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, 59, 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 members had 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 Gallacher 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-

Shop Main Street This Holiday Season
By Jeff Simms

One of 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 downhill-day-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 environmental benefits of buying local.

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

Maloney Votes With Republicans on Refugees
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 America n 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 backing 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 on the American dream.”
Giving Thanks for the Harvest

By Pamela Doan

It’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. — Jennifer Shaner

I am thankful for the worms 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 sub-soil 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.

Garlic doesn’t get all the glory in the garden, though. Flower, like the hardy and beautiful varieties that Shaner mentions, enrich our world and provide habitat and food for birds, insects and animals. Make these 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 that 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 practices 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 Fiskkill Farms and picked fruit and vegetables every week and took note of their techniques. I’d never seen tomatoes planted 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 to each person, 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.
Maloney Votes With Republicans on Refugees

(from Page 2)

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 administration should agree to immediately certify refugees if they pass the current screening process and we should all refocus on actual threats.”

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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 ran for reelection and Democrats in so-called swing districts where either party has a strong majority meet that threshold.

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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 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, at its office at 33 Main Street, Philipstown, New York 10556, 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

Two Beacon bookstores

As a Beacon resident, I was quite interested to read the article about Binnacle Books in the newest bookstores. The article mentioned in the first line that Binnacle Books 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 couple of bookstores 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 shelves with amazing books from Beacon Reads and encourage people to frequent them as well.

Kailie Janus
Beacon

INTRODUCTION TO SHELTER FUNDAMENTS/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.

THE PAPER

4 November 27, 2015

The Paper

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please, no parking meters

In last week’s Paper, it was reported that the village Planning Board will consider “whether to install parking mete rs” 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 town (in the municipal lot), how much 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.

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 Foerstch
Cold Spring

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 a mystery item you just picked off a shelf.”

In business for nine years in Beacon, Murnane’s shop offers a unique combination 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 elsewhere in the U.S.; we’re actually making them right 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 more pronounced in local shops that encourage customers to invest in themselves.

“Local is everything to me,” said Julie Harvey, who owns the Paper. “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 couple of bookstores 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 shelves with amazing books from Beacon Reads and encourage people to frequent them as well.

Kailie Janus
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IN FURTHERANCE OF THE TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN DUTY TO WIND DOWN THE AFFAIRS OF 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 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, at its office at 33 Main Street, Philipstown, New York 10556, 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).
**Shop Local in Cold Spring**

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

Alison Anthonie, 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 Custom Beams. “I’m providing a service that people come to us year after year. It’s heartening — how connected we are with people on a personal level. I feel a huge sense of community in my studio.”

Beacon Pilates. “I’m providing a service that people come to us year after year. It’s heartening — how connected we are with people on a personal level. I feel a huge sense of community in my studio.”

**Shop Local in Beacon**

(From previous page)

Beacon Pilates. “I’m providing a service that people come to us year after year. It’s heartening — how connected we are with people on a personal level. 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 year, because we’re all in this together.”

**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, particularly on 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 Farnamlo, District Secretary, Haldane Central School District, 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Springs, NY 10516. The deadline for submission is Monday, November 30, 2015, at 5 p.m.

In accordance with NYS Education Law and Board Policy, a Board of Education member must meet certain qualifications. He/she must:

- Be a citizen of the U.S.
- Be 18 eighteen (18) years of age or older
- 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 any 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.nysba.org) and the Westchester/Putnam School Boards Association (www.wpsba.org). Questions may be addressed to the Board directly at board@haldaneschool.org.
Non-Profits Offer Good Deals for Good Cause

Art, crafts and more

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

T hroughout the year, local not-for-profits sponsor special events to benefit the programs and services they offer.

This weekend and next, local non-profits are hosting events that can benefit audiences who appreciate art and crafts, and are offering donated goods 

The experts will appraise & purchase if desired such items as:

- Art & Antiques
- Fine and Decorative
- Furniture
- Pottery, Porcelain, Glass
- Rare Books, Manuscripts, Maps
- Silver, Coins, Currency, Buttons, Medals, etc.
- Tools, Musical Instruments, Scientific Instruments
- Musical Instruments, Clothing, Costumes
- Fine Jewelry, Gold, Silver, Platinum, Diamonds
- Rocks and Minerals, Fossils, Meteorites
- Index: the Antiques Roadshow & Related Items
- Rare Coins, Paper Money, Stamps
- Collectibles & Curiosities

SPECIAL GUEST APPRAISERS

• Stephen Carole
  - Long time appraiser and founder of Astor Galleries

• Mara Dean
  - Fine art appraiser at Astor Galleries

• Alex Salazar
  - Fine Art Consultant at Astor Galleries

The Paper presents an Antiques Appraisal Day

Saturday, December 5, 2015 - 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
at St. Mary’s-in-the-Highlands, 1 Chestnut Street, Cold Spring, NY

Astor Galleries will be bringing a team of recognized expert appraisers to Cold Spring, NY for the first time for an Antiques & Collectibles Appraisal Day.

The experts will appraise & purchase if desired such items as:

- Fine Art: Paintings, Watercolors, Etchings, Lithographs, Sculpture, etc.
- Gold and Silver Coins
- Photography & Cameras
- Toys and dolls
- Watches and clocks
- Musical Instruments
- Scientific Instruments
- Books; 1st ed., signed, etc.
- Historical documents
- Fine Jewelry: gold, platinum, silver, diamonds, etc.
- Silver, Flatware, bowls, trays, tea sets, etc.
- Hunting items: firearms, duck decoys, etc.
- Military, Guns & Weapons, Uniforms, etc.
- Clothing, Accessories and Costume Jewelry
- Textiles: Oriental rugs, tapestries, quilts, etc.
- Country items: weather vanes, crotch pots, etc.
- Chinese and Japanese Antiques

By Popular Request:

Gold, Silver, Jewelry, Flatware and Coins will be purchased.

A special request can be made by calling (800) 784-7876.

Donation: $10 per item or $25 for 3 items appraised

NO APPOINTMENTS NECESSARY

A LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MAKE HOUSE CALLS AT NO CHARGE.

You can also submit photos through our website www.astorgalleries.com via the $10 Appraisal tab

For more information email stephen@astorgalleries.com or Call (800) 784-7876
Thriller Writers Expound on Their Work

Fundraising forum draws enthusiastic audience

By Kevin E. Foley

A trio of masters of the spy-crime thriller genre enlightened and entertained an appreciative audience of 80 people last Sunday 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 providing insights into the mystery of writing mysteries, the origins of their books, other authors they admire, the terrors of writing mysteries, and how they try to write about the real world you wind up constraining yourself.

Duffy, who is known for his 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 anything, that’s for sure,” he said.

Kanon, who recently released his fifth novel, The Spy, about a real-life spy, supply-dropping to Afghan refugees, was asked if he had ever had a problem with a character that would not change. “No, thank God,” he said. “Getting a book written is a miracle in itself.”

Berenson, who has written nine books in a series about New York City anti-terror chief in several European and South American cities, and has a seventh coming in June, was asked if he had ever had a problem with a character. “Yes, I had a hard time with a character in Mr. and Mrs. Justice,” he said. “I have written about journalists in London before, and they are vulnerable.”

It was the audience’s turn. A woman asked if the authors ever had characters that no longer interested them, or characters they had created that they didn’t want to see them come back. Duffy asked the audience to raise their hands if they had ever had this experience, and it was a majority.

Another woman asked if there were any characters that had been left in the past. Duffy and Berenson both agreed that this happened.

Kanon was the last on the panel, and he was asked if writing mystery was something he could have done in his youth. “No,” he said. “I had friends who were book club members. But I was writing Young Adult books, and I was not going to be one of those.”

David Duffy replied: “For me [a story] starts with a character. So suppose you’re a Russian kid with a horrible 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

By Alison Rooney

Memories 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 VHS videotapes, 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 tapes. 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 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 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 rewritten 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 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)
Calendar Highlights
For upcoming events visit philipstown.info.
Send event listings to calendar@philipstown.info.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Local libraries closed
Army vs. Arkansas-Pine Bluff (Men's Basketball)
7:30 p.m. Christ Arena, West Point 845-938-2526 | goarmywestpoint.com
In Our Son's Name (Documentary, 2015)
7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
info@inoursnamesmatterbeacon.org
Slane Allen Band
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café
379 Main St., Beacon 845-855-1300 | townecriерь.com

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Holiday Public Library closed through Dec. 6
Fishkill Historical Society Craft Boutique
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Van Wyck Museum
504 Route 9, Fishkill 845-896-9500 | fishkillhistoricalsociety.org
Continuas on Sunday

Holiday Pottery Show & Sale
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison 845-424-3689 | garrisoninstitute.org

Defensive Driving Course
6 p.m. Butterfield Library
406 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 | philipstownrec.org

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. Capitol Courthouse
44 Graeneda Ave., Carmel 845-808-1020 | putnamcounycny.com

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

Senior Bus Trip to Fishkill
10 a.m. Chestnut Ridge Rd, 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. Mac’s on Main
246 Main St, Beacon
beaconarts.org

Haldane vs. Palisades 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 845-165-3400 | myfirstriding.org

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

Peckhuchka Night
8-10 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
132 Old Route 6, Carmel 845-278-6738
uwec.org/management-center/ment

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
Putnam County Public Library
379 Main St., Beacon 845-808-1020 | putnamcounycny.com

David Benioff’s Christmas Tribute to Charlie Brown
7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill 845-693-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

Sparkle Holiday Celebration
5 – 9 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D, Garrison, just south of Cold Spring 845-265-3689 | boscobel.org

The Web of Life (Opening)
6 – 9 p.m. Gallery 66 NY
66 Main St., Cold Spring 845-859-5538 | gallery66ny.com

Shakespeare Situation (Youth Players)
7 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison Landing, Garrison 845-424-3900 | philipstowndepotttheatre.org

A Christmas Carol in Music
7 p.m. Beacon High School
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison 845-838-6900 x3420 | philipstown.info

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 914-475-7778 | callingallofts.net

Henrik Ibsen’s Hedda Gabler
8 p.m. The Beacon Main Theatre
445 Main St, Beacon 914-475-0798 | thebeacontheatre.org

Adult Rock Camp: Arena Rock II
8:30 p.m. Elks Club
900 Wicort Avenue, Beacon 845-705-0472 | beaconmusicfactory.com

Dor Williams
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café
379 Main St., Beacon 845-855-1300 | townecriерь.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.
Fourth Annual Tree Lighting

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 1/4-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 equip- 

ment. 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 says “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 purchas- 

ing a transfer machine from Hammach- 

er Schlemmer, but could not persuade myself that the cost, $299, was appropri- 

ate. 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.”
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 how 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 the frontiers of science, solve one of the problems such 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 the frontiers of science, solve one of the problems by the question “what if it were you?”

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 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 bureau- cracy 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 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 travels 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.
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. Philpstown 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 to the Village of Cold Spring, 45 Market St., Cold Spring, NY 10516, or by email to vcsclerks@bestweb.net. The subject line should read: “HDRB Application” or “Planning Board Application.”

Girl Scouts Bearing Gifts Visit Emergency room

A contingent of Hudson Highlands Girl Scouts met recently with Verna Thorne, a volunteer at New York-Presbyterian/Hudson Valley Hospital in Cortlandt Manor, to donate 100 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

Puppeteer and storyteller Vit 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.

Hoejš (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. Hoejš 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 “Kasha and the Devil.”

Hoejš 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 19th-century marionette repertoire, as well as less traditional performances mixing live performers and marionettes. They have included a puppet opera (Busulka, the Little Rivermaid) and a performance of Hamlet with five puppets 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 $8 for children under 12. The event is co-sponsored by The Chapel Restoration and non-profit GOH Productions. The Chapel Restoration, located at 45 Market St., is across from the Metro-North station, where free parking is available on weekends.

We Are All Connected
Gallery 66 NY opens The Web of Life

H umankind has not woven the web of life. We are 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 Sooldalter 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.

Sooldalter, 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. Sooldalter’s work waves on one of the Beekman Street ban- ners 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 Dec. 27. The gallery is open Thursdays – Sundays 12-6 p.m. An artist’s 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.

‘Curiouser and Curiouser!’
Butterfield to host night of Wonderland

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 are 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 Bailey & Watson/Mary Rice Annual Service Award will be presented to Jim and Lori Elly of Riverview Restaurant. It recognizes individuals who have given above and beyond in giving time, talent 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 30 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 Philipstown 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.

Community Briefs
Beacon Institute Launches Sensor Place
Interactive exhibit opens Dec. 5

The Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries, 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/ theinstallationoftheprototypeatSens orPlace to learn more.

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 beaconbazaar.org/launchsensorplace.

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

WORKSHOP Market Returns
17 artisans to show and sell work

Wickham Solid Wood Studio will host its third annual WORKSHOP 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 Ruszans (wooden stools and leather accessories), Herbacencikalis (soy, 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 cafe with hot drinks and holiday goodies from Five Hens Baked Goods and Tao 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 Minotaga and The Valley Table Magazine.

For more information, visit work shop.wvih.com or call 917-797-9247.

City of Beacon Seeks Committee Members
Conservation, Human Relations, Emergency Management

The City of Beacon is recruiting volunteers 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 845-838-5005.

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The Beacon Institute’s new Sensor Place will include a 3D watershed.

PHOTO PROVIDED
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 Glen Falls Civic Center on Sunday, Nov. 22.

Teen Health Day Set for Carmel

The 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 Glemsena 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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November 27, 2015

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