

The HIGHLANDS Current



Puppets for God
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Jennifer Carlquist speaks with state Sen. Rob Rolison inside the library soon after the collapse. *Photo provided*

Ceiling Collapse Triggers Overhaul

Boscobel launches \$2 million-plus restoration

By Michael Turton

Jennifer Carlquist will never forget the evening of April 16, when she learned a ceiling in the historic mansion at Boscobel House and Gardens had collapsed.

Carlquist, its executive director and curator, has been in the museum business for 30 years, including the past 10 at Boscobel. She is used to making nighttime runs from her home to deal with routine problems such as false security alarms.

This call was different. “It was beyond my worst nightmare,” she said. “I could never have imagined what I saw.”

The collapse left the floor covered with plaster, broken period furniture, damaged antiques and debris. An investigation revealed a 1950s reconstruction flaw: The ceilings were made of concrete and, after more than 65 years (the early 19th-century mansion was moved from Montrose to Philipstown in 1955 to escape the wrecking ball), the shank nails could no longer handle the weight.

The force of the collapse was so great it impacted rooms throughout the mansion. Nineteen of its 24 ceilings now need replacement, Carlquist said.

And it could have been worse. “Hours

(Continued on Page 6)

Dutchess County Assesses At-Risk Federal Funds

County receives about \$65 million annually

By Brian PJ Cronin

About 10 percent of Dutchess County’s funding — \$65 million — comes from federal funding through eight agencies, according to a newly released report by Dan Aymar-Blair, a Beacon resident who is the county comptroller.

The report also calculated that Dutchess

residents receive \$1.9 billion annually in direct federal assistance through programs such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and military medical insurance.

Aymar-Blair released the report, which is posted at dub.sh/dutchess-federal, following a freeze on Jan. 27 by President Donald Trump of all federal funding, causing confusion for municipal governments and nonprofits. Although a federal judge issued a temporary restraining order a few days later and ordered the money restored, the fund-

ing has been inconsistent and unpredictable.

At the same time, cuts driven by the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), an ad hoc agency created by the administration and led by carmaker Elon Musk, have caused further uncertainty.

“We were getting a lot of questions,” said Aymar-Blair. “People had concerns about how much federal funding the county had, what it was used for, and whether it had been touched by the feds.”

(Continued on Page 9)



LEGOS WITH GRANDMA — Libby Pataki, a Garrison resident and the former first lady of New York, built a Lego island with her granddaughters on March 9 at the Desmond-Fish library. For more photos from Tall and Small Lego Day, see highlandscurrent.org. *Photo by Ross Corsair*

Beacon Schools Eyeing Max Cap

State allows 5.15 percent tax-levy increase

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon school district is considering taking advantage of the full 5.15 percent tax-levy increase it has been allowed for 2025-26 by New York State to raise more than \$50 million in property taxes.

A state tax cap for public school districts and local governments limits annual increases to 2 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is less. However, other factors in a complicated formula can push the allowable increase well beyond that. At Haldane, the cap for 2025-26 is 3.38 percent

and at Garrison, 5.78 percent, although both districts will likely ask voters for less.

In Beacon’s case, two factors in the formula raised the amount of property taxes the district can collect. First, it is the first budget to include debt service on a \$50 million capital project approved by voters in 2024. Second, and more significantly, development added \$1.2 million to the levy.

Beacon has had the highest tax-base growth in Dutchess County for at least five years. In 2024-25, new construction allowed the district to add \$793,795 to its levy. In 2023-24, it added \$721,620.

The administration has yet to propose its spending plan for 2025-26, but the district

(Continued on Page 7)

Beacon Approves Dunkin’

But planned drive-thru may not be allowed

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon Planning Board on Tuesday (March 11) approved a developer’s proposal to convert a building at 420 Fishkill Ave. to a Dunkin’ coffeehouse, although the City Council is considering a law that would ban drive-thrus.

The project, which will include other retail and apartments, has for months intersected with an ongoing city study of Fishkill Avenue.

In early 2024, Mayor Lee Kyriacou appointed a citizen committee to study a mile-long stretch of the corridor and make recommendations regarding zoning, streetscapes and accessibility, among other questions.

In November, Jay Healey, a member of the committee, brought an application to the Planning Board to transform the site of his family’s former Ford dealership to the Dunkin’ building. Two weeks later, the council asked the Fishkill Avenue committee for its early zoning recommendations. To move away from auto-related uses, it

(Continued on Page 9)



A rendering of the Dunkin’ approved for Fishkill Avenue in Beacon

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: LENA RIZKALLAH

By Sharon Rubinstein

Lena Rizkallah, a financial planner based in Beacon, organizes an annual panel discussion, Women in Business Busting Barriers, that will be held at the Howland Cultural Center on March 25. Register at dub.sh/busting-barriers.

What’s your business background?

I was an immigration lawyer. I loved helping people but didn’t fully enjoy practicing. I switched to working with big companies in finance. About five years ago, after I moved to Beacon, I became a financial advisor. I didn’t set out to work specifically with women, but women in transition — in their 40s and 50s, divorcing, maybe with kids leaving the house — reached out to me. They realized they needed to get more savvy about money and investing.

What prompted you to start these panels?

Launching my own business mid-career was stressful. I didn’t have a book of clients, but I did know people. I did a lot of networking. I was getting edification and advice from other women that I needed to share. I asked myself, “What do I want to know, who do I want to meet, what resonates with me?” It came down to self-made people. It wasn’t

daddy’s money or their husband’s money or connections from the country club. It was scrappiness, grit, determination and how hard they worked. I started the panels in Beacon in 2022, and a year ago in New York City, where I still have an apartment.

What have you gained from it?

It’s helped me meet people beyond my network: pillars of the community, women who have done extraordinary things in the Hudson Valley and beyond. Katie Osborne, the CEO of Via Collective, a wayfinding company based in New York City, is on the upcoming panel. I didn’t know what wayfinding was. She’s a great mentor for other business owners — driven, disciplined, hardworking and confident. Having started my business during a pandemic, the panels gave me more confidence and helped guide me. I needed to be around successful women talking so frankly and sharing their stories.

What business challenges do women face?

Women may do 70 percent of the housework and childcare. We need good mentors, who don’t have to be women. You don’t have to do this alone. I love hearing from women who’ve had hardships. One panelist was a high school dropout who

went to rehab in her 20s and got married and had a family. She kept saying yes to opportunities until she created a niche, building a business that didn’t previously exist, a doula education company. People who come to the panels find so much relatability on stage.

Do you have any other local projects?

I do a “speakeasy” for women with Cadah Goulet, who owns Poor George in Cold Spring. We meet there monthly, talking about life, love and business within the money context. Questions could be: “What’s the difference between a traditional and a Roth IRA?” or “How do I talk to my partner about money?” It’s been a great way to show my value as an advisor and help people talk about difficult topics. I had to have faith and start from scratch to get my name out there. Here I am. This area is extremely supportive.



FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 7:30 PM

Take Our Words For It

Short Plays by Women Playwrights

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2:00 PM

“The Art Of Therapy” Reception

Paintings by Andrea Jaffee, LCSW

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 7:30 PM

Martha Spencer and the Wonderland Country Band

Appalachian Rockabilly Music

SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 3:00 PM

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Featuring Jim Zimmerman

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 11:00 AM

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ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What do you like most about St. Patrick’s Day?

I’m Irish. I love my family’s pub crawl and sixth anniversary with my boyfriend.

Madeline Simmonds, Beacon

I just like the celebration of being Irish.

Peter Gevisser, Cold Spring

I’m so not Irish but love the sea of green!

Cassandra Laifer, Cold Spring

Philipstown Man Charged with Theft

Police say he embezzled at least \$208,000

By Chip Rowe

A Philipstown resident was arrested on Wednesday (March 12) and accused of stealing at least \$208,000 from two local organizations for which he served as treasurer.

In a news release, Putnam County Sheriff Kevin McConville said Mark A. Kenny, 61, had served as a treasurer for the civic groups, which he did not name, saying they had been victims of a crime.

He said the agency's investigation began in December when one group reported that funds apparently had been stolen from its bank account over four years. An investigator learned Kenny was also treasurer of the second group and requested its records over the past five years.

After a review, the sheriff said the investigator found Kenny had used funds for personal expenses such as gas, cellphone charges, dental bills, pet supplies, cigars, liquor, automotive and lawn equipment, building materials, dumpster rentals and dining at restaurants and bars in Putnam,

Dutchess, Westchester and Orange counties.

The sheriff said Kenny also made purchases from a restaurant distributor after he submitted a credit application in the name of one of the organizations, adding he and his wife as authorized users. The investigation uncovered cash withdrawals from ATM machines and bank branches.

The sheriff said Kenny appears to have stolen at least \$118,000 from one organization and at least \$90,000 from the other. He was arraigned in Philipstown Town Court on three felony counts of grand larceny and released until his next court date.

No further information was available; a Philipstown court clerk said the town does not release documents from any case unless a person is convicted or by special permission from Justices Camille Linson or Angela Thompson-Tinsley. Philipstown also does not upload its records to the state's electronic system.

Kenny's LinkedIn profile says he is a graduate of New York University and since August has been a manager for global product risk and control at Wells Fargo. In December 2023, according to court records, he was sued by Lending Club for a \$4,702 debt it said had gone unpaid.

AROUND THE REGION

Poughkeepsie

Civic Center Sues Hockey Owner

The Mid-Hudson Civic Center in Poughkeepsie last month sued a former member of the state Assembly for allegedly defaulting on a loan he received to develop two semi-pro hockey teams.

Pat Manning, the owner of the Hudson Valley Vipers and a Newburgh team, the HC Venom, last year personally guaranteed a \$50,000 loan from the civic center, according to the legal filing. The civic center said it also provided the Vipers with an additional \$9,200 and has not received \$13,200 in rent for its ice arena.

The Vipers no longer exist, and the Federal Prospects Hockey League reclaimed HC Venom before reaching an agreement with the civic center to have the team continue to play at McCann Ice Arena, according to *Mid Hudson News*.

Newburgh

Residents Ask for Football Coaches to Be Reinstated

The Newburgh school board heard from residents on Tuesday (March 11) who asked that nine dismissed varsity football coaches be rehired.

Coach Bill Bianco had led the Newburgh Free Academy program since 2009. The dismissals came after an investigation into an Oct. 17 locker-room fight in which a student was hurt. The team forfeited its last regular-season game and a playoff game, ending its season.

After hearing from residents, the board went into executive session for two hours, returning to say it would ask the coaches to attend a separate meeting.

According to the *Times Herald-Record*, the fight began when a "rap battle," in which students hurl insults at each other, got out of hand.

Kingston

Council Will Spend \$145K on Pickleball Study

The Common Council on March 3 approved a resolution to spend \$145,000 on a study to reduce noise from pickleball courts at Loughran Park.

The funding is part of a \$685,000 project to upgrade and expand tennis and pickleball, according to *Mid Hudson News*.

"Pickleball is a great sport, but it's loud, and it has created a real quality-of-life issue for neighbors," an alderman said. Other council members wondered if mandating quieter paddles and balls would be less expensive.

Shrub Oak

Putnam Valley Man Faces Charges

A Putnam Valley man was arrested for allegedly impersonating a police officer and attacking a 16-year-old girl at the Shrub Oak Shopping Center.

According to police, Charles Santiago, 42, pulled his vehicle in front of the Lakeland High School student while she was on a sidewalk, jumped from his vehicle wearing a police-style badge around his neck and identified himself as a police officer.

Police said he pushed the girl against a building, took her phone while she was recording and threw her to the pavement.

Two bystanders intervened and the girl was taken to a hospital. Santiago was arrested at the scene and released after posting a \$3,500 bond.

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THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT
(USPS #22270) / ISSN 2475-3785
March 14, 2025
Volume 13, Issue 11

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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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Fjord Trail

Voting no because the planning consultant's report identifies too many issues or omits public "yearnings" tells me Cold Spring Trustees Aaron Freimark and Eliza Starbuck deeply misunderstand land-use development and the SEQR [State Environmental Quality Review] process ("Cold Spring Details Fjord Trail Concerns," March 7).

It also tells me that their strong personal bias toward this massive development drives them to deny the village access to subject-matter expertise and critical thinking to help inform its decision-making. The planning consultant's role is to identify the issues with the DGEIS [Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement]. It is the lead agency's responsibility to require the applicant to solve them.

Stephanie Hawkins, *Cold Spring*

I respect Stephanie's experience [as a former Village Board member], so I am interested in her interpretation of this: Every other response from villages, towns and other governmental agencies was four to eight or maybe 12 pages. Cold Spring's response spanned 143 pages. Was that expensive paperwork necessary? Did those other boards misunderstand the process as much as she says we did?

A more concise and focused report could have made a stronger case for the critical improvements — yes, improvements — we need in the final plan. That was the point I made consistently in comments to my fellow board members.

Aaron Freimark, *Cold Spring*
Freimark is a member of the Village Board.

Context is always important. There is a very simple reason that Cold Spring's response to the DGEIS was longer than those of other municipalities: It was shaped by many voices, thoughtfully engaged by the Village Board. Commentators included our consulting planner and engineer (who conducted peer reviews), comments from our standing boards, and from the officer-in-charge of the Police Department and the fire company chief. Knowing that we did not have a unanimous position on the board, I made space for each trustee to submit his or her comments in the packet, so that minority opinions could be recorded. The two nay votes had their voice, in public session and in the document itself.

Although the trustees, as an "involved agency," weren't required to solicit guidance from staff and standing boards, the majority of us thought it was important to do so. The planning, zoning and historic district review boards asked solid, thoughtful questions from their areas of purview. Their reports helped to inform the Village Board response, which we presented in summary format and in detail. The full document can be found at tinyurl.com/2zxzcnbr. The consistency of comments is remarkable: The project sponsor has not sufficiently considered impacts on Cold Spring nor how to properly mitigate them. That consistency isn't forced — it was reached rationally and independently by solid minds who know their jobs.

The Fjord Trail is the most consequential development in our village since the railroad in the early 1850s. The details of the project are important, and there isn't a shortcut if we as trustees want to do our jobs properly. It's unfortunate that Trustee Freimark is embarrassed by the cumulative work of our volunteer standing boards, the chiefs of our police and fire departments, and the licensed professionals we hired to review the DGEIS. [Editor's note: Freimark, in comments to *The Current*, said the village report had "ballooned into an embarrassment."] They and we, as the Board of Trustees and an involved agency, must consider all the what-ifs, using the number of pages required to do so.

I thank our volunteers, our staff and our consultants for working hard on the village's DGEIS response submission. I'm not embarrassed by your work. I am exceedingly proud of it and grateful for it.

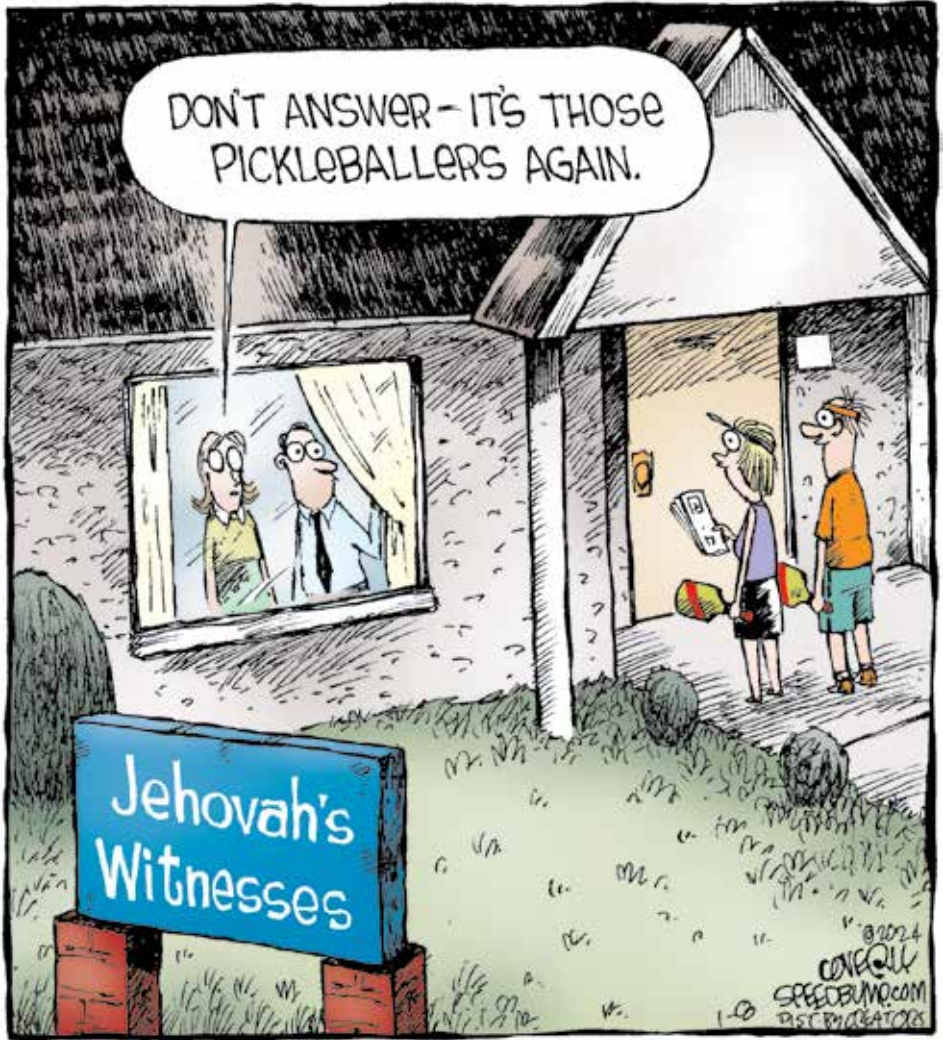
Kathleen Foley, *Cold Spring*
Foley is the Cold Spring mayor.

My husband, David Watson, and I have been Cold Spring residents for eight years. We are writing in support of the goals of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail for accessibility, community resources and visitation management.

As a pediatrician with a master's degree in public health, a camp physician at Surprise Lake Camp, an instructor in wilderness medicine and wilderness first response and a former physician for Doctors without Borders, I have extensive experience in managing emergencies in limited-resource and wilderness settings. I have carefully reviewed the HHFT plans and feel they are well-thought-through and thorough.

As someone who has hiked all the trails in the Highlands, I know the area and am in a good position to evaluate these plans. My husband is also active but because he is 81, he looks forward to the Fjord Trail as an easier way to walk.

We believe the plan will help make Cold Spring a more habitable place. The proposal for infrastructure with restrooms at Dockside, trash cans alongside the trail, a shuttle and a robust system of wayfinding signs



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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

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will help alleviate congestion. This will also provide a better pedestrian flow. We support a southernmost entry for Dockside because it will give us easy access to the Hudson River for bird-watching. We also support the complete sidewalks on Fair Street.

I was so impressed by this project, I reached out to the team to meet with their park director, Drew Polinsky, to explore how medical emergencies would be handled. Drew has excellent credentials and extensive experience and has been thorough in his planning. He has met with the Cold Spring Fire Department to go over all the details on how to best respond to emergencies and how to minimize any burden on EMS providers.

I believe the trail will be net-positive for emergency response teams by providing much-needed boots on the ground and a collaborative approach with parks staff and local first responders. Drew and I discussed the Fjord Trail providing a space for local responders to meet and host trainings on first aid or search-and-rescue. Overall, they seem to bring the same enthusiasm and fresh ideas to emergency response as they do to the idea of a trail along the Hudson.

Marianne Watson, *Cold Spring*

As for the current Fjord Trail plan, I say thanks but no thanks. Thanks because I recognize we are lucky to have philanthropic, land preservationist-type people in our community. No thanks because I am deeply skeptical of this and other grandiose private/public partnership projects I've seen in Philipstown in recent years.

The Big Woods access road and parking area in Fahnestock State Park, for example, is an unnecessarily heavy-handed debacle that ruined habitat and a perfectly fine trail connecting the park with Glynwood's fields. A small parking lot on the side of Route 301 would have sufficed.

I view the Fjord Trail proposal to be similarly excessive; it is way over the top of what is good for our community and the environment. We just want a simple trail, thank you.

David North, *Garrison*

Putnam County

Kevin Byrne just delivered one of the best State of the County addresses I've ever heard ("Byrne Promises Historic Tax Cut," March 7). Finally, we have a real conservative leader at

the local level — someone who walks the walk.

Byrne is Putnam County's Donald Trump: bold, fearless and delivering on his promises. For the first time in 25 years, we're seeing real tax cuts. He's opening up county government, making it more transparent and fighting to stop illegal migrants from being dumped into our communities. He's proving that conservative leadership works, and Putnam County is better for it.

The only thing I would have liked to hear: a Putnam County-style "drain the swamp" or DOGE moment. But, honestly, Byrne is already doing it. His audits and spending reviews are rooting out waste and forcing accountability. The old establishment that has run this county like a private club is being exposed.

Speaking of the establishment, let's talk about the RINOs [Republicans in Name Only] on the county Legislature who boycotted Byrne's speech like petulant children: Greg Ellner, Paul Jonke, Amy Sayegh and Toni Addonizio. These career politicians are the Liz Cheneys, Mitt Romneys and Mitch McConnells of Putnam. They love the title, they love the perks, but when it comes to fighting for the taxpayers? While Byrne is cutting taxes, these frauds were voting to give themselves nearly \$50,000 a year for a couple of meetings a month! These so-called Republicans are cashing in on taxpayer money while we struggle with Biden's inflation. Shameful.

It's time to vote them out. We need Republicans who govern like Republicans, not self-serving politicians who sell us out the second they get into office.

Mark Lacerra, *Brewster*

The March 4 Putnam County Legislature meeting marked a long-overdue milestone: It was livestreamed for the first time. When I proposed livestreaming in 2020, committee chairs refused to include discussion on the agenda, and the Legislature's chair dismissed it as unnecessary because it wasn't mandated by New York State. For years, the Legislature rejected my calls to provide this service. Now we have finally taken a simple but crucial step toward transparency.

Until recently, the only way for the public to follow county government was to attend meetings in person or wait for days for an audio recording. Every town, village and school board in Putnam records and, in most cases, livestreams their meetings. The

Legislature should be no exception.

Achieving this took five years of persistent advocacy. While it shouldn't have been a battle, I'm proud we got here. I want to thank my colleagues, Bill Gouldman, Erin Crowley and Laura Russo, and County Executive Kevin Byrne for rejecting obstruction and supporting this common-sense reform. Transparency isn't a partisan issue — it's a fundamental responsibility.

But there's work to do. Chairwoman Amy Sayegh must stop playing games and formally adopt our proposed changes to the legislative rules to ensure livestreaming and public comment are protected. There's no excuse not to do it. The people of Putnam County deserve an open and accessible government, free from political maneuvering.

This victory belongs to the people of Putnam County, who deserve an open and accessible government. I will continue fighting for even greater accountability.

Nancy Montgomery, *Philipstown*
Montgomery represents District 1, which includes Philipstown and Putnam Valley.

Beacon development

Seize the property and give it to a group like Habitat for Humanity to create affordable housing ("Lender Sues Over Beacon Development," Feb. 21). It seems Beacon is awash with problems from developers who promise one thing, then change their minds to get what they wanted but that boards would initially not allow. Developers and city boards that issue variances with disregard for the populace must be held accountable.

Tony Bardes, *Cold Spring*

Beacon Line Trail

The proposed trail would take you from the Beacon Falls right into the backyard of my store on Main Street in Fishkill, Supreme Pianos of NY, then across Route 9 ("Beacon Line Trail: 'No Major Roadblocks,'" March 7). After that, it's accessible at Doug Phillips Park, down into Lomala in Hopewell Junction. I have been wanting to walk it for a while but parts of it forbid trespassing. A rail trail there would be cool. You can also go canoeing near it.

Jeremy Duckles, *via Instagram*

It will be interesting to see what type of Route 9 crossing is used — either the Elm Street light in Fishkill near Wendy's or a

pedestrian overpass with graded ramps such as was done over Route 376 near the border of Wappingers Falls and Hopewell Junction and over Route 55 at Overlook Road in Poughkeepsie.

People scurry across Route 9 trying to beat the lights all the time in Fishkill near the Walmart. It seems sketchy with the erratic crossers, let alone a steady stream of trail users. There's no way Route 9 traffic will halt like it had to when trains still crossed Route 9 in the 1980s and early 1990s.

Jonathan Riddick, *via Instagram*

School taxes

As someone who has sat in the Haldane school board chair for many years, I think it's important to remember the school tax isn't the only tax the general public has to deal with ("Haldane, Garrison Budgets Under Cap," March 7). I was always reminded that while the Haldane tax was going up, there are also increases in town, village, county, state and federal taxes. When you compound that, the reality changes a bit.

Haldane has a solid fund balance. With the recent capital increases, I'd advise being prudent and don't go for the maximum state cap. Given our low state-aid ratio, the taxpayer funds most of the school's budget. Please keep the big picture in mind.

Joe Curto, *Cold Spring*

COVID-19

Thank you, *Current* staff, for the excellent retrospective on those early days of the pandemic ("COVID-19: Five Years Later," March 7). May we never return to that terrible time, but may we honor the memory of all those lost loved ones and the heroic first responders as often as possible.

Jacqueline Foertsch, *Philipstown*

Tractor fan

The Super H started immediately after the end of the run of the H in January 1953 ("Class Wheels: 1953 Farmall Super H," March 7). There were just shy of 29,000 built. The first series, which you featured, still had the low-volume, low-pressure belly pump and batter under the fuel tank. The Series Two tractors had the battery located under the seat and had live hydraulic flow with pump driven by the accessory drive in line with the distributor.

Craig Eierman, *Alpena, South Dakota*

2025 SCHOLARSHIP GUIDE

Each year *The Current* compiles a list of scholarships available to students who live in Beacon and Philipstown. Each listing includes who qualifies to apply, the amount of the award and the application deadline.

The 2025 version of the guide has been posted at
highlandscurrent.org/scholarships.

Don't delay:
Some applications
are due March 15.





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Reconstruction is underway at the Boscobel Mansion.

Photo by M. Turton

Boscobel (from Page 1)

before, we had a school group in that room," Carlquist said. "And their teacher, who used to work at Boscobel, was pregnant."

Carlquist recalled the outpouring of support that followed. M&T Bank, Antipodean Books, Yannitelli Wine and Spirits and Foodtown provided boxes, the Appalachian Market lent a dumpster, the Desmond-Fish library shared air scrubbers and the Greater Hudson Heritage Network arranged for vacuums, supplies and volunteers.

Resources were also made available by the Smithsonian Cultural Rescue Initiative, Metropolitan Museum of Art's American Wing, Greenwich Historical Society, Stair Galleries and Caramoor, she said.

Reconstruction is now well underway. Carlquist estimates Phase 1 will cost about \$2 million, but "that doesn't include replacing carpets, window treatments or wallpapers that were ruined. That's Phase 2," she said.

A public fundraising campaign has begun and the National Trust for Historic Preservation has been approached for money. Representatives from the Department of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation will visit soon to advise about state grants, Carlquist said.

"We have a federal grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for an exhibition that's supposed to open this fall," she said. "We're on pins and needles, hoping there isn't a disruption to funding" because of Trump administration cuts.

Carlquist said the restoration is a chance to rethink the mansion, making it more accessible in part by removing some of the red ropes. For example, a second-floor room once served as living quarters for Sarah Wilkinson, an enslaved woman known as "Sill." Removing ropes there would allow visitors to enjoy views overlooking the expansive gardens.

The Boscobel mansion was built by States Dyckman, a Loyalist who returned to the U.S. after fleeing during the America Revolution. He began construction in Montrose, 15 miles south, in 1806 but died that same year. Two years later his widow, Elizabeth, completed the Federal-style house, which was inspired by the symmetry of ancient Greek and Roman architecture.

By the early 20th century, the home was in disrepair. In 1955, it was sold at auction for \$35 (about \$400 today). Just before it was to be razed, historian Benjamin West Frazier purchased the house for \$10,000 (\$118,000), had it dismantled and stored the pieces. Lila Acheson Wallace, a philanthropist who had co-founded *Reader's Digest*, financed the reconstruction in Philipstown overlooking the Hudson River, and the house opened for tours in 1961.

Boscobel is located at 1601 Route 9D. The mansion is closed but the grounds are open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is \$14 (\$7 for ages 4 to 18). Sunday will be added by April 6, Friday by April 25 and Monday by Memorial Day. Some exhibits from the house have been moved to the Visitor Center.

Interactive Puppetry Experience!



Sat. Mar 29 – 3 PM
PAPER HEART PUPPETS with Brad Shur
Children & family free. Made possible by NYSOCFS grant
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Fri/Sat/Sun. Mar 14/15/16 – 1-5
EXHIBIT - REALISM ON THE HUDSON
Art Exhibit & Sale - Thru Apr 13 - Most Fri/Sat/Sun
Special Event - Saturday, Mar 22, 1-3pm
Still Life Painting Demo with Brian McClear
Plus demo table sponsored by Vasari Classic Oil Colors

Wed. Mar 19 – 7 PM
GOD'S PUPPETS by Gwynne Watkins
Presented by Hit House Performed Reading Series
Join us for an evening of dynamic theatre
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Sat. Mar 22 – 8 PM
THE NEXT FLOW by Dassi Rosenkrantz
Album Release Show with special Guest NOGA
Zohar & Adam Cabo, Mia Lailani, Lila Blue, Angel Lau
and Video Art by Rooster
bit.ly/Dassi-Rosenkrantz-HCC

Mar 28 - Howland's Open Mic Night

Visit; website, social media for more events, info, tickets

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Beacon Schools *(from Page 1)*

will spend \$83.9 million in 2024-25. Its revenue this year includes \$47.7 million in property taxes, or 3.91 percent more than 2023-24. The board will continue a discussion of the 2025-26 budget at its March 24 meeting and vote on the plan on April 22. District voters will have their say on May 20.

If the budget is approved, worst-case scenario figures provided by the district estimate an average \$122 annual tax increase for Beacon homeowners, \$159 for district residents in Fishkill and \$161 for those in the Town of Wappinger.

During the board’s meeting on Monday (March 10), some members questioned whether the district should seek the maximum allowable increase.

“It seems a little high at 5 [percent], but I know what we’re trying to do,” said Eric Schetter. “If we could get it below 5, I would be happier with that. I think it would ‘sell’ more” to voters.

However, Meredith Heuer, who joined the board in 2016, noted that “if we don’t use what we can with our levy, we fall behind very quickly.” The district chose not to seek the maximum allowable increase during one of her first years as a board member, she said, “and the next thing you know, you’re negotiating for a teachers’ contract, and there is no money.”

Superintendent Matt Landahl said Monday that pushing the budget “to cap” would allow the district to potentially expand from eight- to nine-period days at Rombout Middle School, giving students receiving extra academic help more time for electives and expanding class topics beyond core subjects. That change, if implemented, would probably require the district to hire four full-time teachers, he said.

Additional reading and math teachers are needed at the elementary level, and the district hopes to expand a reading-support program offered in grades 3-5 to include grades K-2.

“This is a lot, and to be real, we probably cannot afford all of this,” Landahl said. “But I want to create, at minimum, a two-year plan to get this done. We want to look at multi-year planning for these larger initiatives, to make them affordable, to make them sustainable.”

Another factor for the board to consider is the unpredictable nature of its state and federal funding. Last year, the district received no increase in state funding, which typically accounts for a third of its revenue. That included foundation aid — state funding without spending restrictions — which was flat from 2023-24 to 2024-25, at about \$21 million.

Gov. Kathy Hochul has proposed 2 percent foundation aid increases for nearly every district in the state, including Beacon, for 2025-26, but “there’s concern on our end, in terms of: How long is that going to be the case?” Landahl said.

Federal funding makes up far less of the district’s budget — about 2 percent — but it pays for reading teachers and special-

Beacon School Tax Caps

2025-26	5.2%
2024-25	3.9%
2023-24	3.6%
2022-23	3.9%
2021-22	2.4%
2020-21	3.2%
2019-20	4.7%
2018-19	3.9%
2017-18	1.5%
2016-17	1.0%
2015-16	2.7%

Source: State comptroller. Figures are rounded.

education support. If the Trump administration were to cut federal funding to schools, “that would be things we would have to replace with our funds,” Landahl said. “We can’t just say, ‘The feds aren’t paying for it anymore’” and shut the programs down.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

By the Numbers

Measles Vaccinations

According to the National Institutes of Health, the elimination of measles in a community depends on at least 95 percent of residents being vaccinated. In Gaines County in west Texas, and neighboring Lea County, New Mexico, the site of a recent outbreak that has sickened at least 200 people, the percentage of kindergarten students in public schools vaccinated against the virus is 82 percent.

Texas requires students to have received both doses of the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine (MMR) before they enter kindergarten but offers an exemption for “religious or personal belief” that New York State does not. According to the federal data, 97 percent of kindergarten-age children in New York are vaccinated against measles. Nationwide, the percentage is 92.7, which the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said leaves 280,000 children at risk.

So far in 2025, there have been two cases of measles in New York City and one on Long Island. The CDC recommends children receive their first dose of MMR vaccine between 12 and 15 months.

% Children with First MMR Dose by Age 2

By County

Putnam	86.6
Westchester	83.7
Dutchess	83.1
Ulster	83.1
Greene	83.0
Columbia	82.2
Statewide	81.2
Sullivan	67.8
Orange	64.9
Rockland	62.0

By ZIP Code

Garrison (10524)	91.2
Philipstown (10516)	91.1
Fishkill (12524)	86.2
Newburgh (12550)	83.4
Beacon (12508)	83.2
Putnam Valley (10579)	82.4

Source: New York Department of Health, as of Jan. 1



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Home of the Highlands Choral Society

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PRISCILLA GOLDFARB
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MAR 16 @ 11:00AM
FOR WORSHIP REFLECTION & SONG

March 23 Robin Ardit
March 30 Alison Anthoine
April 6 Millie Solomon
April 13 Carol O'Reilly

The Highlands Choral Society is a nonprofit organization offering nondenominational services and community.

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EMPOWERING NARRATIVES:
LYDIA RUBIO

Opening Day March 15th until April 15th
2:30- 5:00 P.M.

As part of the "Diverse Voices: Empowering Narratives" exhibition series at the Butterfield Library, Rubio will discuss her artistic journey and how her work sheds light on pressing environmental issues while embracing the metaphysical. This exhibition, made possible by a grant from the Putnam Arts Council, highlights artists of diverse backgrounds from the Hudson Valley and NYC, fostering meaningful dialogue through multimedia art.





Register here:
Butterfieldlibrary.org/calendar



10 Morris Avenue
Cold Spring, NY 10516

Dutchess Executive Unveils 2025 Initiatives

Serino delivers annual State of the County

By Leonard Sparks

Dutchess Executive Sue Serino announced during her State of the County address on Tuesday (March 11) a range of initiatives, including a mental health program for children and an outreach worker for veterans.

Serino said the county is in discussions with the Children's Home of Poughkeepsie and the state Office of Mental Health to open temporary housing where children and teenagers can receive services. Among the record number of people using the county's Stabilization Center in Poughkeepsie in 2024 were a "significant number" of youth under age 18, she said.

She also said a newly hired outreach worker will be assigned to help veterans and their families secure benefits and find

housing and jobs. Last year, the Office of Veterans Affairs helped a veteran's widow receive \$1,600 in monthly benefits.

"Tonight is more than policies and programs; it's about people," Serino said during her address at John Jay High School in Hopewell Junction. "At the heart of every decision that we make, every dollar that we invest, every initiative that we launch, there's a life that we are striving to improve."

Regarding a shortage of childcare options, Serino said a new grant program will help in-home providers pay for startup and ongoing expenses such as safety upgrades and licensing fees. That support will create more slots, she said. Dutchess has 7,725 slots — one for every 3.6 children under 6 years old and one for every 8.5 children between 6 and 12.

A workforce training program for home-based childcare providers is in the works, she said, created in partnership with the Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum



Sue Serino

Dutchess County

and the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam. Another new program will provide free babysitter training.

Serino also announced a strategy to address a shortage of emergency medical services personnel: a Paramedic Academy to bolster Dutchess Community College's EMT/paramedic program with scholarships, stipends and specialized training. "We've talked with students in the EMT program at DCC," she said. "They want more opportunities to advance."

At the Office for the Aging, an ambassador will help seniors and their families find services

and a program will teach caregivers how to intervene when seniors have a hoarding problem. The county is also planning a job fair for seniors and using a \$225,000 grant to expand a program that funds repairs to seniors' homes. "It's so important that they have the support they need to stay active, connected and live the lives they deserve," Serino said.

She said older farmers who want to retire can have their operations preserved through Connecting Farmers, a new program to match them with young people or veterans interested in agriculture.

Other farmer initiatives include a youth gardening grant to introduce children to agriculture and food production and the purchase of a refrigerated box truck to distribute 100,000 pounds of produce annually to food pantries.

In addition to distributing money from the county's Housing Trust Fund, which in 2023 awarded \$1.575 million to an affordable housing project at 2 Cross St. in Beacon, Dutchess is planning to map sewer and water infrastructure to identify the best areas for new housing.

Mayor: Beacon Continues to Thrive

Kyriacou presents annual state of the city address

By Jeff Simms

In his third State of the City address, Mayor

Lee Kyriacou on March 3 listed Beacon's recent accomplishments and recounted its long-term transformation "from a tired factory city to a reimagined one, with a reinvigorated historic Main Street and a quality of life that attracts newcomers,

investment and visitors — a beacon for other communities to follow."

Financial discipline

Beacon's financial condition, he said, remains "the best it has been in decades." Property tax increases remained modest while the city completed construction on its \$14.7 million central fire station and continues to invest in infrastructure upgrades.

Kyriacou said the residential tax rate in the 2025 budget is the lowest it has been in a decade, and half of what homeowners pay per \$1,000 of assessed value in Poughkeepsie and Newburgh. Revenue from a tax-sharing agreement with Dutchess County was a record \$6.1 million last year — equivalent to 10 percent of the city's property tax revenue — while two revenue sources were added to the 2025 budget: a 2 percent tax on hotels and short-term rentals that goes into effect in April and a share of the state cannabis tax from Beacon dispensaries.

Public safety

Kyriacou lauded the on-time and on-budget completion of the fire station as the greatest municipal accomplishment of 2024. With geothermal heating and cooling, the all-electric facility is environmentally sustainable and its brick facade should last for decades at the gateway to Main Street, he said. The Beacon Engine and Mase Hook and Ladder buildings will be sold to help pay for the new station but with provisions requiring protection of the historic structures.

In 2025, the city will negotiate new contracts with the police and firefighters' unions.

Infrastructure

The city took on millions of dollars in infrastructure improvements, the most significant being a project carrying over into 2025 to rebuild Fishkill/Teller Avenue and its sidewalks. Planning dates to 2001, said Kyriacou, who praised City Administrator Chris White for prioritizing right-of-way acquisitions and

other details to finally get the project started.

In 2025, the city will begin to replace the Mount Beacon water supply tank and the wastewater dewatering system and aeration blower. City Hall will also be repainted indoors and out.

Quality of life

Kyriacou praised increased spending on the Recreation Department, which he said has more than tripled in a decade and in 2024 exceeded \$1 million for the first time. He credited new construction that added \$37 million to the property tax base last year and provides recreation fees.

This year will bring refurbished tennis and basketball courts and public bathrooms at South Avenue Park, while Memorial Park will see upgrades to the skateboard park and fences replaced near the softball fields.

The mayor said Beacon had encouraged Dutchess County to develop part of its DMV lot on Main Street to include affordable housing. The state has recognized the city as a "pro-housing community," creating funding options, and Metro-North is reviewing proposals to build housing at its north parking lot, with 10 percent of the 300 envisioned units to have below-market-rate rents. In addition, New York State announced last month that Beacon qualified for homeowner grants to build accessory dwelling units.

Climate

Beacon was one of the first, and one of only 15 local governments in New York, to become a silver-certified Climate Smart Community, the highest available status, which opens the door for sustainability grants.

Solar panels are scheduled to be installed atop the Highway Garage in 2025, Kyriacou said, while the municipal fleet of all-electric and hybrid vehicles will grow through Climate Smart grants. Electric vehicle charging stations were installed in 2024 at the fire station lot, and this year chargers will be installed at other locations.

Dutchess Funding (from Page 1)

In Putnam, the finance department and clerk did not respond to inquiries about how much of the county's funding comes from the federal government. Putnam does not have a comptroller's office.

Aymar-Blair said he had expected that the investigation would reveal sources of federal funding that the county could do without, but "every single program struck me as vital to the county's functioning and to supporting the vulnerable people in our county."

The county's largest source of federal funding in 2024 was \$43.6 million from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, which funds programs such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (aka "welfare"); the Home Energy Assistance Program; adoption and foster care; and the enforcement of child support.

The county also received \$2.95 million from the U.S. Department of Agriculture

for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (aka "food stamps") and \$12.9 million from the Department of Transportation, among other federal expenditures.

The report said that, as of Feb. 20, the county had not seen delays in federal disbursements, but Aymar-Blair said this week that's no longer accurate. "Everything's changing all the time," he said.

At a March 6 meeting of the county Legislature's Public Works and Capital Projects Committee, Bob Balakind of the Department of Public Works reported that a federal grant the county had received to study the feasibility of electrifying the county bus fleet had been frozen. A consultant hired to produce the study was already a month into the work; if the funds aren't forthcoming, the county will have to pick up the tab.

A grant to install new cameras at Dutchess County Airport also was paused, although "that may have since wiggled loose again," Balakind said. He noted that 90 percent of

the airport's capital funding comes from the federal government, with the remainder split between the state and county.

"We're usually only stuck with paying that last 5 percent, which is great," he said. "But that federal funding is now much more volatile."

There is confusion about the status of some of the \$3.2 million that the Department of Housing and Urban Development pays the county after the nonprofit Hudson River Housing reported that it had been told its contract with HUD would not be renewed as of March 31. That could leave dozens of Poughkeepsie families homeless, it said. Hudson River Housing did not respond to a request for comment.

Meanwhile, the future of the Social Security Administration office in Poughkeepsie, the only one in the county, has been in doubt. The office, which had been closed for renovations, appeared on a list of government sites that DOGE expected to close.

Earlier this week, Aymar-Blair said that

the office's staff weren't sure if they still had jobs. He noted that Rep. Pat Ryan, a Democrat whose district includes much of Dutchess County, including Beacon, has been "calling anyone who will listen to get that office back open."

But on Monday (March 10), the *Times-Union* in Albany reported that the SSA said by email that the office would remain open under a new 10-year lease.

On Wednesday, Ryan's office reported that the office has opened on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and that the Peekskill and Middletown offices are also open.

Aymar-Blair said that the hardest part of compiling the report was thinking about what would happen if the county funding was cut. "I worry about the human suffering behind these cuts more than anything," he said. "These are the kinds of things we'll feel in our neighborhoods."

Jeff Simms contributed reporting.

Dunkin' (from Page 1)

suggested that the council ban any new self-storage facilities, drive-thrus, gas stations, car washes, auto lots and repair shops.

J.C. Calderon, the committee chair, said that its members had not all agreed but that the recommendations were informed by public feedback, including a survey.

On Jan. 27, City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis told the council that the Dunkin' project would be regulated by whatever zoning is in place when a foundation is poured and "something substantial has come out of the ground."

After approving the application on Tuesday, Planning Board members discussed the council's draft law, which would only ban new self-storage and drive-thrus. They said that drive-thrus could work in the Fishkill Avenue corridor but they would need more time to thoroughly review the idea. They did not favor "categorical prohibition" of the two uses.

45 Beekman St.

The Planning Board continued a public hearing Tuesday on an application to construct two 4-story buildings with 64 one- and two-bedroom apartments on Beekman Street at its intersection with Route 9D.

The project, which has been reviewed for more than a year, would include 15,000 square feet of commercial space and 91 off-street parking spaces.

The feedback provided by neighbors was critical, with several people asking the Planning Board to send the developer "back to the drawing board."

A Cliff Street resident said she was committed to Beacon's continued growth but "strenuously opposed" to the Beekman proposal. "It is simply too much construction for too little space," she said, noting that many cities "would love to have the character and personality that we have," but "this project is out of keeping with the unique historic character and look and feel" of Beacon.

The board will continue the public hearing next month.

291 Main St.

The Planning Board also held a public hearing on plans to construct a three-story addition in the alley adjacent to the two-story Telephone Building at 291 Main St. The third story would be set back from the second-story facade, and the addition would feature commercial space on the ground floor with three apartments on the

second and third floors.

Planning Board members cited "self-imposed" issues with the design, with Kevin Byrne suggesting that the Main Street frontage on the addition be reduced to one story. He said he is "very skeptical about [the project] unless some major changes are made." Karen Quiana said the plans call for too much construction on the South Brett Street side of

the building. "It feels like there's a little too much stuffing for the taco there," she said.

Several residents made similar statements. A South Brett Street neighbor lamented former owner Deborah Bigelow's yearslong restoration of the historic building, saying, "I hope she doesn't know what's going on. That's my secret hope."

The hearing will continue next month.

MUSIC  ST MARY'S



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Charles Frommer, saxophone/clarinet

Saturday, March 15, 2025 @ 2 PM



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March 26 at 5pm &
March 30 at 2pm

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March 30 at 7pm

Tickets at
www.philipstowndepottheatre.org

AROUND TOWN



PLUNGE INTO JAZZ — Ed Neumeister of Beacon, a trombonist and composer, led a jazz quartet that performed original tunes and unexpected covers such as Led Zeppelin’s “Black Dog” at an afternoon concert on March 8 at the Beahive in Beacon. Neumeister has used the same toilet plunger to alter the sound of his trombone for 50 years.



INSIDE THE HOUSE — Genevieve Ngosa and Richarda Abrams star in *The House of Lattisville*, a play by Nan Nelson-Ewing set in a Harlem brownstone that continues at the Philipstown Depot Theatre through March 16.



GREEN DAY — Beacon hosted its annual Parade of Green on March 8 with grand marshal Richie Kaplan, the retired former owner of Max’s on Main. For more photos, see highlandscurrent.org.

Photos by
Ross Corsair (3)



DERBY WINNERS — Philipstown Cub Scout Pack 137 held its annual pinewood derby on March 8. The three winners from 42 entries were, from left, Aidan Walsh (2nd), Ben Swiader (1st) and Teddy Speiser (3rd). They are shown with Cubmaster Dan Walsh.

Photo provided

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WORKSHOPS BEGIN ON SATURDAY, MARCH 22

Highland Lights Procession
Hudson Highlands Land Trust’s Humble Bee Hollow on April 26

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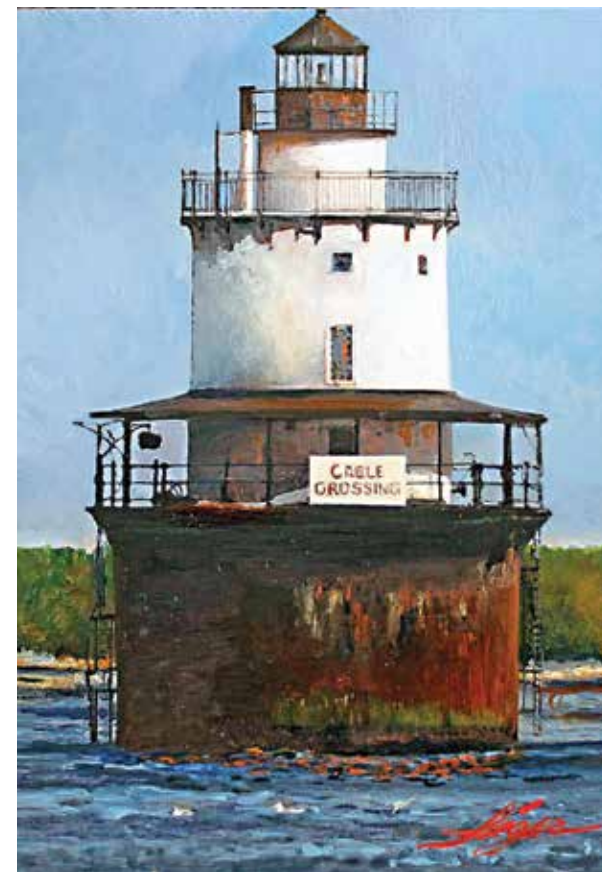
The Calendar



"Homeless in Lisbon," by Don Taylor



"Hummer at Feeder II," by Kelly Best Bourgeois



"Echoes of Rust and Tide," by Barbara Leger

Keeping It Real

Artist league's Beacon exhibit guaranteed authentic

By Marc Ferris

The art world's AI problem stretches beyond the frame because the abuse of Photoshop is difficult to determine and software that mimics the act of painting is becoming more sophisticated.

In November, The American Artists Professional League discovered that a piece in its 96th Grand National Exhibition in Manhattan consisted of too many pixels and not enough paint.



"Teal," by Chantal Sulkow

In response, the League deployed detection software to ensure that none of the 85 small works on display at its *Realism on the Hudson* exhibit at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon is tainted by algorithms. The show, which includes pieces by artists in 28 states, represents a master class in composition and technique.

The Howland partnership came about after Westchester County resident and League president Aki Kano displayed two watercolors at the Bannerman Island Gallery on Main Street in April 2023. She asked Laurie Clark of the gallery if the League could exhibit at the space. Clark, a Beacon mainstay, steered her to the larger cultural center.

This is the League's third show in Beacon and the plan is to make it an annual event. The subjects include nudes, portraits, landscapes, still lifes, water scenes, nature studies and plenty of flowers. Some of the detail is hyper-realistic, such as the squirrel in Karla Mann's "Snack Time," hair curls in "Blue Fragment" by Gabrielle Tito and lace in Eileen Nistler's "Pretty Please."

"Still Life with Aged Cheese," by Victor Mordasov, and Zhi Li's stunning table study, "Daisy Flower w Lemon," convey exquisite texture. In "Summer Lovers," Karen Israel's painting of two dogs frolicking in water, the fur looks wet.

"Angel's Light" by Katherine Irish features excellent cloud work, as does the



Aki Kano, president of The American Artists Professional League Photo provided

sunset in "Cuttyhunk's Tranquility," by Desiree Rose Zaslow. The standout drawing, "Which Way" by Jeff R. Edwards, depicts a meadow pathway leading to a forest. Other notable black-and-white images include Mike Denny's "Secrets" and "Lure of the Sea," by John Calabrese.

In the vivid painting "Autumn Fire," Keith Willis plays with the reflection of a colorful grove of trees in a river, one of several pieces that renders water with skill. Other notable depictions include Jess Bell's shimmering "Luminate" and "Echoes of Rust and Tide," by Barbara Leger, one of seven award winners in the show. Jodie Klein's painting "... and the boat makes three" channels Winslow Homer.

The League, a New York City nonprofit founded in 1928, has 600 members and

organizes six exhibits each year. Artists are vetted for quality and professionalism — and now, for digital assists.

The kerfuffle in November led the organization to adopt a policy regarding the role of computers in the creation of art. "We sent hundreds of emails back and forth exploring the issue," Kano says. "This is not like using ChatGPT to help write a memo; a well-respected organization almost bought [the work]."

To maintain the integrity of its exhibitions, the League only "accepts art made from scratch," says Kano. "We are sounding the alarm for galleries, museums and other institutions that this is going on. There's a need to value creativity done the old-fashioned way."

The Howland Cultural Center, at 477 Main St. in Beacon, is open Saturdays and most Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. The exhibit continues through April 13. On March 22, from 1 to 3 p.m., Brian McClear will paint a large still life in oils.



"Sweet Rain," by Fang Sullivan

THE WEEK AHEAD

COMMUNITY

SAT 15

St. Patrick's Day Lunch

COLD SPRING

Noon – 2 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St. | stmaryscoldspring.com

This traditional Irish lunch will include corned beef and cabbage, beer and wine. *Cost: \$35 (\$30 seniors, \$20 ages 5 to 12, free for ages 5 and younger)*

TUES 18

Poem for a Pickle

GARRISON

5 – 8 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Record yourself reading a poem for a National Poetry Month podcast and receive an edible or stuffed pickle.

TUES 18

Disaster Preparedness Training

BEACON

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

Learn how to be ready for extreme weather and receive a planning kit. Register online.

FRI 21

Poetry Slam

COLD SPRING

6:30 – 8 p.m. Split Rock Books
97 Main St. | 845-265-2080
splitrockbks.com

Celebrate World Poetry Day by sharing a poem or enjoy the readings. *Cost: \$10*

SAT 22

Pet Rabies Clinic

CARMEL

10 a.m. – Noon. Veterans Park
201 Gipsy Trail Road
845-808-1390 ext. 43160
putnamcountyny.com/health

Bring your dog, cat or ferret for a free vaccination. Bring proof of Putnam residency and prior rabies shot, and have pets leashed or in cages.

SAT 22

Defensive Driving Course

COLD SPRING

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

New drivers can learn skills and experienced drivers can qualify for reduced points and insurance discounts. Registration required. *Cost: \$40*

SAT 22

Citizenship Application Assistance

BEACON

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Howland Public Library
311 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

Specialists will review documents and offer legal advice. Registration required.

SAT 22

Lantern Workshop

PHILIPSTOWN

Noon & 3 p.m. HVSF
2015 Route 9 | hvshakespeare.org

Make lanterns for the fifth annual Highland Lights procession. The theme for 2025 is microcosmos, which celebrates pollinators and other insects. Weekends through April 13. Register online.

SAT 22

PHAS Annual Dinner

PHILIPSTOWN

5 p.m. Taconic Outdoor Education Center
75 Mountain Laurel Lane
putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

The Putnam Highlands Audubon Society will honor state park staff from Fahnestock and Hudson Highlands at its spring benefit. *Cost: \$100*

SUN 23

Mid-Hudson Reptile Expo

POUGHKEEPSIE

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. MJN Center
14 Civic Center Plaza
midhudsonciviccenter.org

Vendors will have snakes, amphibians, invertebrates and supplies for their care at this annual show. *Cost: \$12 (\$6 ages 7 to 12, free ages 6 and younger)*

SUN 23

Maple Syrup Day

PHILIPSTOWN

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Little Stony Point
3011 Route 9D
facebook.com/littlestonypoint

Hosted by the Little Stony Point Citizens Association, this annual event features pancakes, a syrup-making demonstration and live music. *Free*

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 15

Prom Boutique

BEACON

Noon – 4 p.m. Howland Public Library
311 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

Students can shop at this pop-up for formal wear and accessories. Also SUN 16.



Lantern Workshop, March 22

THURS 20

Student Art Show

GARRISON

5:30 – 8 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Work by Garrison School students will be on display, and the student jazz ensemble will perform at 6 p.m.

THURS 20

Teen Knitters

BEACON

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

This beginner class is for students in grades 6 to 12. Registration required.

SAT 22

Hudson Valley Puppetry Festival

POUGHKEEPSIE

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The Academy
33 Academy St. | artsmidhudson.org

Puppet theater groups from around the region will put on all-ages shows. There also will be workshops and demonstrations. *Free*

VISUAL ART

SAT 15

Oh, Freedom! Quilts

POUGHKEEPSIE

11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Family Partnership Center
29 North Hamilton St.
mhahp.vassarspaces.net

At 12:45 p.m. during the opening of this exhibit, the Mid-Hudson Antislavery History Project will host a program that includes Thadine Wormly discussing her quilts and Moonlight and Morningstar performing civil rights songs.

SAT 15

Exploring Identity

GARRISON

1 – 3 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

The annual School Invitational Theme Exhibition (SITE) includes works by students in kindergarten to 12th grade from around the region. Through March 30.

SAT 15

Lydia Rubio

COLD SPRING

2:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

As part of the library's Diverse

Voices: Empowering Narratives art program, the Cuban artist will talk about her series, *Notes from the Sky* and *Notes from the River*.

SUN 16

The Art of Therapy

PUTNAM VALLEY

2 – 4 p.m. Tompkins Corners C.C.
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org

Andrea Jaffee, an artist and therapist, will share her paintings, which depict nature intermingled with age-old wisdom. Through May 4.

TALKS & TOURS

SAT 15

Chris Campanioni & C.O. Moed

BEACON

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

The writers will discuss their work with Kathy Curto. Campanioni's latest is the poetry collection, *Windows 85*, and Moed's debut memoir is *It Was Her New York: True Stories and Snapshots*.

TUES 18

The Ecological Turn

GARRISON

Noon. Via Zoom | garrisoninstitute.org

This Pathways to Planetary Health Forum, presented by the Garrison Institute, will include scholars Mary Evelyn Tucker and Peter Senge in conversation with Stephen Posner on how to create a more sustainable world. *Free*

TUES 18

The Roaring '20s and the Harlem Renaissance

BEACON

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

Eve Dunbar and Adam McKible will discuss the period and two novels, *The Great Gatsby* (1925) and *When Washington Was in Vogue* (1926). See Page 15.

WED 19

The Temperance Movement in Putnam

GARRISON

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

Amy Campanaro will discuss the anti-drinking movement from its beginnings into the 20th century.

SUN 23

Jim Zimmerman

PUTNAM VALLEY

3 p.m. Tompkins Corners C.C.
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org

The poet will read from his collections, which include *Little Miracles* and *Family Cookout*. An open mic follows. *Cost: \$10*

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 15

Fidelio

POUGHKEEPSIE

1 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St.
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Watch a livestream of the Metropolitan Opera's production of the Beethoven classic with soprano Lise Davidsen and David Butt Philip. *Cost: \$30*

SAT 15

The House of Lattisville

GARRISON

3 & 7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org

This new play by Nan Nelson-Ewing, directed by Shona Tucker and starring Richarda Abrams and Genevieve Ngosa, is set in a Harlem brownstone owned by an elderly woman after a young woman breaks in. Also SUN 16. *Cost: \$30*

SAT 15

Rodney and Juliet's Wedding

BEACON

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

Figure out who did it at this murder mystery fundraiser for the cultural center. Rescheduled from February. *Cost: \$65*



SAT 15

Town Criers

COLD SPRING

7:30 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.org

The improv comedy group takes inspiration from local history. *Cost: \$20*

WED 19

God's Puppets

BEACON

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

As part of the Hit House Reading Series, actors will stage Gwynne Watkins' play about a pastor's wife who uses feminist puppetry to tell stories. See Page 14. *Cost: \$10*



THURS 20
Network
POUGHKEEPSIE
7:30 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St.
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org
Watch the 1976 Sidney Lumet drama starring Faye Dunaway and Peter Finch about a news network with low ratings. *Free*

FRI 21
Into the Woods
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Haldane Auditorium
15 Craigside Drive | dub.sh/woods-tickets
Haldane Drama will stage the Stephen Sondheim musical, which remixes the plots of Brothers Grimm fairy tales with a witch, a childless couple and a journey. Also SAT 22, SUN 23. *Cost: \$20 (\$15 students, seniors)*

SAT 22
Sing Sing
GARRISON
1 p.m. Graymoor | 40 Franciscan Way
atonementfriars.org
Watch a 2023 film about the Rehabilitation Through the Arts program, followed by a discussion with Charles Moore. Donations welcome. *Free*

SUN 23
Wizard of Oz on Ice
PEEKSKILL
3 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
Dorothy and her gang will skate down the Yellow Brick Road in this new production. *Cost: \$37 to \$52 (\$27 ages 12 and younger)*

MUSIC

SAT 15
Tara O’Grady and the Black Velvet Band
COLD SPRING
2 p.m. St. Mary’s Church
1 Chestnut St. | musicatstmarys.com
The singer will play Celtic jazz with Daniel Kelly (piano), Trifon Dimitrov (bass) and Charles Frommer (saxophone/clarinet). Donations welcome. *Free*

SAT 15
The Michael Jackson Experience
PEEKSKILL
7:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
A 14-piece ensemble will play the music of the King of Pop and be joined by When Doves Cry, a Prince tribute band. *Cost: \$34 to \$77*

SAT 15
Alexis Marcelo
BEACON
8 p.m. St. Andrew & St. Luke
15 South Ave. | marcelo.eventbrite.com
The keyboardist has played with a range of musicians, from GZA to the Metropolitan Opera, for its performance of *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X*. His concert is part of a series of solo concerts hosted by Elysium Furnace Works. *Cost: \$20*

SAT 15
JigJam
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The Irish bluegrass and Americana quartet will perform. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SUN 16
Cherish the Ladies
PEEKSKILL
4 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The St. Patrick’s Day celebration will feature the Irish-American musicians, on their 40th anniversary tour, and violinist Daisy Jopling. *Cost: \$40 to \$100*

FRI 21
Martha Spencer and the Wonderland Country Band
PUTNAM VALLEY
7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corners C.C.
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org
The singer-songwriter and her band will play music from her latest release, *Wonderland*. *Cost: \$25*

FRI 21
Grayson Hugh
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The pianist and singer and his wife, Polly Messer, will play songs

from their latest album, *Save Your Love for Me*. Frank Carillo and Eddie Seville open. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SAT 22
Twen
BEACON
7 p.m. The Yard | 4 Hanna Lane
theyardbeacon.com/upcoming
The “van-life” rock band will be joined by Grumpy. *Cost: \$22 (\$25 door)*

SAT 22
Dassi Rosenkrantz
BEACON
7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org
The bass player and composer will debut her new release, *The Next Flow*. Noga Cabo opens. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SAT 22
Eri Yamamoto
BEACON
8 p.m. St. Andrew & St. Luke
15 South Ave.
yamamoto.eventbrite.com
The longtime presence in the downtown jazz scene will play a set as part of the Elysium Furnace Works month-long series. *Cost: \$20*

(Continued on Page 14)

COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES



Opportunity Zone - Residential Conversion, In Place Income
27,580 ± SF | 0.26 ± Acres



Dutchess County Central Business District Class A Office Building
15,214 ± SF | 0.75 Acre



New Windsor / Newburgh - 187 & 184, 30,000 SF High Bay
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Poughkeepsie - Business District US Rt 44 & NYS Rt 55 Exposure
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[THE WEEK AHEAD]

(Continued from Page 13)

SAT 22
Vic DiBitetto
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The “Italian Hurricane” has a new comedy album, *Working Class Zero*. *Cost: \$54 to \$69*

SAT 22
Bill Birdsong Miller
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The Grammy-winner plays flute and guitar and sings and composes. Blues artist Kevin Burt will open. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SUN 23
The Daedalus Quartet
BEACON
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | howlandmusic.org
The string players’ program will include works by Haydn and Bartok, as well as Deborah Kaye’s *First Quartet*. *Cost: \$35 (\$10 students)*

NATURE & OUTDOORS
SAT 15
Search for Salamanders
WAPPINGERS FALLS
5:30 p.m. Stony Kill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane | stonykill.org
Learn about salamanders that live in our area and help to count

them as part of a citizen-science project. *Cost: \$5*

THURS 20
New York’s Rare Fireflies
BEACON
7 p.m. Sloop Club | 2 Red Flynn Drive
beaconsloopclub.org
Katie Hietala-Henschell and Matt Schlesinger will present the results of a New York Natural Heritage Program survey of at-risk species. *Free*

CIVIC
MON 17
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-5011 | beaconny.gov

MON 17
Village Board
NELSONVILLE
7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St.
845-265-2500 | nelsonvillenyny.gov

TUES 18
Village Election
NELSONVILLE
Noon – 9 p.m. Village Hall
260 Main St. | nelsonvillenyny.gov

TUES 18
School Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Middle School Library
15 Craigside Drive | 845-265-9254
haldaneschool.org

WED 19
Village Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

WED 19
School Board
GARRISON
7 p.m. Garrison School | 1100 Route 9D
845-424-3689 | gufs.org
The meeting will include a community budget forum.

THURS 20
Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail Meeting
Noon. Via Zoom
beaconhopewellrailtrail.com

Week Ahead edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)
For a full listing of events, see highlandscurrent.org/calendar.

PUPPETS FOR GOD

Hit House presents new play
by Beacon writer

By Marc Ferris

Shane Killoran wants to see more theater in Beacon and she’s doing something about

it. With the help of writer Donna Minkowitz, she met Gwynne Watkins, a journalist who has written several popular children’s plays, including *Space Pirates*, which is performed around the world.

“I know this because of the royalty checks,” says Watkins, who is refining *God’s Puppets*, her first full-length play for adults. The two-act story centers on a Presbyterian pastor standing up for herself in the mid-1990s, just as right-wing evangelicals begin proselytizing to church youth groups.

A run-through on Wednesday (March 19) at the Howland Cultural Center will be the second installment of a performed reading series produced by Killoran’s Hit House Creative. The first in November featured works by five playwrights. She also put on *The Vagina Monologues* in 2023 and 2024.

Killoran got the bug to bring film and theater to Beacon and Newburgh before the pandemic, which delayed Hit House’s rollout. In December, she produced a David Lynch Christmas show at The Yard and is hosting a monthly film series at Safe Harbors across the river through July. A fringe theater festival in Newburgh is in the works for later this year.

A “Greenwich Village girl” who moved to Beacon in 2015, Killoran studied for a doctorate in England that would have explored portrayals of women on the stage from 1918 to 1996. The degree path got paused but she is writing a play building on her research. “I wanted to analyze what scandalizes audiences — is it topic, nudity, language?” she says.

One notch on her resume includes work as a dramaturg, which she describes as being an historian for canonical plays by Euripides, Shakespeare and Chekov. Knowing how the roles and scenes have been portrayed throughout the years, she interprets and shapes a production with the goal of adhering to some semblance of accuracy.



An image from the play poster

The name Hit House derives from a shirt worn by Keith Richards of The Rolling Stones in the 1960s, says Killoran, who plans to open a brick-and-mortar collective to foster film screenings, plays and other programming.

For the March 19 reading, 10 actors with scripts in hand will provide movement and dramatic interpretation in response to music and lighting cues.

“I’m so glad I got a feminist play, and Gwynne is such a beautiful, powerful writer,” says Killoran. “It’s important for playwrights to hear their work instead of reading it on the screen or holding informal sessions sitting around their living room with friends.”

Watkins is a former freelance writer who interviewed celebrities like Dana Carvey and Tiffany Haddish. She moved to Beacon in 2011 and works with Compass Arts, an educational nonprofit.

God’s Puppets is somewhat autobiographical. The daughter of a Presbyterian pastor in Pennsylvania, Watkins chafed as evangelists started “going after teens” around 30 years ago, she says.

The protagonist, pastor Pauline, whose husband is also a minister, resents being treated differently by congregants. She discovers the denomination’s “puppet ministry” and uses the characters to call



Gwynne Watkins Photo provided

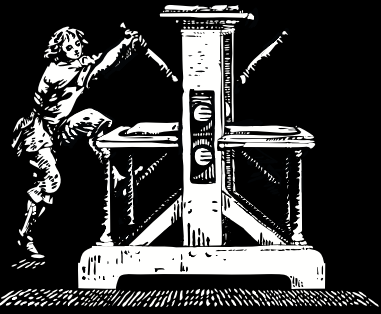


Shane Killoran Photo by Adriana Rossetto

out the negative depictions of women in the Bible as she speaks in a shrill voice. Pushback to these mini-dramas strains her marriage and leads to a crisis of faith.

Pauline’s dilemma boils down to: “Is God calling to her or does she have her own agenda and agency?” says Watkins. “I am so glad Shane is doing the heavy lifting. I don’t have to hire the actors, do publicity or go it alone. Playwrights usually need a lot of other people to bring their vision to life.”

The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St. in Beacon. Tickets for the staged reading of God’s Puppets, which begins at 7 p.m., are \$10 at dub.sh/gods-puppets-HCC or at the door.

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Rescuing a Lost Novel

Beacon professor's quest led to publication

By Leonard Sparks

Thirty years ago, Adam McKible, a doctoral student at the University of North Carolina, stretched across a blanket outdoors to read *The Letters of Davy Carr*, a serialized novel published anonymously in 1925 and 1926 in a monthly magazine for Black writers and readers called *The Messenger*.

McKible, who today lives in Beacon and is an English professor at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, said he wasn't confident that the excerpts would contribute anything to a chapter in his dissertation devoted to the magazine.

But after finishing the pages he had printed from microfilm, he realized he had found a forgotten novel written during the Harlem Renaissance and filled with details about the daily lives of Blacks in Washington, D.C. Its narrator, Davey Carr, also commented on hot-button topics such as Blacks whose skin was light enough to "pass" for white.

"I realized it was a good novel, so the first thing I did was go to all my African-American literature professors and asked if they ever heard of it," McKible said. "Nobody had."

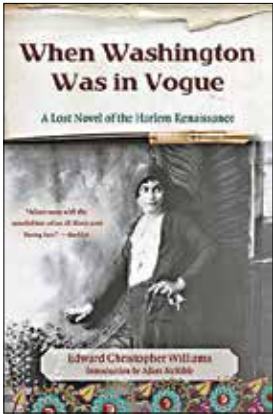
McKible set aside the pages to finish his degree and begin work as a professor. In 2001, he shared the excerpts with a Columbia graduate student who knew how to use a new technology called Google and was able to identify the author as Edward Christopher Williams, the first Black graduate of the New York State Library School in Albany. In 2004, after the serial was typed into a manuscript, HarperCollins published the novel as *When Washington Was in Vogue*.

To mark the 100th anniversary of *When Washington Was in Vogue's* publication in *The Messenger*, McKible will speak at 7 p.m. on Wednesday (March 18) at Stanza



Edward Christopher Williams

Books in Beacon. He will be joined by Eve Dunbar, an English professor at Vassar who will discuss another memorable novel published in 1925, *The Great Gatsby*, by F. Scott Fitzgerald.



Born in Cleveland to a Black father and Irish mother, Edward Williams graduated from Case Western Reserve University before attending librarian school. Case Western hired him as its library director, a position he held until resigning in 1909 to become principal of Dunbar High School in Washington.

Between those jobs, Williams married the daughter of Charles W. Chestnut, one of the Harlem Renaissance's best-known writers. In 1916, he became head librarian and chaired the romance languages department at Howard University. He died in 1929.

Before HarperCollins published the book, McKible attempted to locate Williams' granddaughter by cold calling every Patricia Williams in Washington, D.C. After its publication, he received an email from Patricia's son in Georgia, who said she had died in 2000. He thanked McKible for the novel's publication.

"I was conscious that this was somebody else's book, and I felt that it was important that it get out in the world," McKible said.

More Notable Books by Local Authors

The Saucerian: UFOs, Men in Black and the Unbelievable Life of Gray Barker

By Gabriel Mckee

McKee, who lives in Beacon, examines the life of "one of the weirder characters in American subcultural history." Barker was "a literary outsider, master hoaxer and queer pioneer," McKee writes, responsible for "lasting folk narratives that have shaped over 70 years of American culture's paranormal upside-down." McKee will launch the book on April 24 at Split Rock Books in Cold Spring.



A Gorgeous Excitement: A Novel

By Cynthia Weiner

This coming-of-age story, set in New York City in 1986, was inspired by the Beacon resident's experiences growing up on the Upper East Side at the time of the infamous "preppy murder" case.



Fear No Pharaoh: American Jews, the Civil War and the Fight to End Slavery

By Richard Kreitner

The journalist and historian, who lives in Beacon, tells the intertwined stories of six American Jews during the Civil War, including a lawyer who became Jefferson Davis's confidant, a Swedish-born rabbi who defended slavery as biblically justified and a feminist, atheist and abolitionist who championed "emancipation of all kinds." Kreitner will discuss his book on April 2 at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon.



Kids Cook Everything: Inspiration and Recipes for Making the Food You Love

By Mark Bittman

The food journalist and former *New York Times* columnist, who lives in Philipstown, wrote this cookbook for children ages 8 to 12 as part of his popular *How to Cook Everything* series. Its flexible recipes are designed to reflect the way kids approach meals and give them confidence in the kitchen.



Start Reading Now

March book club selections

Sci-Fi Book Club

MON 17, 7 P.M.

A Song for the Wild Built, by Becky Chambers
Stanza Books, Beacon
Register at stanzabooks.com/book-clubs.

Middle School Book Club (Grades 5-8)

TUES 18, 3:15 P.M.

Counting by 7s, by Holly Goldberg Sloan
Butterfield Library, Cold Spring
Register at butterfieldlibrary.org/calendar.

Howland Book Club

WED 19, 2 P.M.

When Women Were Dragons, by Kelly Barnhill
Howland Library, Beacon
Register at beaconlibrary.org/calendar.

Page-to-Screen Book Club

THURS 20, 3 P.M.

It Ends with Us, by Colleen Hoover
Desmond-Fish Library, Garrison
Register at desmondfishlibrary.org/events.

Liquid Fables Book Club

THURS 20, 6 P.M.

The House in the Cerulean Sea, by TJ Klune
Liquid Fables, Beacon
[instagram.com/liquidfablesbookclub](https://www.instagram.com/liquidfablesbookclub)

Mystery Book Club

MON 24, 7 P.M.

Middletide, by Sarah Crouch
Stanza Books, Beacon
Register at stanzabooks.com/book-clubs.

Early Reader Book Club

TUES 25, 4 P.M.

Beti and the Little Round House, by Atinuke
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring
Register at splitrockbks.com/event.

Family Book Club (Ages 4-12)

TUES 25, 6:30 P.M.

Mercy Watson to the Rescue, by Kate DiCamillo
Howland Library, Beacon
Register at beaconlibrary.org/calendar.

Horror Book Club

TUES 25, 7 P.M.

Hungerstone, by Kat Dunn
Stanza Books, Beacon
Register at stanzabooks.com/book-clubs.

Queer Book Club

TUES 25, 7 P.M.

Hijab Butch Blues, by Lamya H
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring
Register at splitrockbks.com/event.

Beacon Book Club

THURS 27, 7:15 P.M.

The God of the Woods, by Liz Moore
Tradicionex, Fishkill
Register at meetup.com/beacon-bookclub.

Butterfield Book Club

MON 31, 7 P.M.

Women Talking, by Miriam Toews
Butterfield Library, Cold Spring
Register at butterfieldlibrary.org/calendar.

POSITION AVAILABLE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PHILIPSTOWN

FOOD PANTRY COORDINATOR

The First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown is looking to hire a part-time food pantry coordinator for the Philipstown Food Pantry.

The duties primarily involve administrative tasks, coordination of volunteers, and communication with volunteers, clients, and the local community. Seeking an organized, reliable person with good interpersonal and computer skills. Approximately 20-30 hours per month with an hourly salary based on experience.

If interested please contact the church office administrator at 845 265 3220 (feel free to leave a message) or by e-mail at 1presbyterian@gmail.com.

Public Notice

YEAR TWO OF RATE PLAN FOR LIBERTY UTILITIES (NEW YORK WATER) CORP.

The New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) approved a three-year rate plan for Liberty Utilities (New York Water) Corp. retroactive to April 1, 2024 with new rates beginning September 1, 2024. The company’s overall annual base revenues are authorized to increase by \$15.5 million (13.07%), \$15.5 million (11.56%), and \$15.5 million (10.36%), in the first, second, and third years, respectively. Rate Year 3 includes the levelization surcharge amount of \$9.7 million. Please see below for the average customer impacts for each service classification for Rate Year 2. Service Area 1 includes: Beaver Dam Lake, Cambridge, Dykeer, Hoey-DeGraw, Kingsvale, Long Island, Mt. Ebo, Waccubuc, West Branch Acres, and Wild Oaks Districts: For the average residential customer using 8,000 gallons of water a month and serviced with a 5/8-inch meter, the bill would increase by \$12.93 per month. The monthly bill for the average non-residential customer using 20,000 gallons of water a month and serviced by a 5/8-inch meter would increase by \$28.33 per month.

Service Classification	% Change
1 Residential Water Service	15.00%
2 Non Residential Water Service	16.00%
7 Private Fire Hydrant Service Mt. Ebo ONLY	0.00% 0.00%
8 Public Fire Service: Long Island Cambridge Wild Oaks Mt. Ebo ONLY	0.00% 0.00% 30.00% 0.00%
9 Private Fire Protection Service Mt. Ebo ONLY	0.00% 29.46%

Service Area 2: Merrick District: For the average residential customer using 8,000 gallons of water a month and serviced with a 5/8-inch meter, the bill would increase by \$2.62 per month. The monthly bill for the average non-residential customer using 20,000 gallons of water a month and serviced by a 5/8-inch meter would increase by \$4.47 per month.

Service Classification	% Change
1 Residential Water Service	5.00%
2 Non Residential Water Service	4.00%
7 Private Fire Hydrant Service	0.00%
8 Public Fire Service	0.00%
9 Private Fire Protection Service	29.50%

Service Area 2: Sea Cliff District: For the average residential customer using 8,000 gallons of water a month and serviced with a 5/8-Inch meter, the bill would increase by \$2.82 per month. The monthly bill for the average non-residential customer using 20,000 gallons of water a month and serviced by a 5/8-inch meter would increase \$4.95 per month.

Service Classification	% Change
1 Residential Water Service	3.00%
2 Non Residential Water Service	2.00%
7 Private Fire Hydrant Service	0.00%
8 Public Fire Service	0.00%
9 Private Fire Protection Service	0.00%

LOOKING BACK
IN PHILIPSTOWN

By Chip Rowe

150 Years Ago (March 1875)

Three of the four children in the James Robinson family of Garrison — John (16), Willie (10) and Jennie (19) — died of diphtheria over 10 days. Shortly before she died, Jennie asked for James Meade, her Sunday School teacher: “Tell my young friends to seek the Lord, while he may be found, and meet me in heaven.”

After a storm, a classified ad appeared in *The Cold Spring Recorder* offering a reward for a Smith & Wesson seven-shooter with plated barrel and rosewood stock lost in the snow, probably on Main Street between West and Church.

Because of the snow, Garden Street was reduced to a single lane, forcing Charley Warren to load one side of his wagon with bystanders to turn around, “like a sailor does the windward gunwale in a gale,” according to *The Recorder*.

Mr. VanWinkle complained that a transcript of his lecture on Egypt and the Nile, reprinted in *The Recorder*, contained many errors, including “some of words altered to others that were not dreamed of when writing.”

After poultry went missing, Theodore Adams, his father and his brother-in-law found the dead birds buried near the Fish-kill line. They set a steel trap and returned to find it gone. They followed the path of bushes where the trap had snagged and branches chewed off to release it. At Kings’ Chest Cave, by smoke and bullets and dogs, they drew out and killed a 33-pound wild-cat with the trap around its foot. The men had it stuffed and brought it to the village.

A burglar broke into the slaughterhouse of Charles Miller and stole \$5 [about \$150 today] worth of pork, beef and veal.

Burglars stole \$50 [\$1,450] worth of liquor and cigars from Tevan’s basement saloon by breaking a window. To add insult to injury, the culprits uncorked and spilled the demi-johns and smashed the glass bar backing.

The Rock Street door of Baxter’s Hardware was jimmied and the money drawer relieved of \$4 [\$115] in change.

In a letter to *The Recorder*, a resident called for \$500 of the \$1,000 [\$29,000] allocated by the Cold Spring Village Board for streets instead be spent to install kerosene lamp-posts on every corner to “keep our stores from being plundered night after night.”

Milton Lawrence’s hay and William Odell’s red cow were seized for back taxes.

A young man who raised alarms when he walked down Main Street at 5:30 p.m. on a Thursday with a bandaged head and bloody clothes said he had been injured working at Miller’s slaughterhouse.

The Library Association hosted a discussion of the question: “Will the centennial of

a republican form of government be celebrated by the United States, as a unit, more than once?” The Glee Club also sang.

P. Nichols of Parrott Street said his 17 hens produced 118 eggs in 12 days.

Thomas Richards was killed at Croft’s Mine in Putnam Valley when he drilled into an unexploded ordnance.

A year after Michael O’Brien broke his arm in a fight near the depot, he was finally able to return to his job at the foundry, where a hoist rope broke and a casting crushed his arm.

A police officer from Orange County came to Cold Spring to arrest John Wyant on a charge of bastardy. Wyant returned home after posting a \$1,000 [\$29,000] bail.

In Nelsonville, Charles Van Voorhis sold 50 chances at \$1 [\$30] each to win a scene he crafted with stuffed birds and squirrels.

Elijah Warren of North Highlands, at 70, took his first train ride, from Cold Spring to Garrison. He said his daughter told him to keep his head inside the window. “Dear Lord, how we did sail!” he said. “After I got settled, I could have rode clean to [New] York.”

125 Years Ago (March 1900)

Michael Pendergrast, 48, the brother of George Pendergrast of Cold Spring, was killed in the railroad tunnel south of Anthony’s Nose. He was clearing the ceiling of hanging ice when he was struck by a southbound express. Pendergrast had been employed by the railroad for 25 years and left a widow and eight children.

Iona Island, the popular picnic resort, was purchased by the federal government to use as a Navy powder magazine.

An outbreak of measles was reported at McKeel’s Corners.

Emma Scott, 37, died at her home on Market Street. She was survived by her husband and 4-day-old daughter.

The Recorder reminded candidates to file election expense reports.

Emily Brown, 18, of Cold Spring, completed a 14-day fast at her sister’s home in Fishkill. She had suffered for three years from nervousness, hysteria and crying spells, which she blamed on a fall into the Hudson. The fast was prescribed by Dr. D.O.K. Strong, who allowed her to break it with a daily orange.

Mrs. S. Barnhatt, the village milliner, returned from New York City with the latest ladies’ spring hats for her store at Main and Church streets.

The Recorder editor opined: “If McKinley should be re-elected [as president], the prospects are that the government would be run by a number of multimillionaires who would look upon the U.S. as a vast syndicate which might be conducted for their personal benefit.”

James Gore, the adjutant general of Illinois, visited his native Cold Spring for the first time in 38 years.

Mr. Taylor, an 87-year-old Black resident of Newburgh well-known in Cold Spring and Nelsonville for selling vegetables from a basket, was confined to his home with a slight illness.

A notice in *The Recorder*: “Will the finder

(Continued on Page 17)

(Continued from Page 16)

of \$20 kindly return it to the owner, Benjamin Foreman?"

Someone rifled through the trunk of Sam, the coachman for Dr. Giles, in the barn where he lived.

The Recorder reported: "There was quite a lively scene at the depot last night when a married woman of this village entered the building and saw her husband talking to a single woman who resides out of town."

William Denns, of Sunk Mines in Putnam Valley, was arrested on charges of selling hard cider. He pleaded not guilty but admitted to selling sweet cider.

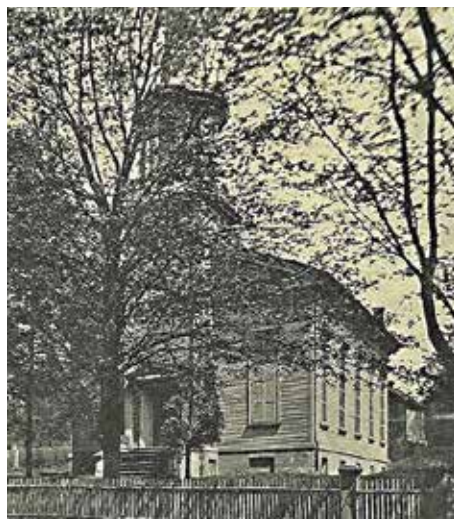
A 30-year-old woman who had been wandering around Garrison for a few weeks was arrested, judged to be insane and sent to the Poughkeepsie State Hospital.

100 Years Ago (March 1925)

Milton "Mit" Smith, president of Nelsonville "from time immemorial," according to *The Recorder*, was challenged by a popular young man named David Hustis. Smith kept his seat, 116-104.

At 6 a.m. on a Monday, Sylvanus Ferris and Row Merante rowed for the first time since the fall toward West Point, where they both worked. (Over the winter, they took the train to Beacon, the ferry to Newburgh and another train to the academy.) As they passed Constitution Island, the men realized an approaching floe of ice was going to hit them and paddled for shore. An observer raised the alarm when the boat floated past with a man clinging to its side in the frigid water. It took West Point cadets in two canoes nearly three hours of hard paddling through narrow channels to reach the craft. They rescued Ferris, a carpenter and father of two, but he died at the hospital at 10:45 a.m. It was supposed that Merante, a tinsmith and father of three, was lost.

The Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library, built on the foundation of the former Dutch Reformed Church, opened to the public at 3 p.m. on Saturday, March



The Butterfield Library was built on the foundation of the Dutch Reformed Church, shown here. *Butterfield Library*

28. Many of its oil paintings came from the Butterfield estate.

The Highlander, the historic ferry that for many years plied between West Point and Garrison, sank in her slip at Garrison.

75 Years Ago (March 1950)

The March issue of *Today's Woman* featured photos of the Robert Jahn's experimental home in Garrison constructed with panels of Durisol, a mixture of wood shavings and Portland cement. Jahn was the president of Durisol, Inc.

James Barrett, 64, of Lane Gate Road, the former city editor of the *New York World*, was injured when struck by a delivery truck in New York City.

Seth Dennis, while visiting his sister, Mrs. Charles Stearn of the Bird & Bottle Inn, offered cash for odd-shaped roots. The Connecticut resident was known for his helter-skelter artifact collection. He went home with six unusual specimens.

Navy veterans Dave Brockway and Eddie Steinmetz performed trampoline stunts during a Haldane assembly.

Donato "Tony" Yannitelli, who ran a general

store in Garrison for 25 years, a delicatessen in Cold Spring for 26 years and a liquor store in Cold Spring for 17 years, died at age 63.

Tony the Tailor, owned by Anthony Mazzuca, opened at 145 Main St.

John Wilson Cutler, an investment banker with Smith, Barney & Co. who had a home in Garrison, died at 63. He had been the quarterback of the undefeated Harvard football squad of 1908.

50 Years Ago (March 1975)

The Hand-to-Mouth Players of Garrison presented "Cycle of Seasons," a play of scenes inspired by poems by Emily Dickinson, Ezra Pound, e.e. cummings and Edna St. Vincent Millay.

The Putnam County Sheriff's Office arrested a Rock Street man on charges he burglarized the Wagon Wheel Restaurant on Main Street and stole \$150 [\$885]. He was identified when he spent an inscribed bill he removed from a frame.

A resident complained to the Village Board about ongoing television interference on Garden Street. Five years earlier, Central Hudson had checked every home but found nothing to explain it.

Leo Saposnick, a Haldane Middle School teacher, attended a school board meeting dressed as a Revolutionary War patriot to describe plans for eighth-grade students to reenact the Battle of Gettysburg (from the Civil War).

25 Years Ago (March 2000)

The Open Space Institute announced it had preserved 291 acres adjacent to Fahnestock State Park with a grant from the founders of *Reader's Digest*.

The United War Veterans' Council of New York County picketed Town Hall to support a proposed retirement village that it was told would provide affordable housing for veterans. A Garrison resident noted the group apparently had been lured to Cold Spring with misinformation because the developer said rent for the luxury units

would start at \$2,000 [\$3,700] per month.

The state Department of Transportation rejected a petition from residents who asked for a traffic light on Route 9 at East Mountain Road South.

The Haldane girls' basketball team (25-3) won the Class D state championship, the school's fourth title.

Rep. Sue Kelly, a Republican whose district included Philipstown, visited Haldane Elementary to see how federal funds had been used to expand computer literacy.

Cold Spring officers arrested a 23-year-old woman from Chelsea for driving 59 mph on Morris Avenue. Her license had been suspended four times since August.

Visitors from Ramapo, New Jersey, purchased 3-inch-diameter balls at Bijou Gallery on Main Street that turned out to be cluster bombs. The Westchester County bomb squad destroyed the items at Camp Smith. In an email to the *Putnam County News & Recorder*, Jane and Michael Timm wrote: "We want to assure our customers and neighbors that cluster bombs and other dangerous objects are not part of our regular inventory." The explosives had been on display for several years on consignment for a Long Island man.

The Haldane principal told the school board she took issue with a *Newsweek* rating of the best schools in the U.S. that omitted Haldane, so she called the writer. Based on the magazine's formula, he said Haldane should have been ranked No. 190.

The Garrison school board voted 6-5 to grant tenure to a special education teacher. One board member who voted no said he didn't believe in tenure.

The North Highlands Fire Department took delivery of a new tanker/pumper to replace its 1973 Ford.

Cold Spring police arrested a waitress at the Depot Restaurant for allegedly stealing a purse that a customer left behind.

Local firefighters contained a grease fire in the ductwork of the kitchen hood at the Bird & Bottle Inn, possibly saving the structure.

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Barbara Ann Vetoulis
(1955-2025)

Barbara Ann Vetoulis, daughter of Barbara and James T. Crowley, born Nov. 24, 1955, in the Bronx in New York City, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, March 5, after a courageous battle with Stage 4 cancer.

Barbara attended St. Brendan's Elementary School in the Bronx and graduated from Saint Barnabas High School in Woodlawn, New York. After staying at home to raise her three boys, Barbara decided to pursue her passion for caring for others and became a nurse.

Barbara achieved her associate of applied science and her Bachelor of Science degrees in Nursing, graduating summa cum laude. Barbara worked at Field Home Holy Comforter in Cortlandt Manor and later as a nurse manager at Phelps Memorial Hospital in Sleepy Hollow.

Revered industry colleagues have commented on how Barbara's leadership style was so impactful that they have never before known a leader more caring of their staff and, as a result, a staff more committed to their leader. Barbara was adored by every person she worked with and met.

Her hobbies and passions included music, HGTV, traveling, the Food Network, the New York Yankees, award shows, concerts, theater and playing board games. Most of all, she cherished her time with her grandchildren and family. She truly believed "it's all about family." Barbara's family loved every minute spent with her. She had a unique way of including everyone and took genuine interest in every person she interacted with.

Barbara is survived by her sons, Michael Nicholas and Christopher James (Abigail) and William Alexander, grandchildren Lauren Katherine, Lukas Michael, Ava James and Levi Nicholas, sister Althea Crowley Becker (George), Thomas K. Crowley (Linda), Ms. Kelly Stine and numerous nieces and nephews and cousins.

Barbara was predeceased by her parents, her husband, Peter J. Vetoulis, and her brother, James T. Crowley. A special thanks to our extended family at the Red Line Diner in Fish-kill and the City Island Lobster House for our mutual love over the years.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Clinton Funeral Home in Cold Spring, New York. Calling hours were held Monday, March 10, from 12 to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Tuesday, March 11, at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of Loretto Church, 24 Fair St., Cold Spring, New York. Interment took place immediately following the church service at Cold Spring Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family encourages donations to the American Cancer Society (cancer.org) on Barbara's behalf.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Barbara's White Plains-based oncology team and the Neuro ICU team at Westchester Medical Center who provided her with exceptional care and love.

PAID NOTICE

Roots and Shoots

Future Forests

By Pamela Doan

As the saying goes, the best time to plant a tree was yesterday. Tree time and people time are different and in the decades of growth that an oak needs to reach its full size, humans age out or move on. That makes planting a hopeful cast for future generations to enjoy the benefits of a maple or white pine.

As the window closes to avert the worst effects of climate change, any day is a good day to plant a tree. Trees offer shade and cooling, clean the air and store a lot of carbon. They are critical parts of our ecosystems. Recognizing their role in mitigating global warming, the state's 25 Million Trees by 2033 initiative is part of New York's goal to be carbon neutral by 2050.

Using a tracker developed by the Department of Environmental Conservation, you can add your tree plantings to a statewide map at dub.sh/tree-tracker. There aren't any reports of new trees in Putnam County and only three reports for 18 trees around Beacon. But it's new! Give us time.

Annabel Gregg is the program coordinator at the DEC. Her job is to coordinate public and private efforts to fill gaps and get people excited about planting trees.



Why 25 million trees?

It begins with the Climate Action Plan of 2019. To reach carbon neutrality by 2050, the scoping plan sets out to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions by 85 percent

and sequester 15 percent using trees and forests. To hit that goal, we need to establish 1.7 million acres of new forest by 2040. The reforestation plan is nearly final and Gov. [Kathy] Hochul wanted to get us started. That's why the 25 million trees by 2033 launched last year. We need to scale up and do it fast.

How does the tree tracker fit into this?

We launched it a month ago, so we're still adding data from 2024. We can use the tracker to measure progress. With Arbor Day coming on April 25, it's a great time to celebrate trees. There will be a lot of planting events. By this time next year, we can tell how well the tracker has integrated into what people are doing and make this part of the norm.

How is tree loss accounted for?

New York is 62 percent forested. The U.S. Forest Service conducts an inventory every five to seven years. New York state lost 1 percent of its forest cover between 2017 and 2022, the year of the most recent survey. [Pamela's note: The inventory lists Putnam County with 76 percent cover and Dutchess County with 53 percent. Throughout the state, 73 percent of forested land is in private hands. See dub.sh/forest-inventory.]

Are there new approaches to reach the goal? I'm wondering about the dense plantings pioneered by Japanese forest ecologist Akira Miyawaki.

We're setting up the first pilot project of a Miyawaki forest at the Five Rivers Education Center in Delmar [near Albany]. We're hoping that kids who come to the project will see all these species in a small space. We're studying the best reforestation and afforestation [planting where there has been no recent covering] strategies and there are programs like Regenerate New



Forests improve so many aspects of our lives, including shifting our moods. Photo by P. Doan

York for landowners to support things like slash walls [made of logs to protect young trees from deer].

Sources for trees

The Tree Tracker explains how to plant trees and has a calendar of tree-planting events. Until Saturday (March 15), the Butterfield library in Cold Spring and the Desmond-Fish library in Garrison are offering free seedlings to children. Sign up at their websites. Beacon residents can purchase any of six species through the city at a discount. See dub.sh/beacon-trees.

The deadline to order discounted seedlings from the DEC is May 14. For example, it offers 25 red-oak seedlings for \$30. If you can't plant them all, consider sharing an order with friends or donating some. But act quickly because many varieties are already sold out. See dub.sh/DEC-trees.

Current Classifieds

HELP WANTED

FACILITIES TECHNICIANS — Boscobel House and Gardens in Garrison is looking to expand its facilities team. Duties include site stewardship of the 112-acre site, security, supporting programming and event setup/breakdown, equipment maintenance, custodial duties, supporting collections/museum care and landscaping. Several full-time positions are open at \$18-21/hour, with occasional overtime available. Medical, dental, life insurance, 401k, PTO and professional development opportunities available. Email Kevin Cancel, Facilities Manager, at communications@boscobel.org.

DRIVER — The Philipstown Food Pantry needs a driver and truck to bring food from area food banks, farms and other organizations to Cold Spring weekly. Fee paid. Call 845-265-3220 and leave a message.

COORDINATOR — The First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown is looking to hire a part-

time coordinator for the Philipstown Food Pantry. Duties include administrative tasks and communication with volunteers, clients and the local community. Seeking an organized, reliable person with good interpersonal and computer skills. Approximately 20-30 hours per month, with an hourly salary based on experience. Interested parties may contact the church office at 845-265-3220 or 1presbyterian@gmail.com.

FOR RENT

COLD SPRING — Looking for a turn-key place to stay in the Hudson Valley? We offer furnished rentals in the heart of Cold Spring village. 2- and 3-bedroom units; WD/AC/DW; 4-minute walk to train; off-street parking available; 1 month security deposit; discounted utilities; no smoking. Call/text Jim at 917-348-3300.

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

Puzzles

CROSSCURRENT

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

- ACROSS
1. Solo of *Star Wars*

4. Dandy guy

7. Sir's counterpart

12. Coach Parseghian

13. Lab eggs

14. Mountain crest

15. Roulette bet

16. "Absolutely not!"

18. Genetic letters

19. Long journeys

20. Informal pronoun

22. JFK's predecessor

23. Slightly wet

27. Id counterpart

29. Small burger

31. Majestic

34. Paris school

35. Diocese part

37. Iota

38. Tennis score

39. Author Umberto

41. Slightly open

45. Stand-in

47. Japanese sash

48. "Absolutely not!"

52. Egggy quaff

53. Love, Italian-style

54. Indian lentil dish

55. Citric beverage

56. Already

57. Magic, on scoreboards

58. French salt
- DOWN
1. Wizard Potter

2. Sports venue

3. Tennis star Rafael

4. Type choice

5. Go too far

6. Macadamized

7. Earth's neighbor

8. Common verb

9. *Lion* actor Patel

10. Chowd down

11. Sea, to Henri

17. Stretches (out)

21. Bolshevik leader

23. Formal decrees

24. Fuss

25. Singer Torme

26. Season opener?

28. Dept. store inventory

30. Luau souvenir

31. Transcript no.

32. "Awesome!"

33. *Entourage* role

36. Olympian queen

37. Freight train unit

40. Homebuyer's option

42. Singer Nick

43. Home

44. Star in Orion's foot

45. "Close one!"

46. Holler

48. "Terrif!"

49. Author Tan

50. Heavy weight

51. — -Magnon

SUDOCURRENT

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

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WORDSEARCH

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

FIVE SPOT

Solve each row by replacing one letter from the answer above or below and scrambling to make a new word. When complete, the top and bottom words will have no letters in common.

P	E	A	R	L	Oyster gem
					Remove clutter
					Sticker
					Military academy undergrad
					Referenced
					A hole in the ground

VACREAMMAMAA
ILEELBARIAN
CERAMICSNERD
EPASOCIALS
AMBERSNOV
CARKIMBARNNS
DRUGXESNOOK
CAMUSHUMMVI
ITO NOMAAM
STATUURETAN
NOTAENFORCER
IGORORDEREMU
TOMSSOWSROB

Answers for March 7
LMWSJT YDAB
JOKAWVQSOP
AENJUH ZRYM
JBAERRETAS
RGQLLDEIDL
AUAWOILGBQ
EIFMXUNQNB
FLINZVSEOA
KTAIYQMYSX
XGSSSENDASS
PIANO, PLAIN, LATIN,
FLINT, FILET, FLUTE

149382657
762415839
538769214
894251376
675934182
321876495
416593728
257148963
983627541

Sports

VARSITY ROUNDUP

By Jacob Aframian

BEACON

GIRLS' BASKETBALL — A stellar season came to an end on March 7 in the Section IX, Class A title game as third-seeded Marlboro upset the No. 1 Bulldogs, 57-44. Beacon came into the game with a 17-5 record after dominating No. 8 Saugerties and No. 4 Red Hook in the first two rounds. Marlboro defeated No. 2 Highland, 67-42, to reach the finals.

The Dukes (13-9) led 10-8 at the end of the first quarter, then opened the second with a 9-0 run. Beacon did not score until the 4:21 mark; Marlboro won the quarter, 17-7, to take a 12-point lead at halftime. In the second half, Beacon was unable to put together a run against the Marlboro tandem of Gabby Murphy and Nalyah Campbell, who combined for 33 points. The closest the Bulldogs got was 10 points.

Reilly Landisi, one of the team's five seniors, scored 21 points and senior Lila Burke had nine. The Bulldogs also will lose Rory LaDue, Daveya Rodriguez and Rayana Taylor to graduation.

"I'm proud of their dedication, I'm proud of their commitment — they played hard all the time," Coach Christina Dahl said of her seniors. "They're just great kids and make coaching easy."

HALDANE

GIRLS' BASKETBALL — For the second straight year, Tuckahoe defeated Haldane in the girls' basketball Section I, Class C final at the Westchester County Center in

White Plains. The Blue Devils, seeded No. 3 in the four-team field, upset No. 2 North Salem to reach the March 8 title game but were no match for the No. 1 Tigers, who won, 50-29. This is the fourth straight year that Tuckahoe has taken the Gold Ball.

The Tigers jumped to an 11-0 lead to open the game, and Haldane did not score until there was 2:27 left in the first quarter. The Blue Devils began to hit shots in the second quarter: Seventh-grader Mackenzie Tobin sank a corner 3-pointer, Marisa Peters hit a midrange jumper and seventh-grader Nora Jean Cotter had a steal that led to another Peters basket.

With 2:59 left in the half, Cotter hit a three to cut the Tuckahoe lead to 23-16, but the Tigers closed out the half with an 11-2 run behind Ava Rogliano, who hit four 3-pointers in the first half. Tuckahoe's size also caused problems for Haldane under the basket. The Tigers began the fourth quarter with a 41-25 lead.

After scoring 25 points in the semi-final, Peters was held to six in the final. She and Kayla Ruggiero were named to the All-Tournament team. The Blue Devils finished the season at 5-17 but will lose only one player, Martha McBride, to graduation.

WINTER TRACK — The Haldane boys' 4 x 200 relay team — Milo Pearsall, Jake Thomas, Merrick Williams and Rhys Williams — finished seventh among Division 2 teams at the state track finals on Staten Island on March 8 in 1:33.78, tying their own school record. The team will race on March 21 at the Adidas Nationals in Virginia. Owen Powers was a member of the Section I team in the intersectional distance relay that finished fifth in 8:54.82.



Marisa Peters of Haldane drives against Tuckahoe in the title game. Photo by Skip Pearlman



CYO BASKETBALL RESULTS

St. Joachim in Beacon fielded five teams in the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) basketball league for the 2024-25 season.

6th Grade Boys (4-7) New Paltz 31, Joachim 30 Joachim 34, Hopewell Jct. 16 Fishkill 36, Joachim 23 Joachim 24, Kingston 14 Joachim 44, Marlboro 11 Joachim 37, Highland 6 Poughkeepsie 40, Joachim 6 Red Hook 43, Joachim 38 Red Hook 34, Joachim 26 New Paltz 36, Joachim 34 Fishkill 35, Joachim 23	Fishkill 50, Joachim 46 Joachim 56, Millbrook 23 Joachim 43, Marlboro 26	Fishkill 1, Joachim 0 (F) Joachim 30, Poughkeepsie 13 Joachim 39, Marlboro 16 Fishkill 39, Joachim 10 Highland 1, Joachim 0 (F) Joachim 1, Highland 0 (F) Joachim 29, Marlboro 8 Joachim 21, Highland 15
7th Grade Boys (11-2) Joachim 37, Marlboro 21 Joachim 54, Poughkeepsie 13 Joachim 57, Millbrook 24 Joachim 40, Fishkill 33 Joachim 59, Hyde Park 27 Joachim 51, Poughkeepsie 39 Joachim 70, Poughkeepsie 23 Joachim 2, Hyde Park 0	<div>Joachim def. Fishkill* Highland Mills 43, Joachim 26*</div> 8th Grade Boys (8-2) Joachim 32, Hyde Park 24 Joachim 39, Poughkeepsie 34 Joachim 44, Highland 31 Joachim 33, Fishkill 32 Martin 33, Joachim 25 Joachim 54, Hopewell Jct. 21 Joachim 38, Hyde Park 20 Joachim 45, Joseph 19 Joachim 61, Highland 20 Fishkill 34, Joachim 26	7th/8th Girls (10-2) Joachim 35, Poughkeepsie 7 Fishkill 30, Joachim 24 Joachim 39, Marlboro 17 Joachim 30, Highland 24 Joachim 39, Red Hook 18 Joachim 49, Poughkeepsie 18 Joachim 49, Marlboro 20 Joachim 39, Hopewell Jct. 37 Joachim 44, Highland 25 Joachim 37, Hopewell Jct. 30 Fishkill 31, Joachim 27 Joachim 42, Red Hook 26
5th/6th Girls (5-5) Red Hook 55, Joachim 9 Highland 29, Joachim 14		

Our Lady of Loretto in Cold Spring fielded seven teams in the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) basketball league for the 2024-25 season.

4th Grade Boys (1-13) Tarrytown 41, Loretto 17 Loretto 12, Shrub Oak 11 Brewster 33, Loretto 22 Carmel 25, Loretto 19 West Harrison 20, Loretto 13 Ossining 26, Loretto 21 West Harrison 26, Loretto 6 Brewster 24, Loretto 20 Tarrytown 24, Loretto 20 Ossining 20, Loretto 18 Shrub Oak 18, Loretto 15 Tuckahoe 41, Loretto 21 Tuckahoe 30, Loretto 22 Carmel 34, Loretto 22	Mahopac 37, Loretto 17 Hawthorne 35, Loretto 18 Loretto 30, Bedford 27 Loretto 26, Rye 24 White Plains 33, Loretto 31 Ossining 40, Loretto 34 Hawthorne 56, Loretto 49	Loretto 55, Shrub Oak 40
5th Grade Boys (11-3) Loretto 14, Shrub Oak 7 Loretto 33, Yonkers 23 Hawthorne 18, Loretto 16 Loretto 30, Carmel 18 Loretto 32, Armonk 21 Loretto 25, Armonk 18 Valhalla 27, Loretto 17 Loretto 20, Hawthorne 15 Loretto 30, Carmel 15 Ossining 23, Loretto 17 Loretto 23, Ossining 21 Loretto 31, Shrub Oak 16 Loretto 2, Yonkers 0 (F) Loretto 24, Valhalla 20	7th Grade Boys (6-6) Loretto 62, Ardsley 50 Yorktown 37, Loretto 28 White Plains 58, Loretto 43 Loretto 42, West Harrison 39 Ossining 49, Loretto 36 Shrub Oak 44, Loretto 39 Loretto 30, Croton 28 Loretto 32, Mahopac 30 Loretto 51, Tarrytown 48 Loretto 2, Valhalla 0 (F) Pleasantville 41, Loretto 26	5th Grade Girls (7-7) Loretto 2, Harrison 0 (F) Pelham 22, Loretto 10 Loretto 21, Bedford 10 Bronxville 14, Loretto 10 Briarcliff 18, Loretto 14 Bronxville 28, Loretto 22 Loretto 32, Mahopac 7 Scarsdale 22, Loretto 14 Loretto 19, New Rochelle 13 Hawthorne 29, Loretto 22 Loretto 2, Valhalla 0 (F) Loretto 29, Armonk 9
6th Grade Boys (3-7) Tarrytown 23, Loretto 18 Armonk 10, Loretto 9 Loretto 34, Brewster 4	<div>No. 4 Larchmont 41, No. 5 Loretto 40*</div> 8th Grade Boys (9-3) Pleasantville 39, Loretto 33 Loretto 37, Briarcliff 26 Loretto 34, Larchmont 30 Loretto 47, Valhalla 13 Loretto 41, Armonk 20 Loretto 49, Yorktown 25 Loretto 28, Croton 25 Hawthorne 41, Loretto 31 Loretto 41, Katonah 22 Loretto 40, Harrison 26 Brewster 33, Loretto 16	<div>No. 6 Loretto 30, No. 7 Scarsdale 13* No. 3 New Rochelle 18, No. 6 Loretto 9*</div> 6th Grade Girls (12-0) Loretto 24, Yorktown 12 Loretto 28, Armonk 7 Loretto 20, Hawthorne 8 Loretto 32, Katonah 8 Loretto 23, West Harrison 22 Loretto 29, Hawthorne 18 Loretto 32, Ossining 29 Loretto 28, Armonk 8 Loretto 28, Bedford 24 Loretto 35, Hawthorne 21 Loretto 23, West Harrison 10 Loretto 34, Briarcliff 19

F=forfeit | *playoff games