



The Paper



Happy Valentine's Day!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2016

161 MAIN ST., COLD SPRING, N.Y. | philipstown.info

Cold Spring Has Three Candidates for Two Seats

Vote also includes decision on election date

By Kevin E. Foley

Three candidates have qualified for the upcoming Cold Spring Village Board election, according to the Putnam County Board of Elections, the agency that will oversee the voting on Tuesday, March 15. The race is for two open seats as incumbents Michael Bowman and Cathryn Fadde did not file for reelection.

Cold Spring's five trustees have staggered two-year terms, necessitating an election every year.

Expected to run as a team are Lynn Miller, co-proprietor of Main Street's Go-Go Pops food store and Steven Voloto, owner of a local general contracting business, SDV Contracting. Miller had previous experience as a village trustee when she was appointed to fill a vacancy for a year by then-Mayor Seth Gallagher in 2009.

Also running is Barney Molloy, the former chairman of the Village Planning Board who oversaw the approval process for the Butterfield development project now under construction on Route 9D in the village. Molloy ran for mayor last year against Dave Merandy, losing by a two-to-one margin. Molloy, also a former member of the Village's Code Update Committee, resigned in protest last year over Merandy's decision to change the consultants working for the committee.

Plenty of issues

Like many local governments in New York, Cold Spring finds its budget squeezed by a state law that keeps a cap on revenue-raising through property taxes. Accordingly, the new trustees will find themselves grappling with difficult issues such as maintaining the current level of services, including the village police force, while costs (for salaries, healthcare and worker's compensation insurance) race ahead of revenues.

Implementing the village's adopted Comprehensive Plan is another challenge involving, among other things, updating the zoning code and finding new sources of revenue such as the use of the boat club site after the environmental cleanup project is over or the possible introduction of paid parking on (Continued on Page 6)



Fall cruises bring thousands of visitors to Cold Spring every year.

File photo by M. Turton

Beacon's Sargent Elementary Undergoing Environmental Tests

Concern after several cancer diagnoses among staff

By Jeff Simms

The New York Department of Health (DOH) is conducting environmental tests at Sargent Elementary School in Beacon, where a number of staff members have recently been diagnosed with cancer.

On Wednesday, Feb. 10, the Beacon City School District sent a letter home — the second in several weeks — to parents and guardians of Sargent students updating them on the situation. Signed by interim Superintendent Ann Marie Quartironi, the letter said that the school system contacted the DOH in December. Although DOH officials did not believe the number of diagnoses was unusual, they began testing water samples from the school last week.

The results of those tests have not come back yet, Quartironi's letter said.

In addition, according to the letter, a representative from the state Department of Labor came to Sargent to investigate a complaint received by the department. That agency has performed air quality tests and is seeking the results of the water testing when they're available.

The five-paragraph letter concluded: "We want all parents, guardians, and staff to know that we are cooperating with all of the agencies involved and we will perform all tests needed for them to reach a conclusion. The health and safety of our students and our staff is our most impor-

tant concern."

Quartironi recapped the same news on Monday, Feb. 8, at the most recent Board of Education meeting.

The school system has not released any further information, such as the number of staff members diagnosed at Sargent, or the type(s) of (Continued on Page 5)

Business Owners React to Tourism Controversy

Question finances, communications and planning

By Michael Turton

Recent allegations regarding the financial and organization practices of the Putnam County Visitors Bureau (PCVB) have prompted an investigation by the New York State Attorney General. *The Paper* spoke with a number of Cold Spring merchants whose Main Street businesses largely depend on tourists. While some praised PCVB and its director, Libby Pataki, to an extent, many expressed concern over the organization's fiscal conduct and questioned how effectively it has promoted tourism in the county.

Pataki has been criticized for creating a second non-profit tourism group, Putnam Tourism Corp (PTC), that requested and was granted 501(c)(3) status by the IRS, allowing it to solicit tax-deductible donations. Alison Anthoine, president of the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, defended that set-up but only to a point. "It makes sense to (Continued on Page 3)

Drug Drop Box in Place



Town Board members are pictured with the new medication return box. From left, Bob Flaherty, John Van Tassel, Mike Leonard, Richard Shea and Nancy Montgomery (See story on Page 4.)

Photo by K.E. Foley

Roots and Shoots

Can You Name That Tree?

Here are some tips on winter identification

By Pamela Doan

I started out asking Matt Decker, who is stewardship coordinator at the Hudson Highlands Land Trust, how to identify trees in winter and ended up with a wider understanding and far more curiosity about how trees interact.

Decker, who studied forestry as part of his Masters of Environmental Management degree at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, said his knowledge came less from the classroom and more from being out in the woods and hiking with people who are passionate about trees. During our interview, his enthusiasm and genuine excitement for how cool trees are was infectious.

Tree identification, what are some things to know about it?

You can take the botanical approach and know the nomenclature and all the names of the specific tree parts and ID those specific parts. The other way is to do it the way you recognize faces. If you

know a tree with the leaves on and pay attention to the bark when the leaves fall off, you're going to know it without [looking at specific parts]. That's the way I do tree ID. That's what I really recommend for people who want to get good at it.

What are some of the things to notice?

The first thing that separates some trees from others is whether the branching pattern is opposite or alternate. If the buds on the twig come off from one side of the branch, then the other, that's called alternate. If the branches come out from the same place, that's called opposite. The leaves do the same thing. Most of the trees we have around here are alternate.

What are some examples of alternates?

All oaks, beech and birch. Maples and dogwoods are opposites. Here's an easy way to remember it. As a general rule of thumb, the trees in our area that are opposite are MAD-Horse (Maple, Ash, Dogwood and Horsechestnut).



The ridged bark of a sugar maple



Rust-colored "ski tracks" on a red oak



Lenticels and color make the paper birch easy to ID.

Photos by P. Doan



Scratch the bark of a black birch and the wintergreen scent is a giveaway.

What about bark as an identifier? If you're looking at a maple, will it always look the same or does it change as the tree grows?

It will be different. We have two major maples here, red and sugar, and barks are different on each of those and, depending on the size of the tree, the bark can be very different, too. In red maples, the bark starts off smooth and gray and by the time it's 100 or more years old, it's shaggy. In between it goes through this interesting metamorphosis of plated bark. It's hard because there can be so much variation in the bark.

If you start with bark, should you then look at the twig pattern?

You have to use all the clues you have available. There are a few tricks. If you see horizontal little slashes, you know you're looking at a birch or a cherry. Those are called lenticels. Another handy trick for black and yellow birch is to scrape off the top bark and sniff the green cambium underneath and sniff it. If it smells like wintergreen, you know you've got yellow or black birch.

Sometimes the bark is a dead give-

away, though. Paper birch has a distinguished white bark. Sycamores have this kind of exfoliating bark that's brown at the bottom and white at the top. There's no other tree around here that looks like that. If you see something that's big and has smooth, gray bark, you know you're looking at a beech tree.

Any other tips or guidance that help with identification?

You can tell the difference between oaks based on the bark. We have four major oaks that are native. Red oak is the most prevalent. The bark has vertical lines like ski tracks that are rust colored. Black oak looks like alligator skin. (Those two trees can hybridize and will show both characteristics.) White oak has a shaggier bark and will rub off. Chestnut oak has thick, corky bark, like a movie version of a dinosaur leg.

What I really love is that sure, you can identify some trees and know their names, but what's more fun is seeing this slow-motion movie that's played out over the years. You can see these sorts of clues and read the landscape. Knowing the tree's strategies and why they're growing in that place is more fun to me.

Seed-Sowing at Stonecrop Gardens



Please join us for our first workshop of the season...

Part 1 - February 20, 9 am-1 pm (Snow date February 21)
Learn the basic principles of seed propagation and seed-sowing techniques to sow a variety of annuals.

Part 2 - March 26, 9 am-1 pm
Learn how to prick out the germinated seedlings into larger rounds to take home and grow in your garden.

Space is limited to 12 participants. Participants must attend both workshops. Registration and pre-payment required. \$50/\$40 for members.

To register, please call (845) 265-2000 or email us at garden@stonecrop.org

your source
for organic,
biodynamic &
natural wines

BEACON, NEW YORK

artisan
wine shop

where food meets its match

180 main street / beacon, ny 12508
845.440.6923 / monday-saturday 10-7 / sunday 12-5
www.artisanwineshop.com

3-Time Winner: Best of Hudson Valley Magazine

Business Owners React to Tourism Controversy *(from Page 1)*

have a separate 501(c)(3) [since] the Visitors Bureau, like the Chamber, cannot give a tax deduction to contributors," she said. "The problem is that [PTC] wasn't maintained according to basic organizational requirements [required by law] — they [its board of directors] didn't have meetings."

Financial concerns

In addition to not holding meetings, Pataki appears to have neglected to inform the county legislature or County Executive MaryEllen Odell that she had created PTC, which paid her \$50,000 a year as its part-time executive director. She also earned \$70,000 from the Visitors Bureau as the county's tourism director.

Craig Muraszewski, co-owner of the Cold Spring General Store, said PCVB's fiscal practices cause him concern. "It's very hard to follow what these people are doing behind the scene," he said, adding, "She [Pataki] was writing checks, but no one was checking. How can there be no oversight?"

Patty Villanova, owner of the Side Effects boutique, said she was disappointed that Pataki, a Garrison resident and wife of former New York Gov. George Pataki, has not been able to use her political clout to generate increased tourism spending. She also questioned Pataki's fiscal and organizational tactics. "When her staff bragged about getting \$61,000 in state funds, the first thing I thought of was how come it's not \$610,000 or \$1 million?" she said, adding that when she realized that Pataki wasn't just "not bringing home the bacon, but was double-dipping ... [it] caused me a great deal of consternation, to put it mildly."

Villanova said that instead of creating a tourism agency funded by tax dollars and with government oversight, checks and balances, "our legislators decided to turn it over to a sketchy non-profit corporation that is not subject to the same scrutiny under the FOIL [Freedom of Information Law] and Open Meetings Law that every other agency is."

Although Go-Go Pops co-owner Lynn Miller said she feels that people may be "making a bigger scandal out of something that in the larger scheme of things isn't a lot of money," she said she is concerned about how PCVB spends its funds. "Openness and transparency is what really needs to be strived for."

Overall, merchants expressed little knowledge of the finances of the organization whose main job it is to promote their businesses. "I don't know where the money goes," said Kismet owner Caryn Cannova. "I don't know how much money is spent, which is a shame. We should know."

Spending levels

Beyond PCVB's fiscal practices, business owners also pointed to inadequate tourism spending as a major concern, especially in light of the fact that a majority of the county's tourist attractions are located in Philipstown — from extremely popular hiking trails and the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival at Boscobel to the historic village of Cold Spring and the Hudson River itself.

"I'll be candid with you," said Anthoine

at the Cold Spring Area Chamber, "I think the lion's share of tourism dollars should come here because this is where the tourists come — there's no tourism on [the east] side of the county to speak of."

At the Cold Spring General Store, Muraszewski agreed. "We are a very large attraction," he said. "There should be a lot of focus on Philipstown. Putnam County Tourism should be focusing on where people are visiting, where the money's being spent, where [tourism] money is being made ... which is here, in Cold Spring."

Villanova was more blunt. "Putnam spends a pittance on tourism, less than \$300,000, including salaries, while our neighbors in Dutchess and Westchester spend millions."

Supportive comments

Though highly critical on some issues, Villanova also has praise for both PCVB and Pataki. "Given the small amount of money they had to work with ... I feel that the Visitor's Bureau has done a good job for Cold Spring in recent years," she said.



Craig Muraszewski



Leonora Burton

Photos by M. Turton

"Libby has been as generous as she could be given the demands placed on her by the eastern side of the county."

She listed marketing, radio advertising and funding for Cold Spring's Christmas lighting as examples of that support. "They were the only agency that provided us with money and tourism services," she said. "People need to know that."

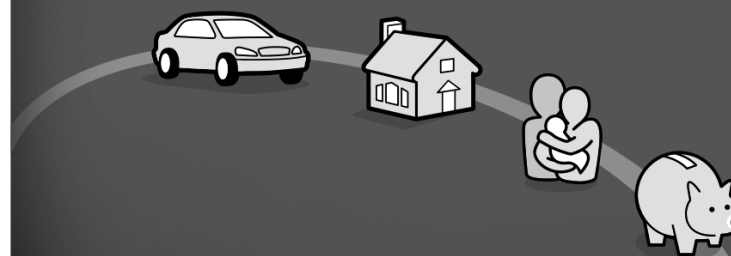


Boscobel is one of many tourist attractions located in Philipstown.

Anthoine also sees positive aspects in the local relationship with PCVB. "We've had a lot of support from the beginning," she said. "I've been working with Libby since the Pedal *(Continued on Page 5)*"

Protect your world

Auto • Home • Life • Retirement



Zachary Diczek
845-791-6800

3182 RT 9
Cold Spring
www.allstate.com/zdiczek



Allstate
You're in good hands.

Auto Home Life Retirement

Insurance subject to terms, qualifications and availability. Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Co., Allstate Fire and Casualty Insurance Co., Allstate Indemnity Co., Allstate Vehicle and Property Insurance Co., Northbrook, IL. Life insurance and annuities issued by Lincoln Benefit Life Company, Lincoln, NE, Allstate Life Insurance Company, Northbrook, IL. In New York, Allstate Life Insurance Company of New York, Hauppauge, NY. Northbrook, IL. © 2010 Allstate Insurance Co.

marbled
MEAT SHOP

Pasture Raised
&
Grass Fed Meats
Farmstead Cheese
Charcuterie
Seasonal Sandwiches
Soups Stews Stocks

3091 Rt 9, Cold Spring, NY 10516
(located in Vera's Marketplace and Garden Center)
(8 4 5) 2 6 5 - 2 8 3 0

The Paper

**NYFA* Winner: 13
Better Newspaper
Contest Awards**

*New York Press Association, 2013 & 2014

PUBLISHER

Philipstown.Info, Inc.

FOUNDER

Gordon Stewart
(1939 - 2014)

MANAGING EDITOR

Kevin E. Foley

ARTS/FEATURE EDITOR

Alison Rooney

SENIOR CORRESPONDENT

Michael Turton

LAYOUT EDITOR

Kate Vikstrom

CALENDAR EDITOR

Chip Rowe

calendar@philipstown.info

REPORTERS

Pamela Doan
Peter Farrell
Brian PJ Cronin
Jeff Simms

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Michele Gedney

For information on advertising:
845-809-5584

Email: ads@philipstown.info

Advertising closing:

Tuesday at noon

Requirements: PDF or jpeg
(minimum 300 dpi)

Review our rate sheet:

philipstown.info/ads

© philipstown.info 2016

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form, mechanical or electronic, without written permission of the publisher. Advertisements designed by *The Paper* are copyrighted and may not be reproduced in whole or in part without permission.

Read what your neighbors
are saying. Visit our

Comments
section online.

For more information visit:

Community Directory
Expanded Calendar
Arts & Leisure

Philipstown.info

Medication Return Box at Town Hall

*Spring will see some
local infrastructure
improvements*

By Kevin E. Foley

The Philipstown Town Board has installed a prescription drug drop-off box in the lobby of the town hall that is intended to encourage residents to remove unused, no longer needed prescription drugs from medicine cabinets and cupboards where they might be temptations for improper use, especially in the case of pain relieving but potentially addictive opiates.

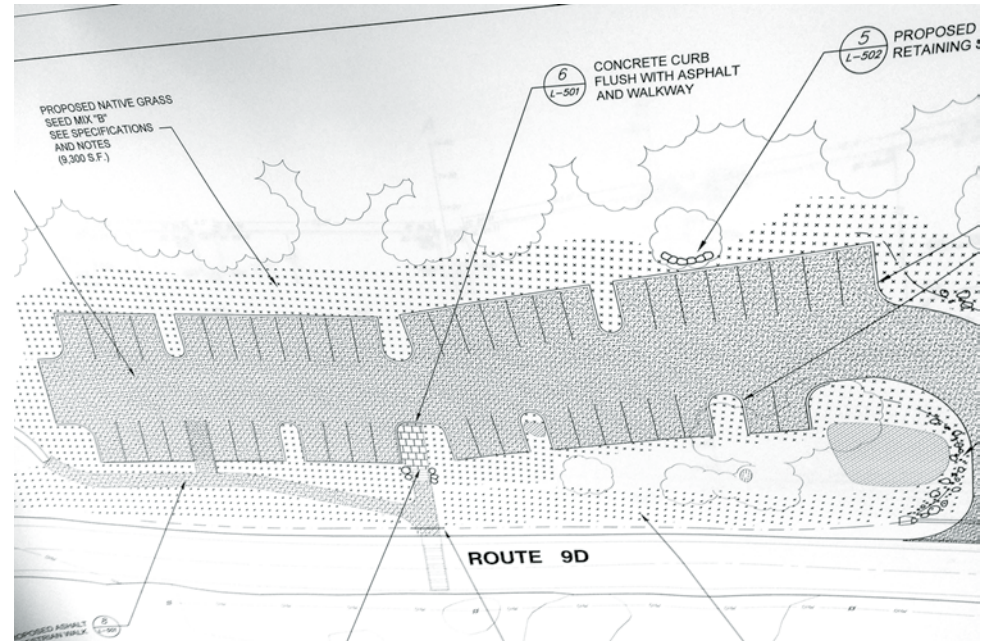
The box is available from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. weekdays, except holidays. Town Hall is located at 238 Main St. in Cold Spring. No registration procedure or even discussion is necessary to make a deposit. A security camera monitors the box. Law enforcement officers from the Drug Enforcement Agency and/or the Putnam County Sheriff will empty the box on a regular basis.

The Town Board and the Cold Spring Village Board have worked with the Philipstown Communities That Cares coalition (CTC) in finding a location for the box, which has proven a bit of a struggle. Early considerations were stalled by contradictory and confusing regulations. Proponents originally thought the box needed constant police supervision, which further research revealed was not the case.

The creation of the box is part of the CTC's effort to raise awareness of the drug crisis and to take steps to curb drug abuse. Keeping prescription drugs out of the hands of young people is considered a key step in discouraging further exploration of addictive pharmaceuticals.

"We encourage everyone to dispose of any medications here, as this is a small but important step in preventing drug abuse and overdoses," said Gina Van Nosedall, coordinator of Philipstown CTC, in a statement.

Van Nosedall credited Nancy Montgomery of the Town Board with doing the research and call-making to law enforce-



A planning drawing illustrates planned parking lot on Route 9D.

Photo by K.E. Foley

ment agencies to determine what was permissible and then making a proposal to her colleagues, which led to locating the box at the town hall.

"It was time to stop speculating and get this critical but complex job done," Montgomery said. "On behalf of the Philipstown Town Council, I want to thank and honor the many Philipstown and Putnam organizations and community members that were united under this Philipstown Communities That Care advocacy banner. Caring together, working together — there is nothing that Philipstown can't achieve for our kids and citizens."

Grants for spring improvements

An application by the Town Board through the state for a federal transportation grant has produced \$100,000 toward building a parking lot on Route 9D just outside of Cold Spring at the entrance to a popular hiking trail. The planned lot sits opposite the entrance of Little Stony Point Park. The site is already a well-used parking place with cars often sitting in chaotic patterns creating confusion and traffic disruption as other cars try to enter and exit the site.

The grant, combined with matching money from the state Department of

Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation, will fund a formal 49-space parking lot with designated entry and exit curb cuts, said Supervisor Richard Shea.

As part of the beginning stages of the planned Fjord Trail project, Scenic Hudson will coordinate the work on the parking lot.

A sidewalk

Another small upgrade that local and visiting hikers will appreciate is a new sidewalk along Fair Street next to Mayor's Park. A sidewalk will make the Fair Street route to the trails a little safer for the pedestrians and drivers alike.

Shea said Assemblywoman Sandy Galef had helped with funding for this work through the state's multi-modal transportation program.

Slow consolidation

Town board members plan to meet with Nelsonville officials to continue discussions of consolidating building departments under the town. They expressed interest in reopening talks with Cold Spring officials for the same purpose.

The state government, with the property tax cap as the main leverage, continues to urge local governments to find ways to share or combine services.

Current Politics

By Kevin E. Foley

- Zepyher Teachout, the Fordham Law School professor whose effective primary campaign against Governor Cuomo last year earned her high praise in progressive circles, has declared her candidacy for Congress in the 19th district, which begins north of Poughkeepsie. This is a significant development locally in the 18th district with Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney exchanging endorsements with Teachout last week. The Teachout blessing bolsters Maloney's cred with the left wing of the party.
- Maloney also sent a strong message to potential opposition campaign contributors with the announcement he had \$2 million on hand for his campaign. Some will make an issue of his donors, but potential big donors for others will take note.
- The several Republicans running against Maloney may find themselves having to choose among the remaining presidential candidates if, as many observers expect, that race continues into the New York April 19 presidential primary. Picking a losing candidate might be held against participants in the June congressional primary.
- Former Democratic State Senator Terry Gipson is gearing up for a run for the seat he lost after one term to Republican State Senator Sue Serino. The district includes Philipstown and Beacon and runs well up into Dutchess County. Serino is from Hyde Park. Gipson is from Rhinebeck. The Republicans hold a narrow majority in the Senate and both political parties consider the district winnable. So we can expect the campaigns will be funded handsomely from within and without the district. If the last race was any indication, it will be a long, hard-fought, at times ugly, encounter.

Business Owners React to Visitors Bureau Issues *(from Page 3)*

Into Spring event in 2013,” an event she described as a success for Cold Spring. “And last summer they contributed \$2,000 to the music series and were our biggest contributor. We and the Merchants Association rely on the Visitors Bureau to support specific initiatives.”

Communications lacking

Merchants agreed that PCVB has dropped the ball when it comes to communications. “I’m baffled as to why there’s been no real connection between the tourism bureau and the merchants,” said Leonora Burton, owner of The Country Goose. “There’s nothing.” At Kismet, Cannova added: “I actually have no idea what [PCVB] does. I have not had anyone come to me and say ... ‘We’re going to promote this; this is where your dollars are going.’ I haven’t spoken to anyone [from PCVB] in years.”

Lynn Miller suggested PCVB needs “better communications and some interest not just in Cold Spring as a whole but the individuals who make up our business sector.” Tourism, she said, would best be served by a “collaboration between business owners, municipalities and the tourism office so that it works well for everybody.”

Improved planning

Members of the business community also identified inadequate planning as an issue. None of the merchants interviewed knew whether PCVB has developed a long-term strategic plan to lure tourists to the area. “There should definitely be a marketing strategy, [especially] if there are two offices that ... promote tourism within Putnam County,” said Muraszewski.



“There has to be planning” at the county level, said Anthoine, “The kind of planning that is months ahead.” She said the Cold Spring Area Chamber is trying to be more strategic, “and to the extent that we can include the county tourism office that would be very helpful,” adding that conversations with PCVB about how to make that happen began last fall.

The merchants who were interviewed listed numerous ideas that they feel should be considered in planning for a more thriving local tourism sector, from working more closely with Metro-North, special promotions at Grand Central Station and increased television advertising to a more dynamic and well-maintained website, inclusion of Philipstown attrac-

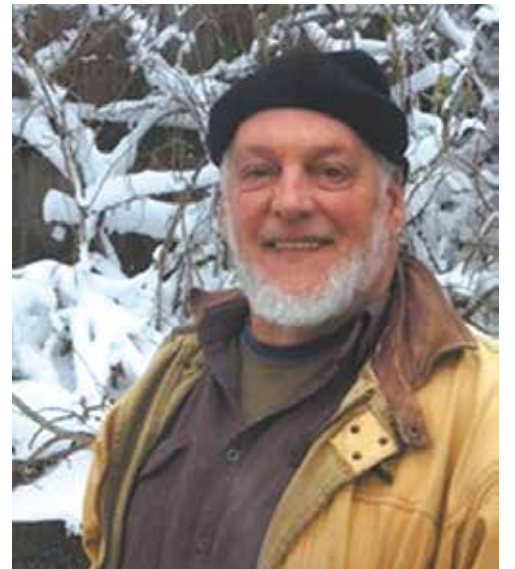


tions in brochures distributed on the New York State Thruway and extensive use of social media, including increased advertising on Facebook.

A call for action

While shop owners had no trouble suggesting positive steps that PCVB could take to promote tourism in Philipstown, at least one former member of the business community called for more drastic action. Dave Cooke, now a resident of Cape Cod, owned two Main Street antique shops for many years and developed the highly successful Cold Spring Antiques Show. He also served as tour director of the Tour de Putnam cycling event and was a board member with PCVB for 16 years.

“I don’t know if there are or were any



From left, Alison Anthoine, Caryn Cannova, (Photos by M. Turton) and Dave Cook (Photo provided)

improprieties concerning the Visitors Bureau and Ms. Pataki,” Cooke wrote in an email to *The Paper*, “but I do have serious doubts and concerns as to her ability to promote tourism.” Prime examples, he said, are “the dysfunctional tourism website and Ms. Pataki’s inability to promote the county or an event.” He also cited “two disastrous bicycle races that cost many thousands of dollars to put on” as further examples of mismanagement.

“What needs to happen going forward is get rid of everyone in the current tourism office, interview and hire competent people who have knowledge of tourism, who know how to promote the county and, for sure, have experience, especially for the kind of money involved,” Cooke wrote.

Beacon’s Sargent Elementary Undergoing Environmental Tests *(from Page 1)*

cancer involved.

Sargent is one of four elementary schools in the Beacon City District and has 356 students, according to the state Department of Education.

Beacon resident Lori Merhige, who has one child at Sargent, said Wednesday she believes Quartironi is doing the best she can to keep the public informed in a uniquely challenging situation.

“I realize it’s really difficult for them,” Merhige said. “I think the district is trying to communicate as much as it can within its limitations because they can’t disclose personal information about employees.”

Alison Spodek does not have children at Sargent, but as a Vassar College assistant professor of chemistry (with a specialty in environmental chemistry), the Beacon resident offered another perspective, noting that “just because we see a number of cas-

es doesn’t mean they’re necessarily caused by a common threat. Cancer is pretty common, unfortunately, and you expect to see some average number of cases in a community over a particular time period.”

An “average” number of cancer diagnoses — or anything else — is ultimately just a number, she said, and not necessarily indicative of any underlying cause. “An average is obtained by some communities having fewer than the average and some having more, for no particular reason,” Spodek said. “There can be a pretty wide range in the number of cases that would be considered ‘normal,’ without any particular environmental cause.

“This isn’t to say that this situation should be ignored,” she said. “It’s always worth looking into any situation where people are ill, but a number of cases is not, on its own, a reason for panic.”

Spaghetti Fundraiser for Beacon School

South Avenue Elementary School in Beacon is holding a spaghetti dinner fundraiser that’s open to the public on Saturday, Feb. 20 at the Beacon Elks Club at 900 Wolcott Ave. The dinner is being held to raise funds to purchase playground equipment and will include a silent auction, bake sale, fun photos, Hudson Valley Seed student cooking demo, Zero to Go waste management and more. There will be two seatings, first from 5 - 6:30 p.m. and a second from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door, or for presale tickets contact Southavenuepta@yahoo.com or 860-970-6900. Entry is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for kids, with children under 3 admitted free.



PROPANE ~ THE EXCEPTIONAL ENERGY:

- Versatile
- Economical
- Efficient
- Dependable
- Clean
- Safe

DOWNEY ENERGY

Oilheat • Propane • Diesel

P.O. Box 306, Cold Spring, NY 10516 • Phone: (845) 265-3663 • Fax: (845) 265-4024
www.downeyoilny.com



GreenerCPA.com

Individual and Family Office Services

- Bill Paying
- Bookkeeping
- Taxes
- Investment Counseling
- Estate Planning

845.424.4470 x2
John@GreenerCPA.com

Cold Spring Has Three Candidates for Two Seats *(from Page 1)*

Main and other streets.

Funding capital projects such as repairing village dams and upgrading the water treatment plant are also on the agenda.

The candidates will all be offered an opportunity to be interviewed in *The Paper* and are invited to participate in our election forum. Look for an announcement soon.

Also on the ballot

Cold Spring voters will also decide on whether to move local elections from the traditional mid-March date to the national Election Day in November. If approved, the change would take place in 2018.

Nelsonville

Thomas Robertson, who lost last year in a runoff with Danielle Pack McCarthy, is the only candidate who filed with the Nelsonville Village Hall for that village's election. There is one seat open; incumbent Will Duncan is not running again. Nelsonville conducts its own elections.



Lynn Miller

File photo



Barney Molloy

File photo



Steven Voloto

Photo by K.E. Foley

Boat Club Discussions Continue

March workshop will address several issues

By Michael Turton

A recent meeting between members of the Cold Spring Boat Club and two members of the Cold Spring Village Board caused a brief but edgy exchange at the board's meeting on Feb. 2.

After indicating she only learned of the meeting attended by Mayor Dave Merandy and Trustee Fran Murphy after the fact, a displeased Trustee Cathryn Fadde asked the two, "Do you care to share the details?"

Murphy said the boat club requested the meeting and that only two board members attended in order to meet the requirements of New York State's Open Meetings Law. Advance public notice is required for meetings involving a quorum of the five-member board.

A number of meetings involving two village board members and boat club leadership have been held in recent years as part of the ongoing discussion of the club's use of the riverfront property.

The club's building was razed last fall as part of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's remediation of subsurface deposits of toxic coal on the property. Removal of the coal tar is ongoing. As part of that project, a large tent was recently erected onsite to contain potential airborne toxins emitted during excavation.

The property is owned by the village and leased to the boat club, with the current agreement set to expire in 2024. Established in 1955, the club pays neither rent nor taxes to the village. In contrast, the Hudson House has paid the village approximately \$8,000 a year for use of a parking lot on the property. The 2012 Comprehensive Plan calls for finding ways for the site to generate more revenue for the village.

At the recent meeting involving Merandy and Murphy, the possibility of the boat club paying \$20,000 in annual rent was mentioned, although Merandy downplayed the exact amount, describing it as "a number that was thrown out there." The figure, he said, was based on the club indicating that as many as 1,000 boats dock there each year. Merandy also said that he told the boat club representatives that the village is looking to increase its revenue sources.

The club has said in the past that it wants to extend the term of the lease to aid possible long-term financing of a new building. Merandy said that the boat club is a 501-C-7 non-profit, a category that does not permit it to collect funds from non-members, a factor that could affect its ability to fundraise. Summing up the meeting, Merandy said, "We ended up right where we started last year," adding, "We'll have to have an open meeting with them."

The boat club will be invited to attend

a village board workshop on March 1 to discuss a number of issues related to the club's future.


In other business on Feb. 2 ...

- Trustees approved the wording for the March 15 referendum that will ask voters, "Beginning in 2018, should the village change the days of its election from the third Tuesday in March to coincide with the regular general elections held on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November?"
- Approval was given for the purchase of cellular water meters at a cost of \$180,000. Installation will cost an estimated \$160,000 and will be put out to bid.
- The board accepted an arrangement with a resident who will pay \$4,000 immediately then make monthly payments of \$300 to pay off a water bill that is more than \$7,000 in arrears.

In other business on Feb. 9 ...

- A public hearing on the installation of a pay station at the municipal parking lot on Fair St. will be held as part of the Feb. 23 meeting of the village board.
- Trustees approved adding \$345,000 to the village BAN (Bond Anticipation Note) to cover the cost of purchasing and installing cellular water meters throughout the water system serving Cold Spring and Nelsonville.
- Superintendent of Water and Wastewater Greg Phillips reported that as a result of recent upgrades at the wastewater treatment plant, the electrical bill for January dropped from \$6000 to \$2000, and that such savings will continue due to the improved electrical service at the plant. He also said that village reservoirs are back to 100 percent capacity. The increase in water levels is due in large part to minimal snowfall to date, with most precipitation coming in the form of rain.

From Blocks to Astrobiology



Poughkeepsie Day School

A pre-K through grade 12 curriculum
valuing curiosity, collaboration & creativity

How can PDS open doors for your child?

Attend a monthly Open House!
Ask about our transportation option.

poughkeepsieday.org 845.462.7600 x201

The Calendar

Light on their Feet

Beacon retailer marks 10 years serving dancers

By Alison Rooney

Most “what you should never do” lists for starting a business include: (1) don’t plunge ahead without doing a great deal of research and planning, and (2) don’t become business partners with a casual friend.

Those recipes for disaster have instead become ones for success for Sharon Burns and Christine Lawrence, co-owners of Beacon’s specialty shop, Dance Bag, which has held its own for 10 years in the face of larger dance merchandise stores like Capezio.

Occupying the northwest corner of Chestnut and Main, the store draws students from Pine Bush to Peekskill and from across the Hudson. Its owners have kept costs down by splitting the work week, allowing each to spend more time with their children when they were small. In the long term, they have not had to hire additional staff. Some customers, used to coming to the store on a particular day of the week, perhaps in tandem with taking a dance class, have never met one or the other despite shopping there for many years.

The store began after a fifth-grade friendship between their daughters. “They were 10 years old, and went to a lot of dance competitions together,” explained

Lawrence, who was raised in Rochester and moved to Beacon in 1996. “We noticed there were a lot of vendors there. We had never seen that kind of fun stuff at the local stores around then; it was all just black leotards. We thought it would be great to have a place like that in Beacon.”

Dance Bag opened only three months later, on “sort of a whim,” according to Burns, who grew up in Westchester and moved to Beacon in 1988 as a newlywed. Despite having no retail management experience, the women jumped in. Fortunately both had bookkeeping experience.

There was a learning curve. “Inventory was a big problem in the beginning,” says Burns. “There were some companies which wouldn’t ship to us because there were other businesses in the area and there were rules.” Bloch and Capezio said they would, however, so they placed their first orders there. “But we didn’t order enough and we wound up with, like, one of each size,” Burns recalls. “By September, when it gets really busy, we had a problem: every day people would come and buy our one thing of each that we had!”

At the same time, they didn’t have to compete on price with the larger dance stores, thanks to the institution of minimum pricing on certain popular products (including pointe shoes) dictated by dancewear manufacturers specifically to keep small places afloat. No stores are allowed to sell items below a certain percentage-based price point,



Pointe shoes and ballet slippers, along with tap, character and other dance shoes, line the walls at Dance Bag.

which was a set amount below retail. With those restrictions in place, Dance Bag has been able to focus on the upsides of running an independent, community business, including service, which extends to shoe sizing (some stores charge for this service if you don’t purchase shoes) and keeping track of sizes for return customers who have forgotten what fit. As a result, “we have a lot of customers who will only shop here,” Lawrence says.

Even though a quick scan of the premises reveals a lot of pink, the bestselling color is still the traditional black. What of the frequent scenario where the child picks out the most expensive shoes and the parent begs to differ? “We try to have a spectrum of prices from economical to high-end, and plenty in between,” Lawrence says, “We have situations where some moms want shoes two sizes too big ‘to grow into.’ We have to explain that it’s not like Nikes, it can affect things like ankles.” Early on, both owners received training in the complex variations of pointe shoe fitting;

(Continued on Page 10)



Nathanael Shelley

Photo provided

Moving Through Muslim Worlds

Reading group will examine culture and faith

By Alison Rooney

“I think awareness — of both the similarities and differences between cultures — is essential if we genuinely want to cooperate and coexist.” So says Nathanael Shelley, a cultural historian of the Near East and Antiquity at Columbia University, in reference to Muslim Journeys, a reading and discussion group he will lead at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison.

The free six-part series, which begins with an introductory session at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 18 and continues through April 14, is funded by a grant from the private, nonprofit New York Council for the Humanities (NYCH).

Shelley, a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute for Culture, Religion, and Public Life at Columbia, specializes in identity concepts and perceptions of social difference in history, including ideas of ethnicity, race, and alterity (the state of being other or different).

His work at Columbia primarily concerns a project called Shared Sacred Sites that “looks at places in the world where different faith communities have managed to share collaboratively or coincidentally sanctuaries and sites without hostility or violence,” he explained. “It’s especially important in America’s current political environment to look at and discuss situations where difference does not automatically lead to conflict and misunderstanding. (Continued on Page 9)



Dance Bag owners Sharon Burns and Christine Lawrence

Photos by A. Rooney

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Great Backyard Bird Count
birdcount.org | Through Sunday

Parents Night Out (grades K-5)
5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Haldane School
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org
Sponsored by the Senior Class

Chocolate, Chocolate Everywhere! for Teens
6:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Chasing Ghosts: Beyond the Arcade (Documentary, 2007) with Q&A
7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-418-3992 | beaconindiefilmfest.org

The Vagina Monologues
7:30 p.m. The Catalyst Gallery
137 Main St., Beacon
845-204-3844 | catalystgallery.com

August: Osage County
8 p.m. County Players | 2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls | 845-298-1491 | countyplayers.org

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Cabin Fever Workshops
10 a.m. Simply Elegant Jewelry
10 a.m. Valentine's Soy Candle Making
Garrison Art Center | 23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Sea + Space (ages 7-9)
10:30 a.m. Howland Public Library | 313 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Take Your Child to the Library Day Party and Craft Hour
11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

George Washington's Birthday Celebration
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Washington's Headquarters
84 Liberty St., Newburgh | 845-562-1195
nysparks.com | Continues Sunday and Monday

Beacon Lions Club Info Meeting
1 – 3:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon | beaconnny.lionwap.org

Nature in Watercolor for Kids (ages 5+)
1 p.m. Stony Kill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
845-831-1617 | stonykill.org

How to Sing Harmony in a Rock 'n Roll Band
2 p.m. Beacon Music Factory
629 Route 52, Beacon
845-765-0472 | beaconmusicfactory.com

Calendar Highlights

For upcoming events visit philipstown.info.

Send event listings to calendar@philipstown.info.

Matilde Guidelli-Guidi on Blinky Palermo
2 p.m. Dia:Beacon | 3 Beekman St., Beacon
845-440-0100 | diabeacon.org

George Washington: Tales in the Hudson Highlands
5 p.m. Putnam History Museum
63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-4010 | putnamhistorymuseum.org

Anne of Green Gables (Full-Cast Reading)
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

August: Osage County
8 p.m. County Players | See details under Friday.

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

BEACON SECOND SATURDAY

Beacon Photography Group: Conflicts/Resolutions
5 – 7 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon

Betsy Jacaruso: Aqua Essence
5 – 8 p.m. Riverwinds Gallery
172 Main St., Beacon
845-838-2880 | riverwindsgallery.com

Beacon's End (Matteawan) Photo Exhibit
6 – 9 p.m. Beacon Bath & Bubble | 485 Main St., Beacon | Presented by Beacon Historical Society

Group Show: (In)Action Figures
6 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery
163 Main St., Beacon | 212-255-2505
shop.cluttermagazine.com/gallery

Marieken Cochius: Invisible Nature
6 – 9 p.m. Matteawan Gallery | 436 Main St., Beacon | 845-440-7901 | matteawan.com

Michal X. Rose: Global Warning
6 – 9 p.m. bau Gallery | 506 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7584 | baugallery.com

Artist Talk with Mark Peterson
6:30 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass
162 Main St., Beacon
845-440-0068 | foveaeditons.org

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Friends of the Library Annual Meeting
10 a.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Valentine's Day Love Flow
1 p.m. SkyBaby Yoga
75 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-4444 | skybabyyoga.com

August: Osage County
2 p.m. County Players | See details under Friday.

Valentine's Day Concert
2 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org

Piano Festival: Blair McMillen
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-765-3012 | howlandmusic.org

National Theatre Live: Jane Eyre
6:15 p.m. Downing Film Center
19 Front St., Newburgh
845-561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.com

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

16mm Film Screenings with John Frouts
8 p.m. Dogwood | 47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Presidents' Day

Desmond-Fish and Howland libraries closed

Government offices closed

Winter Break Workshop (grades pre-K to 8)
10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

National Theatre Live: Jane Eyre
1:30 p.m. Downing Film Center
See details under Sunday.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Winter Break Workshop (grades pre-K to 8)
10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Garrison Art Center
See details under Monday.

New Moms & Infants Group
11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
Email whiteside.ks@gmail.com

Get to Know Your eReader Workshop
6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Nelsonville Village Board
7:30 p.m. Village Hall
258 Main St., Nelsonville
845-265-2500 | villageofnelsonville.org

Frank Zappa Movie Night
9 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St., Beacon
845-831-8065 | quinnnsbeacon.com

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Senior Bus Trip to Fishkill
10 a.m. Chestnut Ridge, Cold Spring
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Winter Wildlife Survival
1 p.m. Fort Montgomery Historic Site
690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery
845-446-2134 | nysparks.com

Oriente Lopez Quintet (Cuban Jazz)
7 p.m. Mahopac High School
421 Baldwin Place Road, Mahopac
putnamartscouncil.com

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Haldane PTA
3:30 p.m. Haldane School (Library)
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldanepta.org

Constitution Marsh: Jewel on the Hudson
6 p.m. Scenic Hudson River Center
8 Long Dock Park, Beacon
845-473-4440 x273 | scenichudson.org

Chris Merwin on Japanese Shakuhachi Flute
6:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Muslim Journeys Reading and Discussion Group (Intro)
6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Go-to Meals Cooking Workshop
7 p.m. Desmond-Fish | See above.

Interfaith Exploration of Psalms
7 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
50 Liberty St., Beacon
845-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

Working Toward a New Human Ecology in the Hudson Valley

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Card Games/Dungeons & Dragons Club
3 – 5 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Fellowship Dinner
6 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

Minecraft Mania (grades 3+)
6 – 8 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

International Film Night: Beyond Silence (Germany, 1996)
7 p.m. Howland Public Library | See above.

August: Osage County

8 p.m. County Players | See details on Feb. 12.

Open-Mic Night
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center | 477 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org
Sign-up begins at 7:30 p.m.

ONGOING

Art & Design | philipstown.info/galleries

Religious Services | philipstown.info/services

Support Groups | philipstown.info/sg



172 Main Street Beacon
Open Wed - Mon 12-6: 2nd Sat 12-9
www.riverwindsgallery.com
845-838-2880



TIMELESS LIGHT
WATERCOLORS BY BETSY JACARUSO
FEB 13 - MARCH 9
ARTIST'S RECEPTION: FEB 13, 5-8 PM





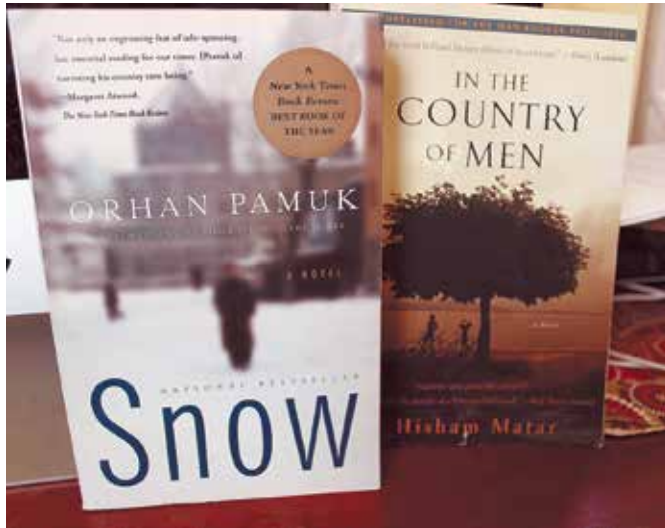
Moving Through Muslim Worlds *(from Page 7)*

Working with non-scholars is just as important as working with experts in this regard, and an interested public is a rare opportunity that I don't want to miss."

Each week, participants will read an assigned book that explores personal and political transformations in the Muslim world. The titles are *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi, *In the Country of Men* by Hisham Matar, *Minaret* by Leila Aboulela, *Snow* by Orhan Pamuk, *Broken Verses: A Novel* by Kamila Shamsie and *House of Stone: A Memoir* by Anthony Shadid.

Shelley chose the titles from a list compiled by the NYCH. "I am most interested in the way the personal struggles or journeys change an individual's perception of themselves as well as of culture or the world in which they live," he said. "These books aren't about Islam, but they are about individuals who move through Muslim worlds."

Desmond-Fish Library Director Jen McCreery said she was drawn to the topic from many offered by the Council because "I've been looking for good sources of information about Islam and Muslim culture to share with our patrons and hopefully address some of their questions and fears in the wake of recent attacks



Two of the books featured in the Muslim Journeys series

Photo by A. Rooney

associated with ISIS and violent extremism and concerns about the upswing in anti-Muslim rhetoric that's followed." She added: "We have a few books in our collection about the Islamic faith, art and architecture, but the works we chose for this discussion group all tell personal stories which allow readers to explore the Muslim world from a variety of perspectives and to empathize with our shared human experiences."

The only vaguely similar group the library has offered in recent years was the Great Decisions group sponsored by the Friends of Desmond-Fish in which participants read and discussed articles

on current affairs. Aside from having a scholar as facilitator, this series takes a different approach. In each of the NYCH's programs,

participants read a series of thematically linked but varied texts, which can include novels, poems, speeches and essays; works of history, philosophy, religion, and criticism. Each series is organized around a significant humanities theme or important historical commemoration. "With its thematic focus, this reading and discussion program offers an unusual twist on the standard book group format by making time for thinking deeply about one idea, over time, from a variety of perspectives," explained Sara Ogger, executive director of the NYCH.

McCreery found Shelley (the NYCH does not supply the facilitator) after discussing

the need for a program like this with library patrons Sheilah and Bert Rechtschaffer, who referred her to their daughter, who works in the Middle Eastern, South Asian and

African Studies Department at Columbia. She put McCreery in touch with Shelley, who received his PhD in September 2015 and has taught various courses in Islamic Civilization as a teaching assistant. "Enrollment in those classes has

increased steadily every year, so the response to the Muslim Journeys program [quite a few people have already signed up] is not surprising," he said. "I'm always thrilled to have an opportunity to work with interested readers, so it should be fun."

Registration for the series is required; call the library at 845-424-3020. Copies of the books, which were gathered from the NYCH and other Mid-Hudson libraries, will be available at the front desk starting Feb. 18 and must be returned at the conclusion of the program.



SkyBaby Studio
Yoga and Pilates
75 Main Street, Cold Spring NY 10516
845-265-4444
skybabyyoga@gmail.com
www.skybabyyoga.com



New student special:
\$50 for 1-month unlimited yoga

Hudson Beach Glass

fovea
exhibitions

Artist Talk and Reception: Second Saturday, Feb. 13 at 6:30pm



POLITICAL THEATRE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MARK PETERSON

A provocative look at the political candidates in the 2016 presidential race.
On view through March 6th.



REDUX PICTURES

With kind support from Hudson Beach Glass and Beacon Fine Art Printing
fovea is a 501(c)3 educational charity. Please support fovea, donate at www.foveaexhibitions.org

162 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508 845 440-0068
Open daily 10am - 6pm, Sunday 11am - 6pm
www.hudsonbeachglass.com

PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE

Philipstown Depot
Theatre presents:

Play Reading: *Anne of Green Gables*

directed by Nancy Swann
February 13, 7:30 p.m.

I of the Storm

Performed by Richard Hoehler
"Catch it before it opens Off-Broadway!"
February 20, 8 p.m.

Classical Music: Jaiyan Sun, solo piano concert

Award-winning Juillard pianist performs
Froberger, Schubert, Busoni & Liszt
February 26, 7:30 p.m.

Classical Music: Neal Goren's *A Night at the Opera*

Next generation's opera stars sing
Gounod, Boito, Stravinsky and Schubert
February 27, 7:30 p.m.

Small Town Confessions

a new play by Phil Geoffrey Bond, directed by Donald Kimmel
March 4 & 5, 8 p.m.

Music Tracks: Maia Sharp!

March 20, 7 p.m.

Tickets at brownpapertickets.com

845.838.3006 • philipstowndepottheatre.org
Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station.)

Light on their Feet (from Page 7)

in the meantime, they have been self-taught.

Having been open for 10 years, the Dance Bag owners have watched their customers grow up. “We’ve seen girls go from elementary to college age,” Lawrence says. “We’ve seen them learning to drive, then arriving without their moms and with their own credit cards. We see them through the awkward years, with the braces, and then they turn into beauties. And yes, they do see some boys too, more since the popularity of shows like *Dancing with the Stars* and *So You Think You Can Dance*. Most who come in here want to be dancing, they’re not dragged in. And they’re doing things like jazz and hip-hop.”

Burns adds: “We know when there’s been a new class added at one of the studios we work with.” She and Lawrence also visit Newburgh’s Bishop Dunn Middle School each year during school musical time to fit and take orders for all the shoes.

Not much of Dance Bag’s clientele is tourist-driven, although “every now and then city people get excited when they see us and come in during the weekend,” Lawrence says. “We market to the dance studios, and if there’s something they or an individual wants us to carry, we’ll find it.” They also sell gift cards (“sometimes grandparents in other states call us up to order them”), offer birthday and tights club (buy 10 and get one free), maintain a large email list and hold regular sales.

Dance Bag is located at 314 Main St., in Beacon. For more information, visit dancebagny.com or call 845-831-5813.



A wall of dance bags

NY Alert

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



Pink curtains open to racks of dance skirts and other merchandise.

Photos by A. Rooney

845-809-5174

HIGHLAND • PRINTMAKERS

COLD SPRING • NEW YORK

FINE ART PRINTING
SERVING COLD SPRING
BEACON
NYC & BEYOND
since 1997

ARCHIVAL GICLEE
PRINT ANY SIZE ART
from 4" to 64" wide printing
PAPERS & CANVAS

SCAN ANY SIZE ART

UPLOAD PHOTOS & ARTWORK &
Order Prints Online
NEW ONLINE PRICING!

MOUNTING & FRAMING

THEHIGHLANDSTUDIO.COM

UPDATED **Expanded**

LAMENT OF AN EXPAT

HOW I DISCOVERED AMERICA AND TRIED TO MEND IT.

Available at The Country Goose, 115 Main St. • \$10

LEONORA BURTON

“Juicy tidbits!” “Marmite War!”
“Scandalous information!” “Bottom of the barrel!”

DOWNING
film center
19 Front St., Newburgh, NY
845-561-3686
www.downingfilmcenter.com

Now Showing
45 Years (R)
With Charlotte Rampling & Tom Courtenay
FRI 7:30, SAT 2:30 5:00 7:30
SUN 1:15 3:45, TUE & WED 7:30
THU 2:00 7:30

National Theatre Live Presents
Jane Eyre (NR)
SUN 6:15, MON 1:30

MONROE CINEMA
at TMACC
34 Millpond Parkway
Monroe, NY 10950 • 845.395.9055

Kung Fu Panda (PG)
FRI & SAT 2:15 4:45 7:15
SUN 1:00 3:30 6:00
MON & TUES 1:45 4:00 7:00
WED & THU 7:00

Zoolander 2 (PG13)
FRI & SAT 2:45 5:15 7:45
SUN 1:15 3:45 6:15
MON & TUE 2:00 4:30 7:15
WED & THU 7:15

How To Be Single (R)
FRI & SAT 3:00 5:45 8:30
SUN 1:30 4:15 7:00
MON & TUE 1:30 4:15 7:30
WED & THU 7:30

Menopause and Related Health Issues Subject of Community Talk

Well-attended presentation by pelvic floor specialist at Garrison Café

By Alison Rooney

Menopause, and all that can happen during and post may be a marginalized topic, full of “difficult to talk about” physical and hormonal changes, but the roomful of women in their 40s and 50s gathered around a communal table at the Garrison Café last Thursday evening (Feb. 4) to listen to a “community talk” given by NewYork-Presbyterian/Hudson Valley Hospital’s Karen Michella, were anything but reticent in raising questions relating to issues brought up in the presentation, which was titled “Menopause and its Effects on Your Body” — or, as she more irreverently referred to it, “What happens below the belt?”

The evening was co-hosted by the Garrison Café and Alison Anthoine, representing the Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce, and was also attended by Carolyn Padial, PT, director of physical medicine and rehabilitation at the hospital, along with Cold Spring’s Patti Pelican, the hospital’s community outreach coordinator.

Michella, a senior physical therapist specializing in the pelvic floor, who holds certification in orthopedic manual therapy, came to her profession after having children, wanting to work in a field where she would “see a progression.” As a pelvic floor specialist, she generally sees patients who have been referred by other physicians; these can range from urologists to general practitioners, and part of her job, Michella says, is to spread the word to physicians that she and her peers have a specialized knowledge. At her hospital practice, the patients she sees (women and men) are largely dealing with pelvic pain of some kind and/or incontinence.

Working in tandem with a handout, Michella first defined where and what the pelvic floor is, along with its function. That area of the body, replete with its layers of muscle, fascia, ligaments and connective tissue, provides stability and support for parts of the body one might not think of, including the hips and spine. Often, an issue arising elsewhere is actually solvable by examining and working with the pelvic floor. A functional pelvic floor is one in which the muscles there can voluntarily and involuntarily contract and relax. Overactive pelvic floor muscles, which contract rather than relax, can lead to issues of elimination of waste, while their underactive counterpart can produce incontinence or pelvic organ (the bladder, uterus or rectum) collapse; both can contribute to back pain.

Continuing on to menopause, the time in life when menstrual periods stop per-



Karen Michella speaks to a group of women gathered at Garrison Café, with café proprietor Lydia McMahon listening in.

Photo by Patti Pelican

manently, which typically occurs between 45 and 55 years of age, Michella first discussed the many occasions when “typically” doesn’t apply, and basically said that there isn’t necessarily a typical scenario, and that many women stress that what they are going through is abnormal, when it is actually just a less common variant on natural processes. For example, some women experience erratic periods for years, but no hot flashes, while others cease menstruating all at once, but might continue to get night sweats. Listing the many potential symptoms of menopause, most of which were likely familiar yet not necessarily experienced by the women at the table, Michella continued on, defining pelvic pain and female pelvic pain conditions. This is a more common occurrence than might be perceived: according to the National Institute of Health, she said, 15 percent of all U.S. women report a history of pelvic pain lasting three months or more, according to Michella, who noted that “in the U.S. estimated direct medical costs for outpatient visits from chronic pelvic pain is approximately \$881 million per year.”

Going into more detail, Michella discussed the prevalence of urinary incontinence in men and women, the various types of it, interrupting the serious topic with a joke, asking “Anyone who has to get up to go to the bathroom should — it’s been 20 minutes” and getting a roomful of familiar chuckles in response. Returning to a more obscure topic for most, she discussed pelvic organ prolapse, for which about 200,000 inpatient procedures (testing and surgeries) are performed annually in the U.S. Prolapse, which has different “degree” levels, some requiring surgery, others not, sometimes comes as a sur-

prise to women, who are not even aware that they have the condition until a doctor spots it. Even when a doctor becomes aware of it, that doctor isn’t always the best person to figure out what course to take. That’s where pelvic floor physical therapy specialists come in. Working from

referrals (usually covered by insurance companies in much the same manner as standard physical therapy referrals) relating to pelvic pain, prolapse and incontinence issues, they very much do hands-on diagnoses and monitoring, measuring muscle mobility and strength, with palpation for pain.

Treatment can range from internal and external soft tissue release; neuromuscular redirection and education in exercises, such as the “Kegels” familiar to any woman who has gone through a pregnancy, designed to strengthen the pelvic floor. Noting that 50 percent of all people (men can do them too) do Kegels incorrectly, Michella, after describing how to find one’s pelvic floor muscles (you had to be there ...) then described the correct methods of contracting and lift, and where precisely to do them, explaining that they are not a squeeze of the inner thigh or buttock muscles and also not a pelvic tilt. The goals of treatment are to decrease trigger point in pelvic floor muscles, decrease pain, increase blood flow or improved healing, increase pelvic floor muscle strength and normalize contract-relax ability of pelvic floor muscles as well as normalizing toileting when applicable.

The evening ending with some Q&A time, then a little socializing followed.

To learn more about Michella’s services, contact her at the Centers for Rehabilitation, 914-734-3251.

“In the U.S. estimated direct medical costs for outpatient visits from chronic pelvic pain is approximately \$881 million per year.”

BEACON'S BEST BRUNCH
Every Sat. & Sun. from 10am

TOWNE CRIER CAFE
379 Main Street
Beacon, NY 12508

*"A gem... The Towne Crier takes its food seriously."
— NY Times*

<p>Friday, 2/12 8:30pm CJ CHENIER & THE RED HOT LOUISIANA BAND</p> <p>Saturday, 2/13 8:30pm MARY FAHL</p> <p>Sunday, 2/14 7:30pm SAWYER FREDERICKS guest HAILEY KNOX</p> <p>Thursday, 2/18 7:30pm THE STEEL WHEELS BAND</p> <p>Friday, 2/19 8:30pm LEON RUSSELL guest J SCOTT THOMPSON</p> <p>Saturday, 2/20 8:30pm SHILELAGH LAW</p> <p>Sunday, 2/21 7:30pm RUSTED ROOT guest BERT & THE RAINBOW HELLPLOTS</p> <p>Thursday, 2/25 7:30pm THE FLURRIES guest RAQUEL & THE MONDAY MEN</p>	<p>Friday, 2/26 8:30pm THE HARVEST MOONDOGS PLAY LENNON & MCCARTNEY</p> <p>Saturday, 2/27 8:30pm POPA CHUBBY BAND</p> <p>Sunday, 2/28 7:30pm DÀIMH from Scotland</p> <p>Thursday, 3/3 7:30pm ENTER THE HAGGIS</p> <p>Friday, 3/4 8:30pm PHIL OCHS SONG NIGHT hosted by SONNY OCHS</p> <p>Saturday, 3/4 8:30 LIL' ED & THE BLUES IMPERIALS</p> <p>Sunday, 3/6 7:30pm MOLSKY'S MOUNTAIN DRIFTERS</p> <p>Thursday, 3/10 7:30pm BUCKWHEAT ZYDECO</p>
---	--

Tickets and info: townecrier.com • 845-855-1300

OPEN FOR BRUNCH, LUNCH AND DINNER
Wed from 4pm • Thu & Fri from noon • Sat & Sun from 10am
Kitchen closes 9:30pm (Fri. & Sat. at 10:30pm)
Closed Monday & Tuesday

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



A junior-minor Yankee sprints to avoid the tag during a 2015 game.

File photo by M. Turton

Registration Opens for Little League

Early-bird deadline is Feb. 28

Registration has opened for the 2016 Philipstown Little League season. The cost is \$150 until Feb. 28, after which it rises to \$200. (All children after the first in the same family are half price.) The final deadline is Friday, March 11.

The league, which is open to players who are ages 5 to 12 as of May 1, has three divisions: Junior Minors (grades K to 2), which includes a tee or pitching by a coach, Minors (grades 2 to 4) in which the kids pitch, and Majors (grades 5 to 7), which has umpires and tournament play. Players can play up or down a division based on their skill level.

The league holds skills and drills practices at the Philipstown Community Center at 5:30 p.m. on Thursdays. It also plans clinics led by the Haldane High School baseball team and coaches.

To register, visit philipstownlittleleague.com. The league also is accepting sponsorships, which are available for \$350 or \$500.

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

Off-Broadway Show to Play Depot

Solo riff has musing, music, poetry

The actor and writer Richard Hoehler will perform the solo riff *I of the Storm* by RJ Bartholomew, at the Philipstown Depot Theatre at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 20.

Hoehler, who won recognition from the Off-Off-Broadway Review (OOBR) for a previous solo show, *New Jersey/New York, Working Class*, performed *I of the Storm* in a limited run at the Playroom Theater in Times Square this past fall. Hoehler is also a poet, short-story writer and the founder of Acting Out, a class designed for high-risk youth and prisoners.

"Ensnared on the street outside a city park our hero holds forth for all comers musing, ranting, singing, dancing, spitting poems with aplomb," according to a summary at iofthestormoffbroadway.com. "In embracing both the joys and sorrows of life, the message is clear: It's about not wasting any more time."

Tickets are \$20 at brownpapertickets.com, or call 800-838-3006. The Philipstown Depot Theatre is located on Garrison's Landing in Garrison.



Richard Hoehler in *I of the Storm*

Photo courtesy of the Nantucket Project

Michelle Smith Named to Direct Land Trust

Andy Chmar retiring after 12 years

After 12 years as executive director of the Hudson Highlands Land Trust (HHLT), Andy Chmar will retire on July 1, to be succeeded by Michelle Smith, a Cold



Andy Chmar, Nancy Berner and Michelle Smith

Photo provided

Spring resident who has served on the environmental organization's board since January 2014.

"Michelle combines extraordinary credentials with a deep commitment to both our organization and our region," said board chair Nancy Berner. "I can't imagine a better person to lead us at this time in our mission to protect the Highlands."

Smith most recently was a managing director in the Investment Banking Division at Goldman Sachs & Co. A native of Australia, she also has served in leadership roles with the Sierra Club and Georgia ForestWatch. She currently is on the advisory board of the Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries and helped found Renewable Highlands.

The land trust will honor Chmar at its annual New York City benefit, to be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 24, at the Chelsea Park, 260 W. 26th St.

After attending West Point and serving 22 years in the U.S. Army, Chmar retired in 2000 as a colonel and settled in Cold Spring. In 2002 he and his wife Gayle (also a U.S. Army colonel) and three neighbors partnered with HHLT to preserve more than 70 acres adjacent to their properties in the North Highlands.

Soon after, he joined the HHLT board and, a year later, became its executive director. During his tenure, the land trust has grown from one full-time and one part-time staff member to six full-time professionals, and the land preserved by the trust has quadrupled to more than 2,200 acres on both sides of the Hudson River.

To purchase tickets to the benefit, visit hlnm.org or call 845-534-5506, ext. 212.

Food Forum Series Continues Feb. 18

Learn "go-to" recipes at Desmond-Fish

The Desmond-Fish Library's new Food Forum series continues at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 18, with more "go-to" dinner recipes from Culinary Institute of America graduate Rebecca Weber.

"Our goal is to have a fun time and send you home with some tried-and-true recipes," Weber says. "If we can sprinkle in a

little more knowledge about food issues or cooking techniques, we're glad to do this. We'd also like to learn what your needs are and gear the group toward areas that interest those who attend."

Future forum topics may include health and nutrition, meatless options, new cuisines, creations for entertaining and learning to work with specific ingredients. Because the best recipes tend to be made over and over again, participants are invited to share favorites.

The February meeting will begin with a sampling of Mediterranean chicken and curried sautéed chicken with coconut milk and rice. Rebecca will demonstrate how to roast a whole fish with accompaniments such as chimichurri and herbed butter. A tasting will follow. Finally, participants will work together to make a fun salad.

Call 845-424-3020 or email dfstaff@highlands.com to register. A \$10 donation is suggested to cover expenses. The Desmond-Fish Library is located at 472 Route 403 (at the corner of 9D) in Garrison.

Wall Calendar Benefits Cadets

Price reduced to \$12 while supplies last

As the year is nearly one-sixth over, the Directorate of Cadet Activities has reduced the price of the 2016 West Point Wall Calendar to \$12, including shipping, while supplies last. Sales of the 9" by 14" calendar, which features color photographs of West Point and the Hudson Valley, benefit the Cadet Activities Fund.

To order, visit ikehall.com or send a check payable to the Cadet Activities Fund to Directorate of Cadet Activities, Attn: 2016 Wall Calendar, Eisenhower Hall, Building 655, West Point, NY 10996. Please include a street address. For more information, call 845-938-7989, ext. 2780.



The 2016 calendar

Photo provided

Joseph's Fine Jewelry

Buying Gold, Silver, Diamonds, Coins, etc.
Specializing in estate jewelry. We buy to resell, not to scrap.

171 Main Street, Cold Spring NY 10516

- Thursday & Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.



Store: 845-265-2323 • Cell: 914-213-8749

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

O'Neill High to Host Stargazing

Science department will set up scopes at school

The James I. O'Neill High School science department will host its first stargazing evening from 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 23, on the softball field behind the outfield fence. The event, which will be hosted by meteorologist Joe Rao of News 12, is open to the public.

The teachers and students will have a number of telescopes set up to view the full moon, Jupiter, winter constellations and other features of the night sky. If the evening is overcast, the event will be moved to Thursday, Feb. 25. O'Neill High School is located at 21 Morgan Road in Highland Falls.

Beacon

Scenic Hudson Adds Two Talks on Local Birds

Their interaction with Constitution Marsh and climate change

Scenic Hudson has added two lectures to its spring series at its River Center on Long Dock Park in Beacon. Both start at 6 p.m.

On Thursday, Feb. 18, Eric Lind, director of Hudson Valley properties for Audubon New York, will discuss the diverse bird and wildlife populations that thrive at Constitution Marsh despite the long history of human impact. He also will share restoration activities planned for the marsh and other Audubon properties in the Hudson Valley.

On Thursday, Feb. 25, Larry Federman, president of the Northern Catskills Audubon Society, will review the impact that climate change may have on birds and other species and how we can help them. These and other species, and how we can help them.

For more information, visit scenichudson.org or call 845-473-4440.

Making Art with Two Hands

Drawings at Matteawan "strive for a true line"

The Matteawan Gallery in Beacon will open an exhibit of work by Marieken Cochijs, *Invisible Nature*, with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. on Second Saturday, Feb. 13. The artist will talk about her drawings at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27, and the exhibit continues through March 6.

The show features three bodies of work: ink and shellac drawings; a large drawing made with water-based mediums, pastel, charcoal and pencil on paper; and the Cloud series with graphite and pastel.

According to Cochijs, she "strives for a true line," using both hands to make her drawings. "My left hand is more like an antenna, more searching, while my right hand is more sure," she says. Ultimately,



Invisible Nature (2015) by Marieken Cochijs

Photo courtesy of the artist

her drawings are variations or extensions of a line of poetry she wrote: "...one strand of terrifying color shivering before you."

Cochijs is a Dutch artist who has lived and worked in New York City since 1987 and in the Hudson Valley since 2013. She has exhibited nationally as well as in the Netherlands, Germany and Japan. She studied art at the Art Academy St. Joost in Breda, the Netherlands.

The Matteawan Gallery, located at 426 Main St., is open from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. For more information, visit matteawan.com or call 845-440-7901.

Beacon Farmers' Market Will Return in Spring

Common Ground Farm to take over management

After closing over the winter, the Beacon Farmers' Market will return this spring under the management of the non-profit Common Ground Farm. An opening date has not been set but should be announced within the next few weeks at the Beacon Farmers' Market page on Facebook.

The farm, which will continue year-round, will operate the market as a separate enterprise from the Wappingers Falls farm. Questions and vendor inquiries may be directed to Market Manager Sarah Simon at sarah@commonground-farm.org.



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

Gallery Will Display Vintage Photos

Step back into the Village of Matteawan

The 3B Art Gallery at Beacon Bath & Bubble will host an exhibit of vintage photographs and ephemera from the collection of the Beacon Historical Society, with a reception scheduled for 6 to 9 p.m. on Second Saturday, Feb. 13. *East End of Main – A Journey Into the Past* will take visitors

back to the beginning of the 20th century, when this part of the city was called the Village of Matteawan.

The display highlights storefronts and factories, the Matteawan Railroad Station and tracks, the original Howland Library and the beloved dummy light. The 3B Gallery, located at 458 Main St., is open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday. The show runs through April 2.



A scene from the Village of Matteawan

Photo provided

Hear Unique Bamboo Flute

Library to host performance and talk

The musician Chris Merwin will play and discuss the Japanese shakuhachi bamboo flute in a free performance at the Howland Public Library in Beacon at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 18.

Merwin will play folk songs, classical

pieces and meditations on the instrument, which produces an ethereal sound. He also will share the history of the flute and its unique sheet-music notation. The Howland Public Library is located at 313 Main St. For more information, call 845-831-1134.

Speaker Will Discuss Warning Signs of Alzheimer's

Workshop takes place Feb. 22 at Howland library

Janet Syvertsen, director of community engagement for the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter, will speak at 1 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 22, at the Howland Library in Beacon on 10 early warning signs of the disease. During the one-hour presentation, Syvertsen will share information about memory loss, risk factors and resources, as well as videos of people who are suffering from Alzheimer's.

For more information, call the Alzheimer's Association at 800-272-3900. The Howland library is located at 313 Main St.

BAU Gallery Opens Two Exhibits

Second Saturday reception at 6 p.m.

The Beacon Artist Union will host an opening reception for two exhibits from 6 to 9 p.m. on Second Saturday, Feb. 13. In *Global Warning*, Michael X. Rose wrestles with mortality and nature in a series of new oil paintings. Rose has a farmhouse and studio in Bruynswick, where he lives with his wife and eight children. For more information on the artist, visit michaelxrose.com.

In the gallery's Beacon Room, Richard Deon will present his circus-size installations of paintings, banners, prints, and sculptures in *Paradox & Conformity* — chapters from an imaginary textbook.

The BAU gallery is located at 506 Main St. Visit baugallery.com or call 845-440-7584 for more information.



ROYALTY CARPET
YOUR FULL SERVICE FLOORING STORE
GIVE YOUR FLOORS THE ROYAL TREATMENT

Full service flooring:

- All types of flooring sales and installation — carpet, laminate, hardwood, ceramic tile, & resilient floors

Carpet, upholstery, ceramic tile & grout cleaning

Commercial janitorial cleaning

Damage restoration:

- Restoration of property damaged by fire, smoke or water

Call today to schedule affordable flooring services, occasional and specialty cleaning, or regular janitorial services. You always get a FREE estimate. Payment plans available.

Royalty Carpet • 288 Main Street • Beacon, NY 12508
845-831-4774 • royaltycarpetinc@gmail.com

Beacon Theater Redevelopment Moving Along

Additional housing headed to city as well

By Jeff Simms

As more new residential housing is built in Beacon, the expected impact will be the expansion of the tax base to support the city's growing economy. At the same time, however, officials are likely to find themselves at odds with two important Cs: character and cars.

Indeed, the city's character — and how to maintain it — and residents' cars — and where to park them — were the two issues raised during a sparsely attended but at times energetic public hearing on Tuesday night (Feb. 9).

The Beacon Planning Board held the hearing to gather feedback on the redevelopment of the historic Beacon Theater, a project that drew more than 80 people to a public meeting in October but only a handful on Tuesday night. Sandwiched around that hearing, the board approved a residential/retail project that will bring 28 apartments and more than 11,000



Beacon construction area near the Roundhouse

Photo by Anita Peltonen

square feet of retail space to Main Street. It also scheduled a public hearing for next month on another 50-unit project near the Metro-North train station.

More than 400 new apartments and condominiums have already been approved and are in various stages of construction around the city, with 75 to 100 of them potentially ready for occupancy in 2016.

The 80-year-old Beacon Main Street Theater was sold to Brendan McAlpine of McAlpine Construction last year after the previous owner, 4th Wall Productions, fell behind on mortgage payments. The McAlpine family also restored the factories on East Main into the complex known as the Roundhouse, which is considered to have been the catalyst for the transformation of Beacon's east end.

This time around, McAlpine drew some criticism when he abandoned 4th Wall's plan to restore the space to an 800-seat theater, instead announcing his intention to introduce a 195-seat multi-purpose performance space along with 32 residential units.

While Tuesday night's hearing was lightly attended, it gave a few residents a forum to express their concerns with the theater's redevelopment.

Theresa Kraft and Donna Francis, who represented the Beacon Historical Society, spoke separately but had the same message — each called for a citywide moratorium on new apartment buildings, especially those that encroach on historically significant areas within Beacon.

"Our city's history is an important part of American history," Kraft said.

Anthony Fox owns the nearby 463 Main Street building, and he told the board he believes parking will become a major issue on that stretch of Main.

"We have no parking at the moment, and when you add that many units, where do we go?" he asked. "We're parking two blocks [away] on the weekends."

Planning Board Chair Jay Sheers explained that the board doesn't always have the jurisdiction to require building applicants to provide additional parking. A pro-

vision in the city's zoning code indicates that structures and land uses in existence prior to 1964, which would include the theater, are not subject to the parking requirements that newer buildings would be.

The board's charge is to determine if building projects meet the city's stated requirements, not to judge projects on their individual merits, Sheers said. "There are legal limits to what we can do," he said. "We're doing what we can do."

As part of its review, the planning board asked that theater developers look into restriping the section of Van Nydeck Avenue that sits between Teller Avenue (Route 52) and Tioronda Avenue, behind the theater, for maximum parking efficiency. The street is not currently striped for parking.

As for a moratorium on new building, Sheers said that if such a request were ever considered, it would be by the City Council, not the planning board. Council member Margaret E. "Peggy" Ross sat in the front row for Tuesday's hearing.

In other business covered Tuesday night, the now-approved 249 Main Street project will bring housing and retail to an existing space at the corner of Main and South Elm Street. City Building Inspector Timothy Dexter said Wednesday that he believes the relocation of the site's present tenants will begin this summer.

Also set for a public hearing next month is The View, a 50-unit residential project proposed for the wooded area on Beekman Street, southwest of City Hall. After leveling the hill between Beekman and City Hall, the development proposal includes as a visual amenity a rooftop garden, which will be roughly level with the stretch of Route 9D that runs in front of City Hall.

The River Highlands project, another development not discussed Tuesday but proposed near The View, could potentially add 70 units on a neighboring lot off 9D, south of City Hall.

Dain's Sons Co.
QUALITY LUMBER & BUILDING MATERIALS
Since 1848

LUMBER • DOORS • WINDOWS
DECKING • FLOORING • ROOFING
SIDING • HARDWARE • PAINTS
KITCHEN CABINETS
OUTDOOR LIVING AREAS
CUSTOM SAWMILLING & DRYING
LIVE EDGE SLABS • CUSTOM BEAMS

Visit our 2000 sq. ft. Deck
Display open 24/7 and new
Outdoor Living Area

(914) 737-2000
2 N. WATER STREET
PEEKSKILL, NY
MON-FRI 7:30 - 4:30
SAT 8 - 1
WWW.DAINSLUMBER.COM

SERVICE DIRECTORY

COME & PLAY: MAGIC: THE GATHERING
FRIDAY: STANDARD, 6PM • SATURDAY: DRAFT, 6PM

GROOMBRIDGE GAMES

165 MAIN STREET • COLD SPRING, NY 10516
(845) 809-5614 • GROOMBRIDGEGAMES.COM
FACEBOOK.COM/GROOMBRIDGEGAMES

COLD SPRING FARMERS' MARKET
SAVE THE DATE!
Community Dinner @ Garrison Institute
March 10th, 7pm
Come out to support your market &
enjoy good food, wine, beer, music & friends.
rsvp @ csfarmmarket.org or call 845-424-8204

GEORGE KNAUS
BUSTER LEVI
GALLERY
121 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516
BUSTERLEVIGALLERY.COM

Cold Spring Physical Therapy PC
John R. Astrab PT, DPT, OCS, MS, CSCS

Medicare, United Health Care, Railroad, Tri-Care, No-Fault, Workers Compensation Insurance Plans Accepted

1760 South Route 9 • Garrison NY 10524
845.424.6422
johnastrab@coldspringnypt.com
coldspringnypt.com

Lynne Ward, LCSW
Licensed Psychotherapist

Individuals • Couples • Adolescents • Children
Psychotherapy and Divorce Mediation
Addiction Counseling

75 Main Street Cold Spring, NY 10516
lynneward99@gmail.com
(917) 597-6905

Open Tuesday - Saturday
Call for an appointment.

Deb's Hair Design

845.265.7663
deb1954@aol.com
290 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516

Comptroller Finds Fault in Haldane Systems

But audit reveals no wrongdoing or losses

By Kevin E. Foley

In a recent audit the New York state Comptroller's Office cited the Haldane Central School District for deficient procedures in making budget transfers during the course of the budget year.

The report also underscored a laxity in protecting data systems and protocols for access to financial data.

Under state law, Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli is responsible for making periodic examinations of the finances and management operations of local governmental entities, including school districts. Among other duties, the comptroller runs the state pension system on behalf of state and local government employees.

This particular audit report focused on budget transfers and information technology for the period July 1, 2014 through August 19, 2015.

The audit did not find any evidence of

wrongdoing or inappropriate expenditures.

Budget transfers are needed throughout the school district's fiscal year to account for variances between budgeted amounts and actual expenses across a wide range of items.

The comptroller's auditors found that budget transfers were sometimes not acted upon or accounted for in an appropriate procedural manner. The report said there was no dollar threshold for budget transfer approvals.

In the fiscal year examined, the auditors found that approximately \$1 million had moved among accounts within a \$22.9 million budget. The report said formal approvals and accounting for these moves often lagged behind. The Haldane Board of Education did not formally adopt just over \$500,000 of transfers until the 2014-15 fiscal year was over.

The report also observed that the school system's server and other IT equipment where financial data is stored was not adequately protected from either human or environmental disruption, including power outages. The auditors found the door to

the server room was not locked, although there is a locking mechanism.

District's response

In a formal response to the Comptroller's audit, included in the appendix of the report, Superintendent Diana Bowers did not dispute the findings but instead focused on how procedures and staffing moves were now in place to address the shortcomings.

"The district has already established a procedure with its accounting service to propose budget transfers to clear negatives on a monthly basis," she wrote. "Careful consideration will ensure regular transfers will occur throughout the year, complete with approval and signature of

the Superintendent with dates specified."

Bowers also said IT is now under the control of staff more familiar with IT issues and they were working on comprehensive controls and security measures.

Asked by *The Paper* for comment, Haldane board chair Jen Daly echoed many of Bowers' points. "After spending three months turning over every leaf, Haldane received glowing reviews from the state Comptroller's office, with a few exceptions," she wrote in an email response.

She also stressed: "The public should know that Haldane is run in an ethical and proper way and that this report will help us to work more efficiently ... The business office, superintendent, and board of education are all committed to making the changes the state suggested."

C.&E. Paint Supply, Inc.

Tools • Hardware • Plumbing & Electrical Supplies



Monday - Thursday 8 - 5:30

Friday & Saturday 8 - 5

Tel. 845.265.3126

158 Main Street • Cold Spring, NY 10516



Gergely Pediatrics

Dedicated to keeping your child healthy & thriving

Dr. Peter Gergely, MD
Janet Eisig, CFNP
Danielle Chiaravalloti, CFNP

- Collaborative practice for children & adolescents
- Board Certified Pediatricians & Licensed Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
- Welcomes patients with developmental or behavior issues

Meet with us for a FREE first time consultation

34 Route 403, Garrison, N.Y. 10524

tel: (845) 424-4444 fax: (845) 424-4664

gergelypediatrics.com



Economy Oil

A Quality COD Company serving Dutchess, Ulster, and Orange Counties

HEAP Accepted
Senior Discount

Quantity Discount
PreBuy Program

845-233-6101

Call today!

Low Prices • Fast Delivery
Cash • Checks • Credit Cards



Find us on Facebook

www.economy-oil.com



Sports



Eagle Blind at
Dennings Point



A new eagle blind has been constructed in the Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve at Denning's Point. The raptors are most active early or late in the day. *Photo provided*

At left, Heather Winnie (2) and Ruby McEwen (1) compete for Haldane in the 1000m at the League Championships at the Armory in New York City on Feb. 7. McEwen placed first and Winnie third. *Photo by Peter Farrell*

Local students
named to the Marist
College Dean's List
for the Fall 2015
semester

- John Hammer**, a member of the class of 2019, majoring in business administration
- Emily Shortell**, class of 2016, majoring in psychology/special education
- Sarah Warren**, class of 2018 is majoring in applied mathematics
- Marcus Zimmermann**, class of 2019 majoring in Computer Science

NY Alert

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



Nick Farrell of the Haldane relay team races to a first-place finish in the 4x800m event in the League Championships held at the New York Armory Track & Field complex in New York City on Feb. 6. Farrell and teammates Kenney McElroy, Theo Henderson and Jonas Petkus set a school record with a time of 8:31.45. *Photo by Michael Haines*

A Valentine's Day thank you to
our supporters and advertisers!

 Philipstown.info
ThePaper