to expand family resource night, a series of workshops held at Sargent Elementary and tailored toward meeting students' social and emotional needs, to the other three elementary schools, as well.

"There's so much research that talks about how the student's connection to school happens in lots of different ways," Landahl told the school board on Monday. "An after-school activity, whether it's a sport, or music or drama, or just an interest club, can connect a student in a way that sometimes the first period to last period doesn't. That connection isn't just a high school or a middle school thing; it begins in the middle of elementary school."

Voters will also be asked to weigh in on three propositions. The first would allow the district to spend \$526,500 on three 72-passenger buses and one 20-passenger van. A second would give the district the OK to spend \$466,000 on an electric school bus, but only if it receives subsidies, likely in the neighborhood of \$250,000, to offset the cost.

State law requires that school buses purchased after 2027 run on electricity; all 50,000 gas-powered school buses in New York must be replaced by 2035. This purchase, if it happens, would be Beacon's first step toward the mandate.

"We want to make it fair [for taxpayers]," Deputy Superintendent Ann Marie Quartironi said. "We want to make it as close to the cost of a regular bus as possible."

The plan, she said, would be to integrate the electric bus into the district's transportation schedule and begin training mechanics for its maintenance. "Then we'll come up with a plan for how we get our bus garage to the point that we start converting more of our buses," Quartironi said.

A final ballot proposition, if approved by voters, would make K-12 students who live

more than a mile from their school eligible for bus transportation. Currently, students must live a mile and a half from school to ride a district bus. Quartironi said the move would come at minimal cost because few Beacon school buses are at capacity. The district hopes to improve attendance by targeting "certain areas [where] children have difficulty getting to school," she said.

The district will hold a budget hearing during the school board's May 8 meeting.

Also on the ballot: the board seats held by Kristan Flynn, Anthony White and Craig Wolf, as well as the seat vacated by Antony Tseng, who resigned last month. Candidates have until 5 p.m. on Wednesday (April 26) to submit nominating petitions. Flynn and White have said they intend to run again. Wolf said he does not.

Garrison Art Center Presents

## '59 Views of the Hudson Valley'

A fundraising auction of regionally-inspired artworks celebrating our 59th year in Garrison.

Saturday, May 13, 2023

Viewing & Reception start at 3 pm

Auction 5 pm

Tickets available on our website and via QR code



23 Garrison's Landing (845) 424-3960  
garrisonartcenter.org/2023-auction

CHEERS  
to 20  
YEARS

ANNUAL BENEFIT  
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS  
of the COLD SPRING  
FARMERS' MARKET  
May 7th 4-7pm  
hosted by the  
GARRISON INSTITUTE  
INFORMATION AND TICKETS@  
CSFARMARKET.ORG



## AROUND TOWN



◀ **MAKE YOUR OWN**  
— John Gilney (left) assists a student during a “blow-your-own-ornament” day on April 16 at Hudson Beach Glass in Beacon. The workshop is held monthly except during the holiday season, when it’s daily. Last year, visitors made more than 3,000 ornaments.

*Photo by Ross Corsair*



▲ **CITY VIBE** — Photographer Ross Corsair happened upon this scene on April 16 and quipped: “Just your typical Beacon afternoon.”



▲ **BRUSH FIRE** — First responders from the Highlands and surrounding area were out in full force on April 14 and 15 battling a blaze in Garrison that consumed about 20 acres near Fort Defiance Hill Road. Firefighters hiked together into the woods and faced challenges in getting water to the site.

*Photo by Lily Zuckerman*



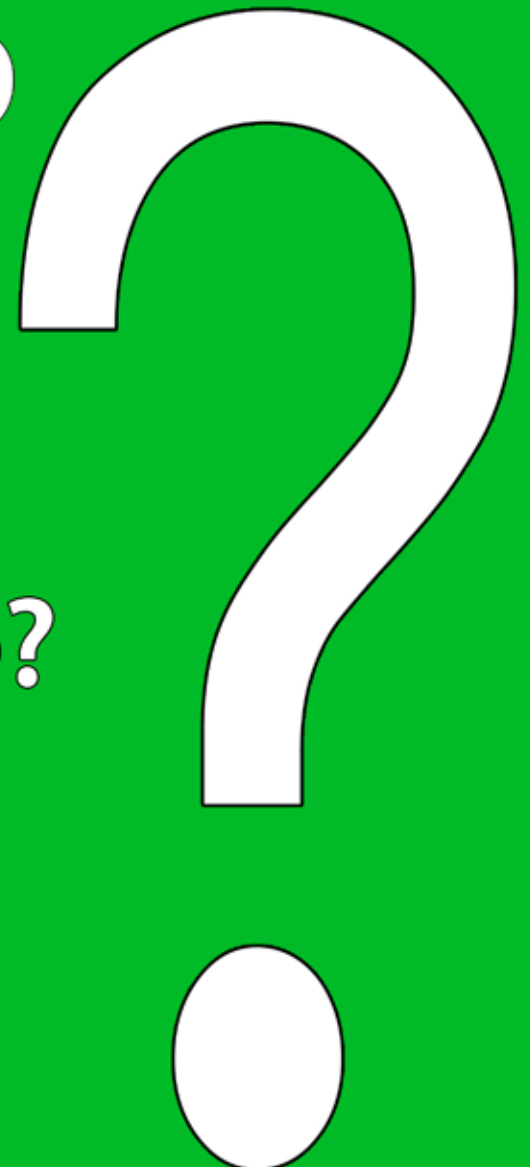
◀ **ZYDECO IN THE HOUSE**  
— C.J. Chenier brought his Louisiana Red Hot Band to the Towne Crier in Beacon on April 16.

*Photo by Ross Corsair*

**ARE YOU WORRIED**  
**about the ‘Fjord Trail’**  
**and how it will impact:**  
**Parking? Wildlife?**  
**Traffic? Community Life?**

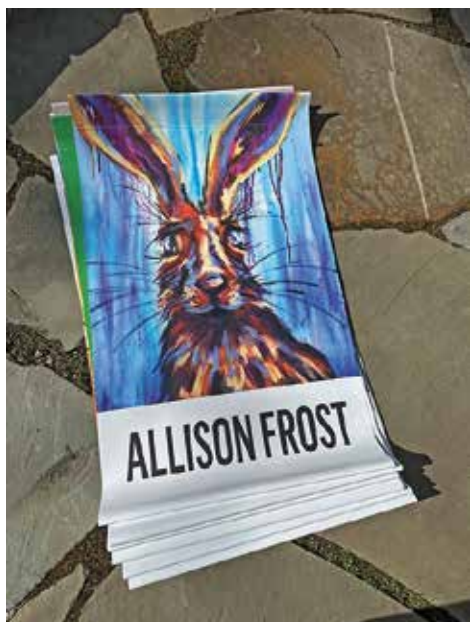
**SHARE YOUR VOICE !**

Attend the Fjord Trail public meeting on  
**Monday, May 8, at 7p.m. at Haldane**  
**[www.ProtectTheHighlands.org](http://www.ProtectTheHighlands.org)**





Highway crew members installed the banners.



Allison Frost's bunny banner, ready to be hoisted

Photos provided

## The Calendar

# ART on a POLE

### Beacon artists featured in lamppost project

By Alison Rooney

The work of 43 artists, including several from Beacon, is blowing in the wind in Wappingers Falls.

Banners featuring the work of individual artists adorn lampposts there and will hang through Nov. 1. The Beacon artists include Chris Ams, Elizabeth Castagna, Alyssa Follansbee, Margot Kingon and Anna West.

A group called Wappingers Rises organized the display after putting out a call to artists to submit a piece that best reflected each one's work, style and aesthetic. The invitation also went to arts organizations in the Hudson Valley and nearby schools, senior centers and galleries.

While founder Courtney Kolb focused on logistics, Sarah Davida, who lived in Beacon for eight years before recently moving to Newburgh, created a unifying design.

She initially offered to help format the banners, but when Kolb explained the project in more detail, Davida "felt it could use some proper branding. The event was Courtney's idea; I just added some sparkle to her vision."

Davida adds that the exhibit is not only helping artists get exposure for their work, "it's creating a sense of community. Our area is filled with immeasurable talent and it can be difficult to find and/or connect with one another. It's not easy for artists to find exposure outside of social media."

After the call went out, the women received more than 60 submissions for the 43 posts. They placed the Wappingers Falls artists first and then held a lottery for the remaining spots.

The banners were hung earlier this month by the village highway crew. "It was a lot of work getting the pole holes to align with the banners and art," Kolb says.

The project was funded by local sponsors and the banners printed at The UPS Store in Wappingers Falls, which provided a generous discount and "worked nonstop on customizations to make sure the banners looked perfect and each artist's work was exactly as it was meant to look," Kolb says.

Details about the artists and their pieces are online at [bit.ly/streetside-artists](http://bit.ly/streetside-artists).



Banners featuring the work of Sarah Davida, Chris Ams and others artists overlook a roadway in the Village of Wappingers Falls.



"Two Circle Heads," by Alyssa Follansbee



"Movement Drawing," by Elizabeth Castagna



"Tidal Wave," by Margot Kingon

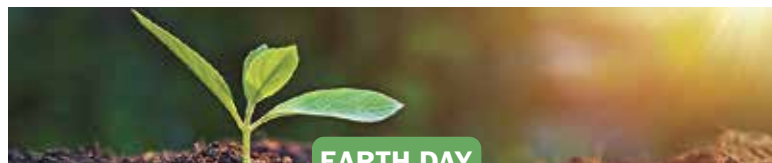


"In Bloom," by Kim Dei Dolori

# THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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



## EARTH DAY

**SAT 22**

### Bottle Drive

**BEACON**

9 a.m. – Noon.

South Avenue Elementary

60 South Ave. | beaonk12.org

Drop off deposit bottles and cans to support fifth-grade activities.

**SAT 22**

### Community Cleanup

**BEACON**

9 a.m. – Noon. Various

tinyurl.com/Beacon-Earth-Day-Clean-Up

Bring work gloves and wear boots and long pants and sleeves. Garbage bags and buckets will be provided.

**SAT 22**

### Earth Day Fair

**GARRISON**

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Hudson Valley Shakespeare

2015 Route 9 | csfarmmarket.org

Shop from vendors at the Cold Spring Farmer's Market; make lanterns for the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival processional; get cooking tips from Mark Bittman and Peter Hoffman; learn from the Climate Smart Task Force and Ecological Citizen's Project how to lower carbon emissions; and get broken items fixed at a Repair Cafe.

**SAT 22**

### Haldane Earth Day

**PHILIPSTOWN**

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Little Stony Point

3011 Route 9D

facebook.com/littlestonypoint

An Indigenous speaker, Heather Bruegl, will talk about the "land-back" movement and stewardship in this event organized by the equity, diversity and inclusion committee of the Haldane PTA and the Little Stony Point Citizens Association. There will also be a land acknowledgement, park cleanup, music and snacks.

**SAT 22**

### Pollinator Garden Planting

**COLD SPRING**

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Town Hall

238 Main St. | philipstown.com/april-22-earth-day-event

Help expand the landscaped area and plant a tree. There will be talks throughout the day about the Pollinator Pathway program, how to plant a "useful" garden and the reintroduction of the American chestnut tree. To volunteer, email csphilipstown@gmail.com.

**SAT 22**

### Cold Spring in Bloom

**COLD SPRING**

11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Main Street

coldspringnychamber.com

The Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce and the Putnam History Museum will host historical trivia and retailers will have events, sales and festivities at this second annual event. More than 40 tapestries depicting decades of climate change will be on display in store windows as part of the Tempest Project organized by Endless Skein. Maps will be available at Village Hall, as well as raffle tickets.

**SAT 22**

### Pop-Up Thrift Sale

**COLD SPRING**

11 a.m. – 7 p.m. St. Mary's

1 Chestnut St.

Find clothing for ages 7 years to adult, as well as a mending station. The sale, sponsored by the Philipstown Loop, St. Mary's and Philipstown Fights Dirty, will benefit St. Mary's and the Philipstown Food Pantry. To volunteer, email darsnowden88@gmail.com.

**SAT 22**

### Sustainability Fair

**BEACON**

Noon – 4 p.m. Hudson Valley Brewery

7 E. Main St.

Following the citywide cleanup, volunteers will receive a free drink ticket (age 21 and older) and a discount on Groundlings pizza. Learn about electrification, composting, trail development and Pollinator Pathways at a sustainability fair. Hosted by the Conservation Advisory Committee.

**SAT 22**

### Family Night Hike

**GARRISON**

6 p.m. Hudson Valley Shakespeare

2015 Route 9 | hvshakespeare.org/production/highland-lights

The Hudson Highlands Land Trust will lead this family-friendly hike before the Highland Lights processional.

**SAT 22**

### Highland Lights Processional

**GARRISON**

7:30 p.m. Hudson Valley Shakespeare

2015 Route 9 | hvshakespeare.org/production/highland-lights

Ad Astra ("to the stars") is the theme of this year's processional, which will be lit by lanterns created by community members.

## COMMUNITY

**SAT 22**

### Card and Comics Show

**BEACON**

Noon – 6 p.m. VFW Post | 413 Main St.

facebook.com/beacontoyandcomicshow

More than 20 vendors will be selling sports and non-sports cards, wax packs, slabs, junk, Pokémon, comic books, omnis, trades, sets and die-casts. *Cost: \$3 (children and teens age 16 and younger free)*

**SUN 23**

### Handmade & Vintage Market

**BEACON**

Noon – 6 p.m. VFW Post | 413 Main St.

facebook.com/beacontoyandcomicshow

Dozens of dealers will be selling clothing, horror goodies, retro video games, dead formats, jewelry, records and toys. Presented by Beacon Curated. *Cost: \$3 (children and teens age 16 and younger free)*

**WED 26**

### Used Book Sale

**COLD SPRING**

5 – 7:45 p.m. Butterfield Library

10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040

butterfieldlibrary.org

Browse a selection of gently used books. Proceeds support library programs. Continues daily through SUN 30.

**FRI 28**

### Arbor Day Celebration

**BEACON**

4 p.m. Howland Public Library

313 Main St. | 845-831-1134

beaconlibrary.org

There will be a tree planting, music, giveaways, crafts for kids and raffles at this event sponsored by the Beacon Tree Advisory Committee.

**SAT 29**

### Plant Sale

**PHILIPSTOWN**

9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Stonecrop

81 Stonecrop Lane | 845-265-2000

stonecrop.org

Find alpine plants, troughs and selections from growers in three states at this 14th annual event. *Cost: \$5 (free for members and ages 3 and younger)*

**SAT 29**

### Shredder Day

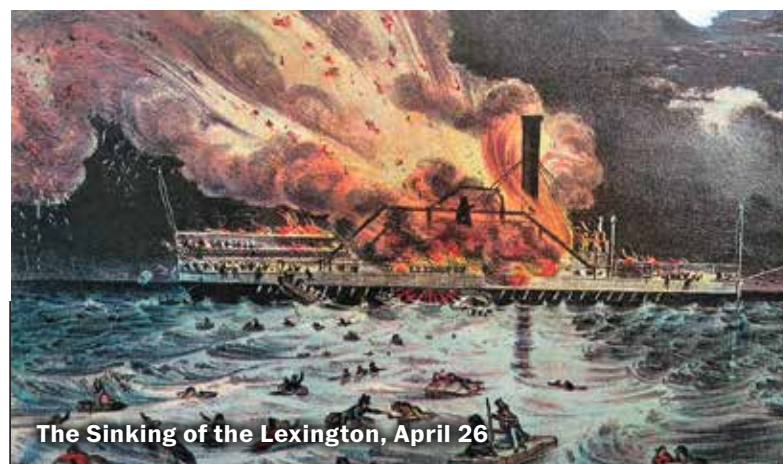
**COLD SPRING**

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. The Nest

44 Chestnut St.

coldspringlions.org/shredder

The Cold Spring Lions Club will offer a paper-shredding service for Philipstown residents and businesses. Remove paper clips and bindings and place material in the back or trunk of your vehicle. Donations welcome. *Free*



The Sinking of the Lexington, April 26

**SAT 29**

### Bake Sale and Raffle

**COLD SPRING**

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Butterfield Library

10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040

butterfieldlibrary.org

Buy a raffle ticket or baked goods to support Crate Escape, an animal rescue and fostering service.

**SAT 29**

### Community Plant Swap

**COLD SPRING**

2 p.m. Butterfield Library

10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040

butterfieldlibrary.org

Bring a labeled houseplant, leaf cutting or propagated plant to share and take home a new plant. Meet in the garden.

## TALKS & TOURS

**SAT 22**

### Fat Talk

**GARRISON**

3 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library

472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020

desmondfishlibrary.org

Virginia Sole-Smith, a Philipstown journalist, will discuss her new book about parenting in a diet culture. See Page 2.



**SUN 23**

### Crafting Freedom

**GARRISON**

2 p.m. Boscobel

1601 Route 9D | boscobel.org

Allison Robinson will discuss Thomas Commeraw, a free Black potter who lived in the 18th century and whose work is on display at the New-York Historical Society. *Cost: \$24 (\$21 seniors, member discount)*

**SUN 23**

### A Jewish Family's Century in Shanghai

**GARRISON**

6 p.m. Via Zoom | 845-265-3040

desmondfishlibrary.org/jewsofchina

Ester Benjamin Shifren, the author of *Hiding in a Cave of Trunks*, will discuss her family's and her own experiences in China and their internment during the Japanese occupation of Shanghai and forced relocation to Hong Kong and then Israel. This program for Holocaust Remembrance Day is sponsored by the Desmond-Fish, Butterfield and Howland libraries and the Philipstown Reform Synagogue. Register online.

**WED 26**

### The Sinking of the Lexington

**COLD SPRING**

7 p.m. Via Zoom

putnamhistorymuseum.org

In this program sponsored by the Putnam History Museum, Bill Bleyer will discuss the prestigious paddlewheel steamboat owned by Cornelius Vanderbilt, which caught fire and sank in 1840 in the Long Island Sound. Register online.

**THURS 27**

### Black Futures

**GARRISON**

7 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library

472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020

desmondfishlibrary.org

Justice McCray will discuss the impact of Black trailblazers who have been erased or forgotten.

**SUN 30**

### A.M. Homes

**COLD SPRING**

4 p.m. Chapel Restoration

45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.org

The author will read from her latest novel, *The Unfolding*. See Page 17. Donations welcome. *Free*

## KIDS & FAMILY

**SAT 22**

### Studio on the Farm

**WAPPINGERS FALLS**

10:30 a.m. Common Ground Farm

79 Farmstead Lane | diaart.org

This children's program, sponsored by Dia:Beacon, will be led by a working artist. Registration required.

**MON 24**

### Pollinator Garden Event

**GARRISON**

3:15 p.m. Garrison School

1100 Route 9D | 845-424-3689

gufs.org

Students in the third and fifth grades will talk about pollinators and ecosystems, and then everyone can help plant native flowers.

**TUES 25**

### Paper Mouth Puppets

**BEACON**

4 p.m. Howland Public Library

313 Main St. | 845-831-1134

beaconlibrary.org

Kids ages 4 through the fifth grade will learn how to make a puppet with a moving mouth from a single sheet of paper. Registration required.



WindSync Concert, April 30



WindSync's Interstellar Cinderella, April 30

**TUES 25****Sounds****GARRISON**

6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](https://desmondfishlibrary.org)

Family Science Night will focus on how sound is made. Registration required.

**FRI 28****Ree-Play Sale****BEACON**

9 a.m. – 7 p.m. University Settlement  
724 Wolcott Ave. | [weeplayproject.org](https://weeplayproject.org)

This annual tag sale of gently used children's clothing (infant to size 14/16), baby gear, books, toys, games and bicycles benefits the Wee Play Project. Daily through MON 1.

**FRI 28****Storytime Series****COLD SPRING**

3:30 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
[butterfieldlibrary.org](https://butterfieldlibrary.org)

Dana Levenberg, whose district in the state Assembly includes Philipstown, will be the featured reader.

**FRI 28****Peter Pan Jr.****GARRISON**

7 p.m. Philipstown Rec Center  
107 Glencllyffe | 845-424-4618  
[philipstownny.myrec.com](https://philipstownny.myrec.com)

The classic tale set in Neverland will feature young performers from elementary through high school. Also SAT 29, SUN 30. *Cost: \$10 (\$5 seniors and ages 4 to 11, free ages 3 and younger)*

**SAT 29****Children's Literary Festival****COLD SPRING**

3:30 – 5 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
[butterfieldlibrary.org](https://butterfieldlibrary.org)

Raven Howell, Tania Guarino, Catherine Ciochi and Karen Kaufman Orloff will read from and inscribe their books.

**SUN 30****Interstellar Cinderella****BEACON**

1 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
[howlandmusic.org](https://howlandmusic.org)

In this program sponsored by the

Howland Chamber Music Circle, WindSync will perform a narrated musical about an alternate Cinderella who dreams of becoming a rocket-ship mechanic. *Cost: \$15 (children free)*

**STAGE & SCREEN****SAT 22****Les Misérables****BEACON**

7:30 p.m. Beacon High School  
101 Matteawan Road  
[beaconplayers.com](https://beaconplayers.com)

The Beacon Players will perform the well-known musical, which is set in 19th-century France and follows a prisoner's journey to redemption. Also SUN 23. *Cost: \$12 (\$5 students, seniors)*

**SAT 22****Lessons From Strangers****BEACON**

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
[howlandculturalcenter.org](https://howlandculturalcenter.org)

John John Brown will bring art, photos and music together to tell the stories of 14 unique characters. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

**SUN 23****Spring Dance Fest****PEEKSKILL**

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

Local dance studios and artists will present a multicultural performance. *Cost: \$15*

**FRI 28****Royal Hanneford Circus****POUGHKEEPSIE**

6 p.m. MJN Center | 14 Civic Center Plaza  
[midhudsonciviccenter.org](https://midhudsonciviccenter.org)

Acts will include aerial, daredevil, trampoline and motorcycle thrills. Also SAT 29, SUN 30. *Cost: \$32 to \$57*

**SAT 29****Poetry in the Garden****GARRISON**

2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](https://desmondfishlibrary.org)

Iaian Haley Pollock, Silvina López Medin and Lissa Kiernan will share their work.

**VISUAL ARTS****SAT 22****Beacon High School Show****BEACON**

2 – 4 p.m. Lofts at Beacon  
18 Front St. | [loftsatbeacon.com](https://loftsatbeacon.com)

Student artists will display their work at this annual exhibit.

**SUN 23****Open Studio Day****BEACON**

Noon – 6 p.m. Fridman Gallery  
475 Main St. | [fridmangallery.com](https://fridmangallery.com)

The 2023 artists-in-residence Azuki Furuya (Japan) and Adelisa Selimbasic (Bosnia/Italy) will show and discuss the work they are creating in Beacon.

**SUN 23****Tony Moore****GARRISON**

2 p.m. Garrison Art Center  
23 Garrison's Landing  
845-424-3960 | [garrisonartcenter.org](https://garrisonartcenter.org)

The artist will discuss his exhibit, *Eternal Becoming*, which includes ceramic sculptures and "fire paintings."

**SAT 29****The Rivers****GARRISON**

1 – 3 p.m. Garrison Institute  
14 Mary's Way | [garrisoninstitute.org](https://garrisoninstitute.org)

This interactive art exhibit, created by Paz Perlman and the Think About Water collective, will be on display.

**SAT 29****Nogit Party****BEACON**

6 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery | 139 Main St.  
212-255-2505 | [clutter.co](https://clutter.co)

Works by dozens of artists will be on view at this exhibit by Creon.

**SUN 30****Eugenio Battisti, Alan Solomon and the Exhibition Young Italians in 1968****PHILIPSTOWN**

Noon. Magazzino Italian Art  
2700 Route 9 | [magazzino.art](https://magazzino.art)

Raffaele Bedarida, a Cooper Union art history professor, will discuss the historical context for the *Young Italians* exhibit held in 1968 in Boston and New York. This is the final lecture in the series, *Arte Povera: Artistic Tradition and Transatlantic Dialogue*. *Cost: \$10 (\$5 regional residents, seniors and students)*

**NATURE & OUTDOORS****FRI 28****Epimediums: Jewels of the Shade****PHILIPSTOWN**

5:30 p.m. Stonecrop | 81 Stonecrop Lane  
845-265-2000 | [stonecrop.org](https://stonecrop.org)

Karen Perkins, an epimedium specialist and grower, will talk about these plants that thrive in dry, shady conditions, and new species from China. *Cost: \$20*

**SAT 29****Bird Walk****COLD SPRING**

7:30 a.m. West Point Foundry Preserve  
80 Kemble Ave.  
[putnamhighlandsaudubon.org](https://putnamhighlandsaudubon.org)

This guided tour around the marshland and cove will focus on migratory and neotropical species. Donations welcome.

**SAT 29****Early Spring Identification Walk****WAPPINGERS FALLS**

11 a.m. Stony Kill Farm  
79 Farmstead Lane | [stonykill.org](https://stonykill.org)

The guided walk will highlight plants that bloom briefly in the spring and others with medicinal properties. *Cost: \$25*

**SAT 29****Exploring Trees****BEACON**

11 a.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
[beaconlibrary.org](https://beaconlibrary.org)

Vickie Raabin and Elise LaRocco will discuss the value of trees in the landscape.

**SAT 29****How to Start a Pollinator Garden in a Small Space****GARRISON**

11 a.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](https://desmondfishlibrary.org)

Master Gardeners will explain. Registration required.

**SUN 30****Tree Tour****BEACON**

1 p.m. Municipal Center  
1 Municipal Plaza

Arborist Paul Markwalter will highlight some of the city's special trees. Ride with members of the Tree Advisory Committee or caravan on your own. *Free*

**MUSIC****SAT 22****Stillhouse Junkies****COLD SPRING**

7:30 p.m. Chapel Restoration  
45 Market St. | [chapelrestoration.org](https://chapelrestoration.org)

The trio's musical styles include bluegrass, roots, blues, funk and swing. *Cost: \$25*

**SAT 22****Sal 'The Voice' Valentinetti****PEEKSKILL**

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

The winner in 2016 of *America's Got Talent* will perform. Vanessa Racci opens. *Cost: \$35 to \$79*

**SAT 22****Anthony Geraci and The Boston Blues All-Stars****BEACON**

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

The award-winning blues performer will play songs from his latest release, *Blues Called My Name*. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

**FRI 28****Charlie Rhyner****BEACON**

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

The jazz performer will play music from his latest release, *Kinhin*, with Joe Izzo (drums) and Joe Beerman (bass).

FRI 28

Inspire to Change the World

PEEKSKILL

8:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
paramounthudsonvalley.com

Hosted by Talent Da Comedian, this uplifting show will include Jason Gisser, Andre “Noodle Noo” Rainey, Lazel and Q Williams. *Cost: \$40 to \$65*

FRI 28

Jonah Smith Band

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The singer and songwriter will play music from *Stay Close* and other songs with his band, Andy Stack (guitar), Manuel Quintana (drums) and Brandon Morrison (bass). James Maddock will open. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SAT 29

Swing Thing

BEACON

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

This dance party is a fundraiser for the center. Come alone or with a partner and enjoy a lesson, prizes, food and refreshments. *Cost: \$50 (\$75 door)*

SAT 29

Cortlandt String Quartet

PUTNAM VALLEY

7:30 p.m.  
Tompkins Corners Cultural Center  
729 Peekskill Hollow Road  
tompkinscorners.org

The composer and violinist Andy Stein will be joined by Rachel Evans (viola), Sarah Adams (viola) and Leo Grinhauz (cello). *Cost: \$20*

SAT 29

Southern RockFest

PEEKSKILL

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

A Brother’s Revival recreates the experience of an Allman Brothers concert and will share the stage with a Lynyrd Skynyrd cover band. *Cost: \$32 to \$49*

SAT 29

Slam Allen Band

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.  
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The blues, soul and R&B guitarist and singer will play with his band. The Gabe Stillman Band will open. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SUN 30

Beatles Sing-A-Long

COLD SPRING

3 p.m. First Presbyterian | 10 Academy St.  
The Dream Choir will perform



Stillhouse Junkies, April 22

and invite spectators to add their voices. *Cost: \$10 donation*

SUN 30

The Music of Belief

BEACON

3 p.m. St Joachim’s Church  
51 Leonard St. | putnamchorale.org

The Putnam Chorale will sing masterpieces that are rarely performed. *Cost: \$25 (\$20 seniors, free ages 12 and younger)*

SUN 30

WindSync

BEACON

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

The woodwind quintet’s program will include Jean-Philippe Rameau’s *Pièces de clavecin* and *Sambeada*,

SUN 30

Gratefully Yours

BEACON

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

The band will play songs by the Grateful Dead and audience members are invited to submit dream set lists. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

CIVIC

MON 24

City Council

BEACON

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

TUES 25

School Board

BEACON

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

TUES 25

School Board

GARRISON

7 p.m. Garrison School  
1100 Route 9D | 845-424-3689  
gufts.org

TUES 25

School Board

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Auditorium | 15 Craigsides Drive  
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

WED 26

Village Board

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.  
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

THURS 27

Trustee Election and Budget Vote

BEACON

Noon – 8 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
beaconlibrary.org





PHILIPSTOWN

EARTH DAY

FAIR @ HVSF

Start your day with the bountiful Cold Spring Farmers' Market, embark on guided hikes, spark your creativity with lantern-making workshops, and join in meaningful discussions with Climate Smart Philipstown and the Ecological Citizen's Project. End the day with a spectacular highlight - the second annual Highland Lights performance.

APRIL 22

A DAY OF FUN, FAMILY FARMERS & FESTIVITIES

10AM–1PM MARKET | 11AM & 7PM HIKES | 7:30PM PERFORMANCE

HUDSON VALLEY SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

2015 U.S. 9 GARRISON, NY

## Out There

## Take to the Sky

By Brian PJ Cronin

It's possible that DDT would have helped curb the rampant spongy moth infestations occurring in the Shawangunk Mountains in the late 1950s, but Daniel Smiley wouldn't have it.



Smiley, who grew up on the grounds of the Mohonk Mountain House, recorded his observations about everything he saw in the 'Gunks on thousands of index cards. He knew more than anyone that the spongy moth population was growing, but he also suspected that the potent insecticide would affect the ecosystem in ways that weren't yet known.

The good news is that he was able to stop DDT from being deployed in the 'Gunks; the bad news is that he was right about the unknown effects. As Rachel Carson would explain in her 1962 classic *Silent Spring*, DDT had a disastrous effect on the bird population. Several species of birds were vanishing from the American landscape entirely, including Smiley's beloved peregrine falcons, which came to the cliffs of what is now the Mohonk Preserve every spring to nest.

Smiley had been "banding" them since the 1920s; attaching marked bands to their legs which helped scientists track their migratory patterns at a time when not much was known about them.

DDT was banned in the U.S. in 1972, but for the peregrine falcon it was feared to be too late. The peregrines of the 'Gunks — and for that matter, everywhere east of the Mississippi — were gone. Scientists and amateurs like Smiley worked together in New Paltz and Ithaca to breed the birds in captivity, which had never been done before. They released them to save the species from extinction, but the cliffs of the Mohonk Preserve remained silent.

Then, in 1998, the peregrines returned to Mohonk to reclaim their ancestral nesting grounds, and have returned nearly every spring since.

Smiley died in 1989 but his 15,000 index cards were digitized for the scientific community. A new generation of "citi-



Penny Adler-Colvin of the Mohonk Preserve trains volunteers to observe peregrine falcons nesting on the ridgeline in the distance.

Photo by B. Cronin

zen scientists" is building on his legacy at Mohonk — although Gretchen Reed and Julia Solomon of the Mohonk Preserve prefer the term "community science" — partly because you don't need to be a citizen to take part, and partly because it reflects conservation as a community-based effort.

Reed and Solomon explained this on an unseasonably warm April morning as we stood behind their co-worker Penny Adler-Colvin, who was peering through a spot-

ting scope at the nearly 3-mile-long cliff known as The Trapps. She was looking for peregrines, but at the moment all she saw was a member of another daring species associated with the 'Gunks: a rock climber.

Climbers and peregrines flock to the Shawangunks for the same reason: the jagged, towering cliffs, which are an ideal spot to set up eyries, or nests. Peregrines are fiercely territorial and prefer to not have intruders near their eyries, and climb-

ers prefer not to have screaming birds dive-bomb them at 200 mph.

The answer to this conflict is to close off the cliff face during nesting season, which runs from February to August. At the beginning of the nesting season at Mohonk, community scientists are deployed. About 20 spotters take turns observing the falcons as they search for nesting spots. Because the falcons are so territorial, only three pairs typically settle in the cliffs for a season.

Once the spotters have identified the nesting locations, the Preserve can reopen many climbing routes while giving the falcons a wide berth. The spotters continue to watch the falcons and upload observations at [bit.ly/peregrine-watch](https://bit.ly/peregrine-watch). (One highlight: at 10 a.m. on March 5, a peregrine was observed dive-bombing a bald eagle.)

Unlike in years past, the Preserve takes a hands-off approach to the falcons. It doesn't band the birds or install artificial nests to protect the eggs and chicks from predators. That makes it hard to determine if the same three pairs of falcons return to the 'Gunks, or where they live during the rest of the year. But it does allow the birds to simply be birds, as free from human interference as possible, as it was in the Shawangunks for thousands of years.

"I get a lot of satisfaction from seeing the peregrines," said Adler-Colvin. "But what I like even better is when I'm training volunteers, and they haven't seen a peregrine before, and they squeal with excitement. They're so happy to be part of the process."



## Guys and Dolls

May 5-21

LUCK BE THE DEPOT

## Spring Benefit

May 21 at 4:30pm

[www.philipstowndepottheatre.org](http://www.philipstowndepottheatre.org)

## TONY MOORE: ETERNAL BECOMING

Ceramic Sculptures and Fire Paintings

April 8 – May 7

Reception: Saturday April 8, 5–7 pm

Artist Talk: Sunday April 23, 2–4 pm

[TonyMooreArt.com](http://TonyMooreArt.com)

Garrison Art Center, 23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison, NY  
(845) 424-3960

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TRADITION AND  
TRANSATLANTIC  
DIALOGUE

Lecture Series 2023

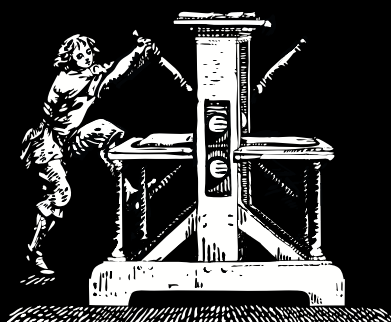
April 30, 2023, 12 pm  
*Between Cultural Diplomacy and  
Counterculture: Eugenio Battisti,  
Alan Solomon, and the Exhibition  
Young Italians in 1968*

Dr. Raffaele Bedarida, Associate  
Professor of Art History at the  
Cooper Union, New York

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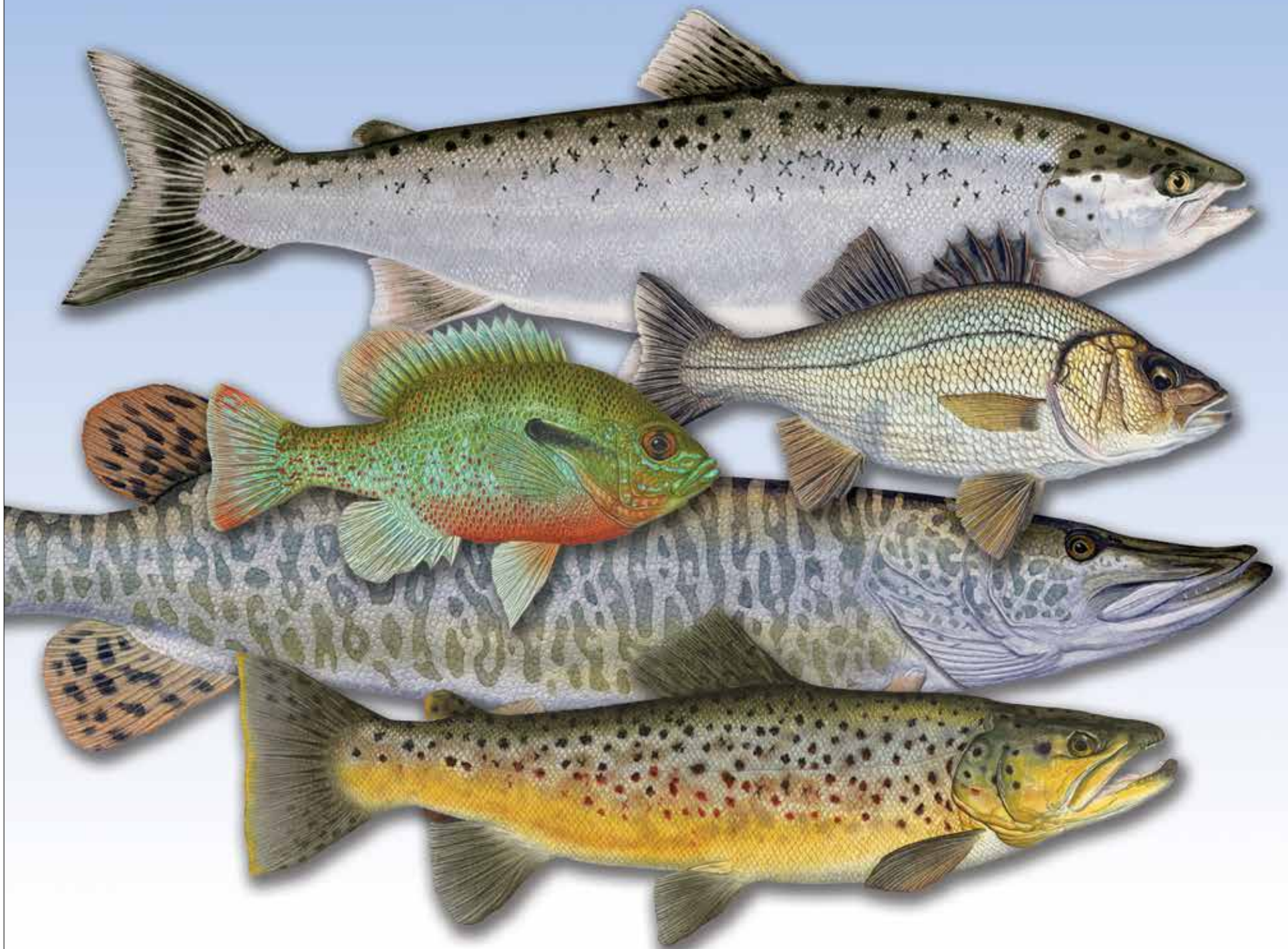
# *~portraits of~* **PUTNAM COUNTY FISH**

*Presented by* GEORGE CARROLL WHIPPLE, III

PRESERVE PUTNAM COUNTY

*Opening reception Saturday, May 6, 4pm*

*Featuring the Art of Flick Ford*



**EXHIBIT MAY 13 & 20, 12:00-3:00PM**  
**160 MAIN STREET, COLD SPRING, NY**

# Q&A: A.M. Homes

*Novelist will read at  
Chapel Restoration*

By Alison Rooney

*"If you don't write the book you have to write, everything breaks."  
—A.M. Homes*

**A**wearer of many writerly hats, A.M. Homes will read from her latest novel, *The Unfolding*, at 4 p.m. on April 30 at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring as part of its ongoing Sunset Readings series.

Her work is typically described in contrasts, such as *extreme* against *hilarious*, or *grotesque* versus *upbeat*. Homes doesn't categorize it in any way. When asked if she liked being called a "provocateur," she replied: "That's a misnomer. It's irrelevant. I'm always writing about the world we live in. If it's disturbing, it's because I'm disturbed by it and I'm wanting there to be a 'how and why does this happen? How do I write something entertaining but serious?' The only thing I want to provoke is conversation about ideas."

We spoke with Homes recently to discuss her book and writing process.



A.M. Homes

Photo by Marion Ettlinger

***The Unfolding* combines galvanizing political and social events and a family waking up to what's been going on around them. Is that a fair summary?**

Yes, it's about the dissonance or space between our public and private selves. I'm always exploring that. It focuses on how both sides of the American political establishment had lost track of the American people. Jan. 6 is where the book is heading. I've been asked, "Who is this book for? Why would Democrats read it?" But it's about human behavior, not about a political party. That secretly bums me

out — that you have to read according to your own affiliation. As a reader and as a writer, I don't understand those ideas. They're depressing, because it narrows our vision. We don't see beyond our own point of view and that makes for a very divided society. You don't solve problems by being reminded of what you believe. And the story is still unfolding.

**When you write, do your characters lead the way, or do the characters develop from the situations they find themselves in, courtesy of you?**

They're often led by an idea I'm trying to explore along the way. That idea often begins with nonfiction but becomes, "Who can I do that with? What would be an interesting lens?" It's usually the least likely character — someone I haven't met. One of the big things for me is I am truly a fiction writer. I'm not writing my own life.

**Do you always know how the narrative of the story will pan out?**

I might have some ideas, but the journey and the process of discovery is ongoing. If I really knew, I wouldn't bother, because it wouldn't be compelling.

**Do you start with a kernel or a more expansive idea?**

Both. It goes back to starting with a nonfiction idea I want to look at in terms of both a large-scale political and social environment and on a small scale. They're always about pretty large ideas but relying on the specificity of the characters, the truth of them, to bring them into focus. When I'm writing a short story, there are things that say to me: "This is a short story; it's non-sustaining."

Two of my books started as short stories. I thought they were finished, but then I kept having funny, internal conversations, and

eventually it became inescapable that there was more to it. In *Music for Torching*, a couple burns down their house on Page 30. That's not usually how you begin a novel, because how do you raise the stakes? In *May We Be Forgiven*, a man murders his wife on Page 30. On a craft level, it's interesting, but it was not intentional that those would become novels.

**You also write for television.**

**Is it a shock to have a roomful of collaborators, or a welcome change from the solitary pursuit?**

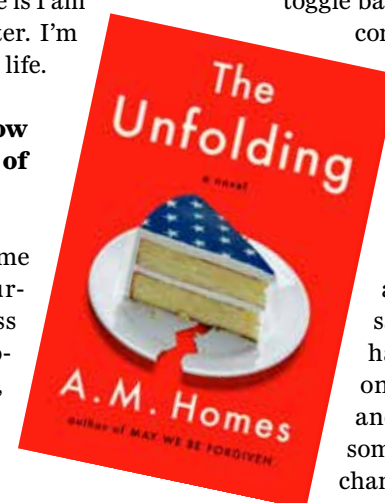
Both. It's fun to be in a room with people asking: "What are we going to make and how are we going to make it?" — generating ideas as a group. It is not about one's own personal work or ideas. I love anything where I get to play with others. But when I toggle back to fiction, it's amazing. I have complete control.

**You teach creative writing at Princeton. Are young writers concerned with different ideas and protagonists?**

The struggle to understand and explore one's self is universal. But this particular group has had a hard time coping with not only COVID but women's rights and political unrest. I suspect in some ways the time they are living in changes them. The disappointment is hard on their mental health. Teaching and writing is so intimate; you're working across those lines all the time.

**I'd like to read something you wrote: "In writing, in order to pull a story out you go so far into your mind that when you come out you feel you've traveled through time and that either you've been somewhere incredibly different or that the world has changed. And that's a good day's work, but it's not necessarily a pleasant experience." Should losing oneself in writing always be that cathartic?**

One hundred percent, truly.



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**4/28 9-7 p.m. Full Price**

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# LOOKING BACK IN BEACON

By Chip Rowe

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

## 150 Years Ago (April 1873)

After the home of Sylvester Townsend burned in Matteawan, all that remained was its 25-foot chimney. The next morning, five girls ages 7 to 12 were playing at the chimney base when it crumbled. Two died and three were seriously injured. A sixth girl had spotted the structure swaying, grabbed a toddler and jumped out of the way.

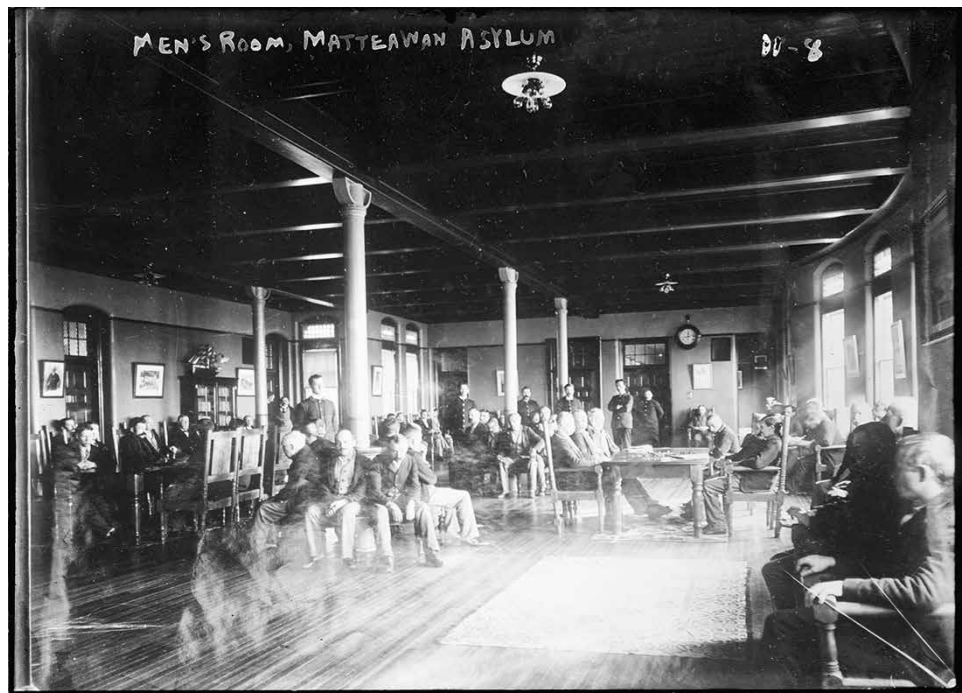
Samuel Stewart of Newburgh died of arsenic poisoning. According to his wife, who was sickened but survived, she had been making a pie when she reached to the top shelf of the cupboard for an ingredient. She said a piece of paper flew down and white powder fell on the pie. She told authorities she assumed it was cream of tartar and scraped it off with a spoon.

John Monell of Fishkill Landing purchased 17 acres in Matteawan that he planned to turn into a subdivision called Prospect Square.

Shoenig's store in Matteawan was destroyed by fire; the proprietor had closed early to attend the circus and a kerosene lamp apparently exploded. Shoenig was alerted by an announcement in the circus tent.

Samuel Peters of Tarrytown, a patient at Dr. Kittredge's private insane asylum at Fishkill Landing, fell or jumped from a river ferryboat and drowned.

William Agnew, an engine-room stoker on the White Star steamer Baltic, was killed



The men's room at the Matteawan asylum, in an undated photo

Library of Congress

by a train at the Fishkill Landing station. He was survived by his wife and three children in Liverpool, England.

Charles Brown, formerly of Fishkill Landing, hanged himself at Annsville, near Peekskill. It was said that after a quarrel with his wife over the location of a hen's nest (she wanted it moved away from the water), he attacked her with a knife. When she wrested the weapon from him, he said, "If I can't kill you, I can kill myself."

In a presentation to the Michigan Pomological Society, an enthusiast described modern grape varieties such as the Eumelan, believed to be a cross between the Clinton and Isabella, that grew by chance in the Fishkill Landing yard of Mr. Thorne around 1847 and was documented 20 years later by horticulturist C.W. Grant of Iona Island.

## 125 Years Ago (April 1898)

Philip Smith, a bookseller from Fishkill Landing, was arrested in Cornwall on charges that he rented obscene books to boys for 25 and 30 cents each. Smith's brother, John Smith, also lived in Fishkill Landing, where he was president of the First

National Bank, Mechanics Saving Bank and Citizens Street Railroad, and chaired the Republican Committee of Dutchess County.

According to the *Fishkill Standard*, after seeing a club-footed girl on the street in Matteawan, Dr. Tetamore made her a cast from plaster of paris so she could walk like other children.

Coroner Bevier of Matteawan was called to Dutchess Junction, where he "had a queer experience with the Arabs there," according to *The Cold Spring Register*. Daniel Maury, who worked at Timoney's brickyard, had been killed after he stepped in front of railcars coming down an incline into the yard. In her grief, Maury's widow "pulled her long black hair from her head by the handful" and the dead man's companions were "very much excited," the coroner reported, making it difficult for him to assemble a jury to view the body.

The proprietors of soda fountains in Fishkill Landing collectively agreed to double the price of a glass of ice cream soda water to 10 cents.

Peter McShane, 17, ran away from home to join the Navy, telling recruiters he was 22. His parents had him returned to Fishkill Landing.



The Eumelan grape was discovered in Fishkill Landing (Beacon) in the 19th century.

According to the *New York Evening Journal*, whistles blew and church bells rang in Matteawan and many other towns at the news that President William McKinley had signed a resolution of war in support of Cuba's fight for independence from Spain. At the same time, a company of 100 engineers boarded the train at West Point to travel to New York City, where they planned to sail for Key West to join the fight. [Instead, the company was sent to California for training and never saw action.]

Burglars entered the railroad depot at Matteawan by standing on empty oil barrels to cut out panes in the windows of the ladies' waiting room. They stole 75 cents from the ticket office till and broke into two express packages.

## 100 Years Ago (April 1923)

Three years after being transferred from the Matteawan State Hospital for the Criminally Insane to the Hudson River State Hospital, Bernard McDonough escaped and made his way by foot and hitchhiking to the Beacon facility, which he said he preferred.

*(Continued on Page 19)*

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(Continued from Page 18)

He was promptly returned to Poughkeepsie.

Frank Hutton, who was reported to have hanged himself, quipped in a letter to the editor: "I deny I committed suicide. It is true I have been hanging around the house for several days, but not at the end of a rope."

The Beacon Lumber & Coal Co. offered a \$25 reward for information about overnight burglars who were repeatedly stealing its coal.

Four inmates who escaped from the Matteawan asylum at 3 a.m. by stealing a hospital car at gunpoint were recaptured in Kent, Connecticut. Two gave up peacefully and two fired on police and were each shot in the leg. The two injured fugitives were spirited back to New York and placed under guard at Vassar Brothers Hospital in Poughkeepsie. The others said they would fight extradition, although they were soon turned over when New York officials noted an earlier court ruling that Matteawan patients had no such rights.

### 75 Years Ago (April 1948)

A woman's screams alerted a patrol officer to two 8-year-olds riding the cowcatcher on a freight locomotive as it pulled into the New Hamburg station. The boys said they had left school in Newburgh, crossed to Beacon on a ferry and sat on the cowcatcher at the station before it traveled the 10 miles to New Hamburg.

Edith Welty, a member of the Yonkers City Council, spoke at a meeting hosted by the Beacon Rentpayers and Taxpayers Association at the high school addressing the question: "Should Beacon have a city manager form of government?"

Charles Banto, a convicted killer, escaped from a second-floor dorm room at the Matteawan State Hospital farm colony by tying his bedsheets into a rope. Although an alarm sounded within 10 minutes, Banto was still at large the next morning.

State troopers searching for a missing 15-year-old who didn't return home found him at 8 p.m. inside Beacon High School. Police said they had no explanation for why the teen was locked in the school, or why he didn't attempt to get out.

The City Council confirmed two appointments by the mayor to replace school board members whose 5-year terms had expired.

The weekly, 106-year-old *Beacon Light and Fishkill Standard*, which owner Robert Pendell called "the only outspoken Democratic publication in Dutchess County," ceased publication. Pendell cited rising union printer wages and advertising competition. He said his printing business would continue.

Two homeless men, each about 50 years old, were arrested for unlawful entry after they were discovered living in a vacant house on Tioronda Avenue. Police said the men were using blankets stolen from a Highland Hospital ambulance.

### 50 Years Ago (April 1973)

A dinner dance at Dutchess Manor honored 42 retirees from the Matteawan State Hospital, whose name had been changed to the Correctional Center for Medical Services.

The City Council passed a resolution expressing support for a national, week-long meat boycott and the mayor added his

name to a petition circulated by members of Consumers Against Meat Prices. Costs had risen 5.4 percent in a month.

The Planning Board recommended against a permit to convert an abandoned gas station at 155 Fishkill Ave. into a roofing supply storage facility.

Two Beacon men were indicted for holding up a pharmacy in Rhinebeck with a .22-caliber rifle. Their take was \$42 [about \$285 today].

The Federal Highway Administration approved a state plan to build a 3.5-mile arterial highway from Dutchess Junction to Route 84. The road would proceed northwest of Craig House Road and across Fishkill Creek to Wolcott Avenue; north along Hudson Avenue, Park Avenue and Ferry Street to Main Street; and then along Route 9D.

The Urban Development Corp. held hearings for the sale of two parcels formerly owned by the Matteawan hospital: Roundtree Builders would pay \$60,000 [\$408,000] for 24 acres to construct a 300-unit townhouse complex, and the Knights of Columbus would pay \$35,000 [\$238,000] for 5 acres to build a meeting hall.

The City Council approved the sale by the Beacon Urban Renewal Agency of a parcel at Wolcott and South avenues for \$31,000 [\$211,000] to Victor Looper for a shopping center. It also approved a permit for construction of a 13-story apartment building at 42 Fishkill Ave. That plan included extending Church Street to connect with Fishkill Avenue as part of a loop system detailed in the city's master plan.

A clerk from the Gallagher Shell station was robbed at gunpoint while delivering

the day's receipts to his employer's home on Violet Drive. The employee said the two assailants wore ski jackets with the hoods pulled around their heads and that one was armed with a shotgun.

### 25 Years Ago (April 1998)

The Vegetable Garden organic restaurant and pizzeria, owned by Rexhep Bobi, moved from Main Street to 389 Fishkill Ave.

The Beacon school district asked a court to issue an injunction after 10 bus drivers called in sick the day after two colleagues had been suspended. The union said there was no organized "sick out," and that the drivers all had doctors' notes. The day before, the board had suspended a driver for 30 days for being at fault in an accident and another for 60 days for speeding. After the school board approved the suspensions, 30 drivers walked out of the meeting in protest.

Jose Rodriquez, the Beacon High School boys' track coach, recorded his 100th career victory with a win over Hendrick Hudson.

The Fishkill Town Board agreed to allow Beacon to annex a 12-acre parcel on Depuyster Avenue. Elsie Burke wanted to give part of the property to her granddaughter, Erin Bursee, but was told Fishkill couldn't allow a subdivision because there would be no access for emergency vehicles except through Beacon. After the vote, Bursee said, "We always thought we were in Beacon."

A fire at 215 Main St. left nine people homeless and damaged BJ's Restaurant at 213 Main. No one was hurt. About 65 firefighters fought the afternoon blaze as spectators filled the street.

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## Pets (from Page 1)

Unfortunately, Oreo is one of a growing number of dogs and cats being abandoned or given up by their owners to shelters.

"People are struggling," said Cassi Paupst, a board member of the nonprofit Animal Rescue Foundation in Beacon. "People are having a hard time holding onto their dogs."

Paupst said the shelter has seen an increase in abandoned dogs over the last six months. Three owners surrendered dogs in recent weeks, which created a challenge for a facility that only has room for 16.

In Putnam County, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in 2022 saw a 285 percent increase in dog and cat abandonment calls, said Det. Sgt. Ken Ross III, of the SPCA Police, which is charged with enforcement of animal cruelty laws.

The Dutchess County SPCA has also seen an increase in strays and abandonments, said Lynne Meloccarro, its executive director. She said there were more than 40 strays or abandoned dogs processed during the first quarter this year, which already puts the shelter ahead of its 2022 pace, when there was a total of 167, with summer — the busiest period of the year — still ahead. A similar number of cats have been abandoned this year.

"The economy is affecting people's ability to keep their animals," said Meloccarro. "The fact that we got so many dogs early in the year is alarming."

She said many of the owners bringing dogs to the shelter have been evicted from



Karin Eade with Oreo

Photo provided

their apartments and can't take the animals with them to their new homes.

Nationally, many animal welfare organizations are struggling with capacity challenges because more animals are coming into shelters than leaving, said Craig Alexander of the ASPCA in New York City. Alexander said the most common reasons for abandonments are relocations, job changes and expense. He noted that, contrary to what some people may think, animals acquired during the pandemic are not

being abandoned at greater rates.

But Ken Ross Jr., chief of the Putnam County SPCA, says he suspects the pandemic did play a role, because the number of strays began to rise about a year ago, in early 2022, when pandemic restrictions began to ease.

People adopted pets they had no idea how to care for and "realized they don't come with an off switch," he said. "You can't just put them in a closet."

Exactly how Oreo ended up in Garrison is not clear, said Karen Jackson, the Philipstown dog-control officer. Jackson was able to identify the dog and his Spring Valley owner by scanning an ID chip inserted under the skin between the dog's shoulder blades. The owner told her the dog's name was Oreo.

Of the owner, she said, "he just didn't want the responsibility."

Michele Dugan, board president and shelter director at the Putnam Humane Society in Carmel, said the owner told the shelter that Oreo had been lost but that he was willing to surrender the pet. "He was moving and his roommates couldn't take the dog," she said.

Oreo came to the attention of the Garrison residents in mid-February.

"When I first saw him, he had a bunny in his mouth," said Emily Quant, who posted a message with photos on Facebook. Her post generated 90 comments while residents offered suggestions about how to catch the dog.

It was tricky. "I didn't think those little legs could run that fast," said Quant, who

## Local Shelters

### Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF)

54 Simmons Lane, Beacon  
arfbeacon.org | 845-831-5161  
By appointment after application  
Fees: \$150-\$350 (dogs); \$75-\$125 (cats)

### Compassionate Animal Rescue Efforts

60 Smith Crossing Road, Wappingers Falls  
careofdc.org | 845-240-4862  
By appointment after application  
Fees: \$350-\$400 (dogs); \$150-\$200 (cats)

### Dutchess County SPCA

636 Violet Ave., Hyde Park  
dcspca.org/adopt | 845-452-7722 x420  
Open Tues. to Sat., Noon to 5 p.m.  
Fees: \$75-\$450 (dogs); \$35-\$200 (cats)

### Mid Hudson Animal Aid (Cats)

54 Simmons Lane, Beacon  
midhudsonanimalaid.org | 845-831-4321  
By appointment after application  
Fees: \$100-\$200

### Putnam Humane Society

68 Old Route 6, Carmel  
puthumane.org | 845-225-7777  
Open daily 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (dogs)  
Open daily 10 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. (cats)  
Fees: \$75-\$195 (dogs); \$50-\$150 (cats)

put out water and food to entice Oreo.

Jackson got within 10 feet with a catch pole but Oreo was too quick. A few days later, a neighbor trapped Oreo in a gated yard. After arriving at the Putnam Humane Society, he was neutered and put up for adoption.

As it happened, Eade, 58, was looking for a small dog. Her mother had finished cancer treatments and wanted a companion. When they visited the humane society facility in Carmel, they fell in love.

"As soon as we saw his face, we said, 'He's our dog,'" recalled Eade, who lives with her mother. When she returned to pick up Oreo on March 13, she brought four packages of Oreo cookies in trade, concerned she might be competing with other prospective owners and need something to tip the scales.

At his new home, Oreo loves playing fetch and tossing around a stuffed pig. "He has a big-dog personality in a little body," said Eade, who has owned many larger dogs. "This is one of the best dogs I've ever had."



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# Harm an Animal, Go to Jail

## Putnam SPCA combats cruelty

By Michael Turton

**D**espite a love of dogs and a full-time job dedicated to helping animals, Ken Ross Jr. has no pets.

"That would be cruel," said Ross, chief of the Putnam County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA). "Having a pet is a full-time job, and I just wouldn't be home enough."

Ross isn't at home much because each year he and his son, SPCA Det. Sgt. Ken Ross III, answer more than 2,500 calls, many from the 24-hour hotline set up for residents to report suspected animal abuse.

On April 30, from 1 to 2:30 p.m., Paulette's in Cold Spring will host a coffee with the officers.

Ross Jr., 66, began working for the Westchester SPCA in 2005; his son joined him a year later. The senior Ross established the Putnam County SPCA in 2011 when he moved to Mahopac.

"He saw what I do is dangerous, and he wanted to have my back," Ross said of his son. The dangers typically involve pet owners. "We deal with the same people who commit all the other crimes," Ross said. "When I knock, the person behind the door doesn't know if I have a warrant for their arrest for something else."

SPCA officers are armed and have the authority to enforce any state law, but Ross said he prefers to educate first-time offenders rather than immediately pressing charges. "If an owner leaves a dog out in the cold, we'll ask them to bring it inside, make them aware of the law," Ross said.

A relatively minor offense such as that is classified as a violation, though it can send the owner to the county jail for up to 15 days if convicted.

More serious abuse or neglect of an animal is a Class A misdemeanor, while killing an animal or intending to cause death or protracted mistreatment is a felony.

Ross investigated a case in Putnam Valley where a woman's live-in boyfriend killed her three chihuahuas and a ferret. "We had no crime scene, no bodies," he recalled. "But because he admitted killing the animals, and because in New York

animals are viewed as property, we got four felony convictions for criminal mischief," resulting in a six-year prison sentence.

Ross has seen cruelty cases involving horses, feral cats, deer, Canada geese, snakes, squirrels, illegal hunting and birds.

In domestic violence cases, he said the offender often uses an animal to control or hurt the person the offender is abusing. "We had a case where the guy smashed a bird cage, killing the bird," Ross recalled.

He does not see a typical profile among animal abusers. "It runs the gamut," he said. "But every serial killer started by abusing animals and the kids that do the high school shootings started with abusing animals."

Because they have full law-enforcement authority, SPCA officers often aid people, as well. Recently Ross answered a call about a dog left outside on a bitter cold day. A 9-year-old girl dressed in short sleeves answered the door.

"She said her parents were at work; she had been alone for hours," he said. "We called Child Protective Services."

Such cases are not uncommon when they respond to tips on animal abuse. When asked to go to a home by the Town of Kent Police, Ross found four emaciated dogs: a German Shepherd in the yard, two chihuahuas in a shed and a boxer in the garage.

The owner said that when her 26-year-old autistic son spontaneously ran into the backyard, the German Shepherd would "take him down." She was using the dog to control her son, said Ross, who arrested the woman. Adult Protective Services took custody of her son.

When caught mistreating animals, the abuser's reaction varies. "Some people are dead set that they didn't do anything wrong," Ross said. "Others say: 'It's only an animal.'" He said serious abusers rarely show remorse. "When it's really bad, you have to make the arrest because it's gone way past education."

Asked if most animal abuse is intentional or simply benign neglect, he said, "It runs down the middle."

Economic circumstances can be a factor. If the SPCA comes across a badly emaciated animal whose owner is out of work, out of money and can't afford to feed the animal, the agency has vendors who provide food and volunteers who deliver it, he said.



Officers Ken Ross III and Ken Ross Jr. of the SPCA Police

Photo by M. Turton

## Report Animal Cruelty

### Putnam County SPCA

[sccaputnam.org](http://sccaputnam.org) | 845-520-6915

### Dutchess County SPCA

[dcspca.org](http://dcspca.org) | 845-452-7722 x417

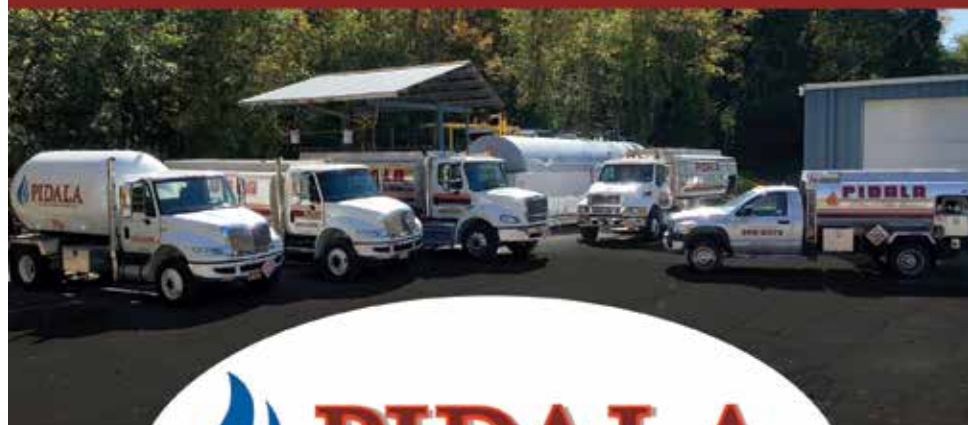
Some people, he said, don't understand the effect of their actions. During hot summer weather, the SPCA patrols parking lots, looking for pets inside vehicles. "It can be 140 degrees in there," Ross said. "We try to work

with people, to tell them animals can't stay in those conditions."

Ross and his son cover all of Putnam County, assisted by volunteers who include a district attorney investigator and part-time Fishkill police officer, a retired code enforcement officer and retired police officers from Yonkers, Peekskill, New York City and Brewster.

Putnam County contributes \$64,000 annually to the SPCA and provides it with an office in Carmel. The Town of Carmel adds a \$10,000 annual grant. "We operate on a shoestring budget and donations are always needed," Ross said.

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District, Dutchess County, New York, will hold a public hearing on the budget at Beacon High School, 101 Matteawan Road, Beacon, New York, on Monday, May 8, 2023 at 7:00 P.M, for the purpose of presenting the budget document for the 2023-2024 School Year.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required for School District purposes during the 2022-2023 school year (the Budget), as prepared by the Board of Education, as well as the Exemption Report, listing every type of exemption granted, as provided in Section 495 of the Real Property Tax Law, may be obtained by any resident of the District during the fourteen (14) days immediately preceding the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, commencing May 2, 2023, except Saturday, Sunday or holidays during regular school hours, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., at each of the District's schoolhouses, at the Administrative Offices, and on the District's website.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 9:00 P.M., prevailing time, when the polls will be open for the purpose of voting by voting machine:

- A. To elect four (4) members to the Board of Education as follows:
- Three (3) members to the Board of Education for three-year terms (commencing July 1, 2023 and expiring June 30, 2026; and

• One (1) member to the Board of Education for a term commencing May 16, 2023 and ending June 30, 2025.
- B. To vote upon the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures for School District purposes for the 2023-2024 School Year (the Budget).
- C. To vote upon the following proposition: Shall the bond resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York, dated March 20, 2023 authorizing the purchase of school buses at a maximum estimated cost not to exceed \$530,000; authorizing the issuance of \$530,000 bonds of said School District to pay the costs thereof; and that such sum or so much as may be necessary shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable real property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided in Section 416 of the Education Law; and providing that, in anticipation of said tax, obligations of the School District shall be issued; determining the period of probable usefulness and maximum maturity thereof to be five years; pledging the faith and credit of said School District for the payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds; delegating powers to the chief fiscal officer with respect to the issuance and sale of bond anticipation notes and such bonds; containing an estoppel clause and providing for the publication of an estoppel notice, be approved?
- D. To vote upon the following proposition: Shall the bond resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York, dated March 20, 2023 authorizing the purchase of one electric-powered school bus at an estimated maximum cost of \$466,000, but only in the event the District receives subsidies towards such purchase up to the maximum amount of \$250,000; authorizing the issuance of bonds of said District up to a maximum amount of \$466,000 to pay the costs thereof, and that such sum or so much as may be necessary shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable real property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided in Section 416 of the Education Law; and providing that, in anticipation of said tax, obligations of the School District shall be issued; determining the period of probable usefulness and maximum maturity thereof to be five years; pledging the faith and credit of said School District for the payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds; delegating powers to the chief fiscal officer with respect to the issuance and sale of bond anticipation notes and such bonds; containing an estoppel clause and providing for the publication of an estoppel notice, be approved?
- E. Shall the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District be authorized, effective beginning the 2023-2024 school year, to make such annual budgetary appropriations and expenditures as are needed to provide transportation to students in grades K-12 residing within the city limits of the City of Beacon who live more than one (1) mile but no more than fifteen (15) miles from the school which they legally attend?
- F. To vote on any other proposition legally proposed.

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

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the 2023 Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, will be held at the following polling places in the School Election Districts hereinafter set forth;

SCHOOL ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 1

POLLING LOCATION: BEACON HIGH SCHOOL

Description:

First Ward, First and Second District Second Ward, First, Second, and Third Districts

Third Ward, First, Second and Third Districts

Fourth Ward, First and Second Districts

SCHOOL ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 2

POLLING LOCATION: GLENHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

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

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

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that petitions for nominating candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education must be filed with the District Clerk by no later than 5:00 P.M. on the 20th day preceding the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote Wednesday, April 26, 2023. Such petitions must be signed by at least one hundred (100) qualified voters of the District, shall state the name and residence address of each signer and the name and residence address of the candidate. Petition forms may be obtained at the Office of the District Clerk on weekdays when school is in session, during regular business hours, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. or they can be downloaded from the district website.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District, Dutchess County, New York, has fixed Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at the Administrative Offices, 10 Education Drive, Beacon, New York, as the date on which the Board of Registration of said School District will meet between the hours of 1:00 P.M. and 5:00 P.M., prevailing time, for the purpose of preparing the register of the School District for each election district for the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, to be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at which time any person shall be entitled to have his/her name placed upon such register if known or proven to the satisfaction of the registrars to be then or thereafter entitled to vote. Persons whose registration to vote with the County Board of Elections is current, pursuant to Article 5 of the Election Law, shall be qualified to vote without further registering with the School District's Board of Registration, as well as all persons who shall have previously registered for any annual or special district meeting or election and who shall have voted at any annual or special district meeting or election held or conducted at any time during the 2019, 2020, 2021 or 2022 calendar years.

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

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

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

Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Burden

5. "Terriff!"

8. Confront

12. Guesser's words

13. Rushmore face

14. Big-screen format

15. Banner

16. Actuality

18. Prepare for printing

20. Staffers

21. Small batteries

22. Today rival, briefly

23. Bizarre

26. *The West Wing* actor

30. Altar constellation

31. Group of whales

32. Pledge

33. Was behind schedule

36. "Thank Me Later" rapper

38. — tear (raging)

39. Sticky stuff

40. Cockeyed

43. Worldly

47. Stop signal

49. Small iPod

50. Story

51. Calendar abbr.

52. Flintstones' pet

53. Scratched (out)

54. Earth (Pref.)

55. RBI, for one

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			

DOWN

19. Melancholy

22. Deity

23. Series of battles

24. Historic period

25. 007 creator

26. Caviar base

27. Lab eggs

28. Stir-fry pan

29. Lamb's dam

31. School support org.

34. Did nothing

35. Con

36. Medico

37. Bout segments

39. Very beginning

40. Jocular Johnson

41. Ship wood

42. Between jobs

43. Actress Elisabeth

44. Cannes milk

45. *Downton Abbey* role

46. Cheer (for)

48. Joke

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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

SOLUTIONS

1 diplomatic (7)

2 travel across (8)

3 limiting (7)

4 beanies, berets and toques (4)

5 sauce on a Filet-O-Fish (6)

6 Portugal's peninsula (6)

7 place to watch video games (6)

TAC

TA

RSE

UL

PP

AVE

IB

CH

RT

TW

AR

IA

HA

CA

TR

ING

IT

TF

ER

TS

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SUDO CURRENT

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

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Answers for April 14 Puzzles

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

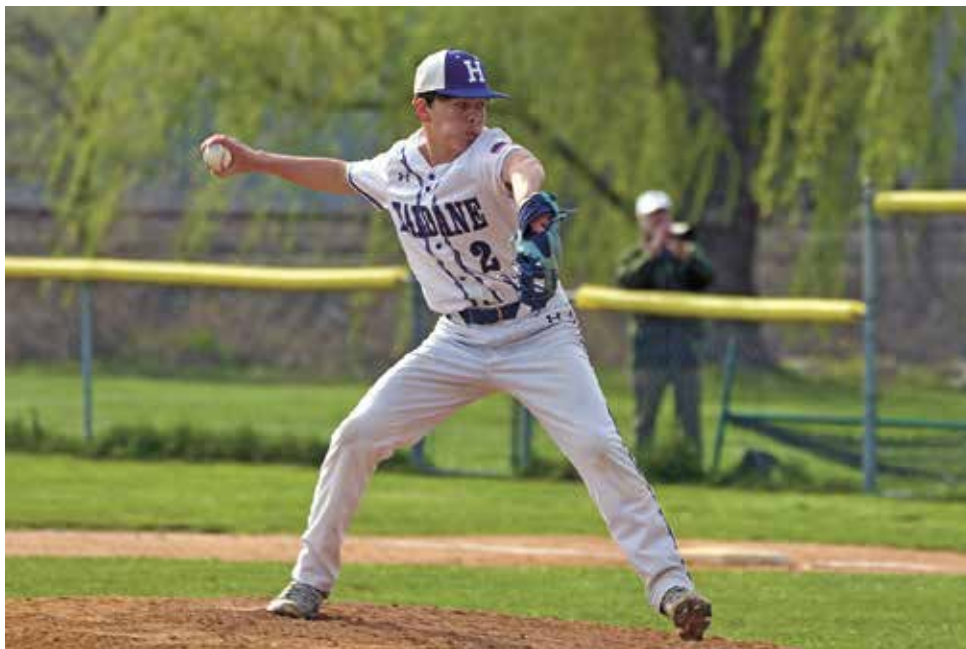
1	4	7	5	6	3	9	2	8
2	9	6	7	8	1	4	3	5
5	8	3	9	4	2	7	6	1
9	1	8	3	2	5	6	7	4
7	6	4	8	1	9	3	5	2
3	5	2	4	7	6	1	8	9
4	2	9	6	3	8	5	1	7
8	3	5	1	9	7	2	4	6
6	7	1	2	5	4	8	9	3

1. PRETENDING, 2. PRETZELS, 3. PRESSES, 4. SINCERELY, 5. FILL, 6. BANKRUPTCY, 7. SAYING

## SPORTS



Follow us at [twitter.com/hcurrentsports](https://twitter.com/hcurrentsports)



Haldane's Milo Pearsall has not allowed an earned run so far this spring.



Roy Smith tags a runner out Wednesday in a game with Putnam Valley. Photos by S. Pearlman

### BOYS' TENNIS

Beacon pulled off an upset, taking down previously unbeaten Newburgh, 4-3, at home on Tuesday (April 18).

The Bulldogs were led by singles players; Frank Zezza (No. 2), Danny Barry (3) and Beckett Anderson (4) all won in straight sets.

With the match deadlocked at 3-3, it came down to first doubles. After splitting the first two sets, Scott Bunker and Charlie Klein prevailed, 6-3, in the third set to seal the win.

Beacon fell at Ketcham, 5-2, on Wednesday to drop to 5-3 on the season. The Bulldogs will host Monticello/Liberty at 4:30 p.m. on Monday (April 24).

### BOYS' LACROSSE

Haldane opened last week with an 11-5 home win over Arlington behind Liam Gaugler's hat trick. Evan Giachinta had two goals and three assists, Rhys Robbins and Will Sniffen each scored twice, Frankie DiGiglio and Rowen Kuzminski each had a goal and Jordon Hankel had 10 saves in net.

It was Haldane's first win over Arlington in lacrosse, said Coach Ed Crowe.

In a game played at Rutgers University on

Sunday (April 16), the Blue Devils fell, 11-5, to undefeated Horace Greeley. DiGiglio had two assists to go with a goal, and Giachinta, Robbins, Jesse Hagen and Brody Corless each had a goal. The game was tied at half-time and Haldane was up 5-4 early in the third quarter but couldn't hold on to its lead.

Haldane followed with a 13-4 victory at John Jay East Fishkill on Tuesday behind four goals from Fallou Faye and three from Gaugler.

The Blue Devils (6-2) are scheduled to travel to Hicksville on Saturday (April 22), host Irvington at 5:15 p.m. on Monday and travel to Croton-Harmon on Thursday.

### GIRLS' LACROSSE

Haldane picked up an 11-9 victory over Ardsley on Monday (April 17) behind five goals by Kayla Ruggiero. Mairead O'Hara had four goals and two assists; Caroline Nelson and Sami Thomas each had a goal and an assist; and Helen Nicholls had two assists. Keeper Lola Mahoney had nine saves.

The Blue Devils trailed 5-2 at the half but "showed their strength and played a fantastic second half," said Coach Mary Callaghan. "Mairead took control of the middle of the

## Varsity Roundup

By Skip Pearlman

### BASEBALL

Milo Pearsall has been making his presence felt on the mound this spring for Haldane, and on Wednesday (April 19), the sophomore picked up a complete-game victory, shutting out Putnam Valley 4-0 in a game at Mayor's Park in Cold Spring.

Pearsall, who has not allowed an earned run this season, struck out four and walked one. The right-hander showed the ability to crank it up a notch to get out of trouble when he needed to. Pearsall had his fastball, curve and changeup all working and finished with an economical 84 pitches.

"He's been phenomenal so far," said Coach Simon Dudar. "He's fearless. He never wants to come out."

Pearsall wasn't bad at the plate, either. After Haldane loaded the bases in the third inning, he smacked a triple that scored three runs. Jeremy Hall knocked in Haldane's other run, and catcher Trajan McCarthy threw out two base runners. The Blue Devils finished with no errors.

The Blue Devils didn't fare as well on Tuesday, falling 15-4 at Croton-Harmon. Jake Hotaling took the loss on the mound. "We were up 4-2 going into the fourth, but we ran out of pitching," Dudar said.

On April 15 at home, Haldane scratched out a 5-4 victory over Yonkers Montessori Academy. Freshman Dan Nakabayashi picked up the win, striking out 16, with only two walks

and two hits. Hotaling drove in the game-winning run with a walk in the sixth inning, and Pearsall went 2 for 4 with a double. Hunter Erickson went 2 for 4 and drove in a run, and John Kissinger had two RBI.

Haldane (5-3) will visit Pawling today (April 21) and Hastings on Saturday. On Monday, the Blue Devils will face Alexander Hamilton at Heritage Financial Park (Dutchess Stadium) at 7 p.m.

Beacon, meanwhile, came up on the short end of a 10-0 decision to Cornwall on Tuesday at home, managing only one hit. Ryan Landisi took the loss on the mound.

Beacon fared better last week, coming back from a 6-1 deficit on April 15 to beat Lourdes 7-6 on a run in the final frame. Derrick Heaton went 3 for 4 with an RBI and threw out a go-ahead run at the plate. Pitcher Anthony Borromeo got his first varsity win.

A day earlier, Beacon topped Minisink Valley, 8-6, with Landisi getting his first varsity win while fanning seven. Liam Murphy went 2 for 3 with an RBI and Heaton was 2 for 4 with two RBI. Jack Antalek added an RBI double.

Beacon (6-2) played Goshen at home on Thursday (April 20) and will host its own tournament Saturday with Franklin Roosevelt, Spackenkill and Tappan Zee. The championship game is scheduled for 3 p.m. On Monday, the Bulldogs host Monticello at 4:30 p.m. and travel to Port Jervis on Wednesday.

field and our defensive line was relentless. The girls on attack called smart plays and had some great passing sequences."

Haldane hosted Putnam Valley on Thursday (April 20) and will visit Sleepy Hollow on Saturday, Mahopac on Monday and Arlington on Tuesday before hosting Blind Brook at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday.

### GOLF

The Beacon boys dropped a match at home to Monroe-Woodbury, 252-213, on Monday (April 17); Will Martin led the Bulldogs with a 43, followed by Jamison Sheehy with a 49. The team (0-4) also fell at Newburgh on Wednesday, 250-227.

The boys hosted Monticello on Thursday and will travel to Fallsburg and Goshen early next week before hosting Burke Catholic on Thursday.

The Beacon girls defeated Red Hook at home on Tuesday, 187-200, led by Elizabeth Ruffy, and Franklin Roosevelt on Wednesday, 182-202, behind Sophia Campagiorni and Ruffy. The Bulldogs (2-1) traveled to Ellenville on Thursday and visit Onteora today (April 21).



Beacon's Henry Reinke won the 1,600-meter run in a meet on Wednesday at Monticello.

Photo provided

### TRACK & FIELD

In a dual meet on Wednesday (April 19) at Monticello, Henry Reinke won the 1,600- and 200-meter runs and anchored the winning 4x400 relay. Jack Twining won the 3,200 and anchored the winning 4x800, and Rubio Castagna won the 400 hurdles and ran a leg on the winning 4x800 and 4x400 relays.

For the girls, Janaya Fluellen won the long jump, triple jump and 200-meter run.

Both teams head to the Trotters Classic in Goshen on Saturday (April 22).