Nelsonville Considers Infrastructure

Also discusses expanding board, Main Street traffic

By Liz Schetvetchuk Armstrong

Nelsonville’s Village Board has started discussions about whether to bring sewers to the village, where most properties use septic systems.

At its October and November meetings, the board also discussed whether the village should add two seats to the three-member board and how to address the volume and speed of traffic on Main Street.

Sewer system

A resident, Tommy Allen, broached the topic of sewers at the board’s Oct. 17 meeting. “Our grounds are saturated” by overflow from inadequate septic systems, he said. “It’s bad. Health-wise, it shouldn’t be a question if you care about your neighbors, your kids.”

He suggested the village investigate grants for municipal sewer projects. For property owners, he said, “it might be cheaper” to hook up to a sewer than redoing a septic system.

Trustee Danielle Pack McCarthy said that “there’s definitely funding out there” for sewers but added that this “is one of those topics where it’s very touchy what people want, what people don’t want.” She suggested a campaign to install sewers must begin with residents.

She reiterated that point at the board meeting on Nov. 21. “What it will require is residents coming together” to ask the board to act, Pack McCarthy said. “If we don’t have people showing support for looking into it, then it doesn’t make sense to delve into a project consuming considerable time and money.”

(Continued on Page 3)

Beacon Schools to Students: You’re Safe Here

Also, district responds to lawsuit over spending records

By Jeff Simms

Beacon schools interim Superintendent Ann Marie Quartironi is planning to post a letter online affirming the district’s commitment to the safety and inclusion of all students — a move made at least indirectly in response to reports of an uptick in discriminatory behavior nationwide in recent weeks.

Citing a letter issued by state education Commissioner MaryEllen Elia, a Beacon parent urged Quartironi and school board members during the board’s Nov. 21 meeting to draft a letter of their own.

Elia’s letter, sent Nov. 18 to school officials statewide, alluded to a number of incidents of bullying and harassment reported in communities across New York recently. It noted that state lawmakers in 2012 adopted a Dignity for All Students Act that requires public schools to provide students with a safe and supportive environment free from discrimination, harassment and bullying, including on school property, inside busses and at school functions.

The law, according to Elia, requires districts to develop codes of conduct that prohibit harassment, bullying (including cyberbullying) and discrimination against students by other

(Continued on Page 3)

Thanksgiving Proclamation

Issued by President George Washington, at the request of Congress, on Oct. 3, 1789

By the President of the United States of America, a Proclamation.

Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and—Whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me “to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.”

Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Wednesday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the commemoration of this day, and to such fitting exercises of public thanksgiving and private humble prayer as shall best answer the ends for which and in the spirit of the institution of such a day.

In testimony whereof, I do, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me, set aside and designate the Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to the purposes aforesaid.

Given under my hand at the City of New York the third day of October in the year of our Lord 1789.

Go. Washington

Happy Thanksgiving
Cook: 1 part chaos, 2 parts calm

Too Good to Toss

By Mary Ann Ebner

Thanksgiving, with its signature feasts, is a fitting time to thank the farmers, bakers and specialty food producers who make it possible for us to find mounds of fresh vegetables, pastured poultry and cut-to-order domestic cheeses. While families and friends usher in the high season for sharing food and drinks, your to-do list should include a plan for leftovers. Finishing off the stuffing and sweet potatoes not only saves time and money but controls food waste. Ever slathered leftover sweet potatoes on corn tortillas to grill?

Some food waste is unavoidable, but after the second or third day of overlooking leftovers in the refrigerator, options diminish. For those who eat turkey and welcome its protein value, eating the dark or white meat on Thanksgiving may be plenty, though some of us look forward to building a sandwich on toasty rye bread.

To revive your leftovers, let them stand in for a breakfast change, like cranberry sauce compote, spiked with crunchy granola. Reserve potato peels for a vegetable stock and put the mashed potatoes to work in a classic dish.

With this year’s leftover turkey, I’m making a mashed potato dish that resembles shepherd’s pie and its close cousin, cottage pie. Traditionalists insist that only lamb can be used to make shepherd’s pie and beef is required for cottage pie. But whatever you want to call it, turkey works for me. In fact, this comfort dish can be made with fish or a mixture of lentils and crunchy carrots folded under the layer of potatoes. If you can find a batch or grind your own, Lebanese seven-

Cranberry sauce compote

Serves 4

- 2 soft bananas
- 8 ounces plain yogurt
- 2 cups granola

Blend bananas and yogurt. Layer yogurt, granola, cranberry sauce and more granola to enjoy the remains of fresh cranberry sauce.

Above, spice up leftover turkey and mashed potatoes for a savory pie. At left, give Thanksgiving cranberry sauce a second chance in a weekend compote. Photos by M.A. Ebner

Gobbler Pie

Serves 6

- 2 tablespoons Lebanese seven-spice blend (a mixture of equal parts ground allspice, black pepper, cinnamon, cloves, fenugreek, ginger, nutmeg) or your own favorite spice blend
- 4 cups shredded turkey
- mashed potatoes
- olive oil
- 1 large onion, thinly sliced
- ½ teaspoon salt

1. Shake shredded turkey with spice blend and 1 tablespoon olive oil in plastic bag or covered bowl until evenly coated. Set spiced turkey aside. In large pan, cook onions with salt in olive oil over high heat. Stir continuously until onions turn brown in color. Add spiced turkey and warm through.

2. Spoon turkey and onion mixture into greased baking dish. Cover turkey layer with leftover mashed potatoes. Drizzle olive oil over potatoes. Bake 25 to 30 minutes at 375 degrees until the top begins to turn golden brown. Sprinkle top lightly with spice blend.

Fifth Annual Tree Lighting at WINTER HILL

Thursday, December 8, 2016
5:30 - 7 p.m.
20 Nazareth Way
(Just east of Route 9D on Snake Hill Road)

Christmas Carols led by
The Walter Hoving Home Choir

Food and Drinks aplenty!

Pruning is an art

If you are looking for a “natural finish” and do not want to see your ornamentals cut back severely to dead wood, choose artful pruning. Artful Pruning allows your ornamentals to keep looking good. Artful Pruning gracefully brings your ornamentals back to a more appropriate smaller size. For an artful, natural finish, call the artful pruner. Call Gregory, with over 10 years as a career gardener specializing in natural and restorative gardening.

845.446.7465
Beacon Schools to Students: You’re Safe Here (from Page 1)

students or school employees, as well as provisions for responding to such incidents. The Beacon district has a 45-page code of conduct that can be found on its website that contains information on students’ rights and responsibilities, disciplinary rules and instructions for reporting violations of the code.

The Beacon resident who requested the district issue its own statement, Deborah Davidovits, said after the board meeting that she’s heard from other parents about discriminatory behavior but hoped Quartironi’s letter would discourage it from spreading.

“Overall, the climate in our schools is excellent,” Davidovits said. “My point is I want to keep it that way. There’s no harm in sending a message of reassurance out to our families.”

The New York City and Red Hook school systems, as well as the Dutchess Day School and the Randolph School in Wappingers Falls, have issued similar statements.

In other business, school board President Anthony White read a statement in response to a lawsuit filed against the district by the Reclaim New York Center for Government Reform and Accountability, a Manhattan-based nonprofit organization whose principal officer is Stephen K. Bannon, the newly named chief White House strategist of President-elect Donald Trump.

Reclaim says the district failed to respond to Freedom of Information Law requests for its spending records. The group sought data from 3,400-plus government entities as part of an online “transparency database” it says will give residents insight into how their tax dollars are spent.

About 83 percent of the governments in the Hudson Valley have provided the requested information so far, said Doug Kellogg, Reclaim’s communications director.

Reclaim issued a report earlier this year on the cost of living in the Hudson Valley, focusing on what the group characterized as an excessive overall tax burden.

Beacon school officials on Nov. 16 provided Reclaim with the expenditure information, White said.

“It is with regret that the board as well as the district administration acknowledg-es that this was an oversight,” he said, adding that the district has reviewed its procedure for responding to FOIL requests and “will strive to implement them in a timely and responsive manner” moving forward.

Kellogg said on Nov. 22 that although the Beacon schools have “had a much better attitude” than most of the entities Reclaim has filed suit against, the lawsuit is still ongoing. Reclaim is reviewing the data it received from the Beacon schools, he said.

In all, the group has sued 11 governments/school districts in New York over FOIL issues.

Nelsonville Considers Infrastructure (from Page 1)

“It’s going to be pretty expensive for the average person to tie in” to a sewer system, Trustee Thomas Robertson said Oct. 17.

And as a village, “you’re talking $30 million; you’re talking big numbers,” he said. A month later, Robertson noted that the village’s annual budget is $300,000. “My feeling is most of the people here don’t want a sewer,” he said. He also questioned whether faulty septic systems are a threat. “We’ve mostly got it contained,” he said.

Likewise, he said he doubts that more than a few properties still use cesspools — underground pits into which wastewater is piped and which lack the safeguards of septic systems. An audience member observed that cesspools are now illegal.

Despite his reservations, Robertson agreed the village should investigate the possibilities for installing sewers.

One audience member pointed out that Cold Spring’s sewer system, including its water treatment plant, could accommodate Nelsonville residents. In a sense, “it’s our system,” one resident said Oct. 17. “It’s a shame we can’t take advantage of it.”

But another resident argued on Nov. 21 that the Cold Spring system “isn’t ours; Cold Spring owns it” and if Nelsonville connects to it, “they’re going to get revenue from Nelsonville users. Why should we pay for it?” he asked. “It’s going to become their system and they’re going to control it.”

Some residents also cited ongoing and immediate concerns. One told the board Oct. 17 that his home still relies on “a manmade berm to block my neighbor’s septic system from coming over.” And in a letter read Nov. 21, a resident wondered “if the super expansion into Nelsonville is happening” because her family faces a costly septic system upgrade.

During the two meetings, other residents argued that if Nelsonville installs sewers, connecting should be mandatory because the lack of sewers hinders resale value of homes and overflowing septic or cesspools pose environmental problems.

Mayor Tom Corless could not attend the Nov. 21 meeting. However, in October he said that his (Continued on Page 6)
Natural attraction
In regard to the vehicular and foot traffic at Indian Brook Falls (“Neighbors Ask State to Close Indian Brook Falls,” Nov. 18), it seems to me the problem is that the county and state are happily oblivious to the fact that the responsibility for enforcement and its costs have rolled downhill to local municipalities.

The comments from Linda Cooper, director of the Taconic Region for the New York parks department, are not encouraging and somewhat dismissive in implying that local interests are greedily keeping to ourselves a best-kept-secret location. She doesn’t seem to have a clue about what to do about the impact of the location’s popularity.

Here’s an idea: drag our state representatives — Sen. Sue Serino and Assemblywoman Sandy Galef — to a joint meeting of the Philipstown and Cold Spring boards and put their feet to the fire. State legislators are in office to represent our interests and get the bureaucrats to do their jobs.

An economist once said that free goods are oversubscribed. It’s the same with the parking situations at Indian Falls and Breakneck. The state charges for parking at many of its parks (see nysparks/admissions). There are no organized parking lots except for the one at Little Stony Point, but on-street parking is routinely rationed by payment mechanisms. One payment mechanism is to put up No Parking signs and ticket every violator.

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The legislators and administrators of these parks must recognize that, along with allowing public enjoyment of these special places (which in my opinion is a wonderful thing), comes responsibility for the management of the effects of overuse: parking congestion and safety, garbage/graffiti, intrusions on private property and privacy. Most of all, lack of controlled access and overuse will result (as is already evident at Breakneck) in the degradation of the environment people come to enjoy.

Maybe it’s time for a hiatus to let these locations breathe and heal without human intrusion for a few seasons. Shut them down as is done with other delicate and/or endangered environmental sites from time to time.

P.S. What a shame that the River Pool won’t be part of the expanded Long Dock Park in Beacon (“Long Dock Expansion Moves Closer to Vote,” Nov. 18). It has an innovative design and was a safer alternative to swimming in open water. Many larger communities support pools on docked barges. I wonder whether the cove area north of Dockside in Cold Spring would have adequate depth.

Carolyn C. Bachan, Cold Spring

Not to sound like a grinch, but a well-placed piece in New York magazine or a few Yelps about traffic and the condition of the Indian Brook Falls trail might solve the overpopulation problem quickly.

Sara Gilbert, Cold Spring

Butterfield meeting
While attending the Putnam County Legislature’s Physical Services Committee meeting, I was surprised to learn that Legislator Barbara Scuccimara and Deputy County Executive Bruce Walker gave a presentation on Nov. 15 on the proposed work that will be the Philipstown Senior Center without (Continued on next page)
Bothering to inform the general public or even their fellow legislators, a serious breach of legislative protocol.

This project is not Scuccimara’s. Walker’s or the county executive, but the legislature’s. They did, however, invite the Putnam County News & Recorder and a select group of seniors. This is an awkward, obvious attempt at damage control that fails outside the bounds of accepted behavior by a legislator and is extremely alarming, because it follows a pattern of arrogance demonstrated by Scuccimara.

Scuccimara and the county executive have been playing fast and loose with budget information and the lease agreement while pandering to a group of seniors who seem only too eager to believe whatever nonsense they’re told. Shame on them. When pressed, Scuccimara did agree to meet with me to go over the plans, but what we really need is a public presentation where everyone can review the plans and schematics and ask questions.

This senior center is being built in our town with taxpayer money. Most of this deal was done behind closed doors by a few disingenuous individuals with motivations that run contrary to any semblance of open government. It’s time for the legislature to put an end to this type of behavior and restore the people’s trust.

Lithgow Osborne, Garrison

Scuccimara and her colleagues on the Physical Services Committee keep telling the public that questions should be addressed to the Committee and they will be answered. Alas, the meetings are scheduled at difficult times for most folks.

The Highlands Current

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Final Budget for the Town of Philipstown, Putnam County, New York, for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2017, has been completed and filed in the Office of the Town Clerk of said Town, where it is available for inspection by any interested persons during regular business hours.

By order of the Town Board of the Town of Philipstown
Tina M. Merando, Town Clerk
DATED: November 23, 2016

Note to Bidders

Town Hall Annex
Town of Philipstown
Putnam County, New York

The Town of Philipstown is seeking Contractors to register for the Alterations and Addition to the Dahlia House – Town Hall Annex.

The open period of time to register is November 23, 2016 until December 6, 2016.

A walkthrough will be conducted on December 7, 2016 between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., when the bid specifications and bid documents will be made available.

Sealed bids for the Dahlia House-Town Hall Annex will be received by the Town Clerk at the Town Hall at 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York 10516 until 2 p.m. local prevailing time on Thursday, December 22, 2016 and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud.

The Request for Proposals, Bid Form, Contract Drawings, Contract Specifications, and other contract documents may be examined at the following location:

Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York 10516.

Owner rights reserved:
The Town of Philipstown, hereinafter called the Owner, reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informality or technicality in any bid in the interest of the Owner.

Statement of non-collusion:
Bidders on the contracts are required to execute a non-collusion bidding certificate pursuant to Section 103D of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 45 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

By Order of the Town Board of the Town of Philipstown.
DATED: November 23, 2016
Tina M. Merando, Town Clerk

Philipstown Town Board Passes Budget for 2017

Little change from draft; Narcan question raised

By Liz Schvetzchuk Armstrong

Philipstown’s Town Board voted 5-0 Nov. 16 to adopt a $10.5 million budget for fiscal 2017, with $7.6 million to come from taxes. The final budget closely resembles the draft discussed at a public hearing a week earlier. Like the draft, the final budget anticipates collecting $1.8 million in revenue and using $1.05 million in carried-over reserves to reach the total needed. The budget takes effect Jan. 1.

The only differences between the draft and final versions are the amounts of the 2016 assessed property valuations and percentage of decrease in the rates per $1,000 of assessed value.

At the budget-vote meeting, Supervisors Richard Shea said that after successful tax challenges by some owners, the final 2016 valuation township fell about $430,000, to $1,022,520,916 from a projected amount of $1,022,950,706. The valuation for properties outside of Cold Spring and Nelsonville went up about $520,000 to $832,746,558 from the projection of $832,221,303. The 2017 budget is calculated on the basis of 2016 figures.

Under the approved budget, property owners will see a drop in their rates per $1,000 from the 2016 level, but instead of being a 0.48 percent decrease from fiscal 2016, the reduction will be 0.44 percent township-wide; outside the villages, the rate will drop by 0.43 percent, not by 0.49 percent as earlier expected.

“It’s a fair budget. I think the taxpayers will cut the payment into two payments” by January.”

Before the vote, Councilor Nancy Montgomery proposed making the money allocated to the Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps dependent on the corp carrying Narcan, the life-saving antidote to drug overdoses, on runs. During budget-preparation workshops, she had urged the PVC to do so, after three years of repeated requests. The PVC responded that it was in the process of getting Narcan aboard.

On Nov. 16, she praised the PVC for its service but emphasized that “I’m not going to go another year” without Narcan being supplied. “I’m assuming it will be by January.”

If they don’t follow through, the board “will cut the payment into two payments” and withhold the second — a method used previously in emergency service matters to ensure compliance with board instructions, Shea said.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (from previous page)

along with the senior center
• the specific ways that the project has been “scaled down” since July (as reported, without specifics, by the Physical Services Committee in October)
• a specific, categorized construction and finishing budget that relates to the current design
• clear demonstration that the current design and use plan relate to specific services that have been promised to our seniors, including but not limited to, exercise and computer classes
• the demonstrated need for a full-service commercial kitchen given
• the planned delivery of pre-prepared meals from another location (itself recently announced for upgrading)
• the planned budgeting for services to be delivered at the center, with the county and Town of Philipstown shares clearly indicated.
• the timeline for the project
• a clear statement of whether the larger community will be able to use the facility once complete — minutes of the legislature’s Oct. 14 session indicate that public use beyond the senior center will be at the discretion of the developer.

Kathleen E. Foley, Cold Spring

Black Friday. Cyber Monday.

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

November 29, 2016

Please remember The Highlands Current and all your favorite local nonprofits.

PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE

Young Youth Players present:
The Realms and Ranger’s Play Monday, Nov. 28, 5 p.m. • Free admission Plays created by students in the “Making a Play” class!

Auditions for the Depot’s Mainstage Production of Sondheim’s Company Performances start Feb. 24 for three to four weekends.

Auditions Dec. 1, 7 - 9 p.m. and Dec. 3, 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. http://www.philipstowndepottheatre.org/auditions

New!!! Ionesco’s THE RHINOCEROS Dialogues with Drama: Play readings on Hot-Button Issues with Cool-Headed Discussion Dec. 7 at 7:30pm

Young Players present Mark Twain’s A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court Dec 9, 7 p.m., Dec. 10, 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Dec. 17, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m., Dec. 18, 3 p.m.

Seeking P/T Technical Director For details to to http://www.philipstowndepottheatre.org/td

Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com • philipstowndepottheatre.org
Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station.)

Nelsonville Considers Infrastructure (from Page 3)

earlier searches for sewer-related grants found only small ones. He likewise recalled that his inquiries a few years ago produced an estimate of $220 per foot to install sewer pipes, not including engineering or pump-station expenses.

Corless said that a lack of sewers “stifles our businesses. What can you have as a business where this doesn’t hurt you?” He promised to renew the search for grants and agreed that Nelsonville must pursue sewer installation as a village, as part of a long-range plan.

Adding trustees
At the Oct. 17 meeting, Robertson proposed that the village add two trustees to the Village Board, which currently consists of a mayor and two trustees. Expanding the board would increase the capacity for tackling village work, he said. “My feeling is the village would do better.”

“The reality is it’s going to be difficult to fill those seats,” Pack McCarthy said.

Corless noted that the village previously had five trustees but had difficulty getting quorums. He suggested that if the village increases the size of the board, it gives itself leeway to reduce it again if a five-member board proves too difficult to sustain.

Traffic woes
Traffic concerns have occupied the board as well. Pack McCarthy said Nov. 21 that 43 people answered an informal survey on whether more signage is needed at the Pearl Street crosswalk, and 33 said yes. She said she has spoken with regional New York State Department of Transportation authorities on signage “and other ways to slow traffic.”

Robertson said the village needs to conduct a thorough traffic study, optimally in conjunction with Cold Spring, and begin addressing hazards, including an increasing volume of traffic. “I’ve never seen it like it is now,” he said. “We have to get the state involved. We have to slow the traffic down.”

He said he would contact state Sen. Sue Serino’s office while Pack McCarthy pursues DOT remedies.
Dialing it Back

For Pride and Prejudice, Haldane students learned to speak and move like proper young men and ladies

by Alison Rooney

The stereotypical teenager speaks in a barely audible mumble or returns sullen replies; a common position is slouched with phone in hand. That's a harsh contrast to the young adults of Jane Austen's time, when bearing, posture and diction were inculcated into child-rearing as a matter of course, dependent on one's social standing.

That was certainly the case in England, the setting for Austen's most famous novel, Pride and Prejudice. Taking a gaggle of Haldane students and transforming them into teenagers of the early 19th century was the challenge assigned to director Martha Mechalakos. On Dec. 2 and 3, the theatrical version of the classic book will be performed at the high school and audience members will get a look at these newly refined teens, living out the "I think I like him — no I loathe him — well, maybe he's not what I thought" dance between the headstrong pair of Miss Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy.

For senior Jeremy Roffman, who plays the dashing, caddish Lt. George Wickham, rehearsals have included a technical side to speech he hadn't encountered. "The articulation of consonants, especially Ds and Ts, is of stressed importance," he notes. "Something else we have needed to be aware of is our tendency as modern English speakers to connect and slur smaller, less significant words in conversation. For example, one of my lines reads, 'How do you do?' I need to force myself to take the time to pronounce each word rather than saying, 'How d'ya do?' Finally, because we speak with American accents, we have needed to pronounce words with rounder, warmer vowels, in order to give our lines a more British color."

Josie Altucher, who plays Elizabeth, says she finds the language "beautiful and complex. With such intricate phrases, it has been challenging to give them a natural and honest quality. I had never realized how incredibly oblivious I was to the quality of my speaking voice."

Mechalakos says she has emphasized that the actors use crisp consonants and "watch those American Rs." She says, "Diction includes opening up the throat to support your speaking. It's a slow, tedious process and I'm relentless. Luckily just putting on the costumes helps them with carriage and fixing their posture, and this translates over into their speech."

Of the elegant language, Mechalakos says, "it's not necessarily about following punctuation. A lot is about the lead-in and the set up, even the expression on your face. That allows the audience to process what you're saying. It's conversation, but you're speaking it before an audience that's not familiar with it, so you need to put a space in it to achieve clarity. The brilliance of Austen's dialogue makes it so easy in a way. It's fun and fast-paced."

The deportment component has proved challenging to senior Amanda Erickson, who plays Charlotte Lucas. She finds herself "accidentally breaking rules from the time period. In one rehearsal Josie and I were told to act like best friends, cross the stage and sit on the couch. When I entered, Josie and I took each other's hands and ran to the couch out of excitement. Mrs. Mechalakos told us to curtsy and walk to the couch. We all find ourselves making movements that are too modern."

The actors recognize that although the language and customs are different, the relationships are more familiar. "We all go to each others' houses after parties and gossip, just as Charlotte and the Bennet family do," Erickson notes. "Elizabeth represents change. She is constantly..." (Continued on Page 9)
Calendar Highlights
For upcoming events visit highlandscurrent.com. Send event listings to calendar@highlandscurrent.com

FRIDAY, NOV. 25
50Roots American-Made Pop-Up
Noon – 10 p.m. Little Beacon Space
291 Main Street, Beacon
845-460-6040 | 50roots.com

SATURDAY, NOV. 26
Small Business Saturday
Newburgh Last Saturday
facebook.com/NewburghLastSaturdays
50Roots American-Made Pop-Up
10 a.m. – 10 p.m. Little Beacon Space
See details under Friday.

Artisan Market
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Create Community
11 Peaks Road, Cold Spring
facebook.com/createcommunity

Holiday Pottery Show & Sale
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-9960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Meet the Animals
Noon - 4 p.m. Wildlife Education Center
117 Town Park Lane, Putnam Valley
845-277-5422 | putnamrsvp.com/clc

Guided Tour
2 p.m. Glywood Farm
362 Glywood Road, Cold Spring
845-265-3338 | glywood.org

Newburgh Art Supply
5 Grand Street
City of Newburgh
845.561.5552
mon-thurs 10-6 fri 11-7 sat 10-6 sun closed
www.NewburghArtSupply.com

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 30
Desmond-Fish Library
10:15 a.m. Music and Movement for Toddlers
1:30 p.m. Storytime | 5 p.m. Lego Club
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Thursday, Dec. 1
Computer Learning Center for Seniors (Registration)
9:30 – 11 a.m. Putnam Valley Senior Center
117 Town Park Lane, Putnam Valley
845-277-5422 | putnamrsvp.com/clc

Fifth Annual Holiday Tree Lighting
5 – 8 p.m. Winter Hill | 20 Nazareth Way, Garrison
Cards by Walter Hoving Home Choir

Dance Jam
7 p.m. Towne Crier Café | Details under Sunday.

Holiday Crafts Show (Opening)
7 p.m. Loft at Beacon Gallery | 18 Front St., Beacon
845-202-7211 | loftsatbeacon.com

Town Board Meeting
7 p.m. Philipstown Town Hall | 238 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

FRIDAY, DEC. 2
Sparkle Holiday Celebration
4:30 – 7:30 p.m. Twilight tours
5 – 9 p.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Dragonfly Story Hour (For Adults)
7 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Pride and Prejudice
7 p.m. Haldane High School
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Army vs. AIC (Hockey)
7:05 p.m. Tate Rink, West Point
845-938-2526 | goarmywestpoint.com

Michelle Shocked
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café
See details under Sunday.

THURSDAY, DEC. 1
Correction
In the Nov. 18 issue, we stated that the LGBT Social Group will next meet at the Silver Spoon in Cold Spring on Dec. 8. In fact, it will meet there on Saturday, Dec. 3.
Dialing it Back (from Page 7)

Cast
Josie Altucher, Maddy Barkman, Noah Binghom, Annsie Chan, Roisin Daly, Abigail Duncan, John Eng-Wong, Amanda Erickson, Rebecca Gore, Wesley Hall, Curtis Huber, Sophia Immonriza, Jocelyn Lane, Allie LaRocco, Maya Maxwell, Mae McGrath, Max Mormar, Kyra Moskowitz, Quinn Petkus, Lindsay Phillips, Jeremy Roffman, Justin Roffman, Anna Rowe, Reid Sandtund, Chloe Schwartz, Evan Schweikhart, William Speziale, Athena Stebe Glorius, Cassie Traina, Simon Whitson, Ronan Wood-Gallagher

Advisors: Jenna Isabella and Andrea McCue
Set Design: Paul Henderson and Jonas Petkus
Lighting: Donald Kimmel
Tech Director: Damien McDonald
Stage Manager: Abigail Platt
Choreography: Katie Beissinger
Assistant Tech Director: Quinn McDonald

inspiring those around her, and challenging the ideas society considered to be rules.”

Altucher says of her character: “Elizabeth prides herself in her judgment and understanding. She is honest, witty, strong and warm. However, it is not until her misunderstandings are literally spelled out for her that Elizabeth understands the error of her judgment. We like to believe we are in control. However, life just doesn’t work that way.”

Pride and Prejudice will be performed at 7 p.m. both nights. Tickets can be purchased at the door for $12, or $5 for students (including college). Senior citizens are admitted free.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

The Bennet family: Jocelyn Lane, Josie Altucher, Evan Schweikhart, Allie LaRocco, Rebecca Gore, Lindsay Phillips and Mae McGrath

Photo by Jim Mechalakos
In Dia:Beacon exhibit, Robert Morris transforms plywood, dirt and felt into compelling minimalist sculptures

By Amy Lipton

Dia:Beacon recently opened a long-term installation of early works by Robert Morris. Installed in two separate and relatively small galleries, the group consists of eight works, including an ensemble of six painted plywood sculptures that were first shown at the Green Gallery in New York in 1964 and a seventh object intended for that exhibition.

Robert Morris, 85, lives in upstate New York. He is a pioneering figure of Minimal, Conceptual, Postminimal and Land art and a theorist of these movements who has shown at the Whitney Museum of American Art, Tate Gallery, Art Institute of Chicago and Guggenheim.

These works were fabricated under Morris’s supervision for Dia:Beacon. He wanted an intimate feel and a specifically proportioned gallery for these works, with an emphasis on the viewer’s proximity and position. Morris is known for sculptures and installations that engage viewers in perceptual experiences and expose the gallery itself as an environment.

*Untitled (Corner Beam)* bisects the corner of a door frame, while *Untitled (Corner Piece)* occupies the previously unnoticed space between two joined walls. *Untitled (Cloud)* fills a rectangular volume between the ceiling and floor. The other works include *Untitled (Boiler)*, *Untitled (Floor Beam)*, *Untitled (Table)* and *Untitled (Wall-Floor Slab)*, all from 1964.

Characterized by simple geometry and scaled to the body, these “minimal” works are visually indivisible shapes, or gestalts, meant to be perceived by a standing viewer. As Morris wrote in a 1966 essay, *Notes on Sculpture, Part I*, the “parts are bound together in such a way that they offer a maximum resistance to perceptual separation.”

During the late 1960s Morris began to develop increasingly unstructured works of cut felt, scattered thread waste and piled earth. Made of soft materials, these projects shifted attention away from gestalt perception toward the process of making — and to the artist who manipulated materials more directly.

In an adjacent gallery is *Untitled (Dirt)* (1968), a critical example of Morris’s work during his anti-formalist period and turn away from rigid geometry. The piece consists of a mass of earth, peat, oil and debris poured onto the gallery floor. *Untitled (Dirt)* was produced at the same moment that Walter De Maria realized his first Earth Room, which has been a Dia satellite space since 1977 at 141 Wooster St. in New York.

On the wall in the same room is the cut-felt piece *Untitled* (1967). For his first cut-felt works, Morris sliced progressively placed lines into rectangular sheets of the industrial material. He then hung the fabric sheets from nails, letting the felt fall naturally to the floor.

This unruly but elegant gray mass breaks down the geometric shapes of the minimal objects, bridging the space between the wall and floor occupied by *Untitled (Dirt)*, a work considered radical in its time but still relevant. In contemporary terms... (Continued on next page)
that it can be seen as an embodiment of “troubled” ground or perhaps as a comment on the state of the planet’s soil due to waste and neglect by industry.

The new works by Morris are well positioned near Richard Serra’s steel *Union of the Torus* and *Scatter Piece* (1967) and Robert Smithson’s *Map of Broken Glass (Atlantic)* (1969). This proximity posits relationships and influences between these artists’ approaches at the same moment in art history. This acquisition establishes Morris’s central role in the development of postwar sculpture in the U.S. and traces his evolution throughout the 1960s, as well as the transition between Minimal, Postminimal and Land art practices. With this acquisition he will take his place alongside Dan Flavin, Donald Judd and Sol LeWitt, his contemporaries. Dia:Beacon, located at 3 Beekman St., is open in November and December from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday to Monday.

Admission is $15 for adults, $12 for students and seniors and free for Dia members and children younger than 12. Admission is free on Saturdays and Sundays for Beacon residents. Residents of Putnam and Dutchess counties are admitted free on Community Free Day, which next takes place Jan. 14. Visit diaart.org for more details.

Lipton is a curator and writer based in Garrison.
Holiday-Themed Events at HHNM

Two family friendly events are coming up at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum Outdoor Discovery Center in Cornwall.

On Saturday, Dec. 3, the Yule Log Celebration will include a scavenger hunt for a hidden Yule Log and storytelling about the Yule Log and Winter Solstice traditions. Beginning at 10 a.m., the event also includes craft-making and hot chocolate around a campfire.

On Sunday, Dec. 11 at 10 a.m., there will be Snow Globe Workshop. All participants can learn how to make their own winter wonderland in a recycled jar. Tickets for both events are $7 for adults and $5 for children or $5 for adults and $3 for children who are members.

Learn to make a snow globe at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum workshop. Photo provided

Flu Clinic

The Putnam County Department of Health is offering flu shots on Tuesday, Dec. 6 from 2 to 6:30 p.m. The flu vaccine is free for anyone 65 and older or with a Medicare card and $25 for everyone else. Residents must be 18 years old and a vaccine form is available for download at putnamcounty.com. Forms are also available on-site. Vaccines are given at the department’s offices in Brewster at 1 Geneva Road. Call 845-808-1390 for more information.

Boscobel Lights Up

Beginning on Friday, Dec. 2 and running on Fridays and Saturdays through Dec. 17, the holiday celebration Sparkle returns to Boscobel. The gardens and grounds will be decked out in lighting displays and the 1804 mansion will be decorated and lit by candles for tours in the evenings during Sparkle from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. The grounds are open from 5 to 9 p.m.

There will be different performances and attractions, including Mr. and Mrs. Claus, ice carving demonstrations, puppet shows and musical guests. Check boscobel.org for the schedule. A WHUD personality will be broadcasting during Sparkle on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 6 to 8 p.m, and there will be prizes and raffles.

Visit boscobel.org for the schedule, updates and latest information.

Make Your Own Ornaments

Common Ground Farm is hosting an Ornament Felting Workshop on Sunday, Dec. 4 from 10 a.m. to noon. The $35 fee covers materials that can be used to make up to five ornaments using naturally dyed wool from Hudson Valley sheep farms. Instructors will teach the technique of needle-felting and making dyes from local plants. This event is appropriate for families and kids ages 5 and up.

Make felt ornaments using local wool and natural dyes at Common Ground Farm’s workshop. Photo provided

West Point Band Holiday Show

Army’s world-class vocalists and musicians will perform holiday favorites in their annual show on Saturday, Dec. 3 and Sunday, Dec. 4 at 1 p.m. The family friendly concerts are free and open to the public. The shows will take place in West Point’s Eisenhower Hall Theatre and there will be pre-concert entertainment in the lobby. The show concludes with a visit from Santa Claus.

Champlin has performed numerous times at the Chapel and was named Best Individual Artist in 2015 in the Dutchess County Executive’s Arts Awards. Torosjan has been playing since she was a child in Estonia and studied at Mannes College of Music and the Juilliard School after moving to the U.S. in 2001. For more information, go to chapelrestoration.org.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.
St. Mary’s to Hold Annual Craft Fair Dec. 3 at Cold Spring Church

St. Mary's Episcopal Church opens its doors on Saturday, Dec. 3 for its annual Holiday Craft Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Great Hall.

This year's fair features crafts, hand-knit and crocheted winter accessories; blankets; decorated Christmas wreaths and trees; Christmas décor, homemade baked goods; stews and a range of food specialties; and, of course, gift baskets. Visitors can also warm up with hot soups and coffee, tea or hot chocolate.

St. Mary's is located in Cold Spring at 1 Chestnut St., at the intersection of Route 9D and Route 301 (Main Street).

Beacon

50Roots Pop-Up

50Roots, a Newburgh-based e-commerce site that features goods made in America, will be hosting a pop-up shop at A Little Beacon Space, 291 Main St., from Friday, Nov. 25 to Sunday, Nov. 27. The 50Roots site features home goods, jewelry, art and gift items for women, men, kids and pets. Open from noon to 10 p.m. on Black Friday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, and noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday, the pop-up shop will feature unique items made by designers, artists and small manufacturers. For more information, visit 50Roots.com.

Hudson Valley Crafters

Annual Holiday Craft Show

The Lofts at Beacon will present a month-long holiday show featuring artists who work in different mediums beginning on Nov. 28 and with an opening reception on Dec. 1. There will be handmade crafts in metal, wood, glass and fabric, as well as pottery, jewelry and silk painting. Hours vary but the show is open 7 days a week until Dec. 31. For more information, go to loftsatbeacon.com.

Beacon Work:Shop Winter Market, Dec. 10-11

The Beacon Work:Shop Winter Market, the fourth annual show at Wickham Solid Wood Studio at 578 Main St., will feature 20 artisans selling handmade crafted small goods in wood, glass, clay, paper, linen, silk, wood, metal and beeswax. Homespun Foods is serving drinks, snacks and baked goods, while Denning’s Point Distillery will offer tastings. Raffle tickets for works from exhibitors will be good for discounts at Barb’s Butchery, Beacon Pantry and Dogwood. Raffle proceeds benefit the Beacon Arts and Education Fund. The market will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Beacon Reads T-Shirt Contest

The Howland Public Library is looking for a new design for its t-shirt and tote bag for 2017. Artists can submit designs of 8.5 inches x 11 inches or smaller. The design should incorporate an owl, the phrase Beacon Reads and the year 2017. Entries must be received by Dec. 30 at 5:30 p.m. Drop off art at the library or email it to community@beaconlibrary.org.

Little Boxes, A Beacon Snoop Fundraiser

Make a painting, buy a painting and help restore the Woody Guthrie, the ferry sloop commissioned by Pete Seeger in the late 1970s to engage people in sailing on the Hudson River. It was Seeger’s dream that anyone who wanted to sail would be able to. Now the sloop is in need of a complete restoration after sailing thousands of people over the past 40 years.

Purchase a $25 ticket and then exchange it for a 3-inch x 3-inch canvas at RiverWinds Gallery or Main Street Music. Use the canvas to create a painting of the river. Drop the canvas off by Friday, Dec. 2 and it will be hung at the Red Barn in Long Dock Park and auctioned to the highest bidder on Sunday, Dec. 4. Proceeds from the silent auction will be split between the artist and the sloop restoration fund. For more information call 845-527-8671. Tickets can be purchased at Brown Paper Tickets and the event on Sunday runs from 5 to 8 p.m.

Breakfast with Santa

Santa is coming to Beacon on Saturday, Dec. 3 at the Towne Crier Cafe for its 9th annual holiday event. Tickets are $10 for children and $15 for adults, are available at townecrier.com and include a full breakfast buffet, coloring book and crayons, and an ornament-making craft. Kids may also take photos with Santa, so bring a camera. Reservations are recommended.

Out of the Fire Exhibit

Exploring the place where fire and art meet is the theme of a new exhibit at the Howland Cultural Center that opens on Dec. 3. The group show includes pieces created by local artists using fire as a method. Ceramics, paper, metal, glass and porcelain are the mediums used to express the theme. An opening reception with the artists will take place on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 2 to 5 p.m. and the show will be on view until Dec. 30. Call 845-831-4988 for more information.

NY Alert

For public safety and transportation alerts by text or email, visit nyalert.gov.

Go to loftsatbeacon.com for news updates and latest information.
Haldane Meets Its Match in Cambridge

Class D powerhouse crushes Blue Devils, 61-6

The undefeated Cambridge football team defeated Haldane, 61-6, on Nov. 18 in the Class D state semifinals at Kingston. Cambridge (12-0) won each of its games this season by at least 27 points and scored at least 50 points in 9 of its 12 contests, including this one. The Indians led 40-0 halfway through the second quarter and 47-6 at halftime after Haldane scored on a 66-yard pass from Brandon Twoguns to Matt Champlin.

“We were definitely overmatched,” Twoguns told the Journal News. “They were good.”

Helen Mooney, Cambridge’s kicker, broke the state record during the game for most points scored by a female football player; she now has 60 after kicking seven extra points. Cambridge will face Maple Grove on Nov. 25 for the Class D state championship.

Ruby Poses passes to Eloise Pearsall (2) while Maggie Gordineer (with headband) looks on during the Loretto fifth-grade girls’ victory on Nov. 20. See all CYO results at highlandscurrent.com.  

Photo by Kathy Gordineer

SPORTS

Philipstown Soccer Club (Week 10)

Boys

Goshen 8, U14 Warriors 1
U13 Arsenal 2, Orange County 0
(Arsenal finish 10-0)
U11 Strikers 2, Cortlandt 1
Strikers finish 10-0
U9 Force 6, Eastern Pine 0
(Force finish 4-3-3)

Girls

U13 Raptors 4, Washingtonville 0
For game recaps, see highlandscurrent.com

Lady Loretto CYO Basketball (Week 1)

Boys

8th grade 53, Our Lady of Sorrow (White Plains) 15
Darrin Santor (14 points)
7th grade 39, Holy Innocent (Sleepy Hollow) 13
Ryan Irwin (20), Soren Holmbo (7)
Our Lady of Mercy (Port Chester), 31, 6th grade 22
Matteo Cervone (15)

Girls

6th grade 19, Holy Rosary (Hawthorne) 1
Carmela Cofini (7)
5th grade 27, Immaculate Conception (Tuckahoe) 9
Camilla McDaniel (12), Maggie Gordineer (8)

Melanie Delabie cheers her brother Colin from the sidelines in the U11 Strikers’ 2-1 win against the Cortlandt Spirit in a Philipstown Soccer Club match on Nov. 20.  

Photo by Patrice Delabie

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