

The HIGHLANDS Current



Sister Act ~ See Page 20

FEBRUARY 3, 2017

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'We Got This'

New Beacon schools chief reassures parents, teachers

By Jeff Simms

As newly appointed Beacon City School District Superintendent Matthew Landahl spoke to board and audience members around 10 p.m. on Jan. 26, just moments after being voted in as the district's 10th superintendent in as many years, he mentioned three quotes that have influenced him during his career.

The first, "Nobody cares about how much you know until they know how much you care," he attributed to another teacher in Baltimore, where he began his career more than 20 years ago. It was there, Landahl said, that he learned teachers have to build relationships with their students first, before they can truly affect their lives.

The second quote, "Never ask anyone to do anything that you're not willing to do yourself," he said refers to his management style, citing the need to show colleagues that he, too, will be flexible and accountable.

However, it was probably the third quote that meant the most to the parents and administrators listening. Describing the stress he and his wife felt as they navigated challenges that their son, now five, faced early in life, Landahl spoke about a nurse who reassured him often that, "We got this."

For a school system that has faced challenges of its own, it may have been exactly what his audience needed to hear.

"I was actually blown away," said Alana Reynolds, a Beacon parent who attended the board meeting. "I thought everything he said resonated. He was exactly on point."

School board member Meredith Heuer said that, for her, Landahl emerged as the front-runner for the position after the first round of interviews in early December.

"I thought it would be a really hard decision just by reading applications," Heuer said. "I was impressed by how he could follow through with a thought. His answers were strong and genuine."

Forty-eight candidates, most of them from the Northeast, applied for the job. The search firm Hazard, Young, Attea and Associates narrowed the field down to 17 and board members interviewed five finalists before giving



Matthew Landahl at the Jan. 26 board meeting

Photo by J. Simms

(Continued on Page 6)



A composite portrait by Max Ginsburg of the beach at Lake Valhalla, modeled primarily on photos taken by Buddy Odland. The painting was commissioned by Joe Lombardi, who notes, "The beach was never that crowded."

Image courtesy of Joe Lombardi

Scenic Hudson Deal Falls Apart

Preservation group withdraws after Lake Valhalla residents sue owner

By Michael Turton

A last-minute legal dispute thwarted a bid by Scenic Hudson to purchase and preserve the largest privately owned tract of forest in the Highlands. The 1,168-acre parcel, located on the Putnam-Dutchess border, includes most of Scofield Ridge, extensive forests, rocky slopes, wetlands and streams, as well as the 32-acre Lake Valhalla.

Scenic Hudson announced Jan. 24 that it had terminated an agreement to buy the land because, days before the deal was to be finalized, the Lake Valhalla Civic Association (LVCA) filed suit in state court against the property owners, Silver Point Capital and BMR Funding of Greenwich, Connecticut. Scenic Hudson is not a party in the litigation.

Paul Kaye, vice president of the LVCA, said that the lawsuit is intended "to establish that the home-

owners in Valhalla Highlands enjoy an ownership interest in the lake and other lands surrounding the community." An attorney for the property owners declined to comment.

Lake Valhalla residents say they fear selling the land to Scenic Hudson would open the area, including the lake, to the public. The association wants a court to rule that the LVCA owns the lake and land around it, to prevent that part of the parcel from becoming a park.

Seth McKee, land conservation direc-

tor with Scenic Hudson, said the goal of its proposed purchase of the Lake Valhalla property had been to link it with conserved lands to the north and south, specifically Fishkill Ridge and Breakneck Ridge. A north-south link would likely increase the number of hikers in the Lake Valhalla area.

The Current contacted a number of residents who spoke on the condition they not be identified. "We are concerned about hordes of people taking over the lake, and associated (Continued on Page 7)

County Officials: You May Hate Gun Laws, But Follow Them

Clerk and judge criticize news media for seeking permit data

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Two Putnam County officials told gun owners Jan. 25 to not let their opposition to gun recertification keep them from obeying the law or sidetrack them from their mission of defending "our individual rights."

Addressing the Putnam County Firearm

Owners Association, in Carmel, County Clerk Michael Bartolotti and County Court Judge James Reitz also criticized efforts by the news media to obtain information from handgun permits.

New York State requires permits for handguns as well as semi-automatic weapons owned before Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed the Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement (SAFE) Act into law on Jan. 15, 2013 (the law banned the sale of new assault weapons). The statute also requires that handgun registrations be recertified (Continued on Page 8)

Small, Good Things

Bunker Mentality

By Joe Dizney

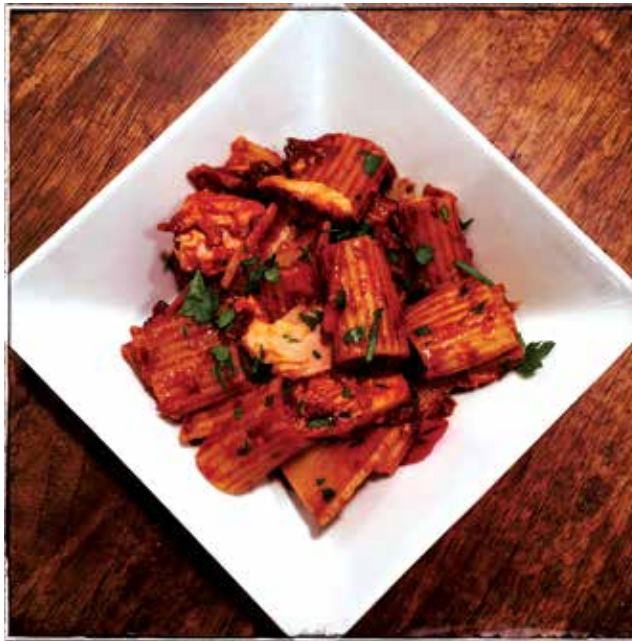
As a food magazine, Momofuko chef David Chang's *Lucky Peach* consistently wobbles on a tightrope between hipper-than-thou, frat-boy chef, insider hijinks and actual culinary usefulness. Because it's part travelogue, part cultural journal, I'll concur that there's usually something in every issue that opens your eyes to a different way of looking at food amid the party tricks.

For instance, I still regularly return to a recipe from 2013's Issue #6, *The Apocalypse*, which included amongst its ruminations a conversation with New York's four-star Del Posto restaurant head chef Mark Ladner. A post-Hurricane Sandy canned pasta taste test was a bit goofy but it led into this recipe for what Ladner called Calamarata alla Boscaiolo, a consistently tasty dish made — with the exception of a garnish of fresh parsley — from completely “shelf-stable” ingredients.

But not just any ingredients: The recipe is an unexpected and surprisingly sophisticated combination of dried pasta (short, fat, tube-shaped calamarata), reconstituted dried porcini mushrooms, olive oil-packed tuna belly and canned cherry tomatoes, all livened up by a distinctive Sicilian sun-dried tomato paste known as *strattu* (or *estrattu*) and a spicy Calabrian pepper condiment known colloquially as *bomba* (“the bomb”).

Admittedly, some of these requirements are not typical pantry staples, but thanks to a culinary tour of Sicily, I was aware of the power of strattu and happened to have stockpiled a few cherished jars. My original calamarata source was the late-lamented Joe's Italian Deli in Fishkill and I have since found acceptable substitutes at Vera's in Cold Spring and find that large short rigatoni will do in a pinch.

Good quality belly tuna is increasingly easy to find (Ortiz



Pasta alla Rifugio

Photo by J. Dizney

is my preferred brand and occasionally available at Adams), but the bomba has always been a problem and I usually substitute a generous teaspoon of chili flakes. Curiosity recently got the better of me and prompted a call to Chef Ladner, who was very forthcoming.

He bemoaned the fact that his favorite bomba supplier, Tutto Calabria, seemed to be playing fast-and-loose with their product names. But their Miscela Esplosiva fits the bill, as does the Calabrian viagru “Dynamite” available from zingermans.com. (Zingerman's also stocks Villareale-brand strattu.)

Ladner also suggested the oil-packed tuna belly from Buon Italia in the Chelsea Market, but stressed that quality tuna is not that difficult to find, and “the important part is to drain the liquid and replace it with good olive oil.”

Asked if he would consider replacing the preserved tuna with fresh grilled or oil-poached fish, he recoiled at the idea, insisting it would fully change the character of the dish. He proudly referenced the iteration served at the white-tableclothed Del Posto — “Pasta alla Carrettiera” (roughly, “in the manner of the wagon driver,” as opposed to the original boscaiolo, or “mushroom hunters' style”) that incorporates *guanciale* (cured pork cheek) into an amatriciana sauce and buries a perfect scoop of tuna, mixed with some bomba and parsley, as a jewel-like surprise beneath the sauced pasta.

(It's not that surprising that Ladner's elegant presentations of what is actually cucina povera along the lines of such staples as pasta puttanesca or carbonara is leading him out of the comparatively elevated culinary orbit of Del Posto to take a chance on an upscale, quick-casual Pasta Flyer concept restaurant. It has the admirable objective of offering hungry folks everywhere a solid bowl of reasonably-priced, quality Italian pasta as fast as a bowl of ramen.)

Meanwhile back at the apocalypse — and our times may admittedly seem a trifle shall-we-say unsettled lately — we're hopefully not really approaching the eschaton just yet. And though this recipe may well be a comfort for such disastrous events, it also makes a simple and amazingly quick winter meal. May all your prepping remain culinary.

Pasta alla Rifugio

“Pasta in the Manner of the Bunker” (with apologies to Mark Ladner)

Serves 4-6

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 cup dried porcini | ½ cup tuna packed in oil (Sicilian belly tuna preferred) |
| 2 tablespoons olive oil | |
| 2 to 3 tablespoons strattu (or estrattu — Sicilian tomato paste)* | 1 pound large diameter, short tube pasta (Neapolitan calamarata, Sicilian anelli giganti or anello, Calabrian paccheri or paccheri millerighe) |
| 1 12-ounce can cherry tomatoes | ¼ cup chopped flat leaf parsley |
| 1 to 2 tablespoons bomba (Calabrian chili condiment)* | |

1. Combine porcini with water to cover in a small saucepan. Bring to boil; reduce heat to a simmer for 20 to 30 minutes. Drain and chop mushrooms roughly. Reserve cooking liquid in the pot pasta will eventually be cooked in. Top pasta pot off with enough water to cook pasta; salt and bring to a low boil.
2. While water heats, heat olive oil in a large skillet over medium. When warm, add strattu and cook, stirring occasionally, for four to five minutes. Add cherry tomatoes and canning liquid, chili condiment and mushrooms and bring to a simmer.
3. Pasta water should be boiling by now. Add pasta and boil to about one minute shy of suggested cooking time; drain.
4. Add tuna to the sauce to warm but do not overcook (it is already cooked) or brutalize. Add drained pasta to the sauce and toss until coated with sauce. Add parsley, splash with extra olive oil, toss briefly and serve.

* Substitutions: In a pinch, any sun-dried tomato paste — which is easier to find — may be substituted for the strattu. Bomba, which is actually a caponata-like mixture of Calabrian pepperoncini, eggplant, mushrooms and capers, could be more authentically replicated from a quick mash of pepperoncini and capers or, again, a hefty pinch of chili flakes, although true bomba — and strattu — is worth the hunt.

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Beacon Mayor Hosts Town Hall Meeting

Discussion of mental health services, police, transit

By Jeff Simms

Beacon Mayor Randy Casale's Jan. 25 Town Hall meeting — the first of his second term in office — included lengthy discussions of mental health care in Dutchess County, the Beacon Police Department and county public transportation.

The forum, held at the VFW Hall on Main Street, drew a sparse crowd, likely because it coincided with a two-hour weather delay in the opening of Beacon schools. The program featured updates from Beacon Police Chief Doug Solomon, Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro and Dutchess Transit Administrator Cynthia Ruiz, along with questions from residents.

Deborah Bigelow, who owns the original Telephone Building at 291 Main St., said afterward that she is grateful the mayor is reviving the meetings, "where the average citizen can meet the people who run our city and county governments," adding that she was impressed with the "considered and caring responses" to questions and concerns from the audience.

Mental health

Perhaps the most significant update came from Molinaro, who spoke about the Dutchess County Stabilization Center, which will open this month in Poughkeepsie. The center marks not only a milestone for the county executive, who nearly five

years announced the county had received funding to overhaul its mental health services, but also a major development in the evolution of mental health care in New York, which Molinaro characterized as "embarrassingly behind" the times.

As facilities like the Hudson River Psychiatric Center have closed, the goals of the state's mental health care system have shifted, Molinaro explained, moving from an almost-exclusive focus on institutionalization to a more comprehensive program based on education, prevention and stabilization.

"The institutionalization of those with moderate mental illness is not productive," he said. "It's not healthy and it doesn't produce the greatest return on any investment. It's not humane." The county's focus now is "to provide the right kind of interaction so that we can divert you from an emergency room or jail" to mental-health services.

The Stabilization Center, located at 230 North Road in Poughkeepsie, will offer 24-hour mental health and substance-abuse care, as well as a 24/7 help line (call or text 845-485-9700) staffed by mental-health professionals.

Police department

Solomon, who was hired in 2012, spoke about the growth of Beacon's police force, which in August was released from U.S. Department of Justice oversight after an investigation years ago into allegations of officer brutality. According to soon-to-be-released numbers, Beacon officers now

patrol a city where major crime is at its lowest rate in five years.

The department's release from federal oversight indicated it had been in "substantial compliance" for at least 18 months with recommendations regarding the use of force, the type and quantity of ammunition carried by officers, and its system for handling public complaints.

Now authorized for 35 officers — a four-person increase from when Solomon began — the department has begun "sector" policing, a method that keeps an officer in a particular section of the city, which Solomon characterized as more effective. The Beacon police have also established

consistent foot patrols on Main Street, with training for bicycle patrol likely to be reinstated in the spring.

Further, the police have undergone crisis intervention training for dealing with the mentally ill and one officer serves on the Dutchess County Drug Task Force.

Bus lines

Public transportation is expanding, Ruiz reported, with Sunday F Line service launching Feb. 5 that will take riders from Beacon to Fishkill, Poughkeepsie and the Poughkeepsie Galleria mall. A new ticketing system also means riders will no longer need exact change.

Firefighters Save Boardwalk



Beacon firefighters battled a blaze on Jan. 31 in an abandoned factory building. They saved the adjacent boardwalk, which connects two sections of Scenic Hudson's Madam Brett Park. For more, see highlandscurrent.com. Photo courtesy of Beacon F.D.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Women's March

The Women's March on Washington demonstrated that there is power in numbers as millions of women, men, and children in Washington and around the globe protested President Trump's policies and cabinet choices. The diversity of the crowds reflected the wide-spread resistance to these ideas. But protesting is not enough, action must be taken too.

The press seems more vulnerable than ever. I know locally several groups are forming and there are Facebook pages which outline action steps to be taken, but the print media has a unique contribution to make in monitoring and reporting accurate news. I look forward to reading about local efforts at community organizations in *The Highlands Current* as a means of standing up to the threats that the press now face as well as making the public aware of what resources are available to them.

Ellyn Varela-Burstein, *Cold Spring*

I am glad I made the trip to D.C. on the Garrison bus. From photos in the

Jan. 27 issue of *The Current*, I now see all my neighbors who were there as well! I'm proud that women, men and children from the Hudson Valley (as well as other regions of New York) marched together with millions and millions around the country. It seems fitting that our state was so well represented since the first wave of feminism was launched in Seneca Falls.

Jo Pitkin, *Cold Spring*

I attended the Women's March on Washington on Saturday, as well, and can count it as one of the best experiences of my life. Two completely filled buses left for the March from Philipstown along with many of our neighbors who traveled to D.C. by car, train or airplane. A large number of others from our area marched in NYC, Poughkeepsie and Beacon. I've seen reports of more than 500 marches in the U.S. and more than 100 internationally.

Millions of women, men and children marched for civil and human rights. We marched for the protection of healthcare (something the president has already signed an executive order to take away

and Congress has started to repeal), women's rights, preservation of Social Security and Medicare, the right to practice religion without losing your right to be in the U.S., the right to equal treatment regardless of race or ethnic origin, freedom of the press, and all the rights that we in the U.S. should hold dear regardless of political persuasion.

I was struck by the kindness, good humor and dedication of the attendees in D.C. — no arrests and the only calls to the police (four times) were for medical emergencies. The police in D.C. were helpful in answering questions and serving the public in a professional manner. There were many delays getting to D.C. from the place our bus left us off; it took at least three times as long to make the trip as it would on a normal day because of the huge crowds. But no one was cross, we chanted and sang and talked to each other, learning where people had traveled from and a little about their lives.

I wish all could experience the joy of community that many of us felt on Jan. 21!

Margaret Yonco-Haines, *Garrison*

Update from Maloney

As we begin a new Congress with a new president, we have received hundreds of calls and emails about the issues listed below, and I wanted to ensure that voters know where I stand:

- Social Security/Medicare — Some of my colleagues have advocated reducing Medicare to vouchers or block grants, or reducing benefits. I will not support any of these options. We should expand, not reduce, payments to seniors who paid into the system.
- Planned Parenthood — Congress has already laid the groundwork to eliminate reimbursements to Planned Parenthood. I will not support attempts to defund an organization which provides breast and cervical cancer screenings and family planning to more than 40,000 (Continued on next page)



Taking it to the Street

By Anita Peltonen

Who's the most recent immigrant in your family?



"My grandparents. They immigrated from Italy. I traveled with them to their hometown in Abruzzi."
~ Nicole Hill, Cold Spring



"My father's mother. She came from the Ukraine. My mother's grandmother came from Italy." ~ John Astrab, Cortlandt



"My uncle. He's from Vienna. And my grandma is from Hungary."
~ Freya Wood-Gallagher, Cold Spring

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (from previous page)

Hudson Valley residents every year.

- The Affordable Care Act — Although the ACA (“Obamacare”) is imperfect, I do not support repeal without a replacement. It’s reckless and would eliminate healthcare for tens of thousands of our neighbors.
- The “Muslim Ban” — I joined more than 160 House Democrats in introducing the Statue of Liberty Values Act (SOLVE), which would defund and effectively end implementation of the president’s executive order. Stopping terrorists from coming to our country is a great idea, but that’s not what this does. It hurts the guys who helped us in Iraq and innocent people who just want to be reunited with their families. This whole mess shows me that President Trump is winging it.

As always, I encourage you to contact my Newburgh office (845-561-1259) if we can be of service or you have additional concerns.

Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney,
Washington, D.C.

Town hall meetings

On Feb. 5 and 19 we urge those in our community who yearn to fulfill their role as citizens to join us from 2 to 4 p.m. at Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison.

Historically, in town meetings across New England, community members have come together to practice direct democracy, giving citizens the opportunity for self-determination and action-based engagement to promote their vision for building a better society.

For a democracy to work, citizens need to ensure that our representatives work to uphold the values we share as a community. As a step toward achieving this, we believe it is important to create a space to discuss and prioritize those values, and to define concrete ways we can work together to ensure our representatives give voice to them.

At our first meeting on Feb. 5 we will create an organized structure to push our

representatives to resist policies and actions that don’t reflect our values and to simultaneously promote a positive agenda for social progress. In addition, we will discuss the development of a Community Rights Campaign (celdf.org/community-rights) as a way of uniting around actions that impact us at the local level.

At our second meeting on Feb. 19 we will build into this structure a list of legislative priorities on the county, state or federal levels. The format for this event will be open and democratic. Any citizen may present a specific legislative proposal and will be given two minutes of speaking time to support its inclusion in our legislative drive.

Eric Stark, *Garrison*

Indian Point output

The Nuclear Energy Institute estimates that Indian Point provides 25 percent of the electricity used in Westchester County and New York City (“Life Without Indian Point,” Jan. 13). One reason this is an inflated number is that Indian Point engages in negative bidding in the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) energy market.

In other words, Indian Point pays other energy providers to stop providing energy to the grid so that Indian Point can become the provider in their place. So, what Indian Point actually provides the grid is not the same as what the grid needs from Indian Point.

Indian Point does this for technological reasons. A nuclear power plant has no capability to power up and down. As a result, every bit of energy produced by a nuclear power plant must flow into the grid whether needed or not.

One effect of this is that renewable energy sources which are capable of powering up and down are shut off from the grid to accommodate the technological limitations of the nuclear power plant. This in turn creates the impression that Indian Point is more critical to the grid than it really is.

Diana Hird, *Cold Spring*

Write Your Reps
highlandscurrent.com/local-officials

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Philipstown on Monday February 13, 2017 at 7:30 P.M. at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York, to hear the following appeal:

Carolyn Garcia, 25 Mountain Drive, Garrison, NY Tax Map # 83.18-1-40. The Applicant seeks to construct a single family home on the subject property which shall be set back from the North sideline by a distance of 19.4’ and from the South sideline by a distance of 21.3 feet. The Town of Philipstown Code requires a 30 foot setback from a side yard property line.

At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map, and other related materials may be reviewed in the Office of the Building Department at the Philipstown Town Hall.

Dated 01/20/17

Robert Dee, Chairman, Town of Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals.

Tourism Board Chair Charged with \$10 Theft

Allegedly stole newspapers from bundles outside coffee shop

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Barney Molloy, a board member of the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and board chair of the Putnam County Visitors’ Bureau, pleaded not guilty to misdemeanor theft on Jan. 25 after allegations he took copies of *The New York Times* from bundles delivered to Cupoccino Café, a Cold Spring coffee shop.

Molloy, a former mayoral candidate, appeared in Cold Spring Justice Court before Judge Thomas Costello. He is scheduled to return to court on Feb. 8.

The accusation was brought by Officer Thomas Ciero of the Cold Spring Police Department. In a signed statement, Ciero said that about 6 a.m. on each of four weekdays — Nov. 18, Nov. 21, Nov. 29 and Dec. 12 — Molloy “untied the bundle of New York Times newspapers delivered to the business, removed one” on each occasion “and placed it in his tote bag, all prior to the business being open.”

The officer put the value of the four



Barney Molloy at a meeting of the Putnam County Visitor's Bureau board

File photo by L.S. Armstrong

papers at \$10, saying the alleged offense amounted to petit larceny.

Molloy, who ran for Cold Spring mayor in 2015 and for trustee in 2016, works for Legislator John Testa, the Republican minority leader of the Westchester County Board of Legislators. He did not respond to an email seeking comment. Jessica Arguello, Cupoccino's proprietor, declined comment.

Public Hearing on Speed Limit Remains Open

The public hearing on proposed changes to Chapter 126 of the Cold Spring Village Code, “Traffic and Vehicles,” remains open until Tuesday, Feb. 7. Changes relate to the state mandated 30 mph speed limit, parking restrictions near intersections, seasonal parking, penalties and other issues. For information or to submit comments, email vsclerk@coldspringny.gov. Mail comments to Village Hall, 85 Main St, Cold Spring, NY 10516.

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SITE VISIT – FEBRUARY 5, 2017

The Philipstown Planning Board will meet on Sunday, February 5, 2017, at 9:30 a.m. to inspect the following site:

- **Hudson Highland Reserve, located at Route 9 and Horton Road.**

The Board will meet at the cul-de-sac at the end of Horton Road. In case of inclement weather the site visit could be postponed, with notice given to Board members through a telephone chain previously established.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Public Hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Philipstown on February 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York 10516.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to hear comments for/against A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW TO AMEND THE TOWN CODE CHAPTER 82 BY ADDING A NEW ARTICLE II ENTITLED “COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION PROGRAM.”

A complete copy of the Local Law is available for inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York. The same materials are available on the Town’s website: www.philipstown.com.

DATED: January 25, 2017

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD

Tina M. Merando, Town Clerk

'We Got This' *(from Page 1)*

Landahl, 45, the nod.

The school board voted 8 to 1 to confirm Landahl as superintendent (see sidebar on right).

"I feel like we're coming across a finish line that is a massive milestone for us," said Kristan Flynn. "One of the most important things for me in this search was to find somebody who really knew how to bring opportunities to all kids. He's done that over and over again."

Landahl, whose mother was an elementary school teacher in Chicago for 30 years, earned a degree in history from Grinnell College before joining Teach for America. He was assigned to teach fourth- and fifth-grade students in Baltimore and led a summer program during his five years there.

He next moved to Charlottesville, Virginia, where he was an elementary school principal while pursuing his master's and doctorate in education administration and supervision at the University of Virginia. He earned his doctorate in 2012.

Landahl and his family moved from Virginia to Ithaca in 2013 when he was hired as the district's chief elementary schools officer. In 2014 he became its chief academic officer.

In an interview, Landahl said he expects to be visible in Beacon and at some school- and board-related meetings before starting full-time on July 1. He will finish the school year in Ithaca, where he has served as deputy superintendent since 2015. The Ithaca district has 12 schools

and about 5,100 students, and Landahl says he has worked in a variety of areas, including budget development and planning with special education teachers.

He is a deputy to Superintendent Luvelle Brown, who in November was selected by the New York State Council of School Superintendents as its 2017 Superintendent of the Year.

With just under 3,000 students, the Beacon district is far smaller than Ithaca but is also more diverse and somewhat poorer. According to 2014 state data (the most recent available) Ithaca's student body is 66 percent white, 13 percent Asian-American, 10 percent African-American and 6 percent Latino and multiracial. Thirty-five percent of the district's students are considered economically disadvantaged.

The Beacon district is 47 percent white, 27 percent Hispanic and 19 percent African-American. About 51 percent of its students are economically disadvantaged.

As for Beacon's contentious leadership history, Landahl called it a nonissue. "By midway through the interview process I felt pretty unfazed by that history," he said. "The board is moving forward now. Honestly, at this point, I don't worry about it at all."

Landahl noted two things that, although a week or so apart, made him feel particularly confident in his decision to move to Beacon. First, during a mid-January day-long visit to each school in the district, "I saw a lot of heart and I saw a lot of people who care for kids. I saw a lot of engaging things in the classroom. That was a really important part of the process for me."

The Cost of Early Departures

Beacon has spent \$355,000 on buyouts since 2012

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon school board voted 8 to 1 to hire Matthew Landahl as its new superintendent, effective July 1. Michael Rutkoske voted no — although he supports Landahl as a candidate — because the incoming superintendent's contract does not include a "no-fault" clause that would set a pre-determined sum Landahl would receive should he leave before his contract ends in 2020.

"In terms of fiscal responsibility, you know what your liability is" with a no-fault clause, Rutkoske said. Landahl presumably will earn more than the \$150,000 he makes annually as deputy chief of the Ithaca school system (the most recent board-hired Beacon superintendent, Barbara Walkley, made \$181,050), but no details of the agreement were released.

According to documents obtained by *The Current* through a Freedom of Information Law request, the Beacon district paid \$355,000 in buyouts to the three full-time superintendents hired before Landahl. That includes \$45,000 to Barbara Walkley a year ago; \$185,000 to Raymond Bandlow, who held the job for nine months before he left in July 2012; and \$125,000 to Paul Dorward, who stayed a year before resigning in August 2014. Contract buyouts are typically done to avoid litigation.

"Our history for keeping superintendents over the last 10 years has been horrendous," Rutkoske said at the Jan. 26 meeting. "While I believe that we will have a long relationship, if circumstances arise that neither the board nor Dr. Landahl can possibly foresee at this point, I feel it is my responsibility to ensure there are protections in place for the district."

He added: "I have a fiduciary duty to the taxpayers. I campaigned on this and intend to uphold this duty."

The second, he said, occurred earlier in the evening on Jan. 26, before the board voted to approve his hire: "I didn't foresee it ahead of time, even though I probably should have, but when the board went into executive session I was left alone in the room with 50 or 60 people. It was great.

People care deeply about the schools. They were open and excited about new leadership, and I was excited to meet them."

About 90 minutes later, after the board officially handed him the reins of the Beacon City School District, he told the group, "We got this."



Former Beacon schools Superintendent Barbara Walkley File photo courtesy of BCSD

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Scenic Hudson Deal Falls Apart *(from Page 1)*

liability,” one said. “This is not what we bought into. We pay more for homes here to enjoy exclusive use of the lake.”

Another said: “If Scenic Hudson’s intention is to preserve the land, they should just do that. Preserve, conserve. Linking the trails would have an adverse effect on the land. It would have a negative environmental impact.”

LVCA President Glenn Cavanaugh echoed that concern. “Our legal issues with BMR do not conflict with preservation goals,” he wrote in a statement. “Our goal is to protect the lake and surrounding lands from unacceptable development and usage impacts.”

Cavanaugh said that once the title dispute is resolved, preservation efforts by Scenic Hudson could move forward, but it’s clear that the association would consider an influx of hikers around Lake Valhalla to be unacceptable development.

The 59 homes in the private development were built in the 1930s, and a homeowners association was formed in 1934. The area was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2014.

A letter sent by the LVCA board to residents in December outlined the provisions of the proposed contract between Sce-



An aerial view of Valhalla Highlands

Photo provided

nic Hudson and the landowner (it is not known if the agreement was subsequently revised). Two points no doubt fueled residents’ concerns about public access. One stated that Scenic Hudson had “not decided on its full plans for the lake.” While the

contract called for a portion of the eastern end remain open to the LVCA, it also said “there would be no proscription against public access to the lake.” A second point indicated that the trail system “would be accessible to the public.”

Other provisions outlined in the letter included the transfer of road ownership to the LVCA; sale of the common recreation facilities to the association; a dam to be repaired by Scenic Hudson and maintained by LVCA; development to be restricted by easement over the entire property; and that Valkyria, a home built by Ludwig Novoting, co-founder of Valhalla Highlands, would remain in private ownership with an easement restricting development.



Valkyria was built by Ludwig Novoting around 1930.

Photos by M. Turton



A sign outside the home

Lake Valhalla: A Brief History

In 1928 Ludwig Novoting and Peter Sivertesen purchased six farms totaling about 735 acres above the present site of the North Highlands firehouse. The two were partners in a company that manufactured the Globe meat slicer, which is still sold.

The development came to be known as Valhalla Highlands. Lake Valhalla was created when a dam was constructed on Hell’s Hollow Brook. Novoting also built a large home called Valkyria that now stands empty. The home’s name is a nod to *Die Walküre*, the opera by Wagner.

In the 1930s Novoting built about 60 small homes around Lake Valhalla. The development included roads, a beach, docks, pavilions, tennis and shuffleboard courts, scenic lookouts, trails and camping areas. A real estate ad at the time promised “rustic log cabins and fieldstone cottages ideally located in the wooded mountains at 1,200 feet elevation. Just 47 miles from your city home.” The initial meeting of the “First Settlers” took place in 1934. The LVCA was created in 1971.

In *Valhalla Highlands: The First Thirty Years, 1929-1958*, author Joe Lombardi recalled coming to the summer home his family owned at the Valhalla Highlands from 1930 to 1997. “My time spent at Valhalla with my parents and sisters and summertime friends roaming the trails, camping in the forest, swimming, sailing and fishing at Lake Valhalla and playing tennis, shuffleboard and softball was the antithesis of the noisy, dangerous, confined-to-the-inside New York City winters,” wrote Lombardi, a restoration architect who in 2013 purchased Alfheim Lodge.

Homeowners had access rights to the lake and facilities but Novoting retained ownership of the roads, lake, common facilities and forest. After his home was finished in the early 1940s, Novoting (known as the Commodore) enlarged the dam to bring the water closer to the house.

Novoting died in 1985 and his widow sold Valhalla Highlands, including Valkyria, to a real estate developer who added 470 acres. Silver Point Capital and BMR Funding of Greenwich now own the property.



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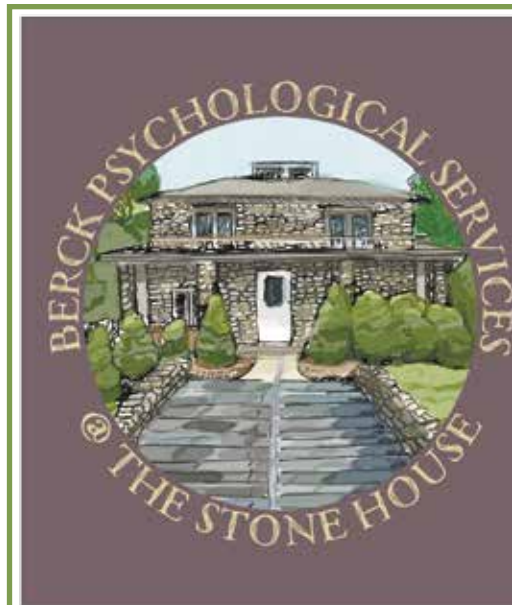
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County Officials: You May Hate Gun Laws, But Follow Them (from Page 1)

every five years.

"For better or worse," the SAFE Act makes owners recertify their handguns and assault weapons, Bartolotti told the 50 attendees. The recertification deadline is Jan. 31, 2018. The law warns that "failure to recertify shall act as a revocation" of the permit.

"I don't like it," Bartolotti said of recertification, now underway through the New York State Police. "It's silly. But don't wait too long. Don't let it pass you by. This is the law. We have to do it." He said he personally found the recertification process took only about a minute. (Permits can be recertified online through safeact.ny.gov.)

While the state police handle recertification, in much of New York the initial handgun permit is issued by counties, whose clerks, such as Bartolotti, maintain



Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell and Michael Bartolotti, then clerk-elect, addressed a gun-rights forum in December 2014. *File photo by L.S. Armstrong*

the records.

In 2014 a spokesman for the New York State Police told *The Current* that gun owners who do not recertify "will lose their permits," but Bartolotti said the state police have not explained what will happen if a permit holder doesn't recertify.

"It's going to be a daunting task if we have to do something because we're talking about people and we're talking about handguns," he said. "One person might have multiple handguns. I can't even begin to think about how this is going to be logistically handled on a county-by-county basis. It's going to be crazy."

He suggested that some judges might suspend the permits of those who did not recertify, while others might say, "I'm not going to do this because I think it's a bunch of B.S." Others, he said, might contact gun owners to see if they want to keep their permits and "maybe haul them in for a hearing."

Recertification allows the state police "to see every five years what's out there and be accurate," Judge Reitz said. He advised the group not to waste energy on issues such as whether the state police should share records with the Department of Motor Vehicles. "Don't let this nonsense about recertification cloud your view," he said. "Look at the big picture, what is happening to our individual rights."

He said "the law should be applied to those that break it. Those individuals who do not break the law, I don't think you



Judge James Reitz *File photo by Michael Turton*

should take advantage of" or make them take responsibility for others' misconduct. "That's the issue to keep focused on," he said, praising gun owners for being "very good on that in terms of the national level."

The state allows gun owners to "opt out" of the disclosure of the information on their permits under a catch-all exemption for anyone who "has reason to believe that he or she may be subject to unwarranted harassment upon disclosure of such information," a step Bartolotti and Reitz both recommended.

Putnam County has consistently opposed disclosure of handgun permit data. In 2012, Dennis Sant, then county clerk, refused to release the records to *The Jour-*

Dispute Lands in Federal Court

After Putnam County on Sept. 19 lost an appeal in state court to keep gun-permit records secret, two anonymous gun owners and an affiliate of the National Rifle Association sued the county in federal court.

County officials didn't seem to mind.

For story, see highlandscurrent.com

nal News, a Gannett newspaper based in White Plains, although state law says "the name and address of any person to whom an application for any [gun] license has been granted shall be a public record." The newspaper sought to publish the material after the gun massacre of schoolchildren and faculty in Newtown, Connecticut. Denied access to the information, the paper sued. Putnam lost in court and in a subsequent appeal and Bartolotti said the county plans no further appeals.

Asked whether anyone ever provided a "rational" reason for revealing handgun ownership, Bartolotti responded with a firm "no." Reitz claimed *The Journal News* wanted the data only to sell newspapers. The newspaper was "looking for any publicity any way they could get it, to get sales up. I don't think they had a purpose other than to create a controversy, get interest in the paper, whatever. There is no reason for that."



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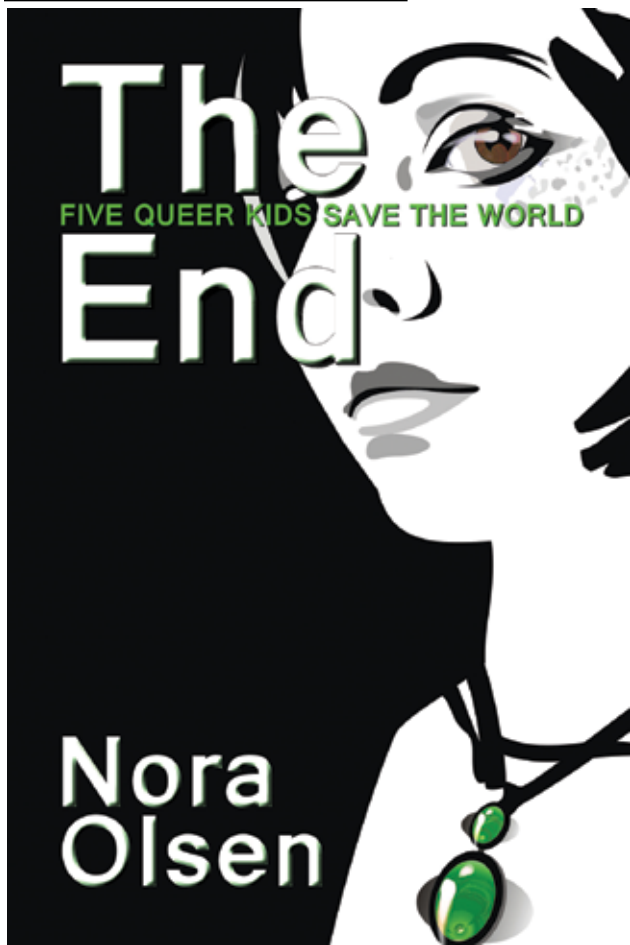
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The Calendar

A Novel Approach

Beacon author finds a niche — stories for teens with gay protagonists

By Alison Rooney



When Nora Olsen first considered writing a novel for teenagers, she planned to include gay characters. She read other books in the genre and found that the few with LGBTQ protagonists were generally “problem novels” in which the character’s sexuality or gender identity was the pivotal part of the plot. If they weren’t the protagonist, they were the wisecracking sidekick.

Olsen had something else in mind. “I very consciously wanted to write an adventure story with LGBTQ teenagers as heroes,” she says. “The ‘problem’ [of their identity] could be part of the story, but my goal was for these readers to come to see themselves as ‘I can be the hero.’” In the resulting novel, *The End*, published in 2010, time-traveling teens must, as a result of a nuclear disaster, go back in time to alter its course.

Olsen, who lives in Beacon, has since written three more young-adult novels, and is at work on another two. Dystopia in one form or another is part of all of Olsen’s work. “Teenagers live in a dystopia, regardless of their own personal situation,” she explains. “They’re hard done by, and they often have no control over things.”

Although she wasn’t initially drawn to the young-adult genre, Olsen found that her short stories for an adult audience were frequently rejected because her protagonists were teenagers. She was further encouraged to shift to the genre after a study by author Malinda Lo, who calculated that fewer than 1 percent of the young-adult novels published each year have main characters who are LGBTQ (lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender or queer).

Olsen, who is gay, says she appreciates straight authors who include gay characters. “Writers have to write about the world they live in,” she says. “It can be well done or poorly done. When I write straight charac-



Nora Olsen

Photo by A. Rooney

ters I try to avoid tropes. Often the first impulse is not a good impulse. You want to be aware of not lazily repeating the same old story.”

When attempting to write her second novel, Olsen tried to come up with a lesbian novel that was marketable. “So I came up with clones!” she explains. *Swans and Klons* is “straight-up sci-fi set in a future world with no more men, only women, and everyone’s a clone. It starts out as a utopia but there’s a horrible secret.”

In her third book, *Maxine* (Continued on Page 12)

History in the Making

Student projects honored by museum

By Alison Rooney

For the first time, the Putnam History Museum’s annual Jean Saunders History Contest awards ceremony has outgrown the museum. Launched more than 30 years ago, it took place this year at the Desmond-Fish Library to accommodate the increasing number of Philipstown seventh-graders who enter. The packed room was reflected in the many cars parked in the muddy hinterlands beyond the library’s paved parking area.

Saunders was a naturalist, equestrian, Garrison kindergarten teacher and curator of the Putnam County Historical Society & Foundry School Museum.

The 75 participants created 46 projects. Along with stalwarts like the Foundry, West Point and Bannerman’s Island, the students’ topics were as diverse as ever and included the Appalachian Trail, the Warner sisters, Mount Beacon, Lake Surprise, Dick’s Castle, local fashions through the centuries, and — a more recent institution, but certainly an institution — Cold Spring Pizza on Main Street.

Every participant received a one-year museum membership, with the winners selected by a panel of 18 judges which included representatives of the museum, local libraries, and teachers, as well as three high-school

seniors. The winners were:

First Place (tie): Blake Bolte and Sander Miller (Haldane), “How did the Parrott gun’s technology affect modern-day weaponry?”

First Place (tie): Katie Shields (Haldane), “What role did the West Point Foundry play in establishing the Cold Spring and Nelsonville communities?”

Second Place: Evan Maasik (Garrison), “What was it like to grow up on Bannerman’s Island during the Depression?”

Third Place: Matthew McCoy and Harrison Sassano (Haldane), “Why was the Parrott gun so revolutionary that it was a model for the future?”

Honorable Mention: Daniel Carlos and Chase Mayer (Garrison), “What were (Continued on Page 13)



Saunders History Contest 2016-17 winners: front row, seated, Matthew McCoy; back row, from left, Sander Miller, Blake Bolte, Evan Maasik, Katie Shields, Chase Mayer, Daniel Carlos.

Photo by A. Rooney

FRIDAY, FEB. 3

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

Reagan Day Dinner Honoring Norman MacLeod
6 p.m. Dutchess Manor
263 Route 9D, Beacon
845-202-2398

Beacon vs. Hendrick Hudson (Girls’ Basketball)
6 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon
845-838-6900 | beaconcitky12.org

Feelin’ BLUE (Opening)
6-9 p.m. Gallery 66 NY
66 Main St., Cold Spring
845-809-5838 | gallery66ny.com

Haldane vs. North Salem (Girls’ Basketball)
6:15 p.m. Haldane High School
15 Craigsides Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

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

SATURDAY, FEB. 4

Feast for Feathered Friends
10 a.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 | hhnmm.org

Garrison Art Center
10 a.m. Japanese Shibori
1:30 p.m. Suminagashi Workshop
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Latin Fusion Dance Class (First Session)
10 a.m. Fred Astaire Dance Studio
3182 Route 9, Cold Spring
845-424-6353 | fredastairecoldspring.com

Desmond-Fish Library
10:30 a.m. Infant CPR Class
1 p.m. Love Your Library Day Celebration with Graphic Novelist Deb Lucke
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Southern Dutchess NAACP Meeting
10:30 a.m. Howland Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-242-7822 | facebook.com/naacpsd

Origami Workshop for Tweens and Teens
Noon. Howland Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Take Your Child to the Library Day
1 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845.265.3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Haldane vs. Irvington (Boys’ Basketball)
1:15 p.m. Haldane High School
See details under Friday.

Tu BiSh’vat Service
2:30 p.m. St. Mary’s Parish Hall
Main Street and Chestnut, Cold Spring
845-265- 8011 | philipstownreformsynagogue.org

African-American History Month Art Exhibit (Opening)
3 – 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-765-3012 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Calendar Highlights

For upcoming events visit highlandscurrent.com.

Send event listings to calendar@highlandscurrent.com

Between I & Thou (Opening)

4 – 7 p.m. Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art
1701 Main St., Peekskill
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

Tito Puente Jr.

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

SUNDAY, FEB. 5

Citizens’ Town Hall

2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Saturday.

Raising Voices: An Afternoon with Audra McDonald

3 p.m. Vassar College
124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie
845-437-5370 | music.vassar.edu

MONDAY, FEB. 6

Haldane vs. Putnam Valley (Boys’ Basketball)

6:15 p.m. Haldane School
See details under Friday.

Beacon City Council

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

TUESDAY, FEB. 7

Kindergarten Registration

9 – 11 a.m. & 1 – 3 p.m. Garrison School
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3689 | gufs.org

CCE Master Gardener Workshop

6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Saturday.

Haldane School Board

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

Putnam County Legislature

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

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8

Kindergarten Registration


9 – 11 a.m. & 1 – 3 p.m. Garrison School
See details under Tuesday.

Kindergarten Registration

1 – 4 p.m. Haldane Middle School (Conference Room)
See details under Tuesday.

Blueprint for Financial Success (Talk)

2 p.m. Howland Public Library
See details under Saturday.



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End the New Jim Crow Action Network

6 p.m. Family Partnership Center
29 N. Hamilton St., Poughkeepsie
845-475-8781 | enjan.org

Army vs. Colgate (Women’s Basketball)

7 p.m. Christl Arena, West Point
goarmysports.com

Garrison School Board

7 p.m. Garrison School
See details under Tuesday.

An Enemy of the People (Reading)

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

THURSDAY, FEB. 9

Kindergarten Registration

1 – 4 p.m. Haldane Middle School (Conference Room)
See details under Tuesday.

Howland Public Library

1 p.m. Dreamgirls (2006)
3:30 – 5 p.m. Lego / Tech Club
6 p.m. Felt Heart Garland Workshop for Adults
See details under Saturday.

Beacon vs. Lakeland (Boys’ Basketball)

6:15 p.m. Beacon High School
See details under Friday.

Philipstown Planning Board

6:45 p.m. Butterfield Library
845-265-3329 | philipstown.com

Cold Spring Farmers’ Market Community Dinner

7 p.m. Garrison Institute
Route 9D at Glenclyffe
845-424-8204 | csfarmmarket.org

Nature’s New Deal (Talk)

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

An Evening with Zadie Smith

8 p.m. Vassar College (Students’ Building)
124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie
845-437-5632 | vassar.edu

Beacon Chess and Backgammon Club

8 p.m. Chill Wine Bar
173 Main St., Beacon
845-235-6833

FRIDAY, FEB. 10

Beer and Book Club

5:45 p.m. Cold Spring Coffee Pantry
3091 Route 9, Cold Spring
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Adult Adventure: Full Moon Snowshoe Hike

6 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
See details under Saturday.

After Hours at the Library (grades 6-8)

6:30 – 8 p.m. Butterfield Library
See details under Saturday.

Army vs. Niagara (Hockey)

7:05 p.m. Tate Rink, West Point
845-938-2526 | goarmywestpoint.com

Haldane vs. Pawling (Boys’ Basketball)

7:15 p.m. Haldane School
See details under Feb. 3.

Calling All Poets

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

Hudson Valley Poets Poetry Night

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under Saturday.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

Reading for Hepburn

Nelsonville actor has long, colorful career

By Alison Rooney

As a student at the Juilliard School of Drama, Caitlin O'Heaney was summoned upstairs. Usually that meant doom was at hand: dismissal from the school. She entered the offices of the head of school fearing the worst, and instead was told: "You're going to Katharine Hepburn's house; you're reading for her movie. She needs a young version of herself."

"I was shaking in the cab," recalls O'Heaney, who lives in Nelsonville. "I was brought into a sitting room. Hepburn walked in, completely officious, and said 'You do look a lot like me.' She handed me the script and I did a cold reading. She said 'Fabulous. I'm calling George [Cukor, the director] right now. I sent another girl to him and I hope he hasn't hired her. I like you much better.'"

In fact, it was too late, and O'Heaney didn't get the part.

But a few years later, soon after she graduated, she saw that Hepburn was going to open in a play, *A Matter of Gravity*. She wrote the actor via the casting director, reminding her of their previous encounter, and asked if she could come in and read for her again.

This time, she got the part, as understudy to the ingénue who played opposite Hepburn, and spent four months touring with Hepburn before the play opened on Broadway where, alas, it flopped.

O'Heaney is returning to her dramatic roots, this time as a teacher, with a series of Sunday acting classes beginning Feb. 12 at Create Community, 11 Peekskill Road, Nelsonville.



Caitlin O'Heaney in *He Knows You're Alone* (1980)

Though she never made it back to Broadway, O'Heaney, then known as Kathleen Heaney, did follow it up with a string of off-Broadway credits at theaters such as the Public and Playwrights Horizons. She then moved to Los Angeles and in the late 1970s and 1980s appeared in a laundry list of popular TV series, including *L.A. Law*; *Matlock*; *Murder, She Wrote*, *NYPD Blue*



Caitlin O'Heaney in the role of the bride in *He Knows You're Alone*

and *Tales of the Gold Monkey*, which ran for 22 episodes on ABC and in which she played a lead. She also had the dubious honor of having a recurring role on *Apple Pie*, which its creator, Norman Lear, called, according to O'Heaney, his "favorite failed TV sitcom."

O'Heaney — who was given her Irish-dipped stage name by an L.A. casting agent who declared "Kathy Heaney" to be "awful" — returned to New York, where she appeared in a slasher film shot on Staten Island, *He Knows You're Alone*, which also happened to be the first film credit for Tom Hanks. Giving Jamie Lee Curtis a run for her money, she also appeared in the 1979 fright flick *Savage Weekend*.

Encountering the usual stalls common to the profession, by the 1990s O'Heaney had returned to her hometown of Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin, to become a canvasser for Greenpeace. That, in turn,



Caitlin O'Heaney

Photo by A. Rooney

led to a job as an assistant cook on board a Greenpeace vessel in the North Sea. The ensuing years found O'Heaney marketing a fragrance line, living on a horse farm and, finally, lured to Newburgh by its artists' housing. She began to visit Beacon, met Pete Seeger, one of her idols, and composed a song, "Who Have We Freed," which was recorded in 2008 with Seeger contributing banjo and vocals.

For her classes at Create Community, students age 17 and older will work on "the technique of creating a character plus monologue and scene study, voice, diction and movement," O'Heaney says. "We'll learn how to take apart a script and how to analyze a character." The first class is free, and the cost is \$240 for the remaining 11 sessions. To sign up, email zooheaven@juno.com with "Theatre Workshop" in the subject line.

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A Novel Approach (from Page 9)

Wore Black, Olsen took on a reinvention of Daphne DuMaurier's gothic classic, *Rebecca*, long a favorite. "I love that book and have read it so many times; such a wonderful plot," she says. "I thought it was ripe for retelling. I always used to think that [the primary male character] Maxim was so dreamy, but I came to realize that he's completely not! He is not a good catch." She changed the setting to contemporary New York City, Maxim became Maxine, and all the other characters

underwent similar transformations.

Olsen says her personal favorite of her books is *Frenemy of the People*, published in 2014. She wanted to "write the simplest story I could, and dial it down." The writer chose "the oldest story in the world: two people who can't stand each other, and then fall in love. It's a contemporary love story which also kind of digs into the way the mortgage crisis is a backdrop to our regular lives, forcing families to move."

Frenemy required Olsen to research a number of topics she didn't know much about, including homecoming festivities, horseback riding and driving a bulldozer.

Several of her books are set in the Hudson Valley. Olsen, who grew up in Manhattan and graduated from Brown, moved to Wassaic about 10 years ago with her wife, Áine Ní Cheallaigh, but they found it too rural after having spent the previous six years in Brooklyn. They discovered Beacon after seeing it on a Metro-North timetable.

What She Reads

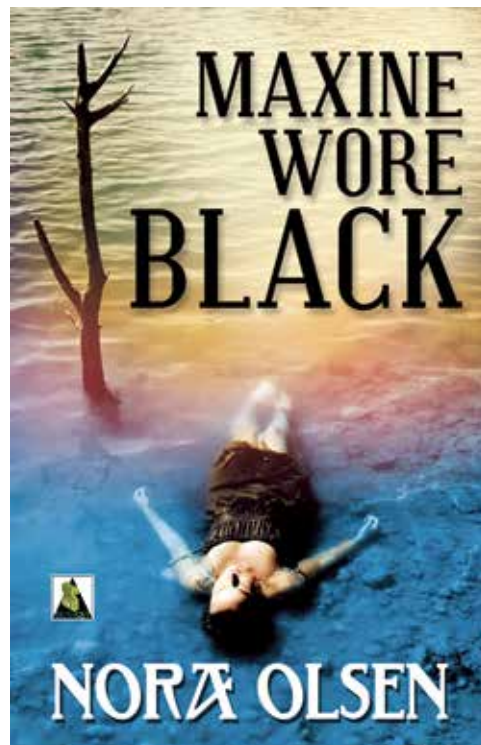
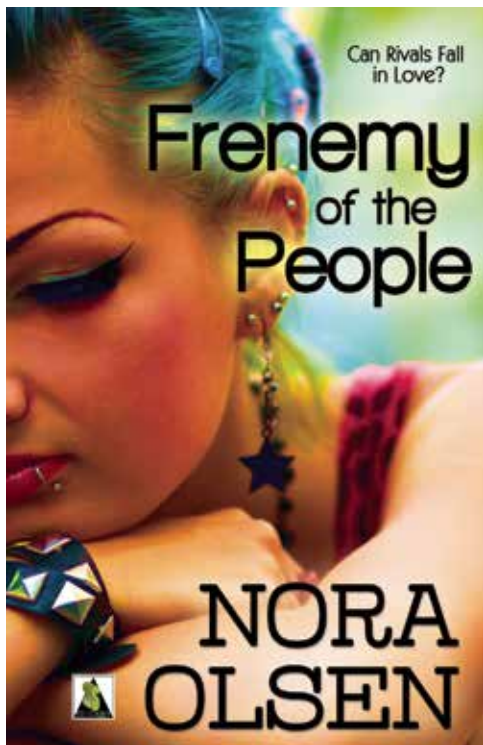
Nora Olsen says she was influenced growing up by Isabelle Holland's *Man Without A Face* and Rosa Guy's *Ruby*. She also recommends Daniel José Older's *Bone Street Rumba* urban-fantasy series and his young-adult novel, *Shadowshaper*.

Olsen's books, which are published by small presses, are sold through the usual online channels and stocked by independent booksellers such as Beacon's Binnacle Books, where she has done a reading. Olsen says teens rarely attend these events, however. They tend to rely more on online sharing of reviews and blogging, replete with no-holds-barred critiques, which Olsen takes to heart.

"I take criticism very seriously and learn from it," she says. "Of course, sometimes I disagree with it, too."

Olsen has a blog at noraolsen.com and also writes about books at booklikes.com. And she has a bagel. Several years ago a contest offered the coveted prize of naming a Beacon Bagel sandwich and coming up with its ingredients. Olsen won and promptly used the opportunity to market her novel, *The End*.

"That's when I felt I had made my mark in the community," she says, although she confesses she never orders The End bagel because she no longer eats eggs or cheese. But it's still on the board.



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History in the Making *(From Page 9)*

the challenges faced when building the Bear Mountain Bridge?"

Many of the projects were presented on poster boards, others as research papers and a few as displays that included models of forts, a board game and a model of a Marathon battery. Another asked the question "How has Beacon become so artistic?" and answered it visually.

In the months preceding the awards, the museum's executive director, Mindy Krazmien, and its director of administration, Rachel Ornstein, worked with seventh-grade social studies teachers Christopher Caliendo at Garrison and Kelli Annesi at Haldane to prep the students. They spoke about research methods and introduced them to the archives of the museum.

Annesi noted that the level of re-

search expected of seventh-graders has grown tremendously in the past five years, to what might have been seen from college students a generation ago. She said the students were exposed, perhaps for the first time, to the gray areas of citations, learning how to note their sources and avoid plagiarizing.

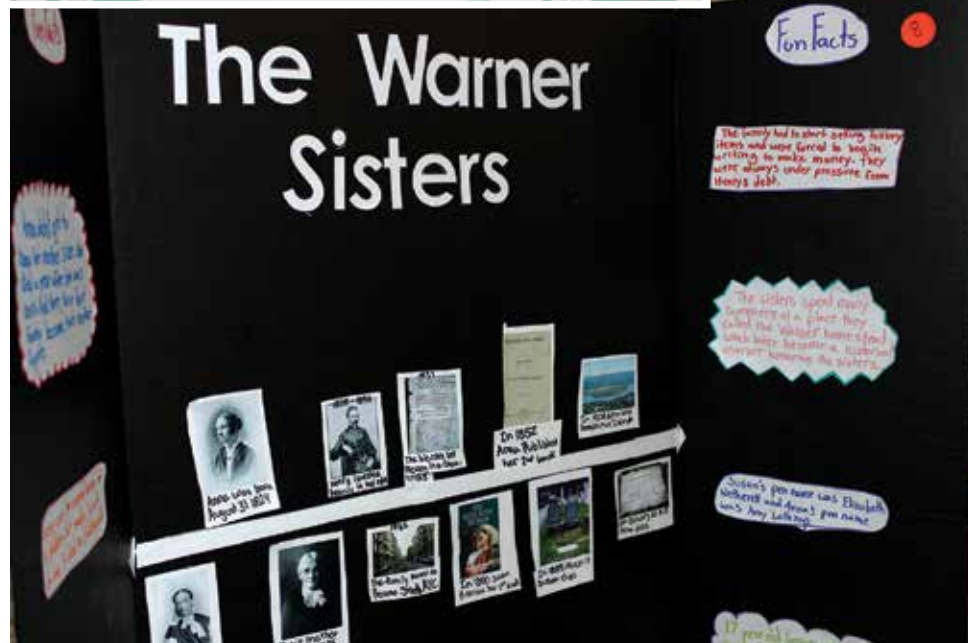
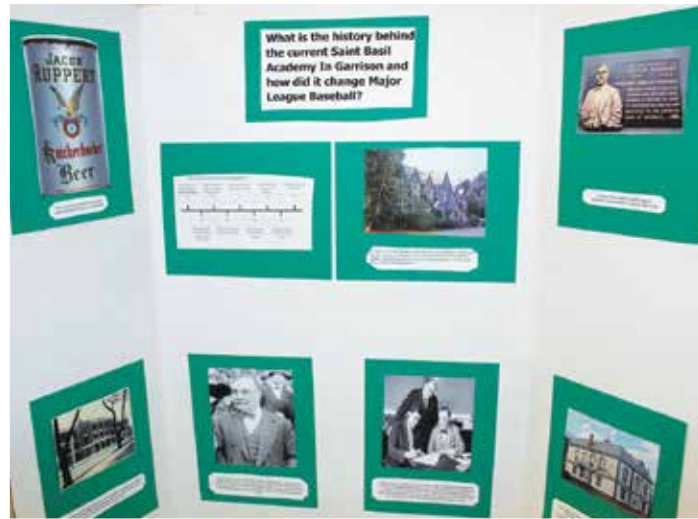
Praising the "depth and quality" of much of the work, Krazmien encouraged students to submit their projects to the New York State Archives' Student Research Awards competition.

Teresa Figueiras of Haldane, one of the three high school students who served as judges (the others were Andrew Platt from Haldane and Aurora Strauss from Hack-

ley) and a volunteer at the museum, noted how much she has enjoyed "looking back, remembering when I did this, seeing how much it has grown."

Each judge was assigned 15 projects, and each project was scored by multiple judges on research, writing and presentation. The judges were not aware who had done each project.

Paul Tomizawa, a Haldane parent and



technology teacher in a Westchester school district who has now judged the competition twice, said he looks for projects in which the students show "thoughtfulness in their research and appreciation for our local history. The area is rich in great untold stories or stories that should be told over and over. I'm pleased when I can read a student's narrative that reflects admiration for the achievements of Philipstown pioneers."

He added: "In an age when adults may question the work ethic of children, it's always heartening to see students leaving few stones, if any, unturned in

their research and creating a compelling visual and written story." By participating, he said, students "make connections that will forever be a part of who they are. Being from Garrison, Cold Spring or Nelsonville will be embedded in their identity. That's not a bad thing to have."



Photos by A. Rooney



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Prepping Children for Disaster

Putnam County first in nation for readiness study

By Anita Peltonen

I was in Washington, D.C. on Dec. 4, when a man with a semi-automatic rifle entered a pizzeria and fired. He'd been convinced that a child-sex ring operated there. He wanted to save the children.

Turns out, he was acting on fake news. Instead of saving children, he terrified them. I was staying nearby with parents of a 10-year-old. The child was inconsolable; she wanted to leave for Canada. (Her mother is Canadian). The parents said they'd think about it, but police had taken the shooter away, so it should be OK to go to school tomorrow.

The parents did what they were supposed to do, and so did the police. No one was harmed. But what if their child had been there, and the gunman had been a better shot?

Considering the unthinkable

"Thinking about the possibility of a disaster, whether it be natural or man-made, is scary, especially for young children who rely on so many people for their protection," said Jeff Schlegelmilch of the National Center for Disaster Preparedness (NCDP) at Columbia University. "What's scarier is that this means many families simply *don't* think about it."

Schlegelmilch is a leader of the Resilient

Children/Resilient Communities (RCRC) initiative, created by the NCDP and Save the Children. They are coordinating pilot programs in two counties in the U.S. — Putnam County and Washington County, Arkansas — to study best ways to prepare children for terror attacks and disasters. The three-year program is supported by a \$2 million grant from the drugmaker GlaxoSmithKline. It will go nationwide in 2018.

Besides a number of county departments, the Haldane Central School District and the Town of Philipstown are also listed as participants in the initiative.

"The Putnam Department of Health has been running the Bioterrorism and Disaster Preparedness Task Force since 2002 without fail," Schlegelmilch said. "This is the exemplary work we are building upon, but focusing on the specific needs of children before, during and long after a disaster."

That includes man-made hazards. A *New York Times* review of FBI data found that until 1980, there were one or two mass murders in the U.S. per decade; since 2000, there have been nearly 30, including many school shootings. In nearby Newtown, Connecticut, 20 first graders and six educators were killed by a former student with an arsenal of his mom's legally purchased guns. Yet of every \$10 the federal government gives out in emergency-preparedness grants, under a penny goes to preparing children, according to Save the Children, even as the risks they face are growing more complex.

"Prep Rallies"

One remedy promoted by the NCDP is a Prep Rally, may be hosted by Scout groups



A "Prep Rally" held in New Orleans 10 years after Hurricane Katrina

Save the Children photo

or even by businesses for their employees' children.

The first Prep Rallies coincided with the 10-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, a disaster that left many children stranded for months. Officials in Washington County, Arkansas, dealt with lost children for months on end.

In the future, it's hoped, such separation trauma will be reduced through standard reunification plans, in which families select a safe place they're likely to be able to reach plus an alternative. The NCDP partners want to test and update the drills in pilot communities and patch any holes found in the system.

Save the Children's website declares that "Children are powerful change agents." Research has found that when children come home with preparedness guidelines, a family is 75 percent more likely to create a plan. When children are given responsibilities, they can improve community safety. And many will feel calmer if carrying out rehearsed roles.

"Between active shooters and natural disasters, what if something happens to the caregivers?," asks Barbara Ilardi, a

spokeswoman for the Putnam County Health Department. She said it's exciting for the county to have partners who "want to help fix things so we will have children better-prepared to cope."

Among the possible assignments for children: help younger ones or injured adults to safety points; help disabled or injured children; make detailed In Case of Emergency (ICE) cards or phone lists; enforce shelter-in-place practices.

Scout troops have a tradition of earning merit badges in skills like First Aid, Emergency Preparedness and Search and Rescue.

"It makes perfect sense to make children part of the equation," said Jackie Hadden, a leader of Cold Spring Troop 437. "We have a very young Scout who performed first aid on his father after a cooking accident not long ago, and the emergency room doctor commended the boy on his actions."

Rallying emotions

Faced with trauma, children will ask tough questions. If they ask about dying, "lay out the facts at a level they can understand," the American Psychological Association advises. "You do not need to give graphic details. For young children, you may need to talk about what death means — no longer feel anything, not hungry, thirsty, scared or hurting; we will never see them again, but can hold their memories in our hearts and heads."

The RCRC program attempts to rehearse children in a way that's realistic but not traumatic. Older children may be OK with enacting a live-shooter situation with real emergency workers and fake blood. For younger ones, learning map-reading and hazard identification can be done in a scientific way — as learning experiences that will enhance children's coping and resilience skills if they're challenged by disaster. Comparisons can be made to why people wearing seat belts or practice before taking on a fierce sports rival.

In Japan, emergency drills kick off the school year on Sept. 1 — National Readiness Day. The nation, every profession, even the prime minister, does the drill. The Japanese say, "There is no other way."

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Get Up, Show Up

Group encourages white people to join fight for racial justice

By Brian PJ Cronin

Activism isn't always about marching or calling politicians. It can also be as simple as watching someone's child.

Consider the initial meeting of the Hudson Valley Hate Free Zone that took place Jan. 14 at St. Luke's Church in Beacon. More than 200 people showed up to be part of a network of individuals, institutions and businesses committed to protecting vulnerable communities.

Although one of the groups that organized the meeting was the Beacon chapter of an organization called Showing Up for

Racial Justice (SURJ), none of its members attended. Instead, they were elsewhere in the church, providing child care so that others could attend, in addition to providing snacks and art supplies for banner-making.

"Sometimes showing up for racial justice means stepping back so that others can lead," said Sarah From, who with Ava Bynum formed the Beacon chapter of SURJ last year. A meeting on Jan. 31 at the Beacon Hebrew Alliance drew 78 people.

"The mission of SURJ is not only to be doing action, but also to be raising consciousness of white folks around race and to be building relationships within communities."

"The mission of SURJ is not only to be doing action, but also to be raising consciousness of white folks around race and to be building relationships within communities," said Bynum. "The best actions come out of a community that knows each other and trusts each other."

Members of the Beacon chapter have hit the streets over the past six months to raise funds for educational initiatives by the Hudson Valley chapter of Black Lives Matter. They also have protested outside local branches of banks that have investments in the Dakota Pipeline. SURJ acted after receiving requests from local chapters of BLM and #noDAPL.

Taking on a supportive role means that experienced organizers must "condition ourselves to not get in front of a camera unless it's appropriate, not getting on the microphone, basically dismantling all those things that we may have already been trained to do," Bynum said. SURJ



Members of the Beacon chapter of SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice) asking Chase Bank to defund the Dakota Access Pipeline.

Photos by Beacon SURJ

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A photograph posted on the Beacon chapter of SURJ's Facebook page

meetings allow time for both action and inner reflection. At the Jan. 31 meeting, smaller groups were formed for people who wanted to debrief about the women's marches and immigration ban protests and what taking part taught them. There was also a group for those who wanted to learn how to disrupt racial or sexual harassment they encountered on the street.

Bynum and From are quick to point out that they created the chapter but are not in charge. As with Black Lives Matter and the Women's March, there is not supposed to be any one in charge. Some observers have disparagingly referred to these groups as "leaderless movements," but Bynum said she has a better — if wordier — description.

"It's an intentionally creative leader-full movement," she said. "As we're organizing around racial justice, we're trying to dismantle what racial oppression has created in our society, which includes having a very hierarchical system."

Instead of one leader, an organizing

team leads various parts of each meeting. That includes training and workshops on topics ranging from nonviolent protesting to how to have discussions with family members and neighbors about race and politics. This type of activism is more challenging, she said, than when you're part of a huge, anonymous crowd.

"In Beacon, we're outside the bank protesting, waving everyone who drives by because we know all of them," Bynum said. "Organizing in a small, close-knit community has shaped how we think about where our points of leverage are and how to call people in." Disrupting business as usual or asking people to change their behavior does not occur in a vacuum, she said, but in the context of these relationships.

"There's a real hunger in Beacon to plug into how to resist the parts of this Trump administration that people feel go against American values," said From. "People are showing up and they're not going away."

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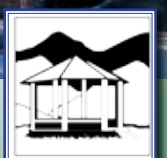


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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

The Warner Brothers

Talk will look at sisters' uncle, father

The uncle and father of Anna and Susan Warner, the sisters and authors who lived on Constitution Island, will be the focus of a talk at the Putnam History Museum at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 11. In "Thomas and Henry Warner: Road to the Hudson Highlands," Bryan Dunlop will focus on the lives of the brothers and their journey from a Columbia County farm to Union College and New York City.

Admission is \$5 or free for members.



Bryan Dunlop

Photo provided

The museum, which is closed for the season, will be open that day from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for visitors to see *The World of Anna and Susan Warner* exhibit and other items in the collection. RSVP to 845-265-4010 or rachel@putnamhistorymuseum.org.

Free Throw Champs

The Knights of Columbus Loretto Council held its annual Free Throw Championship on Jan. 18. Ten boys and girls advanced to district competition on Feb. 17.

Each of the 30 contenders shot 15 free throws. The winners at each age were — 9-year-olds: Morgan Murphy and Hunter Erickson; 10-year-olds: Camilla McDaniel and Milo Shuk; 11-year-olds: Jack Gordineer and Fionnola O'Reilly; 12-year-olds: Madison Chiera and Colin August; 13-year-olds: Sydney Warren and Dillon Kelly.

Dream/People Choirs Combine

All singers welcome to join

Rehearsals begin on Feb. 8 at 7:15 p.m. for the merged Dream Choir and Beacon People's Choir. Founder Cat Guthrie welcomes all singers. No auditions or sight reading necessary. This session's theme is "Songs to Heal a Divided Nation." See facebook.com/DreamChoir.

Free Tax Help

Low-income, elderly can receive assistance

The Westchester-Putnam Workforce Development Board is launching a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program on Feb. 1 to help low-income residents take advantage of tax credits and refunds. People who earn less than \$54,000, those with disabilities and those who speak limited English can qualify. At the same time, a Tax Counseling for the Elderly program assists people over the age of 60. Call 914-995-3910.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.



Sledders at the Philipstown Winter Carnival in 2016

Photo provided

Winter Carnival Coming Feb. 11

Annual event includes sledding, skating, food

The 4th Annual Philipstown Winter Carnival will take place on Saturday, Feb. 11 with activities in Garrison at Winter Hill on Snake Hill Road and the Philipstown Recreation Center.

Beginning at 1 p.m. at Winter Hill, there will be sledding, ice sculptures and indoor entertainment. B&L Deli will have food for sale.

At 4 p.m., the Rec Center will host ice skating and an indoor viewing of *Cool Running*. Greg's Good Eats food truck will sell food. See philipstownwintercarnival.com.

Fight the Winter Blues, Make Art

Art Center offers creative workshops

The Garrison Art Center will hold weekend "cabin fever" workshops each week in February. Learn to make jewelry, soy candles, prints and terra cotta bas relief works. Some classes are three hours, while others consist of two parts on consecutive weekends. Single workshops are \$35. See garrisonartcenter.org.

EagleFest at Boscobel

Spotters will help locate birds

Bald eagles make their way from Northern Canada and New England south to the Hudson Valley during the winter to hunt food in the unfrozen waterways. While once an endangered species, populations have rebounded due to careful conservation efforts.

On Saturday, Feb. 11, Boscobel will host Teatown Lake Reservation's annual EagleFest from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on its grounds overlooking the Hudson River. Constitution



EagleFest will be held on Feb. 11.

Photo by Martin Walls

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Marsh Audubon Center and Putnam Highlands Audubon Society eagle spotters will be available with scopes to help visitors.

In the event of snow, the festival will be held on Feb. 12. For a schedule of other EagleFest activities taking place in Croton, visit teatown.org.

Gallery Tries to Beat the Blues

Works designed to make you feel better

Gallery 66 NY put out a call for artists to interpret the word "blue" and the results will be exhibited at the gallery beginning Feb. 3. Selected by Gary Jacketti, co-founder of the Beacon Artist Union, each work invites the viewer to beat the winter blues. *Feelin' Blue* will open with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. and remain on display until Feb. 26. The exhibit features works by 19 artists, including photography, painting sculpture and multimedia. The gallery is open Friday to Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.



A piece by Czech sculptor Alex Kveton on display at Gallery 66 NY in Cold Spring

Hike, Learn, Enjoy the Snow

Nature Museum to host Winter Wonderland

The Hudson Highlands Nature Museum is hosting a Winter Wonderland Weekend from Feb. 10 to 12 at its Outdoor Discovery Center on Muser Drive in Cornwall.

Break out your snowshoes for a 90-minute hike under the full moon on Friday, Feb. 10 at 6 p.m. Afterward, warm up with hot cocoa inside. Bring your own snowshoes or hiking shoes if there is no snow.

On Saturday, Feb. 11 at 10 a.m., families can learn about weather during an interactive program. Admission includes access to the Wildlife Education Center.

On Sunday, Feb. 12 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., join the fun for a Snow Day outside (with or without snow). Museum educators will have games, hikes in the woods, sledding

and snow crafts available. For tickets and more information, see hnhm.org.



A snowshoe hike under the full moon at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum

Photo by Charles Rondeau

Beacon

Work by African-American Artists on Display at Howland

Center to mark history month

February is African-American History Month and the Howland Cultural Center opens its 22nd annual celebration with an exhibition of 22 African-American artists from the Hudson Valley.

The opening reception on Feb. 4 from 3 to 5 p.m. will include a poetry reading by Poet Gold. The exhibit, which includes painting, ceramics, jewelry and photography, will be on display until Feb. 26. The gallery is open Friday to Monday from 1 to 5 p.m. See howlandculturalcenter.org.



Our Image by Shaunda Holloway

Soup for Greens

Farmers' Market fundraiser set for Feb. 12

The Beacon Farmers' Market will sell soup on Sunday, Feb. 12 to raise money

for its Greens for Greens program, which helps people with limited funds buy local produce. The program doubles the amount of money residents can spend on produce at the market.

The Soup for Greens fundraiser runs during market hours from 10 a.m. to 2

p.m. A variety of soups are available, including vegetarian and vegan options, all served in a compostable bowl. The soup is \$10 if served in a compostable bowl or \$25 in a ceramic bowl that can be taken home. The indoor market is in a new location this winter at the VFW Hall at 413 Main St.



Colin Waldron of Garrison demonstrates for Frank Lanza, a fourth-grader at the Garrison School who is part of the newly formed Webelo Pack 403, how to nail a joist on an outdoor stage Waldon built in the school's Native Garden Courtyard for his Eagle Scout project.

Poughkeepsie Day School

PRE-K - GRADE 12

INFO SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 6:30-7:30PM

Hudson Hil's Cafe & Market

129 Main Street in Cold Spring

RSVP to treilly@poughkeepsieday.org

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Sports *(continued from Page 20)*

High School Varsity Scoreboard

Boys' Basketball

Lourdes 66, Beacon 52
Alex Benson (22 points)
Beacon 75, Sleepy Hollow 52
North Salem 75, Haldane 52
Bronxville 63, Haldane 20
King 76, Haldane 47

Girls' Basketball

Haldane 56, North Salem 28
Haldane 64, Pawling 28
Lourdes 68, Beacon 60
Lauren Schetter (32)
Beacon 57, Sleepy Hollow 34

Indoor Track

Northern County Championships
See highlandscurrent.com

Boys' Swimming

Beacon @ Section 1, Conference 3 Championships

Team Finish: 5 of 10
50-yard freestyle
2. Sean Landers (23.71)
200-yard freestyle
5. Lucas O'Blaney (56.54)
Diving
2. Michael Rutkoske (264.25)
500-yard freestyle
3. Lucas O'Blaney (5:38.38)
200-yard freestyle relay
4. Beacon (1:41.23)
400-yard freestyle relay
4. Beacon (3:41.12)

Highlands Current Athlete of the Week

Ethan Burgos,
Beacon High School

Burgos set a personal record in the 55-meter hurdles (8.29 seconds) on Jan. 28 in the preliminaries of the Northern County Championships at The Armory in New York City before winning the final in 8.33. "From just learning to hurdle last winter to being the county champion this season is a tremendous jump," says Coach Jim Henry. "He is ranked No. 9 in Section 1 and just broke into the top 100 hurdlers in New York State."



Haldane 5th-grader Sarah Jones (left) hugs classmate Ruby Poses after Sarah scored her first basket ever for the Loretto Knights, who play in the Catholic Youth Organization league. *Photo provided*

Hannah and Her Sisters

(from Page 20)

sport they wanted," said their mother, Siobhan. "It didn't matter what time it was, the girls would ask their daddy to play soccer, have a catch or shoot-a-round and he was the first out the door."

Siobhan described the important role that Haldane played in her daughter's success. "My girls started following sports in elementary school and it was neat for them to see star athletes in the hallway," she said. "They couldn't wait to grow up and be just like them."

With four athletes in the house, it is difficult to contain the competitiveness to the playing field, she said. Whenever the girls are playing in the backyard, "it usually ends up with someone being really mad."

Hannah said having a competitive athlete as an older sister was an advantage.

"When I was younger, I watched Allie play all her sports and it motivated me to be as good as her," she said. "Allie didn't take it easy on me. Since I could catch a ball she was throwing fastballs at me, or if we were playing H-O-R-S-E on the basketball court, she would start shooting 30-footers. I had to practice to beat her!"

Likewise, Bela and Livy said they feel Hannah's influence on them. She praises her sisters as Allie did her but isn't shy about offering advice.

Hannah and Allie were on the Haldane soccer team that won the Class C state title in 2014, so she was disappointed this year when the Blue Devils fell in the regional final. After winning a state title as a sophomore, that became her goal in all three



Allie Monteleone, a sophomore guard for Pace, scored a career-high 23 points on 60 percent shooting on Jan. 14 in the Setters' 69-66 victory over Stonehill. *Photo by Stockton Photos*

sports, she said.

It's been a great run, she said. "I have had great coaches and I will miss playing with everyone at Haldane — I have been playing with them since kindergarten!"

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COLD SPRING FARMERS' MARKET

Saturdays @ the Parish Hall, St-Mary-in-the-Highlands
Indoor market is open from 9:30am - 1:30pm

Vegetables, greens, herbs, apples, berries, breads, cheeses, meats, fish, eggs, ice cream,	granola, pies, tarts, pretzels, pastries, gluten-free baked goods, jam, lavender, honey, plants, flowers,	mushrooms, olive oil, pickles, sauces, kombucha tea, ciders, wines, & wool.
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Spring Programming
at Philipstown Recreation Center
Registration opens February 6th for Residents and
February 13th for Non-Residents
Summer Camp Registration opens March 13



Download our spring course guide at philipstownrecreation.com.
Call 845-424-4618 or 845-424-4662 to register
R = Resident / NR = Non-Resident

EARLY EDUCATION

- Indoor Tot Park**
T, TH 9-11am & M-F 12-2pm
\$1 per session
- Little Sluggers Baseball**
Starts April 22
\$70 R / \$95 NR
- Pre-Ballet (ages 3-5)**
Starts April 4 or 6
\$85 R / \$100 NR
- T-Ball**
Starts April 22
\$70 R / \$95 NR

YOUTH/TEEN PROGRAMS

- Comfort Foods (Grades K-6)**
Starts March 28
\$40 R / \$55 NR
- Krafty Scientwists (Grades K-6)**
Starts March 20
\$35 R / \$50 NR
- Lego Club (Grades K-4)**
Starts April 3
\$96 R / \$111 NR
- Nature Quest (Grades K-6)**
Starts May 11
\$40 R / \$55 NR
- State Fair Foods (Grades K-6)**
Stats May 16
\$40 R / \$55 NR
- Middle School Teen Night (Grades 6-8)**
March 25 & May 13 | \$5

SPORTS AND MOVEMENT

- Beginning Ballet (Grades K-1)**
Starts April 4 or 6
\$85 R / \$100 NR
- Beginning Ballet (Grades 2-3)**
Starts April 6
\$85 R / \$100 NR
- Archery (Grades K-6)**
Starts May 10
\$40 R / \$55 NR
- Indoor Soccer (Grades K-6)**
Starts March 22
\$35 R / \$50 NR
- Lacrosse – Boys & Girls (Grades K-8)**
Starts March 21
See book for more information.
- Spring Soccer Clinic (Grades 1-6)**
Starts April 22 | \$45 R / \$60 NR

- Sports Sampler (Grades K-6)**
Starts May 8
\$35 R / \$50 NR

FAMILY

- 
- Family Pasta and Bingo**
March 10
- Winter Carnival**
February 11
- Wizard of Oz**
April 21-23

CERAMICS

- Adults**
Starts April 4 or 6
\$360 R / \$365 NR
- Afterschool (Grades K-3)**
Starts April 4 or 5
\$240 R / \$255 NR
- Afterschool (Grades 4-6)**
Starts April 6
\$240 R / \$255 NR
- Mudbunnies (ages 3-5)**
Start April 5
\$180 R / \$195 NR

THEATRE

- Twisted Tales (Grades 2-4)**
Starts April 24
\$220 R / \$235 NR
- Acting Showcase (Grades 4-7)**
Starts April 5
\$310 R

SENIORS

- Chair Yoga**
Continental Village Clubhouse | Starts March 8
Philipstown Community Center | Starts March 3
- Fit for Life**
Chestnut Ridge | Starts March 8
Continental Village Clubhouse | Starts March 20
- Zumba Gold**
Chestnut Ridge | Starts March 7
Continental Village | Starts March 9
- Paint Your World**
Animals: March 6 or 20
April Showers: April 4 or 18
Flowers: May 9 or 23
- Bus to Walmart & Shoprite**
Dates: Feb 14, March 1, 15, 29 April 12, 26, May 9

- Winter Luncheon**
February 15

- Spring Luncheon**
May 10

- Trip to Hunterdon Hills**
March 2
\$60 R / \$75 NR

- Trip to Mr. Airy Casino**
April 19 | \$1

- Trip to Westchester Broadway**
May 18
\$55 Resident / \$70 Non-Resident

ADULTS – EDUCATION

- Dog Obedience**
Starts March 22
\$135 R / \$150 NR

- Write Your World**
Starts April 19
\$95 R / \$110 NR

ADULTS – EXERCISE

- Ballet for Adults**
Starts April 25 or 6
\$130 R / \$145 NR

- Basic Pilates**
Starts March 3
\$105 R / \$120 NR

- Cize Live**
Starts April 3
\$45 R / \$60 NR

- Intermediate Pilates**
Starts March 13
\$55 R / \$70 NR

- Power Hour for Women**
Starts March 15 or April 3

- Yamuna Body Rolling**
Starts March 6
\$55 R / \$70 NR

- Yoga with Kathy Barnes**
Starts April 3
\$75 R / \$90 NR

- Zumba**
Starts March 30
\$75 R / \$90 NR

SPORTS (18+)

- Men's Basketball**
Mondays 7:30-9:30 | \$3 R / \$5 NR

- Volleyball**
Thursdays, 7:30-9:30 Sundays 6-8
\$3 R / \$5 NR

Sports



The Haldane Hockey Five: Vladimir Siriia, Luke Junjulas, Tom Percacciolo, Joe Orza, Mike Harmancin

Photos by M. Turton

The Haldane Hockey Five

Cold Spring players join Hendrick Hudson team

By Michael Turton

Most hockey coaches would be happy to have their team score seven goals in a game. That was not the case for Mike Grean, whose Hendrick Hudson Sailors, bolstered by five starters from Haldane High School, fell to the Horace Greeley Quakers, 9-7, in a

wildly undisciplined game at Ice Time in Newburgh on Jan. 28.

Haldane and the Montrose-based Hendrick Hudson have combined players for the past several seasons since neither school can ice a team on its own.

"It's been a tough season," said Grean, who lives in Cold Spring, of the team's 4-13 record with three games remaining. The team is short on bench strength with barely more than two full lines. Last year's roster had more than 20 players.



Mike Grean (center) confers with his players during a time-out. Five Haldane students start for the Hendrick Hudson Sailors, coached by Grean, a Cold Spring resident.

"We have to learn to control the puck better," Grean said. "I continue to stress the basics, right down to receiving and giving a pass."

Even so, with a couple of wins the team could still make the playoffs, which begin in mid-February. Last year's team finished 9-11-1 and in 2015 the Sailors advanced as far as the Section 1 semifinal for a 12-9-1 record.

Saturday's game marked the fourth time this season that the Sailors have scored seven goals only to come up on the short.

"You have to defend more," said Grean, who has coached the team for 10 years. "We gave up a lot of odd-man rushes [when the attacking team outnumbers the defenders near the net], and we were always behind."

The Sailors trailed throughout but managed to tie the score 7-7 well into the third

period before two late Quaker goals.

Grean was asked to comment on the five Haldane players on his roster:

Junior defenseman Joe Orza: "Has good hands, skates well and wants the puck."

Junior forward Luke Junjulas: "Plays with heart and determination. Started playing hockey late and has improved tremendously."

Sophomore defenseman Tom Percacciolo: "Great, plays with a lot of heart and is a good defender."

Sophomore defenseman Vladimir Siriia: "A very strong skater and makes really good passes."

Senior forward and team captain Mike Harmancin: "For more than three years he has always skated as hard as he can. A true hockey player."



Livy, Allie, Bela and Hannah Monteleone are flanked by their parents Michael and Siobhan at Senior Night after a Haldane basketball game in 2015. Photo by Steve Schweikhart

Hannah and Her Sisters

The senior is the second of four Monteleones to play for Haldane — and Pace

By Leigh Alan Klein

Hannah Monteleone is a three-sport athlete at Haldane. The senior was named second team all-state in soccer and is a key piece of the Class C powerhouse girls' basketball team, with softball still to come in the spring.

On the basketball court, Hannah is a confident, steady guard with long range and a quick release.

She is not unlike her three sisters. Her older sister, Allie Monteleone, is a sophomore standout for the Pace University basketball team. Her younger sisters, twins Livy and Bela, play for the varsity and junior varsity basketball teams, respectively. Like Allie and Hannah, they

also play on the Haldane soccer team.

This fall, Hannah will join Allie at Pace. She plans to sign a letter of intent on Friday, Feb. 3, to play soccer for the Setters.

"Playing with my sisters is fun, but different," Hannah said. "Playing with Allie, I was the one being corrected or getting helped out. When I needed her, she always had my back. Allie made me feel like she was my biggest fan. Now, playing with Bela and Liv, I have to fill Allie's role in helping them out and being supportive."

The girls' athleticism runs in the family. Their parents were high school athletes and their father, Michael, played baseball in college and in the Houston Astros farm system. Allie Monteleone gravitated to sports at a young age and Hannah quickly followed.

"Michael loved being outside with the girls playing any (Continued on page 18)

More Sports on Page 18