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ThePaper



Happy Thanksgiving!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2015

# **Death Shocks Community**

Joseph Giachinta killed in accident at concrete business

#### **By Michael Turton**

Joseph Giachinta, a lifelong resident of Philipstown, died on Sunday, (Nov. 22), in an accident that occurred at Mid-Hudson Concrete Products, his business on Route 9 north of Cold Spring. According to the Putnam County Sheriff's Office, Giachinta was killed when he became pinned under a forklift that he was servicing after the hoist supporting the piece of heavy equipment failed. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Giachinta, 58, was the son of the late Aurelio Giachinta and the late Barbara Townsend. Known to many as Joey, he grew up in Cold Spring, where he met his high school sweetheart and future wife, Suzanne Allen. His working life was dedicated to developing Mid-Hudson Concrete Products. His favorite times were spent with family at Sunday dinner or alongside them at the family pool. When not with family, Giachinta enjoyed dirt track racing and snowmobiling. Recently, his fondest times were spent with his grandson, Joseph.

"I've known Joey since I was 8 years old," said Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea. "His death is shocking. Everyone is reeling." Shea said family motivated Giachinta. "He was part of a big family, and family was what drove him to work so hard as a provider. Joey's work ethic was unquestionable; he was unstoppable." He also said Giachinta was a valued presence on the Philipstown Planning Board. "He brought a real working-man's perspective to that board. It was important to have him there."

Ann Gallagher also knew Giachinta through the Planning Board, although her connection to him and his family was far deeper. "I grew up with Joey. He was my brother's best friend. I loved him, my entire family loved him," she said. "Joey was a hard worker — he never stopped. He was in love with his wife, his daughters and grand- *(Continued on Page 3)* 



Joseph Giachinta at a Philipstown Planning Board meeting in January 2015 Photo by Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

# Maloney Votes With Republicans on Refugees

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

Risks liberal upset in suddenly changed atmosphere

#### By Kevin E. Foley

Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, the Democrat who represents New York's 18th Congressional District, which includes Philipstown and Beacon, joined with the Republican House majority last week in voting for the American Security Against Foreign Enemies (SAFE) Act of 2015. The hastily written bill came in the wake of the terrorist attacks in Paris, which killed 130 people and wounded several hundred others.

The legislation, according to new Republican Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, would further tighten the certification process for refugees from Syria

and Iraq hoping to enter the United States.

In addition to the current screening requirements, the bill would require three agencies (the FBI, Department of Homeland Security and Office of the Director of National Intelligence) to certify that a refugee applicant is not a threat to Americans. President Obama and refugee advocates have argued that stringent screening is already in place for refugees, with wait times approaching two years.

Maloney, no stranger to bucking the Democratic leadership when he thinks it is needed, issued a statement on the day the bill passed:

"Our nation has long stood as a beacon of freedom, but after the events of the last few weeks some leaders have given into fear and turned their backs

# **Shop Main Street This Holiday Season**



BEACON SEE ALSO PAGE 16

#### **COLD SPRING** SEE ALSO PAGE 15

Left, Mei Ying So and Tim Buzinski, owners of Artisan Wines

in Beacon (Photo by J. Simms); Above, staff at the Hudson Valley

Shakespeare Festival show off their holiday display. (Photo by M. Turton)

NORTHERN LIGH

(Continued on Page 3)

#### **By Jeff Simms**

One are the days when it was just the beginning of the holiday shopping season, or even the biggest U.S. shopping day of the year. Black Friday, the oddly doomsday-esque moniker for the day after Thanksgiving, is a global event – as retailers in the U.S. and, now, worldwide invite the shrewdest of consumers to camp out and then wait in line (or online) while searching for the best bargain of them all.

But for Beacon - a city without a shopping mall that's largely bereft of chain retailers as well - the biggest shopping event on the planet is simply another day to buy local. And while the "buy local" credo has become somewhat overused in recent years as well, for Beacon's merchants, it represents everything from a more authentic shopping experience to the most basic of building blocks for a growing community.

"It's all so intertwined," says Mei Ying So, who owns Artisan Wines on Main Street in Beacon along with her husband, Tim Buzinski. "When you buy something in Beacon, it affects the people and the other merchants who live here."

By now, most shoppers are aware of the economic benefits of buying local. Research shows that every dollar spent at an independent business returns several more times to the local economy, ultimately sustaining not just *(Continued on Page 4)* 

#### **By Michael Turton**

Tis the season. For most of us that means there's shopping to be done. Making holiday purchases is a highly anticipated, annual pleasure for some. Others may be less gleeful, but there are still stockings to fill and special gifts to be found. Doing even part of that shopping in Cold Spring and nearby stores can increase the pleasure while decreasing the stress that sometimes accompanies the holidays.

Shopping local has been promoted for years, mainly as a way to boost the local economy while adding local flavor to gift giving. An *ABC News* report in 2013 cited numerous studies that attest to the economic and other benefits of keeping seasonal spending close to home. "For every \$100 spent at a locallyowned business, \$68 stays in the local economy compared to only \$43 if spent at a national chain," the report stated. It also pointed out that local businesses purchase other local goods and services at more than twice the rate of chain stores. Locally owned businesses have also been shown to contribute more to local charities and fundraisers than national companies. "It is well documented that local retailers offer much stronger support for local economies than do national chains," the ABC report concluded. Numerous sources also point out the environmental benefits of buying local *(Continued on Page 5)* 



Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney File photo by Michael Turton

# Giving Thanks for the Harvest

#### By Pamela Doan

L's a time for feasting and in cultures around the world, a time for giving thanks for the harvest. In that spirit, I asked a few gardeners what they were thankful for this season. Here's what they said:

I am thankful for the worms in the garden. – Rich Dunne

I am thankful for the bounty of organically grown vegetables right outside my door. — Zshawn Sullivan Smith

I am thankful for the amazingly stalwart epimedium and helleborus, and the lovely flowers they give me. — Marjorie Shaner

Friends who share their perennial divisions. A garden legacy. — Jennifer Stengle

A great tomato season. - MJ Muggins



Composting worms make healthy soil, too. Photos by P Doan

The awesome feeling of peace I get when I have my hands in the soil. — Dianne Olsen

What I love about these call-outs for appreciation are the bigger implications for the environment. Worms, for example, aerate the soil and move subsoil up into the topsoil. They can only live in soil that has nutrients, moisture and oxygen, though, so the soil must have been amended with organic matter to create a suitable habitat. Worms are good for plants and plants are good for worms; that's balance.

Smith's organically grown vegetables have multiple benefits, too, not just for her and the lucky folks she might share them with. Her growing methods support soil health, don't require potentially hazardous chemical fertilizers or pesticides, and are more sustainable during extreme weather conditions like drought or heavy downpours.

Vegetables don't get all the glory in the

garden, though. Flowers, like the hardy and beautiful varieties that Shaner mentions, enrich our world and provide habitat and food for birds, insects and animals. Make those flowers native plants and be confident that your plant isn't going to cause any consequences that you don't intend.

Olsen's point about the way that time slows down and stress falls away when your hands are in the soil has been supported by research. Studies show that gardening reduces stress and leads to better mental health overall, even improving symptoms of depression. Physically, gardening counts as exercise, too, keeping us limber, getting the blood pumping and moving us out into the sunshine and fresh air. The more garden tasks that you do manually bump up that boost, so leave the polluting gas-engine powered tools in the garage and live longer.

Sometimes gardening feels like it's about luck, too. Luck pertains to weather, pests, decent growing conditions, and opportunity, like friends who share their perennials. I'm thankful for a lucky year with my efforts (except for that viburnum leaf beetle, that was very bad luck).

I'm thankful that my seedling trees grew bigger; the deer left my perennials alone until the end of the season; and my tomatoes came through without blight or pests. I was fortunate to have conservation measures like a rain barrel setup when we didn't have rain for weeks and weeks.

I'm thankful for all the support and learning experiences I had this year; even writing this column gives me a reason to research and experiment more as a way to give myself new material.

As I've admitted, this year there wasn't much of a garden and my family enjoyed CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) membership, instead. Until we figure out a plan to clear some timber and open up the garden to get more sunlight, not much is going to grow. In the meantime, I trudged into the fields at Fishkill Farms and picked fruit and vegetables every week and took note of their techniques. I'd never seen tomatoes planted



Giving thanks for a plentiful harvest

so thickly. That black plastic mulch made a big difference in keeping weeds down and moisture in. I always find ideas and inspiration in other people's gardens and their operation didn't cut any corners.

The more I learn about the natural world, the more concerned I become for our rapidly changing planet and conserving the resources we have left. The choices we make in our yards every day matter.

As the holiday season is upon us and moments spent with hands in the soil dwindle until spring, noting gratitude for the harvest, whatever that means personally, keeps us aware of what lies under that layer of snow and awaits the sun's warmth again.

Thankful to live here, yes, and thankful for gardeners who share the sentiment. Climate change is bringing new challenges and making friends with the soil is our only choice.





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# Maloney Votes With Republicans on Refugees (from Page 1)

on refugees," he said. "These actions are reprehensible, and present a false choice between our values and our security. It's understandable that people are scared, and Americans have a right to know that the process we use to screen refugees will keep us safe.

"I have faith in our system, and I don't believe these refugees — the overwhelming majority of whom are women, elderly, and children — threaten our communities or national security. So instead of slowing the program or pausing it, the administration should agree to immediately certify refugees if they pass the current extensive screenings and we should all refocus on actual threats."

The statement gives the impression that he would be opposed to actions such as the Republican legislation he actually voted for. *The New York Times* asked Maloney for comment on his and other Democrats' discussions with presidential aides: "I started out strongly opposed to it," he told the *Times*. "But then I read the bill and realized that what it actually required was simple certification. My back and forth with them was to make sure I wasn't missing something."

Other media, including the *Huffington Post*, described Maloney as particularly outspoken during discussions with administration officials about the threat to Democratic congressional seats if he and

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others voted "no" on the bill.

Speaker Ryan said he worked hard to bring Democrats such as Maloney on board so the legislation could be seen as a bipartisan concern for public safety rather a partisan political move. Nevertheless, the legislation was a swift and direct rebuke to the president, who urged Congress not to send a message abroad inconsistent with his administration's efforts to find common ground with other countries, including European nations, on solutions to the complex issues of Iraq, Syria and terrorist organizations such as ISIL and al-Quaida.

The president was on a foreign tour when the legislation passed the House. The Senate has yet to act. Democrat Harry Reid of Nevada, Senate minority leader, has vowed to defeat it, and the president has promised a veto, which would require both houses to override with a two-thirds majority vote. The House vote of 289-137 (including 47 Democrats) already meets that threshold.

The U.S. has accepted 1,500 refugees from this region in the four years since war broke out between the government of Syria and various rebel factions. In contrast, President Francois Hollande of France reaffirmed his country's commitment to take in 25,000 refugees, most of whom are arriving from the Syrian-Iraq region where intense fighting and bombing campaigns are underway, including action by French, American and Russian forces.

The Republican-led congressional effort coincided with announcements across the country by Republican governors that they would seek to bar refugees from Iraq and Syria from their states even though their authority to do so is questionable legally.

#### **Political calculation**

Recent polls taken soon after the Paris violence reflect a majority in favor of the House legislation and a belief that national security is the top issue for the 2016 presidential race, replacing the economy.

Members of the House run for reelection in 2016 and Democrats in so-called swing districts where either party has a strong chance to win have to consider national election history, which generally gives Republicans the advantage when national security tops leads the agenda. Maloney's "yes" vote can be seen as taking away a potential Republican wedge issue on legislation likely to not become law while risking the ire of some liberal Democrats who are offended by his vote and have expressed it loudly on social media.

Maloney has made a bipartisan approach to congressional matters a hallmark of his three-year tenure and often points to successes, such as recent train safety and bridge upgrade provisions in the new highway legislation, as proof of the value of his approach.

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

# Death Shocks Community (from Page 1)

son, and we talked about them every time we met. He was the most sincere person I have ever known. Underneath that sometimes tough talk, he was kind, gentle and generous," Gallagher said. "There is a hole in so many hearts right now and there will be for a long time, if not forever."

"There is a hole in so many hearts right now and there will be for a long time, if not forever."

Giachinta was a leader among members of an extended family whose roots go deep into the local community. He spoke on behalf of the Giachinta and Pidala familes when the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce honored them in 2012 as pioneering families who laid the foundation of Philipstown's economy.

Giachinta is survived by his wife, Suzanne; four daughters: Katherine M. DeMarco and her fiancé Alex Cucchiarella of Philipstown, Ashley Dubiel and husband Mark of Philipstown; Nicole B. Giachinta of Cold Spring and Jennifer Giachinta of Beacon; three brothers, Thomas and John of Cold Spring and Charles of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; two sisters, Susan Downey of Fishkill and Christine Kellar of Pleasant Valley; and one grandson, Joseph DeMarco.

A Mass of Christian burial will occur at 10 a.m., Saturday (Nov. 28), at Our Lady of Loretto Church in Cold Spring. Interment will follow in the Cold Spring Cemetery. Visitation will be at the Clinton Funeral Home, 21 Parrott St., Cold Spring, on Friday (Nov. 27) from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Donations can be made in Giachinta's name to Toys for Tots, in care of the *Putnam County News and Recorder*, 144 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.





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#### Please, no parking meters

In last week's Paper, it was reported that the village Planning Board will consider "whether to install parking meters" at the municipal parking lot on Fair Street once paving and line-painting are complete. I write to express my sincere hope that the board will once again step away from the thoroughly unpopular idea of metering Cold Spring's parking for all the reasons that this idea has been shot down in the past - and more.

As the merchants of Cold Spring are glad for good weather every weekend to welcome hikers and antique hunters to Cold Spring, the four-hour and five-hour parking durations on Main Street and the cross-streets provide the necessary mix of an invitation to stay (and spend) a while and the need to move these visitors on (or at least into some other space) so that others can have their chance. Why discourage these visitors with the additional cost and hassle of feeding meters or - much worse - dealing with a parking ticket when the meter expires?

And since the current plan seems to be to meter only those spaces at the edge of

more trouble are we asking our visitors to deal with when they are running down Fair Street every few hours to put in additional payments or rushing to move their car before a meter expires? And why would someone pay to park at the edge of town when she could park right on or off of Main Street for free? This differential cost arrangement will only worsen the parking crunch in the downtown village, as drivers hunt ever more persistently and aggressively for the free spaces.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What are the locals supposed to do when snow is on the way and they are directed to put their cars in the municipal lot at the specified time? Remember last winter when the snow was up to people's car doors in that lot and no one could back out for days? When do the meters kick back in? When the plows have finished their job (of pushing the snow up under people's bumpers)? When the snow melts enough to drive safely away? When the driver of a legally snow-parked car gets around to moving his vehicle?

Please, village planners, no meters in the municipal lot - or anywhere else in Cold Spring.

Jacqueline Foertsch Cold Spring

#### Two Beacon bookstores

As a Beacon resident, I was quite interested to read the article about Binnacle Books, Beacon's newest bookstore. The article mentioned in the first line that Beaconites were "desperate" for a bookstore. I'm all for successful new businesses on Beacon's Main Street and I'm glad that the store opening was well attended and that the "buzz" was great. However, Beacon has had a bookstore for many years, and it's located about one block away from Binnacle Books. It is called Beacon Reads, and it's right next door to the Beacon Library. It is incredibly well organized, the prices can't be beat, and it too has a varied selection of new and used books and all the proceeds from the store go to the Beacon Library! There are enough residents in Beacon to support two bookstores and it's nice that now there are two. My husband and I have stocked our bookshelves with amazing books from Beacon Reads and encourage people to frequent them as well.

> Kathryn Janus Beacon

town (in the municipal lot), how much

#### Shop Local in Beacon (from Page 1) one business, but many.

"We want people to stay in town, because our money stays here too," concurs Katy Behney, co-owner of the Mountain Tops outdoor outfitter and Bank Square, Beacon's

Main Street coffeehouse. In addition to its economic benefits, merchants in Beacon say that the local shopping experience also lends a more personal touch, especially during this highly commercialized time of the year.

"If I buy you a gift at the mall, you can go buy the same gift yourself," said Brenda Murnane, who owns Beacon Bath & Bubble. "With something that's handcrafted, you can meet the person

who made it with their own two hands. It's not a mystery item you just picked off a shelf."

In business for nine years in Beacon, Murnane's shop offers a unique combina-

#### NOTICE FOR CLAIMS AGAINST THE **GARRISON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF THE TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN**

IN FURTHERANCE OF THE Town of Philipstown duty to wind down the affairs of the Garrison Fire Protection District of the Town of Philipstown, which district was ordered dissolved by Resolution of the Town Board of the Town of Philipstown made on November 5, 2015 following a Public Hearing, which dissolution shall be effective



Mountain Tops Outfitters in Beacon Photo by J. Simms

> tion of handmade (all on the premises) bath and soap products along with a colorful selection of vintage (the brands are vintage; the products are new) sodas and candies.

> "This is a feel-good store, and it's a feel-good kind of action for the shopper because they're supporting a person, not a company," she said.

> On the west end of Main Street, customers at Hudson Beach Glass can pick up glassware with a particularly local flavor. One item, a handmade serving dish, displays the topography of the Hudson Valley, with the Hudson River running distinctly through the middle of the tray.

> "We're actually one-step manufacturing. It's not that we're just buying products from

ing it here in Beacon," said Michael Benzer, one of the owners of Hudson Beach Glass.

It's also not lost on the city's merchants - as part of their appreciation of all things local that Beacon once was not very shopping-friendly.

"We both grew up here," said Behney, the Mountain Tops owner, referring to her husband and business partner, Buddy, "so we remember what it was like when there wasn't any shopping and people didn't feel comfortable walking down Main Street. Now, the more businesses that are open, the more walkable Main Street becomes."

Perhaps more than anything,

Beacon shopkeepers said that buying local helps create a connection – one that, when nurtured over time, can grow into a community.

"For us, it's how we stay connected," said Behney. "When people come in and out of here, we know them. We've been putting shoes on their kids' feet as they've grown up."

That bond between retailer and consumer, however, isn't restricted to tangible items one can pick up and purchase. In fact, it may be even more pronounced in local shops that encourage customers to invest in themselves.

"Local is everything to me," said Ju-

upon the formation of the Garrison Fire District and the formation of such Fire District is condition precedent to the within dissolution,

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, requiring all claims against the said dissolving Garrison Fire Protection District of the Town of Philipstown, excluding any of its outstanding securities, shall be filed with the Town Clerk of the Town of Philipstown within three months of the date of this Notice and all claims not so filed shall be forever barred, pursuant to General Municipal Law 787(2).

#### NOVEMBER 5, 2015 TINA M. MERANDO, TOWN CLERK, TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN



elsewhere in the U.S.; we're actually makliet Harvey, who owns (To next page)

#### **INTRODUCTION TO** SHELTER FUNDAMENTALS/MANAGEMENT

#### **December 5, 2015** 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. **Philipstown Community Center**

The Town of Philipstown is working with the American Red Cross to offer a class for volunteers to learn how to operate an emergency shelter. This is a free class and open to anyone over the age of 18.

Shelter Fundamentals introduces the guidelines and procedures for setting up, running and closing a shelter during a disaster.

This is a great opportunity to get involved. If you are interested in taking the class, please contact Amber Stickle at 845-424-4618 or amber@philipstownrecreation.com.

## Shop Local in Cold Spring (from Page 1)

– including the smaller carbon footprint associated with small, independent businesses, less highway traffic, decreased fuel emissions and reduced packaging.

Alison Anthoine, president of the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, puts it very simply. Shopping locally "just makes sense for all kinds of reasons," she told The Paper. "It keeps our money in our community. It supports our local merchants and neighbors - and it even supports our county through the sales tax." She also points out something that local residents often overlook – the variety of goods available. "In Cold Spring we have a terrific variety of gift options. I take particular pleasure in giving items made by local artisans, as well as Hudson Valley hard cider."

Sharon Acocella works at the Foundry



Joseph's Fine Jewelry offers everything from high-end watches to antique silver.

# Shop Local in Beacon

(From previous page)

Beacon Pilates. "I'm providing a service for people, and I hope it makes some kind of change in their life. That connection is very personal for me. It's not just seeing them for an hour; it's affecting their lives. I feel a huge sense of community in my studio."

So, as the holiday shopping season officially commences today, it may be worthwhile for shoppers and sellers both to pause and consider all of the benefits of Beacon's "shop local" economy.

"We've gotten to know so many people, and this time of year it really comes home - how connected we are with people on an emotional level," said Mei Ying So, the Artisan Wines co-owner. "It's heartening to know that people come to us year after

Cafe. She, like Anthoine, thinks shopping locally is important. "I always shop locally this time of year. I never go to Wal-Mart and the other big stores," she said. "Everyone in the community should support our local businesses. I know the people who work in them. We have to support each other."

#### A wide range of gift options

The range of local purchasing possibilities - without having to contend with traffic, malls, huge crowds and sore feet - is considerable. The Gift Hut features an array of items for young and old, including many Made in USA and ecofriendly toys, games, puzzles, models and unique gifts. Burkelman is a local shop also considered a Hudson Valley destination for home wares, furnishings, tableware, textiles and fine art. A gift basket from The Country Goose might include everything from Hanukah candles and mince pies to plum pudding, teas and Black Magic and Quality Street chocolates. Anyone looking for a watch, diamond jewelry or antique silver can simply stroll up to Joseph's Fine Jewelry. The Cold Spring General Store prides itself in offering American-made goods for the home and kitchen, artisanal provisions, numerous cookbooks and many other books on life in the Hudson Valley.

Gift certificates may be the least stressful form of gift giving known to man. No fretting over color, size or brand name. They're also excellent for last-minute shopping and fit nicely as stocking stuffers. The challenge in Cold Spring is to find a restaurant, shop, salon or cafe that does NOT offer gift certificates. Consider these creative options: Who would not want a gift certificate for a prime rib roast from Marbled Meats? Or tickets to the upcoming season of the Hudson Val-



The Gift Hut: eco-friendly, Made in USA gifts for kids and adults Photos by M. Turtor

ley Shakespeare Festival?

#### Lighting up Main Street

Main Street and beyond will be bustling this holiday season thanks to the collaborative efforts of the Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants' Association. Black Friday could actually be a pleasant experience if spent kicking off the shopping season in and around Cold Spring. LoHud (The Journal News) has included the village as a Shop Small destination for Small Business Saturday on Nov. 28. Holiday Magic on Main Street kicks in on Dec. 4, with a number of First Friday events. Holiday Shop Hop will be held on Dec. 5 and 6. Shoppers pick up a Shop Hop card at Country Goose, The Country Touch or The Gift Hut. Those who get their card stamped at all participating shops, without having to make a purchase, are eligible to win a bountiful and uniquely Cold Spring gift basket. The first 50 people returning a completed card will receive a specially designed Cold Spring ornament. On Dec. 12 and 13 shoppers can check out holiday bling, attend

two jewelry trunk shows, enter raffles for gift certificates, stock up on beads for the holidays, learn how to use bottle bags as a second gift, enjoy taste testings, or simply take a family photo in Santa's sleigh.

#### Vote for your favorite decorations

This year, residents and visitors alike can vote for their favorite holiday decorations at participating Philipstown venues. To cast your ballot as part of "Light up Philipstown" go toexplorecoldspringny.com. Voting ends on Dec. 18.

The proponents of "shop local" by no means anticipate that residents will do all their holiday shopping in their hometown. Michael Shuman, author of Going Local put it this way: "Going local does not mean walling off the outside world. It means nurturing locally owned businesses, which use local resources sustainably, employ local workers at decent wages and serve primarily local consumers. It means becoming self-sufficient and less dependent on imports. Control moves from the board rooms of distant corporations back into the community where it belongs."

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

#### Haldane Board of Education **Seeks Trustee Candidate**

Haldane School Board President, Ms. Jen Daly, has announced that Mr. Peter Henderson formally submitted his letter of resignation to the Board of Education at their meeting on Tuesday, October 20, 2015. At that meeting, the school board agreed to accept applications for the vacancy per NYS Education Law. The appointed position will be in place until the regular school election on May 17, 2016. The Board prefers a candidate with financial expertise, specifically in the areas of school/government, and who will seek re-election in 2016.

Ms. Daly indicates that residents of the school district who are interested in serving on the Board of Education should contact the Board in writing. Letters of interest and a bio should be addressed to Ms. Julia Famularo, District Clerk, Haldane Central School District, 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring, NY 10516. The deadline for submission is Monday, November 30, 2015, at 5 p.m.



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- Be a citizen of the U.S.
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- Be able to read and
- Be legal resident one (1) year prior to the election
- Not be an employee of the Haldane Central School District;
- Be the only member of his/her family (that is, cannot be a member of the same household) on the Haldane School Board
- Not simultaneously hold another, incompatible public office
- Not have been removed from a school district office within one year preceding the date of election to the Board.

The Board reserves the right to conduct formal public interviews of the applicants and it is our intent to appoint a new member on or about December 15, 2015. School board service can be an amazing opportunity to truly make a difference in your community.

Qualified candidates are encouraged to review the following web sites: NYS School Boards Association (www.nyssba.org) and the Westchester/Putnam School Boards Association (www.wpsba. org). Questions may be addressed to the Board directly at board@ haldaneschool.org.

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# Non-Profits Offer Good Deals for Good Cause Art, crafts and more

#### By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

rying to avoid the crowds and crass commercialism of typical holiday shopping? Looking for seasonal home décor made close to home? Want a gift that gives a little more?

Take advantage of the many options in the Hudson Highlands for finding distinctive holiday items and simultaneously supporting worthy causes. Patronize seasonal craft fairs, art shows, bake sales, markets and boutiques sponsored by non-profit organizations or visit the permanent stores that help support some of these institutions year-round. A sampling follows.

#### Philipstown

Pottery Show and Sale, Garrison Art Center, Garrison's Landing, Garrison (at the Garrison Metro-North station), garrisonartcenter.org: Selling far more than pottery, the show opened last weekend and continues through Sunday, Nov. 29, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wares include a diverse range of pottery and similar items, from coffee mugs, bowls and plates to decorative art; wooden craftwork, sculpture, cards and prints, apparel and accessories, jewelry, and other examples of area residents' talents.

Holiday Boutique, Desmond-Fish Library, at the library, Routes 403 and 9D, Garrison, 845-424-3020: Offering handcrafted items from nearly 80 Hudson Valley artisans, this year's boutique runs from the "grand opening" on Saturday, Nov. 28, through Sunday, Dec. 13. Goods include Shaker boxes, quilts, knit goods and hand-made sweaters, pottery, jewelry, photos, cards, bath and toiletry products, dolls, cookies and candy, "and much, much more," according to the library, which describes the boutique as "a chance to support local artisans, pur-



Philipstown wooden ware at the Garrison Art Center sale Photo by L.S. Armstrong

chase beautifully crafted gifts and contribute to the library's community programming." Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Nov. 28 and Fridays Dec. 4 and Dec. 11; 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays Nov. 29, Dec. 6, and Dec. 13; 2 to 9 p.m. on Thursdays, Dec. 3 and Dec. 10; and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays, Dec. 5 and Dec. 12.

Annual Wreath Sale, Garrison Union Free School, at the school, 1100 Route 9D, Garrison, 845-424-3689: This annual fundraiser for the eighth-grade class began on Wednesday and continues on Monday, Nov. 30 from 3 to 7 p.m. The 24-inch Maine balsam wreaths come plain, with a bow or with a bow, pinecones and berries. Garrison School has an order form on its website at gufs.org.

Craft Fair, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Chestnut Street (Route 9D) at Main Street (Route 301), Cold Spring, stmaryscoldspring.org: Saturday, Dec. 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Annually, the fair helps support the activities and outreach of the historic parish. Typical items include large, pre-made "themed" gift baskets (such as one for chocolate lovers), ornaments and decorations, knitted, crocheted and sewn items, quilts, paintings, gently-used toys, wreaths, jewelry, accessories and cookies

#### and other baked goods.

Thrift Shop, St. Christopher's Inn, 21 Franciscan Way, Graymoor, Garrison, 845-424-3635, stchristophersinn-graymoor.org/thrift-antique-shop: A project of St. Christopher's Inn, the Thrift Shop stocks donated household items, including furniture, glassware, and linens: clothing; collectibles, both new items and antiques and art. Proceeds benefit St. Christopher's Inn, a licensed residential facility that provides alcohol- and drug-abuse treatment and medical care, a ministry of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement. The shop also provides vocational experiences for Inn residents, who help repair furniture, work as sales assistants and research the value of

donated goods. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cold Spring Farmers' Market, St. Mary's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, Chestnut Street (Route 9D) at Main Street (Route 301), Cold Spring, csfarmmarket. org: The indoor market operates 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., on Saturdays, though not Dec. 26. Vendors change a bit week to week; the Farmers' Market website provides details. Typical products include vegetables and fruit: bread, pastries, and other baked goods; honey, jams and jellies; olive oil, sauces, dressings and pickles; wine, beer, cider and similar beverages; teas; fish; cheese and other dairy products; wool creations; beef, pork, lamb, chicken and eggs; plants, wreaths, and flowers.

**Boscobel Gift Shop**, in the Carriage House on the Boscobel grounds, 1601 Route 9D, Garrison (just south of Cold Spring), 845-265-3638: The Museum Gift Shop sells stationery, garden accessories, jewelry, apparel, glassware and other home décor items, toys, and books dealing with such subjects as American history, U.S. and English literature and the Hudson Valley. A yearly sale continues through Sunday, Nov. 29. The shop

is open to the public, without museum admission, through Dec. 31, Wednesdays through Mondays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.. It is closed on Tuesdays and Christmas Day.

Putnam History Museum, 63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring, NY, 106515, 845-265-4010, putnamhistorymuseum.org: The museum is open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. A small gift shop offers local history-related prints, books, maps, letters, toys, totes, shirts, pottery and other keepsakes.

#### **Beacon and Fishkill**

Annual Holiday Craft Fair, Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., Beacon: Saturday, Dec. 12 (Second Saturday), 10 a.m. to-5 p.m.: An Etsy-related event, the fair includes jewelry, toys, candy, wooden and other artisan goods, mosaic creations, cards, knitted items, infant clothing, and more. Check the Howland Cultural Center's Facebook page for more information.

Hudson Valley Winter Book Fair, First Presbyterian Church, 50 Liberty St., Beacon, wherevent.com/detail/ First-Presbyterian-Church-Hudson-Vallev-Winter-Book-Fair; Saturday, Dec. 12, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.: The event features authors, book signings and readings, second-hand books, baked goods, and a gift wrapping service. Sales of many items will benefit the First Presbyterian Church; sales of books by their authors will benefit those authors.

Craft Boutique, Van Wyck Homestead Museum, Route 9 at Snook Road, Fishkill, fishkillhistoricalsociety.org; Saturday, Nov. 28, and Sunday, Nov. 29, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Sponsored by the Fishkill Historical Society, the event occurs at a Revolutionary War site. Sale items include silk scarves, candles, vintage-style handbags, stoneware pottery, ceramics, quilts, jewelry, stained glass, soap, and wooden goods, made by juried crafts artisans. The historical society adds that homemade soups and chili will be available for "lunch by the fire in our circa-1732 kitchen" and that "we'll have plenty of decadent sweets available."



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# The Calendar

# **Thriller Writers Expound on Their Work**

Fundraising forum draws enthusiastic audience

#### By Kevin E. Foley

trio of masters of the spy-crime thriller genre enlightened and entertained an appreciative audience of 80 people last Sunday (Nov. 22) at a forum sponsored by Philipstown.info/The Paper. The event, held at Winter Hill in Garrison, raised funds for the nonprofit news organization.

Ru Rauch, a former Time magazine bureau chief in several European and South American cities (and a member of the Philipstown Info Inc. board), moderated the panel, which included local residents David Duffy and Alex Berenson as well as New York City resident Joseph Kanon. The award-winning and best-selling authors took turns provid-

ing insights into the mystery of writing mysteries, the origins of their books, other authors they admire, the state of publishing and problems when Hollywood calls.

Rauch began the proceedings humorously by asking the audience to guess which of the authors was a real-life spy, supplying tantalizing biographical details and references from their work to fuel suspicions. No confirmations or denials came forth in the ensuing laughter.

Asked first by Rauch to describe the process they employed for getting a book

underway, each described a different starting point.

Alex Berenson, author of nine books in a series about CIA operative John Wells already published (a 10th is due in February 2016), admitted to a problem created by his success with one character. "If you are trying





to write about the real world you wind up constraining yourself." He explained that Wells already had a revealed past going back to Afghanistan prior to 9/11, and the character could not change much as he aged from whom he already is. "Wells is not going to learn Above, part of the audience for the writers forum; At left, from left to right, Ru Rauch, Joseph Kanon, David Duffy, Alex Berenson Photos by K.E. Foley

French and start oil painting," said Berenson. "So I am trying to find stories that fit the narrative I've already constructed."

David Duffy replied: "For me [a story] starts with a character. So suppose you're a Russian kid with a horrific name [Turbo is the short version] and you grow up in the Gulag labor camps where people aren't kind ... and then at a certain age you develop a facility for languages and draw the interest of the local KGB. They're going to recruit you. And you're going to be one tough S.O.B." Duffy has authored two crime novels with a few characters that have (Continued on Page 11)

# **Keeping Memories Alive, on DVD**

Desmond-Fish Library patrons can bring in their VHS home movie tapes and convert them to DVDs

large- and small-scale, to come to the rescue. And, as of about a month ago, the Desmond-Fish Library (DFL) has such equipment, courtesy of an anonymous donation, and is offering the use of it for free, to library patrons. As an alternative to the many "pack up a box full of your tapes and slides and mail it off" converter companies, which, while able to handle a variety of media expertly have the inherent risk of parting you from your only copies of very meaningful footage, the converter machine at DFL can handle one tape at a time, and works in real time, meaning you must effectively "babysit" it as it copies. But it basically never leaves your sight, which is a relief to many. It all works quite simply: for now, the service is offered by the library on Saturdays only. You contact the library to make an appointment in advance, and turn up with the video(s) you wish to copy, plus a DVR-R (not a DVD-RW) disc to copy it onto. Should you have more than 120 minutes' worth of footage to copy, you need to bring along a second disc as well. And, no matter the length, each videocassette needs its own disc to



#### **By Alison Rooney**

emories may light the corners of our minds, but they also tend to accumulate in the dusty corners of shelves, closets, basements and everywhere else the outdated media they are stored on inhabit. When home movie film reels were succeeded by 34-inch video tapes, the storage seemed finite, coming as it did towards the beginning of the "an updated version is now available" era. But those videotapes, which once seemed so accessible and easy to use, are disintegrating, and the players for them are rarely manufactured, and some of the new televisions now being sold lack the capacity to work with VCR machines. Which means that without the transfer of what's on the videos onto different, more current media, all that's on them eventually will be lost to time. Luckily, there is equipment, both



#### It's that simple: all you need to transfer a VHS tape to a DVD

transfer onto - in other words you cannot bring in two videotapes of 15 minutes each and put them together onto one DVD. Each appointment is limited to a three-hour maximum time limit. DFL's Cybrarian, Pam McCluskey, will set you up, get things started, and will provide the simple instructions for monitoring the copying and pushing the right button when it ends. If any difficulties are encountered during the copying, McCluskey can be contacted within the library and she'll come and help.

There are a few stipulations involved: nothing commercial can be copied, due to copyright regulations; the service is for home movies or home-generated footage only. The library is absolved of any responsibility for tapes which might get damaged in the process. Knowing that

videotapes can come in a wide spectrum of conditions, and can be magnetized or moldy, might have been rewound and forwarded excessively, etc., it's tape at your own risk - though few problems have been encountered thus far.

Nelsonville's Anne Saunders was taking that risk on a recent Saturday, bringing in several vintage 1985 tapes of her daughter doing ice skating routines. "It's so funny to see her at 6 years old," Saunders said, looking at the small monitor which displays what's on the tape. Memories of a very specific time in life returned as she watched. "From age 5 to 10 she wanted to learn to skate. She'd practice from 6 to 8 a.m. on custom-made skates, three times a week. Eventually her teacher told us that three times (Continued on Page 10)

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

#### Local libraries closed

#### Army vs. Arkansas-Pine Bluff (Men's Basketball)

7:30 p.m. Christl Arena, West Point 845-938-2526 | goarmywestpoint.com

*In Our Son's Name* (Documentary, 2015) 7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church 50 Liberty St., Beacon info@moviesthatmatterbeacon.org

Slam Allen Band

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

#### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28**

#### Howland Public Library closed through Dec. 6

Fishkill Historical Society Craft Boutique 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Van Wyck Museum 504 Route 9, Fishkill 845-896-9560 | fishkillhistoricalsociety.org Continues on Sunday

#### Holiday Pottery Show & Sale

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Garrison Art Center 23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison 845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

#### **Holiday Boutique**

Noon – 4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403, Garrison 845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

#### **Holiday Variety Show**

1 p.m. Towne Crier Café 379 Main St., Beacon 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com Benefits Beacon animal shelters

**10th Annual Alumni Basketball Game** 5 p.m. Haldane School 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring 845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Cherish the Ladies 8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café See details above.

Bert Rechtschaffer Jazz Trio 9 p.m. Chill Wine Bar 173 Main St., Beacon 845-765-0885 | facebook.com/chillwinebar

#### **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29**

Holiday Pottery Show & Sale 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Garrison Art Center See details under Saturday.

Fareground Community Pop-Up Café Noon – 3 p.m. Beacon Community Center 23 W. Center St., Beacon facebook.com/fareground



The Paper

# **Calendar Highlights**

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

Army vs. Rider (Women's Basketball) 1 p.m. Christl Arena, West Point 845-938-2526 | goarmywestpoint.com Holiday Boutique 1 - 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library See details under Saturday. Jewish Mindfulness Retreat (Opens) 3 p.m. Garrison Institute 14 Mary's Way, Garrison 845-424-4800 | garrisoninstitute.org

Storyteller Jonathan Kruk 3 p.m. Matteawan Gallery 436 Main St., Beacon 845-440-7901 | matteawan.com

#### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30**

**Defensive Driving Course** 6 p.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org Must also attend Dec. 2.

#### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1**

Holiday Workshop (First Sessions) 9 a.m. Adults | 3:45 p.m. Grades K-3 Philipstown Community Center 107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison 845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Medicare Open Enrollment Workshop 10:30 a.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org Deadline for open enrollment is Dec. 7.

Haldane School Board 7 p.m. Haldane School (Music Room) 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring 845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Putnam County Legislature 7 p.m. Historic Courthouse 44 Gleneida Ave., Carmel 845-808-1020 | putnamcountyny.com

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

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



Holiday Workshop (First Sessions) 12:30 p.m. Ages 3-5 | 3:45 p.m. Grades K-3 See details under Tuesday. 6th Annual Holiday Member Bash 6 - 9 p.m. Max's on Main 246 Main St., Beacon beaconarts.org Haldane vs. Palisade Prep (Girls' Basketball) 6:15 p.m. Haldane School 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring 845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org Volunteer Holiday Party

6:30 p.m. Therapeutic Equestrian Center 115 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring 845-165-3409 | myfeettakewings.org

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

Pechakucha Night 8 p.m. Quinn's 330 Main St., Beacon 845-831-8065 | quinnsbeacon.com

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

Long-Term Planning for Non-Profits with Sustainability Model

9 a.m. Bureau of Emergency Services 112 Old Route 6, Carmel | 845-278-6738 uwwp.org/management-center.shtml

Holiday Workshop (First Session) 12:30 p.m. Ages 3-5 See details under Tuesday.

**Fourth Annual Tree Lighting** 5:30 p.m. Winter Hill 20 Nazareth Way, Garrison

Carols by the Walter Hoving Home Choir David Benoit's Christmas Tribute to Charlie Brown

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

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

RESIDENTIAL

#### Adult Rock Camp: Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers 8:30 p.m. Quinn's 330 Main St., Beacon

330 Main St., Beacon 845-765-0472 | beaconmusicfactory.com

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

#### Sparkle Holiday Celebration

5 – 9 p.m. Boscobel 1601 Route 9D, Garrison, just south of Cold Spring 845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

The Web of Life (Opening)

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

Shakespeare Situation (Youth Players)

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

#### A Christmas Carol in Music

7 p.m. Beacon High School 101 Matteawan Road, Beacon 845-838-6900 x3420 | beaconplayers.com

Westchester All Stars Christmas Concert for Wounded Veterans

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

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

Henrik Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler* 8 p.m. The Beacon Theatre 445 Main St., Beacon 845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

Adult Rock Camp: Arena Rock II 8:30 p.m. Elks Club 900 Wolcott Avenue, Beacon 845-765-0472 | beaconmusicfactory.com

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

#### ONGOING

Art & Design philipstown.info/galleries

Religious Services philipstown.info/services Support Groups

philipstown.info/sg

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





Opening Reception Saturday, December 5 Noon to 2 pm Bring the kids!

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23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison, NY garrisonartcenter.org 845.424.3960

Thursday, December 3, 2015, 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Christmas Carols led by The Walter Hoving Home Choir

Food and Drinks aplenty!



# Keeping Memories Alive, on DVD (from Page 7)

was not enough. My daughter asked me 'Can I stop?' I rejoiced — she went on to study the flute."

In addition to converting 34-inch tapes, the library's machine can also work with the smaller-sized cassette-style home movie tapes - not the tiny ones, but those which are closer to index card size. However, with these, it is essential to bring the camera which was used to record and also the three-color cord connecting the camera to other equipment. Eventually, DFL hopes to expand its equipment and copying/converting capabilities. At the moment, in addition to the VHS conversion machine, it also has a record player which can convert LP records to CDs. Donated by DFL Director Jen McCreery, after she received two as presents, this equipment can actually be checked out of the library and used at home. McCreery calls the conversion process user-friendly, and say's "it's easy to talk people through it." DFL is also able to help patrons transfer files from floppy discs to online storage. All services are offered for free.

Upgrading files, in one way or another, is something emphasized at library school.

"Keeping things current and in universal formats is stressed. I had a professor who used to say 'the only permanent file is a clay tablet," McCreery relates. "We're looking at the library in terms of services — providing things that you probably don't have at home."

Bill Hicks didn't have the equipment at home to

convert some much treasured tapes into DVDs. Along with footage of the first home he moved into in Garrison 20 years and his first dog romping in the outdoors, he was eager to revisit the 50th Birthday Roast — which he calls "an absolute riot" thrown for him by friends on the occasion, and also his appearance on a PBS special about addictions, his being nicotine, at the time. In addition, he was able to once again view his appearance, 35 years ago, as a contestant on The \$25,000 Pyramid game show (and no - he did not win the big bucks, but did take home about \$800.)

Hicks says he "considered purchasing a transfer machine from Hammach-



Coming to life again, in a new format: Anne Saunders' videos from 1985. Photo by A. Rooney

> er Schlemmer, but could not persuade myself that the cost, \$299, was appropriate. Many Garrison and Cold Spring community members cannot afford to purchase a machine or pay the cost a professional would charge, so it's quite wonderful that a gift was given to Desmond-Fish to make this service possible. I want the aforementioned to be preserved for viewing by family members much younger than I, those alive and those still to be born."



Deborah Brown, Deborah Davidovits, Scott Daniel Ellison, Valerie Hegarty, Jackie Mock, Wendy Small

On view until December 20

436 Main Street, Beacon, NY 12508 matteawan.com 845 440 7901



# Master storyteller and author Jonathan Kruk will regale visitors with Hudson Valley myths and legends relating to the current exhibition

Gallery talk

Sunday, November 29 3:00 pm

Free and open to the public Seating is limited - please RSVP to info@matteawan.com

## MATTEAWAN GALLERY



the cat rock egg farm

artisanal eggs from rare &

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The Gordon Stewart Concert Series Johann Sebastian

All proceeds benefit St. Mary-in-the-Highlands Sunday, December 13, 4 p.m. Informal reception follows

Tickets S20 Students 18 and over 65 S5 Children 17 and under: free

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Location: One Chestnut Street. Cold Spring

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# Thriller Writers Expound on Their Work (from Page 7)

history with security services. For inspiration, Duffy said he reads a lot of newspapers (including this one). "You see stories everyday. I take disparate things and try to string them together."

Visiting new places is how Kanon finds his inspiration for his period novels. His trips to cities such as Istanbul, Turkey; Berlin, Germany; and Los Alamos, New Mexico, where the atomic bomb used in World War II was developed, have all inspired settings for his novels.

Kanon said a lot of fiction is driven by the question "what if it were you?" He told of how a 1995 visit to Los Alamos piqued his curiosity about the lives of the people who worked there in the 1940s as he was reading what he saw as revisionist history about how atom bombs were created. He asked the audience to imagine being a physics student and receiving an invitation "to work with Nobel Prize scientists, cross frontiers of science, solve one of the riddles of the universe and win the war for us. Would I have gone? Yes, I would have gone," as his characters do in his first novel, Los Alamos.

Rauch observed that spy or crime thrillers attract so many readers because their heroes face tough decisions with no easy right answers. These protagonists must sometimes make their own rules rather than follow orders from bosses or guidance from conventional morality, and that independent thinking has an appeal.

The authors gave evidence to support the point. Berenson said his John Wells had given up on the idea that doing the right thing mattered in the long run. Kanon said we all actually faced tough choices in our lives, and his books just took them to a more heightened dramatic place. Duffy said readers engaged with crime drama because the protagonists are running into bad situations, making judgments about what to do — often outside the law — and always with paying the price.

In response to a Rauch query on research for books, the writers concurred that getting details correct was important and that readers often called them out on inevitable mistakes. "We've gotten to the point where we have so much spin in public life that we now demand accuracy in our fiction," said Kanon to audience amusement.

The writers all said they tried to travel to the places they write about to discover interesting aspects of characters' lives, such as where they lived, whether they could have walked to work or what restaurant they may have liked.

Although he writes about the CIA and other government intelligence agencies, Berenson, a former *New York Times* reporter, said he uses open source material and doesn't have special contacts with access to secrets. He wryly noted he is still waiting for a call from the CIA that offers him a tour of its Langley headquarters.

Kanon spoke of the legendary John Le Carre's innovation and influence in the espionage genre. "His genius was to make his books more about office life [rather than operations] and things we can all understand, like working for a jerk. What he really knows is bureaucracy and how it functions. Everyone can relate to it."

"To give the bad guy or girl [in a story] some sympathetic qualities so the reader has empathy for them is a tricky thing but necessary to engage readers," said Duffy.

In a discussion of terrible historic figures such Stalin and Hitler, Kanon said he wanted more to explore the

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everyday characters who went along with things, who let it happen. He sees these people as those closest to our own lives and the decisions we face.

Berenson candidly said his books were too masculine and praised Kanon for his ability to better weave romantic and sexual relationships into his stories. After declaring sex was hard but very necessary to write about, Kanon told an amusing anecdote about his son hearing about sex scenes in his books from a fellow college student and then finally deciding to read his father's books.

The writers celebrated the solitary nature of writing and the individual control of the material as opposed to the necessity of collaboration inherent in television and movie making. Berenson pointed out that authors had as much or greater chances to make money as Hollywood writers despite the very high-end money often talked about. Duffy emphasized that skills were not easily transferable from one medium to another.

Kanon, whose book The Good German was made into a movie, told of his travails in trying to be quiet about changes in the script from his book. ("I just wanted a paperback edition with George Clooney on the cover.") But he had to draw the line at the new ending the scriptwriters had created. "I said to them: I know you want to avoid a resonance with Casablanca so you don't want an airport scene [as the main character leaves Berlin]. But you have her leaving by ship and Berlin is land-locked." He explained it might not be a problem in America but it could be in the European market.



Youth Players present: *A Shakespeare Situation!* Dec. 4 and Dec. 11, 7 p.m. Dec. 5 and Dec .12, 3 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

#### Tickets \$10

Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol Directed by Christine Bokhour Performed by Gregory Porter Miller

Dec. 17-20

Tickets \$25/\$15

**Tickets at brownpapertickets.com** 845.838.3006 • philipstowndepottheatre.org Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station.)

# From Blocks to Astrobiology





#### WINTER TALES BY **HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN** A NEW PLAY BY MONA Z. SMITH

Start your holiday season with a new play that celebrates the power of kindness, family, love and imagination to warm the heart and light the way home.

Hans Christian Andersen was a 19th-century master of the short story, and his tales of enchantment and adventure were admired by readers of all ages. This holiday season, HVSF presents a staged reading of the new play *Northern Lights*, inspired by some of Andersen's most beautiful winter tales – timeless stories of hope and redemption in the dark of winter, when we need them most. Dec. 8 – 11 7:00 PM THE HOWLAND CENTER Beacon, NY

Dec. 12 2:30 Matinee\* & 7:00 PM Dec. 13 2:30 Matinee\* ST. MARY-IN-THE-HIGHLANDS Cold Spring, NY

\*Cookies and conversation with Hudson Valley playwright Mona Smith after the performance.

For tickets and information: hvshakespeare.org

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#### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

# County to Host Senior Luncheon

Transport reservations due by Dec. 1

The Office of Senior Resources for Putnam County will host a holiday luncheon for seniors on Tuesday, Dec. 8, at the Putnam County Golf Course in Mahopac. It will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Reservations are required and tickets must be picked up at the Cold Spring nutrition center at the American Legion on Cedar Street. Philipstown and Cold Spring residents should phone 845-265-3952 by Tuesday, Dec. 1, to reserve transportation to the event.

## **Village Seeks Volunteers**

Seek HDRB and Planning Board members

The Village of Cold Spring is looking for volunteers to serve on the Historic District Review Board and the Planning Board.

The HDRB consists of five members appointed by the mayor and Board of Trustees to review all changes in the exterior architectural features of new construction, renovations and structural improvements within the limits of the Village's Historic District. Members must be village residents and they serve for a five-year term.

The Planning Board is comprised of five members appointed by the mayor and Board of Trustees to review all site plans and subdivision proposals with regard to land use or change of land use. The board also provides opinions to the Zoning Board of Appeals and reviews zoning variances. Members of the Planning Board must be village residents and they serve for a five-year term.

Those interested in volunteering for either position should send a letter of intent outlining their qualifications (or attach a resume to the letter) by post to Mary Saari, Village Clerk, Village of Cold Spring, 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516, or by email to vcsclerk@bestweb.net. The subject line should read: "HDRB Application" or "Planning Board Application."

# Girl Scouts Bearing Gifts Visit Hospital

Bags designed for children in emergency room

A contingent of Hudson Highlands Girl Scouts met recently with Verna Thorne, a volunteer at New York-Presby-



Girl Scouts from the Hudson Valley met with Verna Thorne, far left, to deliver gift bags for other kids. Photo provided

landt Manor, to donate 150 gift bags to distribute to children being treated in the Emergency Department.

Thorne began the gift-bag program at the hospital 12 years ago. Each bag contains coloring pages, crayons, stickers and a stuffed animal to help children relax and give them something fun to do.

# Chapel Show Has Strings Attached

Marionette artist to perform three fairy tales

**P**uppeteer and storyteller Vít Ho ejš, and his troupe of hand-carved marionettes will present *Czech and Slovak Fairy Tales* with Strings at The Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 6.

Hořejš (pronounced Horzaysh) found the cache of 69 24-inch marionettes, 80 to 180 years old, in a closet at the Jan Hus Church in the heart of New York's Czechoslovak neighborhood. Hořejš will perform a one-man show of fairy tales replete with kings, clever village maidens, witches and spirits. His marionettes speak in a dozen voices, dance, play violin, swim and fly. The program will include "Salt over Gold," "The Stingy Tailor" and "Kacha and the Devil."

Hořejš came to New York from Prague in 1979; in 1990 he founded the Czechoslovak-American Marionette Theatre, for which he has staged mainstays of the 18thcentury marionette repertoire, as well as less traditional performances mixing live performers and marionettes. They have included a puppet opera (*Rusalka, the Little Rivermaid*) and a performance of *Hamlet* with five puppeteers and 60 marionettes. His book *Twelve Iron Sandals and other Czechoslovak Tales* was chosen as one of the best children's books of the year by the New York Public Library.

The suggested donation for the show is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children under 12. The event is co-sponsored by The Chapel Restoration and non-profit GOH Productions. The Chapel Restoration, loMetro-North station, where free parking is available on weekends.

# We Are All Connected

*Gallery 66 NY opens* The Web of Life

**Whether States** We have but one thread within it," said Chief Seattle in 1855. "Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect."

For an artist with a discerning eye, there is no lack of suitable subjects in the natural world. Anita Jacobson

and Jane Soodalter share a sense of purpose and unique, creative avenues for its expression. In their exhibition, *The Web of Life*, opening at Gallery 66 NY in Cold Spring on Dec. 4, their purpose lies in making their viewers aware of the need for greater commitment to the preservation and proliferation of the myriad forms of life.

Jacobson, a collage artist, incorporates into her work the unexpected and pleasing presence of animals. After earning a degree in art history from New York University, she began her career as a graphic designer and photo researcher. In 1982 she co-founded New York City's Lower East Side Tenement Museum. Her work was most recently seen in a group exhibit, *The Grass Menagerie*, in Summit, New Jersey.

Soodalter, a photographer, could be said to "speak for the trees," in the words of Dr. Seuss's Lorax. Recently, she has been exploring the anthropomorphic images found in the world around her — in trees, rocks and sand — and interpreting them through her lens. Soodalter's work waves on one of the Beekman Street banners in Beacon.

Galleries B and C will feature small gifts, including ornaments, paintings, collage, ceramics, glass, photography and sculptures. A few of the selections are fantastical fiber animals by Marta Gutierrez and Maria Simonsson; glass bug paperweights by Linda Banks; and architectural blown glass vases by Michael Mikula.

The exhibits will be on view through



Untitled, by Anita Jacobson

Dec. 27. The gallery is open Thursdays – Sundays 12-6 p.m. An artists' reception is scheduled for 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday, Dec.
4. For more information go to gallery-66ny.com or call 845-809-5838.



Alice (left) with the March Hare and Mad Hatter

# 'Curiouser and Curiouser!'

Butterfield to host night of Wonder(land)

The Friends of the Butterfield Library will celebrate the 150th anniversary of Lewis Carroll's novel, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, with a 20th annual reception from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5. Guests, encouraged but not required to dress as a storybook character, will find themselves immersed in Wonderland when they step through the door. The evening features wine and hors d'oeuvres along with live music and a silent auction.

The Badey & Watson/Mary Rice Annual Service Award will be presented to Jim and Lori Ely of Riverview Restaurant.

It recognizes individuals who have gone above and beyond in giving time, talents and compassion to help the library. Tickets are available in advance for \$40 per person (\$45 at the door).

They can be purchased at the library or online at butterfieldlibrary.org. All proceeds benefit the Butterfield Library, and donations are tax deductible.

The library is located at 10 Morris Ave. (Route 9D), in Cold Spring, near the intersection with Main Street. For more information, call 845-265-3040.

### Santa Coming to Garrison Will visit firehouse Dec. 5

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Garrison Volunteer Fire Company will again host Santa at the firehouse on Saturday, Dec. 5. There are seatings at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. For reservations, call 845-424-4406 and leave a message with preferred seating time and number of guests. Donations are welcome and will go to the Lions Club Food Pantry.

Photo provided OI

terian/Hudson Valley Hospital in Cort- cated at 45 Market St., is across from the



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#### **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

#### Beacon

# **Beacon Institute** Launches Sensor Place

Interactive exhibit opens Dec. 5

The Beacon Institute for Rivers and LEstuaries, Clarkson University, will open an interactive learning space called Sensor Place at noon on Saturday, Dec. 5, at its storefront at 199 Main St.

The Sensor Place exhibits were inspired by the institute's River and Estuary Observatory Network (REON), which allows users to explore and visualize data about the river's health. One exhibit will be a virtual ecosystem; visitors can make it rain, channel water flows and sculpt the landscape with their hands. The 3D watershed, now in the final stages of development at Clarkson University's campus in Potsdam, is the result of a student-generated project overseen by Shane Rogers, a professor of civil and environmental engineering. A crowdfunding campaign to support the installation of the prototype at Sensor Place is underway; visit igg.me/at/ LaunchSensorPlace.

Sensor Place will also provide an opportunity for visitors to learn in more detail about Clarkson University-Beacon Institute water research and other programs, with self-guided kiosks designed by Beacon-based LNJ Tech Services.

To register for the reception, visit bire. org/events. Sensor Place will be open from 1 to 5 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays and from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

Support Groups For a full list of area support groups, visit: philipstown.info/sg



The Beacon Institute's new Sensor Place will include a 3D watershed Photo provided

## WORK:SHOP Market Returns

#### 17 artisans to show and sell work

Wickham Solid Wood Studio will host its third annual WORK:SHOP Artisan Market from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5, and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 6, at 578 Main St., in Beacon.

The curated sale features handcrafted objects from 17 artisans working in the Hudson Valley and New York City. The vendors will be arranged between and on top of the Wickham studio's woodworking machines.

Jessica Wickham, who organizes the sale, is a woodworker who draws inspiration for her work from time spent living in Japan, where finely crafted, handmade objects are an integral part of everyday life. "This is a carefully selected group of artisans - colleagues who are masters of their craft," she said. "Serious design chops meet roll-up-your-sleeves ingenuity and the results are unique and inspiring."

Participants are BeaconBee (skin care and bee-related products), Beaconknits (wool hats), Beth Bolgla Ceramics (functional pots), Connie Verrusio (jewelry), Fabhaus (digital fabrication), Gabor Ruszan (wooden stools and leather accessories), Herbaceutikals (body, home

and health products), Kelly & Co. (cloth and wood goods for people and homes), Kit Burke-Smith (jewelry), Kitty Jones (handmade goods for a cat-friendly lifestyle), Lauren Sandler (ceramics), Olivera (screen-printed cards), SUGURU (printed silk scarves), Ten Willow Studio (borosilicate glassware), 21 Bridge Design (custom metal fabrication) and Wickham Studio (black walnut charcuterie boards).

The event will also have a café with hot drinks and holiday goodies from Five Hens Baked Goods and Tas Kafe. Dennings Point Distillery will be offering spirits tastings. Admission is free, although a raffle will be held for each of 17 items made by vendors, with proceeds going to the Beacon Arts and Education Foundation. Raffle participants also receive discounts on food and drink from neighboring businesses Barb's Butchery, Beacon Pantry, Dogwood and Homespun. The sale is sponsored by Manitoga and The Valley Table Magazine.

For further information, visit workshop.virb.com or call 917-797-9247.

## **City of Beacon Seeks Committee Members**

#### Conservation, Human Relations, Emergency Management

The City of Beacon is recruiting volun-teers to serve on three committees.

The Conservation Advisory Committee, which has nine members appointed for two-year terms, advises the Planning Board and City Council on matters affecting the preservation, development and use of the natural and man-made features in the city. The committee advises on major environmental threats and maintains an inventory of natural resources and an index of all open spaces.

The Human Relations Commission

works to create and foster a community climate of tolerance and understanding. The commission looks into incidents of tension and conflict within the community, and accepts and investigates complaints from citizens who perceive that their rights under the law have been violated. The commission consist of five to 15 members appointed for two-year terms.

The Emergency Management Plan Committee prepares and provides for updating a comprehensive emergency management plan for the protection of the residents in the event of a public disaster. Besides public officials, the committee consists of three members of the community appointed for three-year terms.

For more information, call the mayor's office at 845-838-5010.

# **Beacon Players Present** A Christmas Carol

Lunch with Santa available before two performances

The Beacon High School theater **I** group, known as the Beacon Players, will sing its way through the story of Ebenezer Scrooge's journey from an embittered, ungenerous creature into a giving, caring human being during three performances of a musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol.

Showtimes are 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 4, and 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5, and Sunday, Dec. 6. Tickets, \$12 for adults and \$5 for children and senior citizens, are available at the door or at beaconplayers.org. For information, phone 845-838-6900, ext. 3420. The performances take place at Beacon High School, 101 Matteawan Road.

The Saturday and Sunday shows are preceded at noon by a lunch with Santa. The cost is \$8 per person and limited to 50 guests per day. Email beaconsantalunch@gmail.com for reservations.

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# **Sports** Haldane Girls Volleyball

Haldane Blue Devils took home the Silver Plaque in the New York State Class D State Finals, losing the Gold to the Portville Panthers at the Glens Falls Civic Center on Sunday, Nov. 22.

# Teen Health Day Set for Carmel

he Putnam County Health Department, in partnership with Westchester Medical Center's Teen Mobile Van, will host its second annual Teen Health Day on Dec. 4 at the Carmel Fire Department, 94 Gleneida Avenue. The event takes place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The health department will provide free, confidential screenings for HIV, Hepatitis C, STDs and pregnancy as well as mental health and substance abuse referrals to anyone ages 13 to 24. A number of community organizations will be present to answer questions.

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