

The HIGHLANDS Current

DECEMBER 2, 2016

161 MAIN ST., COLD SPRING, N.Y. | highlandscurrent.com



A cutting-edge business
See Page 9



Putnam Set to Create Animal Abuse Registry

Those convicted of cruelty would have names, photos online for 10 years

By Holly Crocco

After two years of discussion, the Putnam County Legislature on Dec. 6 will consider joining a growing list of New York counties with online registries of convicted animal abusers.

Rockland (2011), Orange (2015), Sullivan (2016) and Ulster (2016) are among about a dozen New York counties that have created registries and post or plan to post the names, addresses and photos of residents convicted of animal cruelty.

(Westchester approved a registry in 2012 but it has not been implemented.) New York City also has a registry, and this year Tennessee launched the first statewide site. The Putnam registry was proposed in 2014 by William Gouldman (R-Putnam Valley).

Dutchess County legislators considered an abuse registry last year but decided to wait for the state to create one. Kim McNamee, the senior humane law enforcement officer for the Dutchess County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), said her agency feels that would be more efficient than each county having its own registry.

During a Rules Committee meeting of the Putnam County Legislature held Nov. 14, Ken Ross, chief of the

Putnam County SPCA, explained that whenever a county resident is convicted of animal cruelty, the court would send his or her photo and home address to the Putnam SPCA to be posted on the registry for 10 years. In addition, the offender would pay \$50 each year to the SPCA. An offender convicted in another New York county who moves into Putnam would also have to register.

"There would be no cost to the county, and there would be no involvement of other agencies," Ross said. "It's a very simple thing."

The registry would not include details of the crime (Continued on Page 7)



This Yorkie was found abandoned in a crate in Kent in the dead of winter in 2013. A Facebook darling, he was named Herman and adopted. Putnam SPCA photo

Going Whole Hog

Chef Terrance Brennan brings his eye for detail to the Roundhouse

By Brian PJ Cronin

Terrance Brennan sweats the details, even when they're details that no one else may ever notice.

That became clear moments before he sat down for an interview in the lounge area of Beacon's Roundhouse, where two months ago he took over as head chef to overhaul the hotel's restaurant and menu.

"Hang on," Brennan said. "The table's crooked."

To an untrained eye, the table looked fine. But sure enough, with a quick nudge, the layout of the room snapped into focus. Only then did he sit down.

"The culture here is excellence," he explained. "And you attract what you produce."

Brennan's game of inches reflects the razor-thin margin that separates success

from failure in the restaurant business. But it was a love of chaos, not order, that got him interested in cooking as a teenager in the suburbs of Washington D.C. He enjoyed the convivial atmosphere that came from working with his father at the family's pizza and sandwich shop, and then he got hooked on the madcap adrenaline rush of cranking out hundreds of dishes a night in cavernous hotel kitchens.

Like a highly touted pitcher who reaches the big leagues and realizes he needs more than a fastball, Brennan soon understood that if he wanted to build a career as a chef, he needed finesse. And for that, he had to move to New York.

After writing every Manhattan restaurant he could find an address for, he landed a job at Le Cirque, taking orders in French, which he did not speak. The understaffed brigade struggled with the volume of orders, but it was there he says he learned the procedures and processes that keep the finest kitchens humming. After a three-year cooking tour of Europe, (Continued on Page 6)



Chef Terrance Brennan at the Roundhouse

Photo by B. Cronin



The Indian Point Energy Center in Buchanan

File photo

Major Setback for Indian Point

High court denies exemption from environmental review

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

New York's highest court on Nov. 21 ruled that the state can require that the Indian Point nuclear reactors pass an environmental review. Entergy, which operates the reactor, had argued

the power plant was exempt.

Riverkeeper, the Hudson River environmental organization, argued that the decision "effectively stops the Nuclear Regulatory Commission from relicensing Indian Point," which would mean the plant would have to shut down. That has long been the goal of Riverkeeper and other groups who say the plant should not operate in such a densely populated area, or near the Hudson River. (Continued on Page 8)

Small, Good Things

The Old Long Since

By Joe Dizney

The holiday season can sometimes seem like an obstacle course — a competition, a social trifecta — to be endured as much as enjoyed. Human bonding and fellowship are not to be avoided, but I suspect there's some part in all of us that longs to return to something more genuine than the desperation (Bigger! More! Better! Now!) that infects this

festive season. It's not for nothing that Robert Burn's melancholic poem, *Auld Lang Syne* (literally "the old long since"), became one of the most familiar holiday ballads, a dewy-eyed celebration of time's passing.

Upside-down cake seems a fittingly retro and nostalgic way to finish off both a holiday dinner and this outrageously cockeyed year.

I encountered a version of this cranberry upside-down cake on David Lebovitz's always-engaging food blog (davidlebovitz.com). It seemed a perfectly

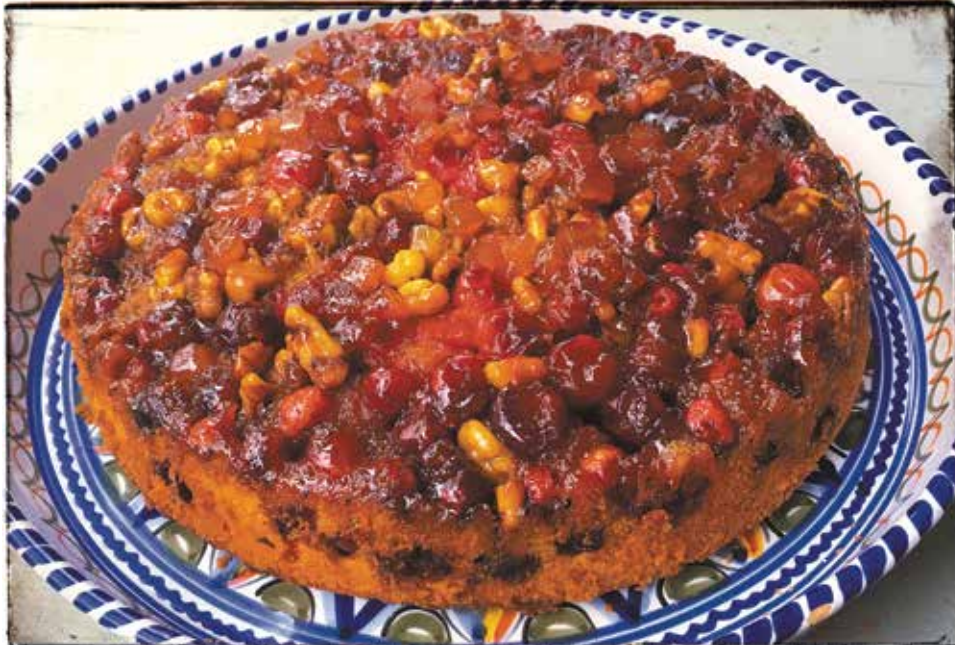
surprising-but-obvious addition to the holiday food canon. Further investigation revealed numerous iterations, not surprisingly a Chez Panisse/Alice Waters version (Lebovitz is a Chez Panisse-trained chef alumnus and acolyte of Waters and her pastry chef Lindsay Shere) most likely picked it up.

This is a simple skillet cake, a testament to vernacular cooking and pioneer food that would not have seemed out of place on an early American groaning board. (The 1950s sliced-and-canned pineapple and Maraschino-cherry-bedecked version that probably jaundiced our collective opinion was actually a Betty Crocker adaptation of untold humble one-pot or one-

pan fruit pies, cakes and cobblers.)

Tart cranberries adapt well to this treatment; either fresh or frozen will do. A bit of corn meal adds some texture to the cake, but I can't help but think that some almond, hazelnut or walnut meal would be even more welcoming. In the spirit of the season, I added toasted, chopped walnuts and candied orange peel to the topping; in the same spirit a bit of orange zest livens up the cake. A bit of curry powder (a trick I picked up and must attribute to Bobby Flay) adds a mysteriously indefinable spice to the caramelized topping.

Pure animal instinct says a dollop of whipped cream, crème fraîche or vanilla ice cream would work as a topping but on its own this makes a fine Christmas coffee cake.



Cranberry upside-down cake

Photo by J. Dizney

Cranberry Upside-Down Cake

10 to 12 servings

Topping

4 tablespoons unsalted butter, cubed
 ¾ cup light brown sugar, packed
 ½ tablespoon curry powder
 2-to-2½ cups whole cranberries (fresh preferred; frozen satisfactory)
 ½ cup chopped, toasted walnuts
 ¼ cup candied orange peel, diced small

Cake batter

1¼ cup all-purpose flour
 ¼ cup coarse cornmeal or polenta
 1½ teaspoon baking powder
 ¼ teaspoon salt
 ½ cup unsalted butter, cubed, at room temperature
 ¾ cup granulated sugar
 Grated zest of one orange
 2 large eggs
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 ½ cup whole milk

1. In a 10-inch cast-iron skillet, melt 4 tablespoons butter and brown sugar together; whisk until sugar is liquefied and just beginning to bubble. Whisk in curry powder and remove from heat and set aside. Heat the oven to 350 degrees.
2. In a bowl, whisk together flour, cornmeal/polenta, baking powder and salt. Reserve.
3. In a mixing bowl, beat a half-cup of cubed butter, granulated sugar and orange zest with an electric mixer at medium high speed until light and fluffy (3 to 5 minutes). Reduce mixer speed to medium and add eggs one at a time, stopping occasionally to scrape down the sides; mix in vanilla.
4. On low speed, add half of the flour mixture, then the milk followed by the remaining flour mixture. Mix until just fully combined — do not overmix.
5. In the skillet, lightly mix the cranberries, walnuts and candied orange peel with the brown sugar mixture until evenly coated and jiggle the pan to level the mixture. Spoon batter evenly over the cranberries in multiple mounds; spread batter evenly over fruit with a spatula.
6. Bake in the center of the heated oven 45 to 50 minutes until top is golden brown. Remove from oven and let rest 10 minutes. Run a knife around the edge of the skillet and place your serving plate upside down on top of the skillet. Using oven mitts, flip the skillet and plate to release the cake. This cake is best served the same day, warm, but can be rewarmed in the oven or microwave up to a day or two later. Whipped cream, crème fraîche or vanilla ice cream not necessary, but then again...

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Notes from the Cold Spring Village Board

Highlights from the Nov. 22 meeting

By Michael Turton

Residents of Cold Spring could see their electric bills shrink if the Village Board elects to take part in a renewable energy program being promoted to municipalities in the Hudson Valley.

At the board's Nov. 22 meeting, representatives from Renewable Highlands explained Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), a nonprofit project approved by New York State that shops for the best available price for electricity for residents and small businesses.

The village would incur no costs by joining the CCA because the energy supplier pays the administrative costs. A small fee, about a tenth of a cent per kilowatt-hour, is taken from the savings realized. In the past only large energy users such as industry, big-box stores and hospitals have been able to negotiate better rates.

Under the CCA program, residents would still deal with Central Hudson. The only change in their monthly bills would be a listing of the energy supplier contracted by CCA. Residents and businesses owners could opt out at any time.

Twenty municipalities in Westchester County have joined CCA with 14 opting to purchase all of their electricity from renewable energy sources. According to CCA rep-

resentatives Michael Rauch and Glen Weinberg, residents there have seen savings of about 17 percent. They estimated that in Putnam County the savings would be closer to 5 to 10 percent because the smaller population has less purchasing power.

Philipstown, Beacon, Fishkill and Wappinger Falls have passed resolutions in support of CCA and Rauch and Weinberg asked the Cold Spring board to do the same. Trustees will consider the matter after reviewing the resolutions. A public hearing is required before the program could be adopted.

In other business ...

- Trustees approved an amendment to a 2014 resolution requiring all village boards and committees to produce agendas and minutes. Mayor Dave Merandy described the local law as leaving "no leeway at all." The amendment, which passed unanimously, added the words "to the extent practicable" to the end of the 2014 resolution, which reads, "The Village's website shall list all boards and committees, along with their current members and charge, meeting dates, ties and locations along with notices of meetings,

agendas and minutes." The change reflects the language of the state Open Meetings Law.

- Merandy hosted a meeting at Village Hall with stakeholders in the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail project. He said the discussion about shifting the route from Fair Street to Dockside Park was only "moving the problem around," noting that the trail is "inheriting problems" that must be addressed with or without the trail.
- The Cold Spring Planning Board will act as lead agency for an environmental review of an application to add a food and beverage service at the Cold Spring Apothecary at 75 Main St.
- Trustees approved a reallocation of funds to allow the Tree Advisory Committee to begin a beautification project along Main Street.
- The board approved a recommendation from the planning board to provide a parking waiver for 2 Depot Square, where a three-family residential unit will be reconfigured to add retail space.
- The installation of digital water meters throughout Cold Spring and Nelsonville is back on track after a delay. Residents can make appointments with East National Water by calling 1-800-252-8556 or visiting eastnationalwater.com. The village has paid all installation costs.



East National Water vans will be a familiar sight around the village as digital meters are installed.

Photo provided

For more Village Board notes, including from its Nov. 8 meeting, see highlandscurrent.com

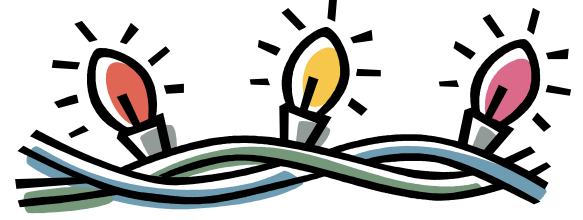



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Fjord Trail

I am writing in support of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail and firmly against a "no-build" option ("Fjord Trail Route May Change," Nov. 19). My professional background is in the field of landscape architecture and I have worked on many projects where our goal was to connect points of access with continuous waterfront access.

Some residents complain that the trail will increase the flow of visitors to Cold Spring without sufficient benefit to the village. The need for safer connections to the trails are clear. There is no way to slow the flow of visitors from the extremely efficient transit link of Metro-North (which is a huge asset to our town's residents). To ignore the safety risks would be a dereliction of the role of local and state government. Further, a more formalized trail system can address concerns of overuse

through signage and ongoing management strategies.

A continuous trail from Cold Spring to Beacon would also have enormous benefit for residents. While we have a lot of visual access to the river and some points where we can explore, there is little to no connectivity between these points. A boat is required to get a sense of longer stretches of the river's edge.

Creating the Fjord Trail would increase our interactions with the sheer beauty of the river, as well as the ability to see its ecological systems up close. The bike path would improve fitness opportunities; because of winding and narrow roads throughout the area, biking is extremely dangerous and mostly a no-go for young families. An off-road or dedicated path will allow inclusive access to young and old.

The more we are able to interact with

the river and are exposed to and understand its science and art, the more benefits we all receive and the greater sense of stewardship we feel.

Liz Campbell Kelly, *Cold Spring*

Another view

I thought some feedback from a new reader might be helpful. Frankly, I saw a need for more balance in the Nov. 18 issue. "Taking to the Streets" had a preponderance of Hillary Clinton supporters, as did the letters to the editor. They sounded inconsolable, but there is an upside in every election. At least in this one we were spared a president who staunchly supports all abortion. On a different score, decrying the Electoral College is old hat; it was done in 1860 when Lincoln became president with only 40 percent of the popular vote.

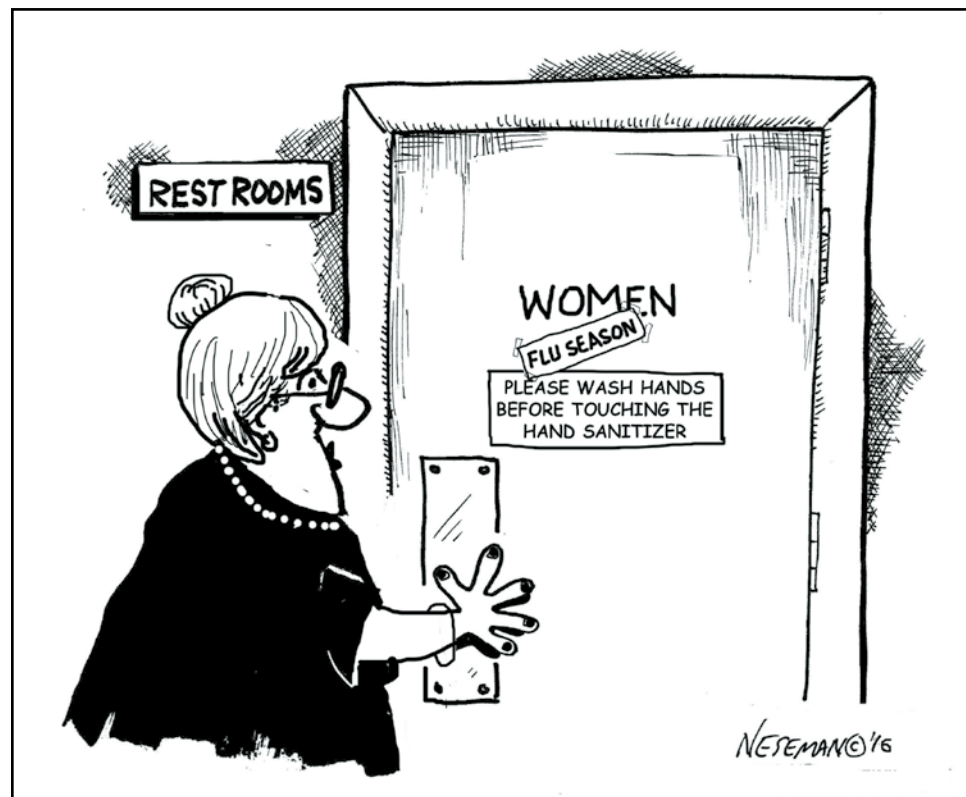
The story on gay residents ("Pride in the Highlands") was of interest, but the remark by Jimmy Zuehl that while he's encouraged by the size of the Highland's LGBTQ population, "we're still a minority," gave me pause. Looking at the broad picture, as historians from Will Durant to Jacques Barzun have done, if same-sex activity became the norm it would doom not only society but the human race.

Finally, "The Power of Protest" noted that a women's march is planned for Jan. 21 in Washington, D.C. It should also have mentioned that a massive protest of Roe v. Wade that has taken place annually for 30 years is scheduled for Jan. 22. I think you will agree that a good newspaper is not a propaganda tool but airs both sides of an issue, except on the editorial page, of course. Looking forward to the next issue.

Dick Murphy, *Beacon*

Black gold

Pooping in clean water has always been a bad idea, and now it's becoming untenable not only for the citizens of Nelsonville but for humanity. (Continued on next page)



Taking it to the Street

By Anita Peltonon

Do you have any unusual ways of celebrating the holidays?



"We go out to dinner on Christmas Eve. It used to be a roast goose at home with my family."

~ Patsy Johnson, Cold Spring



"Every month, we celebrate our anniversary day."

~ Ian Milsom, Highland Falls



"We have to make Yorkshire pudding for every single holiday, no matter what it is. My husband's British."

~ Laura Milsom, Highland Falls

Joey Hyatt Jr. Begins Recovery

Fundraiser planned at Depot Restaurant

By Michael Turton

Joey Hyatt Jr., a 19-year-old member of the North Highlands Fire Company, was seriously injured Nov. 9 in a traffic accident on Route 9 near the Philipstown-Fishkill border. The southbound vehicle in which Hyatt was a passenger was struck by a northbound vehicle. Hyatt's injuries included two broken cervical vertebrae. The driver, Dominic Chirico, and another passenger were not seriously hurt.

"Joey is quadriplegic but he has developed a bit of move-

ment in his arms," said Hyatt's mother, Chrissy Smith. "We're hopeful that with time and a lot of hard work his condition will improve." Hyatt is undergoing intensive daily physical therapy at Helen Hayes Hospital in Haverstraw.

"The community has really come together and done a lot for all of us," Smith said. "It's fabulous." The support has included the fire company holding a pizza night to raise money to help with medical expenses. Hyatt's father, Joe Hyatt, is assistant chief.

The Depot Restaurant in Cold Spring, where Smith works, is planning an Eat for Joey benefit on Tuesday, Dec. 6, in which the restaurant will contribute the day's proceeds, including from a \$25 buffet that begins at 5 p.m. Employees at The Depot, which is owned by Greg Pagones, will volunteer their time and musician Mike Klubnick will perform. For updates on Hyatt's recovery, search at facebook.com for "Prayers for Joey Hyatt Jr." A meal train has also been organized at mealtrain.com/trains/74ow42.



Joey Hyatt Jr. with his mother, Chrissy Smith

Photo provided

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (from previous page)

Maybe Nelsonville isn't facing a problem with overloaded septic tanks ("Nelsonville Considers Infrastructure," Nov. 25) but an opportunity to change course and start turning human waste into a resource, also known as humanure.

Humanure systems, which involve pooping and peeing in a bucket, then covering your offerings with sawdust and composting the mixture outdoors, require little financial investment. To get started, you need a few five-gallon buckets, an outdoor composter and a source of sawdust (or other carbon-rich material). With proper management, which need not be overly laborious, any human can turn poop into the other black gold to fertilize ornamentals, food plants or both, depending on factors including but not limited to the gardener's disposition.

Since this method of reclaiming human waste involves mixing it only with sawdust or the like and not water, it may legally qualify as a backyard composting operation, as opposed to a sewer system (sewers, by definition, involve mixing poop with water). For more info, see *The Humanure Handbook*, available through the Mid-Hudson Library System.

Helen Zuman, *Beacon*

Tough but fragile

The Garrison Volunteer Fire Company is fragile. How's that? Surely all firefighters are strong and the trucks are large and shiny! Firemen and women are tough on highway crashes and burning structures, but only human when disregarded.

Perhaps you have noticed that our culture is changing: more Garrison residents work in New York City, more young people move away, fewer people maintain their homes and property themselves, enjoying the use of tools and physical exercise. The result is fewer available members for the fire company.

Volunteers are the fire company, and the spirit is fragile. Who wants to work in an embattled atmosphere? Who wants to hear, "Of course you have my respect, but not my money!"? The unrelenting criticism and disrespect is discouraging volunteers and demoralizing leaders.

We all must turn out Dec. 13 to support the fire commissioners — Bohl, Brower, Fronio, Mercurio and Tudor — and vote yes for the reserves. Any less risks losing a vital part of our community.

Betsy Calhoun, *Garrison*

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Town Hall Annex Town of Philipstown Putnam County, New York

The Town of Philipstown is seeking Contractors to register for the Alterations and Addition to the Dahlia House – Town Hall Annex. The open period of time to register is November 23, 2016 until December 6, 2016.

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

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

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

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

OWNER RIGHTS RESERVED:

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

STATEMENT OF NON-COLLUSION:

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

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

By Order of the Town Board of the Town of Philipstown.

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Going Whole Hog *(from Page 1)*

he says he felt ready to put a uniquely American spin on European fine dining.

Brennan's two Manhattan restaurants, Picholine and Artisanal, brought him critical acclaim. But he says the rising rents soon became too much and, like many New Yorkers, he left the city for the Highlands.

He says his challenge at the Roundhouse is to figure out how to adapt the standards of classic fine dining to the budgets and tastes of customers who are shying away from the pomp and circumstance of haute cuisine.

He figured his way forward would be through the fields, specifically, vegetables. He was known at Picholine for his

vegetarian tasting menu and so was enticed by "all these great farms as well as the trend of proteins taking on more of a supporting role." He spent a summer visiting farmers around the Hudson Valley, asking about crop rotation and soil inputs and looking for produce that told the story of the farm it came from. He also got in touch with a forager in order to secure wild greens and mushrooms.

At the same time, Brennan knew he had to serve meat. He decided to go with one of the most sustainable ways, known as "whole animal," when a restaurant buys one butchered pig or steer at a time and finds a way to cook its way through it.

That approach presented its own challenges. "I had to figure out what to do



The Roundhouse

Photos provided



The dining room at the Roundhouse restaurant

with a whole pig," Brennan says. "I can't just have every entree be a different pork dish."

While Brennan's menus at the Roundhouse reflect the forests and fields of the Highlands, with greens from Obercreek Farm alongside black walnuts foraged from Mount Beacon, there's also a "Nose to Tail" section for the adventurous diner who's ready to tuck into ears, trotters and tongues, as well as a nose-to-tail tasting menu that ends with a sweet riff on chicharrones, topped with chocolate and candied bacon dust.

"My concern was that people would think that this was too out there," he says. "I mean, the first item on that tasting menu is beef heart tartare. It's pretty in-your-face. But the response has been really positive. We're having fun."

Next comes the business of getting through the winter with a menu that relies

on seasonal items. "Next winter I'll be better prepared," he said. "I'll have preserves, pickled and fermented things, because I'll be putting those up throughout the summer. This year I got in the game too late. I'll miss the foraged things, but there's enough greenhouses around here for us to work with. And I'm not going to cheat. You won't see any tomatoes this winter."

Meanwhile, there's still tinkering to be done and problems to be solved. Like what to do with all the pork broth produced by all that nose-to-tail cooking. And how to create a more affordable menu for Monday and Tuesday nights to appeal to the locals after the tourists have left. Brennan hopes to use those two problems to solve each other.

"I've got all this amazing pork broth and I've got a bar," he said. "Why not do ramen? That's what we're playing with now. Ramen night, five different ramens, charge 12 bucks, pack the whole town in here."

PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE

Auditions for the Depot's Mainstage Production of
Sondheim's Company

Performances start Feb. 24
for three to four weekends.

Auditions Dec. 3, 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

<http://www.philipstowndepottheatre.org/auditions>

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Dec. 10, 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

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Dec. 18, 3 p.m.

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Anna B. Warner – America's Gardening Pioneer
Saturday, December 10 at 3pm

Join PHM for a holiday celebration and a lecture with garden historian Barbara Hobens. Barbara will discuss Anna's passion for gardening and her impact on the gardening community, particularly through Anna's book, *Gardening by Myself*.

Note the special early lecture start time to accommodate holiday evening plans. Join us after the lecture for eggnog and shopping in the museum store.

Find stocking stuffers and unique gifts, and receive 20% off your entire purchase!

Admission is \$5 for the general public and is free for members. Please RSVP at 845-265-4010 or rachel@putnamhistorymuseum.org.

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Putnam Set to Create Animal Abuse Registry *(from Page 1)*



Top, the owner of this dog, discovered by Putnam SPCA officers in 2011, was arrested. Above, poodle/cocker spaniel mix found abandoned off Old Albany Post Road in Garrison in 2012. Putnam SPCA photos

but the statute would define animal cruelty as organizing fights, failure to feed, abandonment, "carrying an animal in a cruel manner," poisoning, clipping or cutting the ears of dogs, stealing a pet, seizing dogs for research purposes, harming a service animal or sexual misconduct, among other crimes.

Anyone listed on the registry would be prohibited from owning or controlling any animal, including birds and fish, or face fines of \$250 to \$1,000 or up to 15 days in jail. "These people should not have animals, and the legislature has the ability to stop it," Ross said. "A judge is not going to be able to order this; it has to come through a county law."

Ross noted that the FBI, citing studies that suggest cruelty to animals is a precursor to violent crimes against humans, this year added animal cruelty to its national crime reporting system. The crime had previously been placed in the "All Other Offenses" category.

Under the proposed Putnam County law, any resident who sells or gives away an animal to someone whose name appears on the registry can be held liable for not doing due diligence by checking the database, which would be linked from the SPCA site at spcaputnam.org.

Joseph Castellano (R-Southeast) expressed some concern over that provision. "How does it affect the family in Putnam County who has a litter of kittens they need to get rid of?" Castellano said he wanted to make sure "innocent" residents



Putnam SPCA Chief Ken Ross Photo provided

who happen to give away an animal to the "wrong person" are not implicated.

"It takes two seconds to ask someone to be responsible for a life," Ross replied. "It's not a human life, but it's a life. And if we also agree that what you do to an animal you will also do to a human being, the least we can do is hold people accountable."

Barbara Scuccimarra (R-Philipstown) said she is "all in favor" of a registry. "This is only going to facilitate and help you do your job even better because it will stop some of these horrible things that are going on," she told Ross.

Ginny Nacerino (R-Patterson) also expressed her support. "On behalf of the innocent animals, this is imperative to push through," she said.

The proposed law has gone through some revision. In June, Putnam County district attorney Robert Tendy offered

the Rules Committee his assessment of a draft. While he said he supported the proposal, he said its definition of "animal" as "every living creature except a human being" was broad enough to suggest that even a guppy could not be given away or sold without checking the registry.

He suggested the legislature use as a model the Orange County law, which he said was shorter and more specific. Passed in June 2015, it requires offenders to remain on the registry for 15 years and pay \$125 annually. The Rockland County law requires four years and \$50.

Sullivan County, which passed its law in July, requires seven years and \$125. Notably, it forbids offenders only from owning a pet, providing exemptions for "farm animals for farmers" and service animals for people with disabilities.

In Putnam, the three-member Rules Committee voted unanimously Nov. 14 to send the proposed law to the full legislature, which is expected to vote at its Dec. 6 meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. at the Historic Courthouse in Carmel.

Where to Report Animal Abuse or Neglect

Putnam County SPCA
845-520-6915

Dutchess County SPCA
845-452-7722, ext. 404



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Major Setback for Indian Point

(from Page 1)

Officials from Entergy said the company remained confident its plant would be relicensed. The licenses have expired but the Indian Point Energy Center continues to operate during the relicensing process.

In its lawsuit, Entergy argued that the reactors do not need state environmental certification as required by the federal Coastal Management Program because they were built before the program began and are therefore “grandfathered” in.

The state argued that no such exemption exists, and the New York Court of Appeals agreed. In a unanimous decision, its seven justices overturned a lower-court decision that favored Entergy.

The federal law creating the Coastal Management Program stipulates that any company such as Entergy that needs a federal license because its operations could affect “land or water use or natural resource in the coastal zone” must first obtain environmental certification from the state.

While the Indian Point reactors underwent a federal environmental impact assessment before their original licensing, the high court ruled that the relicensing is



A view from inside Indian Point, from a documentary about the plant by Ivy Meeropol

Motto Pictures

“Without that coastal zone approval, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission cannot relicense Indian Point. It is a complete stopper. It’s time to close Indian Point.”

“a new project, with different impacts and concerns” than 40 years ago.

Paul Gally, president of Riverkeeper and a Cold Spring resident, noted that in 2015 New York State declared Indian Point “inconsistent” with more than a dozen of its policies designed to protect the Hudson River. “Without that coastal zone approval, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission cannot relicense Indian Point,” Gally said. “It is a complete stopper. It’s time to close Indian Point.”

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said the ruling vindicated the state. He described Indian Point plant as an “antiquated” facility that “does not belong on the Hudson” and said it “poses a threat not only to the coastal resources and uses of the river,” but to New York City and “millions of New Yorkers living and working in the surrounding community.”

Bright Lights, Small City

Beacon and Cold Spring are converting street bulbs, but are they too bright?

By Jeff Simms

An initiative to replace more than 1,400 streetlights in Beacon with energy-efficient bulbs that use Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) is underway and, upon completion next spring, should save the city around \$127,000 annually.

The LEDs are expected to improve road and sidewalk lighting while using half the electricity of conventional bulbs and lasting four times longer. In addition, the city is converting traffic signals at 13 intersections.



An LED streetlight

Nationally, there has been some concern that LED bulbs are too bright, creating safety hazards and interfering with the body’s natural rhythms.

The American Medical Association warned in June that high-intensity LEDs can worsen glare, causing hazards for drivers and pedestrians. In addition, the streetlights “operate at a wavelength that most adversely suppresses melatonin during night.” The AMA cited studies that show brighter lights in residential areas

are associated with “reduced sleep times, dissatisfaction with sleep quality, excessive sleepiness, impaired daytime functioning and obesity.”

City Administrator Anthony Ruggiero said the Beacon lights are less harsh than ones used earlier in other municipalities, which operated in the 5,000 to 6,000 Kelvin color temperature range. The streetlights being installed in Beacon rate at 4,000 Kelvin along main corridors and 3,000 Kelvin in residential areas, he said.

In addition to energy savings, LED lighting provides an effect much closer to natural light, Ruggiero said.

In Cold Spring, Deputy Mayor Marie Early said the village has replaced only a half-dozen streetlights with LED bulbs in the

4,000 Kelvin range but has already heard complaints that they’re too bright.

Central Hudson spokesperson John Maserjian said Nov. 29 that the utility will soon offer less-intense streetlights to municipalities in its eight-county region. “The light is warmer, probably more like an incandescent light in terms of color temperature, but still highly efficient,” he said. If feedback elsewhere is positive, those LEDs could be installed along Main Street in Cold Spring, Early said.

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The Calendar

Swann Song

Director's retirement triggers changes at Garrison Art Center

By Alison Rooney

When Carinda Swann retires Dec. 31 after eight years as director of the Garrison Art Center, her departure will trigger a realignment at the non-profit. Swann will stay on as part of the gallery committee and has also signed up for a few classes, now that she has time to take them. She will be succeeded by Katie Schmidt Feder, hired away from the Peekskill-based arts organization Embark, that she co-founded.

At the same time, Dolores Strebel will become associate director and Becky Gordon has taken over as education coordinator following the departure of Melissa Schlobohm for family reasons (although she still teaches at the center). Finally, administrative assistant Julia

Famularo has taken on duties as media coordinator.

"Our roles are more defined now, but we will all still wear our many hats," Strebel says. "We keep those hats in the drawer and pull them out as we need them." She says that with the changeover in staff, "it's important to continue the momentum. All these years it's been solid footing and everyone here is devoted to this place. We have a small staff and my role is to make sure that all of the ideas that are generated here happen and look effortless."

Strebel recalls that from the day Swann took over as director in 2008 after being involved with the center in other capacities, "it's been new ideas and programs and the jettison of things which weren't working."



Julia Famularo, Dolores Strebel, Carinda Swann, Katie Schmidt Feder and Becky Gordon Photo provided

Swann took over a week before the 2008 economic crash, which gave impetus to change. "It forced us to look at every single program carefully," Swann

says. "When I came in, we'd built up this nice staff, but had to immediately restructure." She added: "You can't grow your organization (Continued on Page 11)

Altered Plans



By A Thin Thread's Allyson Vermeulen, sporting her ever-present scissors.

Photos by A. Rooney



An aspiring actor finds herself in a cutting-edge business

By Alison Rooney

It was a required college course that caused Allyson Vermeulen to shift from her plan to become an actor to costume design. That, in turn, led Vermeulen to a career as a tailor. In her Beacon shop, By A Thin Thread, she handles everything from making adjustments for brides who want to feel spectacular to adding a zipper that finally works to a beloved winter jacket to the occasional custom piece.

Vermeulen, who attended Fordham, says she was placed in the

costume shop as part of her acting coursework and found it a perfect fit.

"The acting program was abstract, and I wasn't sure it was for me, but the costume work was concrete and tangible," she recalls. "If something wasn't perfect you could take it apart and make it perfect."

During theater production internships that followed, she was able to shop for and build costumes and assist with fittings. "The more I hung out in the costume shop, the more at home I felt," she says. "You don't end up where you think."

She and her husband, who is a lighting

designer, have three sons. When the boys were young, Vermeulen began making dresses that were sold at the Echo boutique on Main Street. They were so popular that Vermeulen began looking for a space away from home to sew and meet with clients. She rented a studio at the old Beacon High School, then tried three other spaces, including a former apartment in which the kitchen became her fitting room. Two and a half years ago, Vermeulen moved to a larger, newly renovated space adjacent to the Beacon Theatre.

Vermeulen sees customers only by appointment, which she says helps her juggle the demands of parenthood. "I've never posted set hours because there are always things that come up," she says.

Since becoming street-visible, her business is now (Continued on Page 12)



FRIDAY, DEC. 2

Daisy de Puthod (Opening)
5 – 8 p.m. McCaffrey Real Estate
140 Main St., Cold Spring
845-249-2751 | mccaffreyrealty.com

Sparkle Holiday Celebration
5 – 9 p.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Group Show (Opening)
6 – 8 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery
121 Main St., Cold Spring
845-809-5145 | busterlevigallery.com

Holiday Wonderland of Small Artworks and Fine Crafts (Opening)
6 – 9 p.m. Gallery 66 NY
66 Main St., Cold Spring
845-809-5838 | gallery66ny.com

The Polar Express
6 – 8 p.m. North Highlands Firehouse
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring | 914-523-8331
Sponsored by NHFD Ladies Auxiliary

Dragonfly Story Hour: A Story Slam for Adults
7 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

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

Westchester All Stars Christmas For Wounded Veterans Concert
7:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

SATURDAY, DEC. 3

Divorce Options Workshop
8:30 a.m. – Noon. Courtyard Marriott
17 Westage Drive, Fishkill | divorceoptionsinfo.org

Breakfast With Santa
10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Towne Crier Café
379 Main St., Beacon
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Calendar Highlights

For upcoming events visit highlandscurrent.com.
Send event listings to calendar@highlandscurrent.com

Christmas Craft Fair
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

Winter Recreation Sale
10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center
14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie
845-454-5800 | midhudsonciviccenter.org

Open Auditions for Company
11 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
Call 310-415-7489 for appointment

Saturday Makers: Printmaking
12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Out of the Fire (Opening)
2 – 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-765-3012 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Pine Street Artists Exhibit
3 – 7 p.m. Create Community
11 Peekskill Road, Cold Spring | 845-265-3867

Sparkle Holiday Celebration
5 – 9 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.

Cold Spring Tree Lighting
6 p.m. Bandstand, Main St.
Santa arrives at 6:20 p.m.

Common Ground Farm Annual Auction
7 p.m. Scenic Hudson Red Barn
Long Dock Park, Beacon | commongroundfarm.org

Pride and Prejudice
7 p.m. Haldane School | See details under Friday.

LGBT Social Group Holiday Party
8 p.m. Silver Spoon Café
124 Main St., Cold Spring
meetup.com/Garrison-LGBT-Social-Group-Meetup

Matthew Shipp Trio
8 p.m. St. Andrew's Church
17 South Ave., Beacon
mst-in-beacon.bpt.me

SUNDAY, DEC. 4

Winter Recreation Sale
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center
See details under Saturday.

Ornament Felting Workshop
10 a.m. Common Ground Farm
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
845-231-4424 | commongroundfarm.org

West Point Band: A West Point Holiday
1 p.m. Eisenhower Hall, West Point
845-938-4159 | westpointband.com

Snow on the Belltower: Holiday Music Around the World
3 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St., Cold Spring
845-265-5537 | chapelrestoration.org

Beth Haber (Closing)
3:30 – 5:30 p.m. Theo Ganz Gallery
149 Main St., Beacon
917-318-2239 | theoganzstudio.com

Peter Serkin (Piano)
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-765-3012 | howlandmusic.org

Little Boxes Fundraiser for Beacon Sloop Club
5 – 8 p.m. Scenic Hudson Red Barn
Long Dock Park, Beacon
845-527-8671 | beaconsloop.org

Chris Botti
7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
See details under Friday.

Snow on the Belltower: Holiday Music Around the World
3 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St., Cold Spring
845-265-5537 | chapelrestoration.org

Beth Haber (Closing)
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5 – 8 p.m. Scenic Hudson Red Barn
Long Dock Park, Beacon
845-527-8671 | beaconsloop.org

Chris Botti
7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
See details under Friday.

MONDAY, DEC. 5

Zumba Gold, for Seniors
8:15 a.m. Beacon Recreation Center
23 W. Center St., Beacon
914-475-0493 | cityofbeacon.org

Bridge Club
10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under Sunday.

Beacon City Council
7 p.m. City Hall (Courtroom)
1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon
845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

TUESDAY, DEC. 6

Beacon Arts Holiday Member Bash
6 – 9 p.m. Oak Vino
398 Main St., Beacon | beaconarts.org

Haldane School Board
7 p.m. Haldane School (Music Room)
See details under Saturday.

Putnam County Legislature
7 p.m. Historic Courthouse | 44 Gleneida Ave., Carmel | 845-208-7800 | putnamcountyny.com

Haldane School Board
7 p.m. Haldane School (Music Room)
See details under Saturday.

Putnam County Legislature
7 p.m. Historic Courthouse | 44 Gleneida Ave., Carmel | 845-208-7800 | putnamcountyny.com

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 7

Holiday Card Making Workshop (Adults)
1 p.m. Howland Public Library
See details under Saturday.

Reading of Eugene Ionesco's Rhinoceros
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

THURSDAY, DEC. 8

Howland Public Library
10 a.m. Brain Games for Seniors
11 a.m. Pre-K Story Time (ages 3-5)
3:30 p.m. Lego/Tech Club | Details under Saturday

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

FRIDAY, DEC. 9

Sparkle Holiday Celebration
5 – 9 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Dec. 2.

A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court (Youth Players)
7 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

8 x 7 (Readings)
7:30 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St., Cold Spring
845-265-5537 | chapelrestoration.org
8 writers each read for 7 minutes.

Jeremy Kendall: This Wonderful Life (One-Man Play)
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
See details under Dec. 2.

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

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Swann Song *(from Page 9)*

beyond what the community can support. We haven't increased our budget over the years, but we've maneuvered it."

Eventually the center was able to hire an administrative assistant and an education coordinator, but Swann says there was still too much on the director's plate. After narrowing down the applicants to succeed Swann, the search committee focused on two candidates "whose talents were different to each other's but who matched up really well," she says. Gordon had experience with exhibitions, so the committee decided to shift that responsibility and programming from the director's position and assigned management duties to their other candidate, Feder.

Gordon moved to Beacon five years ago from the Berkshires, where she worked at the Berkshire Museum. Looking for a "cheaper, less scary version of going to New York City," she was happy to reintroduce herself to the art world, having graduated from Ohio State University with a bachelor's in art education and a master's in art history.

After her Beacon move, Gordon wound up working at Niche Modern, the lighting company in the former Tallix

studio, as the director of sales and marketing. She became acquainted with the Garrison Art Center while taking a ceramics class there last winter.

"I fell in love with it and, when there was an opening, it became an impetus to make me decide to leave Niche after three years," she says. "I took three

months off and this all came together. It's essential for me to be reacquainted and connected with the art world."

Feder earned a bachelor's in musical theater from the University of Western Colorado, though she has always loved fine

art, design and crafting. After college she did regional theater work before moving in New York City, where she directed. After discovering the Highlands on a day trip, and being married at Beacon's Mount Gulian, she and her husband relocated to Peekskill, drawn by the mix of affordability and the arts. After her two children were born, Feder shifted into investment banking, where she picked up business skills but also realized it wasn't for her.

"I got back into the arts, teaching at studios all over the place, and became frustrated I couldn't find anything in

Peekskill," she says.

To remedy that, Feder co-founded Embark with Sol Miranda. It is a place "where artists can affordably teach, create and perform and where community members can experience the arts," she says. The problem was she "knew nothing about starting a nonprofit: how to file the paperwork, build a board, all those things, so I decided I needed to go back to school for arts administration," she says. She attended a limited residency program at Goucher College, which allowed her to do much of the work online, and wrote her thesis on outsider art.

Although finding candidates with

local ties wasn't an essential, Swann says it was important to the search committee to hire people who know the communities. "We have two obvious towns to connect with more: Peekskill and Beacon," she says. "Katie and Becky know them well. Our long-term goals include connecting beyond Philipstown."

Swann says she feels good about how she's leaving things, noting "we have a wonderful, working board, a great teaching staff and a great base of volunteers."

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Altered Plans *(from Page 9)*

almost all alterations. “There are constant calls from brides and bridesmaids, in particular, jobs with hard, fast deadlines,” she says. “Dresses are very often bought online, with plugged-in measurements. Brides are always fun to work with because you become part of someone’s wedding day, and they’re so excited.”

At times Vermeulen must gently communicate that a hoped-for alteration isn’t possible, especially when dealing

with vintage items. “You have to explain what is structurally possible, in terms of expectations, like, yes, it’s your mother’s wedding dress, but it can be contemporized,” she says. Other times an alteration is possible but not recommended, such as adding sleeves to a strapless dress. “It can be done, but it won’t look like the photo you saw on Pinterest,” she says.

Most of her customers are women. Among the men, she says many are uncertain what they need done. “The silhouettes of men’s clothing have changed a



The vintage feel of By A Thin Thread extends to the front of the space.



Allyson Vermeulen

Photos by A. Rooney

lot,” she says. “Men’s pants now are so narrow they don’t break over the shoes. So I’ll ask them specifics: ‘Do you want your socks showing?’ Some buck the trend and simply go with what they like.”

A chalkboard at her shop details standard services and prices. They range from fixes to overhauls: patches, hems plain or lined, waists taken in or let out, darts added, shortening sleeves, vented or unvented, bustles and making pole pockets for curtains.

Vermeulen says many customers tell her they are thankful to have a local

tailor. “People say, ‘There are none of you out there anymore,’ which surprises me a little,” she says, noting there are many sites devoted to sewing, although the work of a tailor is more complicated. “For me it’s a puzzle taking things apart and putting them back together so that you can’t tell that I touched it,” she says. “I don’t take shortcuts.”

By A Thin Thread is located at 445 Main St. Call 845-288-0178 or email allyson@byathinthread.com for an appointment.

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Community Center

New shared workspace opens in Philipstown

By Michael Turton

Philipstown's latest business, Create Community, hopes to stretch the concept of shared workspace. It provides a place to get something done that's more creative than a coffee shop, says co-owner Drena Fagen, its 2,600 square feet and multiple rooms also will appeal to small businesses looking for a meeting room, artists and dancers, or parents in need of a spot for a birthday party.

Fagen said the idea of starting a shared workspace came for the art therapy practice, Coventina Healing Arts, she runs with Dana Whiddon. They were renting at Beacon's Beahive but needed to expand, although they never envisioned moving into a facility as large as what they discovered on Peekskill Road in Nelsonville.

"When we found this amazing space, we got very excited about the possibilities," Fagen said. "We'd like to provide space for people's business ideas to take root."

Cold Spring architect Madeleine Sanchez works out of her own office but thinks the shared workspace concept has value. "When I got started as a freelancer in 1992, I rented a desk from a shared office in Soho," she said. "It was a great way to work independently but feel connected. Sometimes I miss that."



Whiddon believes the multipurpose facility will serve the community well in other ways, especially since the loss of The Living Room on Main Street, which closed in 2014. Create Community has hosted a boys' soccer team party and a resident has booked a weeklong movement class that she had been holding in her home.

There also has been discussion of making the space home to a monthly screening of independent films. "There aren't many spaces like this locally, even just for holding a meeting," Whiddon said.

She pointed to one of Create Community's most practical features. "We have off-street parking," she said. "In the Cold Spring area that's important!" Whiddon said parking was a big plus Nov. 26 when the site hosted an artisan market with some 20 vendors.

The former home of Spectra Dynamics, the Create Community space includes five rooms. The community room is furnished with desks, chairs, a couch, a worktable and a drawing board. Freelancers have access to Wi-Fi, free coffee and tea and use of the kitchen, which includes a fridge and stove. Desks are available for half or full days. Monthly bookings are also offered.

The site also offers a boardroom for meetings of up to 12 people and a space suitable for two-person projects.

Two rooms can accommodate up to 150 people for stand-up events and are suitable for parties, art projects and openings, workshops and training sessions. A newly installed bamboo floor allows for dance events and rehearsals.

Located at 11 Peekskill Road (the entrance and parking is off Pine Street), Create Community is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m. Desk rates



Drena Fagen and Dana Whiddon in Create Community's shared workspace
Photo provided

range from \$12 per half-day and \$20 per full day to \$172 per month. Room fees are \$20 to \$40 per hour, or by the month. A 2,000-square-foot event space is also available.

Create Community will hold an open house from 3 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7 that will include a pop-up art exhibit. For more information, call 845-202-3494 or visit facebook.com/createcommunity.

Happy Holidays!

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Beacon Comp Plan Nearly Complete

Hearing on 10-year strategy for growth set for January

By Jeff Simms

Six months after the project began, an updated, pedestrian- and environmentally friendly Beacon comprehensive plan is nearing completion. The next step, following a well-attended workshop (the second of two) in November, is for the City Council to hear public comments on the draft at its Jan. 17 meeting.

The Council could adopt the plan shortly thereafter, depending on feedback, said Council member Peggy Ross, who is co-chair of the update committee.

BFJ Planning, the Manhattan-based firm hired to oversee the revision, provided an overview at the Nov. 17 workshop, focusing mostly on newly written chapters devoted to the waterfront/Metro-North train station area and land use.

BFJ's full 12-chapter draft will be available on the city's website by mid-December. A slideshow with highlights is already there.

The updated plan, which will guide growth and development in Beacon over the next decade, reflects community feedback that showed a desire for maintaining open space near the waterfront while allowing enough development to guide people from the train station to the Main Street retail district, said Noah Levine, a BFJ planner.

"We were trying to do something that was a little more moderate compared to what had been proposed by the MTA [Metropolitan Transit Authority] and others in the past," Levine said, adding that the plan will include specific changes

to better connect the city with the waterfront.

Ideas discussed at the Nov. 17 session included small-scale, ground-floor retail on the east side of the train station and the possibility of added retail development along West Main Street. Such additions would encourage pedestrians to head toward Main Street, according to BFJ.

The plan also makes note of previous proposals for the waterfront by the MTA as well as Scenic Hudson, which had

planned a hotel and conference center at Long Dock Park. Those proposals, made a decade ago, were ultimately abandoned due to concerns about traffic and parking, as well as sea-level rise and flooding.

In its draft of the updated plan, BFJ acknowledges those decisions and proposes that land west of the train station should remain almost exclusively as open space that would be fed by improved connections between Riverfront Park, Long Dock and the (Continued on next page)



Connecting Beacon's Main Street to the waterfront is a major focus of the city's comprehensive plan.

Photo by J. Simms

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Beacon Comp Plan Nearly Complete *(from previous page)*

proposed Hudson Fjord Trail.

On the east side of the tracks, the plan allows for some development — possibly residential or offices — complemented by the additional limited retail. Based on comments from residents concerned with the speed of Beacon's growth, Levine said the updated plan's guidelines for the waterfront will include public plazas or open spaces meant to buffer development and pre-

"We've gotten a lot of feedback from residents. There's a very diverse community in Beacon and people seem to be very engaged. The response has been great so far."

serve views of the Hudson. BFJ says a handful of recommended zoning changes would cut the development potential of the waterfront in half while better preserving viewsheds and anticipating flooding.

Along Main Street, the draft calls for a series of "pocket parks" to be carved from municipal

land, creating "nodes of activity" that could be stops for a rubber-wheeled trolley that would, again, provide a connection to the waterfront from Main.

The updated comprehensive plan also includes chapters on residential and commercial development, environmental resources, transportation and recreation and historic resources. Those chapters were part of the city's 2007 plan and are being updated with revised demographics and other information.

The slideshow on the city's website includes pages from the 2007 plan and the proposed revision highlighting the changes. The plan does not get into specifics such as how much growth Beacon can sustain overall

but instead offers broad recommendations for how the city can grow while promoting Main Street retailers and preserving natural resources.

"We've gotten a lot of feedback from residents," Levine

said. "There's a very diverse community in Beacon and people seem to be very engaged. The response has been great so far."

A Winning Landscape



A photo taken in Mountainville by Casey O'Mara of Cornwall won Central Hudson's annual Fall Foliage Contest. See facebook.com/centralhudson for the 25 finalists.



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SAT 12:15 3:15 6:15 9:15
SUN 12:45 4:00 7:15, MON 7:00
TUE 12:45 4:00 7:15
WED & THU 7:00

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Join us for First Friday!



Robert A. McCaffrey Realty is proud to have beloved Cold Spring artist George Stevenson return for another exhibition for the month of December. Still need some great gift ideas? Stop in and support a local artist! Please join us December 2nd for First Friday, beginning at 5pm. Stevenson is well known for the vibrant color and energy in his paintings, they are truly unique. Come in and check them out!

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS



The 3D best-in-show winner in the *smallWORKS* exhibit at the Garrison Art Center: *A Lot on Her Plate*, by Ruth Geneslaw Photo by George Potanovic Jr.

Philipstown Openings

Art galleries mount new shows

Gallery 66 NY at 66 Main St. will open *A Festival of Art* on Friday, Dec. 2 with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. The show includes gifts such as ornaments, pottery, jewelry and chairs created by 20 artists, as well as small paintings, photography, sculpture, ceramics and collage by Judith Kepner Rose, Carla Goldberg and other gallery artists. The show will be on view until Dec. 24 and the gallery is open Thursday to Sunday from noon to 6 p.m.

The Buster Levi Gallery on 121 Main St. will open a group show with works by six artists with a reception on Dec. 2 from 6 to 8 p.m. The work includes paintings and woodcut prints. The artists showing are Vincent Baldassano, Bill Kooistra, Martee Levi, Eric Erickson, Maria Pia Marrella and Ursula Schneider. The show will be on view until Dec. 31 and the gallery is open Friday to Sunday from noon to 6 p.m.

The Garrison Art Center wraps up the year with two shows starting Dec. 10 with openings from 5 to 8 p.m. Tatana Kellner's *Enigmatic Moments* features abstract works on paper. *smallWORKS* is a biennial juried group show curated by painter Don Nice with paintings, drawings, photography, sculpture and prints that are all

less than 20 inches in size. Both shows continue through Jan. 8 and the gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Eight Writers, Seven Minutes Each

Reading will take place Dec. 9

Writers from Cold Spring, Garrison and Beacon have been practicing their craft this fall in a creative writing workshop. On Friday, Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m. they will each read poems and prose at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring. Each will have seven minutes to share new work. The writers are Diane Botnick, Tom Carrigan, Candace Cole, Dave Hardy, Cal Lane, Alison Rooney, Julie Seltzer and Phoebe Zinman Winters.

Garrison Students Join Honor Society

Six inducted at O'Neill

The James I. O'Neill chapter of the National Honor Society inducted six Garrison students in a ceremony at the school Nov. 22. (Garrison students can attend either Haldane or O'Neill High School in Highland Falls when they enter the ninth grade.)



Laura Mitchell, far left, with Garrison students who are members of the O'Neill chapter of the National Honor Society

Photo by Mary Ann Ebner

"We're so proud of our students," said Laura Mitchell, superintendent of the Garrison school district. "The Board of Education wanted to recognize them and show our support."

The inductees are Bridget Batignani, Alex Mancuso, Desi Young, David Higbee, Alexa Gagnon and Jacob Hard. In the back row, from left, is Mitchell and Garrison students who are already Honor Society members: Shawn Sharifi, Ethan Penner, Edmund Northup, Katherine Lisotta, Emma Parks, Sophia Sburlati, Alexandra Vourliotis and Anna Northup. Not pictured is John Marcinak.

A Ceremony of Carols

St. Philip's choir to perform Dec. 11

The St. Philip's choir will perform a Christmas music program on Sunday, Dec. 11 during a shortened worship service at the Garrison church that begins at 10:30 a.m. *A Ceremony of Carols* was composed by Benjamin Britten in 1942 and is based on 15th and 16th century poems written in Middle English and Latin. The soloists are Madeleine DeNitto, Kimberly Hiss, Friedrike Merck and Terry Platz. Durward Entekin will conduct.

Lions Club Issues New Discount Card

Offers savings at various merchants

The Cold Spring Lions Club is selling a newly updated version of its local

discount card to support Guiding Eyes for the Blind and the Philipstown Food Pantry and fund scholarships for local students.

When presented at participating merchants, the card provides a discount on purchases such as 10 percent off any order of \$25 or more at Hudson Hill's, a free glass of wine at the Bird and Bottle Inn with an entrée and 10 percent off dry cleaning at Zara's.

On Saturday, Dec. 10, members will be distributing cards for a \$10 donation from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in front of Foodtown in Cold Spring. The cards cost \$10 and are also available at the Country Goose or from any Lions Club member.

Clear Your Library Fines

Pay at Butterfield with food donation

During the month of December the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring will accept donations of non-perishable food in lieu of outstanding fines for overdue or lost material. The food collected will be given to the Philipstown Food Pantry. Talk to a staff member for more information.

Youth Players to Stage Connecticut Yankee

Six performances scheduled starting Dec. 9

The Philipstown Depot Theatre Youth Players will present the Mark Twain classic, *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, in six performances over two weekends beginning Friday, Dec. 9 at the Garrison venue.

The story follows Hank Morgan, played alternately by Maya Gelber and Alex Danilov, who is knocked on the head and transported to the court of King Arthur, played by Sam Bates and Charles Rowe. When Hank predicts an eclipse, the court believes he is a wizard. An evil plot is revealed, mayhem ensues as Hank introduces modern ideas to court life, and Hank must get back to his own time.

Other cast members include Kat Buslovich, Chloe Rowe, Kieran Warger, Nicholas Meisner, Lorelei McCarthy, Lola



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Garrison Art Center

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Make a Merry Christmas

Groups collecting toys and food for holidays

The Cold Spring Lions Club and Philipstown Food Pantry are coordinating efforts to distribute toys under the guidance of Anthony Phillips, a Marine veteran and former Cold Spring mayor who has organized the local Toys for Tots campaign for the past 23 years.

Drop-off boxes are located at Drug World, the *Putnam County News & Recorder*, Early & Critelli, Foodtown, Deb's Hair Design, Village Deli and Greely Insurance Agency on Route 9. Food donations are accepted at the food pantry at the First Presbyterian Church on Academy Street on Saturdays from 9 to 10 a.m. The last day for holiday drop-off is Dec. 15. If you know of a family in need of holiday toys, call Phillips at 845-265-2850.

Strange Days, Strong Plays

Depot Theatre kicks off Dialogues with Drama

The Philipstown Depot Theatre in Garrison kicks off Dialogues with Drama, a series of provocative play readings, on Wednesday, Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m. with Eugene Ionesco's *Rhinoceros*. Each reading will be followed by a discussion with the cast.

Rhinoceros was written in 1959 and performed on Broadway. It follows a clerk who sees the people around him become rhinos. Ionesco was a Romanian-French playwright who helped shape the genre that became known as the Theatre of the

Absurd. Christine Bokhour directs and will lead the discussion. A donation of \$20 is suggested. Reserve seats at brownpapertickets.com/event/2720123.

Beacon

Wine and Dine

Kitchen Sink to host winemaker

Kitchen Sink Food & Drink, which was just named Best New Restaurant by the readers of *Hudson Valley Magazine*, is hosting Yancey Stanforth-Migliore, co-founder of Whitecliff Vineyard in Gardiner, on Wednesday, Dec. 14 during dinner service.

Stanforth-Migliore, who has been perfecting the craft of winemaking from local grapes for three decades, will offer tastings and pairing recommendations to diners and answer questions about her wines. Reservations are recommended by visiting kitchensinkny.com or calling 845-765-0240.

Crafts, Film and Children's Theater at Library

Upcoming events at Howland

On Tuesday, Dec. 7, the Howland Public Library invites adults to make holiday cards. The free event includes supplies and everyone will leave with two cards. The one-hour workshop begins at 1 p.m. Registration is required.

On Friday, Dec. 16, the library will screen the Chilean film *Gloria* as part of its ongoing monthly international film series. The R-rated feature follows a recently divorced middle-aged woman with family troubles who is ready to move on with her life.

For the 13th year, the library and the Howland Cultural Center are jointly presenting the No-Strings Marionettes on Sunday, Dec. 11. At 1 p.m. the Vermont-based puppeteers will present *Jack and the Beanstalk* and at 4 p.m. *Handsome and Gretel*, a retelling of the classic tale that encourages children to

speak in their own voice.

Adult admission is \$10 for each performance; children are admitted free but must be accompanied by an adult. Performances will be at the Howland Cultural Center. Call 845-831-1134, ext. 103 for information.

A Guide to Taking Risks

Author will discuss new book at Beahive

Lauree Ostrofsky will read from her latest book, *Simply Leap*, and talk about taking risks to make changes in your life at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 7 at Beahive in Beacon. Ostrofsky, a life coach, is also the author of a memoir, *I'm scared & doing it anyway*, that chronicles an epiphany she had while recovering from a brain tumor.

Ostrofsky is the founder of Hudson Valley Women in Business. For more information, visit simplyleap.com.



Lauree Ostrofsky

Photo provided

Santa Comes to Beacon

Bicycle tree will be lit Dec. 10

Continuing a unique tradition that began in 2011, the City of Beacon will host the annual lighting of the bicycle tree

at Polhill Park at the corner of Main Street and Route 9D on Saturday, Dec. 10. Created by sculptor Ed Benavente, the tree is made from recycled bike parts and covered in lights.

Beginning at 3:30 p.m., family-friendly activities include crafts, caroling and music. Santa Claus will arrive at 4:50 p.m. and the tree will be lit shortly after. Santa will greet children until 6 p.m. Attendees are asked to bring new, unwrapped toys or non-perishable foods to donate to families in need. Hot cider and hot chocolate will be served to anyone who brings a mug. Visit beaconarts.org for more information.



The Beacon Bicycle Tree

Photo provided

Fundraiser for Refugee Settlement

Bake sale and raffle to aid welcome fund

During Second Saturday events on Dec. 10, a group of Beacon residents will hold a bake sale and raffle to raise money for the Mid-Hudson Refugee Welcome Fund, an organization working to transition 80 refugees to the area.

The Beacon of Love benefit will be held at Open Space, 510 Main St. from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Donated raffle prizes include artwork, gift certificates and crafts.

Donations can be made at communityfoundationshv.org. Contact Julie Shiroshi for more information at beaconmama@gmail.com.

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Haldane Varsity Winter Sports Schedule

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Coach: Tyrone Searight

Dec. 5 (Mon.)	@Hastings	6:15 p.m.
Dec. 8 (Thurs.)	@Irvington	6:15 p.m.
Dec. 10 (Sat.)	Beacon	11 a.m.
Dec. 12 (Mon.)	Valhalla	6:15 p.m.
Dec. 15 (Thurs.)	@Croton-Harmon	7 p.m.
Dec. 16 (Fri.)	@Croton-Harmon	6:45 p.m.
Dec. 17 (Sat.)	@Croton-Harmon	1:15 or 5 p.m.
Dec. 20 (Tues.)	@Westlake	6:15 p.m.
Dec. 22 (Thu.)	@Walter Panas	6:15 p.m.
Dec. 27 (Tues.)	@Amsterdam (vs. Corcoron)	11 a.m.
Dec. 28 (Wed.)	@Amsterdam (vs. Gloversville)	12:30 p.m.
Jan. 5 (Thu.)	North Salem*	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 11 (Wed.)	Pleasantville	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 14 (Sat.)	Chester	1 p.m.
Jan. 17 (Tues.)	@Briarcliff	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 19 (Thu.)	Putnam Valley*	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 27 (Fri.)	@North Salem*	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 30 (Mon.)	@Pawling*	6:15 p.m.
Feb. 2 (Thu.)	Pawling*	6:15 p.m.
Feb. 6 (Mon.)	@Putnam Valley*	6:15 p.m.
Feb. 7 (Tues.)	@Hendrick Hudson	6:15 p.m.

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Coach: Joe Virgadamo

Dec. 6 (Tues.)	Solomon Schechter	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 8 (Thurs.)	Edgemont	6:15 p.m.
Dec. 13 (Tues.)	@Hawthorne Cedar Knolls	6:15 p.m.
Dec. 16 (Fri.)	Hawthorne Cedar Knolls	6:15 p.m.
Dec. 19 (Mon.)	@Solomon Schechter	4:30 p.m.
Dec. 20 (Tues.)	@Hastings	6:15 p.m.
Dec. 22 (Thurs.)	Children's Village	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 4 (Wed.)	Clark Academy	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 7 (Sat.)	@Carmel vs. North Salem*	2 p.m.
Jan. 10 (Tues.)	@Children's Village	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 13 (Fri.)	Pawling*	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 19 (Sat.)	@Putnam Valley*	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 27 (Fri.)	North Salem*	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 28 (Sat.)	@Croton vs. Bronxville	TBD
Feb. 2 (Thu.)	@Pawling*	6:15 p.m.
Feb. 4 (Sat.)	Irvington	1:15 p.m.
Feb. 6 (Mon.)	Putnam Valley*	6:15 p.m.
Feb. 8 (Wed.)	@Croton-Harmon	6 p.m.



***League games.**
Schedules are subject to change.
Visit haldaneschool.org for updates.

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

Coach: AJ McConville

Dec. 3 (Sat.)	@Armory, NYC	5 p.m.
Dec. 16 (Fri.)	@Rockland CC	4:30 p.m.
Dec. 22 (Thurs.)	@Ocean Breeze Park	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 4 (Wed.)	@Rockland CC	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 6 (Fri.)	@Rockland CC	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 7 (Sat.)	@Armory, NYC	8:45 a.m.
Jan. 15 (Sun.)	@Armory, NYC	12:30 p.m.
Jan. 20 (Fri.)	@Armory, NYC	5 p.m.
Jan. 21 (Sat.)	@Armory, NYC	TBD
Jan. 28 (Sat.)	@Armory, NYC	1 p.m.
Feb. 4 (Sat.)	Section 1, Class C Finals	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 24 (Fri.)	Section 1 State Qualifier	5 p.m.
Mar. 4 (Sat.)	NYS Championship	TBD

ICE HOCKEY (WITH HENDRICK HUDSON)

Coach: Steve Grilli

Home games at Ice Time Sports Complex, Newburgh

Dec. 2 (Fri.)	@Brewster*	6:40 p.m.
Dec. 3 (Sat.)	@Brewster (vs. Horace Greeley*)	7:40 p.m.
Dec. 10 (Sat.)	Brewster*	7:15 p.m.
Dec. 11 (Sun.)	@ Brewster (vs. John Jay C.R.)	8:10 p.m.
Dec. 13 (Tues.)	@Pawling*	7:15 p.m.
Dec. 16 (Fri.)	@Brewster (vs. Carmel*)	7 p.m.
Dec. 19 (Mon.)	@Harrison	8:50 p.m.
Dec. 21 (Wed.)	TBD	4 p.m.
Jan. 7 (Sat.)	Pawling*	7:15 p.m.
Jan. 13 (Fri.)	@Brewster (vs. Somers)	6:40 p.m.
Jan. 14 (Sat.)	Carmel*	7:15 p.m.
Jan. 21 (Sat.)	North Rockland	7:15 p.m.
Jan. 25 (Wed.)	@TBD	4 p.m.
Jan. 28 (Sat.)	Horace Greeley*	7:15 p.m.
Feb. 4 (Sat.)	Mahopac	8:15 p.m.
Feb. 11 (Sat.)	White Plains	7:15 p.m.



Go Bulldogs!

Beacon Varsity Winter Sports Schedule

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Coach: Christina Dahl

Dec. 3 (Sat.)	@Tappan Zee	4 or 6 p.m.
Dec. 6 (Tues.)	Ketcham	6 p.m.
Dec. 10 (Sat.)	@Haldane	11 a.m.
Dec. 13 (Tues.)	@Putnam Valley	4:30 p.m.
Dec. 21 (Wed.)	Gorton	6 p.m.
Jan. 4 (Wed.)	Peekskill*	6 p.m.
Jan. 10 (Tues.)	@Lourdes*	6 p.m.
Jan. 12 (Thu.)	Sleepy Hollow*	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 18 (Wed.)	@Hendrick Hudson*	6 p.m.
Jan. 20 (Fri.)	@Peekskill*	6 p.m.
Jan. 24 (Tues.)	@John Jay Cross River	6 p.m.
Jan. 26 (Thu.)	Lourdes*	6 p.m.
Jan. 30 (Mon.)	@Eastchester	4:30 p.m.
Feb. 1 (Wed.)	@Sleepy Hollow*	6:15 p.m.
Feb. 3 (Fri.)	Hendrick Hudson*	6 p.m.
Feb. 7 (Tues.)	Nanuet	6 p.m.



BOWLING

Coach: Brian Mahon

BOYS' SWIMMING

Coach: Larry Collins

Dec. 7 (Wed.)	Peekskill*	4:30 p.m.
Dec. 13 (Tues.)	Lourdes*	4:30 p.m.
Dec. 15 (Thu.)	Harrison*	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 5 (Thu.)	@Yonkers*	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 9 (Mon.)	@Port Chester*	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 13 (Fri.)	Ossining*	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 18 (Wed.)	Wappingers*	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 23 (Mon.)	@Yorktown*	4:30 p.m.

WRESTLING

Coach: Ron Tompkins

Dec. 3 (Sat.)	@Rye (Tournament)	9 a.m.
Dec. 7 (Wed.)	@John Jay East Fishkill	4:30 p.m.
Dec. 15 (Thu.)	@Pawling	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 27 (Tues.)	@Arlington (Tournament)	9 a.m.
Dec. 28 (Wed.)	@Arlington (Tournament)	9 a.m.
Jan. 11 (Wed.)	Brewster*	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 17 (Tues.)	@Pearl River*	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 19 (Thu.)	Yonkers*	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 20 (Fri.)	Carmel (Tournament)	4 p.m.
Jan. 21 (Sat.)	Carmel (Tournament)	9:30 a.m.
Jan. 25 (Wed.)	@John Jay Cross River*	4:30 p.m.

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Coach: Scott Timpano

Dec. 3 (Sat.)	@Poughkeepsie (vs. Valley Central)	2 p.m.
Dec. 6 (Tues.)	@Tappan Zee	6 p.m.
Dec. 13 (Tues.)	Peekskill*	6:15 p.m.
Dec. 15 (Thu.)	@Ramapo	6 p.m.
Dec. 16 (Fri.)	North Rockland	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 17 (Sat.)	BHS Tournament	2 or 4 p.m.
Dec. 28 (Wed.)	@Ketcham (vs. John Jay)	6 p.m.
Dec. 29 (Thurs.)	@Lourdes (Tournament)	TBD
Dec. 30 (Fri.)	@Lourdes (Tournament)	TBD
Jan. 4 (Wed.)	@Peekskill*	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 10 (Tues.)	Lourdes*	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 12 (Thu.)	@Sleepy Hollow*	4:45 p.m.
Jan. 18 (Wed.)	Hendrick Hudson*	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 24 (Tues.)	@Saunders	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 26 (Thu.)	@Lourdes*	6:15 p.m.
Jan. 31 (Tues.)	@Lakeland	6:15 p.m.
Feb. 1 (Wed.)	Sleepy Hollow*	6:15 p.m.
Feb. 3 (Fri.)	@Hendrick Hudson*	7 p.m.
Feb. 7 (Tues.)	@Carmel	6 p.m.
Feb. 9 (Thu.)	Lakeland	6:15 p.m.

* League games.
Schedules
are subject to change.
Visit
beaconcityk12.org
for updates.

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

Coaches: Jim Henry, Ron Hammond

Dec. 3 (Sat.)	@Armory, NYC	5 p.m.
Dec. 10 (Sat.)	@Armory, NYC	5 p.m.
Dec. 16 (Fri.)	@Armory, NYC	5 p.m.
Dec. 22 (Thurs.)	@Ocean Breeze	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 28 (Wed.)	@Ocean Breeze	9:30 a.m.
Jan. 4 (Wed.)	@Rockland CC	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 13 (Fri.)	@Rockland CC	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 22 (Sun.)	League 2D Finals	9 a.m.
Jan. 28 (Sat.)	Northern County Finals	1 p.m.
Feb. 6 (Mon.)	@Armory, NYC	5 p.m.
Feb. 13 (Mon.)	Section 1, Class B Finals	5 p.m.
Feb. 24 (Fri.)	Section 1 State Qualifiers	5 p.m.
Mar. 4 (Sat.)	NYS Championship	TBD



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