



The Paper



Winter Carnival schedule
See Page 9

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2016

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Beacon School Leaders Under Fire

Critics see dysfunction and unethical conduct

By Jeff Simms

While current Beacon City Schools Superintendent Barbara Walkley is embroiled in controversy as many parents call for her dismissal, the school system's issues date back much further than just her tenure.



Photo by J. Simms

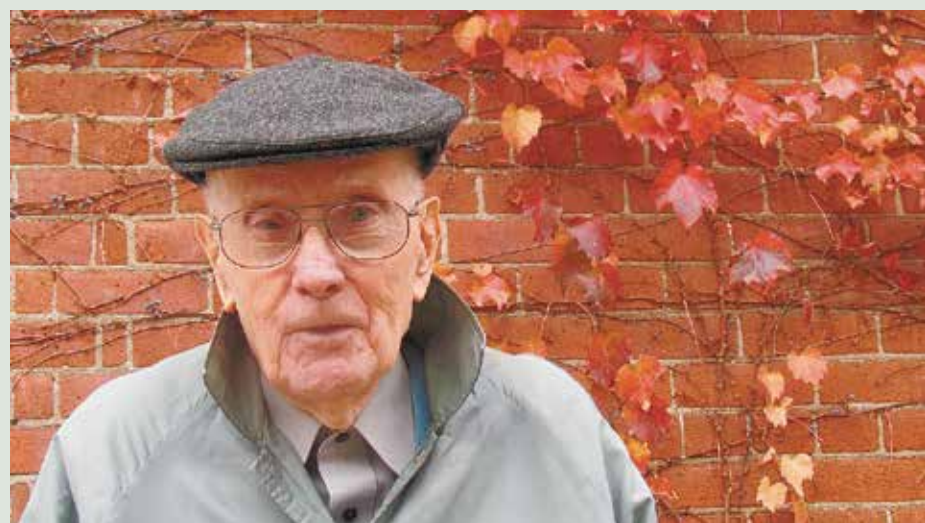
It's difficult to trace the issues to any one person or incident, but since longtime Superintendent Vito DiCesare retired in 2006, the Beacon district has been marked by frequent turnover and, many have said, significant dysfunction.

"The public perception is that something is off, that there's just general corruption, but we don't know exactly why it's such a hard district to work in," said Clarice Allee, the president of the South Avenue Elementary PTA.

The Beacon City School *(Continued on Page 4)*



Sisters Nailah and Aminah Taariq, of Wappingers Falls, and Chris Ruhe, of Beacon, braved the bitter cold on Monday (Jan. 18) to participate in a short parade honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. See related article, page 6. Photo by Jeff Simms



Donald MacDonald

File photo by Michael Turton

A Gentleman and a Gentle Man

Local historian Donald MacDonald passes away

By Michael Turton

The Hudson Highlands lost one of its most beloved citizens, Donald MacDonald, who died at age 90 on Tuesday (Jan. 19) at NewYork-Presbyterian/Hudson Valley Hospital in Cortlandt Manor.

Known for his love of local history, MacDonald served as historian for

both the Town of Philipstown and Village of Cold Spring. For many years he educated residents about their community's past through his column in the *Putnam County News and Recorder*. He was also a long time supporter of the Putnam History Museum.

But perhaps more than anything, MacDonald will be remembered as a kind man who had a twinkle in his eye;

(Continued on Page 5)

Local Groups Push "Green" Electric

State law allows consumer to choose suppliers

By Pamela Doan

Last month, leaders from 195 countries agreed to an accord on climate change that committed to keeping the global temperature rise from pre-industrial times to the end of this century below 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit.

This can only be achieved by limiting greenhouse gas emissions, and that means replacing fossil fuels (coal, oil and natural gas) with renewable energy such as solar, wind and hydropower.

Two groups, Renewable Philipstown and Renewable Highlands, have joined forces to make electricity consumption in the area more eco-friendly. They are using the Sustainable Westchester pilot program for "community choice aggregation" (CCA), approved by the New York Public Service Commission last year, as one of the models. They hope to use the



group-buying power of the Hudson Highlands to launch a new CCA, which can solicit bids from utility providers to supply electricity for the residences and small businesses in the coverage area. (Central

Hudson would still be the distributor.) The CCA can set its own criteria for how the electricity will be generated and choose a supplier that meets their pricing and sourcing conditions.

"We're looking at a population base that could qualify for a discount on power supply. While we've had early support in Philipstown and Beacon ..."

The concept of CCA is being used in six other states; New York's utility deregulation led to the approval of Sustainable Westchester, which as of December includes all but three municipalities in the county. Forty-one villages and towns in Westchester have signed on. Under the terms of its state approval, Sustainable Westchester can bargain for both

electricity and natural gas.

Renewable Highlands launched its website this month and secured support from the Open Space Institute as a fiscal sponsor as part of its *(Continued on Page 3)*

Cook On: 1 part chaos, 2 parts calm

Shredded Bliss

By Mary Ann Ebner

It's tempting to slip on a pair of stretchy dark yoga pants this time of year, although not necessarily for yoga. The holiday afterglow that drifts into January makes the rest of the wardrobe feel a little snug. An extra pound (or five) shows up after indulging in everything from office-party cookies to the New Year champagne brunch.

While the extra weight represents an unwelcome reminder of dietary indiscipline, it also provides a souvenir of generous holiday meals shared with family and friends. Visiting around tables is often where we find ideas and a fresh take on ingredients prepared with someone else's

creative touch. It also gives us the chance to continue the custom of exchanging recipes.

The final weeks of 2015 included samplings of food from a parade of nations, including a first-birthday celebration at the home of friends honoring a Japanese toddler. Elaborate cakes and cookies waited for the birthday girl while guests celebrated with sushi and sake. If part of the rituals centered on gracing her with good health through fine food, then guests walked away with a few blessings as well.

Nordic indulgences also own a share of the blame for my extra consumption. Friends who claim a bit of Norwegian heritage by way of Minnesota delivered a box of krumkake in late December. We received these delicate Scandinavian cookies shortly after they were carefully made with a batter of eggs, flour, vanilla, cardamom and sugar. The batter is poured onto an embossed griddle and molded onto a cone to produce a light, flaky cookie flute. The delivery came with a generous supply of whipped cream. They were truly too good to let even a drop go uneaten.

With the Nordic influence continuing into the New Year, a dinner party to mark 2016 could have been titled "Norway on the Hudson." Encouraged by mild January temperatures, our host and home chef grilled salmon outdoors and served the fish with mounds of roasted baby potatoes and classic Scandinavian cucumber and dill weed salad. We had ended the evening with a healthy-ish calorie count until he carried a steaming-hot chocolate cake to the table topped with a dollup of puffy pillowy cream. Pull out the stretchy pants.

The most adventurous meal of the season — a seven-course Sunday dinner served with a selection of beverages to enhance each course — set a record for calories but more importantly for fun and dining pleasure.

**Shredded red ribbons**

Photos by M.A. Ebner

Our German hosts treated us (for several hours) after much planning, preparation and care. Each course was punctuated with a subtle touch of flavor and described in detail. Along with the dumplings (which were better than any this side of Bavaria), the cabbage was pure delight. Sweet and sour, not too heavy and boldly beautiful on the plate. A popular German food, red cabbage makes frequent appearances as an accompaniment. It's a dish that doesn't take long to prepare. The version I prefer is mildly spiced and cooked until tender. It's easy and affordable with ingredients widely available at any market around town. Leafy cabbage ranges in varieties and colors from ivory-white to yellowy-green, purple and bold red. We may think of sauerkraut, the tangy pickled dish made with white cabbage as the more favored German food, but red cabbage appears everywhere as a side, in soups, on sandwiches and in salads.

Choose a firm head with shiny and crisp leaves and sharpen a good knife to produce an ideal shred. Red cabbage naturally complements potatoes and meats but stands well alone as a hearty vegetable. Olive oil serves as a natural substitute for the butter, and additional apples along with raisins and seeds turn sautéed red ribbons of cabbage into a healthy warm salad. This sweet and sour red cabbage preparation produces a mild dish with a big serving of texture.

**Red cabbage**

Red Cabbage

Serves 6 to 8

1 head red cabbage
3 tablespoons butter
1 large shallot, finely chopped
2 medium apples, peeled, cored and diced

3 tablespoons white vinegar
3 tablespoons red wine vinegar
2 tablespoons brown sugar
½ teaspoon nutmeg
2 cloves
salt and pepper to taste

1. Remove any tattered ends or leaves from cabbage and discard cabbage core. With a sharp knife or mandoline, thinly shred cabbage and set aside.
2. Heat butter in heavy Dutch oven pan and add chopped shallot. Cook 2 minutes over medium heat. Add cabbage and coat with melted butter. Add remaining ingredients and stir thoroughly. Cook 15 minutes over medium heat stirring frequently.
3. Lower heat and simmer 30 to 45 minutes until cabbage softens, stirring occasionally. Remove cloves. Adjust with salt and pepper. Serve warm.

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Local Groups Push “Green” Electric *(from Page 1)*

Citizen Action Program. Michael Rauch, one of the volunteers, will be the project manager. As a preliminary geographical area for the CCA, the group will explore including Garrison, Cold Spring, Beacon, Newburgh, Cornwall and Highlands.

“It’s still really early in process and we’re thinking about feasibility,” he said. “We’re looking at a population base that could qualify for a discount on power supply. While we’ve had early support in Philipstown and Beacon, we haven’t talked to other communities yet.”

Renewable Highlands’ fiscal relationship with the Open Space Institute allows it to fundraise to cover costs such as for public education and information sessions, technical expertise and consultants.

Clean energy

Meanwhile, Renewable Philipstown, a group of about 15 community members who began meeting last year, will press forward with another major channel for “sustainably sourced” electricity. Under New York’s deregulation in the 1990s, consumers are able to select their energy supplier.

It’s been a personal project for Peter Callaway, a Cold Spring resident and retiree, for about a year. He has been using social media and setting up information tables at events to convince people to switch to a renewable Energy Supply Company (ESCO).

Callaway expects that about a third (12 of 35) of the people he’s shared information with so far in 2016 have switched.

The state’s website for consumers to review ESCOs, called “Power to Choose,” is a challenge to navigate, which might be part of the reason the option isn’t widely used. There are 11 companies listed that supply from renewable sources and 24 from fossil fuels or nuclear energy. Green Mountain, a company that Callaway recommends, claims that by choosing its product over a typical system, “a New York household with average monthly usage of 750 kWh can avoid more than 13,600 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions a year.”

According to the World Bank’s global

rankings of carbon emissions, the average American is responsible for 17 metric tons of CO2 in the atmosphere per year. (Aruba, Brunei, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, UAE and Saudi Arabia are the only countries with higher emissions.) So switching to a renewable source could drop an American’s footprint by about 6 metric tons annually.

That’s still more than a French person (who creates 5.2 metric tons), but a big improvement, nonetheless.

Home installations of solar panels aren’t being widely used in the area, either, although costs have dropped and there are state subsidies and low-interest loans available. The New York

State Energy Research and Development Authority lists only 213 photovoltaic installations in Putnam County completed since 2003, although another 74 have been approved. Residents are converting at a much higher rate in Dutchess and Westchester counties, with 1,481 and 1,924 installations, respectively.

Callaway’s advice? “When it comes to renewable energy, there isn’t much to be gained with fixed rates,” he said. “Up-state wind turbines don’t seem to change much” as far as their production. He said he’s been watching Green Mountain Energy for two years and said its variable

“A New York household with average monthly usage of 750 kWh can avoid more than 13,600 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions a year.”



Solar panels on a house in Cold Spring

File photo by Michael Turton

rate, which is lower than the fixed rate, has been stable. His spreadsheet includes research on consumer complaints and Better Business Bureau ratings for the various suppliers, and he has posted that data at Renewable Philipstown’s website. The rates are either less expensive or the same as Central Hudson’s.

The question is, then why don’t more consumers switch to a ESCO? Callaway believes people may be afraid of change and that there are more immediate things that demand attention. Maybe it’s just

learned helplessness. We don’t feel control even though we have some.

Callaway isn’t giving up, though. If you find him at the Cold Spring Farmers’ Market on Saturday, Jan. 30, he’ll walk you through the process, or sit down with you and your utility bill and do it for you. “Each one feels like a small victory for our planet and our future,” he said.

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Philipstown.Info, Inc.

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(1939 - 2014)

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Beacon's School Leaders Under Fire (from Page 1)



Beacon parents stand in protest during the BOE meeting last Thursday.

Photo by J. Simms

District encompasses six schools: South Avenue, Sargent, Glenham and J.V. Forrestal elementaries, Rombout Middle School and Beacon High School. According to the district website, it covers the city of Beacon, plus parts of Fishkill and Wappingers, with an enrollment of 3,400 students.

The list of superintendents who came after DiCesare is long, although many of their terms were not. Jean Parr took over the post in 2006; Fern Aefsky followed in 2008. Harvey Hilburgh was named interim superintendent in 2011, after Aefsky's departure. Raymond Bandlow took over in November 2011 and then resigned in July 2012, after which Hilburgh served once again as an interim. Paul Dorward was hired in 2013; he too left just over a year later, which led to Walkley being named the interim superintendent.

Prior to her appointment, Walkley — who was hired permanently in February 2015 — had twice served as the district's assistant superintendent.

"If you want to be a successful team, you can't keep changing the coach," said John Burns, a Rombout social studies teacher and president of the Beacon Teachers Association (BTA). "It's demoralizing."

The BTA has also been a source of controversy. A petition filed with the New York state Department of Education by Beacon parent Melissa Rutkoske alleges that Burns' predecessor, Kimberly Pilla, has been engaged in an inappropriate relationship with Walkley, compromising the superintendent's impartiality. Pilla stepped down from her position as BTA president in August 2015, and neither she nor Walkley responded this week to requests for comment from *The Paper*.

On January 11, nearly 400 parents attended what was scheduled to be a meeting of the Board of Education. With only three out of nine board members present, the meeting was canceled within minutes of its 7 p.m. start time.

Parents, however, continued filing into the school's auditorium and used the opportunity to speak out publicly, condemning the school board and calling for Walkley to be dismissed.

Three nights later, on Jan. 14, the board met again in the Beacon High School cafeteria. Although the meeting was advertised to include only an executive session that was closed to the public, around 75 parents still attended, standing in silent protest and holding signs with messages like "Standing up for kids," "Transparen-

cy," and "We are not going away."

"Our hope was that we could mobilize the community, and that's what we've done," Rutkoske said.

School Board President Melissa Thompson says she understands why the parents have organized.

"I believe many of the concerns they've brought forward are things we need to work on," she said. "We want them to understand we're parents as well. We're all in this together."

According to Larry Cohen, a three-time former Beacon school board member and a current member of the Fishkill Town Council, the Beacon district took a turn for the worse around 2011 when the school board's committee structure (Cohen had been chair of the Budget and Finance committee) was disbanded.

"The board (then) lost touch with knowing what was going on in the district before things happened. We could only be reactive, and that was a big frustration," Cohen said.

Not long after, Bandlow began his eight-month stint as superintendent and then, after a year with Hilburgh as interim, Dorward was hired for the job. Beyond dry official statements at their departures, no explanations have accounted for why Bandlow and Dorward's tenures were so short.

"The general sense was that there was a lot of turnover, and therefore something must be wrong," Allee said.

Thompson said she gets that sentiment, too. "It takes a special person who can celebrate the (diverse) makeup of Beacon," she said, adding that she believes Walkley is the right fit for Beacon, although the superintendent is "hampered" right now by external controversy.

When Walkley replaced Dorward as interim superintendent in 2014, she was "a breath of fresh air," Cohen said. "She was phenomenal. We all agreed that she brought sanity to the district," he said.

The petition

Rutkoske's petition, signed by 48 other parents and calling for the dismissal of Walkley and the school system's attorney, alleges that Walkley and Pilla (then known by her married name, Kimberly Atwell) developed an "unethical relationship," declaring further, "it is clear that Ms. Pilla was given preferential treatment and favors from Dr. Walkley." The petition goes

on to state "Walkley was taking guidance from Ms. Pilla ... utilizing her knowledge, connections and relationships in order to ensure Dr. Walkley's success in the district."

The petition further alleges, "Ms. Pilla was privy to significant confidential information in the (Beacon City School District). It appears that there was nothing off limits, as she was acting as Dr. Walkley's sounding board and mentor."

The petition makes reference to numerous email exchanges between Walkley and Pilla.

Although Pilla is listed on the school system website as a Beacon High School physical education teacher, Rutkoske's

petition states that she was named an "Instructional Support Teacher" in September 2014. Her duties in that new position, and whether they were adequately performed, have been unclear to the public, it states.

"The list of indiscretions, abuse of power and unethical conduct by Dr. Walkley to assist and promote Ms. Pilla goes on and on," the petition alleges.

The school system, through the district's attorney, Michael Lambert, filed an 18-page response, accusing Rutkoske of illegally obtaining personal email correspondence and

requested that the petition be dismissed in its entirety.

Rutkoske "fails to cite any district policy that was allegedly violated or any taxpayer funds that were allegedly misused," Lambert wrote in the district's response.

Rutkoske said that she began connecting with teachers in Beacon after an incident last March involving her son, now a Beacon High School junior. It was then that she began investigating the school system further.

"The teachers said, 'By the way, this is just a tiny little bit of what's going on in our school district,'" Rutkoske said.

The incident involving Rutkoske's son, which she did not elaborate on, led to an investigation by the U.S. Office for Civil Rights (OCR) that is still ongoing.

On Wednesday, the OCR confirmed that its investigation at the Beacon City School District was opened on September 24, 2015. The issues in the case "involve whether the district has adopted grievance procedures providing for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints of sex discrimination and has properly trained staff to respond to such complaints (Title IX). However, because this is an open investigation, we cannot provide additional details or case-specific information," OCR's Jim Bradshaw wrote in an email.

When asked how the administrative controversies have affected the students of the Beacon City School District, Burns, the BTA president, said there have been some miscommunication issues and scheduling snafus related to staff turnover.

"But when that bell rings in the morning, it's business," he said, "and it's a sanctuary. You can lose yourself in the classroom."

See related sidebar on next page.

School Board Head Will Not Run Again

Beacon School Board President Melissa Thompson said Thursday that she is not planning to run for re-election in May. Thompson has been on the school board for nine years, the last three as president.

Three of the nine seats on the board will be up for election this year. Meredith Heuer, Antony Tseng and Michael Rutkoske have announced their candidacies. “The fact that we have multiple people running is a great thing,” Thompson said. “I think it’s time that I take a back seat and sit on the other side of the table.”

NY Alert

For the latest updates on weather-related or other emergencies, sign up at www.nyalert.gov.

A Gentleman and a Gentle Man (from Page 1)

an unassuming man with a gentle manner who seemed not to possess a negative bone in his body.

Born in Peekskill in 1925 to Donald F. and Martha (Preston) MacDonald, Don was raised in Garrison and attended Haldane High School. He served in the U. S. Navy during World War II, mainly in the Panama Canal Zone. He worked with his father in the furniture refinishing business for 20 years, moving to Cold Spring in 1964. He began work with the maintenance department at BOCES’ Yorktown Heights Campus in 1968 and continued there until his retirement in 1987.

Ed and Robin Lockwood of Suffern always thought of MacDonald and his wife, Mary Ann (Nagy) MacDonald, as an uncle and aunt, although Mary was actually Ed’s cousin and godmother. “I knew Uncle Don for more than 55 years,” Lockwood said. “He was a peaceful man. I can’t remember him ever speaking in a cross way about anyone. He loved his little village of Cold Spring and its history.”

Lockwood fondly recalls going to a bowling alley many years ago with his parents and Donald and Mary. “I think it was their first date!” he said. “Now he’ll be buried next to the love of his life.” Mary died in 2006 and, until his health began to deteriorate, MacDonald walked to his wife’s grave in Cold Spring Cemetery every day.

A tip of the hat

Dorothy Carlton got to know the MacDonalds 15 years ago when they worked

as groundskeepers at what is now Le Bouchon Restaurant. “Mr. MacDonald was like a gentleman from a bygone era,” said the Cold Spring resident. “He always greeted you with a tip of his hat, a smile and a kind word. He never had a bad word to say about people.” Carlton could not recall a conversation in which MacDonald failed to mention Mary.

Barbara Hobens, a former Philipstown resident and now Historian for the Town of Hyde Park, became friends with MacDonald nine years ago when she asked him to sign a copy of his book, *A Ramble through the Hudson Highlands: A History in Pictures and the Writings of Donald H. MacDonald*. She said that phone calls to him that were intended to be quick “often lasted an hour or more ... as we yammered on about history.” She said of her friend’s death, “It was his time to leave ... but there will be too many times that I will reach for the phone to call him. A finer man I will never know.”

A lasting impression

Ru Rauch of Garrison, former foreign correspondent for *Time* magazine, only knew MacDonald for a short time, but it made a lasting impression. “Don and I only met about a year ago, and a shared interest in journalism made us friends,” he said. “He was a very modest guy, but he knew a lot about life.” Rauch said one of MacDonald’s greatest attributes was that at age 90 he still liked most of his fellow human beings. “He had a quiet grace about him, a gentleness that I envied and will always remember.”

Although soft spoken, MacDonald was not one to mince words. In a 2010 interview with *Philipstown.info*, he was asked about his time at Haldane High School. “I quit in 10th grade,” he said. “I’m proud that 35 years later I got my GED. I worked like a sucker to get it!” He was equally candid about his lack of enthusiasm for modern technology. In the same interview, when asked if he owned a computer, cell phone or answering machine, he responded emphatically: “None of it! Why go to all the bother? I’m 85. I love doing my research my own way.”

Profound friendship

Perhaps no one appreciated knowing MacDonald more than Caryn Canova, his longtime friend. Canova helped with his care in recent years and was with him when he passed away peacefully on Tuesday. “It was the kind of profound friendship that comes along once in a lifetime,” she said.

MacDonald had a generosity of spirit and a love of community that transcends the mere study of history. He summed it up best himself in a profile by Christine Simek in the first issue of *The Paper* in June 2012 entitled *Don MacDonald’s Passion for History*: “I feel privileged to have lived here. I have a love for this place and I don’t like to keep it to myself. I like to share it.”

Donald H. MacDonald was laid to rest in Cold Spring Cemetery on Thursday, next to Mary, after a service at St. Mary-in-the-Highlands Episcopal Church, where he was a lifelong member. Donations in MacDonald’s name may be made to St. Mary’s, 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeal of the Town of Philipstown on February 8, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. at Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York, to hear the following appeals:

JOHN A. SABATINI & KIMBERLY J. SABATINI:

Appeal #891 for a Variance. The appellants seek relief from restriction on the type of construction that can be built on slopes greater than 20% (Sec. 175-36B(1)) and greater than 35% (Sec. 175-36B(2)). The applicant also seeks relief from the limitation on the maximum amount of impervious surface that exists on a lot. (Location 101 Dick’s Castle Road, Garrison) in an RR District. TM #60.-1-11

JAMES & MELANIE MATERO:

Appeal #892 for a Variance. A Variance to this property approved on October 7, 1996 (Appeal #566) for the encroachment into the setback of the side and rear deck, with condition states “No further enlargement or reconfiguration of the structure is authorized without a building permit and/or Zoning Board approval as needed”. The proposed alteration and addition to the rear and side deck will enlarge and reconfigure the existing decks, this will require a variance from the Zoning Board. (Location 32 Hudson River Lane, Garrison) in an R-80 District. TM #89.7-1-6

Date: January 14, 2016

Robert Dee, Chairman
Zoning Board of Appeals

FULL-TIME POSITION AVAILABLE The Town of Philipstown

Full-time position to assist with the daily operations of the offices of Town Clerk, Comptroller and Assessor’s at the Town Hall. Anyone interested please send resume to:

Richard Shea, Supervisor
238 Main Street / P.O. Box 155
Cold Spring, New York 10516

FULL-TIME POSITION AVAILABLE The Town of Philipstown

Full-time position as liaison to the Town Board. This position will also include secretary to the Planning, Zoning and Conservation Boards, attending monthly meetings, transcribing minutes and reporting to the Town Board. Anyone interested please send resume to:

Richard Shea, Supervisor
238 Main Street / P.O. Box 155
Cold Spring, New York 10516

Kindergarten Parent Orientation Meeting Kindergarten Registration

The Haldane Central School District is beginning the Kindergarten registration process for the 2016-2017 school year. If you have a child who will turn five on or before Dec. 31, 2016 and you live in the Haldane Central School District, please call Carol Filmanski for a registration packet at 265-9254, ext. 122.

Parents are invited to attend the Kindergarten orientation meeting on Thursday, Feb. 4, 2016, at 7 p.m. in the Haldane Music Room. A snow date is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 9.

Registration will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 10 and Thursday, Feb. 11 in the Middle School Conference Room, from 1 to 4 p.m. A snow make-up date is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 12. Please enter the building through the Main Entrance and you will be directed to the Conference Room. Parents who are registering incoming children must bring a copy of the child’s birth certificate, his/her immunization record which has been signed by a physician, and Proof of Residency indicating that the family resides in the Haldane School District.

Please call the Principal’s Office if you have any questions.

Lecture Links Islamophobia to Racism

20th year of DFL/MLK event

by Mary Anne Myers

Following a community potluck, Hasan Azad, a doctoral candidate in Islamic Studies at Columbia University, on Jan. 17, offered food for thought on civil rights and Muslims in America during the 20th annual gathering and lecture to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., at the Desmond Fish Library in Garrison.

In addition to tracing the history of “othering” in the western intellectual tradition, Azad explained the corruption of Islam by the terrorist group ISIS before ending on a note of hope inspired by Dr. King’s belief that moments of crisis yield opportunities to make the American dream a reality.

“Racism runs through the veins and arteries of the United States,” Azad said, due to the country’s Enlightenment foundation and colonial history, which made it necessary for white Europeans to identify groups as “inherently different from and inferior to” themselves during their colonization of the “new” world.

The scholar cited as part of Americans’ collective unconscious the elimination of

Native Americans; 350 years of slavery; discrimination against Jews, Italians and the Irish; and the internment of Japanese citizens during World War II. He argued that “Western intellectual tradition is fundamentally rooted in the idea of othering, of creating difference, of degrees and levels of preference and subjugation.” He said it is “no simple quirk of fate” that anti-Muslim rhetoric in America has emerged as “massive structures of institutionalized racism” against blacks and other minorities are exposed.

The us-versus-them mentality, Azad said, has roots in the modern Cartesian

notion of the individual subject confronted by an object it seeks to know, to name and implicitly to dominate, often without adequate consideration for the inde-

pendent existence of a world beyond the self. Thus the “other” is invented by the self, sometimes out of “fear of darker aspects of ourselves that we want to stamp out.” For Westerners, he suggested, these aspects might include the acknowledgment that modern ideals of reason, freedom, justice and equality have yet to be fully realized in Western nations, and that many Western freedoms exist at the

expense of freedom elsewhere. Muslims have been “othered” in the West for a long time, Azad said.

In the wake of the Paris attacks, the question, “Is Islam violent?” has become for the West more rhetorical than genuine, in Azad’s view. ISIS is “doing unimaginable things in the name of Islam,” Azad said, but stated that ISIS is without “historical or intellectual substance, an Islam that bears no resemblance to the Islam that it is trying to replace or the Islam it is seeking to recreate.”

According to Azad, ISIS draws inspiration not from Islam but from Wahhabism. This anti-intellectual sect emerged in the 18th century with the claim that its followers sought to purify Islam by purging idolaters. Wahhabi’s followers gained land in exchange for granting political legitimacy to the Saud regime in 1932.

The Islamic State, Azad said, is a “contradiction in terms,” considering that states are an invention of modernity, “a function of diplomacy among European powers competing for the wealth of colonies.” Sharia law, which Azad noted was originally local, ethical and non-punitive, became reconfigured in the modern state, losing the institutions that kept it rooted in people and communal cohesion. As a result, it was no longer a subject for intellectual study and development, and is therefore no longer fully understood by those who claim to implement it.

To conclude his lecture, Azad read from the transcript of a 1968 television interview in which Dr. King described Ameri-

can blacks as living in a “triple ghetto of race, poverty, and human misery,” noting that those who rioted were few, but that “a destructive minority can poison the wellsprings from which the majority must drink.”

The solution, in Dr. King’s view, was to find solutions to real social problems. “We are in a moment of crisis, but every moment of crisis not only has its danger point but has its opportunities,” King said. “My great hope is that America will see the opportunities to make the American dream a reality.”

Sharing that hope, Azad suggested the audience consider three questions: (1) “To what extent have these conditions described by Dr. King really changed for blacks in America? (2) To what extent are these conditions entwined with issues of Islamophobia, a symptom of deeper issues? And (3), how can we think ahead and move forward globally and locally for the sake of all humanity and all the world’s inhabitants?”

Questions and discussion followed.



Hasan Azad

Photo by K.E. Foley



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The Calendar



Nearly every inch of the Beacon Historical Society's walls is packed with maps, photos and artwork

Photos by A. Rooney

Depot Docs: Indian Point

Cold Spring filmmaker examines controversial nuclear plant

By James O'Barr

Indian Point, the title of Ivy Meeropol's new film, which premiered at the 2015 Tribeca Film Festival and is set for a sold-out Depot Docs screening on Friday, Jan. 29, at the Philipstown Depot Theatre, was once simply the name of a geographical protrusion of the Westchester County village of Buchanan into the east side of the Hudson River, 35 miles north of Times Square.

That innocent (one might say pre-historic) era came to an end in 1954, when energy giant Con Edison bought 250 acres of Indian Point with the intention of building "a commercial-sized atomic power plant." Since then, to all and sundry, Indian Point has meant neither more nor less than nuclear energy. To friends, it's energy "too cheap to meter." To foes, it's energy "too costly and dangerous to matter."

To Meeropol, the mother of young children, citizen activist, and, as a resident of Cold Spring, the potential victim of disaster if something goes terribly wrong at Indian Point, her sympathies might easily be expected to be at home with the foes of nuclear power and Entergy, the corporate owner of Indian Point. But to Meeropol the filmmaker, the story is not in the choice of a side, as in the frankly pro-nuclear

(Continued on Page 15)

Too Much History in Beacon

Society turns 40 but needs space

By Alison Rooney

Feeling a bit steeped in history itself, the Beacon Historical Society (BHS) is celebrating its 40th anniversary. Formed in 1976 by a small group of people dedicated to preserving and documenting Beacon's history from pre-Colonial times to the present, the all-volunteer organization has long been housed in a packed-to-the-gills room inside the Howland Cultural Center. There it's pull-open-a-drawer, discover-a-treasure-time as the tight quarters hold centuries' worth of maps, papers, photographs, postcards, objects, clothing and more — even a church pew and a bench from the old ferry, both used for seating today.

The BHS has been in residence at the Howland Center for 20-odd years, after beginning its life at Howland Library. Open twice weekly to the public for research inquiries, the BHS is a busy place. Many visitors are home and business owners wondering about the provenance of the place they've purchased, while others are writers or researchers, seeking to get the details right or ferreting out information pertaining to any number of topics — immigration, textile manufacturing, transportation among them. There are

nascent institutions too:

Dia:Beacon's planners came in when the museum purchased the former Nabisco site, as did the restorers of the Beacon Institute's Dennings Point Rivers and Estuaries complex.

Inside the room, your eye can't help following the vines of history on the walls: a large photo of workers outside of A.C. Smith & Co., landscapes, property-line drawings, a painting by famed Beacon artist Alice Judson. Turn around and there's signage: wooden placards from the old Newburgh-Beacon Ferry, a shingle hung by Dr. Phebe V.V. Doughty. There's even a wooden grave marker, that of a child who died in his sleep. It was found, noted longtime BHS volunteer Mary Colbert, in a Beacon basement — turns out that such markers were common but didn't usually last.

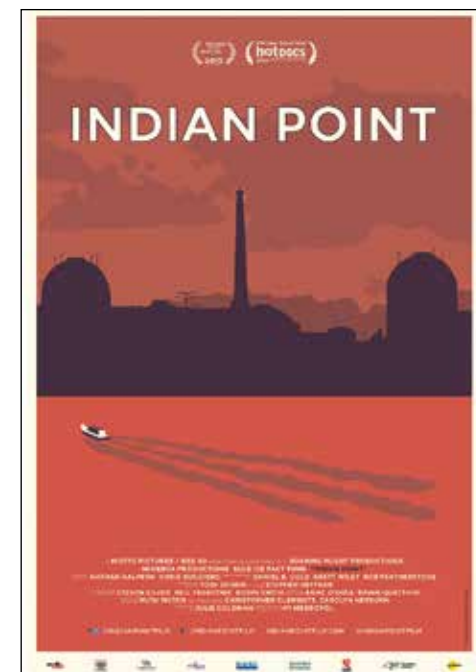
Such donations come in nearly every week; it falls to a cohort of 10 to 12 regular volunteers to document, maintain, store and retrieve them for interested parties. The policy standard is that everything in the collection must be related to Beacon; ownership must be



Beacon Historical Society volunteer Krystle Ulrich holds a hat from the collection of those manufactured at one of Beacon's many hat factories.

ascertainable; and size is a factor — the society doesn't have room for large pieces of furniture. Donors are provided with a deed of gift. Unusual items come through the portal as well: upscale rubber toys manufactured by Beacon's Toycrofters in the 1920s, and hats, of course, and hat molds. Carriages made by Jackson's, even bricks manufactured by one of many Beacon factories, each embossing its own symbol. And there is the ephemera: trolley schedules; Beacon Incline Railway tickets; school notebooks; uniform buttons; operating records from Highland Hospital;

(Continued on Page 11)



Depot Docs Indian Point poster

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22

Drag Bingo!
7 p.m. The Beacon Theatre
445 Main St., Beacon
845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

International Film Night: *The Water Diviner* (Turkey, 2014)
7 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Laminated Menu
8:30 p.m. Dogwood
47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com

Roosevelt Dime
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café
379 Main St., Beacon
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

RiverWinds Gallery
10 a.m. iPhoneography Workshop
4 p.m. Artist's Talk by Galina Krasskova
172 Main St., Beacon
845-838-2880 | riverwindsgallery.com

Easy and Fun Crafts for Adults
1 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org | Registration required.

Haldane vs. Somers (Girls' Basketball)
3 p.m. Haldane School
15 Craigsides Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Tu B'shevat Seder (New Year of the Trees)
4 p.m. St. Mary's Parish Hall
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-8011 | philipstownreformsynagogue.org

3rd Annual Think and Drink
5:30 p.m. 14 Cutler Lane, Garrison
Benefits Garrison School Forest

Find the Spy Mystery Game for Teens
6:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
7 p.m. St. Pius X Building (5th Floor)
1350 Route 9, Garrison
845-424-3549 | atonementfriars.org

Mary Buser: *Lockdown at Rikers* (Talk)
7:30 p.m. Binnacle Books
321 Main St., Beacon | beaconprisonaction.org

The Futurist, Adam Trent
8 p.m. Eisenhower Hall Theatre | 655 Ruger Road,
West Point | 845-938-4159 | ikehall.com

Calendar Highlights

For upcoming events visit philipstown.info.
Send event listings to calendar@philipstown.info.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

Howland Library closed for construction

Tax Help Volunteer Training Session
10 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Expanding Options at the End of Life
6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Beacon Historical Society
7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-0514 | beaconhistorical.org

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

Howland Library closed for construction

Mexican Cooking Workshop
10 a.m. Philipstown Community Center
See details under Monday.

BeaconArts Annual Meeting
6:30 p.m. Beahive Beacon
291 Main St., Beacon | beaconarts.org

Mindfulness Meditation
7 p.m. Graymoor Spiritual Life Center
40 Franciscan Way, Garrison
meetup.com/HudsonValley-meditation

Recreation Commission
7 p.m. Philipstown Community Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

Self-Care Acupressure Workshop
7 p.m. Philipstown Community Center
See details under Monday.

Garrison School Board
7:30 p.m. Garrison School
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3689 | gufs.org

Town Board Workshop
7:30 p.m. Town Hall | 238 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3329 | philipstown.com

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

Block Party (ages 0-4)
9:30 -11 a.m. Beacon Recreation Center
23 West Center St., Beacon
845-765-8440 | weeplayproject.org

Home Sustainability Workshop (First Session)
7 p.m. Philipstown Community Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

C'mon Beacon, Let's Dance

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

Great Westchester Train & Toy Show
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Westchester County Center
198 Central Ave., White Plains
914-995-4050 | countycenter.biz

Life Drawing from a Costumed Model
1:30 - 4 p.m. Old Beacon High School
211 Fishkill Avenue, Beacon
meetup.com/atelierroom205

How to Identify Birds (ages 8+)
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Open Auditions for Gemini
4 p.m. The Beacon Theatre
445 Main St., Beacon
845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org
Continues at 7 p.m. Monday

Amy (Documentary, 2015)
6 p.m. Beacon Music Factory
629 Route 52, Beacon
845-765-0472 | beaconmusicfactory.com

Open Auditions for Memphis
7 p.m. County Players
2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls
845-298-1491 | countyplayers.org
Continues at 7 p.m. Monday

Birds of Chicago
7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café
See details under Friday.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

Howland Public Library opens at 5 p.m.

Instagram for Your Business and Brand
6:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Introduction to River Navigation
6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Spotlight on Recovery Support Group
6:45 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
914-582-8384 | drugcrisisinourbackyard.com

Interfaith Exploration of Psalms
7 p.m. Tabernacle of Christ Church
483 Main St., Beacon
845-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

Planning Board
7 p.m. Village Hall | See details under Tuesday.

Cuboriqua (Salsa)
8 p.m. The Hudson Room
23 South Division St., Peekskill
914-788-3663 | hudsonroom.com

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

Girls' Lacrosse Ice Cream Social / Info Session (grades 1-6)
3:30 - 5 p.m. St. Philip's Church
1101 Route 9D, Garrison | Sponsored by
Philipstown Lacrosse Association for Youth

Farm Dinner with Jamie Paxton
6:30 p.m. Glynwood Farm
362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring
845-265-3338 | glynwood.org

Aromatherapy Hand Massage Workshop
7 p.m. SkyBaby Yoga
75 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-4444 | skybabyyoga.com

Haldane vs. Pawling (Boys' Basketball)
7:30 p.m. Haldane School
15 Craigsides Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Years of Living Dangerously, Part 1 (Documentary)
7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
50 Liberty St., Beacon
moviesthatmatterbeacon.org

ONGOING

Art & Design | philipstown.info/galleries

Religious Services | philipstown.info/services

Support Groups | philipstown.info/sg

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Winter Carnival Returns to Garrison

Annual community event will add archery biathlon

By Alison Rooney

The response was so positive to last year's Winter Carnival — the day of outdoor (and some indoor) activities organized jointly by the Hudson High-



Ice carving of an eagle, done at last year's Winter Carnival. Photo provided

lands Land Trust, Philipstown Recreation and Friends of Philipstown Recreation — that version 3.0 was never in doubt. This year's edition, again chock full of sledding, skating, storytelling and snacking, takes place (barring a blizzard) on Saturday, Feb. 6. All the activities are free of charge, with food available for purchase.

In a change from last year, when activities were run concurrently at two sites, the events will be staggered at Winter Hill and the Philipstown Recreation Center, in order to avoid histrionics from kids who balk at leaving one activity for another. The activities at Winter Hill will fill up the early afternoon, followed by a late afternoon and evening switch to Philipstown Rec.

There are other nearby family things going on during that day, too, such as Eaglefest at Croton Point Park. This schedule allows families to pick and choose, says HHLT's Kathy Hamel. "You don't have to spend the whole day there," she says. "You can do just daytime or the nighttime skating and movie. If you have other plans, you can put a little Winter Carnival into them."

New this year is a "biathlon," which will consist of downhill sledding combined with archery with blunt-tipped arrows. Participants will be timed and receive credit for hitting the target. For example, if it takes a competitor two minutes to complete the course and they hit two of three targets, their time will be one minute, 40 seconds.



Happy sledding at last year's Winter Carnival.

Image courtesy of HHLT

Hudson River Expeditions is helping with the sledding portion and an adult will be monitoring the archery.

If there's no snow, there will be a winter hike, highlighting the joys of the outdoors during this season, with tree identification. The ice carving, ice skating and movie will still take place.

The movie to be shown is *Ernest and Celestine*, described at RogerEbert.com as "the coziest movie you'll likely see all year. Every frame is suffused with a fireplace kind of warmth that, for me at least, cast an immediate spell that didn't let up. The French-produced animated movie is skewed to kids, and unlike today's animated product from Hollywood, it isn't self-consciously concerned with making an appeal to adults: this simple story of an

Carnival Schedule

At Winter Hill, 20 Nazareth Way (off Snake Hill Road), Garrison

1 to 5 p.m.

- Sledding throughout
- Ice carving demonstration, 1–3 p.m.
- Indoor storytime, 2–3 p.m.
- Biathlon, 3–4 p.m.

Lunch fare, snacks, beverages available for purchase, starting at 1 p.m.

At Philipstown Recreation Center, 107 Glenclyffe Drive (off of Route 9D), Garrison

4 to 8 p.m.

- Ice skating throughout
- Raffle, 5:30 p.m.
- Ernest and Celestine, presented by Cold Spring Film Society, 6 p.m.
- Dinner fare, beverages available for purchase starting at 4 p.m.

Visit philipstownwintercarnival.com for updates and more details.

unlikely friendship between a mouse and a bear in a funny-animal world."

Parking will be available at both sites and a free shuttle bus will provide transportation between locations.

Hamel says the HHLT organizes outreach programs like this and its Take-A-Hike series to "get people out in the land, to share the beauty of it. We do this winter program because the natural tendency is to hibernate in winter, but it's actually great to get out in all the seasons and enjoy. Plus, doing it with your community is so much more fun."

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SUN 12:15 3:45 7:15, MON 7:15
TUE 12:15 3:45 7:15, WED & THU 7:15

Brooklyn (PG13)
Nominated for 3 Academy Awards,
including Best Picture
FRI & SAT 2:30 5:15 8:00
SUN 1:15 4:15 7:00
MON 7:00, TUE 1:15 4:15 7:00
WED & THU 7:00

Room (R)
Nominated for 4 Academy Awards,
including Best Picture
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SUN 1:30 4:30 7:30
MON 7:30, TUE 1:30 4:30 7:30
WED & THU 7:30

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THE RIVERSIDE GALLERIES

Too Much History in Beacon (from Page 7)

along with more “official” documents such as a 1769 Rombout Precinct Tax List and copies of Civil War pension records, all preserved as best as possible, some in archival folders and boxes, others, simply, for the time being, in file folders.

Some of the most precious material can't be easily categorized: during World War I, the pastor of St. Luke's wrote to soldiers on the front. His letters have not been found, but the soldiers' replies, “upbeat, with very neat handwriting,” according to Colbert, have been collected. Also on hand are bound editions of the *Beacon News*, annual city directories and the Sanborn Maps, which were drawn for insurance purposes and on which one can spot the changes over the years — all inviting a browse (gloves provided, to protect the documents). Little of it has been digitalized, there isn't the money at the moment.

The wealth of information on hand isn't limited to the tangible. Questions arise, and the BHS volunteers try their best to find answers. They're not always cut and dry. Myths, legends and family lore loom, frequently relating to what might or might not have “been” on the mountain.

While no appointment is required, Colbert says it is helpful to check in before turning up, especially with specialized requests relying on the detective work of BHS President Bob Murphy, whose “knowledge is extensive and beyond the reach of the rest of us,” Colbert says, to make sure he will be there on the day.

The BHS has an array of wishes and goals. High on the list is an oral history project to record the memories of older residents. “There are a lot of people in the city of Beacon who have a lot of informa-

tion we really need to capture, and many of them are housebound or at nursing homes,” Colbert says. “It would be a great project for a high school.”

Then there are the cramped quarters. BHS aspires to have a home large enough to present exhibits, for additional archival storage space, for researchers, for viewing video and films. To make that happen, BHS says it needs additional volunteers, particularly in the areas of grant writing and fundraising. Some of the work must be done from home because of space constraints — there is frequently an overflow in the room. Volunteering can be seductive, Colbert shares. “The first time I came in here I said, ‘Holy moly, this is a treasure trove,’” she says. “And then I never left.”

As part of its outreach, BHS produces a monthly newsletter and cultivates a membership program with different levels: basic, business and student. It meets at 7 p.m. every fourth Thursday except in January and February, with slide presentations on local history. It also holds community meetings several times a year. At the most recent gathering in October, about 40 attendees explored ideas and pathways to finding a new home for the collection. Several volunteers plan to report back at a community meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 26.

The BHS is located at the Howland Center, 477 Main St. Its hours are 10 a.m. to noon on Thursdays and 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturdays. For more information, visit beaconhistorical.org or its Facebook page.



Signs at the Beacon Historical Society

Photos by A. Rooney



When the large room at the Howland Center isn't hosting events, researchers can move out of the tight quarters of the Beacon Historical Society. Here, research is being done on Craig House.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Museum Plans Full-Moon Snowshoe Hike

If no snow, at least moon will be there

The Hudson Highlands Nature Museum in Cornwall has plans for a full-moon snowshoe hike — if there is snow — at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 23. Meet at the Outdoor Discovery Center on Muser Drive across from 174 Angola Road. Education Director Jenny Brinker will review the history of snowshoeing and compare types of snowshoes, then venture outside to explore the sights and sounds of winter under the Wolf Moon.

“Snowshoeing is gentle on the environment and lets you see nature in all its amazing wintry glory,” Brinker says. “Everything is quiet and calmly blanketed in snow, and snowshoes allow you to head off-trail into dense woods you wouldn’t otherwise be able to reach.”

The excursion will end with hot cocoa and a treat. Participants must supply their own snowshoes. If there is no snow, the event will be a hike instead. This program is designed for adults and families with children aged 10 and older. The cost is \$6 for museum members and \$8 for non-members. Pre-paid registration is required; visit hhn.org or call 845-534-5506, ext. 204.

Museum to Host Talk and Tasting

Distiller will discuss Prohibition in Hudson Valley

The Putnam History Museum will launch its new Salon Series on Saturday, Jan. 30, with a presentation by Ralph Erenzo, co-founder of Hudson Whiskey and Tuthilltown Spirits, based in Gardiner. The event begins at 5 p.m.

Erenzo will discuss Prohibition, its impact on the Hudson Valley and the rebirth of small-batch spirits. A whiskey tasting will follow and include other spirits from the distillery.

Tickets for the first of the Salon Series, formerly known as the Young Associates series, are \$40 each, which includes cocktails and light hors d’oeuvres, if purchased before

Jan. 26. They rise to \$45 each after that date, or if purchased at the door. Tickets may be reserved in advance at eventbrite.com/e/salon-series-tickets-20530274604 or by sending a check to Putnam History Museum, 63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.

Advocates for “Aid in Dying” Law to Speak

Will discuss efforts to pass death-with-dignity act

Three members of Compassion & Choices New York, including its newly hired New York State campaign director, will speak at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 26, at the Desmond-Fish Library on the effort to make it legal in New York for physicians to assist in the deaths of terminally ill patients.

The non-profit group, based in Denver, campaigns for “death with dignity” bills such as the New York End of Life Options Act, which has been introduced in the state senate in Albany. The bill “authorizes the prescription of aid-in-dying medication to individuals with terminal illnesses; terminal illness means incurable and irreversible illness that has been medically confirmed that will result in death within six months; form must be signed by the qualified individual and by two witnesses; no liability or sanctions where the health care provider participates in good faith.”

Compassion & Choices says a poll it commissioned in October 2015 found that 75 percent of New York voters support an aid-in-dying law. Earlier this month, opponents of the End of Life Option Act, newly passed in California, failed to gather enough signatures to get a referendum on the ballot in November to overturn it.

The Desmond-Fish Library is located at the corner of routes 9D and 403. For information, visit compassionandchoices.org.

Burns Supper Set for Jan. 30

Pipe Band fundraiser to feature music, haggis, whisky

The Hudson Highlands Pipe Band will host its 10th annual Robert Burns Supper on Jan. 30 at the Roundhouse at



Robert Burns, in whose honor the dinner will be held.

Beacon Falls, after growing out of its previous space. The evening begins at 7 p.m. with a cocktail hour, followed by live music by the TMcCann Band, a full Scottish-inspired dinner including haggis, whisky toasts, pipe-band performances, more whisky toasts, Guinness on tap, speeches and whisky toasts.

Tickets for the fundraiser are \$125 per person, which help defray the cost of outfitting members, hiring instructors and buying equipment. There also will be a raffle for a Highland Basket of Cheer, dancing, singing and general carrying-on.

For ticket information, email info@hhpb.org or order online at hhpb2016burns.bpt.me. The Roundhouse is located at 2 E. Main St.

The Hudson Highlands Pipe Band began in 2005 as the Cold Spring Fire Department Pipes and Drums. Since its inception, the band has played in nearly every local St. Patrick’s Day parade as well as in many area fire department parades, community events and Highland games. The band has marched in the New York City and Albany St. Patrick’s Day parades and performed with The Chieftains numerous times.

If you are interested in learning the pipes or the drums, the band practices at the Our Lady of Loretto school building in Cold Spring at 6 p.m. on Mondays. No experience is necessary, and lessons are free.

Winter Seed Sowing

Gardeners will explain basics

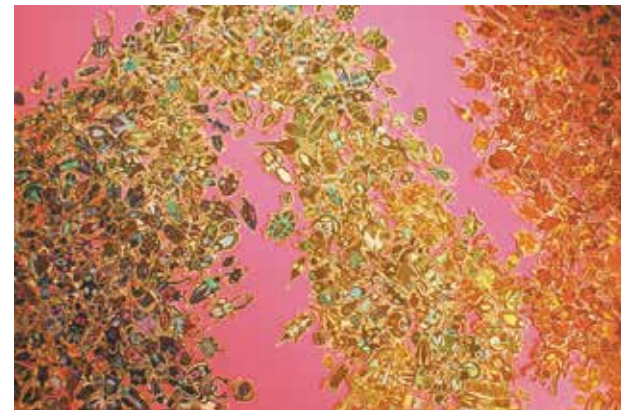
Most native plants that support bees, birds and butterflies are easily grown from seed sown in the winter



A pollinator at work

with no greenhouse or special equipment needed. In a class presented in Brewster on Saturday, Jan. 30, Master Gardeners will share the basics of seed propagation, the importance of native plants and how to harvest and store seeds. They will also demonstrate the winter sowing process.

Each participant will plant a container or two of native seeds to take home. The 90-minute program starts at 10 a.m. at the Cornell Cooperative Extension office, 1 Geneva Road. Register at putnam.cce.cornell.edu/events or call 845-278-6738.



Infestation, 2013, woodblock print by Melissa Schlobohm

Works on Paper Open at Riverside

Garrison Art Center shows begin Jan. 30

The Riverside Galleries at the Garrison Art Center will open installations of works on paper by Melissa Schlobohm and Kenny Harris on Saturday, Jan. 30, with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m.

For *Better Off Together*, by Schlobohm, gallery walls are covered with swarms of block-printed and colored beetles, fireflies, stingrays, bats and more. On another wall, a print of three girls wearing animal masks and gingham and ruffled dresses

is backed by wallpaper made of hundreds of printed skulls. The exhibit “is foremost about my love for animals and my interest in ecology,” Schlobohm explained. “It is about coexistence and the need to be together.”

In the adjacent gallery, Harris presents *A Lineage of Imagination*, also a collection of creatures but mythical ones that were meticulously drawn, cut and reassembled to create an imaginary environment with a highly theatrical presentation. “All of our dreams, hopes, and fears are encapsulated in the narratives we create,” Harris said. “Our myths tell of the mag-

nificent creatures that persist through the diverse imagination of our kind.”

Both artists will give informal talks at the opening; the shows will run through Sunday, Feb. 28. The Riverside Galleries, located at 23 Garrison’s Landing, are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. For more information, visit garrisonartcenter.org or call 845-424-3960.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Time to Register for Kindergarten

Students must be 5 years old by Dec. 31

The Haldane and Garrison school districts have set the dates for registration of incoming kindergarten students for the 2016-17 school year. Students must be five years old on or before Dec. 31, 2016.

Haldane will hold an orientation for parents at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 4 (snow date Feb. 9) in the school's music room. Registration will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 10, and Thursday, Feb. 11, with a snow date of Feb. 12.

Garrison Union Free School will hold registration from 1 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 2 and Wednesday, Feb. 3.

Parents should bring their child's original birth certificate, immunization records and proof of residency (e.g., a signed contract of sale or deed and two utility bills for owners and a notarized affidavit from a landlord, a rent receipt from the past 30 days that indicates the address and two utility bills). The child is not required to attend.

For more information, call Haldane at 845-265-9254, ext. 122, or Garrison School at 845-424-3689, ext. 230 or 221.

Beacon

Grammy Winner to Play Cultural Center

Howland will host guitarist Jason Vieaux on Jan. 31

Jason Vieaux, who won the 2015 Grammy for Best Classical Instrumental Solo for his album *Play*, will perform at the Howland Cultural Center at 4 p.m. on Jan. 31. Besides selections from his album, Vieaux will perform works by Giuliani, Bach, Isaac Albeniz, Brazilian composer Paulo Bellinati, Alberto Ginastera, Pat Metheny, Duke Ellington and Fernando Bustamante.

A native of Buffalo, Vieaux began playing at age 5, when his mother bought him what happened to be a three-quarter size classical guitar. He began taking lessons at age 7 and went on to study at the Cleveland Institute of Music. He became a faculty member at CIM in 1997 and in 2011 co-founded the guitar department at The Curtis Institute of Music.



Vieaux's album, *Play*

In 2012, the Jason Vieaux School of Classical Guitar was launched with ArtistWorks, Inc., allowing one-on-one online study with students around the world.

The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St. in Beacon. A reception will follow the concert. Tickets are \$30 (\$10 for students) and can be reserved by calling 845-765-3012 or visiting howlandmusic.org.

Movies That Matter to Show Climate Doc

First episode of Years of Living Dangerously

As part of its ongoing screenings of documentaries, Movies That Matter Beacon will show the first episode of Showtime's *Years of Living Dangerously* at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 29, at the First Presbyterian Church, at 50 Liberty Street. The series, which won an Emmy for best documentary series and whose co-creator and executive producer David Gelber resides in Garrison, examines the human impacts of climate change.

The free screening is sponsored by the church, the Beacon Peace Awards Foundation, the Beacon Independent Film Festival and the Southern Dutchess NAACP. For information, call 845-838-2415 or visit moviesthatmatterbeacon.org.

Howland Library Launches Tech Tuesdays

Designed for students ages 6 to 9

The Howland Public Library on Feb. 2 will launch a Tuesday afternoon technology program for children ages 6 to 9. The series, which will include six hour-long sessions, will start each week at 4:15 p.m. and continue through March 8. Its projects will help students master simple concepts of coding, robotics and electrical circuitry. A new mobile lab will be used with Ozobot coding-robots and MIT's Scratch Coding app. Students will also tinker with Snap Circuits and littleBits.

The program is free, but registration is required by emailing Ginny Figlia at youth@beaconlibrary.org or calling her at 845-831-1134, ext. 103.

Dutchess Posts Early Court Records

12,000 pages of interest to historians, genealogists

Dutchess County, which last year celebrated the 300th anniversary of the 1715 appointment of its first county clerk, has scanned and posted more than 12,000 pages of early legal documents of interest to historians and genealogists. The Ancient Documents Portal, accessible through a link in the upper left corner of dutchessny.gov/countyclerk and searchable by keyword and name, was a joint project of the county historian and



The manumission of Cornelius Jansen, 1763

county clerk. It contains the oldest surviving manuscripts from the Dutchess County Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions, which began operation in 1721.

"The Ancient Documents Collection provides a unique window into the early history of Dutchess County, showing how African-American, Native American, Dutch, and German residents interacted, and demonstrating that Dutchess County has long been an economic and legal hub for the region," said County Historian William P. Tatum III.

The project was funded by a \$54,850 grant from the New York State Archives. Another \$37,800 has been secured for the next phase of the project this year.

Should Your Business be on Instagram?

Social media specialist at Howland

Brian DiFeo, co-founder of The Mobile Media Lab in Manhattan, which *Adweek* has described as "a marketing agency for Instagram," will discuss promoting a business and gaining customers through the popular social media platform at the Howland Public Library at 6:30 p.m. on

Thursday, Jan. 28. For more information, visit themobilemedialab.com. The library is located at 313 Main St.

Inside Rikers

Former prison mental-health clinician to speak

Beacon Prison Action will host a reading and discussion with Mary Buser, author of *Lockdown at Rikers: Shocking Stories of Abuse and Injustice at New York's Notorious Jail* (St. Martin's Press, 2015) at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 23 at Binnacle Books, at 321 Main St.

Buser, a former clinical social worker at the Rikers Island jail, supervised treatment at its Mental Health Center, a 350-bed facility for the system's most seriously mentally ill inmates. She later worked at the Otis Bantum Correctional Center, which was attached to the 500-cell Punitive Segregation Unit, a.k.a., The Bing. She

has been an outspoken advocate for the incarcerated, especially the mentally ill and those held in solitary confinement. Before working at Rikers, she co-founded the Samaritans of New York suicide prevention hotline.

For information, visit beaconprison-action.org or mary-buser.com.



Mary Buser Photo provided

Register for Beacon Baseball

Open for players ages 4-18

Registration is open for Beacon Junior Baseball at beaconjuniorbaseball.com. Players must be age four to 18 on April 30, 2016. Opening day is April 15. The cost ranges from \$75 to \$175, depending on division. For more information, email president@beaconjuniorbaseball.com.

Visit www.philipstown.info for news updates and latest information.

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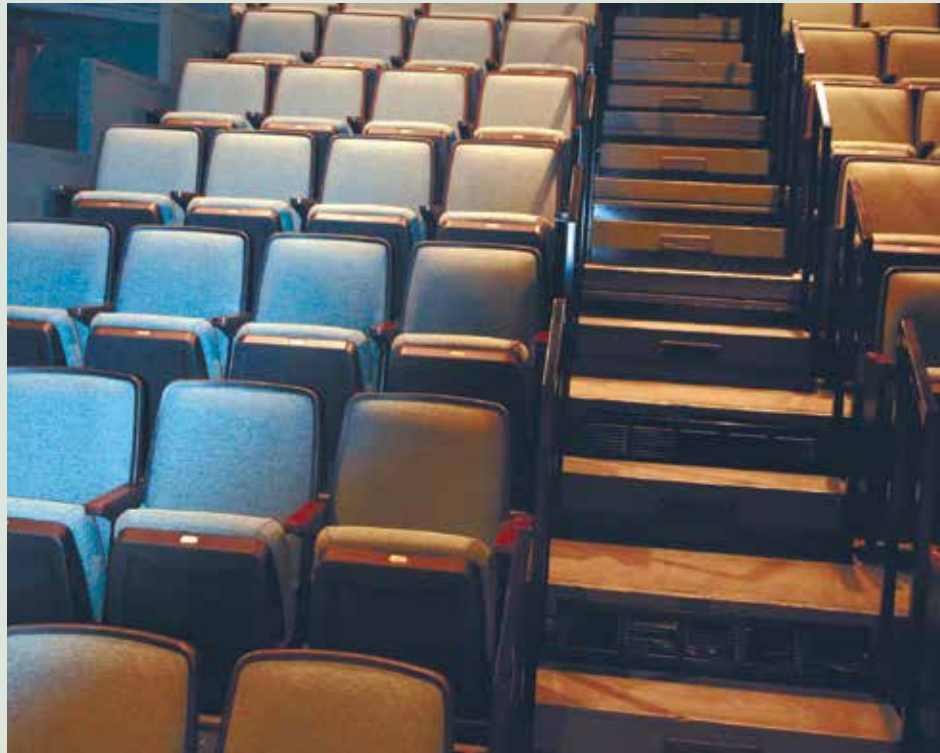
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Sit Back and Relax

The Philipstown Depot Theatre replaced aging seats in its house this week as a major milestone of its *Looking Swell* Campaign, a capital improvement fund designed to improve the audience and participant experience at the theater.



The newly installed, far more comfortable, seating.

Photo by Tyler Mell

New Kiosk Installed at Seeger Park

A new kiosk has been installed along the newly replaced riverside trail at the Pete and Toshi Seeger Riverfront Park in Beacon. The trail update was made possible by a grant from the New York New Jersey Trail Conference and completed by the City of Beacon Department of Public Works.

Photo provided



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CSFARMMARKET.ORG & [FACEBOOK.COM/COLDSRINGFARMERSMARKET](https://www.facebook.com/coldspringfarmersmarket)

Depot Docs: *Indian Point* (from Page 7)

power documentary *Pandora's Promise*, shown last year during Depot Docs.

Rather, according to Meeropol, it's the complex, multi-dimensional story "about one aging and controversial nuclear power plant in the age of Fukushima ... told from both inside and outside the plant, through characters who care deeply about its future." The reference to Fukushima is, of course, to the earthquake/tsunami-generated destruction of Japanese nuclear reactors at Fukushima Daiichi, and the radioactive contamination of communities surrounding the plant.

Meeropol, who grew up surrounded by the intense for-and-against controversies

surrounding the lives and deaths of her grandparents, Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, explored those controversies in her first film, *Heir to an Execution*. With *Indian Point*, she shows once again that she is at home with the politics of intense polarization, and that her own passion is to better understand things that matter. She clearly convinced Entergy corporate and the workers at the plant of her honest intentions, because they allowed her unprecedented access.



Ivy Meeropol

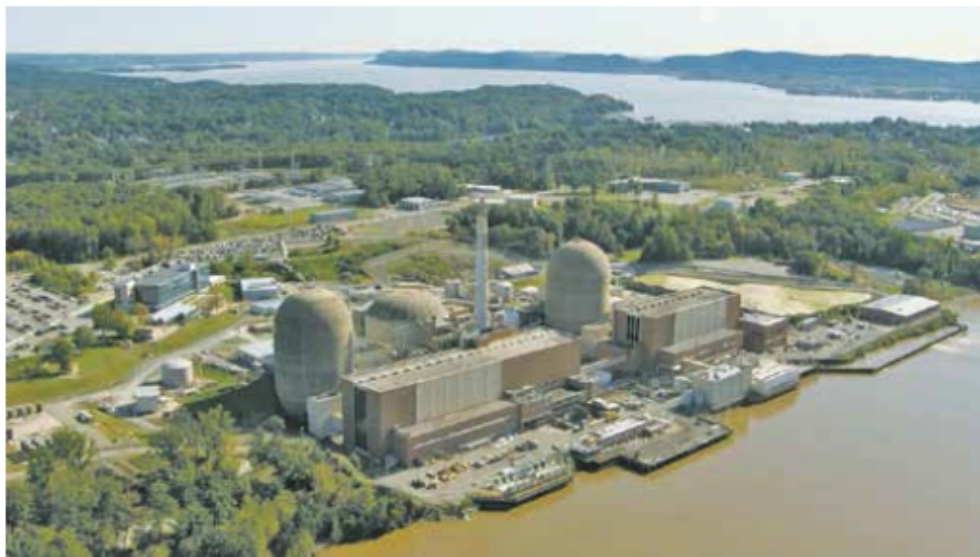
Images courtesy of Motto Pictures

One of the film's featured participants is Brian Vangor, senior control room operator with over 35 years at Indian Point. Among those outside the plant "who care deeply about its future," are Marilyn Elie, long-time Indian Point activist, Roger Witherspoon, environ-

mental journalist, Phillip Musegaas of Riverkeeper, and Gregory Jaczko, former chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. In one of the film's most powerful sequences, Meeropol accompanies Jaczko to Japan when he visits Fukushima.

Of course, even as producer, director, and progenitor-in-chief of *Indian Point*, Meeropol did not work alone. In fact, a great many of the production team are Hudson Valley locals, including cinematographers Rob Featherstone, Dan Gold, and Rudolf Van Dommele; editor Stephen Heffner; supervising editor Toby Shimin; archival researcher Jennifer Stamps; sound recordist Nick Pohlchuk, and production assistants Terry Nelson and Deana Morenoff.

While the show is sold-out, there are occasionally no-shows. To place your name on a waiting list for cancellations, call 845-424-3900.



Looking down at Indian Point — an image from Ivy Meeropol's film.

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Sports

Free Throw Champions Crowned

13-year-old girls' bracket a showdown between twins

Eight boys and girls were named local champions of the 2016 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship and have earned the right to compete at the district level on Feb. 12 at St. Columba School Gym in Hopewell Junction. Loretto Council No. 536 sponsored the

competition on Jan. 14 at the Capuchin Youth and Family Ministries.

Each participant was required to shoot 15 free throws. In the 9-year-old girl's bracket, Finola Kiter and Camilla McDaniell were tied, with each making seven free throws. In the tie-breaker round of five shots, Finola made one to edge out Camilla.

In the 10-year-old bracket, Mairead O'Hara was the top girl with six and Ryan

Eng-Wong won among the boys with 13. In the 11-year-old bracket, Thomas Tucker won with five and Madison Chiera had six. Dillon Kelly won the 12-year-old boys' bracket with nine. Gaetano Cervone was the 13-year-old boys' champion, with four. In the 13-year old girl's bracket, twin sisters Isabela and Olivia Monteleone each made 10 in the first round. In the tie breaker, they each made two of five shots. In the second tie-breaker, each had made their first four shots before Olivia missed. That put the pressure on Isabela, who made her final shot for the win.

All 26 students who participated received a certificate. The local champions will each receive an engraved trophy.



From left: Finola Kiter, Ryan Eng-Wong, Mairead O'Hara, Thomas Tucker, Dillon Kelly, Madison Chiera, Isabela Monteleone (not pictured: Gaetano Cervone)

Photo provided



Kenny McElroy races in the Distance Medley Relay at the 34th Yale Classic in New Haven on Jan. 15. McElroy, Nick Farrell, Brian Haines and Theo Henderson

ran the relay in 11:20.01, breaking the school record by 12 seconds.

Photo by Michael Haines



Haldane's Ali Sharpley competes in the 4 x 800 relay at the Yale Classic in New Haven on Jan. 15. Sharpley and teammates Maura Kane-Seitz, Heather Winnie and Ruby McEwen beat the school record in the event by 16 seconds at 10:43.96.

Photo by Michael Haines

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plus a separate heated artist studio, and sited on 2 acres, is priced to go. Newish eat-in-kitchen, tiled master bath, tile and hardwood floors make for an easy move-in.