

The HIGHLANDS Current



Warm Dinner Rolls

See Page 11

NOVEMBER 24, 2017

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

After Outcry, Nelsonville Drops Secor Tower Offer

Rockledge site still on table

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Nelsonville's cell tower battle narrowed from two fronts to one on Monday (Nov. 20) when the Nelsonville Village Board announced it had withdrawn its offer of land on Secor Street as an alternate location for a cell tower proposed for Rockledge Drive.

Greeted with applause at the meeting, moved to Philipstown Town Hall to accommodate the audience, the decision turns village attention back to Rockledge. There, on a 9.6-acre parcel, Homeland Towers LLC wants to erect a 110-foot tower above the Cold Spring Cemetery and near residences. (Nelsonville's zoning code permits cell towers in residential areas.) A dead end, Rockledge connects to Moffatt Road, which twists uphill from Route 9D at the southern end of Nelsonville and Cold Spring.

The Rockledge application is being reviewed by the Nelsonville Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Board, which on Nov. 15 opened a joint public hearing, scheduled to resume at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 28, at Town Hall. To proceed, the project must obtain a special-use permit

from the ZBA and site-plan approval from the Planning Board.

According to Robert Gaudioso, the Homeland Towers attorney, because Nelsonville did not contest anything in the Rockledge application within 30 days of receiving it, the village must approve or deny it within 150 days, or Dec. 17.

Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, who represents the Highlands in Congress and lives off Moffatt Road, asked Homeland Towers in a Nov. 14 letter to work with Nelsonville and extend the deadline by 60 days. He noted that review of the application is underway but "is extremely taxing for this small community and requires a great deal of their time and limited resources." In addition, he wrote in the letter, also sent to the Federal Communications Commission, "there are several complicated issues surrounding the proposed site's historical nature that make the process even more difficult and resource-intensive."

Homeland Towers, which represents Verizon Wireless, also wants to construct a tower on Vineyard Road, near the intersection of Routes 9 and 301, an area under jurisdiction of the Town of Philipstown. Like the proposed Rockledge tower, it is fiercely opposed by many residents.

(Continued on Page 5)



William Rice (left) and Steve Marino, who chair the Nelsonville Zoning Board of Appeals and Nelsonville Planning Board, respectively, go over documents at a joint public hearing their boards opened on Nov. 15 on the proposed cell tower on Rockledge Drive.

Photo by Ross Corsair



ADORNED IN SIGHT AND SOUND — Andrew Nachamkin is one of two actors who portrays Christopher in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, which will be presented at Haldane High School in Cold Spring on Dec. 1 and 2. See Page 7.

Photo by Jim Mechalako

New York's Obamacare Alternative

Push is on to pass long-stymied state health care act

By Jeff Simms

For New York residents concerned about health care, the month of January could be critical.

The 2018 session of the state Legislature begins in January, typically during the first week. About three weeks later, Jan. 31 marks the deadline for New Yorkers who are insured through the federal Affordable Care Act ("Obamacare") to

purchase health insurance for 2018.

Residents insured through the ACA's marketplace are expected to see around a 15 percent increase in the price of "silver" plans, the most popular level of coverage, but the upcoming legislative session may provide some relief in 2019 and beyond.

"The writing is on the wall that very, very severe cuts are coming down the pike," for the ACA, said Katie Robbins, the director of the Campaign for New York Health, a coalition that supports the creation of a single-payer system overseen by a state agency. (Continued on Page 10)

After Indian Point An occasional series

Leaving Waste High and Dry

The advantages, and risks, of dry cask storage

By Brian PJ Cronin

In 2010, Kevin Kamps of the nuclear watchdog group Beyond Nuclear was invited to Japan to speak to residents who lived in the shadow of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. They were worried about what might go wrong at the plant because they had heard stories of things going wrong at other plants, spe-

cifically a smaller one on the banks of the Hudson River in New York.

"I was invited because of the spent fuel pool leaks at Indian Point," recalled Kamps at a Nov. 3 forum on the Indian Point plant, which is scheduled to close in 2021. "People in Japan living near atomic reactors wanted to learn about the dangers of those pools. They wanted to hear about the leaks from spent fuel pools at Indian Point."

The Indian Point forum, organized by *The Journal News* (Continued on Page 3)

5 Five Questions: EMILY LOMBARDO NASTASI

By Alison Rooney

Emily Lombardo Nastasi has been a docent at Boscobel since 2013. The historic mansion's annual candlelit tours begin Nov. 24.

How do you keep your presentation fresh?

I tailor every tour to the interests expressed by the group. Sometimes people are interested in the family, other times it's the furniture. I had one where someone



A gauffering iron at Boscobel

Photo provided

kept asking questions about the drapes, so I told them all I knew about drapes.

Which former resident fascinates you the most?

Elizabeth [Corne Dyckman], the matriarch. Between 1804 and 1808 she had her son, Peter, her husband died and she was left with the foundation of a house and 250 acres of farmland to work [in Montrose]. She was such a model for modern women, during a time when it was uncommon and unique. She finished the construction of the house, raised her son, dealt with the farmhands and managed the family bank account. There are 45 acres here [in Garrison, where the home was moved in 1956]; it's incredible to realize she handled property five times this size.

What's the weirdest object in the home?

A gauffering iron. It looks like a brass socket with three legs and a wand inside to warm in the fire. You take a shirt collar, rub the wand on it, and you get ruffles.

Do you ever take the view for granted?

Never. Each season is different, too. I love the fall: the apples, the maples changing color. When the leaves fall and cover the paths, it looks like the Yellow Brick Road. One of my favorite things about giving the tours is hearing the "wows" every time my group turns out of the rose garden.

What's your favorite room?

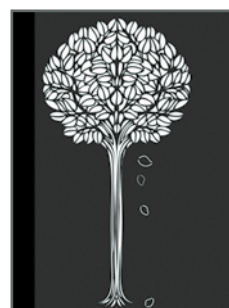
I don't want to insult



Emily Lombardo Nastasi

Photo by A. Rooney

the other rooms, but I'd choose the front drawing room. It's where you would sit and have a chat. We're at a time where we're trying to go back to living the way they did. Everyone appreciates the family life they had. People "paid visits." They had holiday parties to socialize with their neighbors. They ate farm-to-table. The technology has changed, but not the desire to keep in touch.



Pruning is an art

If you are looking for a "natural finish" and do not want to see your ornamentals cut back severely to dead wood, choose artful pruning. Artful Pruning allows your ornamentals to keep looking good.

Artful Pruning gracefully brings your ornamentals back to a more appropriate smaller size.

For an artful, natural finish, call Gregory, the artful pruner, with over 10 years as a career gardener specializing in natural and restorative gardening.

845.446.7465

FRESH
COMPANY

artful cooking / event planning

845-424-8204

www.freshcompany.net

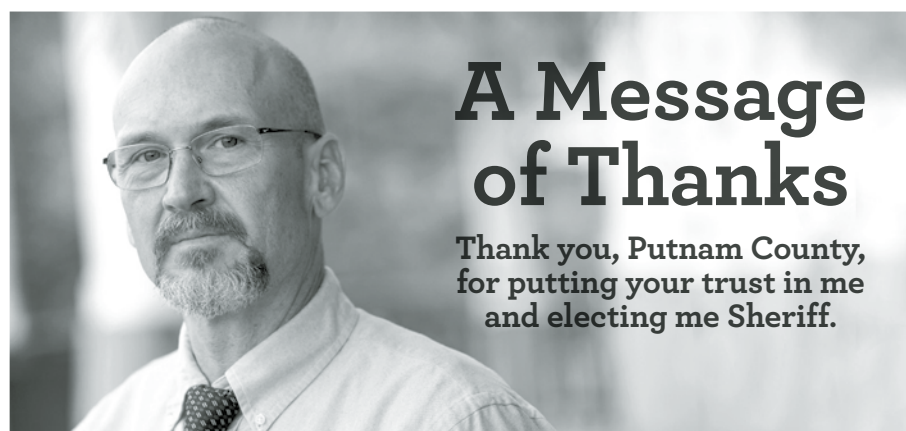


Remember ...

... to use your 2017 vision insurance benefits & FSA before expiration!
Almost all plans accepted IN-NETWORK at Southern Dutchess Eye Care.



969 MAIN ST. FISHKILL (845) 896-6700 sdec2020.com
Brian D. Peralta, OD Dr. Gary M. Weiner, OD Dr. Brian Powell, OD



A Message of Thanks

Thank you, Putnam County,
for putting your trust in me
and electing me Sheriff.

I thank those who voted for me, and I am eager to earn the support of those who did not. I pledge to work hard for everyone in Putnam – to serve with integrity and accountability to the public.

I am grateful to all those who worked so hard to see me elected – canvassers, callers, hosts of forums and house events, my campaign team and donors. Everyone gave their all. I am proud of the team we built and the good work we did. We won this race together.

To the men and women of the Sheriff's Department – I am eager to work alongside you and serve the public with you. In the coming weeks, I will be planning my transition into office and considering appointments that I believe will best serve our communities and our team.

Let's get to work Putnam.
Let's return integrity to the Office of Sheriff, together.

After Indian Point *An occasional series*

Leaving Waste High and Dry *(from Page 1)*

and Clearwater, was held at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison. Another is scheduled for the spring.

The small but ongoing leaks at Indian Point, which have been a source of contaminants in the groundwater that will have to be cleaned up, dwarf in comparison to what happened at Fukushima Dai-ichi less than a year after Kamps spoke there. The March 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami caused three of the plant's six reactors to melt down, initiating the worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl in 1986. The residents to whom Kamps spoke about Indian Point now live in an abandoned school outside Tokyo. They may never be able to return home.

As horrific as the Fukushima disaster was, it was a hair's breadth away from becoming much worse. And the culprit was the exact thing that the townspeople were worried about. Loss of power caused one of the spent fuel pools at Reactor No. 4 to overheat. Without a constant supply of cooled water, the heat from the spent fuel rods boiled away the water and kept heating up. But for reasons that remain unclear, a gate that separated water from the nearby reactor cavities also failed, causing water to rush in and refill the pool, preventing an even worse situation.

The incident at Reactor No. 4 is an illustration of why Kamps referred to spent fuel pools as mega-catastrophes waiting to happen.

"You have decades worth of irradiated nuclear fuel, all in one place, in a pool, and it has to be cooled 24/7/365," he said in an interview. "When a reactor shuts down permanently, you can't have a meltdown, which is great. But then all that risk goes into the pool."

If the water in the pool were to disappear, either by a large leak caused by an earthquake, accident, or act of malice; or if a large-scale power failure caused the water to boil away, the fuel could catch on fire, releasing its full load of cesium-137 into the air.

Had that happened at Reactor No. 4 at Fukushima, the Japanese government would have enacted a plan to evacuate 50 million people from northern Japan. The

Indian Point plant has no such plan.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the federal agency that oversees U.S. nuclear plants, allows for spent fuel to be stored in pools indefinitely. But because the pools at Indian Point have run out of room, it must turn to another option: Dry cask storage.

In that process, after the fuel rods have been cooled in pools for at least a year, they are transferred to casks made of concrete and steel. The casks are air cooled, so no electricity is required. As of August 2016, Entergy, which owns Indian Point, had filled 29 casks with spent fuel rods. Under a shutdown agreement negotiated with New York State, it must fill at least four dry casks with fuel each year until the plant's pools are empty.

"Dry cask storage in the United States was not designed with a terrorist attack in mind."

Stored outside, the casks are still vulnerable and require additional security measures. "Dry cask storage in the United States was not designed with a terrorist attack in mind," said Kamps. At most plants, the casks are lined up like bowling pins, unprotected, making them vulnerable to attacks, according to federal testing, by anti-tank missiles or other weapons.

Kamps said a process called "hardening," or surrounding the casks with an earthen berm, would provide at least some measure of protection. That's what was done at the Prairie Island plant in Minnesota after public pressure.

Another option, he said, would be to space them far enough apart that they could be camouflaged so they would be harder to identify, he said. Some plants also have partially buried the casks, leaving the tops exposed for cooling. That scenario, however, makes it more difficult to repair a cask if — or when — it fails. Most casks are designed to remain effective for 100 years, but the fuel inside will remain dangerous for millions of years.

All of which points to the underlying problem that every nuclear power plant



Dry cask storage of spent nuclear waste at the Diablo Canyon Site, near Avila Beach, California
Nuclear Regulatory Commission

in the country will face: Where will the waste go? Without a permanent storage site for spent nuclear fuel, decommissioned plants must continue to store their waste on-site indefinitely.

"It can't stay where it is forever because these plants are on the banks of the Hudson River, or on sea coasts, on the Great Lakes shoreline," said Kamps. "So

it would eventually, if left alone, leak out. But hardened on-site storage, as an interim measure, until we can find a geological repository that is scientifically suitable, environmentally just and consent-based, meaning the host community agrees to serving that role — that's the best we can come up with right now."



Sixth Annual Tree Lighting at

WINTER HILL

Thursday, December 7, 2017
5:30 - 7 p.m.

20 Nazareth Way
(Just east of Route 9D on Snake Hill Road)

Christmas Carols led by
The Walter Hoving Home Choir
Food and Drinks aplenty!



The Holiday Boutique at the Desmond-Fish Library

Grand Opening Weekend

Saturday, November 25th 10-5pm

Sunday, November 26th 1-5pm

Featuring hand crafted items from the Hudson Valley
and fresh baked goods each Saturday morning



Open during library hours

Thursday thru Sunday, Nov 30th - Dec. 3rd

Thursday thru Sunday, December 7th-10th

472 Route 403, Garrison, NY 10524
845-424-3020 desmondfishlibrary.org

The HIGHLANDS Current

**NYFA* Winner: 20
Better Newspaper
Contest Awards**

*New York Press Association, 2013 - 2016



**NNA* Winner:
9 Better
Newspaper
Contest Awards**

*National Newspaper Association, 2016

PUBLISHER

Highlands Current Inc.
161 Main St.
Cold Spring NY 10516-2818
291 Main St., Beacon NY 12508

FOUNDER

Gordon Stewart (1939 - 2014)

MANAGING EDITOR

Chip Rowe
editor@highlandscurrent.com

ARTS/FEATURE EDITOR

Alison Rooney
arts@highlandscurrent.com

SENIOR CORRESPONDENT

Michael Turton

REPORTERS

Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong
Brian PJ Cronin
Joe Dizney
Pamela Doan
Mary Ann Ebner
Jeff Simms

LAYOUT EDITOR

Kate Vikstrom

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Michele Gedney
For information on advertising:
845-809-5584
ads@highlandscurrent.com
highlandscurrent.com/ads



**Institute for
Nonprofit News**

The Highlands Current is a 501c3 nonprofit funded by grants, advertising and the generous support of our readers. Thank you.

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT,
Vol. 6, Issue 48 (ISSN 2475-3785)
is published weekly by
Highlands Current Inc.,
161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-
2818. Nonprofit postage paid at
Newburgh, NY.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Highlands Current, 161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2818. Mail delivery \$20 per year. highlandscurrent.com/delivery delivery@highlandscurrent.com

© Highlands Current Inc. 2017

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form, mechanical or electronic, without written permission of the publisher.

Advertisements designed by *The Highlands Current* may not be reproduced in whole or in part without permission.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nelsonville tower

Given all the hoops and hurdles local government(s) force residents to jump through (and over) with the stated intent of preserving a quaint, historical, rural, traditional village life, it is quite surprising to me that some in positions of power now seem to find it perfectly amenable to situate a monstrous piece of hypermodern industrial communications equipment where it will (forever) tower menacingly over our bucolic small villages and their historically accurate balusters, cornices and cupolas ("Anyone Want a Cell Tower?" Nov. 3).

Ethan Timm, *Cold Spring*

'Drug czar'

The Town Board has my thanks for creating the position of opioid crisis coordinator ("Philipstown Creates 'Drug Czar,'" Nov. 10). I have heard a lot of talk about what our town needs to address the addiction crisis, and many folks have great ideas, but the issue at hand for most families is how and where to find help.

Federal, state and county budgets do not provide funding to support this work, and it is due to the dedication of this board that Philipstown will have another resource to help defeat this dreadful scourge. The funds to pay the stipend are within the budget, which is already under the state tax cap. I am proud of the Town

Board for deciding that the addiction crisis is of significant concern to justify creating and paying for this position.

Julia Famularo, *Cold Spring*

Shame on Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea for bringing politics into a local opium crisis by protesting the use of the term "drug czar" and then connecting it to President Trump when we have already lost so many of our youth (Nov. 17). Why not leave the party politics at the door and worry about the lives we are losing and not some made-up Russian connections?

Funny how our local legislators get vocal and negative after an election. I liked it better when they were looking for my vote and kissing babies. At least then they cared about the people, not politics.

To be honest, I haven't seen much good come out of my local town hall, either!

Michael Junjulas, *Cold Spring*

I support Shea's view on "drug czar." In bureaucratese, czar implies an endowment of nearly unquestioned authority to accomplish the most difficult tasks. The Town Board, to my mind, most certainly does not plan to give that to a consultant who will attempt to guide us to some useful approaches.

For example, the consultant may be able to counsel a village justice on more progressive approaches to dealing with the addicts before him. The situation is far

beyond "Dutch-uncle" talks and admonitions about grandmothers calling the justice at home.

Dick Weissbrod, *Cold Spring*

Save the \$10K on an opiate treatment coordinator and watch your kid like a hawk. My wife and I have four kids and knew all the who, what, when and where of their comings and goings. Be a "czar parent." President Trump has nothing to do with this.

Thomas Nastasi Sr., *Cold Spring*

City in the cloud

Facebook groups are a simply a mirror and communication channel of natural, real-world social and political groups that form in a community ("City in a Cloud," Nov. 10). They can sometimes lead to a self-reinforcing bias bubbles and confirmation of false "alternate facts" as members echo and reaffirm each other's false beliefs.

Those types of groups are formed by and for those who want to engage in this kind of thing. The posts on those group pages typically reflect mistrust of others and the conspiratorial thinking of those who feel threatened by a changing community and a world they don't understand. I attribute that lack of understanding to the purposeful misleading news and information sources they mistakenly trust.

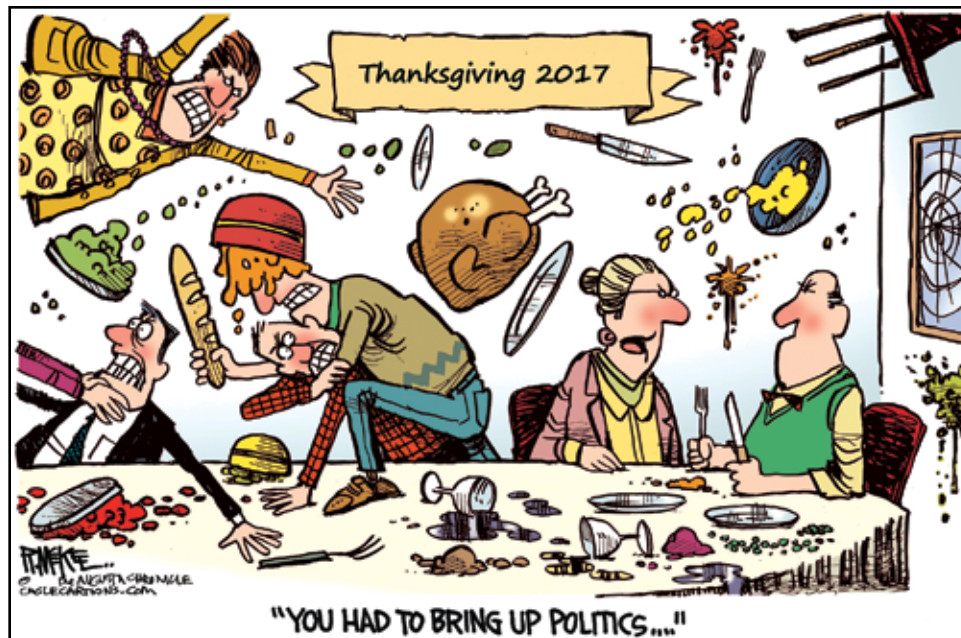
However, other groups form to share empirical knowledge, informed opinions and new information between those with open minds, curiosity, a hunger for an understanding of our world, and an eye toward progress and improvement that only the true give-and-take of opinions and ideas can accomplish. They are necessarily closed groups to avoid the disruptions of the unreasonable, and those predisposed to attack others instead of discussing topics.

Steve Laifer, *Cold Spring*

Communist utopia

It was wonderful to see the photos and read the article about Camp Nitgedaiget ("Communist Utopia," Nov. 10). My father, a hat designer on the Lower East Side of New York City, went to the camp with his friend and spoke about it until his death at age 93.

Judith English, *Cornwall, Vermont*



New State Laws Going Into Effect

From the office of Sandy Galef, who represents Philipstown in the state Assembly:

- Operators and front-seat passengers of taxi and livery vehicles must wear seat belts (A1258/S5749).
- Anyone who intentionally obstructs firefighters performing emergency medical care is guilty of a crime (A6756/S1022).
- Members of the public may receive notification of rulemaking actions by state agencies electronically (A7092/S5721).
- Medical facilities must establish policies to identify, assess and provide treatment or referrals for persons who are

suspected to be victims of human trafficking and notify social services when the person is younger than 18 years old (A8650/S6835).

- Those who perpetrate crimes against community centers, including bomb threats, can be charged with a public-order offense (A7198/S5512).
- The use of electronic cigarettes is banned in public places, including schools, workplaces, bars, restaurants and some outdoor areas (A516/S2543).
- Pets may be brought aboard public transportation operated by the MTA during a state of emergency and evacuation (A2145/S2589).



Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed legislation on April 19 to spend \$200 million in 2018 on opioid abuse prevention, treatment and recovery programs.

Photo by Kevin Coughlin/Office of the Governor

After Outcry, Nelsonville Drops Secor Tower Offer *(from Page 1)*

Secor Street

Amid the furors in October, the three-man Nelsonville Village Board suggested that Homeland Towers put the tower on a wooded, 4-acre, village-owned tract bordered on one side by Secor Street and on another by the American Legion and Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps buildings on Cedar Street. The site also is 975 feet from the Haldane Elementary School. At a Village Board workshop on Nov. 8, residents and the Haldane school superintendent vigorously objected to the Secor Street proposal.

Twelve days later, the Village Board abandoned it.

Trustee Alan Potts explained Monday night that the board had agreed that using the Secor acreage “would not proceed without support from the Nelsonville community.” He cited objections from residents “regarding the visual and property-value effects” of having a cell tower there. He said Homeland Towers had been informed.

Mayor Bill O’Neill encouraged the residents “to hold your coalition together to oppose the Rockledge tower” and help “defend our beautiful and historic cemetery” and the children at the nearby Manitou School at Moffatt Road and Route 9D, though the allowable reasons for vetoing a cell tower permit do not include fears about health.

Trustee Thomas Robertson assured the audience that the mayor and trustees are always open to residents’ concerns. “You have to understand that the three people sitting before you are the most sincere in Nelsonville,” he said. “Nothing in our makeup is vicious. We love this place and are trying to help it.”

Michael Bowman, who served on the Cold Spring Board of Trustees before



Judy Meyer, who serves on the Nelsonville Zoning Board of Appeals, and William Rice, who chairs the ZBA, listen to comments during a public hearing convened on Nov. 15 by the ZBA and Planning Board on the proposed cell tower for Rockledge Drive. *Photo by Ross Corsair*

moving to Nelsonville, expressed appreciation to O’Neill, Potts, Robertson and Village Clerk Pauline Minners “for listening to your neighbors. You made the right decision.” He said he and other Secor tower opponents now “are going to get involved at Rockledge.”

Bowman also asked the Village Board to make the Secor site permanent parkland, “as it was meant to be.”

O’Neill promised that the board would carefully weigh possibilities.

Rockledge site public hearing

Five days before the Village Board meeting, opponents of the Rockledge tower proposal crowded Town Hall for the joint ZBA-Planning Board hearing in which the audience filled chairs, nearly every available inch of floor space and the doorway and stairwell.

dered what level of gap is acceptable.

Gaudioso replied that having a few houses with iffy coverage is of relatively little consequence while spotty coverage along a highway like Route 9 “is a significant gap.” He also said a “significant gap” must be addressed not only to avoid phone-call problems but to ensure the flow of “data service, phone calls over data” and third- and fourth-generation wireless communications, “all combined in a network.”

Moreover, Gaudioso said, denying a tower application because Nelsonville thinks no gap exists “would be a real bad reason, because it’s not a criterion in your code and not a criterion we have to meet.” Furthermore, he said, federal law stipulates that “all communications may not be prohibited” and “even if there is a good reason to deny” a tower permit, “you have to find a way not to prohibit it” or must “find an alternative” site.

The provision he cited, Section 253 of the 1996 Telecommunications Act on “removal of barriers to entry,” says that “no state or local statute or regulation, or other state or local legal requirement, may prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting the ability of any entity to provide any interstate or intra-state telecommunications service.”

The wording does not specifically mention cell towers, or state that local governments must *(Continued on Page 6)*

NOTICE

Philipstown Planning Board Site Visit – December 3, 2017

The Philipstown Planning Board will meet on Sunday, December 3, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. to inspect the following site:

Miller/Alltec Service Center – 1380 Route 9, Garrison, New York.



Divorce Litigation and Mediation

NORAH HART, ATTORNEY

Hart-Smart® Divorce

Streamlined Litigation & Expedited Settlements

Call for a Free Consultation • 212-897-5865

www.hart-smart.com • nhart@hart-smart.net

SOHO SALON

Voted “Best Salon” 5 years in a row

47 Chestnut Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516

845-265-2072

sohosalons.com

Gift Cards
Available Online

Cold Spring

Monroe

Chester

Warwick



GIVE TO LOCAL NONPROFITS ON

NEW YORK

GIVES DAY

#NYGIVESDAY

NOVEMBER 28, 2017

12AM - 11:59PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
NYGIVESDAY.ORG



Dan Aymar-Blair, one of the organizers of the Beacon People's Committee on Development, addresses the City Council.

Photo by J. Simms

Residents Question Beacon Zoning Proposals

Council suggests changes to Main Street, creekside

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon City Council on Nov. 20 held a public hearing on a slew of changes being proposed to the city's zoning codes, and while feedback was mixed on the details, lawmakers heard a familiar message from residents regarding development overall: slow down.

The council held several highly charged meetings over the summer before adopting a six-month building moratorium that ends in March. On Monday (Nov. 20), dozens of residents spoke during a 90-minute hearing on proposed guide-

lines for the Main Street and Fishkill Creek zoning districts, as well as related amendments to the city's comprehensive plan and zoning map.

The hearing — all four proposals were grouped into one hearing — will continue at the council's Dec. 4 meeting.

If adopted, the proposal to rezone portions of Main Street would extend the Central Main Street zone along the entire length of Main and into East Main Street, up to the Fountain Square area. Building height in the zone would be reduced to three stories, with a fourth allowed in some situations if set back from the street. Design standards would be tightened, as well.

The council had considered extending the Central Main zone north onto Fishkill Avenue but that appears to be off

(Continued on page 11)

After Outcry, Nelsonville Drops Secor Tower Offer (from Page 5)

guarantee companies freedom to use them to deliver all types of service everywhere, including inside cars on roads.

Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea advised the Nelsonville boards to be wary of Gaudioso's "compelling arguments." The lawyer "is paid to" make them, "as is every other 'suit' over there," Shea said, speaking of Gaudioso's associates from Homeland Towers, Verizon, AT&T and other firms. "Homeland Towers is in the business of putting up towers to generate profit and revenue." A tower in a place like Rockledge detracts from the town's scenic beauty "and if we compromise that, everything falls apart," Shea said. "Don't be fooled, be-

cause their job is to get this tower in. Our job is to protect what we hold dear."

Sandy Saunders, of Garrison, again proposed that the tower go on a property he owns on Brook Street. Gaudioso replied that it's in a commercial zone, where, under the Nelsonville village code, cell towers are banned.

Maria Marrison said the Rockledge tower would wreck the views from the Manitou School, which she established. "It's affecting the nature of my historic property, of my school. I urge you to say 'no,'" she told the boards.

"We refuse to be one of those villages" that acquiesces to telecommunications

giants, Healy Road homeowner Eliza Nagel informed the Homeland Towers delegation. "We will not be cowed by your threats of lawsuits."

"There are court cases out there that support our situation," said Bevan Harris, of Moffatt Road. At a time when the nation is badly fractured, he added, "we need to stay together as a community."

Philipstown Tower

For coverage of the tower proposed for Vineyard Road in Philipstown, see highlandscurrent.com.



Nelsonville resident Andrew Revkin makes a point during the Nov. 15 public hearing.

Photo by Ross Corsair

By appointment at
magazzino.art
2700 Route 9
Cold Spring, NY 10516
@magazzino

Giovanni Anselmo
Marco Bagnoli
Domenico Bianchi
Alighiero Boetti
Pier Paolo Calzolari

Luciano Fabro
Jannis Kounellis
Mario Merz
Marisa Merz
Giulio Paolini

Pino Pascali
Giuseppe Penone
Michelangelo Pistoletto
Remo Salvadori
Gilberto Zorio

MAGAZZINO
ITALIAN ART

The Calendar



William Speziale and Justin Roffman

Photos by Jim Mechalakos



Roisin Daly

A Curious Incident

Haldane to present play about seeing the world in unexpected ways

By Alison Rooney

For Martha Mechalakos, who directs the Haldane High School drama program, the process for selecting the repertory is straightforward.

"I think in a general way," she says. "Can I cast this? What are the technical demands — set, costumes, props, lighting, sound? Can we afford this? I never shy away from a challenge; in fact, I usually embrace it."

The challenge for the fall was producing *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, which will be performed at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 1, and Saturday, Dec. 2.

Adapted by Simon Stephens from a bestselling novel of the same name by Mark Haddon, the plot centers on a 15-year-old boy named Christopher who discovers his neighbor's dead dog and falls under suspicion of killing it. Because he appears to be in the autism/Asperger's spectrum (although this is never stated), his reactions are questioned because he doesn't always manifest "expected" behaviors.



Justin Roffman

The incident sets the boy off on an investigation, which is dominated by the difficulties he faces because of his inability to interpret situations and interactions. Eventually, the way he perceives the world aids him in many ways.

For Mechalakos, how Christopher navigates his plight is what got to her when she saw the play performed in London.

"Haldane has students on the autistic spectrum and I've had some of these students in productions," she says. "But I had very little understanding about the challenges these students face in the 'mainstream' and how they cope with the misperceptions and misunderstandings about having Asperger's or being on the spectrum. Experiencing this production gave me a lot of clarity regarding differences. And I really liked the idea of presenting it to the Haldane and Philipstown communities."

The two actors who play Christopher (the four leads are double cast, with one group for each performance) are sophomore Andrew Nachamkin and junior Justin Roffman. Both actors said they agree with the author's decision not to label Christopher.

"Because the word 'autism' is never spoken, the audience doesn't come in with preconceived notions of how Christopher will react," says Roffman. "His insights go far beyond everyone else's, actually. You see ideas filtered through him; you see the world as he does and these crazy ideas suddenly make sense."

Adds Nachamkin: "I've had friends who are on the spectrum, and each is so different from the others, so framing Christopher with a definition is wrong. It's more like, 'Look how amazing this kid is!'"

Both admit playing Christopher is a challenge. "You have to put yourself in a different head space," says Roffman. "It's a mix of understanding and pressure, and it requires a lot of thought as to how he might see things and his responses."

As an example of how fine-tuned the play is, Nachamkin notes that one line, "Mmm" is only three letters, "but we ran through that line in blocking maybe 15 times, because space, inflection, movement — it all has to be believable."

Roffman hopes the show influences social interaction among Haldane students. "At the high school, inclusivity is non-existent," he says. "Faculty and staff are engaged in it, but not all students. This play addresses this in a powerful way."

In the London production, which was imported to Broadway, a complicated grid, accompanied by light and



Lindsay Phillips

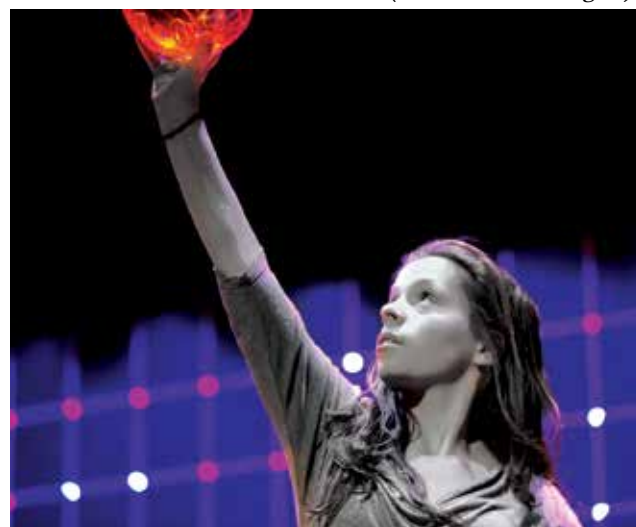
music, stood in for Christopher's agitation. Mechalakos says she wanted to emulate this.

"It was such a perfect concept," she says. "The protagonist is a math genius and prefers geometric shapes, so the set is a graphed black box with hundreds of LED lights at intersecting points. There will be projections and sound effects. We will be using music of minimalist composers such as Steve Reich with electronic alternative rock such as Sigur Rós."

This is an exacting task for stage manager Heather Winne because of the coordination necessary between the actors, lighting and music.

Haldane's technical wizards are led by Damian McDonald and Jim Mechalakos (Martha's husband). McDonald helped the students

(Continued on Page 9)



Chloe Schwartz

FRIDAY, NOV. 24

Candlelit Holiday Tours

4 – 7 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Stanley Clarke

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

SATURDAY, NOV. 25

Newburgh Last Saturday

newburghlastsaturdays.com

Small Business Saturday

Shop local for gifts.

50Roots Pop-Up

11 a.m. – 8 p.m. A Little Beacon Space
291 Main St., Beacon
845-566-0400 | 50roots.com

Holiday Boutique

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

Natural Dye Workshop

Noon – 3 p.m. Colorant
146 Main St., Beacon
nytextilelab.eventbrite.com

Folk Songs for the Holidays

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

Calendar Highlights

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

Candlelit Holiday Tours

4 – 7 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.

Alumni Basketball Game

5 p.m. Haldane School
15 Craigsides Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Brasiles Ensemble

7:30 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St., Cold Spring
845-265-5537 | chapelrestoration.org

SUNDAY, NOV. 26

50Roots Pop-Up

Noon – 5 p.m. A Little Beacon Space
See details under Saturday.

Holiday Boutique

1 – 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Saturday.

The Stawbs

7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café
379 Main St., Beacon
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

MONDAY, NOV. 27

Beacon City Council Workshop

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

TUESDAY, NOV. 28

Baby & Me (ages 0-2)

11 a.m. Howland Public Library
See details under Saturday.

Knit & Crochet Group

Noon. Continental Village Clubhouse
49 Highland Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Deborah Bigelow: Telephone Building Renovation

7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-0514 | beaconhistorical.org

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 29

Highland Photographers' Salon

7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

THURSDAY, NOV. 30

Senior Luncheon

1 p.m. Church on the Hill
245 Main St., Cold Spring | 845-265-2022

Creative Completion Workshop

6 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Book Discussion: A Room of One's Own

6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Saturday.

Paper Beads Workshop for Adults

6:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
See details under Saturday.

Dance Jam

7 p.m. Towne Crier Café
See details under Sunday.

Diamond Hotel (Folk Rock Noir)

8:30 p.m. | Dogwood Beacon
47 E. Main St, Beacon, NY 12508
dogwoodbeacon.com

FRIDAY, DEC. 1

Free HIV Testing

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Putnam Health Department
1 Geneva Road, Brewster
845-808-1390 x43150 | putnamcountyny.gov

Winter Weekend

10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Storm King Art Center
1 Museum Road, New Windsor
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Candlelit Holiday Tours

4 – 7 p.m. Boscobel
See details under Nov. 24

Reel Life Film Club: To Be Heard

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

Dragonfly Story Hour

7 p.m. Butterfield Library
See details under Thursday.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

7 p.m. Haldane Auditorium
See details under Saturday.

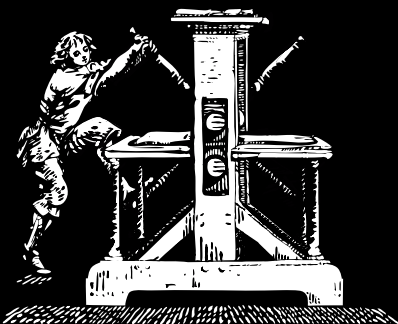
What Would Jesus Buy? (Documentary)

7 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
67 S. Randolph Ave., Poughkeepsie | uupok.org

Westchester All-Stars Christmas Concert for Veterans

7:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
See details under Nov. 24.

HIGHLAND STUDIO



PRINTMAKERS

FINE ART
PRINTING
SCANNING
LARGE FORMAT

HUDSON VALLEY'S
ARCHIVAL PRINTING
SINCE 1997

PICTURE FRAMING
print & map gallery

845-809-5174

31 STEPHANIE LANE
COLD SPRING, NY
www.thehighlandstudio.com

**Steel Magnolias**

Directed by Sally Mayes
Dec. 1-17 ~ Group discounts available

Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station.)
philipstowndepottheatre.org

iGuitar®
Workshop

- Custom Guitars
- iGuitar USB
- Factory Direct Sales
- Expert Repairs & Setups
- USB/Synth Upgrades
- Lessons

Patrick G. Cummings

290 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
845-809-5347 x226

www.iguitarworkshop.com | sales@iguitarworkshop.com



DOWNING
film center

19 Front St., Newburgh, NY
845-561-3686
www.downingfilmcenter.com

Now Showing**Lady Bird (R)**

"I wish I could convey to you just how thrilling this movie is."

~ A.O. Scott, *New York Times*

FRI & SAT 2:30 5:00 7:30

SUN 1:30 4:00 6:30

TUE 7:30, WED 7:30, THU 2:00 7:30

MONROE CINEMA @ TMACC

34 Millpond Parkway
Monroe, NY 10950 • 845.395.9055
www.monroecinema.com

Wonder (PG)

FRI & SAT 1:30 5:00 8:15

SUN 12:30 4:00 7:15

MON 4:00 7:15, TUE 7:15

WED 12:30 4:00 7:15, THU 7:15

Coco (PG)

FRI & SAT 1:15 4:45 8:00

SUN 12:15 3:45 7:00

MON 3:45 7:00, TUE 7:00

WED 12:15 3:45 7:00, THU 7:00

Justice League (PG13)

FRI & SAT 1:45 5:15 8:45

SUN 12:45 4:15 7:45

MON 4:15 7:30, TUE 7:30

WED 12:45 4:15 7:30, THU 7:30

Polar Express (G)

SAT 3:30 (In Studio 6)

A Curious Incident (from Page 7)

with the technical architecture and design. "The other night Quinn [his daughter] and George Leiter worked to solder the remaining connections on the LEDs for their initial lighting," he says. "There was no smoke! Now the real work begins, with the tech crew to complete the lighting design and programming to bring it all together with the cast."

Meanwhile, Jim Mechalakos tends to other components. "A good deal of video is needed to complement the minimalist set, all of it generated from scratch using special-effects software and many, many hours of computer processing."

"For instance, how do you convey to the audience that Christopher is overwhelmed by the signs he sees when he ventures into a train station alone for the first time? Or how he only feels safe imagining himself in space among the planets where nobody can touch him?"

"The videos are projected onto custom-built walls enclosing the set from the back and sides, requiring many projectors and software," he says. "For the *coup de grace*, the walls — thanks to Damian — are embedded with a perfect grid of more than 5,000 hand-soldered LEDs."

Tickets for *Curious Incident* at the door are \$12 for adults and \$5 for students; seniors get in free. It may not be suitable for children younger than fifth grade because of a disturbing image early in the play of a dog with a pitchfork stuck in its body.

Cast

Justin Roffman / Andrew Nachamkin (Christopher Boone)
 Freya Wood-Gallagher / Roisin Daly (Siobhan)
 William Speziale / Noah Bingham (Ed Boone)
 Lidija Slokenbergs / Lindsay Phillips (Judy Boone)
 Maddy Barkman (Mrs. Alexander, Posh Woman)
 Reid Sandlund (Reverend Peters, Station Policeman, Voice IV)
 Quinn Petkus (Roger, Duty Sergeant, Man With Socks)
 Abigail Duncan (Mrs. Shears, Voice I, Shopkeeper)
 Curtis Huber (Policeman, Drunk 2, Uncle Terry)
 Sophia Immorlica (Mrs. Gascoyne, Voice II)
 Chloe Schwartz (Mr. Wise, Drunk I, Voice VI, Woman on Train)
 Maja Maxwell (No. 40, Station Guard, Lady in the Street)
 Alison Nicholls (Punk Girl, Voice V)
 Sophia Kottman (London Policeman, Mr. Thompson)
 Arden Conybear (Information, Voice III)
 Aurora McKee (Woman Behind Counter)
 Heather Winne (Stage Manager)
 Jonas Petkus, Allie Sharply, Nick Farrell, Anna Rowe (Crew)
 Quinn McDonald (Lighting Technician)
 George Leiter (Video Technician)
 Theo Bates (Sound Technician)

Baby and Dog

This feature is designed as a counterweight to all the bad news in the world that weighs people down. We could share a photo of a baby, or a photo of a dog, but we are giving you both. How many newspapers can say that?

Christina Metrailler of Beacon shared this photo of her grandson, Jack, and her granddog, Duncan. If you have a photo of a baby and a dog, submit it for consideration to editor@highlandscurrent.com.




HOULIHAN LAWRENCE
SINCE 1888

Our Best Wishes For a Happy Thanksgiving



ARAS RIDGE
Spectacular modern architectural masterpiece enveloped by stunning 25 private acres.
Web# PO1396365 | Garrison | \$3,495,000



TRAILS END
Contemporary on 4.49 acres. Chef's kitchen, stone fireplaces. Pool. Six-stall barn/paddock.
Web# PO1397977 | Cold Spring | \$1,199,500



CUSTOM CONTEMPORARY
First floor master suite plus au pair suite. 3800 square feet. Gazebo. Three-car garage. On 7 acres.
Web# PO1383808 | Garrison | \$990,000



PERFECT RETREAT
Privacy on 3.52 acres. Chef's kitchen, guest suite, fireplace, French doors, slate patio.
Web# PO1428504 | Garrison | \$849,000



COMMUTER SPECIAL
Beautiful Split on 2.5 acres. Vaulted ceiling, fireplace, French doors, updated kitchen.
Web# PO1351997 | Garrison | \$515,000



MOVE IN READY
Remodeled home with wood floors and quartz countertops. Decks. Private lake community.
Web# PO1430610 | Garrison | \$259,999

COLD SPRING BROKERAGE 845.265.5500
HOULIHANLAWRENCE.COM

2017 Holiday Pottery show & sale thru Nov. 26



Featuring the work of 30+ regional ceramic artists & other lovingly-made crafts all thoughtfully priced. Member discount!

Open daily 10–5pm

Garrison Art Center
garrisonartcenter.org 845.424.3960

New York's Obamacare Alternative *(from Page 1)*

"Now, the pressure is going to continue for New York State to figure out how to provide health care in the face of losing a lot of federal support."

The state Assembly first passed the New York Health Act, a single-payer health bill in 1992, but the bill didn't make it through the Senate. It has been re-introduced each year since then, winning approval in the Assembly in 2015, 2016 and 2017. Last May the bill fell short in the Senate by a single vote.

However, with the ACA in the Trump administration's crosshairs, Assemblyman Frank Skartados, who represents Beacon, agrees that the pressure is on to give New Yorkers an alternative.

"New York State would lose as much as \$2 billion" if the ACA is dismantled, he said, adding that it would be a "terrible decision on the part of Washington." But, he said, "looking at what happened with the recent elections, it encourages me that something could happen in the [state] Senate this year."

The single-payer health care model would have New York create a payroll-tax-supported public fund to pay for residents' medical costs. All New Yorkers would be covered, and advocates say the program would slash prices by cutting out administrative and private insurance-related fees.

Although taxes would increase, proponents also contend that New York residents would save overall due to lowered

health care premiums.

The program would offer participants full medical, dental and vision coverage and the freedom to choose their own provider, Robbins said.

"It would be an improved version of Medicare for all residents of New York state that would guarantee that New Yorkers have access to high-quality health care that they could afford," she said. "We hope that elected officials of all stripes will recognize its benefits."

Therein lies the difficulty.

State Sen. Kemp Hannon, a Republican from Nassau County who is the chairman of the health committee, has said the Senate won't consider a single-payer bill until he gets authorization to do so from the Trump administration. Instead, Hannon has said he expects to monitor the activity in Washington, where he believes federal lawmakers are more likely to come up with an alternative to the ACA.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, meanwhile, has lashed out at the federal government, saying that Congress has put 350,000 children in the state at risk by letting the Children's Health Insurance Program expire at the end of September. In addition, Cuomo has said that New York stands to lose \$2.6 billion in funding from the federal Disproportionate Share Hospital program, which helps hospitals recoup the costs of caring for the uninsured.

As the legislative session draws closer,

Robbins says the time is right for New York to adopt its own system of health care, although it won't be easy, she cautions.

"We need to continue to create heat" on the state Legislature, she said. "It's clear that this is going to take a lot of grassroots pressure."

For information and to register for health insurance through the Affordable Care Act, visit nystateofhealth.ny.gov.

The Howland Public Library in Beacon is also offering residents free help from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every Friday through Jan. 26. Certified navigators from the Maternal-Infant Services Network will be available to help guide participants through the health care enrollment process.

To schedule an appointment, call MISN at 1-800-453-4666.

Humane Society Provides Update

More than 350 pets adopted last year

By Holly Crocco

Stray and abandoned pets that find themselves at Putnam Humane Society are in good hands, according to the organization's president, Michele Dugan, who on Nov. 15 updated the county legislature on its work.

According to Dugan, most animals that come to the shelter are surrendered by their owners or are strays. In 2016, the society cared for 571 dogs and cats, of which 104 were reunited with their owners and 362 were adopted or placed in foster care.

"They all get adopted," said Dugan. "We're a no-kill facility." Only animals that are terminally ill and suffering, or those that are so behaviorally distraught no one can get near them, are put down. "But that hasn't happened," she said.

Dugan said that pet owners cannot drop dogs at the door but must make an appointment to have the animal evaluated. "We don't have any dogs that are a threat or that are going to hurt anybody," said Dugan.

While some pets are adopted right away, others stay for years. (Like many shelters, the Putnam Humane Society has trouble finding homes for pit-bulls, which are perceived as dangerous. Of the 24 dogs listed on its website as available for adoption, 18 are pitbulls or pitbull mixes.)

"People think, 'That's horrible

they're living in cages,'" but that's not the case, said Dugan. The Putnam Humane Society has 48 indoor/outdoor runs, and another 75 outdoor pens. The indoor pens have raised beds and toys, and staff leave music playing when they leave for the night. If the weather is good, the chutes stay open so the dogs can roam in and out, but in the cold weather the chutes are closed and the heat

(To next page)



Four dogs available for adoption at the Putnam Humane Society: From top, Wallace, Sam, Leroy, Elvis Photos provided



Mount Saint Mary College

EIGHTH ANNUAL GALA RECEPTION

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2017 • 6 P.M.

Kaplan Family Mathematics, Science & Technology Center
Mount Saint Mary College
330 Powell Avenue, Newburgh, New York

Congratulations to this year's recipients of the Joseph A. Bonura Award for Leadership Excellence!

Rick Brownell,
*Owner and President of
Freedom Ford Inc.*



Michael TJ McCormack,
*Principal Architect and
Founding Partner of Liscum
McCormack VanVoorhis LLP*



Nancy Rossi Brownell,
*Vice President of Putnam Community
Foundations of the Hudson Valley*



FOR TICKETS AND SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION:
Visit www.msmc.edu/gala or call 845-569-3609

Mouths to Feed

Proud Rolls

By Celia Barbour

There isn't a word for what I am not. *Baker* comes close, though I bake plenty: cookies and cakes, muffins, scones, pies, tarts and more. What I don't bake, however, is bread.

This is not a small crack in an otherwise unblemished shell of expertise. This is not like saying, "I'm not particularly good at *clafoutis*," or "I've never had much success with *mille feuille*." Bread is humankind's fundamental foodstuff, synonymous with life itself. Bread matters.

Moreover, I revere bread bakers, the undisputed shamans of every kitchen I've

ever worked in. Wise, graceful, efficient, they have an intuitive connection with their sourdough starters or *pouliches*; can assess their doughs' feelings about a sudden downpour or a chilly morning the way a mother knows when her infant needs a nap. And they deliver. I've asked bakers at 8 a.m. if they might consider — maybe, please? — making some anadama or challah for supper, or — would you mind? — 200 pitas, 120 slices of focaccia? And then looked up from my cutting board a half-hour later to find them clapping the flour from their hands and announcing they'd be back around 2 to form the loaves.

I've longed to be them. Indeed, there was a time during my youth when following in such footsteps seemed not just appealing but essential. This was the era when Wonder Bread reigned supreme. The only way to escape it was via Pepperidge Farm, and the only way to escape Pepperidge Farm was to bake



A warm dinner roll with a pat of butter

Photo by C. Barbour

Parker House-style Dinner Rolls

Makes 16-20

1 cup plus 2 tablespoons milk	3 cups all-purpose flour
1 egg	½ cup instant mashed potato flakes
3 tablespoons butter, plus 3	1 package (2 ½ teaspoons) instant yeast
tablespoons more for brushing on	¼ cup sugar
rolls	1½ teaspoons salt

1. In a saucepan, gently heat the milk just to baby-bath temperature (about 105 degrees). Whisk in the egg and 3 tablespoons butter.
2. Transfer the milk mixture to a large bowl, add the remaining ingredients (except the butter for brushing) and stir until blended. Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured surface and knead until smooth and pliable, about 12 minutes.
3. Place the dough in a lightly greased bowl, cover with a cloth, and place in a warm spot to rise, about 1 ½ to 2 hours (the exact time will depend on the warmth of your kitchen).
4. Because of its richness, this dough doesn't rise like mad; don't worry if it's barely doubled in size.
5. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Pull a lime-size piece of dough off the main bulk and roll it into a ball, folding any raggedy bits to the bottom and tucking them under to create a smooth top surface. Place on a lightly greased baking sheet. Continue rolling and smoothing dough balls, placing them roughly an inch apart. When finished, cover dough balls with a cloth and return to a warm spot to rise again, 45 minutes to an hour.
6. Melt the remaining 3 tablespoons butter and brush on rolls' surfaces. Place rolls in the oven and bake for 20 to 25 minutes, or until golden brown.

bread yourself. Bread, in other words, was squishy and bland and wrapped in plastic unless you took it upon yourself to make it otherwise.

That era lasted a decade, tops, and then suddenly amazing bread was everywhere — not just at farmer's markets and hipster *boulangeries* but in grocery stores. Crusty, complex bread born of *pouliches* that had known great love; stunning loaves that had not just been baked in brick ovens, but actually, apparently, schooled by fire in the wisdom of the ancients.

What was \$7 for a loaf like that — a split-top ash-floured beauty I could never replicate at home?

Still, I was not free from longing to transform myself into a bread-baking goddess. I actually adopted a sourdough starter on a few occasions, and showed it more love than I'd ever showered on any chia pet or sea monkey. From it, I created some marvelous, impressive loaves. But after a month or two, I always let my starter die. It didn't make sense — the time and care required by that little bowl of bub-

bly goo. My family eats two or three loaves of bread a week, and, frankly, they don't always want their PB&Js to be prepared on bread that is more complex, crusty and wise than they are.

And so —

And so, I came to realize that I probably don't care all that much about becoming a bread baker. Excellent uber-bread was easy to find, and I made peace with paying for it.

Recently, however, it has occurred to me that, while complex bread might not be worth the effort and brick-oven-building skills to master, I do kind of miss simple bread: Parker House rolls, dinner rolls, hamburger buns. Soft, golden utterly unsophisticated carbohydrate puffs that would be insulted to be called *artisanal*. Moreover, that these are exactly the kinds of bread for which freshness and homeliness is a huge surprise. For our post-Thanksgiving massive-family-gathering feast this year, I'm making Parker House rolls. I don't expect everyone to be awed, but that's the point. I just want them to think, *Oh, how nice. Warm rolls.*

Humane Society (From previous page)

is turned on.

Dugan said that staff and volunteers constantly walk and play with the dogs. "It's always busy with people, but we can always use more," she said.

In addition, an exercise pen with agility equipment keeps the animals fit. "They're living an active life," said Dugan.

There's also a trainer that visits the shelter each Saturday for dogs that need work on their behavior.

PHS also handles cats, and last year dealt with more than 70 feral animals through its Trap, Neuter and Return program. She said as more residents become aware of the program, they are trapping feral cats and bringing them to be spayed

or neutered, which the shelter pays for. After the cats are fixed and receive a flea treatment, they have to be picked up by whomever brought them in to be released.

Although the county provides about \$260,000 for the shelter annually, it has a budget of \$600,000. The difference is raised through donations, Dugan said.

Ginny Nacerino (R-Patterson) thanked

the Humane Society staff and volunteers. "We love our furry children and it's just a wonderful thing that you take such good care of them," she said.

The Putnam Humane Society is located at 68 Old Route 6 in Carmel. It is open daily from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, visit puthumane.org.

Residents Question Beacon Zoning Proposals (from Page 6)

the table. However, speakers questioned whether extending the zone would cause the east and west ends of Main Street to lose their unique character, too.

"I would want to see very, very specific [regulations], so anybody who comes to develop knows exactly what to expect. This is what's allowed — that's it," said Elaine Ciaccio.

Representatives from the Howland Cultural Center, which is located at 477 Main, cautioned that historic districts could suffer as well. "You do not improve history by radically altering a historic cityscape,"

said Eleni Smolen, reading a letter from Craig Wolf, the president of the center's board.

Buildings in Fishkill Creek's development zone would be capped at three stories. Perhaps the most significant changes for the creekside zone are proposals that new developments must devote 25 percent of their space to non-residential uses, and that the city begin calculating parcels' allowable density on buildable acreage.

The latter change would mean that steep slopes and other unbuildable, environmentally sensitive land would not be considered

when calculating density on a property.

Several speakers suggested that new development along the creek should be predominantly, if not completely, commercial.

Toward the end of the hearing, real estate broker Daniel Aubry offered a contrarian viewpoint, saying that people concerned about overdevelopment could stop worrying.

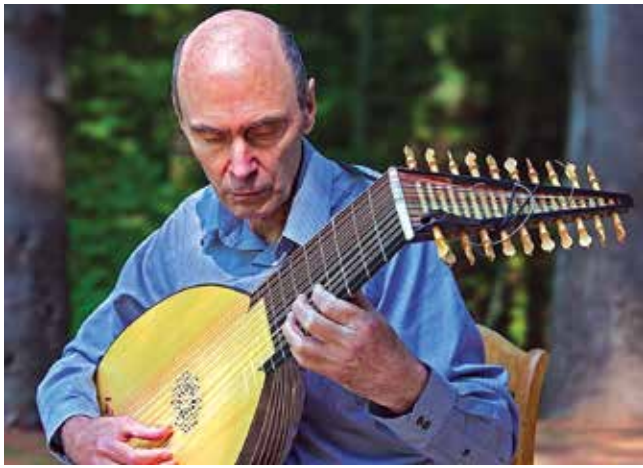
"Developers have to invest a lot of money to do what they do. They hate uncertainty, and we have created an unsustainable level of uncertainty," he said. "You need not worry about them disturbing Beacon any more. After the 1,000 units that have been approved [are built], it will

be preserved in amber."

But the tone for the evening was set by the first speaker, Samantha Brittain, who asked the 75-plus audience members to stand if they opposed four-story buildings on Main Street — referring to the towering building under construction at 344 Main, which has become a lightning rod for residents' discontent with development.

"Your constituents are speaking to you," she told the council as the majority of the audience rose. "They do not want any more 344 Main Streets."

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Richard Kolb, shown playing a French lute, will be among the performers at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring on Dec. 3.

Photo provided

Final Concert for Season

Baroque ensemble in Cold Spring

The Labyrinth Baroque Ensemble will perform a free concert of arias and cantatas by Barbara Strozzi, a 17th-century Italian singer and composer, at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 3, at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring. It will be the final concert of the 2017 Sunday Music Series.

The performers are Sian Ricketts (soprano), Tracy Cowart (mezzo-soprano), Rachel Evans and Boel Gridholm (violins), Hsuan-Wen Chen (harpsichord) and Richard Kolb (theorbo and archlute).

Vegetarian Take-Out

Go-Go Pops opens new restaurant

Lynn and Greg Miller, co-owners of Go-Go Pops in Cold Spring, have opened a mostly vegetarian take-out restaurant at 1289 Route 9 in Wappingers Falls. The menu at Veggie Go-Go includes salads, hot bowls, bean burgers, soups, smoothies and vegetarian square pies with locally grown grains, greens and proteins.

Second-Wave Feminism

Documentary examines movement

Sandy Galef, who represents Philip-Stown in the state Assembly, on Tuesday, Dec. 5, will host a free screening at the Ossining Public Library of the 2014 documentary *She's Beautiful When She's Angry*, which examines what has been described as the "second wave" of the feminist movement.

Following the film, which begins at 6:30 p.m., three generations of one family — Dru Van Hagel, Ginny Loughlin and Emily Loughlin — will discuss their experiences.



A scene from *She's Beautiful When She's Angry*, a documentary that will be shown in Ossining on Dec. 5

Photo provided

Craft Showcase

Putnam Arts Council hosts annual sale

The work of more than 50 artists and artisans will be featured at a craft showcase and sale hosted by the Putnam Arts Council from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2. It continues daily through



The Putnam Arts Council craft show and sale that begins in Mahopac on Dec. 2 will include handmade birdhouses.

Dec. 10. The sale takes place at the Belle Levine Art Center, 521 Kennicut Hill Road, in Mahopac.

Donate a Coat

Knights of Columbus begin drive

The Cold Spring chapter of the Knights of Columbus is holding its annual coat drive. Starting Dec. 1, bins will be located in the lobbies of the Haldane middle and high schools and at the Garrison School. The Knights have so far provided more than 3,000 coats to Putnam County residents.

Free HIV, Hep C Testing

Putnam marks World AIDS Day

The Putnam County Health Department will offer free HIV and Hepatitis C testing at its offices at 1 Geneva Road in Brewster from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 1, which is World AIDS Day. Results are available in 20 minutes. Early treatment can make a difference in the quality and length of a person's life. Call 845-808-1390.

Jazz and Improv

Butterfield to host Dec. 2 concert

A concert at the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2, will

(Continued on next page)

SEE HOW MUCH YOU COULD SAVE



Our agency will show you plenty of ways to save money — with the AARP® Auto & Home Insurance Program from The Hartford.

Call us, your local Hartford independent agency, today for a FREE, no-obligation quote.



Gerelli Insurance Agency, Inc.

Post Office Box 362
23 Lady Blue Devil Lane
Cold Spring, NY 10516

(845)265-2220

Gregg@Gerelli-Insurance.com
www.Gerelli-Insurance.com

PLA034-1 The AARP Automobile & Homeowners Insurance Program from The Hartford is underwritten by Hartford Fire Insurance Company and its affiliates, One Hartford Plaza, Hartford CT 06155. CA license number 5152. In Washington, the Auto Program is underwritten by Trumbull Insurance Company. The Home Program is underwritten by Hartford Underwriters Insurance Company. AARP does not employ or endorse agents or brokers. AARP and its affiliates are not insurers. Paid endorsement. The Hartford pays royalty fees to AARP for the use of its intellectual property. These fees are used for the general purposes of AARP. AARP membership is required for Program eligibility in most states. Applicants are individually underwritten and some may not qualify. Specific features, credits, and discounts may vary and may not be available in all states in accordance with state filings and applicable law. You have the option of purchasing a policy directly from The Hartford. Your price, however, could vary, and you will not have the advice, counsel or services of your independent agent.

DARMAN

CONSTRUCTION, LLC

General Contracting

(845) 204-5428

Building the future. Restoring the past.

- Additions
- Renovations
- Framing
- Decks
- Siding
- Doors
- Windows and more

Visit us on Facebook, and on the web at
DarmanConstruction.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS (from previous page)

include works by Shakespeare set to music, as well as jazz and blues by pianist Daniel Kelly and vocalist Frederick Johnson.

See butterfieldlibrary.org.

Spiritual Teachings

Author to read at Garrison Institute

Mark Nepo will read from his book *The Way Under the Way: The Place of True Meeting* at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 1, at the Garrison Institute, before guiding participants on a personal journey of poetry, story, journaling and dialogue. To RSVP for the free event, call 845-424-4800 or email events@garrisoninstitute.org.

Beacon

American-Made Gifts

Pop-up shop through Nov. 26

An online retailer based in Newburgh, 50Roots, which specializes in products made in America, will create a pop-up shop at A Little Beacon Space on Saturday, Nov. 25, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., and on Sunday, Nov. 26, from noon to 5 p.m. There will be live music and food and drinks on Saturday at 5 p.m.

Connecting Through Film

Middle-school film club continues at Howland

The Reel Life Film Club, a series for middle school students, continues at the Howland Public Library in Beacon at



Teenager Anthony Pittman. Pittman's poetry is featured in the documentary *To Be Heard*, which will be shown on Dec. 1 at the Howland Public Library.

Photo by Edwin Martinez

6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 1, with a screening of the 2010 documentary *To Be Heard*.

The film follows teens in the South Bronx who begin writing poetry as a life-changing experience. One of the directors, Amy Sultan, will take questions after the screening, and pizza will be served. The series is a joint program of the Butterfield, Desmond-Fish and Howland libraries. To RSVP, email community@beaconlibrary.org.

The Telephone Building

Conservator will discuss rehab work

Deborah Bigelow, an art conservator and building owner, will discuss the renovation of the last 25 years of the Telephone Building on Main Street in Beacon (at right), as well as her work as a master gilder. The Beacon Historical Society is hosting the free event at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 28, at the Howland Cultural Center.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

Sports

First Winter Varsity Games

Haldane

Ice Hockey (with Henry Hudson) vs. Nyack, Nov. 28

Wrestling (with Putnam Valley) at Horace Greeley, Dec. 2

Girls' Basketball at Bronxville, Dec. 5

Boys' Basketball at Dobbs Ferry, Dec. 7

Indoor Track at Armory meet, Dec. 9

Beacon

Bowling at East Fishkill, Nov. 29

Wrestling at Rye tournament, Dec. 2

Boys' Swimming at Harrison, Dec. 4

Girls' Basketball at Walter Panas, Dec. 5

Boys' Basketball at Putnam Valley, Dec. 6



On Nov. 28 at the Howland Cultural Center, Deborah Bigelow will discuss the renovation of the Telephone Building on Main Street in Beacon.

Photo by Deborah Bigelow

St. Mary's Raffle Winner



Robert Langley, Putnam County sheriff-elect, selects the winning name for the final gift basket raffled off to support St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Cold Spring. The winner was Wendy Ricottilli of Beacon. Assisting with the drawing, at left, is Giannina Capello of Cold Spring, and at right is Leonora Burton of The Country Goose, who created and donated the baskets.

Photo provided

BEACON FINE ART PRINTING

SPECIALIZING IN FINE ART • LARGE FORMAT • DISPLAY PRINTING

RETOUCHING • IMAGE CAPTURE • MOUNTING

914.522.4736

BEACONFINEARTPRINTING.COM

Dain's Sons Co.

QUALITY LUMBER & BUILDING MATERIALS

Since 1848

LUMBER • DOORS • WINDOWS
DECKING • FLOORING • ROOFING
SIDING • HARDWARE • PAINTS
KITCHEN CABINETS
OUTDOOR LIVING AREAS
CUSTOM SAWMILLING & DRYING
LIVE EDGE SLABS • CUSTOM BEAMS

Visit our 2000 sq. ft. Deck Display open 24/7 and new Outdoor Living Area

(914) 737-2000

2 N. WATER STREET
PEEKSKILL, NY

MON-FRI 7:30 - 4:30
SAT 8 - 1

WWW.DAINSLUMBER.COM

C.&E. Paint Supply, Inc.

Tools • Hardware • Plumbing & Electrical Supplies

Benjamin Moore® Paints

Monday - Thursday 8 - 5:30
Friday & Saturday 8 - 5
Tel. 845.265.3126
158 Main Street • Cold Spring, NY 10516

Tim Brennan General Contractor

From Remodeling to New Construction
We have been Building Right for Over 40 Years

845-265-4004 Lic# PC 58 brennanbuilt.com

Looking Back in Philipstown *(from Page 16)*

presented to the 1937 Haldane grad by the commander of the U.S. Pacific fleet.

50 Years Ago (1967)

Republicans swept the Philipstown elections, with Supervisor Jeremiah Downey winning re-election by 302 votes over Joseph Percacciolo Jr.

The home at 11 Parrott Street had new owners: a couple from Long Island and their five children. Known as Casa-bella, the home was built in 1840 and was most recently owned by Jacob Glick, who had lived there since 1926.

The First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown laid the cornerstone for its new Christian education addition.

Gov. Nelson Rockefeller announced the creation of a 3,000-acre preserve between Cold Spring and Beacon to be known as the Hudson Highlands State Park. The state, in partnership with a conservation group, Jackson Hole Preserve, funded largely by the Rockefeller family, paid \$3 million for the land.

25 Years Ago (November 1992)

Two Cold Spring women were killed when a 24-year-old man rounded a curve on Route 9 near Clove Road, lost control and hit their vehicle head-on. Frances Morse, 70, and Gertrude Morse, 77, sisters-in-law, died at the scene. The other driver, who was charged with driving

while intoxicated, suffered minor injuries.

A Yorktown Heights man was charged with petit larceny after he was caught taking sections of Sunday papers at delis in Cold Spring and Philipstown to assemble into complete papers to resell. He apparently had been at it for nearly a year before being caught by sheriff's deputies.

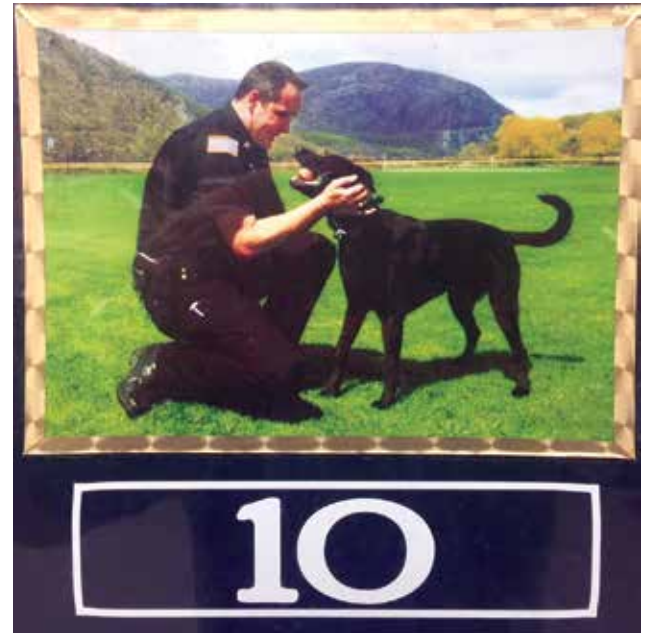
The Philipstown Rod & Gun Club was told by the owner of the property to close its range on Fishkill Road, which had been in operation since 1949. The owner said he had been advised to not allow shooting or hunting unless the club secured \$10 million in insurance. The club canceled two turkey shoots.

About 200 people showed up at a Town Board meeting to protest a zoning change they believed was designed to allow for the construction of Daytop Village, a drug-addiction treatment facility on the Capuchin site on Route 9D. County Legislator Jerome Goldberg expressed concern about the potential "concentration of felons" at the site.

10 Years Ago (November 2007)

Sgt. Darrell Burris, 37, who directed the Cold Spring Police Department, died in a traffic accident in Carmel. More than 500 people, including many police officers from nearby departments, attended his funeral. His K-9, Duncan, also was there.

The Philipstown Town Board continued a discussion of



Detail from a memorial to Sgt. Burris at Village Hall

whether to pave a section of Old Albany Post Road near Old West Point Road. Robert Dee told the board the April storm that damaged the road left a crater in his driveway that cost \$9,000 to repair. "I'm all for history, but consider this my resignation from the Old Road Society," he said.

S E R V I C E D I R E C T O R Y

Tim D'Acquisto
Grace Kennedy

BUSTER LEVI
GALLERY

121 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516
WWW.BUSTERLEVIGALLERY.COM

Cold Spring Physical Therapy PC
John R. Astrab PT, DPT, OCS, MS, CSCS

Medicare, United Health Care, Railroad, Tri-Care, No-Fault, Workers Compensation Insurance Plans Accepted

1760 South Route 9 • Garrison NY 10524
845.424.6422
johnastrab@coldspringnypt.com
coldspringnypt.com

Rene Schrock
845-401-6680

Hound Haven
Dog Walking & Pet Sitting

www.houndhavenbeacon.com

The HIGHLANDS
Current

**Advertise your business here
starting at \$18.**
Contact ads@highlandscurrent.com.



Pamela Petkanas, LCSW
Licensed Psychotherapist

Cold Spring Healing Arts
6 Marion Ave, Cold Spring, NY 10516
Phone: 908-230-8131
ppetkanas@gmail.com
Trained in DBT, Specializing in
Children, Adolescents, Young Adults,
Adults and Families

Dr. K Imported Cars Service & Repair

"Quality Care"



15 Tioranda Ave., Beacon, NY • 845.838.0717

Lynne Ward, LCSW
Licensed Psychotherapist

Individuals • Couples • Adolescents • Children
Psychotherapy and Divorce Mediation
Addiction Counseling

75 Main Street lynneward99@gmail.com
Cold Spring, NY 10516 (917) 597-6905



ChristineAshburnWeddings.com

VILLANOVA PLUMBING & HEATING

Proudly serving the Hudson Valley for over 30 years

Repairs • Renovations
Kitchens • Baths

No Job too Small or too Big

LICENSED • BONDED
• INSURED

Call 845.222.7898
ANYTIME

SHEPHERD AND GREY
daycare and guesthouse

personalized pet boarding,
daycare, and transportation

20 ridgewood road
cold spring, new york 10516
business phone: 845-642-0002
info@shepherdandgrey.com
www.shepherdandgrey.com

Mail Delivery Available

\$20 per year
highlandscurrent.com/delivery

Or send check to
161 Main St.
Cold Spring, NY 10516

architecture & consulting

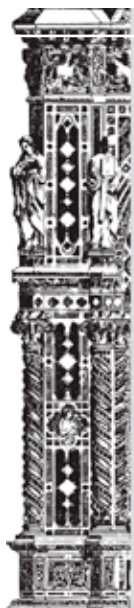
residential & commercial

new construction & renovation

ethan@thefiguregroundstudio.com
845.287.4889
cold spring, ny

The Figure Ground
studio

Shop Local!



ARCHIPELAGO AT HOME

Gifts † Wine Charms † Picnic Time † Marble Coasters
† Bath Gels † Table Top † Glass Ware † Wine Glasses
† Champagne Flutes † Martini Sets † Accessories †
Lighting † Candles † Aromatherapy † Furnishings †
Wall Tiles † Mirrors † Clocks † Tapestries † Kitchen
† Table Cloths † Spoon Rests † Pot Racks † Eclectics
† Garden † Torches † Sprinklers † Patio

119 MAIN STREET COLD SPRING, NY
845.265.3992



BEACON, NEW YORK artisan wine shop *for the holidays*

where food meets its match

180 main street / beacon, ny 12508
845.440.6923 / monday-saturday 10-7 / sunday 12-5
www.artisanwineshop.com

3-Time Winner: Best of Hudson Valley Magazine

Highland Baskets

One-stop shopping for the
The Country
GOOSE
entire family

115 Main St.,
Cold Spring, NY
845.265.2122

highlandbaskets.com

Unique gifts, games, puzzles,
and wooden toys for the whole family
Featuring many Eco-Friendly
Made in USA products

The Gift Hut

Open Friday - Sunday,
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
86 Main Street,
Cold Spring, NY 10516

Gifhut06@aim.com
Phone 845.297.3786

Hudson Beach Glass

Fine handmade art glass featuring internationally renowned artists

LOCALLY BLOWN

162 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508 845 440-0068
Open daily 10AM - 6PM, Sunday 11AM - 6PM
www.hudsonbeachglass.com

Kringle's Christmas House

134 Main Street
Beacon NY 12508
845-765-0444

[f](#) Follow us on Facebook

work:shop winter market

twenty artisans and a café

Saturday, Dec 9 10am - 6pm Sunday, Dec 10 11am - 5pm

workshopwintermarket.com

578 Main Street Beacon, NY 12508

wickham
solid wood studio

BEACON, NEW YORK
artisan wine shop

Baker's
BUTCHER

Beacon
entry

DOGWOOD

ELLA'S BELLAS

Homegrown
foods

HUDSON VALLEY BREWERY

KS
KITCHEN SINK
FOOD & DRINK

MOD
FOOD & DRINK

MORE
GOOD
BEACON NY

Quinn's

UTENSIL

THE VALLEY
Table

Looking Back in Philipstown

150 Years Ago (November 1867)

A number of residents complained that the half-starved goats in town were eating their shrubbery.

Mrs. Marshall, who owns the saloon next to the Methodist Church on Main Street, announced she was offering oysters on the half shell, fried or stewed. The following week, Michael Tevlin of the Putnam County House at Main and Garden announced that he, too, had oysters.



Union Church

In a note to readers, the new owners of *The Recorder* of Cold Spring said they would provide a newspaper of literature and intelligence "that every man may take home to his wife and children, confident that nothing will be found within its columns to unsettle the faith in which they have been educated, or to bring a blush to the cheek of the most sensitive and refined."

The first services were held at the Union Church at McKeel's Corner, which opened in September. It also was to be used for public meetings as the schoolhouse was too small.

James Camp, while driving to Garrison's, turned a corner too fast and was thrown from his wagon, spraining an ankle.

A number of wood dealers in the village were concerned because George Robinson of Garrison had skedaddled with quite heavy obligations to them.

The December issues of *Harper's*, *Godey's*, *Leslie's Gazette of Fashions*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Our Young Folks* and the *Phrenological Journal* arrived at the News Depot.

Flora Nichols, 54, of Nelsonville, died



A fashion plate from the November 1867 issue of *Godey's*

Nov. 26, four hours before her daughter, Flora Mosier, 22, died in Fishkill. Both were members of the Methodist Church.

100 Years Ago (November 1917)

Local ministers, in a full-page ad promoting a ballot measure to ban liquor sales in Cold Spring, reprinted a letter from the vice president of General Electric, who said its management would prefer to see fewer saloons in the village and, ideally, none.

75 Years Ago (November 1942)

Putnam County Sheriff Allen Gilbert, a Republican, won re-election by 479 votes, of 8,500 cast.

Harry Wagner, 54, a former secretary to

the mayor of Newark, plunged to his death from the Indian Brook Bridge on Route 9D. The New Jersey man was apparently despondent over his lack of work. While driving with his brother-in-law over the bridge, Wagner asked him to stop, got out and jumped.

Ensign Philip J. Rusk, a 23-year-old Navy fighter pilot based on the U.S.S. Hornet, was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his heroism during the Battle of Midway. It was (to Page 14)



Philip J. Rusk

TOWNECRIER CAFE

SINCE 1972

Sat. & Sun. 10 a.m. brunch/dinner
Mon. - Fri. 4 p.m., Closed Tuesday

Fri., 11/24 7:00 p.m.
Jenny Leigh Miller - Free

Fri., 11/24 8:30 p.m.
A Celtic Thanksgiving
Joanie Madden & Mary
Coogan (of Cherish the
Ladies) & guests

Sat., 11/25 6:00 p.m.
Miss Leading the Blind - Free

Sat., 11/25 8:30 p.m.
**Chieli Minucci
& Special EFX**

Sun., 11/26 7:30 p.m.
Electric Straws

Thurs., 11/30 7:00 p.m.
Calling All Poets

Thurs., 11/30 7:00 p.m.
Dance Jam

"A gem ... They take their
food seriously." ~ *NY Times*

Fri., 12/1 8:30 p.m.
**Bruce Katz
Tad Robinson**

Sat., 12/2 11:00 a.m.
Breakfast with Santa

Sat., 12/2 8:30 p.m.
The Electric Gypsies

Sun., 12/3 7:30 p.m.
**'Hard Hitting Songs'
50th anniversary**

Thurs., 12/7 7:30 p.m.
Tony Trischka Band

Bob Dylan Tribute

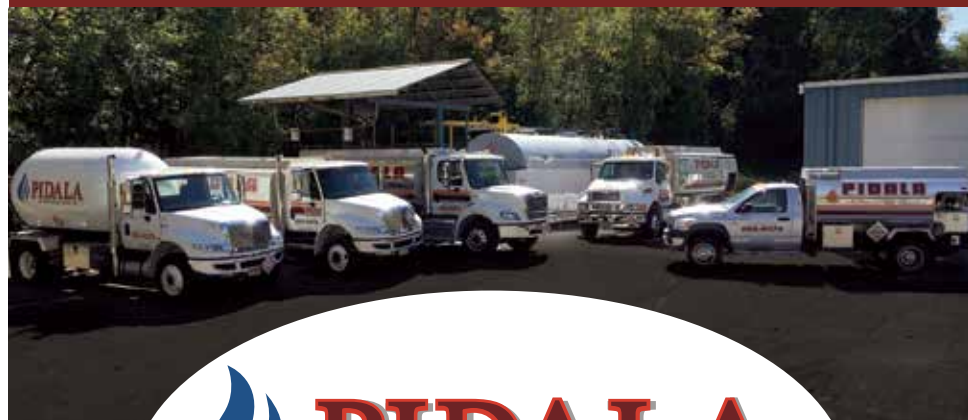
Fri., 12/8 7:00 p.m.
Lucky Luna - Free

Fri., 12/8 8:30 p.m.

**The McKrells
Christmas Show**

379 Main St., Beacon • townecrier.com • 845.855.1300

PIDALA OIL CO. IS FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED,
SERVICING THE COLD SPRING, GARRISON AND
SURROUNDING AREAS FOR NEARLY FOUR DECADES.



PIDALA
OIL CO., INC.
OIL HEAT • PROPANE • DIESEL FUEL

3524 ROUTE 9 | PO BOX 249
COLD SPRING, NY

- FULL SERVICE COMPANY -

Our fleet of trucks can easily fulfill fuel orders of any amount,
from small to large bulk deliveries.

PIDALAOIL.COM | 845.265.2073

Credit and debit cards accepted

