School Taxes: What Are the Limits?

Haldane, Garrison and Beacon, like most districts in New York, are told each year by the state how much they can raise taxes. How is the cap calculated?

By Joey Asher

The inflation rate of 5 percent has made it a challenge to balance 2023-24 school budgets because of a state-imposed cap that limits property tax levy increases to 2 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is less.

To calculate how much they can raise taxes, most districts in the state, including Haldane, Garrison and Beacon, each year must use a state-mandated formula with as many as a dozen factors.

The vast majority of the school caps this year are clustered around a median of 3 percent, said Brian Fessler, governmental relations director for the New York State School Boards Association. (A district can override its cap, as Garrison did last year, but it requires approval by 60 percent of voters.)

To explain the formula, we’ll use Garrison as an example, with assistance from Joseph Jimick, the business administrator for the Garrison district, and representatives from the state comptroller and Department of Taxation and Finance.

(Continued on Page 7)

Legislator Sponsors Beacon Hotel Tax

Would allow city to collect 5 percent on rooms, Airbnb

By Jeff Simms

State Assembly Member Jonathan Jacobson, a Democrat whose district includes Beacon, has introduced a bill that, if approved by the Legislature, would allow the city to collect a tax of up to 5 percent on lodging stays.

While Beacon does not have any traditional hotels or motels, the tax would apply to bed-and-breakfasts and short-term rentals made through platforms such as Airbnb, as well as rooms rented at the Roundhouse, which, according to its website, range from $249 to $549 per night.

The city’s charge would be in addition to a 4 percent tax collected by Dutchess County from hotels, motels and, since 2017, Airbnb, which in 2022 sent the county $785,502.

An occupancy tax would also apply to the 85 rooms at the Mirbeau Inn & Spa, which

(Continued on Page 8)

Evidence Rules Under Fire

Changes sought by DAs worry defenders

By Leonard Sparks

Having once represented defendants, Robert Tendy, Putnam County’s district attorney, said he has been a longtime advocate for reforming New York’s rules governing how prosecutors share the evidence they collect with defense attorneys.

Under the old rules, said Tendy, he would sometimes get thousands of pages of discovery on the eve of trials. In one case, prosecutors turned over hundreds of pages of phone records after the trial had started, and the judge said they had to be reviewed during lunch, he said.

“That’s crazy,” said Tendy. “But what’s happened now is we’ve gone completely over to the other side, which is equally crazy.”

Tendy is part of a chorus of district attorneys who are hoping the state relaxes rules governing evidence-sharing that took effect in 2020.

New York’s nascent discovery law lists 21 types of material that prosecutors must share with defense attorneys, including co-defendant statements, grand jury testimony, electronic recordings such as 911 calls, evidence collected from cellphones and computers and other “materials favorable to the defense.”

Defense attorneys must also receive footage from police body cameras — a relatively recent addition to the evidence canon that already included lab results, surveillance video and witness statements.

Prosecutors can ask a court to shield information they feel should be withheld, such as the names of witnesses who may be endangered. The law also requires the defense to

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FIVE QUESTIONS: GABBY GRACE

By Marc Ferris


What was your background before you got into construction?

I'm an immigrant [from Uruguay] who grew up in Peekskill and moved to Beacon 20 years ago when Main Street was still boarded up. Since I came to this country, all I ever wanted to do was be a nurse and serve my community, so I went to nursing school. I became a mother of two and worked all over the Hudson Valley for many years as a nurse.

How did you end up in the construction industry?

I had the privilege of working with physicians who were either solo practitioners or part of a small group who were well known in their fields. A few years ago, hospitals instituted rules for engagement and it became clear that they wanted more of a transaction as opposed to caring for the patients' needs, so I lost my smile.

I wanted to start a landscaping business but I thought it was a pipe dream. It was also scary. Since my teen years, I had worked for uncles who were old-fashioned masons. When they retired, a couple of master masons I grew up with needed help with labor and client issues, so after a few months of putting out fires and resolving conflicts, we adopted each other and I decided to try it full time.

What challenges do women face in the industry?

The biggest hurdle is that people challenge our technical knowledge. I have to know twice as much as male counterparts because I get questioned three times more than they do. For moms, the long days and irregular work schedules can be tough. Supply-chain issues continue to be a problem and there's been an enormous increase in the cost of materials, so there are never enough hours in the day. But the opportunities for a successful career have also increased because construction is evolving and we are breaking stereotypes. There are more young women going into the trades in general than ever before.

We need to remind young girls that a career in the infrastructure industry is also a great life choice. I'm a little biased, but I think women can multitask, communicate better and follow through for a perfect project execution.

What advice would you give a young woman who wants to get into construction?

I would tell her to be audacious, to develop confidence and to trust her gut. Be strong and don't be afraid to fail because that's how we learn. Ask questions, but don't let anyone's assumptions hold you back. Advocate for yourself, loudly demand respect and remember that the more you do something, the easier it becomes. Before you know it, it becomes second nature. You have to be relentless in the pursuit of your dreams. In construction, in particular, everything's a secret because information is power. So be informed. You need to know the process from beginning to end because you will be questioned.

Do you get your hands dirty?

I've been around construction all my life. I grew up mixing cement from scratch, screeding concrete by hand and installing Belgian block bibs. I dig the ground to install native gardens and have learned to install paver patios. I have to know what you're talking about, so I learn by doing. I'm moving toward designing and building custom homes, but the one thing I haven't mastered is chiseling stone by listening to it the way the master masons do, which is an absolute art. They are the best craftsmen in their field and have been practicing since childhood. I'm still a work in progress.
Highlands Keeps Assembly Districts

Local officials opposed moving Beacon, Philipstown

By Leonard Sparks

Beacon and Philipstown will remain in their current state Assembly districts instead of being combined with more conservative parts of Putnam and Westchester counties.

Gov. Kathy Hochul on Monday (April 24) enacted legislation that sets new boundaries for the Assembly’s 150 districts that will be used starting with the 2024 election. Her signature came four days after the state’s 10-member Independent Redistricting Commission finalized the plan.

Philipstown will remain in Assembly District 95. Represented by Dana Levenberg, a Democrat, the 95th runs south along the Hudson River to Briarcliff Manor and includes Peekskill, Croton-on-Hudson and Ossining.

Beacon will stay in Assembly District 104, which straddles the Hudson River and includes Beacon, Newburgh and Poughkeepsie, and Highland in Ulster County. Jonathan Jacobson, also a Democrat, is that district’s representative.

Jacobson and Levenberg both voted for the new districts on Monday, when they were approved by the Senate and Assembly.

Nelsonville Finalizes Budget of $360K

3% tax increase below state-mandated cap

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

After weeks of preparation, the Nelsonville Village Board this month adopted a budget that calls for spending $359,527 in fiscal 2023-24, which begins June 1.

The budget includes a property tax increase of 3 percent, which is less than the 4.4 percent allowed for 2023-24 under the state-mandated tax cap.

Because the village has not raised its levy by the full percentage of the tax cap over the last couple of years, it had leeway this year to exact more, Mayor Chris Winward said at a March 20 meeting. But she added, “I don’t like raising taxes too high,” so the board chose an increase of 3 percent.

She said the added revenue will help fund a new budget line of $3,000 for building maintenance. “Our budget is so small there’s not a lot to play with,” she said.

Following an April 12 public hearing at which a resident praised the village’s approach to finances, the board adopted the budget, which is $4,675 more in 2023-24.

However, village officials can update budgets. By March 1, Nelsonville’s 2022-23 budget had increased to $398,666. The 2023-24 budget, as adopted, is $38,539 less.

The budget holds elected officials’ salaries at 2022-23 levels. Each of the trustees will again collect $2,675 in pay and incidental costs, while the mayor receives $4,600.

The village will get a raise of about 3 percent, to $38,400, while the building inspector will again earn $8,940.

Street maintenance costs are expected to be $14,200, or $975 more. The snow removal budget line also will increase by $975 to $12,450.

The 2023-24 budget restores the village outlay for culture and recreation to $500, the amount allocated in 2022-21, before it slipped last year to $300.

At $73,117, trash removal will cost about 2 percent more. It had been $71,703.

However, the cost of employee benefits is expected to drop to $38,250 from $45,000 in 2022-23, a year in which an employee insurance situation necessitated a temporary spike.

On the revenue side, the budget foresees collection of $300,121 in property taxes, compared to $291,380 in the previous budget.

Like Nelsonville residents, Putnam County will pay the village more in 2023-24. Its rent for the old Nelsonville firehouse, which the Sheriff’s Department uses as a substation, will tick upward from $15,900 to $17,100.

Nelsonville’s 2022-23 budget anticipated $4,000 in fees from owners of short-term rentals, such as Airbnb units. But the Village Board cut expectations in half, to $2,000.

The amount of state aid remains unclear. The previous budget included $19,000 from New York. The 2023-24 budget puts that number at $10,000 — so far, anyway.

Four Candidates for Beacon School Board

All will run unopposed on May ballot

Four candidates filed nomination petitions by the Wednesday (April 26) deadline to appear on the May 16 ballot for the Beacon school board for four open seats.

Trustees serve three-year terms. Two incumbents, Anthony White and Kristan Flynn, are seeking a fourth and third term, respectively. Sena Ercin and Eric Schetter are newcomers.

Ercin is the director of development for the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival and Schetter is a retired middle school principal in the Arlington district.

Craig Wolf, who served two terms, did not seek re-election. The other open seat was held by Antony Tseng, who resigned last month. The candidate who receives the least number of votes will complete the final two years of Tseng’s term.

Philipstown Opposes Indian Point Discharge

Says alternatives can be found

The Philipstown Town Board on April 13 unanimously approved a resolution that said the town “strongly opposes” the planned discharge of radioactive wastewater by Holtec from the Indian Point nuclear power plant into the Hudson River as part of the decommissioning process.

Several other Mid-Hudson municipalities also have objected to the move, including Beacon, Cold Spring and Westchester County.

The Philipstown resolution called on the state Legislature to adopt a proposed law, drafted by state Sen. Pete Harckham, who represents part of eastern Putnam, and Assembly Member Dana Levenberg, whose district includes Philipstown, to outlaw radioactive emissions into state waterways.

Heuer had argued that other schools in the proposed district — whose population would be 75 percent white, 14 percent Latino and 4.5 percent Black — would be “wealthier and less diverse.”

In the 104th District, the proportion of Latino is nearly twice as high as in the proposal for a new District 94 and for Blacks (20.7 percent), nearly fivefold.

Beacon would “almost certainly” have been the new district’s only Title I school, said Heuer, referring to the federal program for schools with high percentages of students from lower-income households.

“The commonality of interest and the importance of common representation of these cities cannot be underestimated,” Heuer said.

Instead, the Independent Redistricting Commission finalized maps that largely resemble the ones approved by state lawmakers last year after the commission’s Democratic and Republican appointees failed to reach consensus on single Senate and Assembly redistricting plans in 2021.

A state judge has said the maps to be redrawn by a special master after a court challenge to the districts approved by the Legislature. The Assembly maps survived and were used in November’s general election. But another judge ordered that they be redone before next year’s Assembly elections.

New Bridge Tolls

Start May 1

Last of multi-year increases on Hudson River crossings

The last of four annual toll increases on the Bear Mountain, Newburgh-Beacon and three other bridges over the Hudson River will take effect on May 1.

The New York State Bridge Authority began raising the tolls, which are collected only on eastbound passage, in 2020.

On May 1, passenger vehicles and motorcycles will pay $1.65 with EZ-Pass — up 10 cents — and $2.15 with tolls by mail. Tolls for commuter plans (minimum 17 trips monthly) will rise to $1.40 and trucks will see increases between $6.10 and $18.30, depending on the number of axles.
Environmental future

I do so hope Kristof Ford’s vision becomes reality, although since I am nearly 30 years older than she is, I fear I will not see it (“Living Green: What’s Your Future?” April 21).

I think, too, we will need universal understanding and agreement to open borders and to reduce or eliminate armed forces. And one more thing: It would probably be best if men were not allowed to compete in elections for political office, at least not until many decades have passed and everyone realizes that a wonderful world is possible.

Jim Texel, Marlboro

As someone concerned about the warming climate, I appreciated Ford’s optimistic take on a possible future where the world finally wakes up and tackles the crisis head on, leading to enviable idyllic conditions.

However, as a professional, full-time illustrator, I’m glad her vision includes some form of UBI (universal basic income) as her column featured an image that was clearly produced by some version of image-generating artificial intelligence. Seeing that, next to the headline “What’s Your Future?” made the question very personal.

Josh McBulie, Beacon

Fjord Trail

The 2021 agreement between Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Inc. and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation (OPRHP), which I obtained through a Freedom of Information Law request, includes the section below. As predicted, this is how the HHFT will raise money to support its “epicenter” of recreational attractions in the Hudson Valley. Add this to environmental degradation and horrid traffic, and it’s so long historic Cold Spring:

“Sponsorship funding of the Fjord Trail Project or any part thereof or improvement therein, or of events held therein, together with concession or other agreements with vendors of food, parking, programming or other complementary revenue-generating activities, are acceptable to OPRHP as a general matter, and OPRHP acknowledges that such sponsorships and concessions might be important sources of funding for both development and operations of the Fjord Trail Project.

“HHFT may retain sponsorship and concession revenues. Sponsorships and concessions are subject to the prior written approval of OPRHP as to form, content and manner of presentation, not to be unreasonably withheld. Sponsorship by companies, interests or organizations that are directly identified with the sale or use of products of any kind, or tobacco products is strictly prohibited. Sponsorship opportunities include, without limitation, program inserts, product sampling and advertising displays at the Fjord Trail Project and at events and projects therein.”

Imagine a winter ice skating rink and lovely holiday gift booths to attract off-season visitors — one-stop shopping and fun in Dockside. What about summertime sponsorships of Quaker Oats granola bars and Frito-Lay’s latest trail mix? What about clever promotions for fishing rods, hiking boots and backpacks? And don’t forget food concessions. And why stop at Dockside? There can be food and drink at all six trail entrances, twilight concerts in the new amphitheater and T-shirts and ice cream for sale at the new beach at Little Stony Point.

Gretchen Dykstra, Cold Spring

Reading the plans for the “trail” — or rather the massive concrete boardwalk with high-fenced walls being planned — brings up nightmare scenarios. Has anyone who champions a boardwalk starting at Dockside thought about where all the people who want to walk there will be parking?

HHFT’s own information says it expects a large number of visitors to be coming by car. What if only a small percentage of the estimated visitors try to park on lower Main Street? What if it’s a weekday and the Metro-North train is full? Even on weekends the lot doesn’t have nearly enough spaces to accommodate as many visitors as projected. Everyone who lives in the village should be concerned. Parking is already the No. 1 issue.

The people who oppose the concrete boardwalk are not NIMBY or anti-visi-
tor. We just are sincerely concerned that this world-class linear park is both poorly planned and being rushed through with minimal local input and oversight. The residents of Cold Spring need to speak up or we will be overtaken by outside interests who care not about our quality of life.

Judith Rose, Cold Spring

The Fjord Trail is great news for residents of the Hudson Highlands, particularly for families in Philipstown, where this recreational asset will be convenient to access and enjoy. From additional access to beautiful locations along the river, increased parking and the amenities it will expand, we are thrilled that this community-led project continues to develop.

Recreational amenities are important to our family. Our sons are both athletes, and as a family we enjoy our time in the outdoors as often as we can. We envision the Fjord Trail being a safe place for Philipstown kids to learn to ride a bike, for student-athletes to train and an accessible resource for seniors
to enjoy regular walks along the river. The planned shuttle system will also improve accessibility to all the Fjord Trail’s amenities. Additionally, the Fjord Trail helps solve longstanding challenges with congestion in Cold Spring and dangerous conditions along Route 9D, where too many pedestrians, motorists and cyclists compete for space on weekends. Creating six access points along the 7.5-mile route will also spread out usage of the trail, reducing the crowding that frustrates so many in our town.

Many of us have been talking for years about the need to address the safety and congestion issues around the use of the local trail system and the impact it has on our local community. The Fjord Trail provides a solution that will also be a wonderful community recreational resource.

John and Andrea Maasik, Garrison

Unbelievable as it seems, some of the same institutions that have protected the Hudson Highlands from environmental degradation now threaten it. In 1936, the Hudson River Conservation Society was formed to fight stone quarries at Bull Hill (Mount Taurus). It was successful; the quarrying ceased and HRCS became the leading environmental organization in the Hudson Valley.

Decades later, in 1963, HRCS took the opposite stance in the fight over ConEd’s proposed power plant on Storm King, according to Robert Lifset in his book, Power on the Hudson. With the view that the plant represented inevitable progress, HRCS initially supported ConEd’s plan, with some revisions such as buried power lines and a three-level terraced structure.

According to Lifset, “the society took pains to communicate that it did not oppose the material progress represented by this important new source of electrical energy for the public.”

HRCS never regained its strength, Lifset writes. Scenic Hudson, Riverkeeper and other organizations came to prominence.

Now, decades later, most of these entities are taking a direction eerily similar to HRCS’s early 1960s support for the Storm King power plant. Flush and solidly entrenched, today’s environmental “protectors” are working together to construct the Fjord Trail with a raised, 12-foot-wide boardwalk that will stand on pillars implanted on the narrow strip between the train tracks and river. New attractions are planned along the way: manufactured overlooks, “curated environments for learning or killing” and a swimming pool at Stony Point.

Think summer weekend car and foot traffic are bad now? Just imagine.

An ultra-wealthy donor and his family foundation have given lavishly to the environmental organizations that support imposing this engineered eyesore on the Highlands. What we have here is an American problem: money gradually distorting well-meaning people’s and organizations’ intentions. The influence of this money can be difficult to detect — especially when the organizations have done so much good in the past. I have happily contributed to Scenic Hudson, Riverkeeper and the Hudson Highlands Land Trust annually. However, I oppose this misguided project.

Something has shifted. Are Scenic Hudson, Riverkeeper and other environmental watchdogs staying true to their original principles? Unless we pay attention and speak up, a huge vanity project will be foisted on our small town.

Hope Scott Rogers, Philipstown

French speakers
Je suis ravi d’entendre parler de cette rencontre (“Parles-tu Français? Of Course!” April 14).

Deborah Adeyanju, via Instagram

Abandoned pets
Thank you so much for bringing light to this issue (“More Pets Being Abandoned,” April 21). So many people assume that shelters are still empty, as was often reported during the height of the pandemic. But now shelters are drowning in surrenders and strays, while adoption rates have plummeted.

As an experienced fosterer working with rescue organizations, I have never seen so many puppies and dogs in need of homes. Anyone considering a new pet, or looking to give back to the community, should explore fostering and/or adoption. All pet owners can help the homeless pet population by spaying/neutering their pets: It’s best for their health and crucial to decreasing the surplus pet population, which in the U.S. is in the millions.

Emily Boone, via Instagram

Route 9 projects
My husband, Dr. Jeremy Frederick, and I own Companion Pet Hospital. We were contacted by The Current about our plans to develop a portion of the lot surrounding the existing hospital (“Route 9 Projects Rile Residents,” April 14).

Our plan includes an expansion of the pet hospital and a new building that will house a dog-training facility. We have dropped plans for an animal dispatch center, and it was never going to be 24 hours, as stated in the article, which is good news for everyone since this misinformation seems to be the area of concern for our neighbors.

Companion Pet Hospital is a well-established veterinary practice that has been serving the community for 40 years. We saw an increase in pet ownership during the pandemic and our ability to help people and their pets became limited by the space we have available. In addition to expanding our hospital, we saw an opportunity to provide a resource to people and their pets that is not available in our area.

Behavioral issues in dogs can be a major source of stress and frustration for both dogs and their guardians, often leading to negative consequences for their overall health and well-being. Sadly, it is also the leading cause of pet relinquishment to animal shelters and subsequent euthanasia. Our new Behavioral Health Center will aim to address these issues by providing a safe and supportive environment for dogs to receive the care and attention they need to overcome their behavioral challenges.

In addition to growing our services, the expansion will provide a newly paved driveway to Carol Lane, and our landscaping plans will beautify the space with new trees and flowers.

Dr. Hope Jankunas, Fishkill

(Continued from Page 4)
The Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail offers a **community-driven solution** for managing regional tourism and will make the beauty that surrounds us more accessible to people of all ages and abilities.

**The Fjord Trail will:**

- Keep pedestrians off neighborhood streets & away from busy & dangerous Route 9D
- Offer 7.5 new miles of trail with six entry points, distributing visitors between Cold Spring & Beacon
- 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

"I am excited that the Fjord Trail will give me the opportunity to extend my pleasure in the out-of-doors further into my old age. Now that bad knees keep us from scrambling up Breakneck, my husband and I look forward to new experiences the trail will provide. This project will keep our Highlands lovable and accessible to people of all ages and abilities."

- Fran Hodges, Village of Cold Spring Resident

We encourage you to learn more about the Fjord Trail:

visit hhft.org / email info@hhft.org
School Tax (from Page 1)

First, it’s not really a 2 percent cap.

It starts at 2 percent, but a number of factors in the formula drive the cap up or down for each district. That’s why Garrison’s cap is 3.29 percent while Haldane’s is 1.96 percent and Beacon’s is 3.64. As we’ll see, the 2 percent cap established by law plays a major role in holding down property tax increases.

Everything starts with the previous levy.

The cap formula determines the maximum increase a district can make in the property taxes it collects over the previous year. In Garrison, the levy for 2022-23 was $10.38 million.

The formula allows this number to be adjusted if a district collected too much or too little. But Garrison was on target, so the $10.38 million is where we begin.

How much did the assessed value of property grow?

School districts raise money by taxing the assessed valuation of property in the community. Each year, the comptroller tells districts how much that changed by providing what is known as “a tax-base growth factor.”

For Garrison, the growth factor was 1.0024. That means that the comptroller’s office believes Garrison’s overall property value assessment grew by less than 3/10 of 1 percent last year. How did the comptroller get that assessment grew by less than 3/10 of 1 percent?

That means that the comptroller’s office believes Garrison’s overall property value assessment grew by less than 3/10 of 1 percent last year. How did the comptroller get that number? It relies on assessment figures from the Department of Taxation and Finance. But doesn’t 3/10 of 1 percent seem too low?

Isn’t the value of property in Garrison rising faster than that? Maybe. But the comptroller is not measuring market value. He’s measuring the value of property as determined by the local assessor, not real-estate agents or sales. (By comparison, in Beacon, which has seen a spurt of new residential construction, this year’s growth factor is 1.0653.)

Garrison’s tax-base growth factor means it can only raise its tax levy in 2023-24 by about $25,000, before adjustments.

Subtract last year’s capital levy.

Every district can collect taxes for capital improvements, but the spending must be approved by voters separately from the annual budget. Because capital levies are not included in the tax-cap calculation, you must remove them from the previous year’s levy before calculating the cap.

In Garrison, the capital levy for 2022-23 was $9.82 million. This is the money that the school spent on HVAC systems, the removal of asbestos floor tiles, security cameras, phone systems, door locks and monitoring of doors. After subtracting the capital levy, the base becomes $9.82 million.

Calculating the Tax Cap

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* Determined annually by state comptroller

Source: Local school districts

The Effect of the Cap

The New York State tax cap went into effect in 2012. It applies to most public school districts and local governments, including counties, cities, towns, villages and fire districts.

According to a 2019 analysis of state data by the Rockefeller Institute of Government, the average school tax levy in the Mid-Hudson Valley has dropped 75 percent since 2004. It was 7.59 percent from 2004-07 (the highest of any region), 3.31 percent during the Great Recession (2008-11) and 1.88 percent since.

Since 2004, Haldane’s average has fallen from 7.8 percent to 2 percent; Beacon’s from 6.9 percent to 2.6 percent; and Garrison’s from 4 percent to 1.8 percent.

The study estimated that Mid-Hudson homeowners have paid $5.6 billion less in school taxes since the cap went into effect.

Add payments in lieu of taxes.

Some districts grant tax breaks to businesses to entice them to create jobs or provide other benefits to the community. For example, the Beacon City Council recently approved a PILOT agreement with an affordable housing developer that will pay an incrementally increasing fee to the school district over the next 40 years rather than assessment-based payments.

These PILOT payments are considered part of the tax base from the previous year so they’re supposed to be added into the mix. But Garrison has relatively little commercial and industrial property and no PILOT agreements.

Here is where the 2 percent cap comes in.

We have reached the point where “2 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is less” is applied.

The current rate of inflation is about 5 percent. If it is below 2 percent, the growth factor will essentially be the rate of inflation. For Garrison, we multiply $9.82 million by 1.02 and get $10.01 million.

Put back the capital levy.

We subtracted the 2022-23 capital levy to determine the levy applicable to the 2 percent cap. Now we have to add the capital levy back to get a final cap number. In Garrison’s case, the capital tax levy for 2022-23 is expected to be $706,747. This spending was authorized by Garrison taxpayers as part of a referendum in 2019, and under that authorization the district has borrowed $83.5 million that is payable over 15 years. Once you add the capital levy back, you get $10.01 million.

Getting to the final cap.

There are other factors that can be added to the levy, such as costs of legal judgments and costs associated with pension funds, but Garrison doesn’t have those. So the final allowable levy is $10,721,026, or 3.29 percent more than the 2022-23 levy. That’s the maximum cap.

NEXT WEEK: Is Garrison’s squeeze an early warning sign for other districts?
Hotel Tax (from Page 1)
is expected to open in 2025 at the Tioronda Estate on Route 9D. The company charges more than $400 per night at its Rhinebeck hotel.

A development group has also proposed converting the former Reformed Church of Beacon into an event space with a restaurant and 30-room hotel; the project is still being reviewed by the Planning Board.

Jacobson introduced the bill, as well as another that would allow a hotel tax in Poughkeepsie, in the Assembly earlier this month. A memo attached to the bill said it would generate added revenue, “which will be used to reduce the burden on local taxpayers.” If approved, the tax would take effect immediately and expire after three years.

The bill was referred on April 18 to the Assembly’s Ways and Means Committee.

Two things must happen before the Legislature can consider Jacobson’s bill. A similar bill, expected to be submitted by Rob Rolison, a Republican whose district includes Beacon, must be introduced in the state Senate.

The Beacon City Council would then have to pass a “home rule” resolution asking the Legislature to act on the bills. If approved, 100 percent of the new tax revenue would go to the municipality.

Once those steps are in place, Jacobson said on Tuesday (April 25), he believes the Legislature will vote quickly on the measure.

Jacobson said he speaks periodically with Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou and during a recent conversation asked the mayor if hotel-tax legislation would interest city officials.

Room-tax bills sponsored by Jacobson for the city and town of Newburgh were passed by the Legislature in the last two years, and legislation introduced by then-Assembly Member Sandy Galef and Sen. James Skoufis to allow Cold Spring to collect up to 5 percent on hotel and short-term rental stays was enacted by the governor in July.

During their most recent meeting, in March, members of the Putnam Legislature’s Economic Development and Energy Committee discussed a room tax for the county, although no action was taken.

Beacon will be able to use the revenue, but it will give [the city] a chance to control Airbnbs, which many people have been complaining about,” Jacobson said.

Kyriacou on Wednesday estimated that the tax could add funds equivalent to 1 percent of the city’s property tax levy, and “would grow as more hotel space is built, which is a modest but nice addition to Beacon revenue sources.” (The city’s tax levy in 2023 is $12.5 million; 1 percent of that would be $125,000.)

There are about 110 short-term rentals in Beacon, the bulk of them illegal because they have not been licensed by the city. Graham Lawlor, an organizer of the group Beacon Hosts, said he is in favor of a Beacon hotel tax “in principle,” but feels Jacobson’s proposal will be excessive when combined with Dutchess County’s charges.

“When taxes are too high it encourages people to circumvent the law and raises enforcement costs,” Lawlor said. “You can see this in states that legalized marijuana but set unrealistic tax rates — the black market continues to thrive. A reasonable short-term rental tax that goes directly to the City of Beacon to help build parks and schools and programs for Beacon residents would be perfect.”

Reform (from Page 1)
share the evidence it gathers with prosecutors.

Just as significant, the 2020 rules prevent prosecutors from withholding evidence for prolonged periods, requiring that they automatically turn over materials no later than 35 days after arraignment, or 20 days for defendants being held in jail. A 30-day extension is allowed under some circumstances.

It is those deadlines that are reportedly under discussion as Gov. Kathy Hochul and the state Senate and Assembly negotiate a 2023-24 budget. Due on April 1, the spending plan has stalled because of disagreements on issues like bail reform and the governor’s proposal to expand housing.

As with changes to bail reform, defense attorneys and advocates for criminal-justice reform oppose any proposed revisions to evidence-sharing rules.

Elizabeth Costello, deputy chief for the Putnam County Legal Aid Society, said the law created a lot more work not just for prosecutors but for defense attorneys. She supports more funding to boost staffing and technology, but opposes changes to the requirement to turn over evidence in a timely manner.

The 2020 changes have created “more justice and fundamental fairness,” said Costello. “While it’s a lot more work for everybody, it’s mostly more equitable.”

When the changes first took effect on Jan. 1, 2020, the new law stated that evidence had to be turned over to defendants within 15 days of arraignment.

Just three months into the law’s implementation, the Dutchess County District Attorney’s Office said it needed $650,000 for trials that had been delayed due to the pandemic. “We do not have the ability to fill a months-old vacancy for an assistant district attorney,” said his office needs time, not money.

“When they’ve implemented makes it impossible for an assistant district attorney to effectively do their job,” he said. “All they have to do is extend the dates to a reasonable time period.”
A Deep Dive Into Central Hudson

Audit calls for monthly meter reading
By Leonard Sparks

Under fire for more than a year over its mistake-prone billing system, Central Hudson said earlier this month it plans to return to reading meters monthly.

An auditor hired by the Public Service Commission (PSC) agreed, saying that one of its more than 40 recommendations for the utility was to stop reading meters every other month but billing monthly, which the utility has been doing since 2016.

Overland Consulting, which completed an examination of Central Hudson’s management and operations that is required every five years under state law, said that the practice of reading meters every other month aggravated widespread billing problems that began in September 2021 when the company switched to a new, $88 million customer-information system.

About 20,000 of Central Hudson’s 309,000 electricity customers experienced problems such as delayed bills and double billing, and calls to customer service rose nearly tenfold in a year. The wave of complaints triggered calls to customer service rose nearly tenfold in a year. The wave of complaints triggered

Some customers received estimated bills for consecutive months, partly because the new system would not accept data from meter reads, according to the audit.

The auditor cited the case of a customer who, after months of estimates during which energy prices had spiked, submitted his own meter reading. Central Hudson’s system applied the higher rate in effect when the customer submitted the reading instead of the lower prices from previous months. As a result, he was charged $2,625 instead of $450, said Overland.

In other cases, according to the report, Central Hudson underestimated usage, leaving customers with higher balances when the utility read the meters the following month.

As of June 2022, 53 percent of Central Hudson customers had meters with radio transmitters that could be read remotely by utility workers walking or driving by, according to the PSC, which approved the audit report on April 20.

But progress has been slow, according to the audit, which estimated the number of remote meters had only grown by 4 percent in four years. Central Hudson’s installation rate of 5,000 transmission-capable meters per year is “slightly above average,” the report said. Overland estimated Central Hudson will have to invest an additional $1.8 million for every customer to get monthly readings.

Central Hudson’s response will be part of a plan it must submit, by May 30, detailing how it will address Overland’s recommendations. The state Department of Public Service, which provides support to the PSC, will review the plan and receive comments from the public. The PSC must approve the revised version.

Joseph Hally, vice president of regulatory affairs for Central Hudson, said the key findings “generally seem reasonable” and that the company will examine “the feasibility, effective execution and anticipated costs and benefits” to implement each one.

“To the extent that Central Hudson believes a recommendation cannot be effectively addressed with existing resources, it will provide rationale supporting any future request for cost recovery,” said Hally.

Central Hudson’s billing problems have drawn widespread attention, and the PSC is considering fining the company, the audit was comprehensive, covering governance and management; information systems; electric and gas operations; energy assistance programs and benchmarking; electric and gas operations; and customer operations.

Overland found that the company improved its strategic planning process and is doing well at modernizing its grid and replacing pipes prone to leaking. But it also said the utility has failed to identify business opportunities linked with climate-change initiatives.

Central Hudson should designate someone to ensure that the company identifies every low-income customer eligible for energy-assistance programs and benchmark the performance of its customer-service operations to other utilities, the report said.

Earlier this month, Central Hudson said it was adding 36 people to its customer contact center, nine to customer billing and four to consumer outreach.
CEMETERY TOUR — Amy Campanaro led a tour on April 19 of notable markers in the Cold Spring Cemetery, with stops at the resting places of prominent locals such as Gouverneur Kemble (1786-1875), who founded the West Point Foundry and served two terms in Congress; Robert Parker Parrott (1804-1877), inventor of the Parrott rifle; and Washington and Emily Warren Roebling, architects of the Brooklyn Bridge. The tour was sponsored by the Butterfield Library and the Putnam County Libraries Association.

FUTURE PLANS — To mark the centennial of the construction of the Bear Mountain Bridge, officials and historians filled a time capsule on April 20 that will be sealed until 2123. Here, John Brooks, the longest-serving employee of the New York State Bridge Authority (he was hired in 1962 and now works part-time), closes the lid.

TRADITIONAL FISHING — On Earth Day (April 22), Clarkson University staff and volunteers demonstrated seining, an Indigenous method of net fishing. Participants wore chest-high waders and braved the frigid waters of the Hudson River.

BEACON CLEANUP — For the fifth year, members of Hudson Valley Hikers and other volunteers helped remove trash — mostly water bottles and beer cans, but also burned construction debris — from Mount Beacon on Earth Day. Blend Smoothie and Salad Bar donated gloves and garbage bags.

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ARTE POVERA: ARTISTIC 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

Tickets are available on www.magazzino.art

HIGHLAND STUDIO

PRINTMAKERS
FINE ART PRINTING SCANNING LARGE FORMAT
HUDSON VALLEY’S ARCHIVAL PRINTING SINCE 1997
PICTURE FRAMING print & map gallery
845-809-5174
31 STEPHANIE LANE
COLD SPRING, NY
www.thehighlandstudio.com

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Though there are many esoteric definitions of automaton, plain old sculpture suits Sara Carbone and Roger Phillips just fine. “Only when we are immersed in the make-believe aspect of things do we call them automatons or automata,” Carbone explains.

By any name, the creations are entertaining and intriguing, as witnessed by the 130 people who turned up April 15 and 16 for the opening of Imagination and the Machine at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon.

The dozen sculptures represent automata from around the world and throughout time, including an Egyptian mummifying machine, an ancient Roman wine server, a 1950s robot, a Depression-era marionette theater and an insect lure from the Hudson Valley. The exhibit also includes schematics and pencil sketches.

The automatons are meant to evoke “creative machines people put together to entertain people, usually with a big box-attached mechanism,” Carbone says. “We’re not clockmakers, so instead we dip into the realm of fantasy. None of them actually move; we’re not engineers, so we just made that consistently the case.”

The self-described “creative duo,” who live in Putnam Valley, were inspired in particular by the clock that dominates Martin Scorsese’s film Hugo. They named their first automaton, “Solange,” after Phillips’ mother. “We started thinking we’d purchase all the parts, but soon we decided to make everything ourselves, from scratch,” says Phillips. “Our first idea was inspired by the Triangle Shirtwaist factory fire [in Greenwich Village in 1911], though we set it earlier in time — I went to FIT [the Fashion Institute of Technology] and was deeply involved in fashion. I came up with the idea them automatons or automata,” Carbone explains.

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Her body is a dryer vent with a glass cloche dome for a head. We used inverted test tubes for her eyes, filled with fairy lights to simulate a positronic brain. We found a Geiger counter gauge for her chest and old ceramic wire nuts and Bakelite dials for her body.

She is stamped with 1950s-style warnings made with a hand-operated label-maker. Her back is packed with 1950s electronic components and glass fuses. There is a simulated printout sticking out of her back featuring background radiation level measurements, soil composition and air-quality readings.

One of her arms has a vacuum to suck up fumes to analyze and the other arm was blasted off in an accident. We created the black dusty-looking explosion marks around the damaged arm using exhaust from a vintage convertible. She has various beakers filled with colored resin and glass syringes on her tray that sits on wheels. She took about two months to make.

The backstory is that she is a radiation detector supposedly built by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission that was used by scientists in Nevada to test soil and air from radioactive testing sites. She is on loan from the Atomic Heritage Foundation. Accompanying her are four printouts printed from the back of her body.
Ethan Cohen works with living artists, both established and emerging, from all over the world...including Beacon. He's also turned the old Beacon High School into Kube Art Center, an incubator for the next generation of artists.

I'm looking for artists who are vulnerable. Their works are their children, part of their DNA.

In most cases, the market for these offspring doesn't exist. Ethan will have to create it.

I don't do it just for commerce. I do it because I'm in search of what is novel.

During Covid, we had no idea if we still had a business. No one was buying. We put out an open call for our exhibition, 'Darkest Before Dawn.' Two hundred fifty artists applied. My co-curator, Raul Zamudio, and I decided that instead of limiting the show to fifty artists, we'd say yes to all of them--because in this moment of darkness, they all showed up. It gave me new energy to assess what I'm doing and why I'm doing it.

I want Africans to go to China, Chinese to go to Africa. I'm interested in mixing it up a bit.

Part of the job is educating, providing context and helping people see.

This Pende medicine mask inspired Picasso. It was hugely influential to Cubism. Without African art, we wouldn't have modern art.

When we bought the old school, my partner, Zhu Feng, and I didn't know exactly what we were getting into. Luckily, there was no asbestos. The building is so dynamic with studios, galleries, a church, and a basketball league.
In 1987, there was zero awareness in the West of contemporary Chinese art.

I opened the first gallery in the U.S. representing Chinese avant-garde art.

I was a little like a missionary trying to open people's eyes one by one.

Back then, I was unable to sell a work by Ai Weiwei for $1,800. Now it's worth $3 million.

Finally, the art world saw the light and Chinese art took off. Now Ethan's turning his eyes to African art and other parts of the world.

Look at the face. It's Nouchi--a child of the street. He was one of them.

This is by Abudia.

We're sponsors of BeaconArts and we're hosting an annual exhibit of local and international artists.

Both locals and globals were spotted at several BeaconArts/Kube events.

Both locals and globals were spotted at several BeaconArts/Kube events.

Ethan was there with a paintbrush.

I'm willing to learn and relearn.

The gallery is open on weekends: 11–5 in the winter, 12–6 in the summer.

To make an appointment or find events: www.ecfa.com
THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 29
Shredder Day
COLD SPRING
10 a.m. – 1 p.m. The Nest
44 Chestnut St.
coldspringslions.org/shredder

The Cold Spring Lions Club is sponsoring a paper-shredder truck for Philipstown residents and businesses. Remove paper clips and bindings and place material in the back or trunk of your vehicle. Donations welcome. Free

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
Used Book Sale
COLD SPRING
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040 butterfieldlibrary.org

Browse a selection of gently used books. The proceeds support library programs. Also SUN 30.

WED 3
Chair Yoga and Mindfulness
COLD SPRING
10:30 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040 butterfieldlibrary.org

Joelle Van Sickle will lead this all-levels class to promote strength and balance. Weekly through WED 24. Registration required.

THURS 4
Blood Drive
GARRISON
Noon – 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020 redcrossblood.org

Schedule a time online or drop in.

SAT 6
Household Hazardous Waste Collection
KENT
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Canopus Beach
Route 301 | 845-808-1390 x43125 putnamcountyny.com/health/recycle

Register to drop off chemicals, including cleaners, paint, pesticides and herbicides. See website for list.

SAT 6
Little Stony Point
PHILIPSTOWN
8:30 – 11:30 a.m. 3011 Route 9D riverkeeper.org/sweep

Join Boy Scout Troop 477 to clean up the park and riverfront area, plant native vegetation and remove invasive species. The cleanup is organized by the Animal Rescue Foundation. Proof of prior vaccinations required. Cost: $15 each

SAT 6
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
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.

SAT 6
Cherry Blossom Festival & Plant Sale
PEEKSKILL
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Peekskill Riverfront
bit.ly/peekskill-cherry-festival

The festival, sponsored by the Peekskill Rotary, will include games and activities for children, food and craft vendors, and raffles. Free

SAT 6
Plant Sale
BEACON
10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Common Ground Farm
Cross and Main commongroundfarm.org

The organic farm will have vegetable and herb starts to add to your garden.

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 29
REE-PLAY Sale
BEACON
9 a.m. – 4 p.m. University Settlement
724 Woicott Ave. | seepleaysale.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. All items 50 percent off today. Also, SUN 30, MON 1.

SAT 29
Children’s Literary Festival
COLD SPRING
3:30 – 5 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040 butterfieldlibrary.org

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

SAT 29
Peter Pan Jr.
GARRISON
7 p.m. Philipstown Rec Center
167 Glensheyle | 845-424-4618 philipstownny.myreg.com

The classic tale set in Neverland will feature performers from elementary through high school. Also SUN 30. Cost: $20 ($5 seniors and ages 4 to 11, free ages 3 and younger)

SAT 29
Interstellar Cinderella
BEACON
1 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988 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)

WED 3
Tambourine Craft
BEACON
4 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134 beaconlibrary.org

Children ages 4 through the fifth grade are invited to create a musical instrument to keep the beat. Registration required.

THURS 4
Design Your Own Tote Bag
BEACON
4 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134 beaconlibrary.org

Teens can express their style with a unique tote. Registration required.

SAT 6
Compass Arts Showcase
BEACON
12:30 – 6 p.m. The Yard
4 Hanna Lane | compassarts.org

Children and teens from the dance and theater programs will perform at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. The Beacon Rising Choir will sing at 5 p.m. There will also be an art gallery, food trucks and sensory play. Also SUN 7. Cost: $15 for one day, $25 for both ($5/$8 ages 5 to 12, $20 per day at door)

SUN 7
Kids’ Fishing Day
NELSONVILLE
8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Cold Spring Reservoir Fishkill Road
The Nelsonville Fish and Fur Club will host its 33rd annual event for children and teens ages 15 and younger. Free

SUN 7
Upcycled Art Making
GARRISON
1 – 3 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3960 garrisonartcenter.org

Candace Winter will lead children in an ecologically conscious workshop; their art will be displayed at the Youth Climate Summit at the Garrison School.

For more information, see highlandscurrent.org/calendar.
**TALKS & TOURS**

**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*. Donations welcome. Free

**SAT 6**  
**Tenant Rights**  
**BEACON**  
11 a.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
beaconlibrary.org  
The Hudson Valley Justice Center will lead this seminar to explain renter rights, including during eviction proceedings.

**SAT 6**  
**Front Row Seat to History**  
**BEACON**  
4 p.m. Reserva Wine Bar  
173 Main St. | beaconhistorical.org  
At this benefit for the Beacon Historical Society, Heidi Elswick, the White House News Photographers Association director, and Jon Elswick, an Associated Press photographer, will discuss what was discovered in the archives for the association's centennial, as well as the work of Harry Van Tine, the association's first president. Free

**NATURE & OUTDOORS**

**SAT 29**  
**Exploring Trees**  
**BEACON**  
11 a.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
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. Desmon-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
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

**THURS 4**  
**Microplastic Study**  
**BEACON**  
10 a.m. Water Ecology Center  
199 Dennings Ave.  
Help collect samples from Fishkill Creek for a research project on the impact of microplastics on freshwater ecosystems. RSVP to tsneider@clarkson.edu.

**VISUAL ARTS**

**SAT 29**  
**The Rivers**  
**GARRISON**  
1 - 3 p.m. Garrison Institute  
14 Mary’s Way | 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  
Works by dozens of artists will be on view at this exhibit by Creon.

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**How to Start a Pollinator Garden in a Small Space**  
**GARRISON**  
11 a.m. Desmon-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
desmondfishlibrary.org  
Master Gardeners will explain. Registration required.

**SAT 29**  
**Poetry in the Garden**  
**GARRISON**  
2 p.m. Desmon-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
desmondfishlibrary.org  
Iain Halley Pollock, Silvina López Medin and Lissa Kiernan will share their work.

**FRI 5**  
**Lit Lit**  
**BEACON**  
7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
howlandculturalcenter.org  
This monthly literary open mic features readers in all genres. Email litlitseries@gmail.com to sign up.

**FRI 5**  
**A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum**  
**WAPPINGERS FALLS**  
8 p.m. County Players Theater  
2681 W. Main St. | 845-298-1491  
countyplayers.org  
The Sondheim musical set in Rome follows a servant trying to make his way to freedom. Weekends through May 20. Cost: $20/$23 seniors, military, ages 12 and younger

**SAT 29**  
**Pete Seeger Festival**  
**WAPPINGERS FALLS**  
7:30 p.m. Desmon-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
desmondfishlibrary.org  
Iain Halley Pollock, Silvina López Medin and Lissa Kiernan will share their work.

**SUN 7**  
**Madagascar, The Musical**  
**WEST POINT**  
3 p.m. Eisenhower Hall Theatre  
655 Pitcher Road | 845-938-4159  
ikehall.com  
See the hit Dreamworks musical about animals from the Central Park Zoo who take an unexpected journey. Cost: $43

**SUN 7**  
**Frank and the Women of Oz**  
**PEEKSKILL**  
3 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
p Paramounthudsonvalley.com  
Marcy B. Freedman wrote and will perform this production that brings to life the women behind and beside L. Frank Baum, the author of *The Wizard of Oz* and other stories. Baum attended a military academy in Peekskill and later staged a performance in the city. Cost: $25

**MUSIC**

**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), Sancha Adams (viola) and Leo Grinhaus (cello). Cost: $20

(Continued on Page 16)
SAT 29
Southern RockFest
PEEKSKILL
7:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
A Brother’s Revival will recreate the experience of an Allman Brothers concert and share the stage with a Lynyrd Skynyrd cover band. Cost: $42 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 Gaie Stillman Band will open. Cost: $25 ($30 door)

SUN 30
Beattles Sing-A-Long
COLD SPRING
3 p.m. First Presbyterian | 50 Academy St.
The Dream Choir will perform and invite spectators to add their voices. Cost: $20 donation

SUN 30
The Music of Belief
BEACON
3 p.m. St. Joachim’s
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
4 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 in G minor and Sambeada, by Uruguayan-American composer Miguel del Aguila. Cost: $35 ($20 students ages 25 and younger)

FRI 5
Morgan O’Kane
COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.org
The banjo player will play music from his recent release, The One They Call The Wind, as part of the Restoration Roadhouse series. Cost: $25

FRI 5
The Selena Experience
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The tribute band will play hits of Cold Spring. Space includes reception area, seating area converts to guest bed. Board and superintendent will host “coffee and conversation” at 6 p.m.

FRI 5
Takashi Yoshimatsu, Efrain Amaya, Miguel del Aguila.
The folk rock band will play music from his recent release, They Call The Wind, as part of the Restoration Roadhouse series. Cost: $25

THURS 4
Ukulele Basics for Beginners
COLD SPRING
7:15 p.m. Ascend Center | 75 Main St.
bit.ly/ukulele-wine-time
Kathryn Selman will lead this four-week series. Cost: $235

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)

THURS 4
Old Bones Odyssey
BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandmusic.org
This album release show will include Ellen Kaye with Ethan Fein (guitar), Jackie Prieti (backing vocals), Diane Monroe (violin), Koa Ho (bass) and Andrew Drellis (reeds). Cost: $25 ($30 door)

SAT 6
Penelope Wendlandt
BEACON
7:30 p.m. Lotus Yoga | Cross & Main
bit.ly/penelope-beacon
LotusWorks Gallery will present this outdoor concert by the Broadway performer, including work from her upcoming album, inside armour. Cost: $15

SAT 6
Wings Unfurled
NEWBURGH
7:30 p.m. Mount Saint Mary College
330 Powell Ave.
845-913-7157 | newburghsymphony.org
The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra’s program at Aquinas Hall will include works by composers that capture birds in flight, including Respighi, Takashi Yoshimatsu, Elrann Amaya, Rautavaara and Tan Dun. Cost: $15 to $50 ($25 seniors, students free)

FRI 5
Tempest
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The folk rock band will play music influenced by global sounds. Cost: $20 ($25 door)

SAT 6
Le Vent du Nord
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The band from Quebec plays its own style of traditional francophone folk. Cost: $35 ($40 door)

SUN 7
Pete Seeger Fest
PUTNAM VALLEY
2 p.m.
Tomkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tomkinscorners.org
The performers at this seventh annual celebration of the folk singer’s music and life will include David and Jacob Berz, Betty and the Baby Boomers, the Neverlee

HELP WANTED
PACKAGING OPERATOR — Industrial Arts Brewing Company, 511 Fishkill Ave., Beacon, is seeking a packaging operator responsible for all facets of packaging operations, including keg cleaning, filling, can line operations, labeling and date coding, CIP, and quality assurance. Strong consideration will be given to candidates with previous canning experience but we are also open to training an ambitious new team member just getting into the industry. Email jobs@industrialartsbrewing.com.

FOR RENT
MEDICAL OFFICE — Busy plaza in the Village of Cold Spring. Space includes reception area, waiting room, 3 treatment rooms, storage, closets and a bathroom. All medical grade floors, extensive electric capacity. Available ASAP. Call 845-265-3030 or email dywine@optonline.net.

SERVICES
HEAT PUMP/MINI-SPLIT/ HVAC SPECIALIST — Royal Class Service of New Windsor offers master plumber supervised installations including heat pump, mini-split, HVAC and water heater equipment as well as air/water quality remediation. We are utility company recognized and certified by the NYS Clean Heat Program for heat pumps and related rebates. Contact Project Manager Mark Bruce, M.A. for a free, comprehensive heating/cooling load calculations and equipment estimate. Email mark@royalclassservice.com or call 845-569-1299.

WRAP UP THE YEAR SCHOOL WITH A SMILE — Coaching adds zip to writing and study skills. Local expert writing and study-skills coach — NYU MA, editor, writer, educator — offers a simple but effective 3-Step System for School Success. From middle-school through grad school — it works! Remote or in-person, flexible schedule. Email coach10516@gmail.com or call 914-443-4723.

VIRTUAL BOOKKEEPING SERVICES — Let me ensure that your financial records are accurate and up to date, while you concentrate on managing and growing your business! Quickbooks Online certified, A2X certified, accepting new clients. Services Offered: Monthly Bookkeeping, Book Cleanup, Payroll, Quickbooks Setup, Quickbooks Training, Accounts Payable/Receivable, 1099 Filing. Email jennifer@jbbookkeepingolutions.com or call 845-440-8835 for a free consultation.

CONCIERGE SERVICES — Also personal and admin assistance. Mature Columbia University alum available for hire. Attention seniors and busy, mobile professionals: Let me help you with your light-duty household chores, scheduling medical appointments, shopping, some cooking and driving, scheduling contractors, house-sitting, some pet care. Excellent references. Hourly rates. Open to discussing an exclusive live-on premises arrangement if the match and chemistry is right. Call Thomas at 914-621-2703. I look forward to speaking with you.

Robots (from Page 11)
of a robot that would save these women.
“We began by wandering around [the
crafts store] Michael's, choosing things. A
backstory emerged, which was integral to
wherever in the world she came from. We
realized we were free to do anything we
wanted, as we didn’t have to make them
move, though we always try to make it look
like they might.
“We took things from my mother’s sewing
kit and incorporated them. We also aged
her to match the time period — paint was a
key ingredient — and gave her weird-look-
ing hands. After we finished, we were ready
to do another, and quickly asked ourselves,
‘How about we do 12, to match a clock?’ ”

To gestate story and character, Phillips
created drawings and Carbone invented
personal histories, with distinct handwrit-
ging for each. Phillips, now retired, was a
graphic artist and illustrator in the adver-
sing, software and awards industries.
His expertise pairs up neatly with that of
Carbone, a former actor, singer/songwriter
and home-school parent who makes a
living as a copywriter and spent 20 years as
an academic tutor. She recently wrote and
performed a one-woman musical “dram-
edy” that celebrates her Hispanic roots.

Together they also write children’s books;
upstairs at the Howland Cultural Center is
a “story walk” with enlarged pages from
Progs and Weasel: A Sunday Drive.
In a mad scientist meets quirky artist/
writer/actor meet-up, once they started
with the automata, they kept going.
“As one was halfway done, we thought of
the next,” Phillips says. “One of the most
fun aspects was making things look like
they were actually from the time period
depicted, including hand-crafted barbed
wire, knobs and spoons morphing into any
number of things, while using everything
from an old Dymo label-maker to discarded
toys to create a surprising environment for
each sculpture.”
“We made them partly because we
love them, but also to share them,” says
Carbone. “The look of the Howland Center
is kismet — so beautiful and resonating
with history.”

The cultural center thinks so too — the
exhibit is up for a lengthy six-week stay.
Other ideas are already gestating: “We
have three new ones — well actually 20,”
Phillips says with a laugh. “One uses an
LED screen for a face.”

“Another is an astrologer’s assistant,”
Carbone pipes in.
The Howland Cultural Center is located
at 477 Main St. in Beacon. Imagination &
the Machine, which runs through May 28,
is open from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and
Sundays.

6 Tips for Building Believable Automaton
Scultures

By Sara Carbone and Roger Phillips

1. To age certain metals, soak them in vinegar, ammonia and lemon juice.
2. Invest in a good glue gun, as it is invaluable for accuracy and neatness.
3. For real-looking barnacles that simulate underwater living, spin hot glue from a glue gun on a piece of metal and dab it white when it dries.
4. Don’t be afraid to mess with your completed creations to create authenticity: burn, paint, scrape, smash and tear at will where needed.
5. Car engine oil makes a great aging agent for cloth, while tea bags and dried instant coffee crystals age paper quite nicely.
6. Always make sure to securely weld your completed creations to the neck before transporting it.
Did You Know...?

The State Office of Parks has given Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail the right to raise revenue by holding sponsored events and selling concessions throughout the trail’s 7.5 miles.

What will Dockside Park and Little Stony Point look like then?

Share your voice and learn more:

Community Meeting at Haldane May 8th at 7:00pm

ProtectTheHighlands.org
The Guys and Dolls are Here
After 15-year wait, musical arrives at Depot
By Alison Rooney

Guys and Dolls is that show you love to love. It’s so endearingly clever that it’s impossible to stay mad at it when it veers into retro takes on marriage, gambling and soul-saving. It is one of the few musicals that opened before 1960 to remain on the list of most-produced musicals.

After a long wait, Guys and Dolls arrives at the Philipstown Depot Theater for a three-weekend run beginning Friday (May 5). All 11 shows have sold out, although tickets remain for a May 21 benefit performance.

The popularity of the show brought in many actors who auditioned at the Depot for the first time. “They came out of nowhere — this cast just emerged; we got lucky,” says director Joe Levy, who has said he has wanted to bring the musical to the Garrison’s Landing venue since the last time he directed there, in 2007, with the comedy Beyond Therapy. His plans were delayed by a Broadway revival that made the rights unavailable and his work with companies such as The Public Theater and New York Theater Workshop, and venues like the Apollo Theater.

“I started as an actor, but was always drawn to the messy process of creating,” Levy says. “I gave up acting and gravitated to backstage and found I was just as happy with that life, in the art form I was most drawn to.”

Last year, as the pandemic began to taper, the Depot’s artistic director, Nancy Swann, approached Levy with an invitation: “We’re coming back. Do you want to jump into it?”

He did. “There’s an unbelievably talented enclave of people here, and Guys and Dolls is a wonderful showcase,” Levy says. “It’s a great old show. Yes, there’s sexism and other potentially offensive moments, but it’s not going out of its way to hurt anyone. We don’t want to lose any of the fun, the asides.”

Although many credit Damon Runyon with the book for the show, which originated with his short stories, he had died by the time production began. Instead, Abe Burrows and Jo Swerling used Runyon’s patter-spouting, richly drawn characters as their inspiration for re-creating a slice of Times Square life. The music, by Frank Loesser, captures the cadence of Runyon’s stories and contains familiar standards such as “Sit Down, You’re Rockin’ the Boat” and “Luck Be a Lady.”

What is contemporary to this production is gender-switching, which presented itself as an idea after auditions, Levy says. “We have two women playing male roles, and we talked a lot about pronouns and the ‘Am I a woman pretending to be a man?’ questions they can raise.

“Ultimately, we decided to ignore it, or we’d get stuck on it. I don’t want the audience to spend any time being ‘outside the inside’ of the production. The writing evokes vaudeville and grit, with intentionally campy and cheesy moments, all of which we want to play.”

In the spirit of snappily moving the 23-person cast along quickly, Levy is pushing for scene-change speed. “It’s easier to make the journey with us up and down with seamless transitions,” he says. “I want this train to leave the station and not stop until intermission, and do the same in the second act.”

The Cast

Christine Bokhour (choreography), Nathan Press (music direction), Chris Nowak (set design), Marissa Genna (costumes), David Aab (lighting), Ivy Heyt-Benjamin (stage manager)

The Philipstown Depot Theatre is located at 10 Garrison’s Landing. Tickets are still available for $175 each for a benefit performance at 2 p.m. on May 21; see philipstowndepottheatre.org.
Anthony Sexton (1942-2023)

Anthony E. Sexton, age 80, of Cold Spring, NY, died peacefully on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at New York Presbyterian/Hudson Valley Hospital in Cortlandt Manor. He was born on Oct. 5, 1942, in Manhattan, New York, the son of the late James and Theresa (O’Keefe) Sexton.

A graduate from Dewitt Clinton High School, Anthony enlisted in the Marine Corp. Prior to his honorable discharge from the armed forces, Anthony obtained the rank of Sergeant. His continued sense of duty led him to pursue a Police Science Degree at Baruch College and a career in law enforcement with the New York Police Department.

During his distinguished service, he was awarded three Meritorious Achievement Awards and Letters of Commendation for his efforts and excellent performance. While on duty, Anthony met the love of his life when she stopped him to ask for directions. They remained happily married until her passing in 2016. Upon his retirement with the New York Police Department, Anthony began a second career spanning 33 years with Consumer Reports, a nonprofit organization in Yonkers, NY.

Anthony was most proud of the time he spent serving his community. He held the position of quartermaster at the American Legion and was a former financial secretary of the North Highland Engine Company No. 1, life member of the Hudson Valley 10-14 Association, and former assistant leader of the Sons of the American Legion (1971-1974). He held these positions and memberships with the same sense of duty, integrity and honor in which he led his life.

Anthony had a profound devotion to his family, friends and community. His presence touched the lives of all he encountered. He will be remembered for his strength resilience, kindness, sense of humor and his commitment to his faith. Anthony was predeceased by his wife, Patricia Sexton, and brother, Robert Sexton. He is survived by his daughter, Kristina (Richard) Sexton, his son, Keith (Jennie) Sexton, all from Cold Spring; his brother, John (Kathy) Sexton of Wayne, NJ; Peter Sexton of Hopewell Junction, NY; Gerard (Rita) Sexton of Fishkill, NY and his sisters, Theresa (Tony) Petrucci of Harrington Park, NJ, and Geraldine (John) Vanderpool of Cohasset, MA. Four grandchildren, Thomas, Brian, Williams and Elizabeth, also survive. Friends called at the Clinton Funeral Home, corner of Parrott and Pine Streets. (21 Parrott St.) Cold Spring, NY on Monday (April 24). In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital (stjude.org). A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday (April 24) at St. Mary Mother of the Church in Fishkill, NY. Funeral arrangements are in the care of the Clinton Funeral Home, Cold Spring.

PARADE RETURNS — After a 16-year hiatus, the Hat Parade will return to Beacon, rain or shine, on May 7, with staging at 1 p.m. in the Churchill Street municipal parking lot, a sidewalk march up Main Street at 1:30 p.m., and judging at Dogwood at 2:30 p.m. Shown at left beside a former hat factory are organizers Ronnie Farley, Gail Wauford, Steve Blamires, Elizabeth Murphy, Jennifer Mackiewicz and Vibeke Saugestad. (Photo by Valerie Shively) The event, which celebrates Beacon’s history of hat manufacturing, last took place in 2007. In the inaugural parade, in 2006, Lisa Jessup showed off her flower-pot hat. (Photo by Linda Hubbard) For more photos from 2006, see highlandscurrent.org.

LANDFILL BUSTERS — A thrift sale on Earth Day (April 22) at St. Mary’s in Cold Spring raised more than $7,000 to benefit the Philipstown Food Pantry and the church’s historic building and grounds. For the first time, the sale included a mending station at which volunteers stitched up sweater holes, added hems and repaired three vestry robes for the church. Here, Yoko Hirano (top right) stacks shirts and Matthew Nachamkin (far left) arranges the jewelry section. The sale was organized by the church, the Philipstown Trails Committee and the Philipstown Climate Smart Coalition. (Photo by Dar Williams)
Mixing Art and Horticulture

By Pamela Doan

Of the things I appreciate most about public gardens is the programming that engages visitors more deeply with plants and nature. Here in Philipstown we have a treasure in Stonecrop, a public garden originally created by the founder of the Garden Conservancy, Frank Cabot, and his wife, Anne. After engaging Caroline Burgess, a graduate of the Royal Botanic Garden at Kew who is still director more than three decades later, the garden opened to the public in 1992.

Stonecrop blends art and writing seamlessly into its educational efforts. Even if you aren't interested in any of those things, it's one of the best places in the area to go for a walk, appreciate a scenic view and be surrounded by natural beauty. You might even see a snake! On my first visit more than a decade ago, I was nervous about that part, which was announced by a sign near the entrance. I did see “Blackie,” and watching the water snake swim in the pond was part of my journey to be less worried about snake encounters.

Stonecrop's features include an English-style flower garden, alpine plants, woodland and water gardens, with plants from all over the world, as well as native species. Take the guide when you arrive, because chances are you will see something that you want to know the name of so you can plant it at home.

Located on a high vista off Route 301 east of Cold Spring, the gardens are designed to showcase vantage points in all directions for grand views, using trees, plants and structures as framing. Guided tours offered throughout the season focus on specific areas. In May, tours of the woodland garden and another of alpine plants are opportunities to get more-in-depth knowledge from a staff horticulturist to inform your experience.

I was initially in over my head when I went on the guided tour of the systematic order beds years ago. These beds display the wild diversity of plants that are in the same order but different families. Back to science class: Taxonomy allows us to organize the natural world. The systematic approach brings together plants that share DNA.

There are surprises to be found here. For example, the saxifrages bed, which features species that hibernate underground, would include some peonies and also sedums and the woody plant witch hazel (Hamamelis). I would not have expected a connection here.

Stonecrop staff collect seeds from its plants and sell them to the public through the Index Seminarum, a searchable catalog at stonecrop.org. This tool has much longer than necessary because I couldn't resist sorting through the database. Barbara Lifis, a staff member, said that seeds can be ordered through the spring and that there are typically about 400 species available.

The new Gardener's Booth at Stonecrop has given the garden a modern facility with room for art exhibits, workshops and seed storage. An exhibit of botanical paintings by Susan Lanzano is on view and the artist will talk about her work at 2:30 p.m. on May 6.

I've found that sketching plants brings me deeper into connection with the basics of identification. It's a process of noting each plant's characteristics, such as a white line on the underside of a leaf or the pinkish cast of a bud. Close observation through artistic or writing exercises and photography reveal the traits necessary to see the fascinating details of flora and fungi.

After seeing Lanzano's exhibit, anyone wanting to go further can attend a workshop with Stonecrop's resident artist (and Garrison resident) Susan Sapanara, later in May. She will demonstrate drawing and painting exercises suitable for all experience levels.

In June, Anne Sargent Walker's paintings will take over the exhibition space. Larmkin will return in July to lead his popular nature photography class.

To get a similar educational and cultural immersion in a designed, natural space, I'd have to travel to the much larger New York Botanical Garden. I prefer our local resource.

Roots and Shoots

Susan Lanzano's botanical paintings are on view at Stonecrop.

Susan Lanzano's botanical paintings are on view at Stonecrop.
SPORTS

Roundup (from Page 24)
Scott Bunker and Charlie Klein is also undefeated.
Beacon hosts Washingtonville at 4:30 p.m. today (April 28) before a full schedule starting Monday with matches against Minisink Valley, Valley Central, Cornwall and Goshen.

TRACK & FIELD
At the Trotters Classic at Goshen High School on Saturday (April 22), Beacon’s Tom Rapp won in javelin (308-0), Damani DeLoach was first in the triple jump (43-9.5) and Henry Reinke won the 800 in 1:56.96, the second-best time in school history. For the girls, Bella Migliore placed fifth in the 800 in 2:32.01.

“We’re a small team this year, particularly on the girls’ side,” Coach Jim Henry said. “So we have difficulty with depth in team scoring. But we have a nice combination of talent and experience, and a few school records could be in jeopardy.”
Beacon heads to the Iron Dukes Relays in Marlboro today (April 28).

BOYS’ GOLF
Beacon improved to 2-4 with a road win over Fallsburg on Monday (April 24). Jack Philipbar led the Bulldogs with a 41, followed by Will Martin with 43 and Jamison Sheehy at 44.

NOTICE
The Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals will hold their regular monthly meeting on Monday, May 8th 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in person at the Philipstown Town Hall, Cold Spring, NY 10516
This meeting will also be livestreaming on youtube.com, search for Philipstown Zoning Board Meeting May 2023.

NOTICE
The Philipstown Conservation Board will hold their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 9th, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in person at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
This meeting will also be livestreaming on youtube.com, search for Philipstown Conservation Board Meeting May 2023.

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF THE TENTATIVE ASSESSMENT ROLL PURSUANT TO SECTION 506 AND 526 OF THE REAL PROPERTY LAW
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned assessor for the Town of Philipstown, County of Putnam has completed the tentative assessment roll for the current year. A copy will be available May 1, 2023 at the Office of the Town Clerk, Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY, where it may be examined by any person interested until May 23, 2023. On that day, the Board of Assessment Review will sit at the Town Hall, Cold Spring, NY between the hours of 4PM - 8PM to hear and examine all complaints in relation to such assessments.

The Real Property Tax Law requires that all grievances be in writing. Forms for written submission are available in the Assessor’s Office, Town Hall, Cold Spring, NY.
Dated this 20th day of April 2023
Brian Kenney, Assessor

NEW CAPTAIN — Garrison resident Fionnoula O’Reilly (left), a senior at Kennedy Catholic in Somers, was named co-captain of its girls’ lacrosse team. The Gaels are 6-3.

Photo provided

FRI
2:30-6:30
SAT
11-6
SUN
12-4
THE BOUTIQUE at
CHESTNUT STREET
COLD SPRING
(845) 666-7377

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Connection II
Levi Zevia Marrella
April 8th through the 30th 2023
Buster Levi Gallery
Gallery Hours: Sat. & Sun. 12pm to 5pm
BUSTER LEVI GALLERY.COM

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4/11/23 10:45 AM

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The Highlands Current
Support our nonprofit. Become a member!
Puzzles

CrossCurrent

A C R O S S
1. Chanteuse Edith
5. Links org.
8. Too
12. Kotb of Today
13. Filch
14. 500 sheets
15. Rat—
16. Eternally
18. Large gong
20. Try to hear better, maybe
21. Author Bagnold
23. Nabokov novel
24. Symbol of stability
28. La Scala solo
31. —, tai (cocktail)
32. Van Gogh venue
34. Mafia boss
35. Hostels
37. Vespers
39. Secret agent
41. Ms. Brockovich
42. Ceremony
45. Slanted type
49. The whole crowd
51. Actress Fisher
52. Lure
53. Some coll. degrees
54. Hideaway
55. Curry and Landers
56. “Game, —, match!”

D O W N
1. Excellent, in slang
2. Speck
3. Leading man?
4. Plump up
5. Opening night
6. State VIP
7. Genesis shepherd
8. Fleet
9. “Mona Lisa” painter
10. Rani’s wrap
11. Portent
17. Stephen of “Still Crazy”
19. “Puppy Love” singer
22. Look (into)
24. Brit. record label
25. Moving vehicle
26. Genius
27. Most skeptical
29. Charged bit
30. Life of Pi director
32. Van Gogh venue
33. Tizzy
34. Mafia boss
35. Hostels
36. Gushes forth

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.

C L U E S
1. Turning in (8)
2. Traveling musicians (11)
3. Making more tidy (9)
4. Movie category (5)
5. Straightened (8)
6. Items thrown by Olympians (8)
7. Giving the impression (10)

SudoCurrent

Answers for April 21 Puzzles

For interactive sudoku and crossword answers, see highlandscurrent.org/puzzles.
## GIRLS’ LACROSSE

Haldane won a 12-11 thriller over Putnam Valley at home on April 20, with Kayla Ruggiero leading the attack with four goals and an assist.

Mairead O’Hara delivered the game-winner with 50 seconds remaining. The Blue Devils played the final seven minutes down two players because of penalty cards.

O’Hara finished with a pair of scores and three assists, and Caroline Nelson and Ellen O’Hara each scored twice. Marisa Peters had a goal and an assist, and Samantha Thomas had a goal. Goalie Lola Mahoney stopped eight shots.

Moretta Pezzullo and Josie Foley-Hedlund provided stellar defense, said Coach Keri Dempsey.

The Blue Devils had a tougher time on the road, falling to Sleepy Hollow, Mahopac and Arlington.

In a 15-11 loss at Sleepy Hollow on April 22, O’Hara scored four times and Sami Thomas had a hat trick. At Mahopac on Monday (April 24), the Blue Devils fell, 15-3, with goals by Amanda Johanson, Carmela Cofini and Samantha Thomas.

Haldane lost, 14-5, at Arlington on Wednesday; Mairead O’Hara scored twice and Ruggiero, Peters and Ellen O’Hara each had a goal.

Haldane (3-4) hosted Blind Brook on Thursday (April 27) and will visit Valhalla and Rye Neck before returning home to face Dobbs Ferry at 5 p.m. on Wednesday.

## BASEBALL

Haldane pitcher Julian Ambrose threw a no-hitter, striking out seven with one walk, on Monday (April 24) in a 12-0 victory over Alexander Hamilton at Heritage Financial Park (Dutchess Stadium).

“It was really great to see Julian achieve that,” said Coach Simon Dudar. “He’s been our ace for a few years, despite missing a lot of time because of injuries. This is the first season he’s been able to show off what he can do. It was even better that he got to do it at the stadium, under the lights in front of a lot of our fans.”

John Kisslinger also had a huge night, going 2-for-2 with two home runs and five RBI. “Jordon Hankel stopped 12 shots on goal,” Dudar said.

Trajan McCarthy went 2-for-2 with two RBI, and Jeremy Hall, Jake Hotaling, Roy Smith and Hunter Erickson all had strong games, according to Dudar.

On Tuesday, Haldane defeated Poughkeepsie, 9-2, at Mayor’s Park in Cold Spring, with Hotaling going three innings and Dan Nakabayashi following with two innings of no-hit relief. Erickson pitched an inning and Dylan Horen finished. Kisslinger went 3-for-4 with an RBI, McCarthy was 2-for-3 with two RBI, Milo Pearsall had a triple and two RBI and Ryan Eng-Wong was 2-for-4 with an RBI.

Haldane (7-5) hosted North Salem on Thursday (April 27) and will host Croton-Harmon today (April 28) at 11 a.m. The Blue Devils travel to Putnam Valley on Monday and host Pawling at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

## BOYS’ LACROSSE

Haldane defeated Hicksville, 16-11, on Saturday (April 22) and Irvington, 12-0, at home on Tuesday.

Against Hicksville, Liam Gaugler had three goals and four assists, and passed 100 career points. Evan Giachinta had five goals, Fallou Faye had two and Frankie DiGiglio, Ryan Van Tassel and Brandt Robbins each had one. Jordon Hankel stopped 12 shots on goal.

Haldane (8-2) traveled to Croton-Harmon on Thursday. It takes on Chenango Forks at West Point on Saturday at 11 a.m., and hosts Pawling at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

## BOYS’ TENNIS

Beacon continued its strong play with a 7-0 win over Monticello on Thursday, improving to 6-0.

In singles this season, the Bulldogs have been led by Matthew Sandison, Frank Zezza, Danny Barry and Beckett Anderson, who is 9-0. The first doubles team of