

# The HIGHLANDS Current

JANUARY 6, 2017

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Beacon Hoops  
See Page 16



Dramatic skies dominated the Cold Spring riverfront as cold air moved in late Wednesday afternoon (Jan. 4). Photo by Michael Turton

## Planning Board Continues Look at Art Space

*Sets public hearing on warehouse planned for Route 9*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Plans to convert the Cyberchron building on Route 9 into a modern-art warehouse face further review Jan. 12 when the Philipstown Planning Board holds a public hearing on modifica-

tions to the project.

The board scheduled a separate public hearing for the same night on a proposal to construct a 4,200-square-foot home in a protected ridgeline area off Lake Surprise Road.

Both hearings will occur at the board's monthly meeting, which starts at 7:30 p.m., at the Butterfield Library, 10 Morris Ave., in Cold Spring.

### Magazzino

The board approved the plans for Magazzino (Italian for warehouse) in 2014, but alterations brought the project back for an additional look.

Using the former Cyberchron company building on Route 9 south of the intersection with Route 301 and just beyond Nelsonville and Cold Spring, Magazzino is designed to (Continued on Page 12)

## Putnam Legislature Fires Counsel

*Conflicts with lawmakers lead to dismissal*

By Holly Crocco

The Putnam County Legislature kicked off the new year by relieving Legislative Counsel Clement Van Ross of his duties.

The attorney, who has been with the county for nearly 30 years, was serving a three-year appointment that extends through the end of 2017. To remove him from the position, the Legislature voted 8 to 1 to rescind the resolution in which he had been appointed. Only Dini LoBue (R-Mahopac Falls) voted no.

"The Legislature collectively decided we'd like to pursue a different path for our legislative counsel," Ginny Nacerino (R-Patterson), who chairs the legislature, said after the Jan. 3 organizational meeting.

Nacerino gave no reason for Van Ross' dismissal. "He served well for many, many years," she said. "We have no disparaging remarks or negative comments."

Nacerino said she and Joseph Castellano (R-Mahopac), who is deputy chair, notified Van Ross several weeks ago that the Legislature planned to vote to dismiss him.

Van Ross did not respond to a request to comment before *The Current's* deadline, although LoBue issued a statement.

"The abrupt dismissal of Legislative Counsel Van Ross leaves a vacuum at a critical time when the Legislature is most in need of (Continued on Page 6)



The old Cyberchron building, joined by a new structure, forms Magazzino.

Photo by Marco Anelli, courtesy of Magazzino

## Mid Hudson Concrete Fined for Owner's Death

*Feds cite safety violations, settle for \$15K*

By Michael Turton

Mid Hudson Concrete Products has been fined more than \$15,000 for workplace safety violations that contributed to the death of its owner, Joseph Giachinta, in an accident at the company's Route 9 facility in Philipstown on Nov. 22, 2015.

Giachinta was killed when he became

pinned under a forklift that he was servicing after the hoist failed, according to the Putnam County Sheriff's Department. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration began an investigation the day after the accident. Its findings, issued on May 7, cited six violations it deemed "serious," resulting in \$26,320 in fines being levied against the company. A settlement was reached on June 6 in which the fines were reduced to \$15,000. OSHA closed the case on Oct 5.

OSHA said the (Continued on Page 3)



## Small, Good Things

## Auld Reekie, Cock-a-Leekie

By Joe Dizney

"Oh Lord, we do not ask you to give us wealth. But show us where it is!"

—Scottish prayer

\* \* \*

While I'd like to be able to attribute this week's column to the result of advance planning in anticipation of (Robbie) Burns Night on Jan. 25, I must admit once again that it is the result of generous gift, in this case a large bunch of leeks from my landlady/neighbor/friend, N.

Initially a bit flummoxed, I remembered a healthy flirtation with soups of all kinds and the discovery of Scotland's "national soup," Cock-a-Leekie (or Cockie Leekie), the humble but satisfying winter stew of chicken (cock) and leeks (leekie).

Much more approachable than the more traditional haggis, Cock-a-Leekie stems from the same thrifty culinary tendency to make the most of "lesser" ingredients. Leeks are, of course, one of the heartier garden vegetables and may be overwintered for use when not much else is

available. (Another example is Nips and Tatties, a Burns Night staple of mashed turnips and potatoes.)

If you search online for recipes for Cock-a-Leekie, you will get concoctions dating back to the 16th century for a peppered, beef-based broth with leeks in which a fowl of questionable youthfulness is boiled for three to four hours, the resulting soup's heartiness bolstered by the inclusion of pearled barley (or rice or potatoes) and curiously garnished with prunes and, in some cases, a generous splash of Scotch whisky. The latter prompts a name change to Auld Reekie, though it is suggested that appellation was really the result of the coal fires used for cooking.

However, boiling a chicken for three to four hours seems just plain wrong and the inclusion of beef equally unnecessary. Better and thriftier (to honor the Scottish intent) to cook the bird in a light, flavorful broth created from the tough but flavorful green parts of the leeks and a handful of other staples.

Rather than boil a bird, I modeled a technique from a recipe for Chinese

boiled white chicken I came across in Christopher Kimball's *Milk Street* magazine. (Full disclosure: I was a designer for the charter issue.)

As decidedly unlovely as the name sounds, in practice the bird is gently poached in a simple vegetable broth, cooled a bit, then skinned, deboned and

cut into chunks, providing both meat of a lovely, velvety texture and a rich, strained broth.

And so, while not completely by-the-book or historically accurate, this two-part process will, with the addition of my preferred "tatties" and prunes (which add a subtle sweetness and richness), result in a satisfying one-pot winter meal. It begs for naught but a slice of buttered toast for complete enjoyment, Burns Night or not.

## Cock-A-Leekie Soup

## For the chicken and broth

6 to 12 leeks (depending on size), healthy dark and medium parts, cut into 1-inch pieces, rinsed clean and drained (reserve light green and white parts for the soup below)  
2 peeled carrots, coarsely chopped  
2 ribs celery coarsely chopped

Bouquet garni of 1 tablespoon thyme, 10-12 black peppercorns and 3 bay leaves, crushed  
1 bunch parsley  
4½ quarts water  
3½- to 4-pound chicken (exclude giblets)  
3 tablespoons kosher salt

## For the soup

¼-pound chunk of smoky bacon cut into ¼-inch chunks  
Light green and white parts of leeks (from above) cut into ½-inch pieces, rinsed clean and drained  
2 peeled carrots chopped into ¼- to ½-inch dice

2 ribs celery, sliced into ¼-inch bias-cut slices  
2½ quarts strained stock from above  
6 to 8 medium Yukon Gold potatoes, peeled and cut into roughly 1 inch chunks  
6 oz. pitted prunes (about 30), halved  
Chopped parsley for garnish

## For the chicken and broth

1. Remove the chicken from the refrigerator and let sit at room temperature while making the broth. Reserving half the parsley for garnish, tie the other half into a bundle. In a large pot (at least 8 quarts), heat 3 tablespoons olive oil over medium high heat and sauté dark/medium green leeks, carrots and celery. Add water, bouquet garni and parsley bundle; bring to a boil.
2. With tongs, lower the chicken into the broth, breast side up, letting the liquid flow into the cavity, making sure it is fully submerged and the cavity fully flooded.
3. Return broth to a boil, then reduce heat to medium-low, adjusting as necessary to maintain a light simmer. (Weight chicken down with a plate if necessary to keep it fully submerged.) After 25 minutes, with your tongs flip the chicken breast side down and simmer for another 15 minutes. Turn off heat, remove pot from burner and let chicken sit in broth off heat for 30 minutes. Transfer chicken to a bowl and let it cool. Strain broth and set aside. (Note: You will be the beneficiary of extra broth to freeze for use in any other recipe calling for a flavor boost.)

## For the soup

4. In the same large pot, heat the olive oil and briefly fry the bacon chunks. Add half of the reserved light green/white leeks, carrots and celery and sauté for 4 to 5 minutes. Add the stock and bring to a light simmer for 15 minutes.
5. While the soup broth simmers, remove the skin from the cooled chicken; remove meat, cutting the larger pieces into bite-size chunks. Add the chicken back to the soup along with the potatoes, prunes and remaining leeks and return to a simmer for 20 to 30 minutes. Adjust seasoning and serve hot with a fresh grinding of black pepper and a little chopped parsley.



Cock-a-Leekie Soup

Photo by J. Dizney



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By John Christian Plummer

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U.S. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney (far left) was sworn in on Jan. 3 by House Speaker Paul Ryan (blue tie) for his third term representing the 18th District, which includes Philipstown and Beacon. He is shown with his husband, Randy Florke, and their daughters.

Photo provided



State Sen. Sue Serino was sworn in at the Capitol on Jan. 4 for her second term representing the 41st District, which includes Philipstown and Beacon.

Photo provided

## Public Hearing on Beacon Comp Plan Expected on Feb. 6

### *Calls for park zoning along waterfront, less development*

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon City Council is expected to schedule a public hearing for Feb. 6 on proposed updates to the city's comprehensive plan and could vote to adopt it by March.

The most radical aspect of the plan — which is an update, rather than a full rewrite, of the comprehensive plan adopted in 2007 — is its recommendation that the city rezone all of the land west of the Metro-North station as a waterfront park. The move would apply to approximately 30 acres and signals a significant turnaround from a decade ago, when a

hotel and residential building were recommended for the area.

The proposed update, which has been prepared over the last six to eight months by the BFJ Planning firm, would allow for a small restaurant or waterfront-themed bed and breakfast, according to Frank Fish of BFJ, who spoke to the City Council at its Jan. 3 meeting. Any other changes at the waterfront would be related to parks and recreational uses, he said.

The move away from riverside development is consistent with Beacon's decades-long effort to revitalize its waterfront, Fish said, and is more appropriate for the flood-prone zone. The plan is also congruent with Scenic Hudson's concept for expanding the 15-acre Long Dock Park that was approved by the Planning Board in

December.

The BFJ proposal does call for rezoning land to the north and directly adjacent to the train station (all on the east side of the tracks) for waterfront development, possibly residential, but in both areas building heights would be restricted to preserve

views of the Hudson River.

Referring to the parkland zoning and scaled-back development, Fish said: "We think those two changes really reduce development and would still present you an opportunity for a beautiful park area. It would still (Continued on Page 6)

## Mid Hudson Concrete Fined for Owner's Death *(from Page 1)*

principal violation was that Mid Hudson Concrete did not furnish "a place of employment which was free from recognized hazards that were ... likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees" and that employees were exposed to crush hazards resulting from the use of inadequate vehicle-support stands.

It also concluded that the stands were not adequately marked to indicate their capacity and did not have the proper safety markings and manufacturer information.

In an abatement note that outlines measures to be taken to eliminate the hazards, OSHA said support stands should comply with standards set by American Society of Mechanical Engineers/Portable Automotive Lifting Devices-Safety Standard for Portable Automotive Lifting Devices. It also noted the stands "are not to be used to simultaneously support both ends of a vehicle."

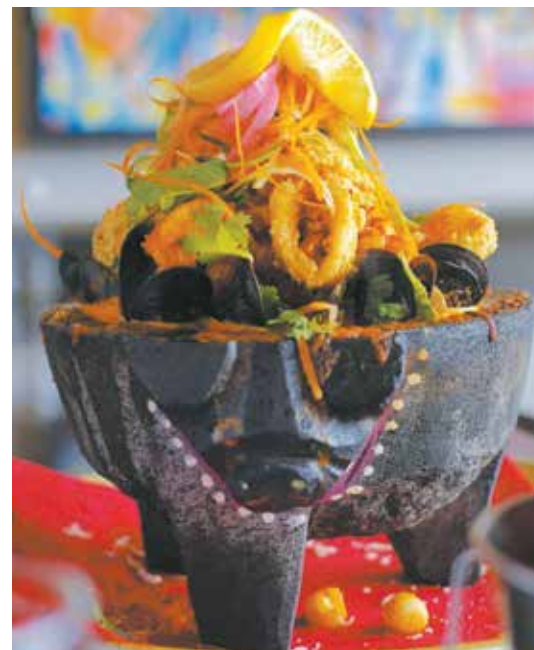
According to OSHA, 4,821 workers were killed on the job in the U.S. in 2014, the most recent figures available, or about 13

people each day. In 1970, when Congress created the agency within the Department of Labor, an average of 38 people a day were killed. In addition, private employers reported 2.9 million nonfatal injuries and illnesses in 2015.



Giachinta in January 2015

File photo



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Thank you for Beacon holidays

As sculptor and the creator of Beacon's whimsical holiday icons Ed Benavente has said, "Bicycles, like communities, are powered by people." Thank you, Ed, for your dedication and generosity of spirit that makes it all possible. Your bicycle Christmas tree, the bicycle menorah and the New Year's Bicycle Ball Drop have given our citizens something unique and memorable to look forward to every year.

Indeed, there are so many people who made this year's holiday light up for our community.

Thank you, Mark Price, director of the Beacon Recreation Department, the Beacon Recreation Commission and the Wee Play Community Project for once again making the bicycle Christmas tree lighting a day to remember for so many. A shout-out to our Beacon High School music department faculty members Susan Wright and Peter Head for bringing the chorus and the band and giving us the gift

of music. Thank you to Yanarella School of Dance for their delightful dancing and for leading Santa to the stage. Thanks also to the Beacon Fire Department for bringing Santa to Polhill Park, the Beacon Highway Department for creating a winter wonderland, and LnJ Tech Services for ensuring we were all heard.

Special thanks to the ever-effervescent Emily Ellison for bringing such joy to the stage as the master of ceremonies as we sang in Santa. Emily also encouraged BeaconArts to "adopt" six families from the Beacon City School District, and as a result the generosity of our community provided a brighter holiday for 20 local children ages 18 months to 17 years. This is a new BeaconArts tradition we intend to continue and grow.

As we write this, the Beacon Hebrew Alliance is lighting the seventh candle of the menorah, telling the story that we can hope against all reason and sometimes, we will prevail.

As we ring in a New Year, may you all find comfort and joy in our extraordinary community, knowing that if we work together and strive to understand and celebrate our differences as well as our commonalities, we truly can prevail. Shine on, Beacon!

Dan Rigney, *Beacon*

*Rigney is president of the board of directors of BeaconArts. The eight other members of the board also signed the letter.*

### Who'd we forget?

Your omission of all the good work done by organizations like Catholic Charities and the Salvation Army in Beacon can only be interpreted as your liberal bias against faith-based organizations ("Last-Minute Giving Guide," Dec. 30). No other organizations assist in the many phases of recovery after disasters or drug/alcohol rehab, food, shelter, housing and children's services like Catholic Charities and the Salvation Army.

I see a lot of your favorite local pet projects on the list such as Hudson Highlands Land Trust — tax deductions for the land-rich under a false cover of natural-resource conservation and trails for the favored. Also, it is quite telling that there is not a single charity on your list that provides services specifically to military veterans, active military or their families who might be in times of need. I expect more from a publication in a village across the river from West Point.

Fred Fryer, *Cold Spring*

*With the exception of Habitat for Humanity and the United Way, we didn't include local chapters of national organizations. To keep the list from becoming unwieldy, we also didn't include any of the area's dozens of churches and synagogues, because most people don't give to churches or synagogues they don't attend.*



## Taking it to the Street

By Anita Peltonen

### What is your New Year's resolution?



"To learn three new skills. Handcrafts. Things I've never done before. I want to learn how to make pretzels, cheese and croissants."  
~ Patricia Angerame, Cold Spring



"To keep this place [Maya Cafe, Fishkill] and my other places going. And to keep my customers coming back. It's been 14 years. I started in Cold Spring in 2002."  
~ Luis Pinto, Philipstown



"To take action on my resolutions, rather than simply fantasizing. And that takes belief in myself."  
~ Caitlin O'Heaney, Nelsonville



# Notes from the Cold Spring Village Board

*Meetings held on Dec. 27 and Jan. 3*

By Michael Turton

Representatives from Renewable Highlands addressed the Village Board for the second time in six weeks, again promoting an energy-purchasing program that it says could save residents five to 10 percent on their monthly electrical bill.

If the village joins the Renewable Highlands' "Community Choice Aggregation" as other municipalities in Putnam and Dutchess counties have done, the non-profit organization would shop for the cheapest electricity available on the market and pass any savings to its members. All billing would continue to be through Central Hudson.

A number of other municipalities, including Philipstown, Beacon, Fishkill and Wappinger Falls, are considering joining the program. Michael Rauch of Renewable Highlands noted that potential savings increase with larger enrollment. In Westchester County, where 20 municipalities opted into the program, residents have seen a 17 percent decrease in electrical costs.

The Village Voard would have to pass a law to join the program. Rauch said the law does not bind the village but is a mandatory step required by the New York State Public Service Commission, which oversees the program. After the law is passed a public hearing must be held before the board can vote on whether to opt in. Village Attorney John Furst is reviewing a version of the law used in other municipalities.

Renewable Highlands promotes the use of renewable energy sources such as solar

and wind power. The village can choose to purchase electricity exclusively from renewable sources or it can purchase the cheapest electricity regardless of the source. All residents and small businesses would be included in the program but could opt out.

In other business, trustees authorized Mayor Dave Merandy to sign a contract for the sale of a narrow strip of village-owned land in front of 178 Main St. The owners agreed to purchase the 0.013-acre parcel for \$1,081. The transaction was part of the reconstruction of the former Preusser Realty building, soon to become the home of River Architects. At the meeting, the board also received a request for a similar sale of village-owned land at 26 Garden St.

## Jan. 3 meeting

Trustees approved a request by the owners of Hudson Hills' Cafe on Main Street to waive its right to a 30-day hold on their application for an on-premises liquor license. The restaurant has a wine license.

Board members approved a request by East National Water to extend the deadline for the installation of digital water meters in Cold Spring and Nelsonville to



Illustration by Dana Wigdor

March 17. A dispute over a requirement to use certified Putnam County plumbers to install the meters put the project behind schedule.

Deputy Mayor Marie Early reported that Carolyn Bachan has resigned from the Code Update Committee. Early said that the resignation is due to an increased workload on the Historic District Review Board, on which Bachan also serves.

Early reported that the pay station at the municipal parking lot on Fair Street grossed \$15,000 in fees from June through December, an amount she described as "far beyond expectations." Village officials had estimated the station would take in \$5,000 during that period.

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## TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN TAX COLLECTION LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I,** Tina M. Merando, the undersigned Collector of Taxes of the Town of Philipstown, County of Putnam and State of New York, have duly received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes within the Town of Philipstown for the year 2017 and that I will receive the same at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York from January 1, 2017 through July 31, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. In January ONLY the Tax Collector will be at the Town Hall, Tuesday evenings from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Taxes will be collected without penalty if paid on or before January 31, 2017. On all taxes paid after January 31, 2017 an additional 1% penalty will be assessed for each month or fraction thereof thereafter until such taxes are paid or until the return of unpaid taxes to the County Treasurer pursuant to law.

Partial tax payment (50% of total tax) will ONLY be accepted during the month of January 2017. The second partial payment will be assessed a 1% penalty charge each month until July 31, 2017 when all unpaid second partial payments will be turned over to the County Treasurer.

Full payment of taxes will be accepted without penalty during the month of January 2017. After the month of January, a 1% interest penalty will be assessed each month until May 1, 2017 when all "fully unpaid" taxes will be turned over to the County Treasurer for collection.

DATED: December 28, 2016

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## Putnam Legislature Fires Counsel *(from Page 1)*

his expertise and experience," she said. "We are indebted to him for his commitment to the charter, open and transparent government demonstrated by making available to the public the Butterfield Lease, the Tilly Foster negotiations, and the \$40,000 settlement with the former Commissioner of Health."

Van Ross was sometimes at odds with the legislators and county administration. He said, for example, that documents such as the proposed Butterfield lease were public and should be released, which contradicted the position of lawmakers and county attorney's office.

Van Ross was criticized by some legislators in September when a sixth revision to the then-proposed lease for the county to

rent space at the former Butterfield Hospital site in Cold Spring stalled in committee.

The county has since approved a 15-year lease with developer Paul Guilaro to operate a 6,000-square-foot senior center in the Lahey Pavilion at the site. The total cost of rent, construction and other responsibilities associated with the project has been estimated at \$4.5 million.

During a Sept. 14 meeting, Van Ross said lawmakers were unable to vote on a proposed amendment to the lease, which included the addition of several words to a clause, because the proposal had only been received the day before. The proposal came to the county from a Cold Spring Planning Board meeting that had taken place two nights before.



The newly seated Putnam County Legislature: Paul Jonke (back row left), who represents Southeast, and Neal Sullivan (back row right), who represents Carmel, are new members.



Clement Van Ross, legislative counsel, left, is seated next to Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra in a 2013 session.

*File photo by L.S. Armstrong*

"There's a 48-hour notice that is required for legislators, and if the [Planning Board] meeting is on the 12th, and we're meeting here on the 14th, it's difficult to see whether the 48 hours has been met," he told the lawmakers at the time. "I don't see where that memorandum of change dated Sept. 13 is within the 48 hours."

Therefore, he said, legislators would need to be unanimous in accepting the proposal for a vote, which they were not (LoBue voted no).

This determination by Van Ross left some lawmakers — already frustrated with the often-stalled process to approve the controversial lease — angered that they were faced with another setback.

"It's an atrocity and I don't believe that you're correct, Clem, and I'm going to check that for sure," said Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra (R-Philipstown).

"We're splitting hairs with this," added Nacerino, who added that Van Ross should have notified lawmakers they

would not be able to move forward unless they scheduled the meeting a day later.

"We should have been advised, then, prior to everybody sitting here waiting for this meeting, and every legislator waiting for this meeting, and to move forward with something we thought we'd move forward with — and we should have been advised accordingly beforehand," she said.

Legislator Carl Albano (R-Carmel) also expressed frustration.

"Clem, I wish we were advised of this because we're wasting a lot of time," he said. "We're playing games. You're wasting my time. I'm here tonight, I was here Monday; if there was a problem, our legislative counsel should have told us. Clem, we really have to start getting this right. Please advise us in advance. My time is very precious and I don't want to waste any more time."

Nacerino said the Legislature hopes to replace Van Ross by February. In the meantime, the county law department will advise lawmakers, she said.

## Hearing on Beacon Comp Plan Expected on Feb. 6

*(from Page 3)*

present you the opportunity to reconnect Beekman Street and the train but it would also have the effect of reducing the potential density. If you compare it to the 2007 plan that was a major development scenario. This would reduce the density slightly and it would reduce the height. By doing it this way, we think it will reduce traffic compared to the last plan. I think this plan will have better environmental impacts ... while at the same time connecting you to the waterfront a little bit better."

The new comprehensive plan would also allow the city to consider retail by special permit along the north side of West Main Street as a means of improving the connection between the waterfront and Main Street. Along Main, a rubber-wheeled trol-

ley has been proposed to make Beacon's business district more pedestrian-friendly.

Extended pedestrian paths on the waterfront and leading up to Main Street would enhance walkability as well.

Once the plan is adopted, it will serve as the city's blueprint for growth over the next decade.

"What Beacon looks like today, from the Roundhouse development and the Fishkill

Creek corridor, to the buildings being renovated and built on Main Street, was shaped by the 2007 comprehensive plan," said Councilperson Peggy Ross, one of the co-chairs of the update committee. "What Beacon will look like in 10 years will be shaped by the plan that the City Council will hopefully approve" in March.

*"What Beacon will look like in 10 years will be shaped by the plan that the City Council will hopefully approve" in March.*

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# The Calendar

## Censored No More

*Series to focus on once-controversial films*



Above, a younger audience takes in a film screening during last season's Cold Spring Film Society's Winter Film Series. At right, a scene is shown from *James and the Giant Peach*. Images courtesy of CSFS

By Alison Rooney

The *New York Times* review in 1933 of the new Barbara Stanwyck film, *Baby Face*, was not kind. It called the movie “unsavory,” rather than delve into detail about its plot, which involves “a manipulative young woman” who “uses her sexuality to climb her way to power.”

*Baby Face* was so provocative for its time that it is considered one of the films that hastened enforcement of the Motion Picture Production Code, commonly known as the Hayes Code, that reined in “unacceptable” content in Hollywood. The code, which took hold in 1934 and lasted through the 1960s, clamped down not only on “licentious” depictions but “sympathy for criminals” and surgical operations, among many other stipulations. It was one of numerous forms of censorship which have regulated the filming and distribution of films since the inception of the art form.

This winter the Cold Spring Film Society ([coldspringfilm.org](http://coldspringfilm.org)) will screen five once-censored movies at the Old VFW Hall on Kemble Avenue in Cold Spring. The series is co-sponsored by Groombridge Games and admission is free.

Donations collected at the society’s popular summer outdoor screenings fund the winter season. Popcorn and drinks will be available and each film is prefaced with an introduction from society member Jennifer Zwarich, who holds a doctorate in cinema studies.

The season opens at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 14 with a double bill. *Baby Face* will be preceded by the 1996 adaptation of Roald Dahl’s *James and the Giant Peach*, which has been banned or pulled from many libraries because of its allegedly inappropriate language and for

supposedly encouraging disobedience and anti-authoritarian behavior. That’s also, certainly, why the book is so popular with children. Dahl turned down many requests to film the book; after his death, his widow finally gave consent to Disney.

As with all of the films being shown, the film society doesn’t advise a minimum age, considering that best left to parents. But there will be a break before *Baby Face* at 7 p.m. to allow for a shift in audiences. With “an amazing perfor-



mance” by Stanwyck, the film was “feminist before its time; even now you can see the politics at play,” Zwarich says. It was banned in Switzerland, Canada and Australia and shown in New York only after some scenes had been excised by the New York State Censorship Board.

Long considered lost, the uncensored original was discovered in 2004 and added, a year later, by the Library of Congress to the National Film Registry.

Feb. 4 may be the dead of winter, but sizzle will arrive with the film adaptation of Tennessee Williams’ *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, starring Paul Newman and Elizabeth Taylor and directed by Richard Brooks. The Pulitzer Prize-winning play, a hit on Broadway, was banned in the U.K. by the Lord Chamberlain’s office upon its 1958 opening there due to its references to homosexuality, which was still a criminal offense in Britain. The play was only open to members of the



Paul Newman and Elizabeth Taylor in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*

New Watergate Club, an organization formed pointedly to bypass censorship. The situation led to the gradual — it took 10 years — elimination of the Lord Chamberlain’s powers of statutory censorship, after 200 years. The film, also released in 1958, skirts many of the same issues, in compliance with the still-in-effect censorship mandates of the period, but its suggestiveness is intact.

*The Great Dictator*, released in 1940, was Charlie Chaplin’s first true sound film. Scheduled for Feb. 25, the satire features Chaplin in dual roles, one as a clownish dictator, Adenoid Hynkel, and the other as a kindly, persecuted Jewish barber who is mistaken for the tyrant. Filming began in September 1939, a week after the start in Europe of World War II.

With the advent of war, the film was banned in much of Europe and in several Latin American countries where the leaders were sympathetic to the Nazis. An impassioned speech by Chaplin famously ends the film.

The series will conclude with a film from China to acknowledge the ongoing state censorship there of the industry. *In the Mood For Love*, released in 2000, was intended to be shot on the mainland but when the censorship board found major problems with the script and asked for major alterations, director Wong Kar-Wai moved the shoot to Hong Kong. Nevertheless, the film was criticized for its relative avoidance of social and political commentary in light of the other films of the time that were banned outright by the Chinese government.

In previous years, the Cold Spring Film Society’s winter season was oriented toward presenting arthouse films “you may have heard of but maybe never had the chance to see,” says Zwarich. “This series is built around a theme for the first time. What were the issues behind the bans? We’re enticed by the stories behind them.”



## FRIDAY, JAN. 6

**Group Show, Part Two (Opens)**

6 – 8 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery  
121 Main St., Cold Spring  
845-809-5145 | busterlevigallery.com

**High School Art Exhibit (Opens)**

6 – 9 p.m. Gallery 66 NY  
66 Main St., Cold Spring  
845-809-5838 | gallery66ny.com

**Open House & Dance Practice Party**

7 p.m. Fred Astaire Dance Studio  
3182 Route 9, Cold Spring  
845-424-6353 | fredastairecoldspring.com

## SATURDAY, JAN. 7

**The Met Live in HD: Verdi's Nabucco**

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

**Improvitational Acting (grades 6-12)**

1:30 p.m. Howland Library | 313 Main St., Beacon  
845-831-1134, x101 | beaonlibrary.org  
*Registration required.*

**The Emotions of Clutter (Talk)**

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

**Jonathan Kruk: Constitution Island and the Warner Sisters**

3 p.m. Putnam History Museum  
63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring  
845-265-4010 | putnamhistorymuseum.org

**A Tribute to Cat Stevens and Neil Young**

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St., Beacon  
845-765-3012 | howlandculturalcenter.org

## SUNDAY, JAN. 8

**Animal Tracks and Trace**

10 a.m. Outdoor Discovery Center  
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall  
845-534-5506 | hhnaturemuseum.org

## Calendar Highlights

For upcoming events visit [highlandscurrent.com](http://highlandscurrent.com).  
Send event listings to [calendar@highlandscurrent.com](mailto:calendar@highlandscurrent.com)

**Mount Beacon Hike**

10 a.m. Trailhead at Route 9D and Howland  
845-249-5305 | midhusonADK.org

**How to Identify Birds**

2 p.m. Howland Public Library  
See details under Saturday.

**The Potential Impact of the Trump Presidency (Forum)**

2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
See details under Saturday.

**Trees Photo Exhibit (Opening)**

3-5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
See details under Saturday.

## MONDAY, JAN. 9

**Reductive Woodblock Printing (First Session)**

6 p.m. Garrison Art Center  
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison  
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

**Beacon City Council Workshop**

7 p.m. City Hall (Courtroom)  
1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon  
845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

**Beacon School Board**

7 p.m. Beacon High School | 101 Matteawan Road,  
Beacon | 845-838-6900 | beaoncityk12.org

## TUESDAY, JAN. 10

**Expanding the Realm of Drawing (First Session)**

10:30 a.m. Garrison Art Center  
See details under Monday.

**That Looks Fake to Me: Navigating Information Online**

6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
See details under Saturday.

**Cold Spring Board of Trustees**

7:30 p.m. Village Hall  
85 Main St., Cold Spring  
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

**Dancing with the Stars Live!**

7:30 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center  
14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie  
845-454-5800 | midhudsonciviccenter.org

## WEDNESDAY, JAN. 11

**Unity in the Community Meet and Greet**

7 p.m. Beahive Beacon  
291 Main St., Beacon | beahivebzzz.com

**Create and Cavort (Art Activity Event)**

7 p.m. Gallery 66 NY  
See details under Friday.

## THURSDAY, JAN. 12

**Butterfield Library**

10 a.m. Bouncing Babies  
12:30 p.m. Little Bookworms (ages 3-5)  
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring  
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

**Discover Abstract Painting (First Session)**

10:30 a.m. Garrison Art Center  
See details under Monday.

**Chivalry and Martial Arts for Boys (grades 6-12)**

3:30 p.m. SkyBaby Yoga  
75 Main St., Cold Spring  
845-265-4444 | skybabyyoga.com

**Electoral College Forum**

6:30 p.m. Croton Free Library  
171 Cleveland Drive, Croton  
914-941-1111 | bit.ly/galefnptix

**Alan Peterson: Birds of the Hudson River (Talk)**

7 p.m. Beacon Sloop Club  
2 Red Flynn Drive, Beacon  
845-463-4660 | beaconsloopclub.org

## FRIDAY, JAN. 13

**Family Movie: The BFG (2016)**

1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
See details under Saturday.

**Well-Crafted Beer and Book Club**

5:45 p.m. Cold Spring Coffee Pantry  
3091 Route 9, Cold Spring  
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

**Depot Docs: Following Seas (2015) with Q&A**

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

**Calling All Poets**

8 p.m. Center for Creative Education  
464 Main St., Beacon  
914-474-7758 | callingallpoets.net

**The Hudson Valley Poets: Poetry Night**

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
See details under Saturday.



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SAT 12:00 3:00 6:00 9:00  
SUN 12:30 3:30 6:30, MON 6:15  
TUE 1:30 4:30 7:15, WED & THU 7:00

**Rogue One** (PG13)  
FRI 2:00 5:00 8:15  
SAT 11:45 2:45 5:45 8:45  
SUN 12:15 3:15 6:15, MON 6:00  
TUE 1:15 4:15 7:30, WED & THU 7:15

**Passengers** (PG13)  
FRI 2:30 5:30 8:30  
SAT 12:15 3:15 6:15 9:15  
SUN 12:45 3:45 6:45, MON 6:30  
TUE 1:45 4:45 7:45, WED & THU 7:30

**Little Shop of Horrors**  
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# She's Got the Beat

*Organizer expands  
Highlands dance jams*

By Alison Rooney

For Rhoda Averbach, choosing a dance song is a process of elimination. She has compiled a list of 2,000 but says she might listen to 50 songs before finding a suitable addition. "It's not just about harmony and melody, it's also about composition and performance," she says.

Why does she listen? Because as the founder of Hudson Valley Dance Beat, she organizes near-weekly, three-to-four hour dance jams in Beacon and nearby. They began in 2012 at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon ("I wanted to dance and there was no place for it," she says) and have since spread to the Towne Crier in Beacon, the Red Pepper Bistro in Wappingers Falls, the Beacon Elks Lodge and Infinity Lounge in Newburgh, which hosted its first in early December.

"My background is in classical and jazz music but I always loved rhythm and blues the most, and then I got exposed to Latin music at the Howland Center," she says.

She began her dance music collection with songs that she loved from her past, then built on it with requests, she says, which introduced her to new genres. The dances are meant to "bring people together from all over, providing them

with a place of friendship and enjoyment in the community," she says. From its beginning, the dances have attracted families, couples, friends and singles. Sometimes Averbach says she puts on a song to encourage a group dance, "to loosen everyone up."

Averbach produces the events and co-deejays with Al Brandonisi, who, she says with admiration, appears able to recite the release date of "anything that was on the airwaves since the 1960s."

Whatever the venue, Averbach tries to create the right informal ambiance, turning the lights low, using flameless candles and playing the music through professional-level JBL speakers.

"The sound is all-encompassing; you can drown in it," she says. The music typically includes a mix of blues, disco, funk, Afro-Latin, jazz, reggae, rock, calypso, swing, world and gospel along with such Latin sub-genres as salsa,

bachata, merengue, cumbia, guajira, rumba, tango and samba. Perennial favorites, she says, include Earth, Wind and Fire, Stevie Wonder, the Gap Band and Aretha Franklin.

Most dancers are in their 30s, 40s and

50s, she says, although children are welcome, especially at the Red Pepper Bistro, but not at the Elks Lodge, which is adults-only. Some "are great stylists," others are not, which is fine, she says. "If someone comes in embarrassed, they're not by the end of the night."

The food and drink varies by location. It can be ordered at the Towne Crier, while admission at the Red Pepper includes a buffet of Sri Lankan and American appetizers and there's a free buffet at the Elks. Averbach says she was excited to bring the dances to Newburgh, "because it's a Latin and African-American community; we don't get as much diversity as we'd like in



Illustration by Kirsty Pargeter

## Gotta Dance

**Elks Lounge**, Beacon (18 or older): Saturday, Jan. 21; Saturday, Feb. 25; Saturday, March 25; all at 7 p.m.

**Red Pepper Bistro**, Wappingers Falls: Saturday, Jan. 14; Wednesday, Jan. 25; Saturday, Feb. 11; Wednesday, Feb. 22; all at 8 p.m.

**Towne Crier**, Beacon (Thursdays, 7 p.m.): Jan. 19, Feb. 16, March 16, April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20

For updates, visit [meetup.com/Hudson-Valley-Dance-Beat](http://meetup.com/Hudson-Valley-Dance-Beat), which has 340 members, or call 845-765-0667.

In addition, the **Howland Cultural Center** at 477 Main St. in Beacon continues to host monthly dances called C'mon Beacon, Let's Dance. The next event, hosted by DJ Rikk, is scheduled for 8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 21. For information, call 845-831-4988.

Beacon — I wish [the dances held there] were less homogenous."

Averbach began the dances as a volunteer but now hopes to maintain it as a business, although one inspired by more than profit. "When I do this, my soul is with the music and my heart is with the dancers," she says. "I get so much pleasure knowing I have pleased the people there."

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Sat., 1/7 8:30 p.m.

**Rick Danko Dedication**  
**Professor Louie**  
**& The Crowmatix**  
**Rock of Ages Horns**

Fri., 1/13 8:30 p.m.

**Greg Brown**

Sat., 1/14 7:00 p.m.

**Margaret McDuffie - Free**

Sun., 1/8 11:30 a.m.

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# Depot Docs: *Following Seas*

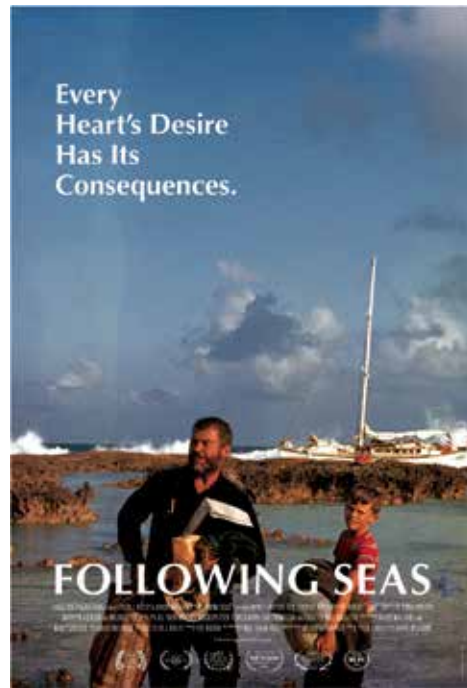
*Making a life at sea,  
navigating by starlight*

By James O'Barr

Depot Docs regulars may remember the showing, three Novembers ago, of Jillian Schlesinger's enchanting film, *Maidentrip*, chronicling 14-year-old Laura Dekker's single-minded determination to be the youngest person to sail the globe solo. And she films herself doing it! If *your* sea legs are feeling a little shaky these days, drop the Dramamine and jump ship at Garrison's Landing on Friday, Jan. 13, when Depot Docs screens Tyler and Araby Williams Kelley's *Following Seas*.

The story of the extraordinary lives of Nancy and Bob Griffith, who circumnavigated the globe not once but three times between 1960 and the late 1970's, taking their 53-foot sailboat, and their kids, on 13 major voyages to places no small boat had gone before, is full of contemporary resonances. "We lived in tune with nature," says Nancy Griffith, who made the filmed record of her family's adventures and serves as the narrator. "Everything matters at sea, even the smallest thing. And everything has a consequence."

As one reviewer appreciatively noted, the Griffiths are likely "the most accomplished sailing couple you've never heard



of." Absolutely true for this writer, in addition to which, not being even a part-time, weekend sailor, why *Following Seas*? A "following sea" is a wave direction that matches the heading of your boat. If the waves of the body of water are heading in the same direction as you are, then the water is "following" the sailor's boat. A following sea is considered good luck, a blessing.

Given the fact that the Griffiths chose to sail by celestial navigation, without



A frame from *Following Seas*

Images courtesy of Depot Docs

and other modern navigational aids or outside support, luck was a good thing to have, but it was not random or gratuitous. Luck, as was famously said, is "the residue of design," made possible by intelligence, skill, instinct, attention, experience, practice and by the intention of the Griffiths to live fully and without apology a life that was self-determined.

That the film was made at all was the result of a ... lucky encounter. Guy walks into a bar in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, strikes up a conversation with another guy. They talk about sailing. One of them, Robert

Teno Griffith, tells about his mother Nancy's extensive collection of films shot in the course of his family's travels as he was growing up, from the Indian Ocean to the Antarctic, Hawaii to New Zealand. The other guy, Tyler Kelley, is a sailor too, and a journalist, and his partner, Araby Williams, is a filmmaker. He gives her a call: "We need to make a movie!"

Araby Williams is credited, with Nancy Griffith, as cinematographer and as editor. She effectively filmed and integrated interviews with the Griffith children and (Continued on next page)

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## Depot Docs: *Following Seas* (from previous page)



with Nancy, and she's made brilliant use of the archival footage, even including film that was weathered or damaged to great effect, reminding us of the often-difficult living and working conditions on the boat. Nancy, it should be noted, was using a hand-wound 16mm Bolex camera. Digital schmidgital, one can hear her saying. But her record of the Griffith family, which included three children by previous marriages and two of Bob and Nancy's, has little of the finished, profes-

sional sheen we've come to expect from today's high-tech filmmakers. And this is a perfect reflection of what the Griffiths were about: making a life at sea, navigating by starlight. "Those forces [of nature] are not evil, they're just indifferent. You have to live with what comes ... and everything has a consequence."

Hearing Nancy's narration is one of the great pleasures of the film. She was in her 70s when the Kelleys began their six



Frames from *Following Seas*

years of work on *Following Seas*. Bob had died as he was about to take off on a solo sail in 1979, and while we occasionally get to hear his recorded voice, it is Nancy's voice — clear, strong, articulate, and apparently with total recall — that tells the story, not as *story*, but as it was lived.

*Following Seas* will be shown at the Philipstown Depot Theatre, Garrison's Landing, on Friday, Jan. 13, at 7:30 pm. The guests will be co-directors Tyler Kelley and Araby Williams Kelley. There will be a Q&A after the screening, followed by a reception. For more information call 845-424-3900. For tickets, visit [brownpapertickets.com/event/2727842](http://brownpapertickets.com/event/2727842).

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## Planning Board Continues Look at Art Space *(from Page 1)*

house the Arte Povera collection of Giorgio Spanu and Nancy Olnick of Garrison. Five years ago, their first concept, a warehouse on their residential property on Avery Road, drew protests from neighbors concerned about the structure's size and appearance.

At the Route 9 site, located in a highway-commercial zoning district, Spanu and Olnick are upgrading the Cyberchron structure and adding a large wing to create a facility of about 20,000 square feet. Recent changes to the plans for the entrance, a security gate, a driveway, parking and demolition of an existing house and its replacement by a caretaker residence triggered the latest Planning Board review.

News articles last fall, including in *The Current*, that opaquely described Magazzino as an exhibition space, library, study center and location for lectures, performances and similar events prompted questions of whether the "warehouse" was also a museum or gallery. During their October and November meetings, Planning Board members and staff expressed uncertainty about the facility's exact use, how many people would enter and leave it daily, whether it would provide adequate egress in an emergency and if it would have sufficient parking.

In a four-page statement dated Dec. 22, Spanu and his representative, Glennon Watson of Philipstown-based Badey & Watson Surveying & Engineering, sought to lay such doubts to rest. They stated that "the Olspan property will be a warehouse in which extensive collections of art will be stored and will also be used for educational and research purposes" and that the building will be "absolutely not open to the public but rather will be made accessible by appointment only in order to limit the number of visitors."

A chart provided to the board said Mag-



Plans for an art warehouse at the former Cyberchron site on Route 9

Philipstown Building Department

azzino would be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursdays through Sundays, from Jan. 1 to 15, Feb. 16 to March 31, and Nov. 1 to Dec. 31; and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursdays through Sundays, from April 1 to Oct. 31. It would be closed from Jan. 16 to Feb. 15.

Along with limiting the number of visitors, Olspan will limit parking, Spanu and Watson said. The parking plan, updated Dec. 22, provides for 35 spaces, including two for handicapped drivers; two for the residence and three for employees not living on the premises. They anticipate a maximum of 155 people — visitors plus staff — in Magazzino at a time.

Two state agencies also have taken an interest in the project.

The New York State Department of Transportation informed the Planning Board in a Dec. 5 letter that because the project is adjacent to a state highway, "any proposed work within the NYSDOT right-of-way requires a highway work permit." The department asked for submission of project documents for DOT monitoring and said the applicants should initiate an evaluation by regional DOT authorities.

The state Department of Environmental Conservation also noted in a Nov. 30 report that a pond with protected status and freshwater wetlands lie in or near the project site. DEC noted it had granted

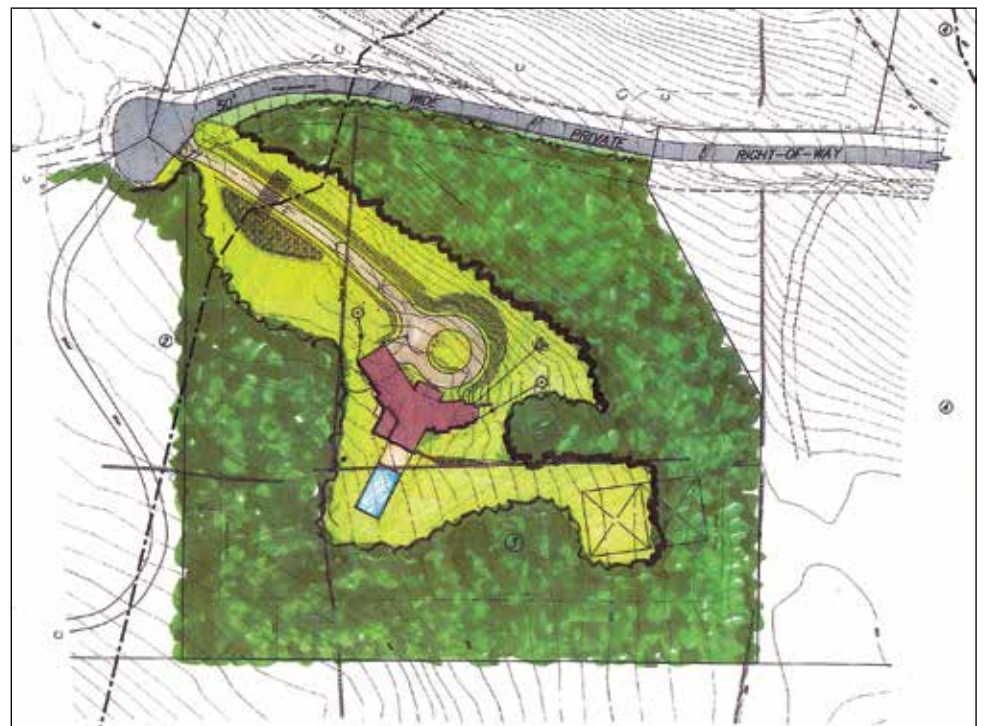
a permit for work in 2014 but cautioned that some types of changes to the original plans may require an updated permit. The department likewise observed that the site is near, or home to, a population of the northern long-eared bat, a threatened mammal.

### Highland Ridge

The other major project before the Planning Board on Jan. 12 is an 8.4-acre parcel at 4 Highland Ridge, off Lake Surprise Road, in a district zoned rural-residential. According to information from the Planning Board, the property is in ridgeline and hillside protection and aquifer areas. A septic system for a four-bedroom house was previously approved, but the site's owners, Paul and Ellen Johnson, want to construct a seven-bedroom, 4,200-square foot home with an attached garage, decks and swimming pool.

In announcing the public hearing, the Planning Board stated the project entails "significant rock removal and tree clearing in the vicinity of the house-garage-pool areas."

In November, the Planning Board referred the proposal to the town Conservation Board, which visited the property. After the visit, Max Garfinkle, Philipstown's natural resources review officer, stated in a Dec. 15 memo that Conservation Board members wanted to prevent excessive tree-cutting and site disturbances in the project and to safeguard the viewshed.



Plans for a 4,200-square foot home on Highland Ridge

Philipstown Building Department

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# Last Calls

*As year came to close,  
local officials took action*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

As 2016 wound down, local and county governments tended to ongoing business and annual chores.

In its final monthly session on Dec. 19, the Nelsonville Village Board second-guessed itself and approved a \$5,500 cut in the recreation fee charged builders for constructing homes.

The following evening, the Putnam County Legislature agreed to lease space in the American Legion in Cold Spring for \$14,400 for another year for senior services.

Eight days later, the Philipstown Town Board ratified contracts for fire protection and ambulance services for 2017.

## Nelsonville

**Recreation fee:** Reversing a decision made July 18, Trustee Thomas Robertson and Mayor Tom Corless voted to reduce the recreation fund fee from \$7,500 to \$2,000. The third member of the board, Trustee Danielle Pack McCarthy, was absent.

A \$7,500 charge “is absolutely ridiculous,” said Corless. He said the board must have “missed it somehow” when approving fees in July. “So we’re revamping it,” he said, to where it was before the hike.

He and Bill O’Neill, chairman of the Planning Board, noted that the reduction would benefit a new-home project now underway. Like Corless, O’Neill, objected to charging \$7,500 and called it “extraordinarily high.” He also termed it “unfair” to make only newcomers pay into the recreation fund, which, he argued, should be maintained by all residents.

**Pearl Street:** Citing a safety hazard, the board banned parking on the east side of Pearl Street from Main Street to a point 60 feet southward.

The state standard is to forbid parking 20 feet from intersections, “but 20 feet is not enough” when cars line both sides of Pearl Street and a vehicle on Main Street attempts to turn into Pearl while another tries to exit from Pearl onto Main, Corless said.

**Fjord Trail:** Robertson urged that the village join in planning the Hudson River Fjord Trail, which would parallel the river between Cold Spring and Beacon and connect to existing paths. He cited increased hiking on Nelsonville trails, part of the Bull Hill-Breakneck Ridge system, as a reason for village involvement.

“As we know from what’s happening now on weekends in summertime, we’re inundated with cars,” he said. “It’s causing problems. Can we get in [on Fjord Trail planning] and control part of our destiny in this? We don’t want to be blindsided.”

With Corless’ backing, he offered to monitor Fjord Trail developments and attend inter-jurisdictional meetings.

## Philipstown

At its pro forma Year-End Meeting, the Town Board authorized Supervisor Richard Shea to sign the annual contracts with the Cold Spring Fire Company (CSFC), Continental Village Fire Depart-

ment (CVFD), Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps (PVAC) and Garrison Volunteer Ambulance and First Aid Squad.

The CSFC supplies fire-fighting to parts of Philipstown near Cold Spring and Nelsonville; the CVFC serves Continental Village in southern Philipstown; and the ambulance corps split the coverage of Philipstown roughly north-south.

The town’s 2017 budget, adopted in November and effective as of Jan. 1, provides the funding in the contracts. In 2017, CSFC services will cost Philipstown \$69,060. Of that total, \$48,232 goes directly to the fire company and \$20,828 to the Village of Cold Spring for \$17,451 in firefighter pension and \$3,377 in workers’ compensation charges.

CVFD will get \$186,500 for firefighting, plus \$61,000 for pensions and \$15,000 for workers’ compensation costs, for a total of \$262,500.

The Garrison ambulance squad will be paid \$173,241 and the Philipstown corp will receive \$262,775. However, the board warned that if the PVAC does not soon start carrying Narcan, the opiate-overdose antidote, payment of half of the money will be delayed.

## Putnam County

**American Legion lease:** With no discussion, the county Legislature on Dec. 20 unanimously authorized renewal of the lease on space in the American Legion in Cold Spring for its senior lunch program and related activities. The county intends to move those services into a new senior center in a remodeled Lahey Pavilion, part of the Butterfield redevelopment. For now, though, the Legislature approved annual rent of \$14,400, or \$1,200 per month.

According to the Butterfield lease signed by County Executive MaryEllen Odell on Oct. 27, in its first year the county will pay \$77,700 in rent, plus estimated common area and related charges of \$50,691, along with a first-year “extra fee to landlord” of \$61,000. Under the lease base rent can increase yearly by 2 percent or the Consumer Price Index, whichever is higher; common area and related charges can rise by a maximum of 3.5 percent.

## Beacon

At its Dec. 19 meeting, its final one of 2016, the City Council adopted a Complete Streets resolution, which means that the city and its planning agencies will encourage, but not mandate, that “complete streets” principles are followed when considering future development or repairs of existing roads.

Complete streets is a design approach that recommends streets to be designed, operated, and maintained to enable access for people of all ages and abilities regardless of their mode of transportation,



Pearl Street in Nelsonville, looking north toward Main Street, on a quiet afternoon

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, persons with disabilities, movers of commercial goods, users of public transportation, and operators of emergency vehicles.

The principle falls in line with the city’s comprehensive plan, which encourages the connection of walkable streets and neighborhoods, particularly along the Main Street business corridor. New York

State also adopted a Complete Streets Act in 2011, which requires state, county and local agencies to consider the convenience and mobility of all users when developing transportation projects that receive state and federal funding.

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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

## Public Announcements

The Cold Spring Highway Department will pick up Christmas trees on Friday, Jan. 6 and Jan. 13. Place trees at the curb in front of your house the night before pickup and be sure to remove all decorations.

The Philipstown Town Clerk's office will accept credit card payments for property tax collection effective Jan. 16, 2017. Go to [philipstown.municipaltaxpayments.com](http://philipstown.municipaltaxpayments.com) to pay online with electronic check, Mastercard or Visa.

## Group Show Opening at Buster Levi

The Cold Spring gallery opens an exhibition featuring the work of seven artists on Jan. 6 from 6 to 8 p.m. All of the pieces are new and some represent new directions for the artists. There will be sculpture, painting and prints. The show will be on view until Jan. 29 and the gallery is open Saturday and Sunday from 12 to 5 p.m.

Lucille Tortora's black and white gelatin prints continue her exploration of positive and negative space. Barbara Smith Gioia will display new collages using acrylic



One of the pieces that will be on view in the new group show at Buster Levi Gallery opening Jan. 6

and oil paints with silkscreen and monotype prints. John Allen's work uses altered objects to make statements about art and reality. Other artists exhibiting are Grace Kennedy, Jenne M. Currie, Ada Pilar Cruz and Tim D'Acquisto. More information is available at [busterlevigallery.com](http://busterlevigallery.com).

## Glass Artist Talk at Boscobel

Beth Lipman will give a talk about her work on site-specific glass installations reimagining historic objects and interiors on Sunday, Jan. 15, at 3 p.m.

Lipman will appear in the grand entrance hall with a reception to follow. The event is free and open to the public with support from the Chipstone Foundation. Reservations are required and can be made at [Boscobel.org](http://Boscobel.org).

Lipman's glass art has been featured in the PBS series *Craft in America* and she has been part of exhibitions in many museums, including the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the Brooklyn Museum. The presentation will focus on her recent sculptures and passions.



An installation by artist Beth Lipman who will speak at Boscobel on Jan. 15

## Teen Classes at SkyBaby

Cold Spring wellness studio SkyBaby begins a "pay-what-you-can" program this month with three classes aimed at teens that offer opportunities to turn off devices and learn centering techniques. Beginning Jan. 12, Chivalry and Martial Arts for boys in grades 6-12 focuses on a code of ethics and fundamentals of basic self-defense, teaching empowerment, humility and strength.

On Friday, Jan. 13, a yoga class for teen girls begins that will combine discussion, technique and meditation to help with stress and other issues they face. On Sunday, Jan. 15, a pilates class for teen girls starts. This class uses equipment to help girls build core strength, balance and establish a foundation for a strong body and mind. The classes all run six weeks and no teen will be turned away for lack of funds. Register online at [skybabyoga.com](http://skybabyoga.com).

## Hungry Birds

The Putnam Highlands Audubon Society is taking orders for its winter bird seed sale. Many bird species, including woodpeckers, nuthatches, chickadees and doves spend their winters here and all are looking for sustenance to get them through until spring. Orders are due by Jan. 16 and can be picked up on Jan. 21 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Taconic Outdoor Education Center off Indian Brook Road. Contact Paul Kuznia at (716) 913-1641 or [swixblue@hotmail.com](mailto:swixblue@hotmail.com) for an order form.


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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

## Youth Free Throw Competition

On Wednesday, Jan. 18, boys and girls ages 9-14 are invited to compete in a Free Throw Championship at the Capuchin Youth and Family Ministries Gym, at 781 Route 9D in Garrison. Registration starts at 5:45 p.m. and age divisions are determined by the contestant's age as of Jan. 1, 2017. Proof of age and written parental consent are required for entry.

Loretto Council No. 536 of the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic family fraternal service organization, sponsors the competition locally. Winners will progress to district, regional and state competitions. For entry forms and more information contact Dan Dillon at 845-265-3802 or Bob Flaherty at 845-265-3191.



*Dusklit*, a dance performance, will be staged at St. Andrew's Church.

## What Happens in a Trump Presidency?

Led by Rep. Sean Maloney, a forum on Sunday, Jan. 8, at the Desmond-Fish Library will explore the impact of the new administration on the diverse population of the Hudson Valley who anticipate threats to their civil freedoms, reproductive rights and clean environment, among other things. Maloney will present Democratic Caucus strategies and everyone is invited to share their personal or organizational platforms for consideration.

The forum takes place from 2 to 5 p.m. Contact Eric Stark at stark.garrison@gmail.com or 732-762-2862 to get on the agenda or for more information. The event is free and open to the community.

### Beacon

## Know Your Feathered Friends

Can't tell the difference between a tufted titmouse and a sparrow? Naturalist-educator Pete Salmansohn can help with that. At How to Identify Birds on Sunday, Jan. 8 at 2 p.m., a free program at the Howland Public Library, Salmansohn will lead an interactive and engaging discussion for ages 8 and above that is guaranteed to improve your bird watching experience.

Salmansohn is the education chairperson for the local Audubon chapter and an environmental educator with the Hudson Highlands Land Trust and has done many programs with local schools. He has published two books for children, *Project Puffin: How We Brought Puffins Back to Egg Rock* and *Saving Birds: Heroes Around the World*.

## Dancers in the Sanctuary

A dance performance at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church explores shifts of light with two dancers in a site-specific work on Saturday, Jan. 14. *Dusklit* is presented by The River Flows Two Ways, a collaboration between dancer Ophra Wolf and musician Craig Chin. The duo want to draw audiences in to be more present and experience their environment in fresh ways. The performance begins at 4 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

## Women in Business Event

Learn what it takes to run your own business. The Howland Public Library is offering a free program for women who want to start their own small business and have questions about how to get started. A representative from the Women's Enterprise Development Center will present Path to Entrepreneurship on Tuesday, Jan. 17, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Pre-register through the WECD office and get more information about the event by calling 845-363-6432 or email cmarsh-croll@wedcbiz.org.

## Birds of the River

*Sloop Club launches lecture series*

The Beacon Sloop Club kicks off its winter lecture series on Thursday, Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. with Birds of the Hudson River, presented by Alan Peterson. More than 200 breeding species call the river home and play a vital role in its ecosystem. Peterson, a lifelong birder, as well as a zoologist and veterinarian, will discuss birds in need of protection and the success stories

of bald eagles and other birds that have come back from threatened status.

The event is free and takes place at the Sloop Clubhouse on the riverfront across from the Beacon train station. See beaconsloopclub.org.

## "Trees" on View

Local photographers will be featured in a special exhibition focusing on

images of trees opening at the Howland Cultural Center on Sunday, Jan. 8, from 3 to 5 p.m. "Trees" was chosen as the theme to reflect the growing public awareness of the impact trees have on the environment and quality of life.

The photos depict awe-inspiring forms that are dramatic, interesting and unusual. With 23 photographers contributing work, the show will be on view until Jan. 29 and the gallery is open from 1 to 5 p.m. weekdays except for Jan. 22. Call the Howland at 845-831-4988 for more information.

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A photo by Carl Gutowski from the exhibit opening at the Howland Cultural Center

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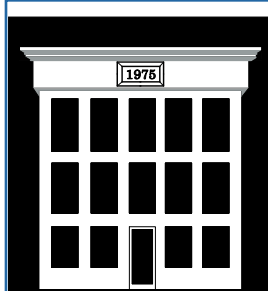
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# Sports



The Bulldogs during their win against North Rockland on Dec. 16      Photos by Rem Dinio

## Highlands Current Athlete of the Week

Allison Chiera, Haldane High School

Chiera, a junior forward, led the girls' varsity basketball team to victories over Corcoran on Dec. 27 and Gloversville on Dec. 28 at the Amsterdam Lady Rams Holiday College Showcase with double-digit performances both nights. Named last season to the All-State fourth team for Class C, Chiera continues to improve her game, according to Coach Tyrone Searight. Searight says he has been impressed with Chiera's work ethic and development. "Allison does a great job attacking the basket and scoring at the rim," he said. "Elmira College has already expressed interest and with one more year-plus to go, other schools will reach out."



Allison Chiera      Photo provided

## Beacon Boys' Basketball Faces Big Test

Even coach admits a little surprise at early record

by Leigh Alan Klein

Entering his fourth season with the Beacon varsity boys' basketball program, Coach Scott Timpano didn't know what to expect. The Bulldogs graduated seven players and lost three to transfers. After having the same crew for two seasons (they finished 16-6 last year, reaching the Section 1 Class A quarterfinals), the Bulldogs have limited varsity experience, with only two returning players. That's why perhaps no one has been more surprised, and pleased, than Timpano with his team's 7-3 start. The Bulldogs finished 2016 by taking the championship title at the Duane Davis Tournament with an impressive 76-64 comeback victory over Spackenkill. In their first game of 2017, they trailed at Peekskill on Jan. 4 for three quarters before grabbing the lead in

the fourth and nearly pulling out the win. The Bulldogs face an even bigger test on Tuesday, Jan. 10, when they host Our Lady of Lourdes from Poughkeepsie. The Warriors are led by 6-foot-6 James Anozie, who last season as a junior averaged 25 points and 11 rebounds and had a career-high 22 rebounds against Beacon. The Bulldogs then travel to Lourdes on Jan. 26. The games against rival Hendrick Hudson (home Jan. 18, away Feb. 3) could also be tough. "A lot of the work to start the season was on team-building and getting the players acclimated," Timpano explained. "Now, as the team enters the mid-point of the season, we are doing what we need to do to be successful: we share the ball." After a 24-point defeat to New Rochelle at the Terence Wright Memorial Tournament Championship, the Bulldogs found themselves down five points late against John Jay East Fishkill, and Timpano said he wasn't sure how his team would respond. But Zamere McKenzie hit a free

throw to force overtime, and Jamon Galloway dominated inside with 6 points during the extra period for an 83-75 victory. "Galloway is our constant double-double threat," said Timpano. "He has a knack for rebounds and finds baskets in the post. His quick drop step and decisiveness are a big advantage." Less than a week later, with Coach Timpano on a family vacation, Beacon found itself down 48-34 in the third quarter to Spackenkill. The Bulldogs closed out the game by outscoring Spackenkill 42-16. Alex Benson scored 22 points. "Benson is a dynamic player," Timpano said of the senior. "He's a phenomenal athlete, a star on the football team and for us. He is a ball magnet. On the defensive side, he disrupts opponents by how he is able to fly to the ball and then he turns it on with his offensive, using his speed and elusivity." McKenzie, one of seven juniors on the team, added 14 points. He also played varsity last year, as a sophomore. "I am so excited to see how he is developing," the

coach said. "He worked extremely hard in the off-season, a true gym rat, and now is having success on the court." Senior Andre Davis contributed 16 points against Spackenkill, although Timpano said his contributions don't always appear in the box score. "Davis is so important to this team as a motivator," he said. "He gets the guys up and settles them down. He has a calming effect on the team." Another key player who will need to play well for Beacon to make a run in the playoffs is Brandon Evans, a transfer from New Rochelle. A strong ballhandler and shooter, he also helps the team defensively, Timpano said. The regular season ends for the Bulldogs at home against Lakeland on Feb. 9. "It would be great to get to the [Westchester] County Center" in the state tournament, Timpano said. "Our goal is to qualify for sectionals, make a push and see what could happen. The most important thing for us as a program is to build better basketball players and better people."

### High School Varsity Scoreboard

#### Boys' Basketball

Haldane 57, Clark 48  
Blaine Fitzgerald (21 points), Nick DiPalo (12), Aiden Siegel (10)  
Peekskill 68, Beacon 66

#### Girls' Basketball

Peekskill 54, Beacon 48  
Lauren Schetter (31 points, 15 rebounds, 6 assists), Brianna Dembo (7 points, 10 rebounds)

#### Boys' Bowling

Beacon 7, Mahopac 0

#### Girls' Bowling

Beacon 7, Mahopac 0

#### Girls' Track

Rockland Coaches Invitational at Suffern  
Haldane Top Finishers  
300 meters 46. Jamie Calimano 51.34  
1,000 meters 19. Angel Zhang 3:31.40  
1,500 meters 30. Claire Cassidy 5:53.10  
4 x 800 meters 13. Haldane 11:43.20  
Long jump 5. Brittany Gona 15-02.75  
Shotput 28. Catherine Parr 24-09.25

#### Beacon Top Finishers

600 meters 27. Victoria Banks 1:57.20  
1,000 meters 41. Meagan Meeuwisse 3:52.10  
1,500 meters 17. Eliza Ericson 5:40.00  
High jump 2. Jummie Akinwunmi 4-09.00

Long jump 12. Tiara Boone 14-05.50  
Triple jump 14. Boone 29-07.00

#### Boys' Track

Rockland Coaches Invitational at Suffern  
Haldane Top Finishers  
600 meters 8. Nicholas Farrell 1:29.80  
1,000 meters 10. Conor Van Riper 2:49.30  
1,600 meters 50. Brett Schwartz 5:55.50  
4 x 800 meters 6. Haldane 8:53.50  
Long jump 29. Jose Mendoza 16-10.25  
Triple jump 13. Mendoza 36-02.75

#### Beacon Top Finishers

300 meters 17. Kaleb Istvan 39.84  
600 meters 25. Vincent Compagnone

1:37.10  
1,000 meters 21. Jayen Lare 2:54.20  
1,600 meters 22. Jean Pena 4:58.90  
55-meter hurdles 4. Ethan Burgos 8.64  
4 x 400 meter relay 6. Beacon 3:47.80  
High jump 14. Compagnone 5-03.00  
Long jump 8. Richard Kish 19-00.25  
Triple jump 6. Kish 38-02.25

#### Wrestling

51st Annual Mid-Hudson Tournament at Arlington  
Team Standings  
16 (of 21). Beacon (47 points)  
Individual Finals  
195 – Kyle Davis (Beacon) by 9-4 decision over Tanner Zagarino (Mattituck)