



# HALDANE HORIZONS

*A newsletter of the Haldane Central School District*



## ***Letter from Dr. Benante***

Dear Haldane Community,

This can be a stressful time of the year for families, compounded all the more by the concerns surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. As we enter the next few weeks of school, our focus remains on preserving as much routine as possible for our students. We see this as not only helpful to them, but also to you.

As I was getting my haircut this week, my barber shared how significantly his business has been impacted by the pandemic. He cited close to a 40% loss in revenue compared to one year ago. It reminded me of a message that I shared with our community early on in this crisis - to please consider supporting our local businesses. The Haldane Central School District is a proud member of the Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce. For more information on how you can support our local business community, please visit their [website](#).

## **NOVEMBER 2020**

**Out of the Blue Card Campaign**

**Student Council Food Drives**

**Fall Season I Sports**

**The View from Craigside Drive**

**Haldane Headlines**

I wish you and your family a safe and healthy holiday season. I continue to be thankful for your support of our school community!

Sincerely,  
 Phil Benante, Ed. D.  
 Superintendent of Schools

## Out of the Blue

### *Elementary students ramp up their card writing and artistic endeavors to cheer local seniors*

Traditionally, Haldane Elementary School third graders work with the local senior center to connect students with pen pals and help them practice their cursive writing. To connect with seniors during this time of social distancing, this year our students created artwork and written notes to help brighten their days.

Most recently, the notes accompanied the delivery of Thanksgiving meals delivered by local organizations. In total, nearly 300 positive messages reached members of our community, with thanks to Jenny Carpenter and Cathy Duke.

The card campaign to our Philipstown seniors will continue throughout the school year.



## Haldane Student Councils Rally Their Peers

### *Working together, Haldane Elementary, Middle, and High School Student Councils organized a campus-wide Thanksgiving food drive*

Last week, Haldane students came together for a K-12 food drive to support Cold Spring area families in need. All together, Haldane was able to deliver 12 full Thanksgiving meals with turkeys directly to families, plus a carload of nearly 200 lbs of groceries to the Philipstown Food Pantry. Thank you, Haldane families, for supporting this effort and our local community!



## *Fall Season I Sports Leave Student-Athletes Happy and Healthy*

### *Haldane student-athletes wrap up Fall Season I with gratitude*

Per the NYSPHSAA Section 1 guidelines, Haldane student-athletes competed in Cross Country, Boys' and Girls' Soccer, and Tennis this fall. With a bit of luck and a great deal of safety, patience, and optimism, all four teams successfully completed their season. Congrats to the Haldane Cross Country team who finished Second in the PNW Section 1 Small Schools Championship. Haldane is grateful to the coaches and student-athletes, as well as Dave Goddard, Interim Athletic Director, who led our teams through the rapidly changing and complex world of pandemic-era high school athletics. We look forward to all Haldane teams having the opportunity to compete this school year.



## The View from Craigside Drive



**Everett Campanile**  
12th Grade

**What team do you play for at Haldane?**

*Cross Country*

**Best part of the Fall 2020 season?**

*Our last meet, it was Cos's last time coaching, Haldane came in 2nd overall and I came in 4th for individuals.*

**What shows are you currently bingeing?**

*Better Call Saul and Maniac*

**First choice vacation spot post-COVID?**

*Maine*



**Caroline Nelson**  
10th Grade

**What teams do you play for at Haldane?**

*Tennis, Track, and Lacrosse*

**Best part of the Fall 2020 season?**

*Being lucky enough to play given the current situation. I also enjoyed seeing all my friends.*

**What shows are you currently bingeing?**

*All American and You*

**First choice vacation spot post-COVID?**

*Vail, Colorado*



**Andrew Silhavy**  
12th Grade

**What team do you play for at Haldane?**

*Soccer*

**Best part of the Fall 2020 season?**

*Beating Putnam Valley in the first round of the playoffs was a really special moment. We were 1-2 with PV at the time, and we beat them when it mattered.*

**What show are you currently bingeing?**

*Breaking Bad*

**First choice vacation spot post-COVID?**

*Torch Lake, Michigan*

# Haldane Headlines

## Music Department Featured in OnBoard

Haldane's music department is featured in the November 30 issue of OnBoard by the New York State School Boards Association. Teachers, Travis Davidson, Dan McGroarty, and Jessica Stein shared their innovative approaches to music education during the pandemic. [Read the article.](#)

*Sing less, drum more*

## During the pandemic, music teachers strike up a new beat for instruction

By Kathleen Moore  
SCHOOL CORRESPONDENT

Music classes in training into streaming classes at many school districts as teachers strive to prevent the spread of coronavirus. Both singing and playing instruments, particularly wind instruments, involve breathing of unfiltered droplets.

"We've been doing bucket drumming," said Gary Basso, band director for Gilkway Central schools in Saratoga County. "We've had drummers, 25 buckets, and the school district's Friends of Music purchased 50 pairs of drum sticks so that students wouldn't have to share them."

"You can teach rhythm," Basso said. "You can teach group playing — getting the students to find the beat and play together," he said. "This, honestly, it can be fun."

Christmas fall concerts were cancelled due to the coronavirus, and the New York State School Music Association recommended that music teachers branch out into other at-home activities. "You can make items a different part of your life," said Erik Riddick, high school choir director at Chateaufort Central School District in Madison County.



At the Haldane Central School District in Putnam County, music teacher Travis Davidson led a group of students who were learning to play bucket drumming. Photo: Kathleen Moore

## Mountains Set the Stage

Under the guidance of their advisor, Christian Hoolan, the Haldane Blues Devils are keeping the music flowing at one of the most inspiring spots on campus.



## Shop Local, Shop Safe

Haldane values the support of our local businesses and we encourage you to support them in return. Please join us to shop, eat, and spend local this holiday season. Main Street is fully decorated and ready to welcome shoppers in a safe and festive way.



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