

The HIGHLANDS Current

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Last-minute tax
deductions
See Page 10

DECEMBER 30, 2016

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From Barges to 'Bombs'

Following angry reaction to oil ships, feds seek feedback on trains

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Three weeks after the Coast Guard closed public comment on a proposal to add 10 anchorage sites for oil barges on the Hudson River, including a site between Beacon and Newburgh, the U.S. Department of Transportation is asking for feedback on proposed restrictions on trains that carry oil along its shore.

The comment period opens Friday, Dec. 30 and continues through Feb. 28.

New York has pushed for stricter regulation of the oil trains, often derided as “bomb trains” because of their potential explosive power. In neighboring Quebec, a 2013 oil-train accident triggered an explosion and fire, killing 47 people and destroying part of a village.

Working through its Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, DOT wants public input as it considers whether to establish limits on the vapor pressure of hazardous fuel shipped by rail. Higher vapor pressures contribute to crude oil’s volatility and flammability.

DOT published its notice in November, nearly a year after New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman petitioned the agency to limit vapor pressure to less than 9 pounds per square inch (PSI). The agency’s announcement specifically referred to Schneiderman’s request but asks only for reaction to setting “a range of vapor pressure thresholds,” not just below 9.

According to the Attorney General’s Office, some types of oil, such as the crude from the Bakken (Continued on Page 6)



A summer scene at Garrison's Landing

Photo by Mike Enright

Finally, New Life for Guinan’s?

After nine years of shadows, plan in place to reopen Garrison’s Landing site

By Alison Rooney

After nine years of sitting empty, the building that housed Guinan’s Country Store for more than 50 years before it closed in 2008 may reopen soon as a café operated by Fresh Company.

Garrison Station Plaza, which owns the structure, hopes to see the building’s ground floor under the management of Garrison’s Shelley Boris, who co-owns and is creative director and executive chef for Fresh Company caterers, which also runs the café at Storm King Art Center. The upper floor would house two apartments.

To restore the building, the nonprofit Garrison’s Landing Association is soliciting tax-deductible donations and so far has raised more than \$250,000, or about half what is needed.

Garrison Station Plaza has a building permit in hand for what it hopes will be the final stages of arranging financing.

The many people who visit Garrison’s Landing and are charmed by its historic character and nestled-by-the-river ambience may be surprised to learn how different part of it looked as recently as the 1960s. Many of its buildings were constructed in the 1850s as tenant housing and have since been restored. The parcel of land running adjacent to the Metro-North tracks (Continued on Page 18)



Shelley Boris Fresh Company photo



Ethel and Julius Rosenberg after their 1951 conviction

Saving Ethel Rosenberg

His mother was executed as a spy. Sixty years later, can he prove her innocence?

By Brian PJ Cronin

Michael Meeropol of Philipstown first visited the White House when he was 10 years old. It wasn’t a sightseeing trip. He was there with his brother to save their parents.

In June 1953 Meeropol and his younger brother, Robert, then 6, marched to the northwest gate accompanied by their

grandmother and followed by throngs of protesters. They handed the security guard a letter to President Eisenhower asking him to spare the lives of their parents, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, who had been sentenced to die in the electric chair at Sing Sing after being convicted of espionage by a jury. The Rosenbergs had been accused of handing over secrets about the atomic bomb to the Russians through a courier named Harry Gold, who passed them to the Soviet vice consul in New York.

During the trial, the most damning testimony against Ethel Rosenberg came from her brother, David Greenglass, who worked as a machinist at the (Continued on Page 15)

Roots and Shoots

Dig Deeper in 2017

By Pamela Doan

The challenge of a new administration in Washington that says it wants to gut environmental protections, denies the science of climate change and has the power to enact dangerous and devastating policies puts the idea of “resolutions for the garden” in a new light for me. The idea of puttering around raising tomatoes, composting and planting flowers seems less than enough to counter the impact.

Pollinator oases of native plants aren't going to save the food system when there may not be an Environmental Protection Agency empowered to regulate the chemicals used to spray crops. I could plant my yard with milkweed and the monarch butterfly may still go extinct. Without funding, the research needed to track the impact of climate events will stop and we won't have data to understand what's occurring.

But I can't stop what I've started. Gardening involves accepting that you can nourish the soil and plant the seed but nature has its own plan. The bush gets taller than you thought it would and starts shading the perennials. The deer eat your deer-resistant plants. A viburnum leaf beetle arrives and defoliates your cranberry bush overnight. The rhythm of gardening is to live with setbacks and keep trying because you love seeing things grow.

So this is a year to dig deeper. Dig in and dig out, plant where nothing grows, and create a space for new things to flourish and be nourished even when nothing else seems right.

Move those sun seekers and think about how to create a plant community that can live together.

Instead of outlining my usual New Year's resolutions for gardening, I went bigger.

What I can do in my yard

Understand more about ecology. Forest surrounds me. A stream runs through it and sometime in the past, a dam was built to form a pond where frogs and crayfish live and ducks pass through in the spring. There are seasonal marshes in the woods and up above the house there's an open field that was grass until we decided mowing it was a waste of time and resources.

Around the house, there are native plant flowerbeds that I planted by reclaiming turf from invasive Japanese barberry. Each year I'm delighted to see more bees and butterflies. I'm going to learn more about how these distinct features interact and how to better support them.

What to do in the community

Volunteer. I've been a Master Gardener for four years and enjoy teaching about gardening, especially as it relates to adapting to climate change and shrinking your carbon footprint. Using the networks and resources from the Cornell Cooperative Extension, I can do more on this subject this year.

Find a community project. Philipstown does pretty well in this area. The



The forest on a winter morning

Photo by P. Doan

schools have gardens and environmental education. CSAs are popular. The farmers' markets are crowded. Managing water wisely is going to become more important, though, and as a community, there are things we can do better. I don't have a plan yet but more to think about.

What to do in New York

Connect with local legislators. It's time for big, bold action. On a state level, there are many ways we can make progress in reducing New Yorkers' carbon emissions. There are elected leaders who seem to un-

derstand that and they need to hear that it's a top issue. I don't love political work but sitting out the game isn't an option. Switching to renewable energy is a priority but it may not be supported on a federal level.

What to do nationally

National organizations are critical to large-scale action and legislative challenges. Donate, get action alerts, sign petitions and show up to protest. The Standing Rock Water Protectors are an inspiration for the kind of organizing that needs to be done. They won that battle, at least for now.

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Notes from the Haldane School Board

Highlights from Dec. 20 and earlier meetings

By Lily Gordon

As of two weeks ago, a plaque inscribed with the word *inclusive* hangs on the door of a two-stall restroom at Haldane High School.

"Our Identity Club recently implemented an all-inclusive bathroom, which is a huge step within the LGBT community," said Miranda Musso, Haldane's student body vice president. "It's a really great, positive step for us."

While the restroom has been unofficially open since before Peter Carucci became principal this year, he gladly agreed to order the sign after the Identity Club requested it at the end of September.

The Garrison School also has an all-gender restroom. James I. O'Neill High School, which many Garrison students attend,

does not; students are welcome to use the restroom of the gender with which they identify, as well as the nurse's private washroom, according to Superintendent Frank Sheboy.

The Beacon City School District did not return a message asking about its policies.

In other business ...

- A maintenance employee noticed smoke rising from the roof of Haldane Elementary/Middle School earlier this month, and staff identified a DC connector between solar panels as the source. After putting out the small fire and disconnecting the piece, the district hired forensic engineers to investigate the problem. A mechanical issue was identified and the system was shut down until repairs can be made.
- The Haldane High School volleyball, boys' soccer, girls' soccer, boys' cross country, girls' cross country and tennis teams were nominated as New York State scholar-athlete teams, meaning 75 percent of each team's members held a GPA of 90 or above.
- The Haldane chorus, the Blue Notes,

will perform the national anthem at the New York Mets game against the Atlanta Braves at Turner Field in Atlanta at 7:10 p.m. on April 22.

- The Jan. 3 board meeting was cancelled; the next meeting will be Jan. 17.

Previous meetings (staff reports)

Dec. 6

- The board discussed capital projects proposed for the 2016-17 school year, including repair of windows in the elementary school, replacing or repairing the 26-year-old bleachers in the gymnasium (estimated to be about \$30,000 for repair and \$67,000 to replace) and updating the elementary school bathrooms, which date to 1980 (costing about \$150,000 each for a total renovation, although other options could be considered).

Nov. 15

- The board thanked Damian McDonald for the donation of ETC ColorSource LED Cyclorama fixtures, valued at about \$11,000, for the projection booth in the school auditorium.
- Tom Powers, a former longtime head basketball coach at Beacon High School, was appointed the boys' junior varsity basketball coach for a stipend of \$3,545.
- The board adopted a new policy regarding head lice, which states that "when a student is identified with live head lice, he or she shall be referred to the nurse's office and the parents will be notified and will be provided with instructions regarding the treatment of head lice. The student will be readmitted to school the following day, provided that appropriate treatment has been given and no evidence of live lice is found upon examination by the school nurse. In recognition of the fact that the management of head lice should not substantially disrupt the education process, the school district does not have a 'no-nit' policy" that bars students with nits (lice eggshells that can be time-consuming to remove) from returning to school.
- The board approved the appointment

of Meghan Crowe as full-time athletic trainer.

Oct. 18

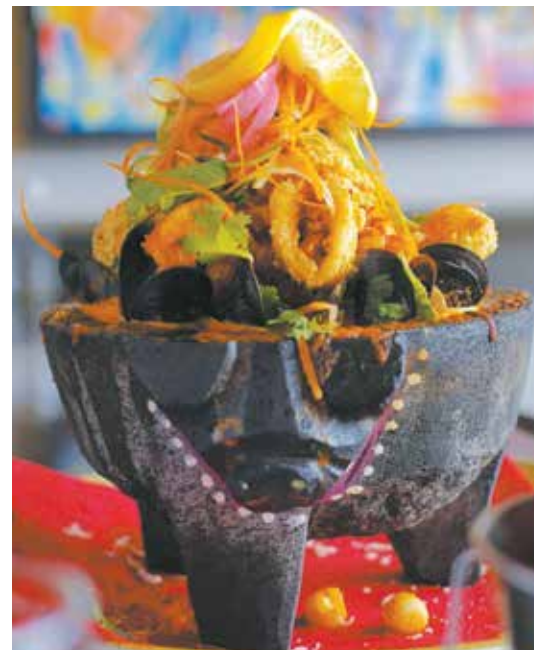
- The board observed a moment of silence for former Garrison resident and Haldane student Robert Schartner, who died on Oct. 9 at age 21 after being struck by a drunk driver in White Plains. He was attending Manhattanville College, where he played lacrosse.
- Athletic Director Chris Salumn made a presentation on concussion management to the board, noting that changes to the district's policy would include baseline testing of all athletes in grades 7 to 12. If an athlete sustains a concussion, this baseline, updated

every two years, will be used to determine when he or she can be cleared to return to play. In a letter later shared with the board, former school nurse Candy Zgolinski noted that she and former athletic director Tom Cunningham had developed a concussion protocol for the district six years earlier, including baseline testing, and she was surprised to learn that the previous program was no longer in place. She suggested that the baseline testing be given to all students at Haldane, adding that concussions can occur outside of sports.

For more school notes, see highlandscurrent.com.



The new inclusive sign at Haldane High School



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Guillaro vs. Cold Spring

A blind person could have seen this legal claim coming from Butterfield developer Paul Guillaro ("Butterfield Developer Wants \$2.5 Million from Village," Dec. 23). The actions of Mayor Dave Merandy, former village Trustee Stephanie Hawkins and Planning Board Chair Matt Francisco have put the village at risk. The interesting part to me is that if the court finds that they violated the village code and rules or state statutes, the error and omissions policy of the insurance is not obligated to cover it and Guillaro can recover the damages from them personally. There are a number of people who should be looking over their shoulders.

I was a member of the Village Board for 10 years and a previous board got into this jam and the personal liability issue was put forth by the insurance company. I can't wait to watch this unfold.

Tom Valentine, *Cold Spring*

Prediction: this lawsuit will not cost the

taxpayers a dime. It will wind through the courts for a while, eventually leading to a dismissal or flat-out verdict in the village's favor, and the developer will be required to pick up the costs.

As much as some stakeholders in this village would prefer that we treat big-moneyed interests like conquering heroes, I am of the more realistic mind that the governing boards were performing exactly to their intent: to ensure the maximum benefit for the maximum number of people. God forbid that the boards didn't just take the developer's word for it that this project would be beneficial but actually made him prove it. For shame! He has money! His interests must certainly be benevolent and we must be nothing but grateful that he wanted to build a project that will forever alter the landscape and texture of the village.

A village of this size, with such limited resources and opportunities, should not just embrace every project and idea that comes down the pike, as much as some

are so foolhardy to quickly do. The process this project went through, while long, was absolutely appropriate to the scope of the endeavor. To think something of this magnitude should be rubber-stamped (which it absolutely was for a good long time under a previous Planning Board chair) willfully ignores the context of what it is to be part of this village.

I should know. I had (still have) a long-term project on my home that was, to put it mildly, subject to an arduous back and forth with the Historic District Review Board. And you know what? As long as it was, and as expensive as it became, it was the right thing to do. The final design is better, the input and cooperation with the board was invaluable, and all in all, that's what being a good neighbor is.

The developer should man up and move his project along, and stop rehashing a process that he might not agree with but was absolutely necessary.

Christopher Daly, *Cold Spring*

The insolence, arrogance and total effrontery to fair play of the actions of Merandy and his band of not-so-merry followers has led to this. Bravo, I say, to Guillaro, the developer of the Butterfield Follies Project, for bringing it. It has been a long time coming.

Guillaro has my total support. Obviously, the stakes are much higher now, and the arena more unforgiving in histrionics and grandstanding, taking away one of the defendant's and his followers' favorite tactics. I imagine this trial will move swiftly, not nearly the "drag out, and drag-out-some-more motions" the Butterfield detractors have used until now. The court that the defendants will soon find themselves in will not tolerate what is usually on display, and thank God for that! The defendants will need to do a 360 so they look straight ahead at the orchestra, because it is time for them to face the music.

Gregory Bochow, *Cold Spring*
(Continued on next page)



Taking it to the Street

By Anita Peltonen

What is your favorite charity?



"Of course, I love Riverkeeper [where he is president]. Since I've moved to Cold Spring, Hudson Highlands Land Trust has also become special to me."

~ Paul Gallay, Cold Spring



"The Philipstown Food Pantry, because we forget about people who struggle to buy all they need. Also, the dog shelter [Animal Rescue Foundation] in Beacon."

~ Lynette Rajala, Cold Spring



"Doctors Without Borders. When people are trying to get away, they go in."

~ Mitchell Stein, Cumberland Foreside, Maine (visiting Cold Spring)

State Pumps Millions in Development Dollars into Region

Dennings Point improvements among projects funded

By Jeff Simms

A number of agencies in the Highlands have received substantial state grants for projects beginning and continuing into 2017. The money comes from the state Regional Economic Development Councils (EDC), which were established in 2011 to develop plans tailored to the strengths and resources of each of 10 regions, such as the Mid-Hudson Valley, which includes

Dutchess and Putnam counties. The region received \$83.3 million this year to support 105 projects, out of more than \$700 million distributed statewide. Among the projects funded are plans to transform portions of Dennings Point in Beacon into a more visitor-friendly park as well as a downtown revitalization initiative by the city and Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress. The \$500,000 Dennings Point grant, awarded to the Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries, will be used to supplement efforts already underway to improve access to and improve facilities at the

popular hiking spot just south of the Beacon Metro-North station. Efforts include a rehab of the bridge that leads into Dennings Point, the partial conversion of a factory building into on-site parking, a solar energy array on the factory roof and a large pavilion fashioned from the factory building and located on the shores of Fishkill Creek bay. The bulk of the projects are scheduled to begin in September 2017, after the bridge is re-opened. According to the nonprofit Beacon Institute, the factory improvement project will complement other work at Dennings

Point, including bald eagle viewing stations built on the shoreline last year and extensive trail improvements. Trail work is slated to begin in September and will improve ADA accessibility on the river-side path along the length of the point. Current funding for these projects comes from the New York Power Authority and the state parks department. The EDC grant provides the final funding needed to complete them. The state also funded a series of Mid-Hudson Regional Downtown Initiatives for development analyses of urban centers in Dutchess, (Continued on Page 6)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (from previous page)

This is sour grapes from a developer who is unaccustomed to public officials acting in the best interests of a community instead of for the politically connected like him. This is democracy in action here in Cold Spring and he doesn't like it. Now

the Butterfield developer has declared war on the residents and taxpayers of Cold Spring, and is trying to extort a corporate welfare payment of \$2.5 million for profit he thinks he's somehow entitled to. Steve Laifer, Cold Spring

PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD

January meeting rescheduled to January 12, 2017

The Town of Philipstown Planning Board has rescheduled the date for the January monthly meeting. The regular monthly meeting will be held:
Thursday, January 12, 2017, 7:30 p.m.
Butterfield Library on Morris Avenue in Cold Spring, New York

PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING – JANUARY 12, 2017

The Town of Philipstown Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, January 12, 2017 starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Butterfield Library on Morris Avenue in Cold Spring, New York to consider the following application:
Griffin's Landscaping, Inc. 3032 NYS Route 9, Cold Spring, New York (TM# 27.20-1-14) – The application concerns an existing developed 0.92 acre site, which contains a one-story frame building and includes a kiln, storage container adjacent to Clove Creek, and numerous outdoor woodpile/storage areas. These activities represent a change in use from the original "Site Plan" approval in 1989 that concerned a commercial landscaping enterprise. The applicant is requesting a "Special Permit" from the Town of Philipstown Planning Board to cover the site's present use.
The property is situated in a "HC" (Highway Commercial) Zoning District in the Town of Philipstown.
At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map, and other related materials may be seen in the Office of the Planning Board at the Philipstown Town Hall.
Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 19th day of December, 2016.
Anthony Merante, Chairman

PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING – JANUARY 12, 2017

The Town of Philipstown Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, January 12, 2017 starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Butterfield Library on Morris Avenue in Cold Spring, New York to consider the following application:
Olspan LLC Warehouse, 2700 NYS Route 9, Cold Spring, New York. (TM# 38.-3-24.1) – This latest application concerns proposed modifications to the current highway entrance to the site, a new driveway, culvert, provision of a security gate at the entrance to the parking area, modifications to the parking area and the demolition and re-construction of the caretaker's residence (at a location farther back on the property).
The property is situated in a "OC" (Office/Commercial/Industry Mixed use) Zoning District in the Town of Philipstown.
At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map, and other related materials may be seen in the Office of the Planning Board at the Philipstown Town Hall.
Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 19th day of December, 2016.
Anthony Merante, Chairman

TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN TAX COLLECTION LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I, Tina M. Merando, the undersigned Collector of Taxes of the Town of Philipstown, County of Putnam and State of New York, have duly received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes within the Town of Philipstown for the year 2017 and that I will receive the same at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York from January 1, 2017 through July 31, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. In January ONLY the Tax Collector will be at the Town Hall, Tuesday evenings from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Taxes will be collected without penalty if paid on or before January 31, 2017. On all taxes paid after January 31, 2017 an additional 1% penalty will be assessed for each month or fraction thereof thereafter until such taxes are paid or until the return of unpaid taxes to the County Treasurer pursuant to law.
Partial tax payment (50% of total tax) will ONLY be accepted during the month of January 2017. The second partial payment will be assessed a 1% penalty charge each month until July 31, 2017 when all unpaid second partial payments will be turned over to the County Treasurer.

Full payment of taxes will be accepted without penalty during the month of January 2017. After the month of January, a 1% interest penalty will be assessed each month until May 1, 2017 when all "fully unpaid" taxes will be turned over to the County Treasurer for collection.
DATED: December 28, 2016
Tina M. Merando
Tax Collector
Town of Philipstown

PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING – JANUARY 12, 2017

The Town of Philipstown Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, January 12, 2017 starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Butterfield Library on Morris Avenue in Cold Spring, New York to consider the following application:
Paul and Ellen Johnson, 4 Highland Ridge, Cold Spring, New York. (TM# 27.-1-10.13) – The Applicants are proposing a 7-bedroom one family single story residential structure with a garage, pool and pool area. The proposal involves a 8.402 acre lot, which is currently vacant.
The property is situated in a "RR" (Rural Residential) Zoning District in the Town of Philipstown.
The property abuts and lies within a town "Ridgeline and Hillside protection area". There will be significant rock removal and tree clearing in the vicinity of the house/garage/pool areas.
At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map, and other related materials may be seen in the Office of the Planning Board at the Philipstown Town Hall.
Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 19th day of December, 2016.
Anthony Merante, Chairman

From Barges to 'Bombs' *(from Page 1)*

Shale formations in North Dakota, have the highest vapor pressures and thus pose a greater threat than other fuels. It noted the Quebec accident involved a train carrying oil with a PSI above 9.

In a statement, Schneiderman said he welcomed the DOT initiative, calling it "a long-overdue first step towards reducing

the danger to residents in harm's way of oil trains in New York and across the country."

Hayley Carlock, director of environmental advocacy for Scenic Hudson, said the Poughkeepsie-based organization intends to submit comments. "We believe it is certainly a step in the right direction to adopt such limits, but remains to be seen

how stringent the ultimate rule will be," she said.

In his petition to DOT, filed in December 2015, Schneiderman pointed out that no national limit on vapor pressure exists for train shipments. Two years ago, after the New York State departments of Transportation and Environmental Conserva-

tion raised concerns about bomb-train hazards, North Dakota mandated that oil producers make Bakken crude safer before shipment by keeping vapor pressure to 13.7 PSI or less.

The docket number for the proposed rulemaking is PHMSA-2016-0077, and the petition will be available at regulations.gov.

State Pumps Millions of Development Dollars into Region *(from Page 5)*

Putnam, Westchester, Ulster and Orange counties. Beacon, together with Hudson Valley Pattern, received \$175,000 to conduct a study on how to retain and attract businesses; city officials hope to leverage the grant for additional economic development funding.

Research conducted with the grant will be used to create a blueprint for how Beacon stakeholders want the city to look in 10 years — part of a series of profiles to be drawn up for urban centers in the Hudson Valley. The goal is to better prepare cities for private investment as well as fu-

ture state and federal government funding opportunities.

Other grants include \$300,000 for an expansion of Fishkill Farms orchards and construction of a craft cider facility, tasting room and event space. The Village of Brewster, together with Putnam County, re-

ceived \$2 million to begin the first phase of a village revitalization plan, and KAS Spirits in Mahopac received \$5,000 to increase production of its spiced honey liquor.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

'Zep' to Step Down

Longtime Beacon highway chief retires Jan. 14

By Jeff Simms

Anthony "Zep" Thomaselli didn't sleep while this article was being written. Instead, monitored the weather, waiting for a Thursday morning snowstorm predicted to bring three to four inches to Beacon.

When a storm hits, the city has 59 miles of roads that must be cleared.

A 23-year Beacon employee and lifelong resident, Thomaselli will retire as the city's highway superintendent on Jan. 14. Until then, just like every winter, he'll get little sleep.

Walking through the department's expansive new headquarters, Thomaselli says he intended to retire a year ago but stayed on to see the 28,000-square foot building open this fall. A substantial upgrade over the department's Churchill Street facility, the building — located off Matteawan Drive near Beacon High School — has a carpenter's shop, the city's street-sign shop and a massive mechanic's bay.

It's there that Beacon's trucks are readied for snow and ice, but that's far from all that Zep — so named as a child, he says, for having "a head like a zeppelin" — oversees. From Main Street decorations to fill-

ing in as school crossing guards or collecting bagged leaves from curbside, it's hard to quantify all that the highway department does, but if it stopped, you'd notice.

Thomaselli, 63, began working at age 14 as a dishwasher and later a short-order cook at the Main Street restaurant now known as Quinn's. A 1971 graduate of Beacon High, he then worked in construction before buying Zep's Place (now Dogwood) with Randy Casale, Beacon's mayor.

"We've been friends since I was 10," said Casale, who was the highway superintendent for 22 years, from 1980 to 2002. "We're losing a dedicated public servant who always treated our constituents with respect."

The duo operated Zep's Place from 1976 to 1980 while Casale worked for the city and Thomaselli was employed as a contractor. In 1993, at Casale's suggestion, Thomaselli started with the highway department and a decade later became its chief.

"I remember on a Sunday afternoon in the summer, you could roll a bowling ball down Main Street and you wouldn't hit a car," he recalled. "Now, it's amazing. Beacon is cleaned up. It's fun to see it so vibrant."

In addition to maintenance of streets and signs, the highway department oversees city parks and the upkeep of City Hall and other public buildings. It also inspects and repairs more than 800 storm basins.

Thomaselli said the blizzard of March



Anthony "Zep" Thomaselli in the truck bay at the Beacon Highway Department's new facility

Photo by J. Simms

2011 stands out as one of the city's most difficult in recent memory. "Cars were getting stuck on flat ground," he said. "We had almost 36 inches, and the snow built up so fast."

Thomaselli and his crews worked non-stop for days to dig the city out. "There's nobody around that clears the streets like the city of Beacon," Casale said.

A new highway superintendent has

not been named, but Casale said an announcement is imminent. Meanwhile, Thomaselli will continue part-time as a consultant to help his replacement get adjusted. He has some plans to travel but says he will likely keep working, perhaps in construction again. "If I'm not out of the house early, I get lazy," he said. "I don't want to do that."

John Greener, CPA

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The Beacon Bagel Rolls On

Manager to take over popular business

By Brian PJ Cronin

There's going to be something different about your first bagel of 2017, although you probably won't notice it. As of Jan. 1, the Beacon Bagel will be under new, although familiar, ownership.

"It's time," said Art Burns, who founded the popular take-out with his wife Anik in the summer of 2009 on the east end of Main Street. "It's been a long, hard, seven years.

The bulk of those seven years has been in the form of 90-hour weeks and 18-hour days. But it's in a good place right now, and we're able to do this, so why not?"

Manager Candace Lanza will take over as the owner in the new year. "She's been running the place on her own for the past nine months anyway," said Burns, who has been spending less time behind the counter.

When Art and Anik decided to sell the business six months ago, they planned to give Lanza a raise to entice her to stay. "That way, she'd be part of the package," said Burns. "I'd be able to tell whoever was buying the business that it comes with this amazing manager. But when I brought it up to her, she said 'Well, what if I wanted to buy it?'"

Lanza, who said her only previous culinary experience was a stint in the kitchen at Chuck E. Cheese's ("although I guess that doesn't really count"), joined the Beacon Bagel two years ago and quickly acclimated to the shop's frenetic pace, with

its hot line, cold line, coffee line and gluten-free line, plus more than 60 sandwiches on a rotating roster of a dozen bagels, as well as breakfast burritos and salads.

When Art and Anik founded the shop, the East End was a pale imitation of the bustling scene today. The couple had moved from New York City two years prior and were commuting to marketing jobs. Anik quit hers to stay home with their new baby, but then the 2008

crash happened, and the couple found themselves unemployed.

"We asked ourselves what we were going to do next, and then realized that we had been walking around here for two years trying

to find a decent bagel," Burns recalled.

The couple churned out bagels that hit the platonic ideal of what a New York City bagel should be: Crusty, chewy and substantial. Art Burns grew up around the corner from the original Ess-a-Bagel on 21st Street, which he considered the gold standard until it closed in 2015 due to rising rents. He spent the first winter begging people to come in to the Beacon Bagel but once the word got out among other New York City ex-pats, the lines began to form. By the time the Roundhouse and the Towne Crier opened nearby a few years later, the couple felt the business was over the hump.

Art Burns said his concern now for

"We asked ourselves what we were going to do next, and then realized that we had been walking around here for two years trying to find a decent bagel."



Art Burns and Candace Lanza of The Beacon Bagel

Photo by B. Cronin

Beacon is that rising rents will push local businesses out. But bagel fans needn't worry: The couple signed a 10-year lease last year, which will transfer to Lanza.

The new owner said she doesn't plan dramatic changes, although she is finalizing an app that will allow customers to order online and join a loyalty program. She'd also like to bring back deliveries.

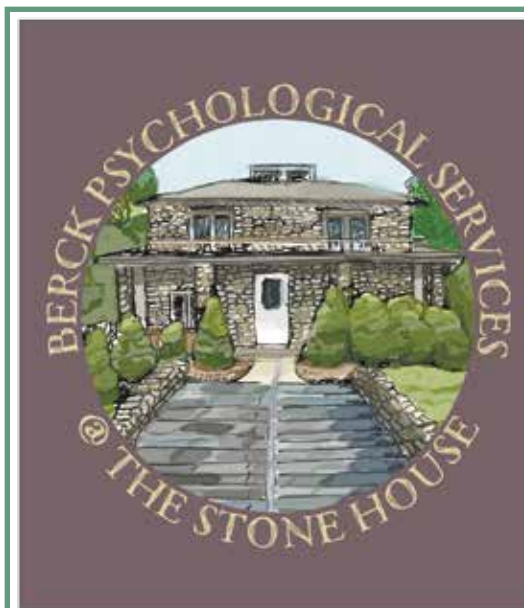
As for Art and Anik, they'll be spending the first half of 2017 taking a break and concentrating on their two children. But Art said they'll also be tinkering with an idea. All he would allow is that it will be food-related and might require a truck. "But it won't involve bagels," he said. "I gotta get away from bagels for a little while."



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Momminia jade

Main Street Jewel Ends Run

After 18 years, Momminia to close Jan. 1

By Michael Turton

After doing business on Cold Spring's Main Street for 18 years, Momminia Avante Garde Jewelry will close its doors for the last time at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 1, with everything in stock marked down

50 percent. Steve Goodrich and his wife Marlene, who died in October, opened the shop in March 1998.

"Her spirit really was this store," Goodrich said. Longtime employee Monica Singh echoed those feelings. "It's not the same without Marlene," she said.

"But we've had a good, long run."

Goodrich said he is retiring but will probably sell at a few gem shows "just

"It's not the same without Marlene. But we've had a good, long run."



Steve Goodrich helps a customer.

Photos by M. Turton

for fun." He admitted he found some customers amusing. "People love coming here from the city because they consider it 'the country,'" he said. "Anything that is not all buildings is the country." For some, he marveled, "their idea of camping is coming here by train and staying at an Airbnb!"



Momminia opened in 1998.

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The Calendar

Snow Angel

Beacon resident helps teens conquer mountains

By Alison Rooney

Danny Hairston has a simple message for middle schoolers: When you fall, get back up.

Hairston is the founder and director of the Beacon-based nonprofit SHRED, which stands for Snowboarders & Skaters Helping Reimagine Education. (*Shred* is slang for snowboarding.) He says he hopes to engage and re-engage at-risk teenagers with the mantra of fear, failure, flow — more familiar, perhaps, as try, fail, persevere — to help those who lack resources to gain a foothold and fly.

As the snow starts sticking, the Windham Mountain Resort is partnering with SHRED for the second year, offering access, equipment and instruction to

teenagers who normally would not have the means to participate.

The program has two components, Hairston says: snow and arts. Founded in 2013, SHRED has its roots in the non-snowboarding capital of Brooklyn, where Hairston worked as a youth program supervisor. A co-worker convinced him to come along as a chaperone on a trip to Vermont sponsored by Burton Snowboards' Chill Foundation, which builds resiliency in teens through challenging physical activities.

"I had never been exposed to snowboarding," says Hairston, who

was 35 at the time. "I never saw such a quick change in kids."

He began volunteering for the Chill Foundation and ended up moving to Burlington, Vermont, to do development and marketing for Burton. Eventually he



Danny Hairston

Photo by Matt Petricone



Hairston with volunteers and students at Windham Mountain Resort

Photo provided

returned to New York City before landing in Beacon and creating and supervising afterschool programs for the Poughkeepsie School District. Earlier this year, a group of 10 students from Poughkeepsie middle schools became test pilots for SHRED. The experiment was a success (nine of the 10 participants now snowboard on intermediate trails) and this

year a group has been recruited from the Boys & Girls Club of Newburgh, where Hairston is program director.

SHRED is designed for teenagers who have never been on a snow-packed mountain. "It's an expensive sport — lift tickets cost \$70 to \$90 and the equipment isn't cheap," he says. Besides Windham, (Continued on Page 13)

A Whovian Wish Fulfilled

Beacon restaurant hosts 11-year-old Dr. Who fan

By Alison Rooney

Awish came true in Beacon on Dec. 23 for an 11-year-old from Florida who may be the most dedicated fan of the British television series *Dr. Who* in the universe.

The Hudson Valley chapter of the Make-a-Wish Foundation brought Collin Cash, who is in remission from Burkitt's lymphoma B-cell leukemia, to the Pandorica Restaurant for a Dr. Who-themed party complete with live characters played by other fans. The Doctor himself showed up in various incarnations, along with his nemeses.

Collin, who lives in Port St. Lucie, had his sights set on a trip to the U.K. to visit the Dr. Who Experience, an attraction in Cardiff, Wales, but his family thought an overseas trip might be pushing it. Collin

then read about Pandorica, a themed restaurant at 165 Main St. that is devoted to the show. The South Florida chapter of Make-a-Wish, one of 62 in the U.S., contacted Megan Laurelli, wish coordinator for the Hudson Valley chapter, who got in touch with Shirley Hot, the restaurant's owner.

"First I cried," Hot recalled, after hearing about Collin's condition and his



From left: New York State Senator Sue Serino; Make-a-Wish Hudson Valley's Megan Laurelli, Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro and Beacon Mayor Randy Casale with Collin Cash, who holds a "Collin, Doctor Who" Day proclamation.

Photos by A. Rooney

wish. "Then I started thinking that for a kid coming from Florida, just coming to Pandorica is not enough." She reached out to her regulars, including members of a newly formed Dr. Who Club in Connecticut that already has more than 200 members, and asked for help. "There are people here from Massachusetts, New

Jersey and Long Island — generous spirits," she said.

Hot also called a number of Beacon stores, including Clutter, Play, Dream in Plastic and Notions and Potions, that donated games and coloring books. Soon after, the Dutchess County Legislature declared Dec. (Continued on Page 14)



Last-Minute Giving Guide

While charitable donations can be made year-round to support critically important community resources, you have until Dec. 31 to contribute to your favorite nonprofit and still receive a deduction on your 2016 taxes. Checks must be mailed by 1 p.m. in Beacon and noon in Cold Spring and Garrison, when the counters close, because the envelope must be postmarked that day. Credit card payments, however, can be processed up until midnight. Don't worry: if you're reading this in 2017, you'll be way ahead of the game for next year's return.

Animals

Animal Rescue Foundation

P.O. Box 1129, Beacon, NY 12508
arfbeacon.org/donate-2

Dutchess County SPCA

636 Violet Ave., Hyde Park, NY 12538
donatenow.networkforgood.org/dcsPCA

Friends of the Beacon Dog Park

P.O. Box 1287, Beacon, NY 12508
beacondogpark.org/donate-online

Mid Hudson Animal Aid (Cat Sanctuary)

54 Simmons Lane, Beacon, NY 12508
midhudsonanimalaid.org/donate

Putnam County SPCA

P.O. Box 850, Brewster, NY 10509
spcaputnam.org/donate-to-putnam-sPCA

Shepherd's View Animal Sanctuary

61 Torchia Road, Cold Spring, NY 10516
facebook.com/shepherdsvviewanimalsanctuary

Arts, Music & Theater

4th Wall Theater Company

449 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508
4thwallproductions.org/donate

Beacon Arts Community Association

P.O. Box 727, Beacon, NY 12508
beaconarts.org/donate

Calling All Poets

79 Sargent Ave., Beacon, NY 12508
gofundme.com/y8r9jc

Chapel Restoration

P.O. Box 43, Cold Spring, NY 10516
chapelrestoration.org

Cold Spring Film Society

192 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
coldspringfilm.org/donate.php

Dia:Beacon

3 Beekman St., Beacon, NY 12508
diaart.org/support/donate

Downing Film Center

19 Front St., Newburgh, NY 12550
downingfilmcenter/pages/member.htm

Fovea Editions

162 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508
foveaeditons.org/donate-now

Garrison Art Center

23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison, NY 10524
garrisonartcenter.org/forms

Howland Cultural Center

477 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508
howlandculturalcenter.org/donate.html

Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art

P.O. Box 209, Peekskill, NY 10566
hvcca.org/membership

Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival

143 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
hvshakespeare.org/support-us/donate

Manitoga / Russel Wright Design Center

P.O. Box 249, Garrison, NY 10524
visitmanitoga/donate

Philipstown Depot Theatre

P.O. Box 221, Garrison, NY 10524
philipstowndepottheatre.org/become-a-member

Children

Denniston International

256 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
dennistoninternational.org/support-us



Denniston International, based in Cold Spring, supports projects in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Photo provided

Friends of Philipstown Recreation

P.O. Box 155, Cold Spring, NY 10516
friendsofphilipstownrecreation.org

Garrison Children's Education Fund

P.O. Box 262, Garrison, NY 10524 | gcef.net/donate

Garrison School PTA

1100 Route 9D, Garrison, NY 10524
gufspta.org/programming-fundraising/donations

Guinan's Aurora

P.O. Box 446, Garrison, NY 10524
Recycles bicycles for children.

Haldane Central School District PTA

15 Craigsides Dr., Cold Spring, NY 10516 | haldanepta.org

Haldane School Foundation

P.O. Box 364, Cold Spring, NY 10516
haldaneschoolfoundation.org/giving

Haldane Sports Booster Club

P.O. Box 356, Cold Spring, NY 10516

Hudson Valley Seed

P.O. Box 223, Beacon, NY 12508 | hudsonvalleyseed.org

Philipstown Little League

P.O. Box 347, Cold Spring, NY 10516
philipstownlittleleague.com

Putnam County Children's Committee

P.O. Box 187, Carmel, NY 10512
pccchildren.org/donate-now

SHRED Foundation

94 Prospect St., Beacon, NY 12508 | shredfoundation.org

St. Basil Academy

79 Saint Basil Road, Garrison, NY 10524
stbasil.goarch.org/donate

Civic

Community Foundation of Dutchess County

80 Washington St., Suite 201, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
communityfoundationshv.org/Give

Community Foundation of Putnam County

80 Washington St., Suite 201, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
communityfoundationshv.org/Give

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County
2715 Route 44, Millbrook, NY 12545
ccedutchess.org/donate

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County
1 Geneva Road, Brewster, NY 10509
putnam.cce.cornell.edu/donate

Fareground Community Kitchen
P.O. Box 615, Beacon, NY 12508

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh
125 Washington St., Newburgh, NY 12550
habitatnewburgh.org

Highlands Current Inc.
161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
highlandscurrent.com/support

Putnam Family & Community Services
1808 Route 6, Carmel, NY 10512 | pfcsinc.org/donate.php

United Way of Dutchess-Orange Region
75 Market St., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 | uwdor.org

United Way of Westchester and Putnam
925 S. Lake Boulevard, Mahopac, NY 10541
uwwp.org/give.shtml

Emergency Services

Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps
1 Aquilla Drive, Beacon, NY 12508



Debbie Pagliaro, Graeme Hardy and Chief Nicholas Scarchilli of the Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps

File photo

Cold Spring Fire Co. No. 1
154 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516

Continental Village Volunteer Fire Department
12 Spy Pond Road, Garrison, NY 10524

Garrison Volunteer Ambulance Corp.
P.O. Box 121, Garrison, NY 10524

Garrison Volunteer Fire Company
1616 Route 9, Garrison, NY 10524

North Highlands Engine Co. No. 1
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring, NY 10516

Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps
14 Cedar St., Cold Spring, NY 10516

Historical

Bannerman Castle Trust
P.O. Box 843, Glenham, NY 12527
bannermancastle.org/donate.html

Beacon Historical Society
P.O. Box 89, Beacon, NY 12508 | beaconhistorical.org

Boscobel Restoration
1601 Route 9D, Garrison, NY 10524 | boscobel.org

Constitution Island Association
P.O. Box 126, Cold Spring, NY 10516
constitutionisland.org/donate

Dutchess County Historical Society
P.O. Box 88, Poughkeepsie, NY 12602
dutchesscountyhistoricalsociety.org

Friends of the Fishkill Supply Depot
P.O. Box 311, Fishkill, NY 12524
fishkillsupplydepot.org/donate.html

Garrison’s Landing Association
P.O. Box 205, Garrison, NY 10524
garrisonlanding.org

Mount Beacon Incline Railway Restoration Society
P.O. Box 1248, Beacon, NY 12508
inclinerrailway.org/donate

Putnam History Museum
63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
putnamhistorymuseum.com

Hunger

Kids R Kids Feeding Program
P.O. Box 176, Beacon, NY 12508
kidsrkidsfeeding.org/donations.aspx

Philipstown Food Pantry
10 Academy St., Cold Spring, NY 10516

St. Andrew’s & St. Luke’s Food Pantry
17 South Ave., Beacon, NY 12508

Libraries

Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring, NY 10516
butterfieldlibrary.org/donate.php

Desmond-Fish Library
P.O. Box 265, Garrison, NY 10524
desmondfishlibrary.org/help1.htm

Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508
beaconlibrary.org/support.us/

Natural Resources

Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries
199 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508
bire.org/support

Beacon Sloop Club
P.O. Box 527, Beacon, NY 12508
beaconsloop.org

Common Ground Farm
P.O. Box 148, Beacon, NY 12508
commongroundfarm.org

Constitution Marsh Audubon Center
P.O. Box 174, Cold Spring, NY 10516
constitutionmarsh.audubon.org

Friends of Fahnestock and Hudson Highlands State Parks
P.O. Box 194, Cold Spring, NY 10516 | fofhh.org

Glynwood Center
P.O. Box 157, Cold Spring, NY 10516
glynwood.org/product/donate

Hudson Highlands Land Trust
P.O. Box 226, Garrison, NY 10524
hhlt.org/donate.html

Hudson River Sloop Clearwater
724 Wolcott Ave., Beacon, NY 12508
clearwater.org

Little Stony Point Citizens Association
P.O. Box 319, Cold Spring, NY 10516



The sloop Clearwater provides trips to teach students about the Hudson River.

File photo by Michael Turton

Putnam Highlands Audubon Society
P.O. Box 292, Cold Spring, NY 10516

Riverkeeper
20 Secor Road, Ossining, NY 10562
riverkeeper.org/get-involved/donate

Scenic Hudson
One Civic Center Plaza, Suite 200, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 | scenichudson.org/donate

Stonecrop Gardens
81 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring, NY 10516
stonecrop.org/membership

Rehabilitation Services

Putnam/Northern Westchester Women’s Resource Center
935 South Lake Blvd., Mahopac, NY 10541
pnwwrc.org/donate

St. Christopher’s Inn
P.O. Box 150, Garrison, NY 10524
stchristophersinn-graymoor.org/donate

Support Connection
40 Triangle Center, Suite 100, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598 | supportconnection.org/donate-now

Topfield Equestrian Center
P.O. Box 367, Cold Spring, NY 10516
topfeldequestriancenter.com

Walter Hoving Home
P.O. Box 194, Garrison, NY 10524
walterhovinghome.org/donate-now



Susan Paykin, manager of Common Ground Farm

Photo by Meredith Heuer

Calendar Highlights

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

SATURDAY, DEC. 31

Howland Library closed

Butterfield Library closes at 2 p.m.

Caroling at the Creche

4 p.m. Polhill Park, Beacon | beaconarts.org

Bicycle Menorah Lighting

5 p.m. Polhill Park, Beacon
beaconhebrewalliance.org

Shadows of the Sixties: A Tribute to Motown's Super Groups

7 & 10 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

Knock Yourself Out

8:30 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St., Beacon
845-831-8065 | quinnbeacon.com

Joe Ferry & the Big Ska Band

8:30 p.m. BeanRunner Café
201 S. Division, Peekskill
914-737-1701 | beanrunnercafe.com

Judith Tulloch Band

9 p.m. Chill Wine Bar
173 Main St., Beacon
845-765-0885 | chillwinebarbeacon.com

Black Coffee Blues Band

9 p.m. Dogwood | 47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com

The Lost Soulz

9 p.m. The Hudson Room
23 South Division St., Peekskill
914-788-3663 | hudsonroom.com

The Differents

9 p.m. Whistling Willie's
184 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

Chris O'Leary Band / Sari Schorr & Band

9:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café
379 Main St., Beacon
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

3D Rhythm of Life

10 p.m. 12 Grapes | 12 N. Division St., Peekskill
914-737-6624 | 12grapes.com

SUNDAY, JAN. 1

New Year's Day

Interfaith Prayer for World Peace

10 a.m. Chuang-Yen Monastery
2020 Route 301, Carmel
845-225-1819 | baus.org

East Coast Jazz Trio

11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café
See details under Saturday.

Zachary Skinner Geo-Co-Lab (Winter Residency Begins)

Noon – 5 p.m. Matteawan Gallery
436 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7901 | matteawan.com

MONDAY, JAN. 2

Beacon City Council Workshop

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

TUESDAY, JAN. 3

New Moms and Infants Group

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
Email whiteside.ks@gmail.com for info.

Putnam County Legislature

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

Cold Spring Board of Trustees

7:30 p.m. Village Hall
85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 4

Nature Play Lunch and Afterschool Clubs (First Session)

11:30 a.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 | hnnaturemuseum.org

THURSDAY, JAN. 5

Philipstown Town Board

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

FRIDAY, JAN. 6

Beginning Watercolor (First Session)

10:30 a.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Card Games/Dungeons & Dragons Club

3 – 5 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Group Show, Part Two

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

High School Art Exhibit (Opening)

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

Potluck / Member Meeting

6:30 p.m. Beacon Sloop Club
2 Red Flynn Drive, Beacon
845-463-4660 | beaconsloopclub.org

Open House & Dance Practice Party

7 p.m. Fred Astaire Dance Studio
3182 Route 9, Cold Spring
845-424-6353 | fredastairecoldspring.com

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SUN 12:30 3:30 6:30, MON 3:00 6:15
TUE 1:30 4:30 7:15, WED & THU 7:00

Rogue One (PG13)
FRI 2:00 5:00 8:15
SAT 11:45 2:45 5:45
SUN 12:15 3:15 6:15, MON 2:45 6:00
TUE 1:15 4:15 7:30, WED & THU 7:15

Passengers (PG13)
FRI 2:30 5:30 8:30
SAT 12:15 3:15 6:15
SUN 12:45 3:45 6:45, MON 3:15 6:30
TUE 1:45 4:45 7:45
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Snow Angel *(from Page 9)*

SHRED gets support from Sandbox Helmets, Ski Haus in Wappingers Falls, Orange County Snowboards in Goshen and Out of Bounds in New Jersey, as well as brands such as Burton, Capita, 32 Boots and Union Binding.

The long-term goal, he says, is to partner with schools, recreation departments, snow/skate companies, mountains and brands to develop apprentice programs for teenagers who are interested in pursuing non-traditional careers such as working at a ski resort or for a snowboard company. "We tell the kids that every snowboard company needs an attorney, accountant, human resources staff, as well as retail staff," he says. "We're also trying to implement a science and engineering project at Burton involving testing the mechanisms of all their products: what are the components of the snowboard that make it do the



SHRED founder Danny Hairston talks to program participants.

Image courtesy of SHRED



A SHRED participant gets instruction on Windham Mountain.

Photo by Matt Petricone

things it does?"

SHRED's arts program includes instruction in videography, photography, graphic design and motion graphics. At the Boys & Girls Club in Newburgh, the goal is for the 12 participants to have a working knowledge of Adobe Works Suite software by the time they enter high school. "We want to use the snow and skateboarding culture to reimagine the education process, with them engaged in learning skills which they can then take back into the classrooms, applying them



Ready to hit the slopes, a SHRED snowboarder finds his balance.

Photo by Matt Petricone

to math, social studies" and other disciplines, Hairston explains.

Besides fundraisers, SHRED has an event at Two-Way Brewery in Beacon on the second Friday of each month and at Newburgh Brewery on the third Thursday. To donate, visit shredfoundation.org or send a check to SHRED Foundation, 94 Prospect St., Beacon, NY 12508.

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A Whovian Wish Fulfilled (from Page 9)

23 to be "Collin's Dr. Who Day."

Collin was diagnosed in July 2015 and underwent six months of chemotherapy to battle the cancer, which originates in the cells of the immune system. Ninety percent of children are cured, and Collin has been in remission for a year. (Make-a-Wish notes that while the children it serves have life-threatening conditions, it isn't providing "last wishes." The Hudson Valley chapter, which is based in Tarrytown and handles requests in Dutchess, Putnam and six other counties, typically has about 110 requests in progress.)

On the big day, Pandoraica was decked out with Whovian accessories, including a buffet with Dr. Who favorites such as fish fingers and custard. An hour before Collin arrived, Pandoraica was packed with "cosplayers," fans almost as dedicated as Collin, draped in both costume and attitude.

There were almost as many Dr. Who players as there have been actors in the ever-changing show, which first aired in 1963, ran through 1989, and was revived in 2005. Dr. Who is a spacefaring and time-travelling humanoid alien who, accompanied by companions, combats a variety of foes while saving civilizations and helping those in need.

Twelve actors have headlined the series, each taking over after the previous Dr. Who suffers a severe injury that requires him to regenerate into a new body and being — a device which was

invented upon the departure of the first actor.

Dustin Hausner, an early arrival to Collin's party, came as the seventh Dr. Who, resplendent in a boater hat, plaid pants, white jacket and, most crucial, a vest with a question mark pattern and an umbrella with a similar handle. Hausner, a graduate student at Columbia studying negotiation and conflict resolution, described No. 7 as "very mysterious. My theory is that he is happy, yes, but he also has a bit of sadness about him."

Hausner said that many of the cosplayers know each other from science-fiction conventions and other events. "We're all here for the opportunity to help a kid have some fun," he said. Patrick Fenton, depicting No. 8, likewise said he came "to make someone's day."

Into each hero's life, villains must enter. Pandoraica had two. Tom Hoppe, who portrayed Cyberman, who looked like the Tin Man crossed with something meaner, is a member of COS 'N Effect, a group that provides characters for charities such as Make-a-Wish. Kara Sternquist was Missy, who insisted she was no everyday Dr. Who nemesis but, in fact, an *arch*-nemesis.



The Dr. Who gang which waited outside of Pandoraica was just as excited to meet Make-a-Wish kid Collin as he was to see them.

Photos by A. Rooney



Pandoraica owner Shirley Hot shows Collin the food offerings, including special fish fingers and custard, "enjoyed by Dr. Who 11 after his regeneration" according to those in the know.

Each of these characters, along with others, lined up beside a "red carpet" entrance created with crowd-control barriers outside Pandoraica as a white limousine containing Collin, his parents Jonathan and Jennifer, and his twin sister Kendall arrived. Collin seemed excited but not overly intimidated, greeting the smiling, applauding crowd, and shaking hands.



Left, glamorous Dr. Who arch-nemesis "Missy", a/k/a Kara Sternquist, strikes a pose at Pandoraica. Above, a cast of Dr. Who characters await the arrival of Collin Cash at Pandoraica.

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(The Cash family also visited New York City.)

The party began with a welcome from Beacon Mayor Randy Casale and proclamations from state Sen. Sue Serino and Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro, who joked about his own regeneration as a politician. Collin showed his own quick wit, and his parents watched with pride. (Jennifer Cash admitted she and her husband weren't great Dr. Who fans. Kendall was, "a little," she said, "but nothing like Collin.")

After being presented with the goodies collected for him, which included a model of a TARSIS (a time-traveling spaceship disguised as a British police callbox), Hot showed Collin the buffet and

provided a tour of the outer limits of Pandoraica, including a bathroom door painted to resemble the TARSIS and a wall with a "crack in the universe."

Saving Ethel Rosenberg

(from Page 1)

military base in Los Alamos, New Mexico, and said she had typed up notes he had given Julius about the atomic bomb, making her an active participant in the conspiracy. In exchange for his testimony, Greenglass was given a 10-year prison term and his wife Ruth was freed.

The Rosenbergs' convictions divided the nation, with protesters proclaiming their innocence and others clamoring for their deaths. Despite pleas for clemency from Pope Pius XII and Albert Einstein, Julius Rosenberg was executed, followed by Ethel, at sundown on June 19, 1953. Left orphans, Michael and Robert Rosenberg took on the name of the family that adopted them.

This month, the brothers returned to the northwest gate of the White House with another letter and a petition with more than 40,000 signatures addressed to President Obama. Based on years of mounting evidence that their mother was



Michael and Robert Meeropol at the White House on Dec. 1, holding a photo taken in 1953 when they traveled to Washington, D.C., as children to ask President Eisenhower to commute their parent's death sentences

Photo provided

not involved in the conspiracy, including the unsealing in 2015 of David Greenglass' grand jury testimony in which he made no mention of his sister, the brothers are fighting for their mother to be posthumously exonerated.

"The FBI started releasing stuff about the case back in 1975, and that gave us hints," Meeropol said. But the grand jury material was crucial, he said, because it forms "the official basis of the government's indictment."

In 2001, in an interview with *60 Minutes*, Greenglass, who died in 2014, said he had manufactured his sister's involvement after being pressured by the prosecutor, 24-year-old Roy Cohn (who, made famous by the trial, became chief counsel to Sen. Joseph McCarthy). He said Cohn hoped Julius Rosenberg would confess to spare his wife's life.

"The government didn't care if she was guilty," says Michael Meeropol now. "She was just a lever to get to my father. But the bluff didn't work. That's the saddest thing about this."

In 2008, a co-conspirator in the case, Morton Sobell, who served 18 years in prison but maintained his innocence, said he was in fact guilty of spying, as was Julius Rosenberg. Of Ethel, he said: "She knew what he was doing. But what was she guilty of? Of being Julius' wife."

When the grand jury testimony was unsealed, and after a team from the Seton Hall University School of Law this month concluded the evidence against Ethel was "threadbare," the Meeropol brothers believed they had the momentum to push for their mother's exoneration before Obama leaves office on Jan. 20.

Even if the president does pardon her, Michael Meeropol said he understands not everyone will be convinced.

"The usual suspects will come out and say Obama was wrong," he said. "But hopefully, it would generate interest. Debate generates interest. The people who already study this, the people who read, people who take the trouble, they already know she should not have been executed. But for the president to say it, that will get a whole lot of other people to say 'Hey, let's check this out.'"



Ethel and Julius Rosenberg around 1942

The brothers see their mother's death as a cautionary tale about the abuse of power. "These are the kinds of things that governments can do," Michael Meeropol said, "especially in trying times, when there's a lot of emotion and a lot of fear." In the fiery rhetoric of Donald Trump, who was once advised by Roy Cohn, he hears echoes of the Red Scare. "Governments have a habit of being authoritarian when they know they're right," Meeropol said. "Nobody is more sure he's right than the president-elect."

Both Meeropols have remained active in public life since the 1970s. Robert founded the Rosenberg Fund For Children (rfc.org), which supports the children of political activists. One of his daughters is its executive director, and another daughter is preparing to argue a case before the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of immigrants who were deported after 9/11. Michael's daughter Ivy Meeropol, who lives in Cold Spring, in 2004 made a critically acclaimed documentary *Heir to an Execution* about her grandparents.

Michael Meeropol said he learned an important lesson from his mother's life and death: Never back down when you know you're right. "If you care about this country, you have a responsibility to be in it," he said. "There are some pretty trying times ahead, but you have to be in the arena."

A Mother's Last Letter

A letter written by Ethel Rosenberg to her sons on June 19, 1953, hours before she and her husband were executed at Sing Sing prison in Ossining.

Dearest Sweethearts, my most precious children,

Only this morning it looked like we might be together again after all. Now that this cannot be, I want so much for you to know all that I have come to know. Unfortunately, I may write only a few simple words; the rest your own lives must teach you, even as mine taught me.

At first, of course, you will grieve bitterly for us, but you will not grieve alone. That is our consolation and it must eventually be yours.

Eventually, too, you must come to believe that life is worth the living. Be comforted that even now, with the end of ours slowly approaching, that we know this with a conviction that defeats the executioner!

Your lives must teach you, too, that good cannot really flourish in the midst of evil; that freedom and all the things that go to make up a truly satisfying and worthwhile life, must sometimes be purchased very dearly. Be comforted then that we were serene and understood with the deepest kind of understanding, that civilization had not as yet progressed to the point where life did not have to be lost for the sake of life; and that we were comforted in the sure knowledge that others would carry on after us.

We wish we might have had the tremendous joy and gratification of living our lives out with you. Your Daddy who is with me in these last momentous hours, sends his heart and all the love that is in it for his dearest boys. Always remember that we were innocent and could not wrong our conscience.

We press you close and kiss you with all our strength.

Lovingly, Daddy and Mommy
Julie Ethel

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Start Dancing in 2017

Studio to offer free class

The Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Philipstown Square, on Route 9 north of Cold Spring, will host an open house on Friday, Jan. 6. Learn new moves with a free beginner-level group class at 7 p.m. and stay for the practice party at 8 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person or \$30 per couple.

On Jan. 29, the studio is hosting a Winter Wonderland Mini-Match and Showcase. It's free to watch. For more information visit fredastairecoldspring.com.

Nature Museum Family Events Start Soon

Winter programs begin Jan. 4

Registration is open for the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum winter play programs for 4- to 5-year-olds. The Lunch Club meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and the After School Club from 3 to 5 p.m. The program runs for 11 weeks on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from Jan. 4 to March 17.

Children also can play at the Outdoor Discovery Center's Grasshopper Grove. Drop-in sessions are available if there is space. Call 845-534-5506 ext. 204, or go to hnm.org. The cost varies based on how



Exploring Grasshopper Grove at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum

Photo provided

many days a week the child participates.

On Sunday, Jan. 8, the museum will offer a program at 10 a.m. to identify traces that wildlife leave. Led by environmental educator Carl Heitmuller, participants will learn how to read the landscape, including rubs, scrapes, footprints, nests and scat. The program is appropriate for children ages 3 years and older. Admission is \$3 or \$7 and includes a viewing of *Fun Feet*, a movie about how animals use their feet.

Did Your Vote Count?

Assemblywoman to hold forum

State Assemblywoman Sandy Galef will host a panel discussion on the Electoral College on Thursday, Jan. 12, at 6:30 p.m. in the Croton Library at 171 Cleveland



Sandy Galef



Jeffrey Dinowitz

Drive. The panelists, who will discuss voting reform, are Assemblyman Jeff Dinowitz, who sponsored the New York State National Popular Vote Bill, and Hendrik Hertzberg, a political analyst and board member of Fairvote.org.

For more information, call 914-941-1111 or go to bit.ly/galefnptix.

Student Art at Gallery 66 NY

Fourth annual juried exhibit

Beginning with an opening reception on Friday, Jan. 6, from 6 to 9 p.m., Gallery 66 NY will present its fourth annual high school juried art exhibit. Emerging artists from eight high schools were asked to interpret the theme "Story Tellers, Fables and Fiction." The exhibit is on view at the Cold Spring gallery until Jan. 29. Check gallery66ny.com for hours.

Adventures on the Sea

Depot Docs to screen Following Seas

The Philipstown Depot Theatre continues its Depot Docs film series on Friday, Jan. 13, with a screening of *Following Seas*. The documentary tells the story of

Bob and Nancy Griffith, who set out on a sailboat to free themselves from the strictures of their lives in 1960 and over the next two decades raised their children on the water. The footage combines interviews with home movies shot by Nancy.

Tickets are \$20 and the 7:30 p.m. screening will be followed by a Q&A with the director and a reception. For details visit philipstowndepottheatre.org.

Beacon

Free Acting Class for Teens

Begins Jan. 7 at Howland Library

The Howland Public Library in Beacon is running another acting series for children and teens ages 11 and older, beginning on Saturday, Jan. 7. Led by Christopher Blesdoe of Improv Patrol, the free class meets on six Saturdays from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. It will cover working as a team, theater games, how to command the stage and developing confidence. Register by contacting Michelle Rivas at communityart@beaconlibrary.org or 845-831-1134, ext. 101.

Support Groups

For a full list of area support groups, visit: highlandscurrent.com/sg



A scene from *Following Seas*

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

The Artist is In

Residency at Matteawan starts Jan. 1

Beacon artist Zachary Skinner begins a month-long residency at Matteawan



Windcatcher, a sculpture by Zachary Skinner.

Photo provided

Gallery on Jan. 1. This is the fourth year of the gallery's Winter Residency program. Skinner will work most days and is creating a collaborative installation exploring the question if art can prompt effective social and ecological change.

The Geo-Co-Lab includes chalkboards hung alongside Skinner's sculptures and work he is creating in the gallery. Visitors are invited to draw on chalkboards in response to the art as a social, performative and participatory component. Skinner is also creating a Wisdom Tent as a space for contemplation and reflection. The artist will give a talk on Sunday, Jan., 22 at 3 p.m. See matteawan.com.

Be Part of the Drama

Beacon Players offer seat plaques

The Beacon Players, the high school's drama group, is asking the community to support its productions by sponsoring a seat in the Pete and Toshi Seeger Theater. Complete a form at beaconplayers.com and send a check for \$25 to the address on the website and your name will be inscribed on a plate on a seat in the auditorium.

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Haldane 59, Children's Village 48
Chester 42, Haldane 32
Beacon 83, John Jay East Fishkill 75 (OT)

Girls' Basketball

Walter Panas 55, Haldane 34
Haldane 45, Corcoran 24
Haldane 52, Gloversville 42
Beacon 38, John Jay East Fishkill 16

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Top Finishers*

Beacon Girls

4 x 200 Relay
6. Beacon 2:03.50

High Jump

3. Jummie Akinwunmi 5-00.00

Triple Jump

6. Tiara Boone 29-11.25

Beacon Boys

1,000-Meter Run
17. Jean Pena 2:37.70

200-Meter Dash

3. Kaleb Istvan 25.54

300-Meter Dash

10. Vincent Compagnone 35.84

55-Meter Hurdles

5. Ethan Burgos 9.24

600-Meter Run

7. Compagnone 1:22.40

800-Meter Run

4. Jayen Lare 2:16.50

Triple Jump

5. Richard Kish 37-10.00

*Section 1 Challenge, Staten Island
Top Finishers*

Haldane Girls

55-Meter Hurdles

57. Jamie Calimano 8.87

300-Meter Dash

27. Jamie Calimano 49.57

1,000-Meter Run

6. Heather Winne 3:18.35

4 x 200-Meter Relay

20. Haldane 2:07.63

Shotput

12. Catherine Parr 26-04.50

Haldane Boys

600-Meter Run

56. Andrew Silhavy 1:47.74

1,600-Meter Run

16. Nicholas Farrell 4:37.94

4 x 400-Meter Relay

22. Haldane 4:05.19

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Finally, New Life for Guinan's? *(from Page 1)*

once served as home to Garrison's post office, library and firehouse. It includes the 1892 railway depot (now the Philipstown Depot Theatre) and the Garrison Art Center (formerly Forson's general store) and the responsibility of being on the National Register of Historic Places.

Its maintenance is overseen by two entities: the nonprofit Landing Association and the for-profit Garrison Station Plaza. The association was formed in 1962 by residents to purchase from New York Central Railroad the railroad building and the road leading to it (they later acquired the marina area). Garrison Station Plaza was formed in 1966 to purchase land and buildings on the waterfront at Garrison from the Belcher Realty Co., as part of general plans to restore the neighborhood.

At the time the buildings were acquired by Garrison Station Plaza, the occupants included two tenants who are still there: the Prescott family and the Garrison Art Center. A third longtime tenant was Guinan's.

The rents collected by Garrison Station Plaza cover maintenance and other expenses. The Plaza has never generated a profit, and many stakeholders have donated their shares to the Landing Association, making it the majority owner of Garrison Station Plaza (which causes much confusion). Many in the community are unaware that the restoration, care and upkeep of the area such as plowing, litter cleanups, sidewalk maintenance, lawn mowing, flower planting, erosion protection and insurance coverage come not from the Town of Philipstown but from donations.

Board members say this lack of consistent funding has stalled the development of another food establishment at the former Guinan's site.

Garrison's Landing, like the hamlet of Garrison, was named for Harry Garrison, who ran a ferry established in 1821 to West Point. It was a primary means of getting to the military academy until the construction of the Bear Mountain Bridge

in 1929. After being filled in, the slips and the hulks of several ferries became the picturesque park at the heart of the Landing.

When parts of *Hello Dolly* were filmed at the landing in 1968, the 20th Century Fox crew built the gazebo and repainted several facades, investing about \$60,000. That exterior restoration jump-started attention to the interior, which needed insulation, heating repairs and water systems. All of this became the focus of Garrison Station Plaza.

Much of the landing was owned by the Belcher family, descendants of Henry White Belcher, owner of the Garrison and West Point Ferry Co. The Belcher family, headed by Col. Taylor Belcher, also owned the Garrison Coal Co. As recently as the late 1950s, the area nearest to the coal company, at the north end of the landing, was filled with the remnants of a once-thriving industry, including shacks and sheds on the promontory leading out from the 1840s Golden Eagle building, once known as the Garrison Hotel.

Latter-day Belcher family members were involved with both organizations and their efforts, with Taylor Belcher Jr. (Toby), who at one time served as U.S. ambassador to Cypress and to Peru, serving as president of each organization for



One of the many incarnations of the Garrison Hotel at the landing

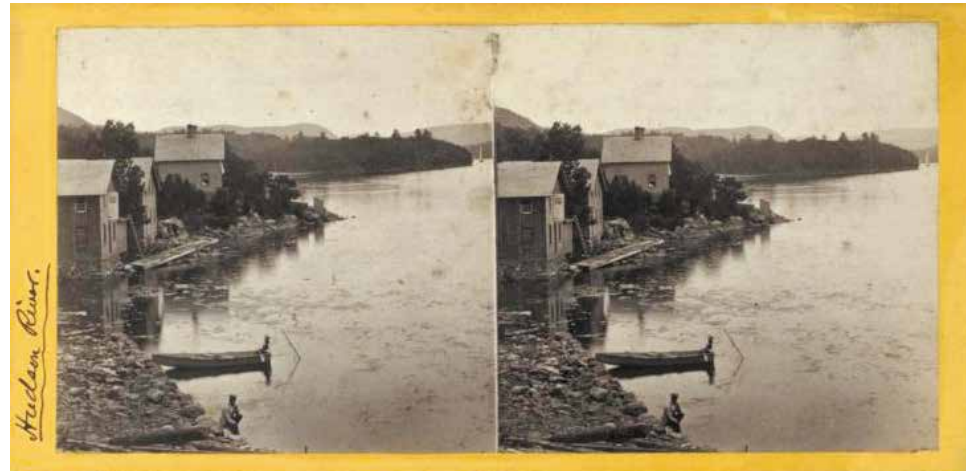
a period.

Today the Landing Association rents the former depot to Philipstown Performing Arts through the Town of Philipstown, and the 1950 marina — once home to a seaplane base and flying school operated by Don Yannitelli Sr. — to the Garrison Yacht Club. Garrison Station

bers believe there is a misconception of its role, particularly in relation to the Guinan's site. "People think we are asking for funding for an upmarket restaurant business, but that's not at all the case," said Margaret O'Sullivan. "It's important to remember that none of the cost of this is included in local taxes — in fact we pay tens of thousands of dollars in local taxes. We're doing our best to raise the money necessary to rejuvenate the south end of the landing and revitalize the area, which will then help out the yacht club, the theater and the art center. Really, everyone who visits the landing will benefit." (The other board members are Peter Hofmann, Sara Silbiger, Donna Pidala, David Lilburne, Carl Nelson, Katie Roberts and Byron Stinson.)

Some residents have expressed concern that making the landing too appealing will cause it to be overrun with visitors, as has happened with sites such as Breakneck Ridge and Indian Brook Falls. But board members say they are happy to see the park enjoyed as a "private property, open to the public." Said Hofmann, the board president: "Visitors coming and bringing their chairs out by the river on a Sunday, people launching kayaks from the landing — we welcome all of that."

To donate by credit card, visit garrison-landing.org or send a check to Garrison's Landing Association, P.O. Box 205, Garrison, NY 10524.



An early photo of Garrison's Landing. The water near the homes was filled with dirt and ferry hulls to create the present-day waterfront park. *Image courtesy of Nancy Prescott*



Image of Garrison's Landing, looking north, circa 1935. The building on the left and others seen through the boats, belonged to Garrison Coal Company.

Image courtesy of Del Karlen.

Plaza, meanwhile, leases out the mix of residential and commercial properties, most acquired through donations from the Belcher, Osborn, Hine and O'Neill families, among others. It also owns the parking lots on the east side of the tracks, which it rents to Metro-North for parking.

Del Karlen, president of Garrison Station Plaza, said that in some instances, rents for properties used by the community have been kept at below-market rates. "The business allows us to keep up the appearance of the landing," he explained. "We don't make money on the rent, but we do have expenses, mortgage payments and taxes to deal with, and the rent allows us to maintain things." The Landing Association's 2016 donation appeal letter highlighted the formidable work needed at No. 7 Garrison's Landing, (the former Guinan's) namely "new septic, flood-proofing and extensive interior and exterior structural refurbishment."

Some Landing Association board mem-

Phil's List

FREE!

Free online local classifieds devoted to jobs, housing, tag sales, services, and more.

highlandscurrent.com
click on "Free Ads"

2016: The Year in Review *(from Page 20)*

couple withdraws the pledge, saying "it is clear for political reasons" the funding "is not welcome."

7 A second Beacon 3D sculpture, *SHE*, is vandalized.

16 The Hudson Valley Renegades host the NY-Penn League All-Star Game.

19 Mazie Johnson, a Beacon resident for 80 years, dies two weeks before her 107th birthday.

21 Cold Spring gallery owner Marina Yashina dies of a brain tumor.

22 A man is shot dead in Beacon, the first homicide in the city since 2010.

SEPTEMBER

1 Haldane opens an alternative high school, the Haldane Academy, at the St. Basil campus in Garrison.

6 Having lost the Ailes donation, the Putnam County Legislature approves an \$800,000 bond to pay for the proposed Cold Spring senior center.

17 The Haldane boys' cross-country team wins a 20-school meet in Queensbury.

19 Giorgio Spanu and Nancy Olnick announce they will open a 20,000-square-foot art space in 2017 in Garrison devoted to the Italian avante garde movement Arte Povera.

23 The U.S. Justice Department ends its years-long oversight of the Beacon Police

Department.

26 Kristan Flynn and Craig Wolf are appointed to fill two vacant seats on the Beacon School Board.

28 The Cold Spring VFW and American Legion posts sponsor a trip for nine veterans to Washington, D.C., to see the capital's war monuments.

29 Ed Trimble retires from the Cold Spring Highway Department after 38 years.

OCTOBER

3 The City of Beacon sells a 3.14-acre property adjacent to city hall to developer Ken Kearney to build approximately 70 affordable housing units.

6 The Philipstown Town Board says it will consider an ordinance requiring the safe storage of guns.

7 The Beacon Historical Society announces it will move from the Howland Cultural Center to larger quarters at the former rectory of St. Andrew's church.

7 Haldane is one of 54 public high schools in the U.S. recognized with National Blue Ribbon honors by the U.S. Department of Education.

21 The Garrison Art Center names Katie Schmidt Feder as director, succeeding Carinda Swann, who is retiring.

25 The Hop, a popular Beacon bar, closes without explanation.



The women of the Garrison Art Center: Julia Famularo, Dolores Strebel, Carinda Swann, Katie Schmidt Feder and Becky Gordon

Photo provided

28 The Garrison Volunteer Ambulance Corp responds to two heroin overdoses on the same day; both men are saved by the antidote Narcan.

28 The Cold Spring Fire Company says it will forgo its annual fundraising after receiving a large bequest.

NOVEMBER

3 Residents of Indian Brook Road in Garrison ask the Philipstown Town Board to consider closing Indian Brook Falls because social media brings so many visitors.

5 Haldane wins its first Section 1 Class D football title in five years, then advances to the state final four for the first time before losing on Nov. 12 to Cambridge.

7 The Beacon School Board rejects a request by the fire department to sell 1.75 acres near Sargent Elementary School for a consolidated city firehouse.

8 Camille Linson defeats Faye Thorpe for a seat as one of Philipstown's two town justices.

14 Planners consider changing the route for the Cold Spring portion of the proposed Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail from Fair Street to Dockside Park.

15 Beacon names Tony Pena as its third poet laureate.

21 New York's highest court rules the state can require Indian Point's nuclear reactors to pass environmental review. Entergy, the plant's owner, had argued they were exempt.

DECEMBER

5 The Beacon City Council passes a law requiring gun owners to secure their guns when not in use.

5 Butterfield developer Paul Guillaro files notice that he plans to sue Cold Spring for \$2.5 million, claiming village officials intentionally delayed the project.

6 Putnam County legislators create an online registry of residents convicted of animal abuse.

13 In the Garrison Fire District's first election, voters select Nat Prentice, Stan Freilich, David Brower, Linda Lomonaco and Sandra Bohl as commissioners.

13 Elizabeth Ailes, owner of *The Putnam County News & Recorder*, sells the weekly to its editor, Douglas Cunningham. The paper's historic Main Street building also goes on the market.

20 Longtime Garrison resident and journalist Catherine Portman-Laux dies at age 89.



Tale of Constitution Island: a rhapsodic recounting of a desolate landmark on the Hudson

Saturday, January 7 at 3pm

Join PHM for a presentation by Master Storyteller Jonathan Kruk. He will share the story of Constitution Island and the Warner Sisters.

Gazing down from Old Cro' Nest Mountain, we'll see the native creation myth of the river that flows both ways, the Great Chain that held together the new nation, and how two spinster sisters enlightened the wide, wide world with their novels and sweet hymns.

Note the special early lecture start time of 3pm, and join us after the lecture for some light refreshments! You will also get a chance to explore PHM's new exhibit, *The World of Anna & Susan Warner*.

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

The Putnam History Museum is located at 63 Chestnut Street in Cold Spring.



www.putnamhistorymuseum.org

Please join the

Hudson Highlands Pipe Band for our 11th Annual

Traditional Burns Night Supper

honoring the
Scottish Poet Robert Burns

Saturday, January 14, 2017

7 - 11 pm

Scottish inspired dinner with haggis,
open bar, and whisky toasts



**The Roundhouse at Beacon Falls
2 East Main Street, Beacon**

Semi-formal or Highland Dress
featuring traditional music, humorous toasts, and
performances by the Pipes and Drums

\$125 per ticket or Table of 10 \$1,100
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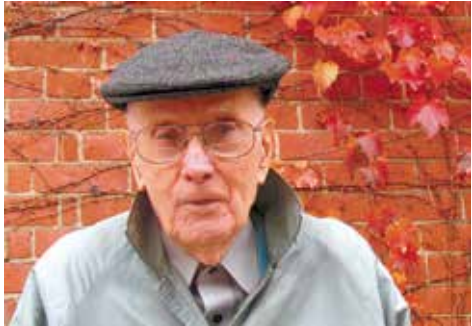
2016: The Year in Review

By Michael Turton

JANUARY

11 More than 400 parents gather after a canceled Beacon Board of Education meeting to call for the dismissal of Superintendent Barbara Walkley. She resigns on Jan. 21, becoming the third superintendent since 2006 to last less than 18 months in the job.

19 Longtime Philipstown and Cold Spring historian Donald MacDonald dies at age 90.



Donald MacDonald Photo by M. Turton

29 Peter Gross resigns as executive director of Hudson River Sloop Clearwater after 18 months. The organization's annual summer festival at Croton Point is canceled to focus on the \$850,000 restoration of the sloop.

29 Sean Patrick Maloney, who represents Philipstown and Beacon in the U.S. House of Representatives, expresses regret over his vote to tighten restrictions on Syrian refugees entering the U.S.

FEBRUARY

11 The Butterfield project returns to the Cold Spring Planning Board after the developer asks to move the proposed senior center from the new construction to the existing Lahey Pavilion.

12 A secure prescription medication return box is installed at Philipstown Town Hall.

16 Beacon residents petition the city to rezone seven properties in an effort to deter a 70-unit development.

MARCH

8 Haldane High School Principal Brian Alm announces he is leaving for a new job after nine years at the school.

11 Libby Pataki resigns as head of the Putnam County Visitor's Bureau after a *Journal News* investigation shows she had created a second nonprofit agency that paid her a salary without oversight by a functioning board, an apparent violation of state law.

12 Rayvon Grey of Beacon High School, now a freshman at LSU, sets a state indoor record and becomes the first long jumper in the nation to clear 26 feet since 1989; he leaps 26 feet ¼ inch. On June 10, Grey breaks the state outdoor record with a leap of 25-feet, 4¾ inches, breaking a mark set in 1965.



Rayvon Grey making a jump at a February meet Photo courtesy ny.milesplit.com

12 After an unexpected run to the Class C title game, the Haldane boys' basketball team finishes second in the state.



Haldane celebrates its 36-34 victory over Moravia in the Class C semifinals on March 11. Photo by Peter Farrell

15 Lynn Miller and Steve Voloto win seats on the Cold Spring Village Board, and voters pass a referendum moving village elections to November.



Steve Voloto and Lynn Miller just after the vote count on March 15

Photo by M. Turton

18 The state upgrades the Beacon School District to "good standing" based on improving test scores and graduation rates.

APRIL

1 *The Paper* becomes *The Highlands Current*, reflecting broader coverage of the area.

16 The Philipstown Little League opens its season with 134 players, a 14 percent increase over 2015.

18 A year after a devastating fire at their Parrott Street home in Cold Spring, construction begins on a new modular home for the Santos family.

20 After 10 years of planning, Cold Spring's Main Street improvement project gets underway when workers begin marking broken sidewalk concrete.

MAY

3 The Putnam County Legislature approves a \$25,000-per-month, 15-year lease for a senior center at Butterfield to be named for Fox News chief and Garrison resident Roger Ailes, who pledged \$500,000 to the project.

6 The Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison presents its annual Hamilton Fish Award to novelist Salman Rushdie at a dinner at the Roundhouse in Beacon.

16 Nelsonville Trustee Danielle Pack McCarthy charges that fellow Trustee Thomas Robertson harassed and attempted to intimidate her. She also criticizes Mayor Tom Corless for not responding to her concerns.

17 Voters elect challengers Meredith Heuer, Michael Rutkoske and Anthony Tseng to the Beacon School Board.

17 The Haldane Board of Education appoints Peter Carucci, formerly an assistant principal in Tuckahoe, as principal of Haldane High School.

28 James Cannon, a longtime athletic booster and member of the Garrison School Board, dies.

28-30 More than 3,000 hikers trek up Breakneck Ridge over the Memorial Day weekend.

JUNE

4 Three hundred guests attend an open house to honor Andy Chmar, who is retiring after 12 years as head of the Hudson Highlands Land Trust.

5 *The Yawner*, a sculpture in the Beacon 3D public exhibit, is vandalized.



Sculptor Jon Reichert with the remains of *The Yawner*. Photo by Brian PJ Cronin

6-7 Cold Spring shops are hit by rash of burglaries. A second series of break-ins occurs in July.

9 Cold Spring installs its first parking meter, at the municipal lot on Fair Street.

10 The Cold Spring Planning Board and Butterfield developer Paul Guillaro reach a compromise on his request to move the proposed senior center to Lahey Pavilion.



Construction underway at the Butterfield project Photo by M. Turton

JULY

9 Police officers rescue an owl caught in a soccer net at Beacon High School. On July 12, Beacon firefighters rescue 50 cats from a burning home.

13 The New York State Supreme Court overrules Cold Spring Village Justice Thomas Costello, who had refused to seal a case involving restaurant owner Ray DiFrancesco when assault charges against him were dropped.

15 The U.S. Coast Guard says it will consider a plan for 10 anchorage spots, including between Beacon and Newburgh, for oil barges along the Hudson River.

21 After several allegations of sexual harassment, Roger Ailes resigns from Fox News. Putnam County officials say the agreement to name the senior center for him remains in place.

AUGUST

1 Nearly every ticket for four free performances of *Our Town*, starring local residents and organized by the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival for Labor Day weekend, is snapped up within an hour.



Antoinette Robinson of the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Company in a scene with Megan Shea of Cold Spring in *Our Town*

Photo by Ashley Garrett/HVSF

1 The New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct rules that Philipstown Town Justice Alan Steiner acted improperly in three incidents. Steiner says he will step down Sept. 20.

3 After the Putnam County legislature sets aside an agreement to accept a \$500,000 donation from Roger and Elizabeth Ailes for a senior center in Cold Spring, the
(Continued on page 19)