

The HIGHLANDS Current



Pete Seeger Tapes [Page 11](#)

APRIL 26, 2024 **NYPA Newspaper of the Year** Support our nonprofit: highlandscurrent.org/join



OUT ON A LIMB — Earth Day was Monday (April 22), but students at the Manitou School in Philipstown were among those who celebrated early. Teachers provided 13 outdoor stations on April 19 with lessons on topics such as native plants and pollinators, composting and biodiversity. There were also secondhand clothing and books for sale and a repair café for jewelry. For more photos, see [Page 15](#). *Photo by Ross Corsair*

PCNR's Future Uncertain

Weekly newspaper disappears

By Chip Rowe

The former editor and publisher of *The Putnam County News & Recorder* says the 158-year-old newspaper has been sold but the identity of its new owners is a mystery and the Cold Spring weekly was not published on Wednesday (April 24). Douglas Cunningham told readers on April 17 that he was retiring and had sold the newspaper. He did not identify the buyers and, when reached by email, declined further comment.

Cunningham purchased *The PCNR* and *The Putnam County Courier* in December 2016 from Roger Ailes, then chairman and CEO of Fox News, and his wife, Elizabeth, who owned a home in Philipstown. At the time, Cunningham was the editor and associate publisher. His wife, Sheila, became the majority owner. *The Courier*, which dates to 1841 and was published on Tuesdays, also did not appear this week.



Cunningham

(Continued on Page 8)

Assembly Challenger Ruled Out

Elections board tosses problem signatures

By Leonard Sparks

A Cortlandt Manor woman who hoped to force a primary vote against Assembly Member Dana Levenberg, a Democrat whose district includes Philipstown, fell short this week after the state Board of Elections threw out many of the signatures on her nominating petition. Levenberg filed a challenge with the state Board of Elections on April 5 to petitions filed by Amanda Victoria Mintz, who had hoped to challenge the incumbent on June 25 for the Democratic ballot line. Levenberg is seeking a second, 2-year term.

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Camp Beacon Again Up for Grabs

'Bike farm' loses development rights

By Jeff Simms

New York State plans to again request proposals to redevelop the 39-acre former Beacon Correctional Facility after revoking development rights from a New York City builder whose "bike farm" never materialized. The request for proposals (RFP) process would be similar to one being implemented by the state's Prison Redevelopment Commission, which is soliciting plans to redevelop a dozen closed prisons, including the Downstate Correctional Facility in Fishkill. The RFP would be administered by Empire State Development, although the agency has no timeline. The RFP will be the third for the Beacon site, a former women's prison known as Camp Beacon that closed in 2013. The state initially asked for plans in 2014 and received one proposal, from the New York



New York State needs a developer for the former Beacon Correctional Facility. *File photo by J. Simms*

City-based Doe Fund, which wanted to create a farming and job-training center for homeless and low-income people. The Doe Fund withdrew its proposal in 2017 after a coalition of officials at

(Continued on Page 19)

State Budget Boosts Housing, Clean Water

Education spending, eviction limits also approved

By Leonard Sparks

Although the Beacon and Garrison school districts lose funding in the newly enacted state budget, the City of Beacon will be better positioned to qualify for \$650 million in housing funding and Metro-North will receive more money to protect the Hudson Line from climate change. Those are some of the local impacts of the \$237 billion budget for 2024-25 that Gov. Kathy Hochul signed April 20 after reaching an agreement with members of the state Assembly and Senate. The agreement, contained in 10 budget bills, allows local governments to pass a

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5Q

FIVE QUESTIONS: **BECK BICKS**

By Mackenzie Boric

Beck Bicks runs the Instagram account @eatingbeacon.

Why did you start the account?

It was a happy accident. I moved here in 2017 after a rat fell through my ceiling in Brooklyn. We didn't have much going on. We went out to dinner at the Roundhouse to celebrate our move. I realized that on Instagram no one was doing anything about Beacon food, so I took a photo of the radishes and butter and posted it. I love food and I love finding hidden gems. In two days, I had several hundred followers.

How did you feel when your account passed 10,000 followers?

It always surprises me that so many people write me. I noticed that people like when I include my face in the photos. People started to notice me! I grew up in Memphis, and Beacon felt so new. I knew nobody and it felt hard to break into a community where you get the sense people have lived here for generations. The account was a way that I've made friends. People



recognize me and start conversations. It's exciting and fun because it feels hard as an adult to make friends and find your niche. When Hudson Taco opened in Newburgh, I couldn't go on the first day and I got 20 messages saying, "I was looking for you."

Have you heard from any restaurants?

They thank me for coming or ask me to visit. I had an early post about the Roundhouse that caused them to tell me they're doing their best and unfriend me. I went, "Oh, I don't like that," because I'm not a critic. That was when I decided to only post things that help businesses. I hear from restaurants that say, "We love your pictures. Want to come visit us?" I ask them what they think I should try. We get to eat delicious food for free and give publicity to local restaurants.

Has any restaurant become a favorite?

Red Pepper Diner is a Sri Lankan mom-and-pop place. It looked like a hole in the wall. I had the buffet brunch, and it was so warm and nice to be there. A lot of locals say it's their favorite.

What is your favorite dish?

Any kind of spaghetti or noodle. When the pandemic happened and we were stuck at home, I ate pasta for 600 days in a row. There's something so comforting about it.

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

In spring, did you catch turtles as a kid?

No, I caught minnows, and one frog.



Sarah Daniels, Beacon

In Highland Mills we caught painted and box turtles in an abandoned pool.



Mark Ronda, Beacon

Not in the desert near Tucson. And I was scared of the lizards.



Nia Thomas, Beacon

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New York Times op-ed columnist and two-time Pulitzer Prize winner

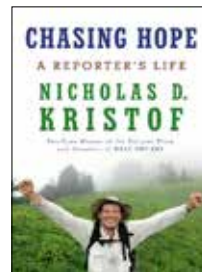
Saturday, June 8, at 7:30 p.m.

The Main Hall of Garrison Institute, 14 Mary's Way, Garrison, NY

This event is a fundraiser to kick off the start of *The Current's* 15th year!



Kristof will discuss his journalism with **Christopher Buck**, a Hudson Valley resident and founder and Board Chair of Retro Report, which creates documentary videos on critical news topics.



Tickets at \$65 will include Kristof's new book, *Chasing Hope: A Reporter's Life*.

Tickets are available **only for Current members** through April 30. General ticketing begins May 1 – or become a member now for as little as \$2/month and then have early access to this and other events celebrating our 15th year!

For tickets and more details, go to highlandscurrent.org/Kristof

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The Current is a nonprofit venture
supported by donations from its members.
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THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT
(USPS #22270) / ISSN 2475-3785

April 26, 2024
Volume 12, Issue 17

is published weekly by Highlands Current
Inc., 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2819.
Periodicals Postage Paid at Cold Spring, NY,
and at additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send
address changes to The Highlands Current,
142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2819.

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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

Kudos to the Cold Spring and Nelsonville mayors and Philipstown supervisor for voicing their concerns over the impact of the proposed Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail and their desire for a more conservative solution ("Mayors, Supervisor Oppose Trail in Cold Spring," April 19). I find it interesting that HHFT calls for "all voices to be heard" when it has not done so in its polished marketing sessions. Instead, Philipstown could host town halls to which HHFT could be invited. Then it can't pick and choose which questions to answer.

This is a project with huge consequences; it would behoove HHFT to lay all the cards on the table, including the cost to maintain it, the fact that the trail will not be bikeable to Beacon and the roundabout traffic circles being considered "to keep traffic moving" in a narrow and environmentally sensitive area.

Traffic issues need to be resolved, but there is more than one way to do so that will involve far less expense, be less damaging to the environment and attract far fewer people.

Mary Fris, *Beacon*

This is good news. I applaud the mayors and supervisor. Being a leader is hard

sometimes. You can't please everybody, but no one wants to leave a legacy of supporting something that will have severe consequences. Maybe we can get back to the original intent of a trail and not a bazillion-dollar white elephant.

Tony Bardes, *Philipstown*

At the Philipstown Town Board meeting on April 17, Supervisor John Van Tassel disclosed siting restrictions imposed by the Metropolitan Transit Authority that would limit trail construction adjacent to the Metro-North tracks.

He said Metro-North representatives were concerned that, with rising sea levels, the Fjord Trail could limit access to the tracks from the water.

"As they put it, they're in the business of moving trains, not hiking and hikers," he said. "They have some major upgrades that they're doing by Mayor's Park and they need both sides of the track to do it. They need both rails operable."

He added: "If HHFT's trail is there, it eliminates them from accessing the tracks from the river and that whole section of the causeway. If they needed to bring in barges or any type of material, they would not have that. ... The engineers were saying there are a lot of transmission wires under-

ground that follow the tracks that need to be accessible."

Katherine Lukacher, *Cold Spring*

I have wondered for a long time why Metro-North let the project get this far. This statement by the supervisor suggests it is waking up to the realities of rising water levels and the need to access the tracks from the river. That's hard to do when there's a massive concrete boardwalk in the way.

Peter Henderson, *Cold Spring*

As Philipstown supervisor, I informed and involved my board in actions that demanded their input. I not only "accepted" their input but welcomed and always valued it. This necessary collaboration is critical to democracy.

A lot of information has been put out that is inaccurate. The Visitation Data Committee makes assertions that are untrue and don't serve the residents of our town. Were the board members consulted before the release of two very public statements? For the three local leaders to unilaterally come out with an opinion without consulting their boards flies in the face of the democratic process and disenfranchises their board members and, by extension, their constituents.

This is not helpful to the process nor is it respectful of democratically elected boards. Since when were the two villages and the town only represented by three people?

Richard Shea, *Cold Spring*

Shea is a member of the board of Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Inc.

Richard Shea alleges the Visitation Data Committee "makes assertions that are untrue and don't serve the residents of our town."

When an accusation like that is made, especially by a former supervisor, I expect it to be backed up. I trust that the volunteers have worked overtime to learn the facts. I trust they, as well as our leaders, have residents' best interests at heart. So, what are you saying, Richard Shea?

Susan Peehl, *Cold Spring*

In response to Richard Shea's comment about his tenure as supervisor, I served on the Town Board the entire time he was supervisor and, after Nancy Montgomery left to become a county legislator, I was his deputy supervisor.

Richard worked for years in the development of the trail being discussed. I never was at a table, meeting or included in an email with this group. I can't speak for my colleagues at the time, but my guess is that neither were they. Richard would bring items to the board when it required a contract execution or an investment by the town.

I was vividly clear to the audience when I read the statement at our April 17 meeting
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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

that it was not the opinion of the Town Board. I was clear to the board members that I would look to them for support at some point and that I was signing on with the mayors.

I rarely respond to anything in this manner. I never utilize social media and rarely interact with critics. I was taught by Richard to rise above it. However, Richard's comments are grossly inaccurate and offensive.

I am proud of the collaboration and cooperation that's been established with both villages and their mayors during my tenure. This work has benefited the residents of the entire community, providing the ability to share services in a multitude of areas.

I will continue to work with my board and surrounding municipalities to provide the best outcome with HHFT and every other item that comes before us. I look forward to productive, cooperative meetings with HHFT and state parks to ensure that the proposed trail serves the safety and overcrowding demands of the area and is something residents are comfortable with.

John Van Tassel, *Philipstown*
Van Tassel is the Philipstown supervisor.

In this age of high-speed decision-making, it is often too easy to hit send. I did just that, and what was sent in haste has been regretted in leisure. Nothing is worth damaging a friendship and I value my friendship with John Van Tassel more than any issue. I am sorry, John. I let my ego and temper get the

better of me.

It appears that I have some fences to mend and I intend to do just that. And since I was so eager to mention my time as supervisor, I should also mention that I was always vexed when someone went to letter-writing rather than speaking to me directly, another crime that I have now committed. I should know better.

Speaking of mending fences, considering recent developments, it would appear that the HHFT board, of which I am a member, has work to do to gain the public's trust. We are committed to this work. See you around town.

Richard Shea, *Cold Spring*

I am one of the many who are part of the silent majority that lives within the Village of Cold Spring and supports the Fjord Trail from Cold Spring to Beacon. My historic 1814 home resides within the heart of the village and I would never support a project that would compromise the beauty and character of our historic community or parks, which my family and I love so much. I trust New York State Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation.

Peter Farrell, *Cold Spring*

I am devastated to see how many vocal people oppose such a wonderful concept. For years, I have been looking forward to walking or biking from my house in Beacon to Cold Spring. I can't express how much I hate being dependent on cars. This trail is a game-changer for people who don't want

to drive on Route 9D, disabled people who want to enjoy a local trail and parents who want to push strollers without getting into their cars and driving somewhere.

Young people especially think differently about car dependency. I would hope progressive-minded leaders would take into account the needs and desires of all generations when deciding on public projects.

Kyra Stoddart, *Beacon*

It would seem a reasonable request to have a non-binding public vote on the access points to the HHFT by the villages and town. Surveys are just that, a snapshot. If New York State and HHFT want to build according to their stated goals without true public support, that's probably their legal right. But whether they should may be a different story. If it has the public support, so be it.

Joe Curto, *Cold Spring*

The mayors and the supervisor have every right to take a position. In fact, they have an obligation as our elected representatives. To claim it is undemocratic or not representative is disrespectful to our community and just plain offensive.

All three were overwhelmingly elected and re-elected by our community. They are some of the most dedicated public servants in our community. All three didn't rush to this judgment but instead looked at the data and considered many viewpoints to arrive at a position that is for the good of

our entire community.

Tom Campanile, *Nelsonville*

You have to marvel at how loudly and shamelessly Philipstown residents and now its leadership love to repeat, "Keep it inaccessible!" And they mean it: Keep nature physically inaccessible for the young or elderly or those with physical impairments. "Keep it inaccessible!" financially to those without access to a car or who aren't wealthy enough to call this expensive little village home. They know exactly who they want to keep out. Make them say it out loud.

Chiara DiLello, *via Instagram*

I know many folks who oppose the Fjord Trail for the reasons discussed in the article. They are, however, afraid to speak out because of their board positions, employment by Chris Davis, state parks, etc. I applaud the mayors and supervisor for having the courage to speak out and hope more will follow. Let's get real: We don't even know how much this thing will cost us as taxpayers.

Cynthia Kling, *Cold Spring*

I'm getting quite tired of this debate. Where are the voices who can mention the positive things about the trail and why it was designed in the first place? It's only the "against" voices you hear all the time. Sick of it.

Lauren Wegel, *via Instagram*

(Continued on Page 6)



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By Stowe Boyd

Jonathan Haidt, a social psychologist at New York University, has a new book, *The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood Is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness*. In it, he writes: “We’ve overprotected our children in the real world, and we’ve underprotected them online.”

Last year, the state Office of Mental Health published the findings of a “listening tour” it conducted focused on the mental health of young people.

“Many young people, particularly in but not limited to rural areas, noted that there are few safe spaces to establish communities,” it reported. “Young people frequently suggested more clubs and community spaces or the establishment of youth-friendly gyms and other ‘third spaces’ (i.e., neither school nor home) where young people can gather.”

In Beacon, the city released a study in March 2023, the Community Facility and Program Report, that recommended open space and recreation initiatives, especially “the redevelopment of a city-owned building to accommodate an expanded/enhanced community center.”

Neither the New York or Beacon recommendations have been acted on.

Haidt contends that the replacement of an earlier low-tech childhood centered on group play and outdoor exploration with a high-tech, screens-centered, social media and video-game childhood is driving our children crazy. He sees smartphone use as a cause, not a correlation.

Surveys by the American College Health Association since 2010 have found more than 100 percent increases in anxiety and depression among college students. Clearly, something is going on. Things were going sideways long before the pandemic. The National Survey on Drug Use and Health does not show such dramatic anxiety spikes for Boomers (born 1946-1964) or Gen X (1965-1976) as for Millennials (1977-1995) and Gen Z (1996-2015).

Haidt argues that the “great rewiring” is a convergence of “safetyism” culture, or the hampering of childhood development by overprotective caregivers, and the reliance on smartphones.



In a nutshell, Haidt maintains that we’ve channeled young people away from activities that are considered unsafe, such as climbing trees or roughhousing with friends, or because they involve leaving the house and wandering around in the woods, back alleys and unsupervised areas.

“Mammals need to play to wire up their brains,” he writes. “First comes sensory systems, and then walking, and then talking.” Social systems become active through “synchronous facial interaction. You make faces at each other; you laugh. So synchrony and embodiment are part of the scaffolding by which a child engages with the social and physical world, and the brain grows in response.”

He believes that the rise of the internet has blocked that.

There was safetyism before smartphones, but the tipping point seems to be their combination about 10 years ago. “Once you take these weaker children who’ve been play-deprived and draw them into the virtual world — that’s when mental health collapses,” he writes. “It was not a gradual thing from the ’80s on. It was a very sudden thing around 2012 or 2013.”

Haidt acknowledges that parents who grew up in the 1970s and ’80s, when there was much more crime, may be more cautious. But those risks plummeted in the 1990s, he writes. “We have continued our overreaction to the crime levels of those bad old days, so we don’t let the kids go out to play.” As a Boomer, he grew up with “a free-range life.... Ultimately, we survived, accumulating scars, stitches and a deeper understanding of how far we could go, and go on our own.”

He sees children’s withdrawal from active play outside their bedrooms, the disconnect from the challenges and rewards of discovery in the woods and playgrounds reflected in an unusual statistic: the drop in the number of visits to the emergency room by boys and teens, which is lower today than the admittance rate for girls 15 years ago.

Stowe Boyd, who lives in Beacon and is a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, specializes in the economics and ecology of work and the “anthropology of the future.” This column focuses on the local impacts of larger trends.

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

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Cold Spring is not immune to changing times. I don’t blame people, though. The village doesn’t have the infrastructure for more tourism — yet.

Clara Rodriguez, *via Instagram*

I am glad the mayors and supervisor have spoken out on this issue. They have been working hard to obtain the relevant data and HHFT has not been particularly forthcoming. Let’s hope their statement has an impact.

David Limberg, *Nelsonville*

As usual, Philipstown will scratch and claw its way to stop progress. Build the trail!

Anthony Lise, *via Instagram*

MJ Martin of HHFT cited a survey that Walter Ulmer sent and indicated that most people want the trail as proposed. In fact, that survey showed that a plurality of residents (55 percent) do not want the trail as proposed. Unfortunately, this half-truth seems to be how HHFT communicates with the public.

Grace Kennedy, *Garrison*

The “anchor question” of the independent Fjord Trail Survey, to which Kennedy refers, asked respondents which “version” of the trail they preferred. Thirty-seven percent of all respondents wanted the trail built from Dockside Park to Beacon. Among the respondents who said they lived in the Village of Cold Spring, 29 percent wanted the trail built in its entirety. As Joe Curto mentioned earlier, a survey is a snapshot, and this survey was intended to be just that. A link to the survey results is available by emailing fjordtrailsurvey@gmail.com.

Walter Ulmer, *Cold Spring*

The mayors and supervisor shared their perspectives on a substantive issue affecting our community. It’s refreshing to hear from those entrusted with navigating complex matters like this one. In a democratic society, informed public discourse, especially on intricate topics, is vital and in keeping with the principles of open dialogue in the public square.

J. Carlos Salcedo, *Philipstown*

Larry Burke, the officer-in-charge of the Cold Spring police, is onto something when he says that “with only one road in and out of Dockside, large events can pose logistical problems for emergency vehicles” (April 19). If that understatement is true, how would a mob of HHFT tourists be any less catastrophic?

Derek Graham, *Cold Spring*

I am not in favor of the Fjord Trail. Still, we should be listening to Richard Shea: Van Tassel, Foley and Winward are executives of their boards. They’re not three people we elected to be smart and know best for the community.

As much as they can disclaim, “I am only speaking for myself,” three executives making the gesture of speaking in solidarity are using their leverage as elected executives. To treat this united action as simply among their

rights as private citizens is disingenuous.

I’ve been a fan of John Van Tassel. He is transparent, smart and well-spoken, so I have no reason to doubt the hypocrisy he alleges of the former supervisor’s solo actions. But the point that this project finds itself is far different from the nascent stages more than a decade ago of spitballing ideas in meetings to which Van Tassel and other Town Board members weren’t invited.

Let’s get to our ultimate outcome through representative democracy and not by what amounts to executive action.

Michael Robinson, *Cold Spring*

I am saddened by what is going on in our community. While I support the trail, I don’t think that victory by either side is worth what the argument is doing to our town and villages. I have been a member of the Philipstown Recreation Commission for 42 years. I served with Richard and John and three of their predecessors as supervisors. Both care deeply about the town. Their opinions may differ, but their hearts are in the right place.

Can we take a deep breath and turn down the volume? I don’t know where the point of agreement lies, but I know that somewhere there is a solution and we should spend more time seeking it rather than shouting at each other.

Claudio Marzollo, *Philipstown*

Magazzino

“An Italian Visits New York” (April 19) was wonderful, well-written and well-researched. Bravo! It gives *Current* readers a clear, well-informed understanding not only of the artworks on view at Magazzino but the history and personality of Mario Schifano, one of the greatest postwar Italian artists. April 19 was my birthday, and I considered this article my birthday gift.

Giorgio Spanu, *Garrison*

Spanu is the co-founder of Magazzino Italian Art.

Parking issues

I can’t wait for Beacon to add meters on Main Street and arterial streets like Cold Spring has done because it would create an opportunity to hire traffic enforcement officers (“Beacon Parking Hearing Likely to Continue,” April 12). The meters could be active only on peak days, and drivers could choose how to pay. The revenue would go toward beautification, food banks, snow shoveling and paying the officers.

With beat officers giving tickets, all sorts of citations could be issued, such as for engine idling, double parking, expired inspection stickers, speeding, going through red lights, etc. Ticket enforcement changes behavior, while no enforcement (what we have now) creates a dangerous vehicle rodeo.

Meters, enforcement and tickets are the solution if you want safer streets and to pay for ancillary services without taxes.

Ron Donofrio, *Beacon*

What the Beacon City Council needs to keep in mind is that cars are not going away,

(Continued on Page 7)

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 6)

and as the city develops and property values increase, so will the number and size of vehicles. That's why it's important that, with any parking plan, the capital and maintenance costs of parking for multifamily residential and commercial properties must be covered entirely by the developers and the commercial owners. They can't be allowed to offload their parking responsibilities and the cost of doing business onto residents.

Landlords and commercial property owners already have residents covering costs for a sizable percentage of their parking by relying on public lots and overspill on residential streets. Taxpayers provided the initial cost of those lots and streets, and we continue to pay for paving, salting, plowing and cleaning while every tax-evading, property-owning entity is repeatedly given tax breaks.

Kim Ward, *Beacon*

The new meters in Cold Spring are ridiculous. We paid \$14 to park to watch our children play baseball on Fair Street.

Nicole Hanby, *via Instagram*

I just listened to a podcast about parking. If you put paid parking in busy areas, the "all-day" people, such as shop workers, will park elsewhere nearby, leaving the paid parking for people who will be there an hour or two. That makes it more conve-

nient for shoppers, who otherwise have to hunt for parking two to three blocks away when they only need one or two things.

Barbara Sbraccia, *via Facebook*

Seventy-five dollars is too high for a parking offense in a small town. I didn't have my phone when I last visited Main Street and couldn't get the machine to read my card, so I left and drove back to Beacon. I am in favor of metered parking, but maybe only on weekends?

Harper Sanchez, *via Instagram*

Editor's note: The meters are only in effect on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Spring flowers

I loved Pamela Doan's column on spring flowers ("Roots and Shoots: Cool Spring Flowers," March 29). If you want some Virginia bluebells, I have them taking over my flowerbeds. I started out with one bare-root plant. Mine have begun to bloom, but there are many baby plants that I love to give away. The buds are pink and the flowers blue — so unusual.

Toni Houston, *Hopewell Junction*

Holtec

I support the ban on discharging millions of gallons of radioactive materials into the Hudson ("Holtec Sues Over River Ban," April 19). In my opinion, Holtec is suing to save itself money at the expense of the health and

well-being of residents and wildlife. The less it spends on decommissioning, the more it keeps from the decommissioning fund. It also wanted to discharge radioactive materials into Cape Cod, a major recreational area, which suggests the profit motive far exceeds any concern for safety and health.

Paula Clair, *Garrison*

Thrift thanks

We thank *The Current* for the excellent piece spreading the word about the thrift sale at St. Mary's Church ("Racking Up Support," April 19).

However, Dar Williams and I, who were interviewed together, want to make it clearer than the article did that it is a team of dedicated volunteers who make the sale happen. Raquel Vidal, Amy Kubik, Eugene Milroy, Joanne Russell, Shelley Gilbert, Charlotte Palmer, Sarah Wallis, Caitlin Chadwick, Michele Gedney, Julia Wood Ransom and many others have helped make this a huge success. Not one or even two of us could do it alone.

Ivy Meeropol, *Cold Spring*

Arbor Day

As we celebrate Arbor Day today (April 26), I wanted to thank Boscobel, M&T Bank, The Nest, Unicorn Contracting, the Haldane school district, St. Mary's Church and my fellow Tree Advisory Board members for the tree plantings that have occurred near

public ways in the village over the past two years through a public-private partnership.

You may have noticed that dozens of small trees have popped up near public walkways on either side of Route 9D on the properties of these partners. These trees, funded by private donations via the Boscobel Tree Fund, will become stately shade trees. The project added eight species to our community forest: black gum, scarlet oak, American hophornbeam, red maple, American hackberry, bald cypress, dawn redwood and ginkgo.

Planting rows of diverse species helps future-proof our tree colonnades, making them more resistant to species-specific pests and diseases such as those that long ago killed off our rows of American chestnuts and elms. Diversifying our inventory also helps boost ecosystem health and builds resilience in the face of our changing climate.

Planting trees on the private property side of sidewalks gives trees more rooting space than planting in the narrow strip between the sidewalk and the road, thus extending the life of the tree exponentially and reducing the sidewalk heaving that occurs when roots don't have enough space.

I hope that, as we watch these new trees leaf out this spring, everyone who owns property in the village will be inspired to follow this lead and plant a little tree in their yards.

Jennifer Zwarich, *Cold Spring*

Zwarich chairs the Tree Advisory Board.

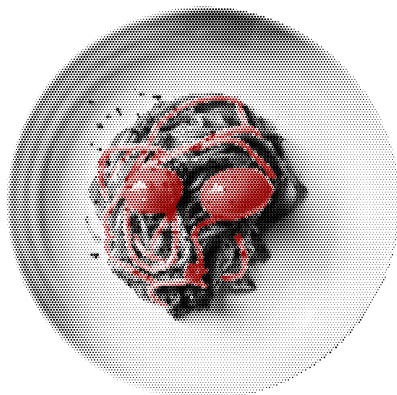
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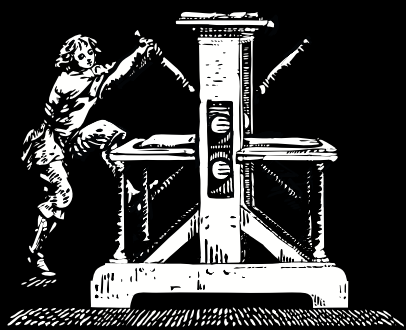
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Five Candidates for Five Seats

Ballot set for Haldane, Garrison school elections

By Chip Rowe

Two candidates submitted nominating petitions by the Monday (April 22) deadline for two open seats on the Haldane school board: Michelle Kupper and incumbent Maggie Valentine. John Hedlund, elected in 2018, did not seek a third, 3-year term. Valentine was elected in 2021.

Kupper, who moved to Cold Spring in 2016, has a son in middle school at Haldane and a daughter at the high school. She holds a doctorate in the sociology of education and is president of the Haldane School Foundation.



Kupper

The other board members are Sean McNall and Ezra Clementson, whose terms expire in 2025, and Peggy Clements, whose term expires in 2026.

In Garrison, three candidates submitted nominating petitions by the April 22 deadline for three open seats on the seven-member board.

Jennifer Harriton-Wilson, appointed in March 2023 to fill a vacancy, seeks a full, 3-year term. She has lived in Garrison for nearly 25 years and works at Putnam-Northern Westchester BOCES as an education technology coordinator.

Newcomers Eric Arnold and Peter Lesser are running for seats vacated by David Gelber, who joined the board in 2015, and Courtney McCarthy, who joined in 2017.

Arnold, who has lived in Philipstown since 2015, has a son in kindergarten and a son in the third grade at Garrison. He is an editorial director with a marketing agency and was formerly a journalist at *Wine Spectator* and *Forbes*.



Arnold

Lesser, a native of St. Louis, is a vice president and editor at W.W. Norton & Co., where he publishes college textbooks on political science. He moved to Philipstown in 2016 and has a daughter entering pre-K and a son in the first grade at Garrison.



Lesser

The other board members are Sarah Tormey and Kent Schacht, whose terms end in 2025, and Jocelyn Apicello and Dan Jasnow, whose terms end in 2026.

The trustee and budget votes for both districts are scheduled for May 21.

Nominating petitions for the Beacon school board, which has three open seats, are due by May 1.

State Budget (from Page 1)

“good-cause” law that limits when larger landlords can evict a tenant or refuse to renew a lease. It also restores \$250 million for clean-water projects and requires that, as of Jan. 1, employers provide 20 hours of paid prenatal leave.

The Highlands’ two Assembly members — Jonathan Jacobson, a Democrat whose district includes Beacon, and Dana Levenberg, a Democrat whose district includes Philipstown — voted for each of the 10 bills. Sen. Rob Rolison, a Republican whose district includes the Highlands, voted for five of the 10.

The final product boosts spending for Foundation Aid, the largest source of state aid to school districts, by \$934 million. The Legislature rejected Hochul’s proposal to eliminate a provision called “hold harmless” that protects districts from cuts.

Despite the overall spending increase, the Foundation Aid allocations for Beacon (\$21 million) and Garrison (\$592,000) are equal to 2023-24. But Beacon lost \$169,000 in other state aid, while Garrison gained \$33,500. Haldane will receive \$2.9 million in Foundation Aid, an increase of \$120,000, and the district’s overall aid rose by \$261,000.

The enacted budget includes legislation introduced by Jacobson that requires all high school seniors to submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form unless they obtain a waiver. “The biggest obstacle to college is the cost,” he said. “The way you get grants and scholarships is to fill out the FAFSA.”

Hochul said state legislators agreed to allow the state to require that municipalities be certified as a “pro-housing” community to apply for \$650 million in discretionary funding. To qualify, downstate municipalities must have issued building permits that increased their housing by at least 1 percent in the past year or by 3 percent over the previous three years. Natalie Quinn, Beacon’s planning consultant, told the City Council on April 8 that the city qualifies.

Beacon and other cities, towns and villages were authorized to pass good-cause legislation that limits when landlords can evict tenants or refuse to renew their leases. In March 2022, Beacon became one of a few municipalities enacting a good-cause law, although a City Court judge struck it down in November, after judges ruled that similar laws passed elsewhere

How They Voted

The state budget is spread over 10 individual bills. Here is how Highlands legislators voted.



Bills	Rolison	Levenberg	Jacobson
State Operations	YES	YES	YES
Legislature/Judiciary	YES	YES	YES
Debt Service	NO	YES	YES
Local Aid	NO	YES	YES
Capital Projects	YES	YES	YES
Public Protection/General Govt.	YES	YES	YES
Education/Labor/Family Assistance	NO	YES	YES
Health/Mental Hygiene	NO	YES	YES
Transportation/Economic Development/Environment	YES	YES	YES
Revenue	NO	YES	YES

were superseded by state law.

Supporters of good cause now have the imprimatur of the state law, which generally exempts landlords owning up to 10 units but allows municipalities to set their own criteria. The circumstances that will allow landlords to evict or refuse a lease renewal include when:

- Tenants have arrears that are not due to an “unreasonable” rent increase, which the state defines as an increase of 5 percent plus the annual percentage change in the consumer price index, or 10 percent, whichever is lower;
- The tenant is violating lease conditions, or causing substantial damage;
- The tenant is committing or permitting a nuisance;
- The landlord wants to convert the property to personal use.

Other highlights from the budget:

- Hochul and legislators approved \$500 million to build 15,000 housing units on state land. The state is considering the site of the shuttered Downstate Correctional Facility in Fishkill.
- The budget includes \$350 million to fund an additional tax credit for families eligible for the Empire State Child Tax Credit.
- The Senate and Assembly restored \$250 million for the Clean Water Infrastructure Act, which faced a 50 percent cut in the gover-

nor’s budget. The program funds infrastructure upgrades to drinking water systems.

■ The budget allocates \$20 million for resiliency projects on Metro-North’s Hudson Line, which has stops in Cold Spring, Garrison and Beacon and has been damaged by flooding and landslides from storms.

■ Beacon and other municipalities can now pass local laws granting tax exemption to property owners who build accessory dwelling units. The exemptions would apply to the assessment increase attributed to the unit and total 100 percent for the first five years and decreasing amounts for an additional five years.

■ People who lose properties for unpaid taxes can claim the surplus proceeds if municipalities auction them off. The U.S. Supreme Court overturned the practice in New York and other states where counties kept the proceeds. Several people whose properties were sold are suing Dutchess County.

■ Diabetics prescribed insulin no longer have to provide a copayment.

■ Newspapers that qualify can claim tax credits of up to \$25,000 annually for each local journalist they employ.

■ Movie theaters, which are allowed to sell beer and wine, can apply for a license to sell hard liquor, with sales beginning one hour before the first screening and limited to one drink per transaction.

PCNR (from Page 1)

“We are retiring,” wrote Cunningham, who lives in Beacon. “We have grandchildren now. We have appreciated your reading, your support and your encouragement. I hope you’ll provide the same support to the new owners.”

Eric Gross, who has been a reporter for *The PCNR* and *The Courier* for decades, said he planned to continue contributing to both papers. He said on Tuesday he did not know the identity of the new owners.

The PCNR’s Facebook page has been taken down, and the most recent posts to its Twitter and Instagram accounts are from 2023.

The paper was founded in March 1866



as *The Cold Spring Recorder* by Charles Blanchard, who promised readers “a family journal devoted to the dissemination of general and local news, and the impartial discussion of questions of public interest.”

He sold the paper in 1867 to a group of residents who appointed the village post-

master, Sylvester Beers Allis, as editor. Nearly 20 years later, in 1886, a county history reported that *The Recorder*, now owned by Allis, was “independent in politics, fearless in expression of opinion and has an extensive circulation.”

In 1938, *The Recorder* merged with *The Putnam County News*, founded five years earlier, to form *The Putnam County News & Recorder*. In 1965 the paper adopted the motto — “We are 100 Years Old — But New Every Wednesday” — for its centennial.

Roger Ailes purchased *The PCNR* from Brian O’Donnell in 2008, and Elizabeth Ailes became publisher. In early 2009 the Ailes bought *The Courier*, which had stopped publishing six weeks earlier.

Former Beacon Principal Sues School District

Alleges racial discrimination led to dismissal

By Jeff Simms

A former elementary school principal has sued the Beacon City School District, alleging that discrimination and a racially charged workplace led to his dismissal last year.

Daniel Glenn, who was hired as principal at South Avenue Elementary in August 2021, filed a civil suit in U.S. District Court on April 18. In the 17-page complaint, Glenn, who is Black, says he was the victim of “disparate treatment and a hostile work environment due to his race.” He asked to be returned to



Glenn

his job with back pay.

Superintendent Matt Landahl said this week that the district cannot comment on the case.

Glenn noted in his complaint that the staff at South Avenue was primarily white. He said that he told Landahl and Deputy Superintendent Ann Marie Quartironi in 2022 “that his job was permeated with racial discrimination on a continuous basis in the structure of how the school operated.”

For example, according to the complaint, when white employees at the school “did not get their way, they leveraged their race as a way to avoid accountability and to cast aspersions and blame on others perceived as less important, less powerful or less privileged.” A minority teacher wrote to Landahl, he claimed, “unequivocally exposing the toxic and racially charged discriminatory work

environment,” yet, according to Glenn, “no meaningful investigation was conducted.”

In contrast, Glenn alleged, the complaints of white staff members were “taken seriously and handled expeditiously.”

Glenn claimed that his job performance was “exemplary” but said he was terminated for “pretextual reasons.” He cited two incidents in 2023 that he portrayed as retaliation for his opposition to “unlawful discriminatory practices”: an allegation that he made an inappropriate comment to a female teacher who had recently returned to work after having a child and, a month later, a charge that he failed to adequately address a student’s complaint.

Glenn said he received no notice allowing him to contest allegations against him before being terminated by the school board on May 8, 2023, effective June 7, on

Landahl’s recommendation.

Glenn had been removed from his position months earlier; when Kelly Amendola, the current South Avenue principal, was hired in July, the district said that Brian Archer, its director of evaluation and student services, had been the acting principal for five months.

Glenn criticized what he called a “preconceived determination” to fire him, and said the district’s lack of a human resources department deprived him of the right to respond to Landahl’s recommendation. His “career prospects are now ruined,” according to the complaint.

In addition to reinstatement and back pay, Glenn is seeking unspecified compensatory damages. The school district has 21 days to respond.

Before being hired in Beacon, Glenn taught first and second grade for 19 years in the Newburgh district and was an assistant principal for three years in New Paltz.

NEWS BRIEFS

Ceiling Collapses in Boscobel Library

Historic site suspends house tours

The plaster ceiling in the library at the Boscobel mansion in Philipstown collapsed on April 16, prompting the historic site to close the home to tours.

The collapse damaged the room, its contents and adjacent rooms, Boscobel said in a statement, but no one was hurt.

The gardens, grounds and Visitor Center remain open. Boscobel plans to add more objects from its collection to the Visitor Center. The site has posted more information at boscobel.org/library-recovery-effort.



A plaster ceiling collapsed at Boscobel.

Photo provided

Pantry in Peekskill and Fareground in Fishkill, also received the OK from the Open Space Institute, which has a conservation easement.

“This community should be proud of the Davorens for what they do for the community, and we should all be proud of the fact that we got this turned around so quickly,” said Supervisor John Van Tassel.

Beacon Police Arrest Man Who Threatened Violence

Allegedly told passersby he would shoot them

The Beacon Police Department arrested a man on Main Street on April 21 after witnesses said he had threatened to shoot people. No gun was found.

In a statement, the department said that, based on body camera footage, an officer who located the suspect “deployed his rifle, as is appropriate for a call where a firearm may be involved, and attempted to get him to put his hands on the wall. He refused to comply multiple times until eventually putting his hands on the wall.”

The footage showed that, as other officers attempted to handcuff the man, “the suspect pulled his arm away from them and in front of his body,” police said. Officers “forced the suspect to the ground,” using what the department described as a “body segmenting” technique to control him.

Beacon Mayor Endorses Fjord Trail

Joins Fishkill supervisor to ask for more involvement

Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou and Town of Fishkill Supervisor Ozzy Albra asked this week for increased representation on the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail’s Visitation Data Committee, an eight-member group tasked with analyzing the projected impacts of the trail.

Earlier this month, five members from Cold Spring, Nelsonville and Philipstown expressed concerns about the ongoing data

effort and last week the mayors of Cold Spring and Nelsonville and the Philipstown supervisor publicly opposed plans to start the trail in Cold Spring.

In a statement on Tuesday (April 23), Albra noted that while the committee has only one member from Beacon and one from Fishkill, 80 percent of the proposed trail would run through those communities. He and Kyriacou said their municipalities strongly support the project and called for “completion of an objective analysis of potential impacts” to be reviewed by the full committee.

Kyriacou said at the City Council meeting on Monday that construction could begin in Beacon if there are concerns to address on the other end.

Central Hudson to Resume Collections

Utility says 25 percent of customers behind on payments

Central Hudson, which at the beginning of the pandemic shutdown paused efforts to collect past-due bills, announced April 19 it will resume collections this month on delinquent residential accounts.

The utility said it will focus on customers who are more than two months in arrears, beginning in the Kingston area and continuing through the summer.

Central Hudson has not charged late fees or terminated residential service for non-payment since March 2020. It said 25 percent of customers have a balance that is at least 60 days overdue.

“Over the last few years, we have been

diligently focused on rebuilding trust and confidence in our billing process,” a representative said in a statement. “When customers don’t pay the bills for the electric and gas services they utilize, their neighbors bear the added burden.”

The utility advised customers in arrears to visit cenhud.com/en/account-resources/assistance-programs.

Judge Dismisses Lawsuit

Resident sued Cold Spring over rezoning

A state judge in Carmel on April 5 dismissed as meritless a lawsuit by a Rock Street resident who alleged the mayor, the Village Board and the Planning Board in Cold Spring had acted illegally by making a zoning change.

William Pugh filed the lawsuit in August 2023, claiming that changing the 11-acre Marathon Battery plant site on Kemble Avenue from industrial to mixed-use was illegal “spot zoning” to “benefit politically favored friends.”

Pugh, who is appealing, made similar charges in public comments at Village Board meetings. He protested that an ad hoc committee created to recommend changes to the village code, which included Mayor Kathleen Foley, did not hold public meetings or keep minutes.

In the lawsuit, Pugh claimed the rezoning decreased the value of his property by causing a “change of community character, as well as the socio-economic status of everything in the village” because of what he said would be a 10 percent increase in population due to new housing.

Farm Will Use Philipstown Land

Sweet potatoes will go to food pantries

The Philipstown Town Board on April 17 approved an agreement with Davoren Farm to grow sweet potatoes on town property on Route 9D near Route 403 to donate to food pantries.

Davoren, which donates produce to the Philipstown Food Pantry in Cold Spring, Fred’s

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AROUND TOWN



▲ **PHANTOM** — The Beacon Players presented *Phantom of the Opera* at Beacon High School on April 19, 20 and 21, complete with a crashing chandelier and a live orchestra of professional and student musicians. For more photos, see highlandscurrent.org.



▲ **WRINKLE** — Actors from Haldane Middle School performed *A Wrinkle in Time*, based on the bestselling children's book, on April 20 and 21 under the direction of Jenna Isabella and Rebecca Masback.

Photos by Ross Corsair



◀ **NEW SHADE** — Beacon residents purchased more than three dozen shade trees through the Recreation Department's Backyard Tree pilot program, which will continue next spring. Beacon negotiated discounts on six types of native trees and city workers (including Recreation Director Mark Price) provided free delivery. The city also plans to add a dozen trees on Main Street and at the Henry Street parking lot.

Photo provided

The Calendar



Serious Comedy staged improv shows at the former Beacon High School before moving to Two Way Brewing.

Photo provided

Looking for Laughs?

Comedians take the stage in burgeoning Beacon comedy scene

By Marc Ferris

For a fledgling stand-up comedian, five minutes can feel like an eternity. On a recent Wednesday night at Two Way Brewing's open mic, two performers paused to ask host Kevin Ludlow how much time remained. One had two minutes to go, the other 90 seconds.

There's no money on the bottom or middle rungs of stand-up or improv, said Beacon's comedy impresario, Chris Fontakis, but the mostly 20- and 30-something participants find it challenging, if not fun.

Reaching the pinnacle can be lucrative. "The actors on *The Office* and *Parks and Recreation* have extensive improv experience," said Fontakis, who in 2019 created Serious Comedy Theatre, an incubator that offers group classes, produces shows and provides coaching.

Fontakis first took space in the former Beacon High School and is now transforming Two Way Brewing's back room with lights, rigging, speakers and curtains, but no stage. He holds classes at several sites around the city.

"After COVID, comedy just exploded," Fontakis said. "Some high-end performers from the city now live here and bring their friends up to do shows from time to time. We get some big names in underground comedy, although not necessarily household acts."

Ludlow, who studied with Fontakis at Serious, uses his open mic at Two Way to identify talent and provide a forum for anyone to perform a five-minute set. Open mics are typically offered to musicians; the occasional singer-guitarist who shows up at Two Way is allowed two songs.

A couple of years ago, a comedian took over the back room, and Ludlow recently stepped in to handle hosting duties. He also branched out to Happy Valley Arcade Bar, last month presenting a first-anniversary show of his Comedy at the 'Cade event, which

Local Comedy

Comedy at the 'Cade

HAPPY VALLEY ARCADE BAR, BEACON

Monthly on a Thursday, 8 p.m.

Duke Comedy Theatre

Beacon's Bechdel Test:
Improv by Women

BEACON MUSIC FACTORY

May 10, 7 p.m.

Duke Comedy Theatre

Your Bizarre Day

BEACON MUSIC FACTORY

Third Friday, 7 p.m.

Friday Night Live!

MOVE, COLD SPRING

April 26, 7 p.m.

Open Mic

TWO WAY BREWING, BEACON

Wednesdays, 7 p.m.

Open Mic

THE ROOSEVELT, BEACON

Last Monday, 7:30 p.m.

Serious Comedy Theatre

Open Improv Jam

TWO WAY BREWING, BEACON

Mondays, 7 p.m.

Serious Comedy Theatre

Improv Show

TWO WAY BREWING, BEACON

Second Saturdays, 8 p.m.

Stand Up Beacon

BEACON THEATER

May 23, 7:30 p.m.

showcased four local performers who got 10 minutes each, followed by a more notable,

(Continued on Page 14)



Pete Seeger and David Bernz

Photo by Mai Jacobs

The Pete Seeger Tapes

For years, David Bernz taped the folk-music legend. In a new book, he shares his friend's musings and memories.

By Marc Ferris

Counting the number of music store owners who have published a book, passed the bar exam and won two Grammy Awards takes one finger.

David Bernz, the humble co-owner of Jake's Main Street Music in Beacon, is a proficient musician with a distinguished pedigree in folk music circles who enjoyed a friendship and collaborative relationship with Pete Seeger, a familiar face in the city for 65 years until his death in 2014 at age 94.

Now comes a book, *Chopping Wood: Thoughts & Stories of a Legendary American Folksinger*, compiled by Bernz and scheduled for publication on May 3, Seeger's birthday. That evening, Bernz and friends will celebrate Seeger's legacy at the Towne Crier, 379 Main St.

The book, which is being published by Jawbone Press in London, includes Seeger's musings on music, history, civil rights and the environment recorded by Bernz during the icon's later years. Other bits and pieces from the archives include a letter Seeger sent to Bruce Springsteen in 2006 detailing his intent to give away his song royalties.

Bernz wrote the preface and ample contextual material, which makes up about a third of the text. It reveals the pair's close personal and professional relationship that began in the mid-1970s when the teenaged Bernz chauffeured Seeger to gigs.

"The recordings started because Pete knew I had a four-track device," Bernz recalls. "I was a novice, but he'd call and say, 'The BBC wants me to answer three questions,' or 'I need to record a song for a special occasion.' He felt comfortable in my house."

The requests grew more frequent and the projects expanded, which provided material for the book and the Grammys.

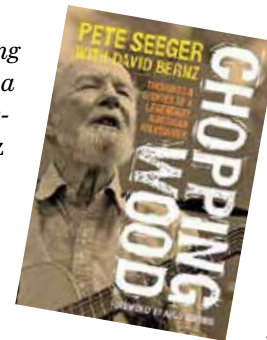
"At one point, I figured the [spoken-word] tapes would end up in the dustbin of history, but then I thought, 'It would be crazy not to work on this,'" Bernz says. "We need to get more of his ideas out there, especially with all the rancor these days. He was all about finding commonalities."

In 2008, Bernz won his first Grammy, as a producer, for *Pete Seeger at 89*, which was named best folk album. Two years later, *Tomorrow's Children* — a project initiated by Dan Einbender in the Beacon schools that features the Rivertown Kids singers — won best children's album.

Folk music is in Bernz's blood: During a jam session at his shop on April 14, he played a song that turned "Mary Had a Little Lamb" into a Civil Rights manifesto.

He said his father, Harold Bernz, became radicalized during the Great Depression and viewed music as a way to foster social change.

(Continued on Page 14)



Festival Planned for 2025

After a three-year hiatus, the Clearwater Festival may return to Croton Point Park in 2025 to honor Pete Seeger, who founded it decades ago with his wife, Toshi.

A newly created nonprofit, RiverFest for Pete's Sake, based in Briarcliff Manor, hopes to raise \$950,000 to hold the Hudson River Folk Festival over Father's Day weekend. Hudson River Sloop Clearwater canceled the festival in 2022 because of financial shortfalls.

The new group was created by Mitzi Elkes, a Clearwater board member; Hal Cohen, a Clearwater founder; and artist Roy Volpe. It announced its plan on April 14 and launched a website at riverfestfps.org.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 27

Shredder Day

COLD SPRING

9 a.m. – Noon. The Nest
44 Chestnut St.
coldspringlions.org/shredder

Residents and businesses are invited to bring documents (with paper clips and bindings removed) for commercial shredding. Donations to the Cold Spring Lions Club are welcome.

SAT 27

Book Sale

COLD SPRING

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Find secondhand books in all genres at this library fundraiser. Daily through SUN 5.

SAT 27

Prescription Drug Take Back Day

BEACON

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Beacon Rec Center
23 W. Center St.

Drop off unused or expired prescriptions for safe disposal.

SAT 27

Thrift Sale

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. – 6 p.m. St. Mary's Parish Hall
1 Chestnut St.

Shop for gently used adult clothing to benefit the church and Philipstown Food Pantry. There will also be a mending station and bake sale. Early-bird admission is \$20 today from 10 to 11 a.m. Fill a bag for \$10 from 3 to 6 p.m. on SUN 28.

SAT 27

Tourism Volunteers

BEACON

Noon. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza

Dutchess Tourism is recruiting volunteers to staff the Welcome Center at Polhill Park, which will reopen soon after a four-year hiatus.

WED 1

Hudson Valley Fair

WAPPINGERS FALLS

5 – 10 p.m. Heritage Park
1500 Route 9D
dreamlandamusements.com

There will be dozens of rides, a children's area, games and food. Wristbands for unlimited rides are \$37. Free admission and parking. Continues daily through SUN 5.

THURS 2

Garage and Rummage Sale

BEACON

9 a.m. – 3 p.m. St. Joachim's
51 Leonard St.

The Women's Parish Club is hosting its annual sale, with deals on clothing, accessories and

household items. Also FRI 3, SAT 4.

THURS 2

Blood Drive

GARRISON

Noon – 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Make an appointment online or walk in to donate blood with the Red Cross.

SAT 4

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off

KENT

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Fahnestock Park
1570 Route 301
putnamcountyny.com/health/recycle

Register online for a time slot to drop off cleaners, herbicides and other waste at the Canopus Beach parking lot for disposal. See the website for what is accepted.

SAT 4

Modern Makers Market

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. St. Mary's
1 Chestnut St. | hopsonthehudson.com

More than 50 artisans and artists will be selling their work, including woodworkers, potters, candle makers, jewelers and glass makers. Rain or shine. Also SUN 5.

SAT 4

Funminster Dog Show

PATTERSON

Noon – 3 p.m. Patterson Rec Center
65 Front St. | putnamservicedogs.org

Bring your pooch to compete for awards such as best ears or shaggiest coat at this fifth-annual fundraiser for Putnam Service Dogs. All breeds, ages and sizes welcome. Registration begins at noon and costs \$20 per dog. There will also be food trucks, games and a silent auction. *Cost: \$15 (\$5 ages 12 and younger)*

SAT 4

Casino Royale

GARRISON

7 p.m. Highlands Country Club
955 Route 9D
haldaneschoolfoundation.org

Try your luck at casino games at this Haldane School Foundation fundraiser. *Cost: \$185*

SUN 5

Hudson Valley Marathon

POUGHKEEPSIE

5 a.m. – 2 p.m. Walkway Over the Hudson
hudsonvalleymarathon.com

Sign up for a 1-mile, 5K, 10K, half-marathon or marathon. *Cost: \$30 to \$175*

SUN 5

Rabies & Distemper Clinic

BEACON

9 a.m. – Noon. Memorial Park
198 Robert Cahill Drive | 845-831-5161
arbbeacon.org

Bring your dog or cat for a low-cost vaccination at this clinic hosted by the Animal Rescue Foundation. *Cost: \$15*

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 27

Ree-Play Sale

BEACON

9 a.m. – 2 p.m. University Settlement
724 Wolcott Ave. | weeplayproject.org

This annual fundraiser for the Wee Play Project features children's clothing up to sizes 14/16, baby gear, books, games and recreation equipment. Bring bags. Also SUN 28.

SAT 27

Water Safety

GARRISON

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

Children ages 3 to 10 will learn techniques to prevent drowning. Registration required.

SAT 27

Finding Nemo Jr.

GARRISON

7 p.m. Philipstown Rec Center
107 Glenclyffe
philipstownny.myrec.com

Follow the journeys of Marlin, Nemo and Dory in this performance based on the Disney musical. Also SUN 28. *Cost: \$10*

FRI 3

Radical Reptiles

BEACON

10 a.m. Water Ecology Center
199 Dennings Ave.

Enjoy a family-friendly encounter with live animals, such as an eastern



Riverkeeper Sweep, May 4

box turtle, at this Beacon Institute event. Email bwalsh@clarkson.edu to register.

SAT 4

ComicVerse

COLD SPRING

1 – 3 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Meet local comic-book authors and compete in a cosplay contest.

SAT 4

Moana

GARRISON

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

Children are invited to watch the 2016 animated film about a girl who travels across the Pacific Ocean to confront the demigod Maui.



SUN 5

Kids' Fishing Derby

NELSONVILLE

8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Reservoir | Fishkill Road

The Nelsonville Fish & Fur Club hosts this annual event, which began in 1988, for children and teenagers ages 15 and younger and provides lessons. *Free*

NATURE & OUTDOORS

SAT 27

Annual Plant Sale

PHILIPSTOWN

9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Stonecrop
81 Stonecrop Lane | 845-265-2000
stonecrop.org

More than a dozen growers will have plants for sale. Admission is \$5.

SAT 27

Arbor Day Celebration

BEACON

1 p.m. M&T Bank | 200 Main St.

The Beacon Tree Advisory Committee will plant a tree and provide live music and giveaways.

SAT 4

Riverkeeper Sweep

BEACON

8 – 11 a.m. Dennings Point
199 Dennings Ave.
bit.ly/dennings-cleanup-2024

The Beacon Institute is organizing this cleanup for the 13th annual event. Register online. Volunteers should park near the gated park entrance at the Beacon water treatment plant. Walk past the gate, down the dirt road, over the bridge and head left to the trailhead (about 1/2 mile). Bring hats, sunscreen, a full reusable water bottle, insect repellent, work gloves and hand sanitizer.

SAT 4

Riverkeeper Sweep

BEACON

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Seeger Park
2 Red Flynn Drive | riverkeeper.org

SAT 4

Riverkeeper Sweep

COLD SPRING

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Dockside | 34 West St.
riverkeeper.org

SAT 4

I Love My Park Day

PHILIPSTOWN

8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Bannerman Island
3007 Route 9D
ptny.org/events/i-love-my-park-day

Volunteers will clear and clean trails. For ages 18 and older. Register online.

SAT 4

I Love My Park Day

PHILIPSTOWN

8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Hubbard Lodge
2920 Route 9
ptny.org/events/i-love-my-park-day

The lodge will host group rides (helmets required) and hikes for all ages. There will be a clean-up from 9 a.m. to noon for ages 13 and older. Register online.

SAT 4

I Love My Park Day

PHILIPSTOWN

9 a.m. – Noon. Little Stony Point
3007 Route 9D
ptny.org/events/i-love-my-park-day

Volunteers will clear and clean trails. All ages welcome. Register online.



Here. Is. Better., April 27

SAT 4

I Love My Park Day

WAPPINGERS FALLS

9 a.m. – Noon. Stony Kill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane
ptny.org/events/i-love-my-park-day

Volunteers will prepare the garden paths. All ages welcome. Register online.

SAT 4

I Love My Park Day

PHILIPSTOWN

9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Cornish Estate
ptny.org/events/i-love-my-park-day

Volunteers will clear and clean trails at the former estate inside the Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve. For ages 13 and older. Register online.

SAT 4

Wilderness Survival 101

CORNWALL

10 a.m. – Noon.
Outdoor Discovery Center
120 Muser Drive | 845-534-5506
hnnaturecenter.org

Adults and children ages 7 and older will learn how to build a shelter, make a fire and other general skills. *Cost: \$15 (\$12 members)*

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 27

Here. Is. Better.

BEACON

1 p.m. Beacon Theater | 445 Main St.
beaconmovietheater.com

This 2021 documentary tracks the lives of four veterans healing from post-traumatic stress disorder. A panel discussion will follow with the film’s producers and the director of veterans programs for Mental Health America of Dutchess County. *Cost: \$15 (\$13 seniors, military, ages 9 and younger)*

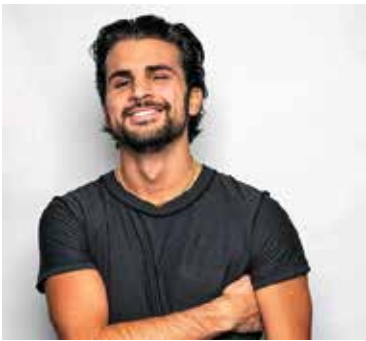
SAT 27

Eric D’Alessandro

PEEKSKILL

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

The comedian will perform stand-up as part of his I Don’t Understand Tour. *Cost: \$40 to \$75*



SUN 28

The Peekskill Riots

PUTNAM VALLEY

11 a.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org

Jon Scott Bennett will screen the first episode of his documentary about the racist violence that erupted outside Black singer and activist Paul Robeson’s concert in 1949 in Peekskill. *Cost: \$10*

SUN 28

Hansel and Gretel

BEACON

4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | howlandmusic.org

The Howland Chamber Music Circle will present Engelbert Humperdinck’s children’s opera about the classic tale of encountering a witch while lost in the woods. Local singers and the Met Chorus Artists will perform. *Cost: \$15 (children free)*

FRI 3

Ancient Aliens: Project Earth

PEEKSKILL

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

The live show features investigators and theorists from the History Channel program who will explain how aliens have been visiting Earth for millions of years. *Cost: \$47 to \$67*

SAT 4

Charm Circle

BEACON

1 p.m. Beacon Theater | 445 Main St.
beaconmovietheater.com

Watch the 2021 documentary about a family’s struggles with crises and mental health. A panel discussion will follow the screening with director Nira Burstein and mental health professionals Andrew O’Grady and Steve Miccio. *Cost: \$15 (\$13 seniors, military, ages 9 and younger)*

SUN 5

This Man’s a Spy

GARRISON

2 p.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Carla Lynne Hall and Jim Keyes will perform a musical retelling of Benedict Arnold’s treason. *Cost: \$10 (\$5 ages 4 to 18)*

TALKS & TOURS

SAT 27

Opening Day

BEACON

11 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Beacon dock
845-831-6346 | bannermancastle.org

Bannerman Castle and the island trails will open for the season; tour with a guide or on your own. Boats leave hourly until 3:30 p.m. *Cost: \$45 (\$35 ages 12 and younger)*

SAT 27

5 Poets

BEACON

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

Ruth Danon invited Jason Koo, Catherine Barnett, Tiffany Troy, Silvina López Medin and Stephen Massimilla to share their work. *Cost: \$15*

SAT 27

Colm O’Shea and David Hollander

BEACON

8 p.m. Stanza Books | 508 Main St.
845-440-3906 | stanzabooks.com

O’Shea will read from his novel, *Claiming de Wayke*, and Hollander will read from *Anthropica*.



Jessica Meyer, April 28

SAT 4

Khaholi Bailey and Kate Axelrod

BEACON

8 p.m. Stanza Books | 508 Main St.
845-440-3906 | stanzabooks.com

Bailey will read from her essays in *The Miseducation of a ’90s Baby*, while Axelrod will read from her short stories in *How to Get Along Without Me*.

MUSIC

SAT 27

Saints of Swing

COLD SPRING

5 p.m. First Presbyterian
10 Academy St. | 845-265-3220
presbychurchcoldspring.org

Rene Bailey and Dale DeMarco will perform with an eight-piece band. *Free*

SAT 27

Cuboricua

BEACON

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

The ensemble plays the rhythms of the Caribbean. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SUN 28

Jessica Meyer

COLD SPRING

4 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.org

Meyer will play original works on viola and a loop pedal from her recordings, *I long and seek after* and *Ring Out*. Donations welcome. *Free*

SUN 28

MaMuse

BEACON

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

Sarah Nutting and Karisha Longaker’s acoustic music follows folk and gospel traditions. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

THURS 2

Croce Plays Croce

PEEKSKILL

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

Singer and pianist A.J. Croce will play the songs of his father, Jim Croce. *Cost: \$45 to \$65*

SAT 4

Zohar & Adam with Friends

BEACON

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

Ben Mizrach and Nate Allen will join the duo. *Cost: \$10 (\$15 door)*

SAT 4

Southern RockFest

PEEKSKILL

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

In this double bill, A Brother’s Revival will play the Allman Brothers’ music and Classic Skynyrd will play tribute to Lynyrd Skynyrd. *Cost: \$35 to \$50*

SAT 4

KJ Denhert

BEACON

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

Denhert and her band, the NY Unit, will be joined by songwriter and singer Michele Gedney. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

VISUAL ARTS

SAT 27

Now We Have Seen

PHILIPSTOWN

11:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Magazzino
2700 Route 9 | 845-666-7202
magazzino.art

This symposium on women and art in Italy in the 1970s will feature five scholars and the release of a collection of essays on the topic. *Free*

FRI 3

Ada Pilar Cruz

COLD SPRING

5 – 8 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery
123 Main St. | busterlevigallery.com

The artist’s show, *Arctic Kelp Mappings*, will be on view through June 2.

SUN 5

Artists’ Talk

GARRISON

3:30 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3960
garrisonartcenter.org

Debra Ramsay and Leslie Roberts will discuss their work.

CIVIC

SUN 28

Voter Awareness Day

BEACON

1 – 5 p.m. Happy Valley | 296 Main St.

Get information about local candidates and register to vote.

MON 29

Community Planning Workshop

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Via Zoom
go.rutgers.edu/ppx9fdcs

The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council will host this session to discuss improvements for village streets. Register online.

WED 1

Village Board

COLD SPRING

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

THURS 2

Town Board

PHILIPSTOWN

7:30 p.m. Town Hall | 238 Main St.
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com



PETE SEEGER

FRI 3

Birthday Celebration

BEACON

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

Held on the anniversary of the folk singer’s birth, this event will include a “song or story” open mic and mark the release of David Bernz’s book, *Chopping Wood: Thoughts and Stories of a Legendary American Folksinger*. (See Page 11.) A food and drink purchase of at least \$15 is required.

SAT 4

Birthday Celebration

BEACON

1:30 – 4 p.m. Beacon Sloop Club
2 Red Flynn Drive
beaconsloopclub.org

This circle of song to honor the folk singer will begin following the Riverkeeper clean-up.

SUN 5

Annual Festival

PUTNAM VALLEY

2 – 5 p.m. Tompkins Corners C.C.
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org

Musicians who played with the folk singer — including the Trouble Sisters, Sarah Underhill, David and Jacob Bernz and the Old School Bluegrass Band — will host this eighth annual song circle. *Free*

Current Classifieds

HELP WANTED

FARM STORE ASSISTANT — The Glynwood Farm Store, located in an idyllic setting on our working farm and 226-acre property is seeking a Farm Store Assistant. In this position, you will be opening, running and closing the store all while providing a high-level of customer service. Regular hours are Sunday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Tuesday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Compensation for this position is \$21.78 per hour. To view the full job description and details on how to apply, visit our website at <https://www.glynwood.org/about>.

EVENTS

MODERN MAKERS MARKET — 60 artisans, 3 food trucks and live music in Cold Spring at St. Mary's Episcopal Church on May 4 and 5 and June 8 and 9, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Go to HopsontheHudson.com to see who will be exhibiting, cooking and singing. Come by train and then a short walk through beautiful Cold Spring. Free admission, dog-friendly and we will be there rain or shine. Follow us on Instagram and Facebook @HopsontheHudson.

FOR RENT

COLD SPRING — Approximately 460-square-foot office in well-maintained professional building (The Carriage House) in the Village of Cold Spring. Ideal for solo use or as shared space with a quiet professional. Within walking distance of train with ample on-site private parking. Available May 1. Call Kevin at 845-265-2683.

SERVICES

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Seeger (from Page 11)

Harold worked with Seeger to establish the quarterly *People's Songs Bulletin* in 1946. It evolved in 1950 into *Sing Out!*, which covered the folk and acoustic scene and was published until 2014, the year Seeger died and Main Street Music opened.

The younger Bernz grew up on Red Hill in Croton-on-Hudson, a magnet for left-wing artists and activists from New York City. He moved to Beacon in 1991 because of its affordability, proximity to the river and

his job in the legal profession. He named the store after his son, Jacob, who is also a musician and songwriter.

The Bernz authorized to practice law still does so on occasion but mostly enjoys interacting with musicians at the store and playing banjo and guitar onstage with Jake, which they did April 6 at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon with a handful of guests. The show included several high-folk moments as people sang along to lyrics extolling the "shining light of love" and dreaming that "the world had all agreed to put an end to war."

Comedy (from Page 11)

often imported, headliner for 20 minutes.

In the last few months, John Pugh, another Serious alum, began hosting monthly sessions for newbie comics at The Roosevelt. A friend, Vic Alam, brings in a DJ setup.

"It energizes the audience, and the performers get to experience what it's like at a club," explained Pugh. "I wanted to create a fun environment where everyone supports each other sharing their art."

The Artichoke Storytelling series at the Howland Cultural Center also leans toward comedy and Leah Worrell has hosted NOPen MIC events at The Yard. The Towne Crier occasionally hosts comics such as Joe DeRosa, who performed April 12 in an event produced by the Laugh It Up club in Poughkeepsie.

At Two Way Brewing, Danny Mendez and Nick Bailey sometimes produce shows. Bailey will present a show in July at the brewery and Mendez has booked events in New Windsor, Newburgh and Fishkill. Fontakis' improv show every second Saturday at Two Way spotlights his best students, while a weekly improv jam is open to everyone.

Many people, even aspiring comedians, are hesitant about public speaking, so the best hosts cultivate a nurturing atmosphere. They also enjoy watching regulars keep



Kevin Ludlow hosts a comedy open mic at Two Way Brewing in Beacon.

Photo by Emily Lugo

getting on the horse to improve their game and deliver what's known as a "tight five" set.

"I love seeing people come out of the shell," said Ludlow, a corporate trainer by day. "Maybe they're hesitant at first, but when they emerge, it's fun to watch."

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

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PLANET PARTIES

Earth was the site of several events this past weekend in Philipstown that celebrated our attempts to preserve it. On April 19, the Manitou School set up 13 stations for its students to learn about environmental topics. On April 20, Boscobel hosted environmental groups and musician Mark Rust and shared replica antique toys. Later that day, the annual Highland Lights procession took place at the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, celebrating water creatures.

Photos by Ross Corsair



Calling all Volunteers!

Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail is hosting a clean-up at Dockside Park for the
13th Annual Riverkeeper Sweep!

Saturday, May 4 | 9 am - 12 pm



**RIVERKEEPER
SWEEP**

Want to help out and give back to our river?

Register with Riverkeeper to join in at Dockside or a nearby site!



Have questions about the Fjord Trail?

Drop by our next Sunday Afternoon Chat

Sunday, April 28 | 2 pm - 4 pm at Hubbard Lodge

Come join the conversation and get answers to your questions in-person and in detail

 Hudson Highlands
Fjord Trail

Company Adds Spice to Beacon

Indian food business opens new facility

By Leonard Sparks

The rumors about Cafe Spice's relocation from New Windsor to Beacon may have been the only things spicier than the chicken vindaloo and other Indian dishes the company has made for more than two decades.

In 2018, when the company owners were said to be interested in relocating to Beacon, Orange County officials launched a campaign to get them to stay.

This month, Cafe Spice announced it would make the move to a 70,000-square-foot space at 511 Fishkill Ave., next door to the Industrial Arts Brewing Co. But it won't be leaving New Windsor: its 50,000-square-foot facility there will remain as its headquarters, said Virgilio Felix, the chief operating officer.

He said the Beacon plant will accommodate a demand for the company's products, which include private-label foods. Felix also noted the Beacon building has higher ceilings,



An employee watches an assembly line at Cafe Spice's new Beacon facility.

giving Cafe Spice "the ability to bring in more advanced automation to our processes."

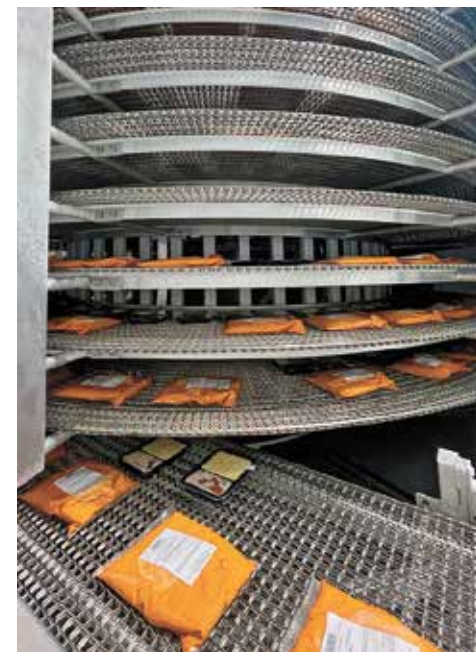
"We've done things from Peruvian, Mediterranean, American and Mexican," he said. "If someone comes to us and wants to produce a specific product, like mac-and-cheese, we're able to do that as well."

Empire State Development contributed \$1.4 million to the \$9.1 million project to renovate and equip the Beacon location, which has easy access to Interstate 84, and

to renovate the Cafe Spice building in New Windsor. The firm has 150 employees.

Sameer Malhotra and his father, Sushil, who supplied spices and chutneys to Indian restaurants in New York City, launched Cafe Spice in 2000, opening eponymous restaurants in Manhattan, Jersey City, Philadelphia and Gaithersburg, Maryland.

The family closed the restaurants in 2010 to concentrate on Cafe Spice Express, a chain of food stands at Grand Central Station



The higher ceilings at the Beacon facility have allowed Cafe Spice to install larger equipment.

Photos provided

and major universities, and making ready-to-eat foods for sales in supermarkets. When it outgrew a 5,000-square-foot facility in Long Island City, it relocated in 2008 to a former sausage plant in New Windsor in 2008.

Its vegetarian heat-and-serve and gluten-free meat dishes, sold by Whole Foods, ShopRite, Adams Fairacre Farms and other grocers, include Indian favorites such as chicken tikka masala, saag paneer and vegetable korma. It also makes naan and dairy-free products.

Challenger *(from Page 1)*

Levenberg was joined in the challenge by Sandy Galef, who held the seat in the Assembly for 30 years before retiring in 2022, and a voter, Catherine Borgia. They objected to 515 of the 655 signatures submitted by Mintz, who needed 500 to force a primary.

Last week, they also filed a lawsuit in Westchester County Supreme Court, saying they wanted to preserve the right to challenge the petitions if the Board of Elections ruled in Mintz's favor.

Attorney Robert Spolzino told Judge Charles Wood that the Board of Elections had scuttled the petitions by invalidating 150 signatories because they are not registered to vote or not enrolled as Democrats, and 23 because they live outside the 95th District.

The board found another 49 signatures invalid because of changes that had not been initialed by the signatories and one case in which a voter witnessed their own signature, Spolzino told Wood in a letter on Tuesday (April 23).



Amanda Victoria Mintz Campaign photo

Spolzino said that statements this week by Mintz's attorney indicated she will not "oppose the relief requested in this proceeding." By Thursday (April 25), Mintz's campaign website identified her as a "former official Democratic Party candidate."

On her website, Mintz says she is a "social entrepreneur" who co-founded a canned-beverage company called Siponey Spritz. She filed to run on March 27.

A 2003 Carmel High School graduate, Mintz said she is "Latina, I have a Jewish family, and am disabled (bilaterally hearing-impaired), which is largely my motivation to represent the diverse voices and needs of our growing local population."

She does not detail why she challenged Levenberg but, in an April 18 news release called the lawsuit a "disgraceful use of taxpayer dollars, donations and endorsements. We deserve a fair race."

Levenberg is a former chief of staff for Galef. In 2022, she defeated Republican Stacy Halper in the general election with 59 percent of the vote.

In her lawsuit, Levenberg raised the same issues identified by the Board of Elections, as well as claiming some dates and signatures appeared to be altered, some people signed the petitions more than once and some addresses were "missing, incomplete or erroneous."

The validity of signatures on nominating petitions can be serious business. A member of the Peekskill Common Council was accused this month of falsifying docu-

ments after the Westchester County Board of Elections threw out 217 of the 531 signatures he submitted on his nominating petition for a county Legislature seat.

District Attorney Miriam Rocah told the *Peekskill Herald* that Rob Scott was charged with a felony count for allegedly filing petitions with forged signatures for the June 2023 Democratic primary. He will be arraigned on Tuesday (April 30).

Other than Mintz, one other candidate filed to run against Levenberg for her 95th District seat in the state Assembly: Michael Capalbo, a Republican from Yorktown Heights who registered on Feb. 26 and filed a "no activity" campaign finance report on March 13.

An online search did not return any results for a campaign website or information about Capalbo's background or positions, but in 2022 *The Journal News* reported that, before Capalbo ran unsuccessfully for a seat on the Yorktown school board, he told the superintendent that he considered diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives to be "Marxist indoctrination."

NEWS BRIEF

Cold Spring Adopts 2024-25 Budget

Metered parking canceled for holiday Mondays

After a 90-minute executive session dealing with personnel and collective

bargaining negotiations, the Cold Spring Village Board on Wednesday (April 24) adopted three new budgets for 2024-25.

The general fund, which covers most village operations and services, was adopted with spending of \$3,830,591. The property tax levy, which provides about 52 percent of that fund's revenue, will increase by 3.9

percent. The fiscal year begins June 1.

The water fund was adopted at \$803,036 and sewer fund at \$707,265. Both services are paid with usage fees that increased by 10 cents per 1,000 gallons.

The board ended metered parking on Main Street on holiday Mondays such as Martin Luther King Jr. Day, President's Day,

Memorial Day, Labor Day and Columbus Day. The change was made because meters cannot be programmed to accommodate specific Mondays. Metered parking remains in effect on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

While downplaying increased tourism, HHFT seeks to maximize visitation by adding parking lots and roundabouts.

From:

Chelsea Anderson

To:

Buser, Kyle M (DOT)

Cc:

Amy Kacala; Gorney, Lance (DOT); Neha Sabnis

Subject:

HHFT_Potential Round About Locations

Date:

Thursday, February 1, 2024 3:32:17 PM

Attachments:

HHFT DM Hartsook Washburn DM Concept Layouts.pdf

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Hi Kyle,

Sometime ago we discussed the potential roundabout locations at Dutchess Manor and near the Washburn Lot/fair street intersection. The team has put together very concept-level plans for Dutchess Manor, Hartsook Lot and the Washburn Lot extension. We'd like to understand if there is space for a roundabout in these locations and what clearances the design team should be holding to account for DOT's future work.

Please see the attached marked up plans for your review. Let us know if you'd like to hop on a call to review.

Much appreciated,

Chelsea Anderson
Project Executive
She/Her/Hers

About the Work
40 Exchange Place, Suite 1405
New York, NY 10005
M: 917.991.7509
www.atworkllc.com
[LinkedIn](#) / [Facebook](#) / [Instagram](#)

This email from February 2024* references the ongoing planning between the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail’s consultants and New York State Department of Transportation to develop Route 9D with new parking lots—totaling 365 new spaces†—and roundabouts at Fair Street and Dutchess Manor.

* Received by Protect the Highlands through a Freedom of Information Law request.

† As per ORCA presentation at Dutchess Manor, April 3, 2024.



An aerial view of the Camp Beacon site

File Photo

Camp Beacon *(from Page 1)*

the time, including Beacon Mayor Randy Casale, Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro and state Sen. Sue Serino, asked Gov. Andrew Cuomo to reject it because the plan was “inconsistent with the site’s mixed-use, recreational and destination development potential.”

In 2019, Urban Green Food was awarded development rights. Its founder, Eric Anderson, told the City Council that year that he wanted to create a Beacon Bike Farm with a hotel, indoor track-and-field venue and a velodrome for indoor bicycling. The property would also have farmland and bike trails.

While it has been suggested for affordable housing, the only vehicular access is by Matteawan Road, a two-lane road that already serves Rombout Middle School, Beacon High School and two senior housing complexes.

Anderson said in 2021 that, although his plans had been slowed by the pandemic, he expected to bring the proposal to the Planning Board in 2022. Empire State Development quietly decertified Urban Green Food as the developer in March 2023, confirming the move to *The Current* this week after many inquiries. Anderson did not respond to a request for comment.

The prison site, which includes 22 build-



The former prison site includes 22 buildings.

File Photo by J. Simms

ings in varying states of disrepair, is hampered by location. While it has been suggested for affordable housing, the only vehicular access is by Matteawan Road, a two-lane road that already serves Rombout Middle School, Beacon High School and two senior housing complexes.

When Anderson spoke to the council in 2019, he said he hoped to open Tunnel Road — a single lane that runs under Interstate 84 and ends at Heritage Financial Park (Dutchess Stadium) — for bikers and pedestrians.

Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou has pushed for an access road that connects Route 52 with Matteawan. He said this week that he hopes Empire State Development will require a new road as part of any redevelopment effort, paid for by the state and/or the developer with a contribution from the city.

In the meantime, the mayor has asked the Fishkill Avenue Concepts Committee to study a potential route for bikers, pedestrians and public transit from Route 52 to Matteawan Road and appropriate development in the Camp Beacon area.



Start Reading Now

May book club selections

Abe Lincoln/Civil War Book Club

THURS 2, 7 P.M.

The Failed Promise: Reconstruction, Frederick Douglass and the Impeachment of Andrew Johnson, by Robert S. Levine

Lincoln Depot Museum,
10 S. Water St., Peekskill

Email LincolnDepotFDN@gmail.com.

Lit Book Club

TUES 7, 7 P.M.

Old God's Time, by Sebastian Barry

Stanza Books, Beacon

Register at stanzabooks.com/events.

Fantasy Book Club

TUES 14, 7 P.M.

Babel: An Arcane History, by R.F. Kuang

Stanza Books, Beacon

Register at stanzabooks.com/events.

Page-to-Screen Book Club

THURS 16, 3 P.M.

The Joy Luck Club, by Amy Tan

Desmond-Fish Public Library, Garrison

Register at
desmondfishlibrary.org/events.

Butterfield Book Club

MON 20, 7 P.M.

Interior Chinatown, by Charles Yu

Butterfield Library, Cold Spring

Register at
butterfieldlibrary.org/calendar.

Sci-Fi Book Club

TUES 21, 7 P.M.

Eyes of the Void, by Adrian Tchaikovsky

Stanza Books, Beacon

Register at stanzabooks.com/events.

Librarian's Choice Book Club

WED 22, 3 P.M.

Baking Yesteryear: The Best Recipes from the 1900s to the 1980s, by B. Dylan Hollis

Desmond-Fish Public Library, Garrison

Register at
desmondfishlibrary.org/events.

NOTICE FOR BIDS

A nonprofit organization in Putnam Valley, New York is seeking sealed bids for **unarmed and armed Security Guard Staffing** for the period June 15 to August 21, 2024, renewable for one additional year.

Selection criteria will be based on knowledge of security protocols, safety/security training and adherence to preferred schedule.

Specifications and bid requirements can be obtained by contacting rfp@edenvillagecamp.org.

Bids will be accepted until **May 16, 2024** and contract is to commence **by June 15** at the latest.

NOTICE

Philipstown Planning Board

Site Visit:
Sunday, May 5th, 2024

The Philipstown Planning Board will meet on Sunday, May 5th, 2024 at 9:30am to inspect the following site:

Lake Surprise Revocable Trust, 60 Lake Surprise, NY 10516, TM#27-1-30

NOTICE

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF THE TENTATIVE ASSESSMENT ROLL PURSUANT TO SECTION 506 AND 526 OF THE REAL PROPERTY LAW

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned assessor for the Town of Philipstown, County of Putnam has completed the tentative assessment roll for the current year. A copy will be available May 1, 2024 at the Office of the Town Clerk, Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY, where it may be examined by any person interested until May 28, 2024. On that day, the Board of Assessment Review will sit at the Town Hall, Cold Spring, NY between the hours of 4:00PM - 8:00PM to hear and examine all complaints in relation to such assessments.

The Real Property Tax Law requires that all grievances be in writing. Forms for written submission are available in the Assessor's Office, Town Hall, Cold Spring, NY.

Dated this 22nd day of April 2024

Brian Kenney, Assessor

Out There

Hiding in Plain Sight

By Brian PJ Cronin

I first visited the Beacon Monument atop Mount Beacon in 2007, soon after I moved to the city. A lifetime resident showed me the way.



The second time was last week, 17 years later. In my defense, I've been busy.

In the meantime, I talked about the monument a lot. Often someone will point to its stubby black outline and ask, "What is that? Why haven't I seen it when I'm on the mountain?" And then I tell them what I'll tell you now.

The Beacon Monument, built by the Daughters of the American Revolution, will celebrate its 125th year in 2025. It was dedicated on July 4, 1900. It was built to commemorate the northernmost spot in a chain of 23 signal fires that stretched down to New Jersey during the Revolutionary War; there were also signal fires at Storm King, Bear Mountain and the site that is now Boscobel.

The signal fire atop Mount Beacon — North Mountain in those days — was important to the war effort because it guided Gen. George Washington, who was



An early postcard of the Beacon Monument with the flagpole that in 1934 acted as a lightning rod (left), and how it looks today.



Beacon Historical Society / B. Cronin

camped in Newburgh. "He would have been watching to know if the British had come back," says Denise Doring VanBuren, the former national DAR president who is now president of the Beacon Historical Society.

After the monument was built, it quickly became a tourist attraction, especially for visitors to a nearby casino on the mountain. VanBuren says the monument was more visible because farmers had cut down nearby trees. It also had a massive flagpole until 1934, when it attracted a lightning bolt that destroyed half the monument. It was rebuilt without the flagpole.

The monument has been attacked by graffiti vandals, souvenir hunters who chipped pieces away and hunters who used it for target practice. While it may be hard to believe that anyone would hike up the

mountain to shoot at an obelisk (Loyalists?), a sign at the nearby Beacon reservoir recently had to be replaced because it had so many bullet holes.

On July 4, 2000, the DAR hosted a daylong celebration at the summit. More than 600 people visited. "Most told me some variation of 'I've lived here all my life but I've never been up here to see the monument,'" VanDoren said.

The location of the monument is hardly a secret, but it's not easy to reach. The trail leading to it is unblazed, unmarked and unofficial. You could walk by the trailhead a hundred times without noticing it. Evan Thompson, the park manager for Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve, says the state might put up a sign. Those who love the monument are cautious about promoting it, given the abuse the city's most visible landmark has suffered.



Baby & Dog



This feature is designed as a counterweight to all the bad news in the world that weighs people down. We could share a photo of a baby, or a photo of a dog, but we are giving you both. How many newspapers can say that? Connor and Molly Walsh of Cold Spring shared this shot of Harper with baby Maeve and her brothers, Ronan and Brady. If you have a photo of a baby and a dog, submit it for consideration to editor@highlandscurrent.org.

THANK YOU, ALISON ROONEY

for shining a spotlight on the creativity coursing through this community. Year after year, your coverage of the arts has been essential reading, bringing to center stage the people, projects, and performances that help make this place magnificent.

All of us at the Depot Theatre are grateful to you for putting our work in the pages of *The Current* and telling our story with such care and finesse.

A standing ovation, thunderous applause, flowers hurtling toward the stage, and shouts for an encore — we owe you that and more.

Brava.



Save The Date

MEET THE ARTISTS SPRING BENEFIT



Meet the 2024 Season Artists Enjoy Cocktails and Bites

Watch Special Sneak-peek Performances

Buy your tickets today to support the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival!

HUDSON VALLEY SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

📍 The Valley Restaurant - 2015 US 9, Garrison, NY

📅 SUNDAY MAY 19, 2024

🕒 6:15PM-8:15PM

🌟 FESTIVE CASUAL ATTIRE

🌟 \$150 per ticket (\$100 is tax deductible)

To buy tickets go to: hvshakespeare.org/benefit or email Semra Ercin at sercin@hvshakespeare.org or call 845-809-4339.



Miles Lucca (right) faces off against a Beacon Wolves defender in a game on April 20.



Oliver Reich (left) controls the ball for the U13 Fusion in an April 14 game at Red Hook.

Photos by Pam Cook

PSC Teams

Boys

U16 Blues
U13 Fusion
U11 Cannons
U11 Panthers

Girls

U16 Novas
U11 Valkyrie
U7 Storm

Boys/Girls

U9 Red Hawks
U8 Dragons
U7 Kix

Soccer Club Bounces Back

Renewed effort in Philipstown to grow sport

By Jacob Aframian

The Philipstown Soccer Club, which lost two seasons in 2020 to COVID-19, is regrouping this spring with a newly redesigned website, focused outreach to parents and new connections to coaches at Haldane High School.

Carl Bon Tempo, who became a PSC coach in 2019 when his son joined one of the club's travel teams, is the president.

"What the club tries to do is recruit at least one parent from every team that we field to be on what we call the executive board," he said. "First, I said, 'OK, I'll be a board member.' Then I became treasurer. Last summer, the president decided to step aside and I said, 'I have the time to do it.'"

"One of the challenges for the club since I've joined is making sure that folks in the community know this is an option for their kids," he said.

The nine board members decided to "re-energize their efforts" to spread the word. They revamped the website at philipstown-

soccerclub.org, making it easier to navigate and more visible in internet searches.

They also contacted the coaches at Haldane. The boys' varsity soccer coach, Ahmed Dwidar, runs clinics, and the junior varsity coach, Daniel Rotando, oversees the under-16 boys' team. The U-16 girls' team is led by the girls' varsity coach, Mary Callaghan.

The rebirth of the U-16 teams was a big deal, Bon Tempo said, because they had not been offered since 2019. "This is a great opportunity for older players who had to travel farther away to play, or played in other clubs, or didn't play at all," he said. "It's a chance for them to polish their skills in the offseason."

The club, which is affiliated with the Hudson Valley Youth Soccer League,

welcomes players ages 6 and older from Cold Spring, Garrison, Philipstown and Putnam Valley. It plays in the spring and fall, taking on teams from other regional clubs, including those based in Beacon, Fishkill, Putnam Valley, Red Hook, Kingston, New Paltz, Brewster, Poughkeepsie and Carmel.

Bon Tempo said it has been a challenge to find volunteers who can spend 10 to 15 hours a week answering emails, developing practice plans, holding practices and coaching. The teams practice twice a week at Philipstown Park, and home games are played there on Sundays.

The spring season began in early April and will continue through June 23. "I'm looking forward to seeing more sophisticated soccer" by younger players, Bon Tempo said.

SUPPORT BEACON'S PARKS & KIDS PROGRAMMING!

Ree-Play Sale

20th Annual

APRIL 26-28



children's clothing • baby gear
books & games/puzzles • costumes
outdoor play • sports gear • maternity

FRI

4/26 9am-7pm
FULL PRICE

SAT

4/27 9am-2pm
50% OFF

SUN

4/28 12pm-4pm
75% OFF

VENMO/CASH ENCOURAGED!
NO FEES MEANS MORE \$ FOR KIDS!



724 WOLCOTT AVE (9D)
UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT CAMP
(USE BEACON CITY POOL ENTRANCE)

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

100% of profits go directly back into
the Beacon community!

WEE PLAY COMMUNITY PROJECT



CELEBRATING
20 YEARS

St. Mary's Church, Philipstown Loop,
and Philipstown Climate Smart Initiative invite you to our:

Spring Thrift Sale

Featuring our mending station and bake sale

Friday 4/26 - 5pm-7:30pm - Pre-sale party \$20 entry

Saturday 4/27 - 10am-11am - Early Bird \$20 entry

Saturday 4/27 - 11am-6pm - \$0 entry

Sunday 4/28 - 11am-6pm - \$0 entry

Sunday 3-6pm fill a bag for \$10
(please help us by bringing your own bag)



St. Mary's Parish Hall, 1 Chestnut Street, Cold Spring

For questions about volunteering at the sale, email Darsnowden88@gmail.com

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

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54				55					56			

- ACROSS
1. *House* actor Omar

5. Nick and Nora's dog

9. Mountain pass

12. Mend socks

13. "— to differ!"

14. Flamenco cheer

15. Marmaduke, for one

17. Allow

18. Realm

19. Protuberances

21. French article

22. Filled fully

24. Gear teeth

27. Understood

28. Hoodwink

31. Scary cry

32. Flying saucer

33. Perch

34. Attempt

36. Knock

37. School support orgs.

38. Object (to)

40. Battery size

41. Ibsen's Gabler

43. Golfer Sorenstam

47. Land in la mer

48. Bruce Springsteen hit

51. JFK regulator

52. Her actress Rooney

53. Taj Mahal site

54. Unwell

55. Melville mariner

56. Detergent
- DOWN
1. Rim

2. Italian cheese, for short

3. Ready, as for surgery

4. Slowpokes

5. Staffer

6. Govt. loan agcy.

7. Toe count

8. Representative

9. Pricey powder

10. Sheltered

11. Favorites

16. Three, in Rome

20. British ref. work

22. To date

23. Perched on

24. *NCIS* ailer

25. Sound of delight

26. Bargain

27. Mentor

29. *Zadora of Hairspray*

30. Roswell visitors

35. Slugger Williams

37. Bamboo eaters

39. Molten rock

40. Some

41. LP player

42. Israeli airline

43. Basra resident

44. Shakespeare villain

45. Actress Sedgwick

46. Pronto

49. — -di-dah

50. Mouths (Lat.)

SUDOCURRENT

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

WORDLADDER

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

PRIMA

TRIBE

MICRO
CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1. PC shortcut

6. 2020 A.L. MVP José ____

7. Part of Hispaniola

8. Cupcake finishers

9. Altar affirmative
- DOWN
1. Polynesian food fish, for short

2. People once counted on them?

3. Broke down

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
	9			

4. Stylish again

5. Parisian approvals

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

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

S	U	G	A	R
I	N	N	I	E
M	I	A	M	I
O	F	T	E	N
N	Y	S	E	

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VAGUE
VALUE
VALVE
SALVE
SOLVE

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The Beacon boy's tennis team, including Frank Zezza (left) and Imroz Ali, defeated Minisink Valley, 5-2, on April 19.



Katherine Ruffy scores for Beacon on April 19 against Port Jervis (left) and a Haldane player slides into second against Putnam Valley.

Photos by Cadence Heeter

Sports

VARSITY ROUNDUP

HALDANE

By Jacob Aframian

SOFTBALL — Over the past four seasons, Haldane and Putnam Valley merged their teams. This year, the Blue Devils have their own squad, and on April 19, the teams faced off. It didn't go well for Haldane, as the Tigers scored eight runs in the first inning and eventually won, 13-7.

Allegra Clementson kept it close on the mound after the first, striking out 10 over six innings. Callie Sniffen, who played last season for the combined team, went 3-for-4 with three doubles and three RBIs against her former teammates. Eighth grader Lainey Donaghy drove in three runs.

On Monday (April 22), Haldane downed North Salem, 9-6. Sniffen again went 3-for-4, missing only a triple for the cycle. Donaghy went 4-for-4 with a double. On Tuesday, the team fell to Pawling, 15-1.

The Blue Devils (3-5) hosted Pawling on Thursday (April 25) and will travel to Edgemont on Monday and host Croton-Harmon at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

BOYS' LACROSSE — After Haldane scored three times in the first 2:32 of its game on April 18 at Pleasantville, the Tigers took control in the second quarter. The Blue Devils got the score to 14-10 with 7:16 left in the fourth but the final was 16-10.

Haldane hosted another tough team, Carmel, on Monday (April 22), losing 14-5, but rebounded on Wednesday with a 12-1

win over Rye Neck, holding the Panthers scoreless until the fourth quarter. Evan Giachinta, who will play for High Point University next year, had four goals and three assists, and Ryan Van Tassel, Fallou Faye, Frankie DiGilio, Gabe Reyes, Brody Corless and Cooper Corless each scored.

The Blue Devils (3-6) travel to Farmingdale on Saturday (April 27) and host Keio Academy on Tuesday at 4:30 p.m.

GIRLS' LACROSSE — After their worst loss of the season on April 17 — a 19-3 drubbing by Pleasantville — the Blue Devils had their best outing with a 16-1 home win over Yonkers on April 19. Kayla Ruggiero led the team with six goals, and Elaina Johanson, Ruby Poses and Miley Pena-Rider each scored twice.

Haldane (3-5) played at New Paltz on Thursday (April 25), and will be at home against Brewster at 11 a.m. on Saturday (April 27) and Edgemont at 5 p.m. on Monday before visiting Blind Brook on Wednesday.

BASEBALL — The Blue Devils hosted Poughkeepsie on April 18, winning 5-2 behind 10 strikeouts in four innings by ninth grader Pat Shields and three RBIs from junior Jake Hotaling.

On April 20, they lost at Blind Brook on the road, 5-2; the home team scored all of its runs after Haldane errors. The Blue Devils fell to Port Chester, 4-0, on Monday, and at Croton-Harmon, 6-3, on Tuesday.

Haldane (4-4) hosted Croton-Harmon on Thursday (April 25) and will host Dobbs Ferry today (April 26) at 5 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD — Haldane participated in the 30-team Suffern Invitational on April 19. For the boys, it was a day of personal bests, including Oliver Petkus in the 400 meters (1:02); Jack Illian and Owen Powers in the 1,600 meters (4:43 and 4:45); and Jake Thomas in the discus (86.06). The Blue Devils will compete on Saturday (April 27) in a meet at Clarkstown South.

BOYS' BASKETBALL — On April 17, Matt Nachamkin was named the co-player of the year in Class C by the New York State Sports-writers Association. The senior, who will play next year for Williams College in Massachusetts, led the Blue Devils to the state title game. Senior Ross Esposito was named fourth team All-State and senior Mike Murray to the sixth team. Sophomore Luke Bozsik and junior Nate Stickle received honorable mentions.

BEACON

By Nick Robbins

BASEBALL — Beacon knocked off Port Jervis, 10-0, on Tuesday (April 23) to kick off league play. Derrick Heaton picked up the win, pitching four innings, and Ryan Landisi earned the save. Liam Murphy was 2-for-3 with three RBIs and Matt Apostolou had the first hit of his varsity career.

Beacon won, 26-0, at Liberty on Wednesday (April 24) and traveled to Goshen on Thursday. The Bulldogs (5-3) will compete in a tournament at Chester on Saturday (April

27) and travel to O'Neill and Burke Catholic before hosting Chester at 6 p.m. on Wednesday and Newburgh at 4 p.m. on Thursday.

SOFTBALL — The Bulldogs fell last week to Valley Central (14-1), Port Jervis (10-4) and New Paltz (11-10) but on Wednesday (April 24) defeated Liberty, 7-0, to improve to 2-5. Beacon travels to Fallsburg on Saturday (April 27), O'Neill on Monday and Chester on Tuesday.

GOLF — The girls' team went 1-2 this week, falling to Ellenville, 184-180, on Monday (April 22) and Marlboro on Wednesday, 180-154, but defeating Red Hook on Tuesday, 167-183, behind a strong showing from Elizabeth Ruffy. The boys' team lost to Goshen on Monday, 262-223.

BOYS' TENNIS — The Bulldogs recorded their first win of the season with a 5-2 victory on April 19 over Minisink. Beacon (1-4) hosted Cornwall on Thursday (April 25) and will host Goshen today (April 26) and Lourdes on Monday.

TRACK AND FIELD — Beacon competed at the New York Relays on Randall's Island. The boys 4x800 relay team placed fifth in 8:23.51. The team will compete at the Iron Duke Relays in Marlboro today (April 26).

BOYS' BASKETBALL — Jazziah Whitted, a junior, received an honorable mention on Wednesday (April 24) on the Class A All-State team named by the New York State Sports-writers Association.