



Here!
The British Are Coming!
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The HIGHLANDS Current

APRIL 5, 2024

NYPA Newspaper of the Year

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Jacobson Levenberg Rolison

Should This Be a Law?

Bills focus on senior buses, college aid, housing

By Leonard Sparks

Gov. Kathy Hochul has already signed two bills introduced this legislative session by Jonathan Jacobson, a Democrat whose Assembly district includes Beacon.

One prohibits Central Hudson and other utility companies from charging customers for electric and gas services older than three billing periods. The other clarifies that requirements for supplemental uninsured and underinsured auto insurance apply to police vehicles “principally garaged and used” in New York state and do not apply to self-insurance policies.

Those bills are among the proposals introduced during this year’s session of the state Legislature by Jacobson and two other local lawmakers: state Sen. Rob Rolison, a Republican whose district includes the Highlands, and Assembly Member Dana Levenberg, a Democrat whose district includes Philipstown.

During the current two-year term, which began on Jan. 4, 2023, Rolison has introduced 52 bills; Levenberg, 40 and Jacobson, 71. Here are some of the lawmakers’ newer bills, which may or may not be passed before the Legislature ends its session on June 6.

Rolison

S8460: Creates a grant program in the Office for the Aging to allow municipalities to apply for up to \$100,000 to purchase Americans with Disabilities Act-accessible buses to transport seniors.
↳ **Status:** Assigned to Finance Committee

S8387: Requires the Comptroller’s Office to study the feasibility of automatically returning unclaimed funds, as some states do. New York holds \$18.4 billion in funds deposited with the state after the person, estate or business could not be located. To retrieve
(Continued on Page 9)

Beacon Council Backs Arts-Based Rehab

City will submit application for state funding

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon City Council unanimously agreed on Monday (April 1) to support an application for state grant funding for GarageWORKS, an artists’ studio and gallery that will be constructed at 3-5 Henry St., formerly an auto repair shop.

Beacon artist Michael Braden purchased the one-story building, which was

constructed in the early 1940s, in February 2023 for \$825,000. He plans to convert the one-time Studebaker showroom into a carbon-neutral, solar-powered studio for himself and three other artists. It will also function as a gallery for exhibits and a venue for public events, including for students, he said.

Braden has received a \$2 million grant from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and will now ask the state for \$1.5 million through its Restore New York program, which in

its latest round of funding will invest \$60 million in municipalities’ efforts to rehabilitate and restore blighted structures.

The asbestos-filled roof on the building will be replaced with a photovoltaic energy system; hot water will be supplied by solar power; and contaminants left over from decades of automotive uses will be remediated, Braden said. The deteriorated sidewalks surrounding the building will be repaired, with street trees and landscaping added. Once restored, the property will remain on the city’s tax roll.

(Continued on Page 15)



SEARCH PARTY – Children in the Highlands had a few places to hunt for eggs over the Easter weekend, including at St. Philip’s Church in Garrison on March 31 (shown here) and at Tots Park in Cold Spring on March 30, where the Knights of Columbus hid 2,000 eggs, some with prizes. Participants were invited to bring a donation to the Philipstown Food Pantry. *Photo by Ross Corsair*

Butterfly Group Takes Flight

Westchester-Putnam chapter holds first meeting

By Michael Turton

Charlie Roberto says he lost track of his age after he turned 60; he’s counting again, but now it’s butterflies.

Roberto, who grew up in Mahopac and

lives in Croton-on-Hudson, is a true conservationist. He advises the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society and has participated in its annual Christmas bird count since the 1980s. He also advises the Saw Mill River chapter of the National Audubon Society, Fahnestock State Park and Croton Point Park, and serves on the board of Teatown

(Continued on Page 16)



Common Swallowtail *Photo by Charlie Roberto*

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: JAMIE MULLIGAN

By Alison Rooney

Jamie Mulligan is producing and directing *The Beacon Monologues*, which will take place at the Howland Cultural Center on April 12.

What are *The Beacon Monologues*?

I asked 10 writers who live in Beacon, including one born here and others who arrived pre-gentrification, to write a monologue of seven to 10 minutes on some aspect of the city. It could be the mountain, the dummy light, Old Beacon versus New Beacon, a historical figure or any other facet. I started by calling all the theater people, asking if they'd be interested. About 15 writers and 13 actors, the youngest of whom is 28 and the oldest in their late 60s, expressed interest. I chose 10 in January and asked them to complete a monologue by the end of February. We're rehearsing the monologues separately and will combine at the dress rehearsal. We're doing it all in my kitchen.

What brought you to Beacon?

My wife's parents have a place in Cornwall, and we were married in their backyard. We were looking for a place to hold the rehearsal dinner and came to Beacon, where we found Homespun Foods, which we thought was amazing. We thought



Beacon was amazing, too. We've been here for five years after living in New York City, San Francisco and London. In San Francisco I did every job in theater: production manager, technical director, everything but act. We moved back to New York City so our kids could be closer to family; I thought I needed a "real job," so I spent 12 years in the software industry. We kept thinking, "Maybe Beacon, someday." When jobs became remote, we were able to move.

What sparked the monologue idea?

Our first full years in Beacon were pandemic years, so meeting people happened largely before and after. I was finding pockets of

theater people, but I wanted to pull together as many people as possible to solidify, unify and bolster a larger community. The idea occurred to me in mid-2023; I went to theater events, gauging the enthusiasm. There seemed to be interest, so I proposed it to the cultural center.

What are you hoping people take from the project?

I wanted to bring a community together, spark real-life and challenging conversations, learn more about this place we love and begin building a robust discussion about our city beyond the usual chatter on Facebook pages. I'm hoping the project will be the first of a series, so we're laying a foundation. It's about how we move forward with a shared understanding of the space in which we cohabitate. Many communities are divided through social media and the bubbles people live in. I want us to know our neighbors, to love and respect them. "Community theater" may have a pejorative connotation, but it can strengthen local relationships.

Are we capable, amid the national rancor?

For my own mental health, I hope we are capable of conversations about things that divide us. I remain hopeful and committed to elevating the conversation.

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

If you could be a bird for a day, what would you be?

"A crow. We had one as a pet when I was a kid; they're cool."



Larry Wisbeski, Cold Spring

"An owl. They're gorgeous, quiet, observant."



Gerda Bruzaite, Beacon

"A crow. They're smart, like monkeys with wings."



Elias Kelly, Cold Spring

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GENERATIONS



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NEWS BRIEFS

Dutchess County Begins Rail-Trail Study

Residents encouraged to complete survey

Dutchess County has launched a survey as part of its study to determine the feasibility of constructing a 13-mile trail along a dormant rail line running from the Beacon waterfront to Hopewell Junction.

The county's Transportation Council will develop design concepts for public review and feedback; a final report, expected in 2025, will include a recommended trail concept with cost estimates. The survey is online at bit.ly/rail-trail-survey.

Missing Garrison Man Found Dead

Colin Marma last seen on Feb. 2

The body of a missing Garrison man was found in the Atlantic Ocean on March 27 off the coast of Rockaway Beach in Queens.

Colin Marma, 26, who had schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, was last seen in Philipstown on Feb. 2 at his job. His vehicle was located soon after his disappearance at 143rd Street and Broadway in Manhattan.



Marma

His body was found by a passerby around 9 a.m., his mother, Jeanne-Marie Fleming, told *The Journal News*. He had been living with his family for the past four years.

Every weekend since he disappeared, family members and friends canvassed Manhattan with flyers, and Fleming created a website at findingcolin.com. She thanked Hope Alive 845 for its assistance.

According to an obituary posted by McHoul Funeral Home, Marma graduated from Arlington High School before attending SUNY Oneonta. He had a passion for nature and the outdoors and was a hiker and snowboarder. He loved listening to and creating music. "He was a deep thinker and an astute observer of human nature who appreciated life's blessings, especially family and friends," it said.

Beacon School Board Approves Ballot Proposals

Measures would fund capital project, electric buses

The Beacon school board on March 18 approved adding two proposals to the May 21 ballot in which voters will also be asked to approve the 2024-25 budget and elect three board members.

The first, a \$49.5 million capital proposal, would fund dozens of improvements at Beacon's six public schools. It would also trigger a property tax increase for district

residents; by the district's estimate, a home assessed at \$400,000 would see an annual increase of about \$170.

If approved, the work would be completed during the summers of 2026, 2027 and 2028. Superintendent Matt Landahl will hold in-person and virtual community meetings this month to answer questions.

The second proposal asks voters to allow the district to spend \$990,000 to purchase two electric school buses and chargers, although it expects to receive at least \$400,000 in state or federal grants to offset the cost. Voters approved a proposal in May 2023 to spend up to \$466,000 on a single electric bus as long as the district received \$250,000 in grants. That did not happen, so the proposal will again be on the ballot.

Biden, Trump Win Presidential Primaries

Both candidates have locked up nominations

President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump on Tuesday (April 2) won the New York primaries for the 2024 presidential race.

Biden received 91 percent of the vote in the Democratic primary (including 93 percent in Putnam and Dutchess) and Trump received 82 percent in the Republican primary (including 87 percent in Putnam and 84 percent in Dutchess).

In the Democratic primary, Marianne Williamson received 5 percent of the vote and Dean Phillips received 4 percent. Both earlier dropped out of the race.

In the Republican primary, Nikki Haley received 16 percent of the vote (including 8 percent in Putnam and 12 percent in Dutchess), while Chris Christie received 6 percent and Vivek Ramaswamy, 2 percent. All three earlier dropped out of the race.

Only registered members of each party could vote. The turnout was about 5 percent.

Putnam County Names EMS Director

Bob Cuomo returns to position

Bob Cuomo recently began his second stint as Putnam County's director of emergency medical services.

Cuomo held the position for 11 years, from 1997 to 2018. He began his career as an EMT and paramedic in 1978 and was most recently an instructor at Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES and Empress EMS.

Cuomo is responsible for county EMS agencies, education programs and training.



Cuomo

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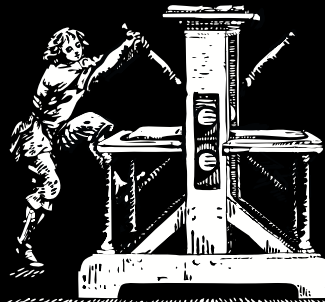
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NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR (2021, 2022)

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* New York News Publishers Association, 2017 - 22

Tell us what you think

The Current welcomes letters to the editor on its coverage and local issues. Submissions are selected by the editor (including from comments posted to our social media pages) to provide a variety of opinions and voices, and all are subject to editing for accuracy, clarity and length, and to remove personal attacks. Letters may be emailed to editor@highlandscurrent.org or mailed to The Highlands Current, 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. The writer's full name, village or city, and email or phone number must be included, but only the name and village or city will be published. For our complete editorial policies, see highlandscurrent.org/editorial-standards.

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Fjord Trail survey

Most of the support for a Dockside to Little Stony Point section of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail was from the 80 percent of survey respondents who live east of the tracks, including everyone on Fair Street ("Fjord Trail Releases Survey Results," March 29). I haven't met anyone west of the tracks who wants it. Why do you suppose that is?

Derek Graham, *Cold Spring*

Many of us didn't participate in the survey because of the inherent slant of the questions. Many who did wrote extensive comments, which are not being published.

Susan Peehl, *Cold Spring*

To those concerned with the integrity of our survey, HHFT published every comment submitted in the 66 responses. We also kept comments from a respondent who did not provide an address but instead wrote "Fair Street." This respondent did not look upon the project favorably. The only comments not included were those that came from two Morris Avenue households.

There is an assumption that the majority of the support for the Community Bypass Trail/Shoreline Trail South (Dockside Park to Little Stony Point) comes from residents on Fair Street, but the survey results show there is ample support from both east and

west of the tracks.

We have added the comparison at qrco.de/neighborhood-survey. We look forward to continuing to listen to the broad spectrum of views and working together to get it right.

Rebeca Ramirez, *Cold Spring*
Ramirez is the community and visitor relations manager for the HHFT.

Imagine if we let every developer create their own survey — where they control the questions, the data, the sample size and the results — and it got covered prominently in *The Current*. Maybe we should just put the trail up for a referendum?

Michael Bowman, *via Facebook*

Vet theater

This is fantastic news ("Vet Theater Coming to Beacon," March 29). I attended the launch party for the Veterans Repertory Theater a few years ago. It is a wonderful group of theater practitioners, with a fascinating history of military service. I'm so pleased for everyone involved.

Natalie Arneson, *via Facebook*

Beacon ribbons

The Beacon City Council cares enough about the war in Gaza that it spends hours over a resolution but doesn't seem to care about mental health ("Mental Health

Ribbons Meet Resistance," March 29). There sure are plenty who need to seek it.

Patrick O'Dell, *via Instagram*

The city can't empty overflowing garbage cans on the weekends but draws the line at ribbons?

Melissa Nastasi, *via Facebook*

Stickers on lamp posts are a signature issue? Not gentrification, poor infrastructure, pollution or proper economic development?

Paul Yeaple, *via Instagram*

Sylvan Pond

As one of the many people whose house would be flooded if the dam breached, I can't wait for the pond to be drained or the dam fixed ("Putnam to Drain Sylvan Pond," March 29).

Valerie Cortalano, *via Facebook*

Cease-fire

After seeing the Beacon City Council's mishandling of the Israel-Gaza resolution, I want to commend Poughkeepsie's elected officials for displaying true leadership and opting not to allow an irrelevant agenda to derail them from doing the work of the people who elected them ("Poughkeepsie: Council Rejects Cease-fire Resolution," March 29).

As in Beacon, activists who neither live nor vote in the district came to express their views on foreign policy. Poughkeepsie's leadership maintained control of the room, set clear rules on public comment, stuck with those rules rather than changing them under pressure and did not succumb to the naivete or hubris (take your pick) that might lead part-time local legislators to think they might find the language to satisfy all parties on the most intractable foreign policy issue of the last 70-plus years.

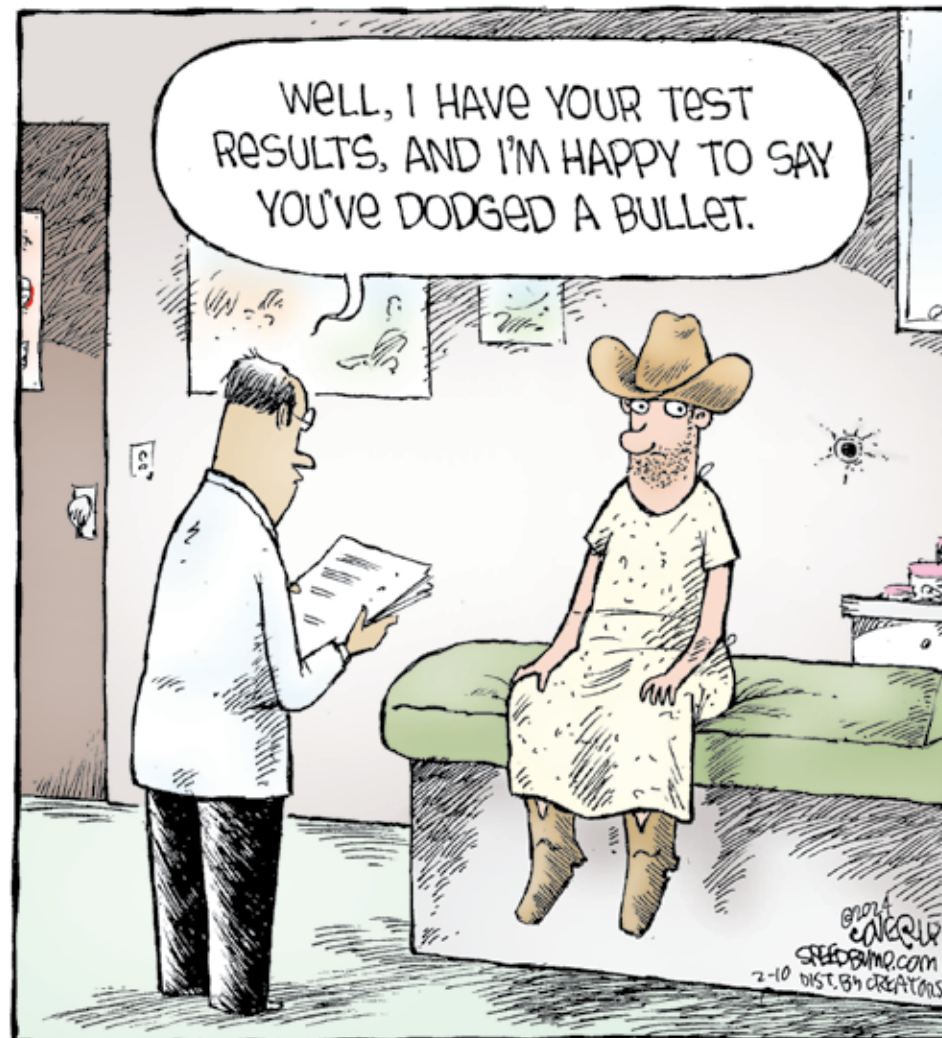
As activists continue to push these resolutions on legislators in towns and cities across the region and country, here's hoping more follow the example of cities like Poughkeepsie and fewer follow the examples of cities like Beacon and Newburgh.

Steve Jacobs, *Beacon*

Jacobs is co-founder of the Hudson Valley Lasting Peace Coalition.

Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou referred to the "silliness" that occurred during the March 4 City Council meeting [in which people commented for 3½ hours on the war in Gaza]. Gaza is a real, world-peace issue. Beacon is a real city. It must be able to handle protests attended by outsiders. Time limits on comments are fair; unplug the mic no matter where the person is from. But the March on Washington [in 1963] would not have been very impressive if only residents of the District of Columbia had attended.

Anita Peltonen, *Cold Spring*



Kyriacou: Beacon Again in 'Excellent' Condition

Mayor delivers second State of the City address

By Jeff Simms

Using the same adjective he did a year ago, Mayor Lee Kyriacou said during his State of the City address on Monday (April 1) that Beacon is in "excellent" shape.

"Beacon has made a spectacular transformation in the 30-plus years since I joined the City Council in 1993 — from a down-and-out factory town with a largely boarded-up Main Street, into a rejuvenated small city with a thriving Main Street, preserved history and natural beauty," Kyriacou said in his second annual address, calling the Beacon of 2024 "the envy of the Hudson Valley."

He attributed the transformation to "rethinking the city's direction, thoughtful zoning and other changes documented in our comprehensive plan, and decades of gradual change led by those who love and serve this city."

As in 2023, Kyriacou discussed six elements of Beacon's success during his 30-minute presentation.

Financial stability

The mayor said he considered the city's 10-year sales tax-sharing agreement with Dutchess County, which he negotiated in 2022, a watershed. The city last year received \$5.8 million from the county, a \$1.2 million increase over 2022. That number could exceed \$6 million this year. He said the additional revenue allowed the city to set its property tax rates — for both residential and commercial parcels — at their lowest level since 2010.

Kyriacou also discussed the influx of new construction in Beacon, which added \$27 million in 2023 to the tax base and more than \$100 million over three years. That has allowed the city to keep tax increases below the mandated state cap and, in recent years, below the rate of inflation, he said.

Public safety

The largest public safety initiative of recent years is the ongoing construction of a \$14.7 million, centralized fire station, a project that Kyriacou said he would not have supported without the Dutchess tax agreement.

The all-electric, energy-efficient station is on schedule and should be finished by late summer, he said. While the city will need to borrow money to pay for the project, its financial stability allowed it to secure better interest rates, and the mayor said Beacon has saved in recent years to mitigate the cost. Renovating an existing station also reduced costs. "I can assure you we've got this figured out," Kyriacou said.

Like most municipalities, Beacon has a shortage of volunteer firefighters and emergency responders. As a result, it had to increase the number of paid, or "career," firefighters and in 2023 hired a private company for the first time to provide advanced life support ambulance service.

"That's probably going to be an ongoing commitment and one that we're going to have to figure out how to cover," Kyriacou said. "We will do it in a way that's gradual to make sure that we figure out how to fund this."

Infrastructure

"Beacon's infrastructure is in the best shape it has been in in a long time," Kyriacou said, noting that \$40 million in road, sidewalk, water and wastewater projects are underway or will begin in 2024. The most expensive will be the \$8.8 million rebuilding of Route 52 (Fishkill/Teller avenues). The project, which will be nearly entirely funded by state and federal money, should begin this year.

The city also continues its investment in drinking water and wastewater systems, including settling tanks and a dewatering system and pump station for wastewater treatment, he said. It has finished updates to the Pocket Road and Mount Beacon dams and is awaiting state approval to begin work on the Melzingah Dam.



Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou

File photo by Valerie Shively

The mayor poked fun at the Main Street dummy light, which has been hit and repaired several times recently. "We're trying out new striping and hoping to steer vehicles clear of it," he said. "I'm not holding my breath."

Quality of life

Kyriacou summarized some of the "quick wins" achieved by following the recommendations of the Main Street Access Committee — better signage, side-street stop signs, safer pedestrian crossings and "bump-outs" that slow traffic on Main Street. The committee also suggested restriping some municipal lots and side streets to create more parking spaces near Main.

Kyriacou said that since his election in 2019, the Recreation Department budget had doubled to more than \$1 million. The department in 2024 saw a record 17 percent funding increase, enabling the city to add staff and expand its afterschool and summer camp programs, he noted.

In 2023, improvements were made at Memorial and Green Street parks. In 2024, the Wee Play Tot Park in Memorial Park is being rebuilt and South Avenue Park will be renovated with resurfaced tennis and basketball courts and new restrooms.

Climate

Beacon is a silver-certified Climate Smart Community, one of only two cities to achieve the state's highest accreditation. (The other is Kingston.) "For us to be truly climate-smart, we have to prioritize what matters most and find ways to achieve those goals over time without overburdening taxpayers," Kyriacou said.

All city buildings run on renewable electricity, the bulk of which is produced at its solar farm near the Transfer Station, with the remainder supplied through the purchase of renewable energy credits. A planned solar array atop the Highway Garage on Camp Beacon Road will boost those numbers, he said.

The city also expanded its municipal composting program in 2023, diverting more than 100,000 pounds of food scraps from the waste stream.

Government

Kyriacou praised City Administrator Chris White, as well as the outside legal, planning and engineering firms used by the city. He noted the hires in 2022 and 2023 of a new fire chief, city clerk and building inspector, and applauded Sara Morris, the human resources director, for her work in professionalizing the workforce.

"Residents, taxpayers and employees deserve a professionally run city, one that uses taxpayers' funds effectively, empowers department managers and develops our employees," the mayor said.

NOTICE

Philipstown Planning Board

Site Visit-
Sunday, April 7th, 2024

The Philipstown Planning Board will meet on Sunday, April 7th, 2024 at 9:30am to inspect the following site:

Mace/Carvill, 429 Sprout Brook Rd. Garrison, NY 10524, TM#83.13-1-31

“Beacon has made a spectacular transformation in the 30-plus years since I joined the City Council in 1993 — from a down-and-out factory town with a largely boarded-up Main Street, into a rejuvenated small city with a thriving Main Street. ~ Mayor Lee Kyriacou

APRIL 13 | 3:00p at Desmond-Fish Library

Bats of New York

With NYSDEC wildlife biologist Ashley Meyer
Registration: desmondfishlibrary.org/events/

APRIL 20 | 7:30a at Little Stony Point

April Bird Walk

With expert leaders from Audubon. Beginners welcome.
Registration: putnamhighlandsaudubon.org



The Mayor on the Budget

Cold Spring faces challenges from storms, tourism

By Michael Turton

The *Current* this week asked Cold Spring Mayor Kathleen Foley to comment on issues the Village Board faced in drafting a fiscal plan for 2024-25.

The tentative budget includes a 3.9 percent increase in the property tax levy and \$3,017,344 in spending from the general fund, which covers most services, such as police, garbage collection and street maintenance, along with administration, parks, legal fees and wages. A public hearing is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Wednesday (April 10).

Foley's responses, which she provided by email, have been lightly edited for space.

What were the biggest challenges for the board when drafting the budget?

Repeated, expensive storm responses; extensive engineering needs and urgent infrastructure projects; a limited ability to increase staff despite ever-increasing workloads; and constantly rising costs for materials and services, such as those related to tourism.

These challenges are compounded by having

few revenue streams. Putnam County is determined not to share sales tax. It markets Cold Spring as a destination but makes almost no contribution to tourism costs. As a result, the trustees must reduce the burden on village taxpayers by collecting revenue from visitors in other ways, such as parking meters, Seastreak docking fees and the occupancy tax [on hotel rooms and short-term rentals].

The revenue from metered parking and Seastreak appears to be less than anticipated in 2023-24.

How did you approach estimating revenue for 2024-25?

Actually, we estimated \$28,000 in revenue from Seastreak and billed [but have not yet received] \$37,488, despite Seastreak's curtailed schedule and poor weather in the fall. And instituting a cancellation fee last year gave us insulation in that budget line.

The lower revenue for parking was a result of the board's underestimation of the timeline to implement the plan. The local enabling legislation modifications had to pass a public process, and the practical elements had to move forward in tandem, such as installing signs and meters, issuing resident permits, onboarding payment and ticketing technology and training staff in multiple departments.

As we finalize the 2024-25 budget, resident permits are in place and meters are becoming operational; Seastreak negotiations are in process. We expect to hit our revenue targets more closely this fiscal year.

Aging infrastructure is an ongoing issue. What are the priorities for 2024-25, and how will they be funded?

Our administration is clear-eyed about what must be done to protect life, safety, residential neighborhoods and our local economy: Face climate collapse head-on, engineer properly and build for resiliency.

The failed culverts on Fair Street are the immediate priority — they are linchpins for other system upgrades. The Fair Street work, estimated at \$1.5 million, will likely begin in late fall; it is under review by the Federal Highway Administration for a grant from its Emergency Relief Fund. If approved, FHWA would fund 80 percent. Fund balance will be

used for some of our 20 percent share, and we will likely need to borrow.

The overarching infrastructure spending priority for this budget is project engineering and, in particular, a hydrologic and hydraulic study. These studies create roadmaps for solving problems across a watershed's catchment area, holistically. Cold Spring has never undertaken this fundamental study.

Continued dam repair engineering is in the budget, as well. We are pursuing grants for the planning and construction phases of all major infrastructure work.

Occupancy tax revenue is included in the budget, but none is projected for short-term rental permit fees. Do you anticipate no revenue from STRs?

We have drafted the required local legislation to enable occupancy-tax collection and will bring it to a public hearing and adoption early in the fiscal year. We will begin with collection from hotels and bed-and-breakfasts — the most easily collected portion. Revisions to the short-term rental law are needed before a public hearing and adoption and enforcement of permits and implementation of the tax. Other legislative needs took priority in 2023-24. We hope to realize revenues from STR permits and taxes during this budget year, but we want to be realistic about timelines and conservative in income estimates.

In the three most recent budgets, the tax levy was less than the maximum allowed by the state. The 2024-25 budget relies on the maximum 3.9 percent. What changed?

Although we are levying the full 3.9 percent, the budget [increase] is still within the cap of 2 percent — we are meeting our mandate to limit annual increases. We are levying the full amount because the mortgage tax income, which saw a bump during COVID, has fallen back to pre-pandemic amounts. Also, the development of the Butterfield site added growth to the tax base for several budget cycles; that bump is tailing off. At the same time, we must meet burgeoning operating expenses for services and the increased urgency of infrastructure repairs. In short, the village must use the full levy to offset expenses and balance the budget while staying within the 2 percent cap.

Highlights from the 2024-25 Budget

Projected Revenues: \$3,017,344

→ Property taxes:	\$1,942,168
→ Parking meters:	\$291,944
→ State aid:	\$200,200
→ Fines/forfeited bail:	\$92,400
→ Permits (inc. Seastreak):	\$41,156
→ Occupancy tax:	\$31,056
→ Fire protection*:	\$55,796
→ Fire protection**:	\$34,188
→ Mortgage tax:	\$26,000
→ Interest:	\$25,000
→ Parking permits:	\$11,000

* Philipstown ** Nelsonville

Projected Spending: \$3,017,344

→ Employee benefits:	\$561,095
→ Police:	\$507,423
→ Shared services:	\$321,316
→ Highway:	\$315,362
→ Garbage collection:	\$273,056
→ Fire:	\$169,415
→ Attorneys/engineers:	\$165,240
→ Clerk's Office:	\$139,722
→ Accounting:	\$87,142
→ Justice Court:	\$75,897
→ Insurance/dues:	\$63,674
→ Village Board:	\$48,502
→ Street lights:	\$47,522
→ Snow removal:	\$38,569
→ Recreation:	\$29,856
→ Sidewalks:	\$26,948
→ Parking meters:	\$8,184

Not all spending and revenue lines are included. The complete budget is available at bit.ly/cs-budget-2024.

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Paid for in part by Dutchess County and NYS OCFS www.forbeaconschools.org/film-festival



Stewart: Two Airliners Diverted After Turbulence

Two passenger jets headed to Newark Liberty diverted to New York Stewart International Airport on March 29 because of turbulence.

At about 5:30 p.m., an Austrian Airlines flight landed at the airport, remaining for about 90 minutes before taking off for New Jersey.

At 6:30 p.m., a United jet with 280 people traveling from Tel Aviv landed at the airport. Five passengers who complained of nausea and chest pain were taken by ambulance to a hospital for observation, according to authorities. The other passengers flew to Newark or took a bus that was provided.

Newburgh: 33 Displaced by Fire

A four-alarm fire that began in an abandoned building in the City of Newburgh left 33 people homeless, *Mid Hudson News* reported.

The fire, visible in Beacon, broke out at

9:30 p.m. on March 31 at 36 Lutheran St. before spreading to two other structures. The Red Cross assisted those displaced.

Fishkill: Man Arrested for Showing Gun at Town Hall

A Fishkill man was arrested after he allegedly displayed a handgun in Town Hall on March 20, according to *Mid Hudson News*. The incident occurred at about 10 a.m. but was not reported to the police until 6:49 p.m., it said.

Supervisor Ozzy Albra said he notified the police after meeting with an employee who told him John Jackson, 89, had displayed a weapon at the clerk's counter. The following day, detectives interviewed Jackson and confiscated a handgun. They also filed for an emergency order to seize all his firearms. He was arrested and charged with misdemeanor menacing.

The Town Board and police chief recommended that panic alarms be installed and that signage be added stating that firearms are prohibited at Town Hall.

Hurley: Council Considers Dropping Comments

During a meeting on March 26, council members in this Ulster County town discussed a resolution to turn off the ability to comment on its Facebook page.

According to the *Daily Freeman*, Council Member Tim Kelly said the Association of

Towns of the State of New York had advised that, by allowing comments, the hamlet could incur liability.

"Removing or deleting or hiding comments is technically censorship of free speech," he said. "So we're actually protecting free speech by disabling the comments because there are many other forums such as emailing the Town Board as a whole, calling Town Hall, coming to a public-comment period. Facebook tends to be where people take a lot of potshots."

Supervisor Michael Boms opposed shutting off comments and persuaded the board to table the resolution. He said the town's community relations specialist, a former newspaper editor, could moderate them.

Poughkeepsie: Council Ends Non-Binding Resolutions

The Common Council voted 6-1 on Tuesday (April 2) to prohibit the introduction of non-binding resolutions, such as one that had been proposed calling for a cease-fire in the war in Gaza but was voted down on March 19.

The new rule states: "Any memorialization shall require at least four sponsors and must have a direct impact on City of Poughkeepsie government and provide a fiscal impact statement and other supporting documentation." According to *Mid Hudson News*, Council Member Nathan Shook noted that the new policy was similar to one followed by the Dutchess County Legislature.

After the proposal was adopted, some members of the audience booed.

NEWS BRIEFS

Beacon Police Arrest Teen with Gun

Officers were responding to burglary report at Tompkins Terrace

Beacon police said they arrested a teenager on Wednesday (April 3) who was allegedly carrying a loaded, illegal handgun.

The Police Department said in a statement that officers were called to Tompkins Terrace to investigate a burglary report. After speaking with witnesses, officers searched the area and located three male teens who they said fit the description of the suspects.

A 15-year-old was charged with four counts related to the possession of a firearm, and a 16- and 17-year-old were each charged with trespassing. All three were released until their next court date.

Putnam Opens Roadwork Portal

Provides updates on construction

Putnam County has opened a website that documents its road projects.

The site, at bit.ly/putnam-roads, assigns a color code to indicate the status of each project: Green signifies it's on track, yellow indicates a potential delay and red confirms a delay.

The portal also includes details such as the expected completion date, traffic impact and the contractor's name.

State Audits Beacon Schools Tech

Recommends deleting 281 accounts

A state audit of the Beacon school district's information technology policy found that about 20 percent of its accounts were inactive and should be deleted.

The audit, conducted in 2020 and 2021 by the comptroller and released on March 15, noted that unused accounts are risky because they could be used by hackers. The comptroller's team found that 281 of the 1,280 accounts it reviewed were inactive, including 153 student accounts, 89 non-student accounts and 39 shared and service accounts.

NOTICE

The Philipstown Planning Board will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Thursday, April 18th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.** at the **Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY.**

If you are unable to join in person but would like to watch, the meeting will be livestreaming on youtube.com, search for Philipstown Planning Board April 2024.



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ProtectTheHighlands.org

Bills (from Page 1)

the funds, people must search online at osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds and file a claim.

↳ **Status:** Assigned to Finance Committee

S8181: Allows prosecutors to charge someone with promoting a suicide attempt and second-degree manslaughter if their conduct “significantly contributes” to a decision by “an incompetent or physically disabled person or a vulnerable elderly person” to take their own life or try killing themselves. Rolison said the legislation was inspired by the case of an autistic Poughkeepsie resident, Bailey Bates, who killed himself in 2017 at age 19 after a woman and an accomplice conned him into exchanging his disability insurance money for a phony check. Former Sen. Sue Serino, now the Dutchess County executive, introduced the legislation in 2018 as Bailey’s Law.

↳ **Status:** Assigned to Codes Committee

Jacobson

A8953: Requires that each high school senior complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), an application for the state’s Tuition Assistance Program or a waiver if not attending college. Jacobson cites studies showing that low-income students and their parents are more likely to overestimate the cost of college and have less knowledge of available aid and that first-generation

and low-income students are likelier to apply for aid without their parents’ involvement, increasing the likelihood of errors.

↳ **Status:** Assigned to Education Committee

A8460: Requires that firearms and rifles bought by police agencies at gun buybacks be disassembled and destroyed, with the destruction recorded on video and listed in a log filed with the state Division of Criminal Justice Services. Jacobson cited a *New York Times* story published in December that detailed how some guns acquired through buybacks in other states are turned over to companies that remove the parts with serial numbers and sell the rest in kits to private buyers.

↳ **Status:** Assigned to Codes Committee

A9210: Mandates that banks give customers at least 60 days’ notice if their accounts are being closed, honor checks submitted within 30 days after closure and return remaining funds within two months. According to Jacobson, banks in New York closed 1.5 million checking and savings accounts in 2023, citing “suspicious activity,” without notice and “for no apparent reason.” Those closures, he said, can affect credit scores and cause business and personal checks to bounce.

↳ **Status:** Assigned to Banks Committee

Levenberg

A9608: Prohibits high-risk sex offenders (Levels 2 and 3) from living within 1,500 feet of their victims, and makes a violation

a felony punishable by up to four years in prison. Levenberg said that the proposal is inspired by 2011 case in Putnam County in which a Level 3 offender, after serving 16 months in prison, moved next door to two of the victims, who were 8 and 9 years old at the time of the crime.

↳ **Status:** Assigned to Correction Committee

A9586: Requires that the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision study disparities in the resources offered to male and female prisoners. Citing a federal Bureau of Justice Statistics estimate that 77 percent of women will be rearrested after leaving prison, Levenberg says the agency should examine if its resources meet the needs of female inmates.

↳ **Status:**

Assigned to Ways and Means Committee

A9228: Requires that cities, towns and villages develop a Housing Action Plan for Everyone (HAP-E). Levenberg, who co-hosted a forum on housing in October, said the shortage of affordable housing is affecting “even those in the upper-middle income bracket” and addressing it calls for “more robust housing plans.”

↳ **Status:**

Assigned to Local Governments Committee

A9357: Allows school districts to prohibit their buildings from being used as voting locations. School districts do not have the authority to decline the designation of their

State Legislators

Sen. Rob Rolison (R)

District 39, including Highlands
rolison@nysenate.gov
3 Nepture Road, Suite N22
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
845-229-0106

Assembly Member

Dana Levenberg (D)

District 95, including Philipstown
levenbergd@nyassembly.gov
8 Revolutionary Road
Ossining, NY 10562
914-941-1111

Assembly Member

Jonathan Jacobson (D)

District 104, including Beacon
jacobsonj@nyassembly.gov
47 Grand St.
Newburgh, NY 12550
845-562-0888

buildings as polling places by elections boards, according to Levenberg, and “unfettered access” to schools raises safety concerns.

↳ **Status:**

Assigned to Election Law Committee



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est 2023
HUDSON VALLEY

SOCCER TRYOUTS
Fall 2024 - Spring 2025

New Teams:
Boys: 2014-2016
Girls: 2014-2016

Location:
Sarah Taylor Park
7 Old Main St
Fishkill, New York 12524

Dates:
April: 8, 15, 22, 29

Time:
5:30-7:00pm

EDP

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AROUND TOWN



▲ **BACK TO BASICS** — Marcella Broe of The Parcel Flower Co. in Philipstown led a workshop on March 30 on how to grow flowers from seeds. Photo by Ross Corsair



▲ **GOOD FRIDAY CONCERT** — The Highlands Choral Society and the Highlands Chamber Orchestra performed Gabriel Fauré’s *Requiem*, written in 1900, at the United Methodist Church in Cold Spring on March 29. Photo by Ross Corsair



◀ **WARNER SISTERS** — Elected officials and historians gathered March 22 in Foundry Dock Park in Cold Spring to mark Women’s History Month at the site of a marker — recently restored by inmates at the Putnam County jail — celebrating the Warner sisters of Constitution Island. Susan Warner’s debut novel, *The Wide, Wide World*, sold over a million copies; Anna Warner is best known for her hymn, “Jesus Loves Me.” From left: Cassie Ward of the Putnam History Museum, Nelsonville Mayor Chris Winward, Putnam County Historian Jennifer Cassidy, Putnam County Legislator Nancy Montgomery, historian George Whipple, Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne, Philipstown Supervisor John Van Tassel and Cold Spring Mayor Kathleen Foley. Photo by Zuzanna Slusarczyk

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The Calendar

MADE IN BEACON

Exhibit showcases industrial past

By Leonard Sparks

A century before the villages of Fishkill Landing and Matteawan merged in 1913 to become Beacon, the British blockade of major seaports during the War of 1812 cut off the supply of imported cotton cloth to the U.S.

Merchants responded by opening textile mills, and the ones that began sprouting up along Fishkill Creek inaugurated Beacon's Industrial Age, according to the Beacon Historical Society (BHS).

The city's manufacturing past is chronicled in a new BHS exhibit highlighting over two dozen companies whose products ranged from bricks, carriages and hats to lawnmowers, tools and leather flying jackets made for the U.S. Air Force during World War II.

Those brickyards and factories employed thousands, including immigrants from Eastern Europe, women who filled manufacturing jobs during World War II and Blacks who joined the Great Migration north from the late 1910s to 1970.

They found work at places like the Matteawan Manufacturing Co., one of the hat-making factories that rose along Fishkill Creek; W.H. Jackson Carriage & Sleigh Manufacturer; and the New York Rubber Co., which made balls and toys and then rafts for the U.S. military during World War II (including one used by a future president, George H.W. Bush, when his plane was shot down in 1944).

Diane Murphy, whose late husband, Robert Murphy, was a longtime Beacon historian and BHS president, curated the exhibit. The opening on March 23 drew a large crowd, said Diane Lapis, director of special projects.

"A lot of people came to see where their parents worked," she said. "And there were a number who moved here in the last year and said: 'I didn't know this. This is really fascinating.'"

The Beacon Historical Society is located at 61 Leonard St. Made in Beacon is open Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon and Saturdays from 1 to 3 p.m. through August. See beaconhistorical.org.



A brick from the W.D. Budd Brick Co.



Workers at the Carrolls hat shop



The Jackson Carriage Works



The building that is now Dia:Beacon was once a factory that made packaging for Nabisco.



The Rothery File Works, which made the first files in the U.S.



The factory that is now The Roundhouse made scores of products over decades.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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



THE ECLIPSE

MON 8

- 100%** - 3:23:03 p.m. Syracuse
- 92.9%** - 3:25:45 p.m. Newburgh
- 92.8%** - 3:25:55 p.m. Beacon
- 92.6%** - 3:25:55 p.m. Philipstown

Viewing Sites

BEAR MOUNTAIN

2 – 4 p.m. Field next to Inn

COLD SPRING

2 – 4 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave.
butterfieldlibrary.org

In the event of poor weather, the library will stream NASA's coverage.

NEWBURGH

2 – 4:30 p.m. SUNY Orange

Meet at Larkin Plaza, where geology and chemistry professors will be on hand to answer questions. Park at the Kaplan Hall garage, 73 First St.

PHILIPSTOWN

2:30 p.m. Little Stony Point
3011 Route 9D
butterfieldlibrary.org/calendar

The Butterfield Library will lead a hike around the loop from the Washburn Trailhead. Registration required.

GARRISON

3 – 4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403
desmondfishlibrary.org

- Do not look at the sun without eclipse glasses.
- The next coast-to-coast total eclipse over the U.S. will be Aug. 12, 2045.
- The next total solar eclipse over part of the U.S. (Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota) will be Aug. 23, 2044.
- For more info, see go.nasa.gov/Eclipse2024 and eclipse-explorer.smce.nasa.gov.

COMMUNITY

SAT 6

Highland Lights Workshop

GARRISON

Noon – 3 p.m. & 3 – 6 p.m. HVSF
2015 Route 9
bit.ly/highland-lights-workshops

Help create lantern puppets of fish and river creatures to highlight the aquatic theme, Full Fathom Five, for this year's procession, scheduled for April 20. Also SUN 7, SAT 13, SUN 14. Register online.

SAT 6

Hudson Valley Tattoo Convention

POUGHKEEPSIE

Noon – 10 p.m. MJN Center
14 Civic Center Plaza
midhudsonciviccenter.org

More than 200 tattoo artists will showcase their techniques and styles. Also SUN 7. *Cost: \$25 (\$65 for a 3-day pass, \$85 VIP, ages 12 and younger free)*

SAT 6

Penny Social

BEACON

1 p.m. VFW Hall
413 Main St. | arfb Beacon.org

This fundraiser for the Animal Rescue Foundation will include bingo, an auction, a flea market and raffles. Calling starts at 3 p.m.

SUN 7

Soup 4 Greens Fundraiser

BEACON

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. DMV Lot | 223 Main St.
beaconfarmersmarket.org

This eighth-annual fundraiser features soups from local restaurants served in bowls made by local potters. The proceeds support a fund to make produce accessible to all. *Cost: \$8 (\$10 frozen pint, \$20 frozen quart, \$30 in ceramic bowl)*

TUES 9

Putnam County Career Fair

MAHOPAC

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Putnam Golf Course
187 Hill St. | bit.ly/putnam-job-fair-2024

Be prepared to interview and meet employers looking to hire. Registration required. Businesses can register at rebrand.ly/Employer-Job-Fair.

SAT 13

Under the Stars

BEACON

8 p.m. The Yard
4 Hanna Lane | compassarts.org

Dance the night away at a do-over prom during this fundraiser for Compass Arts. *Cost: \$30*

STAGE & SCREEN

FRI 12

Ariane One-Act Festival

GARRISON

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

The Aery Theatre Company will present original plays by Albi Gorn, Evelyn Mertens, Patrick J. Lennon and Keith Whalen. Also SAT 13, SUN 14. *Cost: \$25*

FRI 12

Mandy Patinkin

PEEKSKILL

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

The TV and Broadway actor and singer will perform his one-man show, *Being Alive*. Call the box office for tickets.

FRI 12

The Beacon Monologues

BEACON

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

Jamie Mulligan will direct this show featuring stories told by 10 Beacon writers. See Page 2. *Cost: \$25*

FRI 12

Joe DeRosa

BEACON

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

The actor and comedian will perform stand-up for his *I Never Promised You a Rose Garden Tour*. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*



SAT 13

Apollo 13

COLD SPRING

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

This month's installment of the Tom Hanks film series features the 1995 movie about NASA's mission to save the crew of a damaged spacecraft.

KIDS & FAMILY

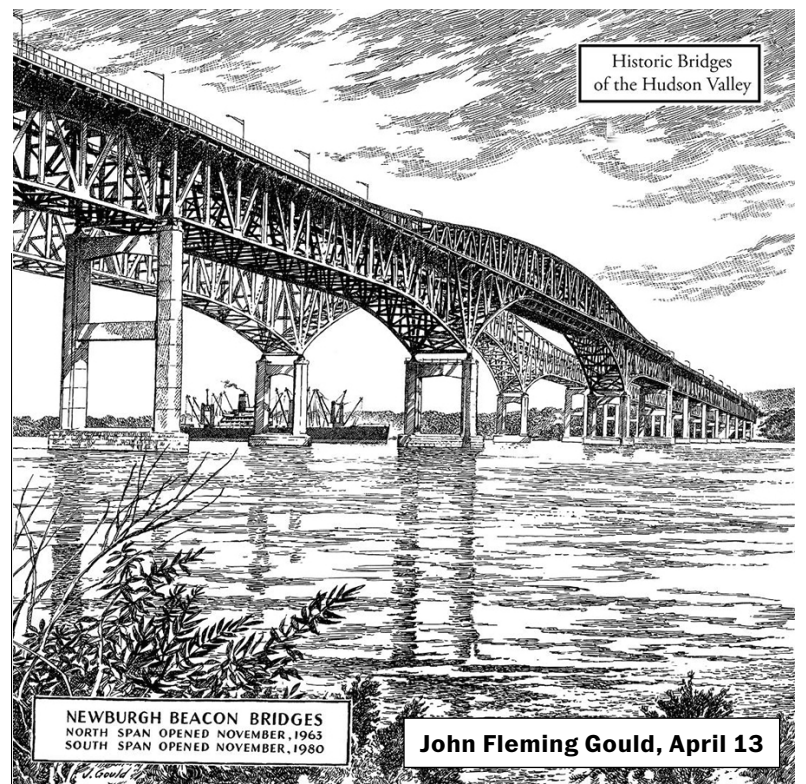
SAT 6

Play Sets

BEACON

10:30 a.m. Dia:Beacon | 3 Beekman St.
845-231-0811 | diaart.org

Families with children ages 5 and older are invited to explore the galleries; in this session, Dia educators will focus on the work of Gerhard Richter. *Free*



SAT 6

Filmmaking Workshop

BEACON

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

Elementary school students can learn techniques to create entries for a May film festival hosted by the Foundation for Beacon Schools. The submission deadline for the festival is MON 8. Registration required.

FRI 12

WALL-E

COLD SPRING

3:15 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Children can watch the 2008 movie about a robot on a journey to help save an uninhabitable Earth. Registration required.

FRI 12

Wonka

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Students in grades 6 and higher are invited to see the 2023 film about the early life of the candy maker and his famous chocolate factory. Registration required.

SECOND SATURDAY

SAT 13

Blind Dates Recursive 05

BEACON

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

Paul Legault will facilitate a conversation in Rita McBride's sculpture *Arena* about memorials. *Cost: \$20 (\$18 seniors, \$12 students and disabled visitors, \$5 ages 5 to 11, free for Beacon and Newburgh residents)*

SAT 13

John Fleming Gould

BEACON

4 – 6 p.m. Bannerman Island Gallery
150 Main St. | 845-831-6346
bannermancastle.org

Paintings, watercolors, pastels and drawings by Gould (1906-1996) will be on view through June 2. The opening reception will be followed at 6 p.m. by a talk with the artist's three sons at the Dutchess Inn, 151 Main St.

SAT 13

In Eclipse

BEACON

5 – 7 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

This group exhibit showcases the meanings of the word *eclipse*. Through April 28.

SAT 13

Guardians Against Evil Dreams

BEACON

6 – 8 p.m. BAU Gallery
506 Main St. | baugallery.org

Jebah Baum's sculptures and works on paper will be on view in Gallery 1, while an audio and visual collaboration by Baum and Steven Takasugi will be in the Beacon Room and a member show in Gallery 2.

SAT 13

Swan Song

BEACON

7 – 9:30 p.m. Distortion Society
155 Main St. | distortionsociety.com

Nico Mazza will share his embroidered textiles, which address desiring the forbidden. Through June 1.

POETRY

THURS 11

Poetry Palooza

COLD SPRING

6 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Get inspired and write a poem. Snacks and coffee will be available.

SAT 13

Ruth Danon and John Yau**BEACON**8 p.m. Stanza Books | 508 Main St.
845-440-3906 | stanzabooks.comDanon will read from *Turn Up the Heat* and Yau from *Tell It to Slant*.

SUN 14

Kathryn Weld**PUTNAM VALLEY**3 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.orgThe poet will read from her most recent collection, *Afterimage*, followed by a poetry open mic. *Cost: \$10***TALKS & TOURS**

SAT 6

Climate Change Now**GARRISON**2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Philipstown residents Radley Horton, a climate researcher, and David Gelber, the founder of The Years Project, which covers the climate crisis, will discuss what they see as the current challenges and reasons for hope.

SUN 7

Willitt Jewell**COLD SPRING**2 p.m. Putnam History Museum
63 Chestnut St. | 845-265-4010
putnamhistorymuseum.orgAt the museum's 118th annual meeting, Jennifer Cassidy, the county historian, will discuss the life and work of Jewell (below right), who died in 1966 and was best known as a reporter and photographer for *The Putnam County Courier*. Join in person or via Zoom. Registration required.

THURS 11

Garden Planning**BEACON**6 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

Philomena Kiernan will discuss how to design your garden.

THURS 11

The Men Who Stormed the Fort**FORT MONTGOMERY**7 p.m. Fort Montgomery | 690 Route 9W
845-446-2134 | parks.ny.govDon Hagis will talk about the men who were part of the 2,000-strong British regiments that attacked the fort in 1777. *Cost: \$5***Buffalo Rose, April 6**

SAT 13

Millstream: A Retrospective**COLD SPRING**10 a.m. Stonecrop Gardens
81 Stonecrop Lane | 845-265-2000
stonecrop.orgTamsin Goggin will discuss an alpine garden created by H. Lincoln Foster in Connecticut. *Cost: \$15 (\$5 members)***MUSIC**

SAT 6

Buffalo Rose**COLD SPRING**7:30 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.orgThe modern folk and Americana band will play songs from its latest release, *Again, Again, Again*. *Cost: \$25*

SAT 6

David & Jacob Bernz**BEACON**8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.orgThe Beacon father-and-son duo will play folk music with guests. *Cost: \$20*

SAT 6

Stella Blue's Band**BEACON**8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.comThe Grateful Dead tribute band will play a high-energy show. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SUN 7

Cajun Jam**PUTNAM VALLEY**1 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org

Bring an instrument, a dish to share or just a desire to dance to this open session.

SUN 7

West Point Concert Band**WEST POINT**2 p.m. Ike Hall
655 Pitcher Road | ikehall.comThe chamber music concert's theme is American song and dance. *Free*

SUN 7

Merz Trio**BEACON**4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | howlandmusic.orgThe chamber music group's theme is Night Songs and will include works by Hildegard von Bingen, Thelonious Monk and Alma Mahler. *Cost: \$35 (\$10 students)*

THURS 11

Groundswell | House of the Hog**COLD SPRING**7 p.m. J. Murphy's | 148 Main St.
845-809-5316 | jmurphysonmain.comThe two local bands will play original rock. *Free*

SAT 13

Joe Natale Jazz Quartet**COLD SPRING**2 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St. | stmaryscoldspring.comThe saxophonist will be joined by Alex Smith (organ), Jeff Barone (guitar) and Sammy Wags (drums). Donations welcome. *Free*

SAT 13

Mike & Ruthy**PUTNAM VALLEY**7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corners C.C.
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.orgThe husband-and-wife duo will play music from their repertoire of indie-folk. *Cost: \$25*

SAT 13

Stephen Clair with Jen Clapp & Chris Ams**COLD SPRING**7:30 p.m. Move Cold Spring
37 Chestnut St.
facebook.com/rockoutstephenclairThe three songwriters will each play a set. *Cost: \$10*

SAT 13

Benise**PEEKSKILL**8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.comThe "prince of Spanish guitar" will perform his interpretations of classic rock songs with dancers. *Cost: \$42 to \$70*

SAT 13

Triple Play**BEACON**8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.orgThree local acoustic groups — Annalyse & Ryan, Beacon Songsmiths and The Whispering Tree — will perform. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SAT 13

Alexis P. Suter Band**BEACON**8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.comThe bandleader's six-piece ensemble will play songs from an upcoming release, *Love Always Wins*. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)***VISUAL ARTS**

SAT 6

Meet Your Muse**BEACON**6 p.m. BAU Gallery
506 Main St. | baugallery.org

Andrea Talarico, Celia Reissig, Donna Minkowitz, Debbie Broshi, Linda Siegel, Lourdes Laifer and Mark Harris will read from work they created in response to artwork by gallery members.

SAT 13

Shift**GARRISON**5 – 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3960
garrisonartcenter.orgM. Pettee Olsen's abstracts will be on view, along with the exhibit *A Field Guide to Birds*, by Debra Ramsay and Leslie Roberts. Through May 5. Olsen will discuss her work at 3 p.m. on SUN 14.**NATURE AND OUTDOORS**

FRI 12

Community Hike**GARRISON**10 a.m. Manitou Point Preserve
90 Mystery Point Road | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Take a group hike along the River Trail. Dress appropriately for the weather. Registration required.

SAT 13

Bats of New York**GARRISON**3 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Wildlife biologist Ashley Meyer will discuss her work with bats, the challenges that the animals face and how people can help. This event is co-hosted by the library and the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society. See Page 15.

CIVIC

MON 8

Assembly Office Hours**COLD SPRING**1 – 4 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
nyassembly.gov/mem/Dana-Levenberg

Dana Levenberg, whose district includes Philipstown, will answer constituent questions.

MON 8

Dutchess Legislature**POUGHKEEPSIE**7 p.m. Legislative Chambers
22 Market St. | 845-486-2100
dutchessny.gov

MON 8

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

TUES 9

School Board**COLD SPRING**7 p.m. Middle School Library
15 Craigside Drive | 845-265-9254
haldaneschool.org

WED 10

Resilient Ways ForwardNoon. Via Zoom
bit.ly/RWFVirtualMtg2

Learn from members of the Dutchess County Transportation Council about where the system is most vulnerable to climate hazards. Registration required.

WED 10

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

The meeting will include a public hearing on the 2024-25 budget.

WED 10

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

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TAG SALE? Car for sale? Space for rent? Help wanted? Place your ad here for \$9.95. See highlandscurrent.org/classifieds.



English Fare With A Flare

British chef opens Beacon eatery

By Leonard Sparks

Michael Johnson consulted with his taste buds when deciding what dishes and desserts would fill out the menu of Moreish, his British-inspired eatery at the Hudson Valley Food Hall in Beacon.

The native of southern England said he started with the meals he craved but could not find in the U.S. and asked other British expats for suggestions. “People think British food is just fish and chips,” he says. “There’s other bits as well.”

Those bits have proved popular since Johnson opened Moreish on March 2. He borrowed the name from a British word that, according to the *Cambridge English Dictionary*, describes food “having a very pleasant taste and making you want to eat more.”

One of Johnson’s classic British dishes is an English breakfast with British sausage, smoked back bacon, black pudding, hash browns, mushrooms, tomatoes, Heinz baked beans, eggs and toasted sourdough. There is also a vegetarian version.

Other imports include bangers (grilled British pork sausages) with mashed potatoes; a Cornish pasty made with beef skirt steak; meat pies with mashed potatoes; and desserts such as the banoffee pie, crumpets and sticky oaty flapjacks.

Because some ingredients are hard to find in the U.S., or more expensive, Johnson and his wife, Shey Aponte, filled a suitcase with golden syrup from a company called Lyle’s and digestive biscuits from Mcvities during a trip to England before Moreish opened.

That haul was depleted three weeks earlier than expected. “I didn’t know there were many British people living in Beacon,” Johnson says.

Johnson arrived by way of Brighton, a



Shey Aponte and Michael Johnson at Moreish, which is located inside the Hudson Valley Food Hall in Beacon

The English breakfast is one of the specialties at Moreish.

Photos by Meghan Spiro

resort area in East Sussex, 50 miles south of London, that overlooks the English Channel. He found his passion at age 13 after being hired to wash dishes at Blackboys Inn, a pub that dates to the 14th century. The pub takes its name from a nickname given to King Charles II because of his dark eyes and skin.

Johnson fell for the “chaos” of kitchen work. “I gravitated to the flames, the shouting, the theatrics of it,” he says. “And I found I was quite good at it.”

By 16, he had enrolled in culinary school, the next step in a career that included short stints at Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle after winning a college competition, and jobs cooking for Michelin-star restaurants and high-end hotels and creating menus for British Airways.

His travels took him to London, Oxford and Scotland, and overseas to Colombia, Costa Rica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. He met his future wife in Nicaragua, and they decided to settle in the U.S.

They moved to Beacon in November. “We wanted a bit of countryside and some nice walks, so we thought Beacon made a good middle ground,” he says.

The couple had always planned to open a restaurant. At this stage of Johnson’s career, he says working for people with less experience is challenging, and the chance to make unilateral decisions about food was appealing.

At Moreish, Johnson uses the same “elevated” cooking techniques he employed at high-end restaurants. He says those techniques will be applied to additional menu items he is considering, including fish and chips and deserts like sticky toffee pudding, apple crumble and Eton mess.

Johnson also plans to add another British staple: the roast dinners served on Sundays at homes and pubs and restaurants. The traditional dinner combines roast beef or another type of roasted meat with Yorkshire pudding, roasted potatoes, gravy and stuffing.

“What I want to do is start adding bits and having specials,” he says.

Moreish, inside the Hudson Valley Food Hall at 288 Main St. in Beacon, is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. See instagram.com/moreishnewyork.

Roots and Shoots

Rooting for the Underdogs

By Pamela Doan

Ashley Meyer takes a deep breath when I ask her what she found while surveying mines and caves in Fahnestock State Park for hibernating bats. As a wildlife biologist for the Department of Environmental Conservation, she is well aware of these creatures' fragile hold because of white-nose syndrome.

The fungus, first discovered in the U.S. among New York bats in 2006, decimated our nine species, causing population declines of up to 99 percent. To put that in perspective, consider northern long-eared bats. In 2005, there were an estimated 500,000 or more in New York state. By 2010, only about 5,000 remained.

This past winter, there was "a glimmer of hope for little brown bats, at least," Meyer says. "It seems like their population is increasing, but we're not sure if this is a rebound."

There is much to appreciate about bats. They are the only flying mammal, nurse their young with milk and have extraordinary powers of hearing and sight. The bats



found in our area can eat up to 50 percent of their body weight in insects in a single night. We don't have much contact with them because their habits keep them separated from humans for the most part, and that has led to fear and misunderstanding.

While there is much research on white-nose syndrome, there is no cure or treatment. Meyer describes the environments where the bats return each year to be coated in the fungus. It grows into their skin and, while scientists don't fully understand how the process works, it disrupts hibernation, causing the bats to become agitated and wake up.

Waking up depletes a bat's fat stores and it can starve to death if awakened repeatedly. Recreational cavers exploring during the winter also rouse the bats and compound a dire situation. Despite posted warnings and barriers, Meyer says her team has seen signs of trespassing, such as footprints and beer cans. "I saw places where people tried to remove the bars," she says. "People need to stay out of the caves and mines in the winter."

Meyer finds deep meaning in her work with bats. "They are cryptic as a species because you don't see them on a regular



Wildlife biologist Ashley Meyer during a recent bat survey

Photo provided

basis, or at all," she says. "I get to peek into their lives and see them in action. I feel like bats are the underdog and people dislike them. They get a bad rap, but a lot of New York bats have had a rough time. They're incredible animals."

As part of her work to debunk myths,

Meyer will speak at the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison at 2 p.m. on April 13 about New York's bat species and their habitats and how people can support these vulnerable animals.

I was curious how gardeners could help. Meyer says the bat diet is mainly moths and beetles. Bats are voracious consumers and eat plenty of mosquitoes, but they aren't substantial enough in terms of calories.

By cross-referencing plants that are larval hosts for certain moths and beetles, I began a list of native plants that are bat-friendly. For example, the blue wood aster (*Symphotrichum cordifolium*) is food to 109 species of caterpillars. Purple cone-flower (*Echinacea purpurea*), goldenrods (*Solidago spp.*) and bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*) are also popular with caterpillars.

Generally speaking, nighttime pollinators will visit white or light-colored flowers, while beetles are attracted to flowers with strong scents. These could include evening primrose, native geraniums and phlox, and Golden alexander (*Zizia aurea*).

The National Wildlife Foundation's new native-plant database is a unique reference. Enter your ZIP code at nativeplantfinder.nwf.org and it will provide a list of plants, trees and shrubs that host butterfly and moth species. It's the most comprehensive database joining plant and insect species I've found and certainly meets a need.



A Beacon resident would like to convert this former auto repair shop on Henry Street into artist studios and a gallery.



File photo by Leonard Sparks / Rendering: GarageWORKS

Beacon Grant (from Page 1)

Although the Restore New York grant is for privately owned buildings, the application must be submitted by a municipality, which is why Braden approached the City Council last month. Braden said he envisions the project as a way to engage Beacon's art community while educating the public on environmental sustainability.

"It's meant to be a model of how to do a building," he told the council during its March 11 workshop. The new funding would help "balance the books" for the \$7.3 million project, which Braden said he is financing through "a huge amount of my own personal resources."

Braden and Sophie Henderson, a consultant who previously worked on two successful Restore New York applications in Hudson, prepared the submission.

City Administrator Chris White said he "saw this as an opportunity that didn't use any of our financial resources and very little of our time. I wanted to get the experience under our belt and then we could assess where we go next year" if there are similar proposals.

Empire State Development, which administers the program, is expected to announce the grant winners in the fall.

Before voting on Monday to back the application, the council held a public hearing on the project. Noting its "primary, premium location" on the corner of South Chestnut and Henry streets, in Beacon's off-Main Street "Transitional" zone, resident Clark Gebman said he felt the site could provide up to 30 affordable housing units.

"You're being asked to endorse this one person's vision," he said. While the artistic community is important in Beacon, "is it really more important than providing

affordable housing?"

In 2021, a developer proposed replacing the structure with a three-story, 16-apartment building with retail space but the project did not progress. Braden said during the March workshop that he had considered housing at the site but felt previous proposals had been poorly received and that there is "a real shortage of high-quality spaces for professional artists."

Three other speakers on Monday supported the project, including Kathleen Griffin, who said she moved to the region for its creative energy. "I'm part of a very large cohort of people who made their life in New York City as an artistic professional and came to the Hudson Valley for opportunities like the one being proposed," she said. "It's impossible to quantify what having the arts brings to people, particularly at-risk children. As a teenager, it was exactly opportunities like the

ones being created [at GarageWORKS] that took me out of one situation and opened the doors to something totally different."

The state says it will prioritize awarding grants in economically distressed communities. Although Beacon doesn't qualify, GarageWORKS' previous NYSERDA award works in its favor because the program also emphasizes projects that leverage other state or federal redevelopment funds, Henderson said.

"As we further our progress, we become eligible for some things and lose eligibility for others," such as the state's Downtown Revitalization Initiative awards, explained Mayor Lee Kyriacou. "The ability to find new sources and new ways to leverage grant money, which is a way that we've always been really successful — we may come up with some new ways to do it, and this may be one of them."

NOTICE

PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD PHILIPSTOWN CONSERVATION BOARD

Joint Public Hearing – April 18th, 2024

The Planning Board & the Conservation Board of the Town of Philipstown, New York will hold a joint public hearing on Thursday, April 18th, 2024 at the Planning Board's regular monthly meeting starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St. Cold Spring, NY 10516 to consider the following application:

Garrison Golf Club PDD/Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, 2015 Route 9 Garrison, NY 10524 TM# 60.-1-59.2 & 59.3

Garrison Properties, LLC and HVSF (the "Applicant") are requesting amendments to the Town of Philipstown's Garrison Golf Club Planned Development District (GGCPDD – established 2005) and Rural Conservation District (RC) (the "Proposed Action") to allow the relocation of HVSF from the Boscobel House and Gardens (also in Philipstown) to the Garrison Golf Club (2015 Route 9, Garrison, the "Site"). In addition to approval of the proposed amendments to the GGCPDD and RC districts from the Philipstown Town Board (recently granted), the Proposed Action also requires subdivision and site plan approval from the Philipstown Planning Board, and freshwater wetland permit approval from the Philipstown Conservation Board.

The Planning Board will be considering the proposed subdivision of the Site, as well as a Site Plan application for Phase 1 of the Site's redevelopment. Phase 1 includes the installation of the new open-air theater cluster, including the back of house, concessions, and the restrooms, and installation of the new main parking lot and proposed walkways and the service road to the theater. Associated grading, lighting, stormwater management and utility infrastructure will be provided to serve the above improvements. Phase 1 will also include intersection improvements at the access driveways and a new traffic signal at Route 9 and Snake Hill Road. Commencement of the signal work is contingent upon approval of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT).

The Conservation Board will be considering an application for a Freshwater Wetland Permit necessary for all proposed improvements proximate to Town-regulated wetlands/watercourses and their respective buffers. These activities are limited to Phase 1 of the project and include excavation for reconstruction of the existing Route 9 entry, placement of suitable soil over former Greens 13 & 14, installation of additional paving to improve the Route 9 entry, and installation of water main, dry hydrant, electric panel and subsurface electric service line near and along the upper Snake Hill Road entry in the vicinity of the on-site pond.

The application materials on the project are available in hard copy format at the Office of the Planning & Conservation Boards at the Building Department, 2 Cedar Street, Cold Spring, NY. Prior contact with Cheryl Rockett is required to arrange access to the documents, at (845) 265-5202. The most recent materials may also be viewed in electronic format on the Town of Philipstown's website at the following links:

<https://sites.google.com/philipstown.com/planningboard/pb-2024-home>

<https://sites.google.com/philipstown.com/town-of-philipstown/cb-2024-home>

Submissions can be found under each monthly meeting agenda.

At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. There will be a 3-minute time limit on all speakers.

Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 21st day of March, 2024
Dennis Gagnon, Acting Chair



Gray Hairstreak



American Snout

Photos by Charlie Roberto

Butterflies (from Page 1)

Lake Reservation in Ossining.

He is now the driving force behind a new Westchester-Putnam chapter of the North American Butterfly Association (NABA). He had tried to start the chapter in 2020 but was sidetracked by the pandemic.

Butterflies are important, he says, because their health "relates directly to the health of our overall environment. They're like the canary in the coal mine."

Along with birds, honeybees, bats and other animals, butterflies help pollinate everything from apples and strawberries to peaches and coffee. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 75 percent of flowering plants and about 35 percent of global food crops rely on animals to pollinate them.

But butterfly populations are declining worldwide as a result of habitat loss, especially due to changes in land use, along with the use of pesticides and insecticides, and climate change, including increases in severe weather.

Invasive plant species are also contributing to the decline. "Japanese stiltgrass, for example, has been here since the 1980s and entered Fahnestock within the last 10 years," Roberto says. "It crowds out and eliminates many plants that host butterflies."

At the same time, milkweed, which monarch butterflies rely upon as a host plant, is declining, putting further stress on that species.

In an article in *American Butterflies*, NABA President Jeffrey Glassberg recalled the annual butterfly counts that began in Westchester County in 1984. "There were butterflies everywhere; it was thrilling," he wrote. "Some years, the absolute numbers were amazing."

But the species began to disappear from northern Westchester County by the 1970s, and at least six species were extirpated by 2013. The more than 8,000 butterflies tallied in a one-day count in 1989 decreased by half.

In counts near the Teatown Lake Reservation, spotters have documented as many as 60 types of butterflies, including giant swallowtail, monarch, tiger swallowtail and great spangled fritillary. The diversity has held steady, Roberto says, but the total number of butterflies has been dropping, even as the number of people counting them has increased.

Roberto notes an unusual behavior called "hill-topping" that butterflies adopt as their numbers fall. "They fly up to the highest point of land and circle, waiting for the opposite sex," he said.

The Westchester-Putnam chapter plans to

conduct its first count in July, Roberto said, adding that counts have been moved earlier in the month to account for species whose movements have shifted due to climate change.



Charlie Roberto

The chapter's inaugural meeting on March 21 drew 22 participants. The group plans to meet about eight times yearly, with summer field trips to local habitats such as Pound Ridge in Westchester and Shenandoah Mountain along the Appalachian Trail in East Fishkill.

Over the past four years, the Philipstown Garden Club, in partnership with 11 other environmental organizations, has been teaching people how to build pollinator gardens. An initial workshop drew 100 people; the 75 participants who pledged to garden for pollinators collectively control about 1,700 acres of land.

The club also made Philipstown part of the Pollinator Pathway, which since 2017 has grown to 85 communities in New York and Connecticut. In Cold Spring, the Recreation Commission plans to create a butterfly garden in McConville (Tots) Park.

Founded in 1992, NABA is based in Mission, Texas, with 25 chapters in 15 states. Its science-based initiatives include operating the National Butterfly Center, acquiring existing habitat areas and creating new habitat. It has certified more than 10,000 butterfly gardens and organized more than 11,000 butterfly counts.

To join NABA, visit naba.org/member-ship. For information about the Westchester-Putnam chapter, including its next meeting on April 18 at Teatown Lake Reservation, email Roberto at chasrob26@gmail.com.

Signs of Trouble

- Studies indicate that populations of 17 butterfly species declined by almost 50 percent across the European Union between 1990 and 2011.
- In 2021, *Science* reported that, over the four previous decades, the populations of more than 450 species of butterflies in the western U.S. declined by an average of 2 percent per year.
- The World Wildlife Fund estimates that the number of eastern monarch butterflies that migrated south to winter in Mexico in 2023-24 decreased by 59 percent from the previous year.

Classic Wheels

1968 Volkswagen Beetle

By Michael Turton

In Bolivia, it was known as Peta, or “The Turtle.” In Indonesia, it was dubbed Kodak, or “The Frog.” It starred in the 1969 movie *The Love Bug* and four *Herbie* sequels. It even brought a smile to the face of Adolf Hitler.

It was and still is the unmistakable Volkswagen Beetle.

Ferdinand Porsche is credited with finalizing the car’s design in 1938, although who deserves credit for the original concept is disputed.

Volkswagen — “the people’s car” in German — was produced in response to Hitler’s desire for a practical, inexpensive vehicle for the country’s new road system. He was given the first convertible model built in 1938. World War II halted civilian production.

On Feb. 17, 1972, the 15,007,034th Beetle rolled off the assembly line in Wolfsburg,



Germany, overtaking the production record long held by the Ford Model T. By the time production ended in 2003, more than 21 million had been built. A “new” stylized Beetle was produced from 1997 to 2019.

Garrison resident Dan Janczewski’s first car was a 1947 Willys Jeep which he purchased from war surplus when he was 18. “My father thought it was great because it was a military jeep with a governor — it couldn’t go too fast,” he recalls.

He later owned a new Beetle, but it was the original “bug” that captured his imagination. “The 2000 model was cool; it was a diesel,” he says. “But I wanted to know what the old one, the classic, was like.”

His 1968 Beetle has a distinct feel. “I like the way it rides; you bop around,” he says. “It makes you feel like a kid!”

He also values the car’s simplicity. Everything is manual, including the four-on-the-floor transmission. “It brings you back to the days when you really had to watch the



road,” he says. “You can’t be fooling around with your phone.”

Besides the tires, everything on Janczewski’s VW is original, from the zenith blue paint and black vinyl seats to the crank windows and the German AM transistor radio. It is rated at up to 65 mph, but Janczewski says he doesn’t like to “push it” much past 50. He estimates the gas mileage to be in the high 20 mpg, with a catch.

“It calls for regular lead gas, 91 octane, which isn’t made anymore,” he says. “My mechanic has me buy high-test and I put a treatment in to remove the ethanol.”

Although the air-cooled engine starts right up in cold weather, Janczewski says it takes 15 to 20 minutes for the heater to kick in. While he avoids salt-covered roads in winter, having the engine in the rear means the bug handles well in snow.

His Beetle may not enjoy Herbie’s celebrity status, but it’s had some brushes with fame. “Apple TV wanted to buy it,” he says. “And it almost appeared in HBO’s *White House Plumbers* with Woody Harrelson and *Nashville*, but the deals didn’t materialize.”

The Beetle has seen both sides of the country. It was purchased new, in Monrovia, California, in 1968. The owner kept it for 12 years before trading it in to a VW dealer who stored it for 20 years. When the dealer died in 2000, the car was auctioned and shipped to Columbia, South Carolina.

The Specs

Assembly: Wolfsburg and four other German cities, 15 other countries

Production years: 1938 to 2003

Total Production: 21,529,464

Body: 2-door and 2-door convertible

Layout: rear-engine, rear-wheel drive

Engine: 4 cylinder, 1100 to 1600 cc, air-cooled

Transmission: 4-speed manual, 4- and 3-speed semi-automatic

Curb weight: 1,760 to 1,850 pounds

Fuel economy: High 20s mpg

Top speed: 65 mph

Janczewski bought it in 2004 for \$6,500 and had it shipped to Pennsylvania, where he lived at the time.

He has entered the VW in shows in Pennsylvania and at Bear Mountain State Park and only drives it a few hundred miles a year. His favorite outing is an annual 60-mile rally that begins in Congers in Rockland County, and features just one type of car — the VW Beetle.

The car has obviously impacted Janczewski; his email address begins with oldbug68.



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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 Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. for the purpose of presenting the budget document for the 2024-2025 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 2024-2025 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 1, 2024, 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 21, 2024, between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 9:00 P.M., prevailing time, when the polls will be open for the purpose of voting by voting machine:

A. To elect three (3) members to the Board of Education as follows:

Two (2) members to the Board of Education for three-year terms commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2027; and

One (1) member to the Board of Education for a remainder term commencing May 22, 2024 and ending June 30, 2024 plus a three-year term commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2027.

B. To vote upon the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures for School District purposes for the 2024-2025 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 18, 2024 authorizing the purchase of school buses at a maximum estimated cost not to exceed \$485,000; authorizing the issuance of \$485,000 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 18, 2024, authorizing the purchase of two zero-emission school buses at a maximum estimated cost of \$990,000; but only in the event the District receives subsidies toward such purchase of at least \$200,000 per school bus, authorizing the issuance of up to \$990,000 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 twelve 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 bond resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York, on March 18, 2024, authorizing the reconstruction of and construction of improvements to various School District facilities, including site improvement, original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus and other improvements and costs incidental thereto, at a maximum estimated cost of \$49,950,000; authorizing an expenditure of \$500,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund and the issuance of not exceeding \$49,450,000 bonds to pay the costs thereof to mature over a period not exceeding thirty years; providing that such bonds shall be payable from amounts to be levied in annual installments on taxable real property of said School District; 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?

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 2024 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, May 1, 2024. 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..

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District, Dutchess County, New York, has fixed Tuesday, May 7, 2024, 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 21, 2024, 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 2020, 2021, 2022 or 2023 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 and early mail 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 and early mail 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 and early mail 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 FURTHER GIVEN that military voters who are not currently registered may apply to register as qualified voters of the school district. Military voters may request an application to register as a qualified voter from the District Clerk. Military voter registration application forms must be received in the Office of the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 7, 2024. In order for a military voter to be issued a military ballot, the school district must have received in the office of the school district clerk a valid ballot application no later than 5:00 pm on May 7, 2024. A military voter may designate a preference to receive a military voter registration, military ballot application or military ballot by mail, facsimile transmission or electronic mail in their request for such registration, ballot application, or ballot. Such designation shall remain in effect until revoked or changed by the military voter. Ballots for military voters shall be mailed, or otherwise distributed, no later than May 7, 2024.

Dated: March 18, 2024
By the Order of the Board of Education
of the Beacon City School District
Vickie Jackson, School District Clerk

Puzzles

CROSSCURRENT

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	
11			12		13			14				
15					16			17				
18				19		20		21				
			22		23		24			25	26	27
28	29	30				31		32				
33					34		35		36			
37				38		39		40				
41					42		43					
			44			45		46		47	48	49
50	51	52			53		54		55			
56					57				58			
59					60					61		

ACROSS

- Goal
- Hosp. hookups
- Peter Pan pooch
- Pygmalion* writer
- Use a straw
- Bone-dry
- Teeny bit
- Capita lead-in
- Makes lace
- Tic
- Laptop connection
- Deli choice
- Radiated
- Reach
- Battery part
- King of the jungle
- Dog's foot
- Similar
- Canal vessel
- iPads, e.g.
- In America* writer Susan
- Perignon
- Partially mine

46. Chip choice

- First light
- Suitable
- Roller coaster feature
- “Zounds!”
- Three, in Rome
- Links org.
- Pear variety
- Storm center
- Designer monogram

19. Astronaut Jemison

- Ga. neighbor
- Super Bowl VIP
- Stirred
- Tend texts
- Cozy rooms
- Priestly vestments
- Pisa farewell
- Trumpet
- Chow down
- Bankroll
- Vichy water
- “— voyage!”
- Shred, as cheese
- Agile
- Mimic
- Swine
- October birthstone
- Cotillion celeb
- Previously
- Existed
- Golf peg

DOWN

- Tag sale words
- Breakfast chain
- Hari
- AOL, for one
- Perspective
- Parsley piece
- Site of the MLK Jr. Memorial
- Coach Parseghian
- Quibble
- Billboards
- Capital on the Potomac

SUDOCURRENT

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

WORDLADDER

Can you go from BLEAK to CREAM in 6 words?
Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

BLEAK

CREAM

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MICRO CROSSWORD

- Corn throwaway
- “No Turn ___” (traffic sign)
- The Nutcracker* heroine
- Words of woe
- Capital of Senegal?

DOWN

- Fashion mogul Chanel
- Sole
- Lionhearted
- “___ Tu” (Mocedades hit song)
- Vampire's resting periods

1	2	3		
4			5	6
7				
8				
		9		

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

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

A	M	I	G	A
L	O	G	I	C
D	R	O	V	E
E	A	T	E	R
R	Y	A	N	S

WASTE
TASTE
TASTY
PASTY
PARTY
PARTE

Answers for March 29 Puzzles

Puzzle Page Sponsored by



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Sports

VARSITY ROUNDUP

[RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY EDITION]

HALDANE

By Jacob Aframian

BOYS' LACROSSE — Haldane began its season on March 30 with a 9-6 victory at Mahopac. The Blue Devils got off to a slow start, with the Wolfpack up 3-1 at halftime, before Haldane scored three goals in the first six minutes of the third quarter and never relinquished its lead.

Evan Giachinta, who will play lacrosse next year for High Point University in North Carolina, led the Blue Devils with three goals and two assists. Six other players — Liam Gaugler, Ryan Van Tassel, Fallou Faye, Alex Gaugler, Cooper Corless and Brody Corless — also scored.

“Our defensive play anchored what we were doing,” said Coach Ed Crowe. “We held Mahopac’s best player, Danny Koch [who will play next year for St. John’s University], to zero goals.”

The Blue Devils traveled to South Carolina this past week for a spring break tournament. In the first game, against Wando High School from Mount Pleasant, near Charleston, the Blue Devils fell, 11-10. Giachinta and Gaugler each had three goals and an assist, while Cooper Corless scored twice and Brody Corless, Van Tassel and Faye each scored.

Haldane was scheduled to play another Mount Pleasant high school, Lucy Beckham, on Thursday (April 4). The team will be back in Cold Spring on Monday (April 8) for its home opener at 4:30 p.m. versus Bronxville before traveling to John Jay Cross River on Thursday.

GIRLS' LACROSSE — Haldane (1-0) will host Croton-Harmon at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday (April 9) in its home opener and travel to Arlington on Thursday.

BASEBALL — For the second time, Haldane’s opening day was rained out when a game scheduled for Wednesday (April 3)

at Yonkers Montessori Academy was postponed. Weather permitting, the Blue Devils will host Tuckahoe today (April 5) at 4:30 p.m. at Mayor’s Park. Next week the Blue Devils travel to Dobbs Ferry on Monday and Yonkers Montessori on Tuesday before hosting the Barack Obama School of Justice of Yonkers on Thursday at 4:30 p.m.

SOFTBALL — Haldane was hoping to start its season at home against Tuckahoe on Tuesday (April 2) but the game was postponed to April 17 by rain. The same thing happened on Wednesday, when a game at Yonkers Montessori was pushed to April 10. The team is scheduled to host Chester at 11 a.m. on Saturday (April 6), visit Alexander Hamilton on Tuesday and host the Barack Obama School for Social Justice at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday.

TRACK AND FIELD — The Blue Devils will open their season on Wednesday (April 10) with a meet at Valhalla High School.

BEACON

By Nick Robbins

SOFTBALL — The Bulldogs’ home opener on Tuesday (April 2) against New Paltz was called because of rain and will be rescheduled. Beacon will try again when it hosts Burke Catholic at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday (April 6).

BOYS' TENNIS — Beacon is scheduled to begin its season today (April 5) at home against Kingston and on Thursday (April 11) will host Valley Central. Both matches start at 4 p.m.

BASEBALL — The Bulldogs open their season hosting Burke Catholic at 11 a.m. on Saturday (April 6).

TRACK AND FIELD — Beacon will begin its season at the Pirate Relays at Pearl River High School on Saturday (April 6).



Liam Gaugler scored a goal in Haldane’s opener at Mahopac.



P.J. Ruggiero (16) changes course. For more photos, see highlandscurrent.org.



David Powlis catches the ball among three Mahopac defenders. Photos by Skip Pearlman



Ryan Van Tassel



Will O'Hara, Gabe Reyes and Jack Hartman