

The HIGHLANDS Current

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FEBRUARY 2, 2018

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What the Governor Wants

Budget proposal takes on opioids, environment, consolidation

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Gov. Andrew Cuomo's latest budget and policy proposals call for increased funding to fight the opioid crisis, tax savings through local consolidation, and more attention to education and infrastructure upgrades, including expansion of Stewart International Airport in Newburgh and a new Hudson Line station at Woodbury Common.

The governor outlined his agenda in his State of the (Continued on Page 7)



Gov. Andrew Cuomo delivers his State of the State Address in Albany on Jan. 3.

Photo by Mike Groll/Governor's Office



EAGLES RETURN – A bald eagle rests on ice in the Hudson near Stony Point. With luck, more of these majestic hunters will be visible during the 14th annual Teatown Hudson River Eaglefest on Saturday, Feb. 10, at Croton Point Park. See teatown.org/events/eaglefest. Boscobel in Garrison will again host one of the free viewing sites.

Photo by Chuck Hantiss

Development Being Considered for Old Texaco Site Near Beacon

If residential, could impact city schools

By Jeff Simms

A working group comprised of residents, local officials and consultants will share its recommenda-

tions at a public forum in March for the redevelopment of the former Texaco Research Center, known as Glenham Mills, just outside Beacon.

The group has been considering plans for the 153-acre site in the Fishkill hamlet of Glenham for several years, but as a Jan. 31 work session showed, there's still uncertainty about how much development is appropriate.

If there's a residential component to the project, it could affect the Beacon City School District, which includes Glenham Elementary School. Currently at least 143 students who live in Fishkill attend Beacon schools, many of them at the elementary school.

"I'm not anti-development, but development does not come without its own impact," said Meredith Heuer, a member of the Beacon school board who serves on the panel studying the project. "It's important to measure it properly, or there will be a significant cost if it's not done right."

Texaco purchased the site in 1931, calling it the Beacon Laboratories. As it had in the 19th century, when the property was home to wood and saw mills, the site functioned as a self-contained community, housing (Continued on Page 8)

Flu Bug Doubles Down

State allows pharmacists to vaccinate minors

By Chip Rowe

As a particularly nasty flu virus spreads across the state and country, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo on Jan. 25 signed an executive order to allow pharmacists to administer vaccines to children and teenagers.

Drug World in Cold Spring, which had been vaccinating anyone age 19 and older, announced it will vaccinate anyone age 4 and older (call 845-265-6352), and Rite-Aid in Beacon will vaccinate anyone age 5 and older. For other retailers offering shots, see vaccinefinder.org.

The influenza A strain known as H3N2 is the most prevalent type of flu circulating in the U.S. In Putnam, there have been 109 confirmed cases of Influenza A and 63 of Influenza B as of Jan. 29, according to the Department of Health, including 10 cases of A and two cases of B in Philipstown. Dutchess County recorded 273 cases of A and 27 of B through Jan. 20.

During the week ending Jan. 27, nearly 11,683 cases of the flu were confirmed by lab tests statewide, a 50 percent increase over the previous week, while 2,221 people were hospitalized, a 21 percent increase. Both were the highest weekly numbers since reporting began in 2004.

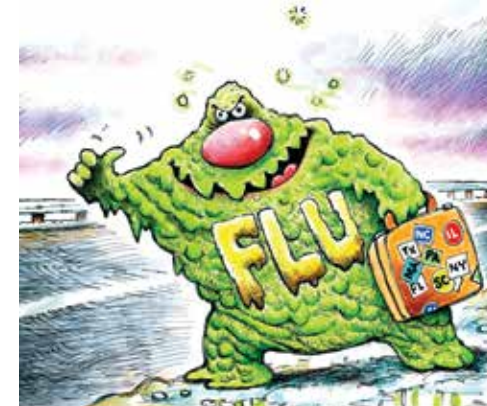
Putnam and Dutchess counties have so far not been hit as hard as Westchester or some western counties. Through Jan. 20, the infection rate in Dutchess, was 122 per 100,000 residents, according to the state Department of Health. In Putnam there have been 97 cases per 100,000, while Westchester has had 193 per 100,000. The state average is 127.

Orange County (Continued on Page 2)



LAST CALL — Jim Guinan (center) sang *Danny Boy* in the pub at Guinan's 10 years ago, on Jan. 30, 2008, the night before it closed after a half century in business. For memories of the Garrison landmark, see Page 9.

Photo by Russ Cusick



The flu bug has been traveling around the country. Illustration by David Granlund

5 Five Questions: TYLER MELL

By Alison Rooney

Tyler Mell, 21, a Cold Spring native, is an aspiring actor in New York City.

Many young actors wait tables. You're an usher. How did that come about?

I saw the production of *Spring Awakening* at the Brooks Atkinson Theater and introduced myself to the house manager. I followed up and got lucky with the timing and was hired as a substitute. It's a great job because the hours are theater hours, and auditions tend to be early in the morning.

You went from usher to performer during *Waitress*. How did you manage that?

About once a month they do "Cast Album Karaoke." Ticket-holders sign up before the show or at intermission to sing a song from



Tyler Mell

Photo by Leslie Hassler

the show. Every time I worked a karaoke performance I would sign up. I signed up with another usher, Sarah Daigle, and our names were called.

So it was your Broadway debut. How did it feel?

My legs were shaking. I've been onstage, but this was different. We sang *It Only Takes a Taste*. The audience was so excited that two ushers were going to sing. I think we sang it with a lot of emotional goodness. Even though I've seen the show about 45 times, I didn't know the ending harmony. I thought I had too much vibrato. I flubbed some lyrics and had to look at the book twice. But the audience gave us a standing ovation. As soon as we finished, we had to rush back to where we stand at the end of the shows. People were complimenting us and we were saying, "Thank you so much. Exit straight ahead."

What's your dream role?

Tateh in *Ragtime*.

So, what's next?

My goal is to become a starving theater artist, so I'm heading back to college to train. Broadway is the dream but regional theater is the goal.

See highlandscurrent.com for a video of the performance.



Tyler Mell and Sarah Daigle on the *Waitress* stage

Photo by Linda Tam



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Flu Bug Doubles Down

(from Page 1)

has 113 cases per 100,000 residents and Rockland 75. Cayuga County, in the west, has the highest rate of infection in the state, at 468 per 100,000.

According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, every state except Hawaii has suffered "widespread" influenza. Since Oct. 1, there have been more than 25,000 confirmed cases across New York, including nearly 8,000 people who were hospitalized and one child who died. In addition, a 10-year-old from Connecticut on his way home from a hockey tournament died on Jan. 14 at a Catskills hospital of pneumonia brought on by Influenza B.

Because of the large number of cases, the Putnam County Health Department held an emergency vaccine clinic at its Brewster offices on Jan. 30. No others are planned, but vaccinations are available by appointment by calling 845-808-1332. (The department has administered 3,611 flu shots to county residents since Oct. 1.) Dutchess County has not held any public clinics.

During last year's flu season, there were nearly 13,000 flu-related hospitalizations in New York and eight children died. The World Health Organization estimates the flu kills as many as 500,000 people each year.

Beating the Spread

- **G**et vaccinated. The current shots protect against three viruses that research months ago suggested would be most prevalent. But even if you catch a different bug, a vaccine can reduce its severity. The CDC recommends anyone 6 months of age or older be vaccinated.
- Stay home from school or work when sick. People with the flu are infectious for up to seven days after symptoms begin.
- Unlike some viruses, influenza is easily killed by soap and hot water.
- Carry an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Do not cough or sneeze into your hands. Instead, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue.

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Beacon Proposal Would Restrict Tree Cutting

Council also weighs waiver to affordable housing law

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon City Council has postponed a public hearing while it wrestles with how to revise a law to protect trees.

The hearing had been scheduled for Feb. 5; instead, the council will rework the proposal, which is meant to deter homeowners from taking down too many trees at once, before it asks the public for its input.

The discussion began last year after a property owner on Orchard Place cut down more than a dozen trees. Residents complained on social media, and in December several asked the City Council to intervene.

"After all the trees fell, the light had changed, the noise level was higher and the sight lines into neighbor's houses, and into mine, across the street were clearer," said Karen Nelson, a neighbor. "The extensive work being done to the property will have as much impact on the neighborhood environment as any of the four-story buildings coming up on Main Street."

The current tree ordinance bans residents from taking down more than three mature trees in a year, and violators are subject to a \$250 fine per offense (not per tree). The Orchard Place property owner was fined on Jan. 30.

The proposed revision would increase the fine to \$350 per tree and require property owners to replace trees that are re-



A property owner on Orchard Place cut down more than a dozen trees. Photo by J. Simms

moved. But at its Jan. 29 workshop, the council debated whether the proposal, as written, would be too onerous because it would also require a permit to take down a single tree.

"You're basically telling me I can't manage my trees, and I don't know if I agree with that," said Lee Kyriacou, a council member.

Tim Dexter, the city building inspector, added that his department doesn't have the ability to enforce a law with so many restrictions. "If our issue is with the fine,

we should fix that," he said.

In other business ...

The City Council will vote Monday (Feb. 5) on whether to exempt the West End Lofts development, which will be constructed next to City Hall, from Beacon's affordable housing requirements. The law, adopted last year, requires developers of 10 or more new residential units to make

10 percent of their units available for below-market rates.

The West End Lofts project will include 72 middle-income and artists' spaces that are funded through a state program, along with 26 market-rate units. Of its 98 units (one will be set aside for a superintendent), 50 will be available to residents making less than 60 percent of the county's area median income, which was \$87,100 for a family of four in 2017.

"I believe we've far surpassed the intent and spirit of the affordable housing ordinance," said developer Ken Kearney.

At the same time, Hudson River Housing will soon begin taking applications for below-market-rate units throughout Beacon with rents starting at \$1,061 per month. Anyone who meets the income requirements can apply for these units, but Beacon volunteer emergency responders who have served at least five years, municipal employees and school district employees receive priority.

An applicant's aggregate gross annual income must be between 70 percent and 90 percent of the Dutchess County area median annual income, said Lashonda Denson of Hudson River Housing. In practical terms, that means a single person must make \$56,340 or less and a family of four must make \$80,460 or less.

For information, contact Denson at ldenson@hudsonriverhousing.org or 845-454-9288.

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for additional information, call Superintendent Laura Mitchell
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor

The Current welcomes letters to the editor on its coverage and local issues. Submissions are selected by the editor to provide a variety of opinions and voices, and all are subject to editing for accuracy, clarity and length. We ask that writers remain civil and avoid personal attacks. Letters may be emailed to editor@highlandscurrent.com or mailed to Editor, The Highlands Current, 161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. The writer's full name, village or city, and email or phone number must be included, but only the name and village or city will be published.

Heroin bust

So who were the customers of this alleged dealer? ("Police Arrest Cold Spring Man on Heroin Charges," Jan. 26). Cold Spring people? Out-of-towners? Students? Now that the head is cut off, time to work on the rest of the body. Rehab/program referral? More arrests? Reach out and help them? Or just wait for void to be filled by next dealer in line?

Tony Bardes, *Cold Spring*

As you noted, the suspect, Kurian Hamilton, was arrested in his apartment three blocks from the Haldane campus. Isn't there a law about selling drugs in a school zone?

Judy Senft, *Cheshire, Connecticut*

The editor responds: Under state law, it is a felony to sell controlled substances within 1,000 feet of a school. However, the area must be "accessible to the public," such as a parked vehicle, sidewalks, streets, parking lots, parks, playgrounds, stores and restaurants. Presumably, the law would not apply to someone arrested inside an apartment. Nevertheless, Putnam County District Attorney Robert Tendy says his office is investigating if any charges beyond the five felony and three misdemeanor counts against Hamilton are warranted.

Cell tower vote

As painful and uncertain as the process was regarding the proposed cell tower in Nelsonville ("Philipstown Boards Vote 'No' on Cell Tower," Jan. 26), the extraordinary numbers of residents who came together in so many ways, and the thoughtfulness, time, patience and professionalism that the Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals and Conservation Board gave to this issue, was impressive.

Thanks to all who participated in presenting points of view and serious information about what these unnecessary installations would do to the aesthetics of our community and nearby property values.

Steve Sterling, *Philipstown*

Funny that when the Tower Road cell tower went up 20 years ago about 2 miles

from the location of the one proposed for Vineyard Road, no one on the Philipstown boards cared a damn about how it was going to affect property values.

Eileen Anderson, *Philipstown*

Skate park

It is great that students have proposed a skateboard park for Cold Spring ("Haldane Students Propose Skateboard Park," Jan. 26). However, it should not replace the basketball court at Mayor's Park, as Mayor Dave Merandy suggested. The court was recently updated with new hoops and its surface resealed. It is leaps and bounds better and safer than the court I knew as a kid.

I'm all for a skate park, but don't take away an existing option. If you add something and take away something else, you aren't adding more options.

How about the smaller patch to the side of the court? Possibly extend it, have a smaller skating surface and keep the courts. Don't alienate and eliminate what is a more popular activity (basketball) for skating.

Nick Nastasi, *Cold Spring*

Who will cover the insurance premiums for this half-pipe dream?

Christopher Vathke, *Cold Spring*

The editor responds: According to the Tony Hawk Foundation, which promotes the construction of skate parks and which the Haldane students consulted, there are 4,000 skate parks in the U.S. and "yet lawsuits against the managing agencies are virtually unheard of." This is because, it says, most states consider skateboarding a "hazardous recreational activity."

That means, in theory, if skateboarders are injured, it's harder to win a lawsuit if they have been informed by signs and/or a waiver that they were skating at their own risk. The foundation says most parks can be covered under a municipality's existing insurance, although supplemental policies are available. Supporters argue that a park can actually lower a town's liability because it can require users to wear protective gear. Skateboarders who ride on town streets or sidewalks typically don't and also must dodge cars, pedestrians and other moving obstacles.

Mayhem on the train

The setting of the novel, *The Girl on the Train*, when it was made into a film, was changed from London to Hastings and shot on the Hudson Line. *The Commuter*, set on the Hudson Line, was shot in England ("Mayhem on the Cold Spring Train," Jan. 26). That makes perfect sense. Thanks, Hollywood!

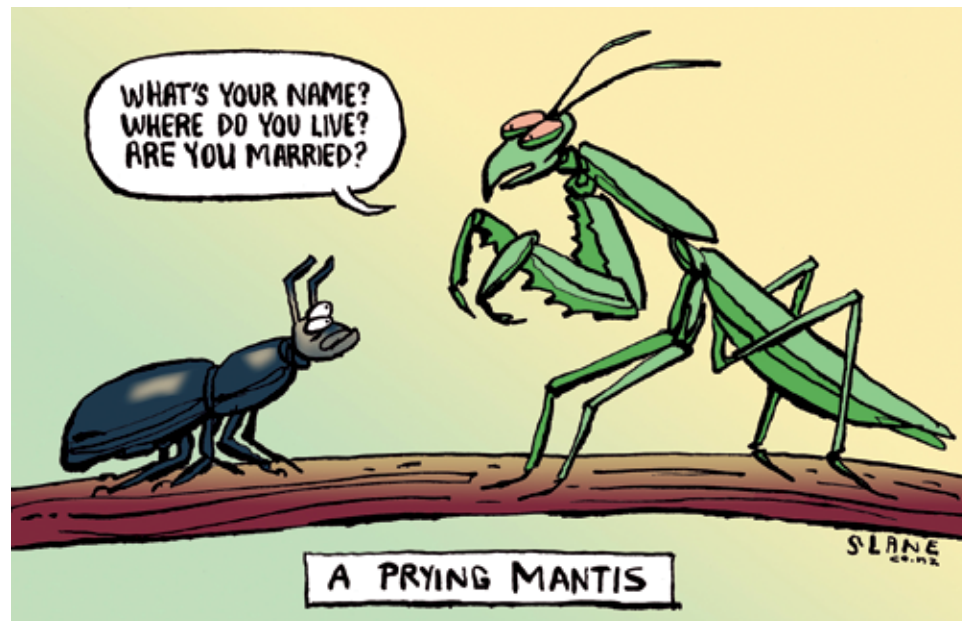
Tristan Elwell, *Cold Spring*

I wonder if Liam Neeson's character in *The Commuter* suffers from lower back pain from sitting in those God-awful seats day after day for an hour and 20 minutes each way.

Jon Lindquist, *Cold Spring*

The film depicts a derailment, which I find to be in poor taste considering that three people died in a derailment on the Hudson Line in 2013 when the engineer fell asleep, including someone most Springers knew, Jim Lovell.

Thomas Nastasi, *Cold Spring*



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (from previous page)

Are There Too Many Snow Days?

Editor's note: A letter from Zoe Antitch of Cold Spring in the Jan. 26 issue,

asking if the Haldane school district could be more judicious about declaring snow days for the benefit of working parents, along with a response from Superintendent Diana Bowers, prompted many responses online. A few are reprinted below.

Marlene Leary: We all need to find back-up child care for the expected and unexpected. I give the schools a lot of credit for making tough snow-day decisions. Thank you for keeping the kids safe! The well-being of the entire school staff is important, too.

Jennifer Schneider Dwyer: The Friday before Christmas break, school was dismissed early at 11:30 a.m. for bad weather. It was cloudy with a slight drizzle. Other districts were not dismissed early. There were many other days in the past three years of two-hour delays and early dismissals when the weather was not bad. Of course we want our children

safe, but working parents who do not have family to help out or nannies are put in stressful situations, not to mention the disruption of the children's education. There is not a daycare in the Haldane Central School District that accepts school-age children when school is out.

Pedro Rivera: Remember that a good chunk of Philipstown doesn't have paved roads. If buses can't get up there, none of the kids are going to school.

Ed Mancari: I believe part of living in the Northeast is accepting that schools will be closed due to inclement weather, especially in a district where transportation has to traverse treacherous roads. Moving the 10-week break is not necessarily feasible. Would Haldane become the only district in the state that moves to a winter "vacation"? Also, you run the potential that hot summer days could cause closures and delays if classrooms could not be properly climate-controlled.

Christine Johanson: Transporting hundreds of students to and from school

is no small task and making the call to close based on varying weather predictions and imperfect forecasts is difficult. I do not envy any superintendent having to make those decisions, since he or she will no doubt be criticized either way. I would not want to risk the safety of children walking the streets or on a bus in icy conditions and prefer that schools err on the side of caution.

Astrid Lundgren: The letter writer asks a very good question: "In the future, will the district be able to find ways to safely keep school open and the buses running even when it snows?" Unfortunately, the superintendent is not answering that question. Talking about safety is important but what about finding a solution to the problem? Couldn't we learn from our neighbors in Vermont, Maine, not to mention Canada? How do they manage? This morning I see "no school closings" in Vermont but a two-hour delay in Cold Spring. I'm sure their priority is also to keep the kids safe and

that they have unpaved roads.

Zoe Antitch: I thank the superintendent for her response to my letter. It would be good to know what, if any, actions are being considered to improve the possibility of school being open on a snowy day in the future. Or what actions might be considered to avoid a two-hour delay on days like today where there was barely a dusting. Is it possible to get the salters out a little earlier? Should the mountain roads be paved? It would be fantastic to have on-hand alternative child care at a moment's notice, but waking up at 7 a.m. to a snow delay and having to figure out work issues as well as childcare for multiple children (in my case) within an hour-and-a-half window is extremely difficult. For many, it is cost-prohibitive. I still hold out hope that in Philipstown we will be able to find ways of getting kids to school safely on snowy and/or cold days. There are going to be lots of them.

PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD

Workshop – February 15, 2018

The Philipstown Planning Board will hold a workshop meeting on February 15, 2018, at the Old VFW Hall, 34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring, New York at 7 p.m. for the following application:

Hudson Highlands Reserve, NYS Route 9 & Horton Road, Cold Spring, NY

Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 25th day of January, 2018.

Anthony Merante, Chairman

PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD

Site Visit – February 4, 2018

The Philipstown Planning Board will meet on Sunday, February 4, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. to inspect the following site:

Hudson Structures Inc., James Copeland, 3052 Route 9, Cold Spring

PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD

Public Hearing – February 15, 2018

The Philipstown Planning Board for the Town of Philipstown, New York will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 15, 2018 starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Old VFW Hall, 34 Kemble Ave. in Cold Spring, New York to consider the following application:

Robert Miller/Alltec Service Center, 1390 Route 9, Garrison – The applicant is seeking Amended Site Plan approval concerning a 1.91-acre developed, vacant property where an automotive repair garage formerly operated but which has been abandoned. The application seeks re-authorization for its continued use as an auto repair garage. Associated with this use would be some limited automotive sales. There is an existing residential apartment above which will continue to be used for residential use. The property is located on the east side of Route 9 just south of the Route 403 intersection.

The property is situated in the "HC" (Highway Commercial) Zoning District in the Town of Philipstown. TM# 82.-2-7.

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

Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 25th day of January, 2018.

Anthony Merante, Chairman

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 12, 2018, at 7:30 p.m. at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York, to hear the following appeal:

David & Ann Provan, 200 Jaycox Road, Cold Spring, New York.

Tax Map # 27.19-1-28. The applicants seek to obtain a variance for a sideyard setback for a proposed addition of 1,099 square feet to the existing residence and a deck of 339 square feet. A 30-foot sideyard setback is required under section 175-11 of the Town Code and the proposed setback is 11 feet. The property is located in the SR (Suburban Residential) Zoning District in the Town of Philipstown.

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

Dated 1/25/2018

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

POSITION AVAILABLE

The Village of Nelsonville is seeking to fill a full-time position for Village Clerk-Treasurer. This position also includes the duties of the Court Clerk, Registrar of Vital Statistics and Secretary to the Building Inspector, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals.

The position requires proficiency in MS Word and Excel, excellent communication, organizational and writing skills, strong interpersonal skills, and a strong financial background. The ability to work independently and manage multiple tasks concurrently is essential. Attending evening meetings is a requirement of the position.

Salary and compensation, which includes benefits, is subject to experience.

Please send a cover letter and resume to:

Pauline Minners, Village Clerk, Village of Nelsonville, 258 Main Street, Nelsonville, New York, 10516 – or nelsonville@optonline.net

PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD

Public Hearing – February 15, 2018

The Philipstown Planning Board for the Town of Philipstown, New York, will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 15, 2018, starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Old VFW Hall, 34 Kemble Ave. in Cold Spring, New York, to consider the following application:

SEJE Realty, LLC – The application seeks approval of an additional use, light industrial (steel fabrication), while retaining the existing single family residential use, the existing off-street parking and some of the existing storage. The applicant also seeks to add a limited amount of outside storage as part of the light industrial use. The property is located at 1510 Route 9, Garrison, NY.

The property is situated in the "HC" (Highway Commercial) Zoning District in the Town of Philipstown and consists of 1.97 acres. TM# 82.-7-14.

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

Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 26th day of January, 2018.

Anthony Merante, Chairman

Putnam Will Join Shared Services Initiative

County Executive declined in 2017, but towns objected

By Holly Crocco

After taking a pass in 2017, Putnam County will participate in an initiative by Gov. Andrew Cuomo that promises state funding to municipalities that share resources.

As part of the state budget a year ago, Cuomo encouraged counties to participate in a Shared Services Initiative, vowing that whatever money they saved would be matched with state funds. Many counties, including Dutchess, embraced the idea, but Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell balked.

In September, after she said that the county — and its towns — had decided not to submit a plan to the governor, the town supervisors objected.

In a letter, Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea and his counterparts in

Carmel, Kent, Patterson, Southeast and Putnam Valley claimed “no meaningful attempt has ever been made to meet with the supervisors to discuss ways that services might be shared or consolidated. In order to meet the requirements of the Shared Services Initiative, the supervisors continue to meet to discuss how we can work together to lower the tax burden on our residents.”

According to Odell, about a third of New York counties did not submit a plan. This year, however, she said Putnam will prepare one.

“It’s a shame that we can’t submit what we’re already doing and what we’ve already done,” she said.

One initiative the county has been trying to get off the ground is electronic court appearances, which officials say would cut down the number of police transports of inmates to and from court. The savings could be as much as \$200,000 annually, by one estimate, depending on the number of defendants.

According to Odell, equipment for three town courts — in Carmel, Patterson and Southeast — has been purchased and installed.

Another discussion has been focused on local tax assessors; Odell has proposed a single department to serve everyone. She also would like to see a wash bay at the county transportation department for use by municipal fleets, which she said would extend the life of vehicles by 10 to 20 percent by slowing corrosion.

Digital records management also could make consolidation of services easier. Odell said Putnam received grants of nearly \$300,000 for software and scanning so that the county, Carmel, Philipstown, Cold Spring and Nelsonville can share documents. Another grant will fund document sharing with Putnam Valley.

Odell said her office has passed its proposals to the Legislature’s Committee on Fiscal Vision and Accountability but that Putnam needs town approval.

“We have to take our direction from the towns,” she said, noting that some supervisors, for example, don’t want to consolidate tax assessment.

In addition, Odell noted that intermunicipal agreements already exist between the county and towns and villages. This includes electrical inspection services provided to municipalities by the Consumer Affairs Department, salt storage

and shared equipment by the Highway Department, real property/tax services, use of the Fire Training Center, detention of suspects by the Sheriff’s Department and email services provided by the Information Technology Department.

“The governor’s thing is kind of unrealistic because he wants you to put down a plan, but you borrow equipment as needed, as a crisis hits. All the highway superintendents in all the towns, we all work well together.”

In addition, the Board of Elections provides voting machines, privacy booths and other equipment to school districts for their annual budget votes and referendums, she explained, and the county provides special patrol officers and school resources officers, at a cost.

“The governor’s thing is kind of unrealistic because he wants you to put down a plan, but you borrow equipment as needed, as a crisis hits,” said Kent Highway Superintendent Richard Othmer Jr. during the Jan. 17 Physical Services Committee meeting. “All the highway superintendents in all the towns, we all work well together.”

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What the Governor Wants (from Page 1)

State Address and draft 2019 state budget, which he unrolled in presentations throughout January.

The proposed budget calls for state spending of \$168.2 billion; about 60 percent would come from state operating funds and the rest from capital and federal sources. The operating fund share, \$100 billion, is 2 percent higher than for 2018.

The Legislature must approve the budget and can change it before adopting a final version.

The governor said his proposed budget would continue the state's progressive practices while "protecting taxpayers against the federal assault" of a change in tax laws that capped the deduction for state and local taxes at \$10,000 annually for those who itemize, which analysts say will have a greater effect on residents of high-tax states such as New York than those elsewhere.

Cuomo said New York is exploring "restructuring options" to balance the scales, including use of charitable contributions to support government and reducing state income taxes by making them employer-paid instead of employee-paid. Despite the upheaval, he said the state continues to phase in tax cuts that, when fully implemented, will drop the rate from about 6.5 percent to 5.5 percent for those earning \$40,000 to \$150,000 annually, and from 6.6 percent to 6 percent for those earning \$150,000 to \$300,000.

Criticizing President Donald Trump's "misguided" immigration views, Cuomo advocated legislation allowing undocumented college students access to state scholarships and endorsed the Liberty Defense Project, introduced in 2017, a public-private partnership offering legal assistance to immigrants "regardless of status."

Education

The draft budget provides \$26.4 billion in school aid, an increase of \$769 million. Like-

wise, it earmarks \$6 million for science and engineering education and \$5 million in reimbursements for courses in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

The budget allocates \$186 million, up by 3 percent, to reimburse private schools for the costs of meeting state mandates. It also allots them \$5 million for STEM classes.

With \$7.5 billion in spending proposed for higher education, the budget continues an upward trend begun in 2012. Cuomo also called for measures to protect students from abusive lending practices and to prohibit the suspension of professional licenses from graduates who fall behind on student loan payments.

Opioid abuse

The governor proposed a surcharge of 2 cents per milligram of opioid ingredients in prescription drugs, with the revenue spent on opioid-abuse prevention and rehabilitation services. Moreover, his draft budget set aside more than \$200 million to fight opioid addiction and increased funding for the Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services by \$26 million.

Planes, trains and autos

Cuomo proposed \$11.7 billion for infrastructure improvements, such as rehabilitating 500 bridges, paving 2,000 miles of roads, completing the Mario Cuomo Bridge at Tarrytown and making repairs to the New York State Thruway.

Citing the "unfulfilled potential" of Stewart Airport, Cuomo recommended a \$27 million investment by the Port Authority to build a 20,000-square foot U.S. Customs and Border Protection inspection facility for incoming international flights. He also suggested the airport change its name to New York International at Stewart Field.

Separately, Cuomo expressed hopes that a Metro-North train station could be built at the Woodbury Common shopping complex in Central Valley.

Firearm restrictions

Cuomo proposed expanding prohibitions on gun possession by those convicted of domestic violence, including certain misdemeanors, or named in an order of protection. Under current law, a judge can order a person to relinquish his or her handguns; the governor's idea extends the ban to rifles and shotguns as well.

Shared services

To encourage municipal and county governments to share services and potentially reduce property taxes, Cuomo's proposed budget provides \$225 million in state grants to match any money they save. Last year, Cuomo directed counties to convene panels to devise consolidation plans; now he wants to make those panels permanent.

In 2017, Dutchess County submitted a 59-page plan outlining \$27 million in potential savings from 37 projects. But Putnam County did not participate. Its county executive, MaryEllen Odell, said in January she would start the process anew. (See Page 6.)

The environment

The draft budget calls for \$2.5 billion to protect water sources and assist with water infrastructure projects. It further proposes \$39 million for solid-waste control; \$176 million for state parks and recreation, including capital projects (and \$900 million overall by 2020); \$154 million for open-space programs, \$21 million to address climate change; and \$65 million to eradicate algae in lakes and ponds that provide drinking water or attract tourists, including Lake Carmel and Putnam Lake.

Cuomo also emphasized the state would sue the federal government if the Environmental Protection Agency adopts an "indefensible" stance and allows General Electric to stop dredging the Hudson to remove the pollutants, known as PCBs, it dumped into the river. He said "overwhelming evidence" indicates more needs to be done.

Cuomo's draft budget and other documents can be downloaded at budget.ny.gov.

More Proposals

As part of his budget proposal, Gov. Andrew Cuomo called on the Legislature to:

- Increase fines for drivers who pass stopped school buses.
- Require that vehicles' backseat passengers wear seat belts.
- Fund a study of whether New York should legalize marijuana for recreational use.
- Expand a sales-tax exemption for vending machines accepting cashless forms of payment to items costing \$2 or less, from \$1.50.
- Keep STAR property tax exemptions at their current level instead of increasing them by 2 percent as planned in 2019.
- Ban "lunch shaming" practices at schools, such as serving cold cheese sandwiches to students who don't have money to pay for the meal.
- Doubling farm-to-school funding to \$1.5 million. Also, increase the reimbursement that a district receives from 6 cents to 25 cents per lunch if it purchases at least 30 percent of its food from state farmers and growers.
- Double the funding, to \$4 million, to subsidize Advanced Placement exams for low-income students.
- Set aside \$118 million to pay the tuition of an estimated 27,000 students who attend SUNY and CUNY schools. The income eligibility threshold for the program increases to \$110,000 annually for 2018-19.
- Appropriate \$100 million for costs associated with raising the age of adult criminal responsibility from 16 to 17 on Oct. 1 and to 18 on Oct. 1, 2019.
- Eliminate the five-year statute of limitations for sex crimes against minors and extend the statute for civil suits from before the victim is 21 years old to 50 years from the date of the offense.

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Development Being Considered for Old Texaco Site Near Beacon *(from Page 1)*

more than 1,000 Texaco employees and their families. The community had its own water supply and sewage treatment plant and even produced its own newspaper, while the research facility developed and produced high-performance aviation gasolines and other industrial products.

After Chevron merged with Texaco in 2003, it closed the facility and began partnering with the state Department of Environmental Conservation to clean up decades of chemical dumping around Fishkill Creek, which bisects the property. The results of soil and groundwater tests evaluating the cleanup are expected soon, and some neighbors remain cautious.

"I'm in favor of a mixed use [development] there, but I'm concerned about the amount of cleanup," said Maureen Cotter, a resident of the abutting Beacon Hills community. "We need a lot more information from DEC."

In 2011 Chevron formed a community advisory panel to discuss what to do with the site. At the Jan. 31 meeting, the company's consultants reviewed a number of "guiding principles" for future development, including open space and historic preservation.

Feedback gathered during a series of charrettes last year showed, again, a desire for a somewhat self-contained community, complete with a Main Street, residential and recreational areas, and commercial and medical facilities, said Monte McKillip, the facilitator of the ad-



A building on the Glenham Mills site

Chevron Glenham Mills

visory panel.

"People want to be able to have things that they would use every day," he said.

However, it remains to be seen how dense such a development would be, noted Peter Flinker, a member of Chevron's consulting team. "We're not trying to shove a specific number of units down here, but this has to be an economically viable project."

Three potential buildout scenarios were briefly discussed during the meeting, with feedback mixed. A point of contention was whether to develop a 93-acre southern parcel once used by Texaco employees as recreational space, complete with baseball fields, tennis courts and a pavilion. Water for the community was once drawn

from a well there, as well.

"They're asking the community what they want, but I don't see that reflected here," said Beacon Hills resident Deborah Davidovits, referring to estimates that the site could include as many as 500 homes.

Once the panel decides on a plan, Chevron will approach builders with experience in similar projects, rather than issuing a request for proposals, said Connie Hall, a consultant with the Chevron land and development company. "This framework is going to be given to a developer so they understand they can't just come in and jam something down people's throats," she said. "We're not starting at ground zero."

Another Big Build

Another large redevelopment is underway at the former IBM Campus on Route 52 in East Fishkill. A Connecticut-based developer hopes to transform the 300-acre parcel into an "iPark" with a "micro-residential" apartment complex, two hotels and retail and office space.

The developer, Natural Resources, plans over the next five years to remove 2 million square feet of buildings to make way for new construction. Two manufacturers have already signed up for space: The syrup-maker More Good of Beacon and Sloop Brewing Co. of Elizaville, which plans a 26,000-square-foot brewery and tasting room.



Part of the former IBM property in East Fishkill

Think Dutchess Alliance for Business

The March 14 meeting to share the advisory panel's proposal will be held at Slater Chemical Firehouse, 76 Old Glenham Road.

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The Calendar

Memories of Guinan's

Guinan's, the landmark store and pub that operated for some 50 years on Garrison's Landing, closed a decade ago, on Jan. 31, 2008. Soon, a new restaurant and gathering spot will open its doors, most likely in May. The name — and it's official now — is Dolly's, a nod to the landing's starring role in the 1969 film, *Hello, Dolly!*

With help from Gwendolyn Bounds, author of a memoir about Guinan's, *Little Chapel on the River*, we asked in print and online for memories of the place and its people. Below, some of the submissions:

Gwendolyn Bounds

Picking one favorite memory is probably like picking a favorite child, but I'm going with the red burning barrel. It's where the Guinan family burned the cardboard boxes that arrived each morning after they had been emptied of donuts, bagels and pastries to sell. I loved taking a turn feeding the barrel, particularly on cold mornings, poking the trash with a stick and watching the fog peel off the Hudson River through the flames' hazy heat. That memory, with the Metro-North train horns sounding, is still what "morning" means to me.

Frank Geer

Ten years of morning coffee overlooking the Hudson after putting my wife, Sarah, onto the train for work. Seeing my first bald eagle. Conversations with John Horgan, which led to the publication of our book, *Where Was God on September 11?* "Irish Nights" during the winter in the back room filled with smoke and music leading eventually to Jimmy Guinan deciding to sing "Danny Boy." One transcendent Irish night in late spring with chairs stretching halfway to the Depot Theatre and enough music and warmth to draw more than a few angels down from heaven.

Claudia Gibson

Whenever I commuted to New York City, Jimmy would be there with a friendly hello and a coffee and buttered roll. Made commuting a little nicer!

Donald Ditullo

I remember Gov. [George] Pataki drinking there. Also, watching the paratroopers landing before Army home games!

Tara Tomassio Thom

I remember our weekly family visit after Sunday Mass growing up. Mr. Guinan had all the newspapers marked with subscriber's names. He always let us kids pick out candy from behind the shelf. We sat by the river with all the

Garrison families and played while our parents caught up with each other. Life was good!

Tim Donovan

During the early days of closure talk, I wrote a poem to record the daily rhythm of what would be lost, in honor of the matriarch, called "Where Peggy's Still the Boss!" [See highlandscurrent.com.] Jim's beloved Peggy was the clan's matriarch. She was also the first person I'd met at Guinan's in 1978 when my train to Syracuse broke down at the old Garrison station and I walked into the Store with the Pub in Back. Sometime later we moved here.



The bar at Guinan's Photos by Russ Cusick



Jim Guinan (right) died in 2011 at age 83.

Russ Cusick

Jim had the rare gift of making everyone he came in contact with feel special. In the mornings, when I would get a cup of coffee at Guinan's as an excuse to visit Jim, sometimes we'd sit in the back room with a fire raging in that awesome fireplace. Sometimes we'd have discussions and sometimes we wouldn't. Either way, it was always comfortable and magic. I think of Jim often. He'll always be one of my heroes.

Lisa Mihalik

My dad took us every Saturday to get candy while he had a quick beer in the back.

Dan Dennehy

I first entered the little store at the Garrison train station in 1989 while my fiancé, Siobhan, and I waited to pick up a young Irish relation interviewing for a



Ed Preusser and Mary Ellen Yannitelli

nanny position at a big house nearby.

The wood floors, the old-time grocery and counters were charming enough, but the afternoon sun obscured a view of the back room where a lively conversation ensued. Curiosity got the better of me and breaking through the brightness I

Mr. Guinan's place became, in many ways, the hub of a second family. Truly I miss the people and the place. I should have kept a tally of the cadets, soldiers and military families I drove to West Point after they missed the last ferry or the taxi never arrived.

was greeted by the man himself, Jimmy Guinan. The small sloping storm window-clad room, adorned with personal memorabilia and rows of bespoke Sunday newspapers, was trimmed in Kelly green and boasted a tiny bar and a warm hearth which overlooked the most dramatic Hudson River and West Point views on one side and the roaring diesel trains on the other.

The room was never bereft of a rolling cast of characters, banter and Irish music, whether the litany of tunes that Jimmy dealt under his breath or the crowded joyful Thursday evenings after the full moon (one needed to be an astronomer to keep up with that rule) that were the Irish traditional Seisun nights. For many years hence a visit to Guinan's was a short trip to real Irish hospitality.

In Jimmy's memory, a picture hangs in the bar at the Quiet Man in Peekskill, the current home of the Rising of the Moon Seisun. Captured in the frames mystic light at the last such events at his hearth, sits Jimmy Guinan, belting out a tune, Tim Murphy following him on guitar; over their shoulder is a smiling Gov. Pataki, bottle of Coors Light in hand. I'm somewhere there that night in the crowd, like everyone else, wishing that night would never end.

Quinn Chastant

Mr. Guinan's place became, in many ways, the hub of a second family. Truly I miss the people and the place. I should have kept a tally (Continued on Page 18)

FRIDAY, FEB. 2

Community Blood Drive
2 – 8 p.m. North Highlands Fire Department
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring
800-933-2566 | nybloodcenter.org

Beacon vs. Hendrick Hudson (Boys’ Basketball)
5:45 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon | beaonk12.org

Dia Staff Art Show (Opening)
6 – 9 p.m. Beacon
1 East Main St., Beacon
Facebook: Dia Staff Art Show

Reel Life Film Club: Waste Land (grades 6-8)
6 – 8 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Haldane vs. Westlake (Girls’ Basketball)
6:15 p.m. Haldane Gym
15 Craigsides Dr., Cold Spring
845-265-2500 | haldane.org

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

Talk and Tasting: Big Reds & Bubbles
7:15 p.m. The Valley Restaurant
2015 Route 9, Garrison
845-424-3604 x39 | thegarrison.com

Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

Ariane One-Act Play Festival
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

SATURDAY, FEB. 3

Take Your Child to the Library Day
takeyourchildtothelibrary.org

Bedford 2020 Climate Action Summit
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Fox Lane High School
632 S Bedford Road, Mt. Kisco | bedford2020.org

Scavenger Hunt
10 & 11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 x204 | hhn.org

Auditions for The Music Man
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
philipstowndepottheatre.org/auditions

Calendar Highlights

For upcoming events visit highlandscurrent.com.

Send event listings to calendar@highlandscurrent.com

Open House
11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Manitou School
1656 Route 9D Cold Spring
manitouschool.org

Love Your Library Day
1 – 3 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Friday.

Seussical the Musical
1 & 3 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon
beaconperformingartscenter.com

Women’s Choir Concert for Safe Homes of Orange County
1 p.m. Newburgh Brewing Company
88 S. Coldent St., Newburgh
compassarts.org

Cabin Fever Workshops
10 a.m. Casting from Life
1:30 p.m. Knit Hearts
Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Reptiles and Amphibians in the Hudson Valley: A 150-Year Overview
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Friday.

African-American Artists of the Hudson Valley (Opening)
2:30 – 4:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
howlandculturalcenter.org

Army vs. American (Men’s Basketball)
3 p.m. Christl Arena, West Point
845-938-2526 | goarmywestpoint.com

Cold Spring Film Society
4 p.m. *The Godfather* (1972)
7 p.m. *The Godfather II* (1974)
Old VFW Hall
34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring
845-424-4618 | coldspringfilm.org

Ariane One-Act Play Festival
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
See details under Friday.

Bert Rechtschaffer Jazz Trio
8:30 p.m. Chill Wine Bar
173 Main St., Beacon
chillwinebarbeacon.com

BMF Chuck Berry Boot Camp Show
9 p.m. Dogwood
47 East Main St., Beacon
beaconmusicfactory.com

SUNDAY, FEB. 4

Intro to Electronic Music (ages 12-17) (First Session)
1 p.m. Butterfield Library
See details under Friday.

Ariane One-Act Play Festival
2 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
See details under Friday.

Newburgh Chamber Music: Swing and the American Songbook
3 p.m. St. George’s Church
105 Grand St., Newburgh
845-534-2864 | newburghchambermusic.org

MONDAY, FEB. 5

Haldane vs. Putnam Valley (Girls’ Basketball)
6:15 p.m. Haldane Gym
See details under Friday.

Beacon vs. Peekskill (Girls’ Basketball)
6:15 p.m. Beacon High School
See details under Friday.

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

TUESDAY, FEB. 6

Haldane School Board
6:30 p.m. Public Hearing for Use of Repair Reserves
7 p.m. Regular Meeting
Haldane School (Music Room)
15 Craigsides Dr., Cold Spring
845-265-2500 | haldane.org

Apollo in the Age of Aquarius (Talk)
7 p.m. Beacon Sloop Club
2 Red Flynn Drive, Beacon
845-463-4660 | beaconsloopclub.org

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

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

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7

Haldane vs. North Salem (Girls’ Basketball)
6:15 p.m. Haldane Gym
See details under Friday.

Army vs. Lafayette (Women’s Basketball)
7 p.m. Christl Arena, West Point
845-938-2526 | goarmywestpoint.com

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

THURSDAY, FEB. 8

Young Naturalist Pre-School Open House
3:30 – 6 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
See details under Saturday.

Beacon vs. Poughkeepsie (Girls’ Basketball)
6:15 p.m. Beacon High School
See details under Friday.

Great Books Discussion Series: On Race
6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Friday.

Sharpie Markers Seashell Workshop (Adults)
6:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Citizen’s Climate Lobby Organizing Meeting
7 p.m. Beahive
291 Main St., Beacon
facebook.com/cclny18

FRIDAY, FEB. 9

Spaghetti Dinner / Movie (The Mighty Ducks)
6 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
107 Glenclyffe, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Beacon Players: Sweet Sounds for Our Shed
6:30 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon
beaconplayers.com


Minute-to-Win-It Valentine’s Party (grades 6-8)
6:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
See details under Feb. 2.


North by Northwest (1959)
7:30 p.m. Bardavon
35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Elizabeth Arnold

Some Memories Fade:
Symbols and Archetypes

Jawbone Necklace, 2017





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Bits of Beacon History

By Robert Murphy

Mount Beacon's 'Commuter Ski School'

Ski Magazine had called the American Parallel Technique "the best system ever devised" to teach novices how to ski. The system's creator was Austrian-born Walter Foeger, who had been invited to join the staff of Beacon's Dutchess Ski Area as executive vice president in the winter of 1969.

His task was twofold: (1) make Mount Beacon competitive with other big-market ski areas in the East, and (2) start an instructional school that would attract novice skiers from the metropolitan region.

Foeger had earned praise for his design of ski areas such as Jay Peak in Vermont and Camelback in Pennsylvania. His "snowplow-less" instruction of the American Parallel Technique guaranteed a newcomer to the sport would master parallel skiing or get his or her money refunded. With Foeger on board, the Dutchess Ski Area was set to become the fourth largest in the state.

Over the next few years, trails were cut on the mountain, including a 3,100-foot, double chair lift to the summit. At the base, Foeger supervised the construction of a 350,000-gallon holding pond to ensure sufficient water for snow making. His Commuter Ski School attracted at least 500 students annually for the 10-week course.

But even Walter Foeger could not overcome what fate had in store for Mount Beacon in the early 1970s: warm winters with little snow. Though there were a few good days (3,000 lift tickets sold), the ski area went bankrupt in 1975.

"Skiing is a mosaic — many little pieces put together," Foeger once wrote. "If they are put together right, they form a beautiful picture." All that remains are beautiful pictures of what once was the dream of a Dutchess Ski Area. You can see some of them in an exhibit created by the Beacon Historical Society at the Howland Public Library, 313 Main St.

"Bookie-Blox"

The historical society's latest acquisition is a building-blocks toy manufactured in 1922 by the Bookie Blox Company of New Rochelle. The toy, which consists of a set of seven hinged, painted wood blocks, was donated by Beacon business owner Brenda Murnane, who bought it in an online auction. Known as "Bookie Blox," it was invented by Charles Douglas Fisher, who moved his toy factory to Beacon about 1925 and renamed it Toy Krofters.

The Wisconsin native had two sisters with creative talents equal to his own. Lola Fisher was a Broadway and film actor who died at a young age of tuberculosis. Blanche Fisher Wright Laite was an



A "Bookie Blox" toy

Beacon Historical Society

illustrator who created the drawings in the classic children's book, *The Real Mother Goose*, published in 1916.

It was the paintings of nursery rhymes by Blanche (signed "BFL") that set Bookie Blox apart. Each hinged block contained four of Blanche's whimsical scenes of nursery rhymes. Children could stack the blocks into a variety of shapes while learning their letters and rhymes through Blanche's paintings.

Toy Krofters, located in the top floor of the Jackson Carriage factory at 380 Main St., manufactured high-end toys until 1930. Besides the Bookie Blox, the historical society has two other toys the firm made: a Tudor dollhouse and a "Bookie Reel," both on display at the society's new home at 17 South Ave.

The Park-O-Meter

Put a penny in the meter for 12 minutes or a nickel for an hour. That's how much it cost to park on Main Street in 1953. On June 1 of that year, the latest rage in city planning — control of parking in the business district — had come to Beacon with the installation of hundreds of Park-O-Meters on Main Street.

The coin-operated devices were manufactured by the Magee-Hale Co. of Oklahoma City, which sent an agent to Beacon in May 1953 to (Continued on Page 12)



Charles Douglas Fisher, the Beacon toymaker who invented the "Bookie Blox"

Beacon Historical Society



Walter Foeger with his ski instructors at the Dutchess Ski Area

Beacon Historical Society

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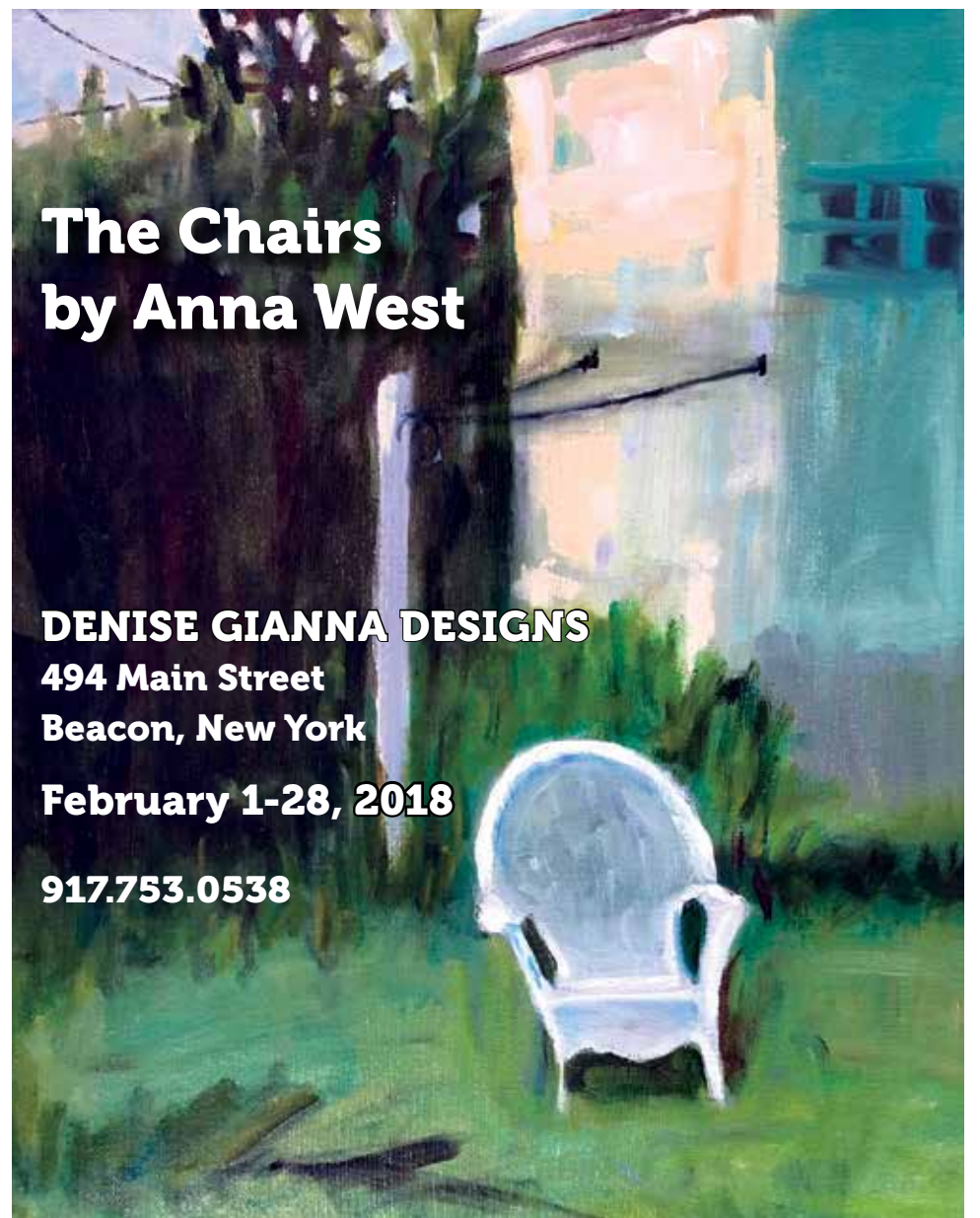
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Knit Hearts
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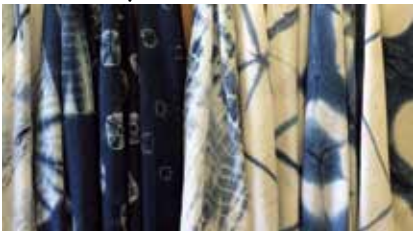
Casting from Life
with Lori Merhige

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10



Napkin Basket Weaving
with Kimberly Carver

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11



Japanese Shibori Master Class (full day workshop)
with Katrin Reifeiss

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Winter Wonder Photo Walk
with Lori Adams

Suminagashi
with Christina DiMarco

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24



Soft Pastel Still Life
with Linda Barboni

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Garrison Art Center

Bits of Beacon History *(from previous page)*



Police Chief Jesse Dingee empties the coins from a new "Park-O-Meter" on Main Street in 1953. *Beacon Historical Society*

lay out spaces of 22 feet per car in the metered zone. The city spent \$31,000 (about \$280,000 today), paid in installments, on the system.

If a cop spotted a red flag on the meter, it meant a fine of \$1 ... not a cause of endearment for local motorists. In their first week of operation, 28 meters were vandalized with gum, candy, toothpicks and Pop-sicle sticks. Business owners were not sure what to make of the meters: Did they keep traffic flowing, or did the threat of a ticket



A Navy Hellcat

Photo by Roger Cain

drive away customers?

In the end, the pennies and nickels (and \$1 fines) added up. After a year, the meters produced \$28,032, a jingling success for the city's finances and nearly its entire return on investment.

Hellcat over Beacon

On Nov. 15, 1945, the long wait for the end of World War II was over and veterans' organizations hung a banner across Memorial Hall that read "A Good Job Well Done" to welcome home its soldiers.

On that day, one serviceman returning to Beacon staged a more spectacular display: He buzzed Main Street in his Navy Hellcat fighter plane at treetop level, bringing a



Claud "Fuzzer" Adams

Courtesy Susan Adams Ratigan

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storm of complaints to the police station.

"Flying so low that its passage caused treetops to shake, the plane swooped over Main Street and the east end of Beacon," reported the *Beacon News*. The nerves of one veteran, who had suffered through strafing by planes in Germany, were "not good and he was ill for several hours after."

George Atkinson, a member of the Beacon Historical Society, was an eyewitness and remembers the plane coming down Main from the river side and passing close over his head. It then banked as it climbed toward Mount Beacon. The pilot came back to buzz Washington Avenue, narrowly missing the rooftop chimneys.

It can now be revealed (as disclosed by George Atkinson and others) that the pilot was Lt. Claude "Fuzzer" Adams, who spent three years in the Naval Air Corps. Adams had taken off from Floyd Bennett Field on Long Island intent on flying to Beacon and over his parents' home on Washington Avenue. Adams avoided the chaser planes from Stewart Air Field in Newburgh by hedgehopping down Route 9 and under the Bear Mountain Bridge.

In 1950, Adams again made news by flying a model Flying Saucer over Beacon. Using wires for control, Adams flew it 70 to 110 feet high, creating another stir.

Robert Murphy has been president of the Beacon Historical Society since 1998. These items were excerpted from his blog at beaconhistorical.org.



THE BLUE PRINT

COMMUNITY EDITION

OCTOBER AND DECEMBER 2017

Five times each year, the members of Ashley Linda's journalism class at Haldane High School publish a school newspaper, *The Blue Print*. With support from the Haldane School Foundation, reporters and editors from *The Current* are working with the students to craft their stories and share their reporting with the community. Selections from the October and December issues are reprinted here.

HALDANE TRADES SCHOOLS

By Grace Campanille

On Oct. 12, the Haldane High School sociology class visited Alfred E. Smith Career and Technical High School in the Bronx for a better understanding of how city public schools differ from suburban public schools.

The class left in the morning on a bus straight to the Bronx. It was a cold day and Alfred E. Smith students huddled in a line to a single small door to enter the school. The nine Haldane students stood in line as well, waiting to enter. The heavily monitored single entry was a shock to the Haldane students. Once the students ahead entered the doors, they placed their cell phones in a plastic bag with their name on it, and placed the bag into a bucket. The Haldane sociology class didn't have to give up their phones.

Then the biggest difference appeared. Students waiting in another line, this time to walk through a metal detector and to put their belongings and backpacks through an X-ray machine like you would at an airport. Uniformed security guards monitored each student passing through the detector, some students being searched with a metal detector wand.

It was already a shock to the Haldane students, the small-town suburban norms no longer existed in the big city with hundreds of students coming from all over to one school. But this safety protocol was the norm for all of the students at Alfred E. Smith.

A group of students (the school population is predominately male) brought the class around to different rooms.

The first class they saw was the auto body shop. Alfred E. Smith has a huge auto mechanics program that allows students to become licensed by NATEF (National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation) and go straight into the workforce. Alfred E. Smith is the only high school in the Bronx that gives

students this opportunity. They also provide paid internships with major companies like BMW and Toyota. Faculty and community members can drop their cars off to the school and can be fixed by students. This gives them a real life working experience, working on real cars for real people. Huge equipment was everywhere, and some of the most advanced students worked on cars with ease and showed their classmates how it's done. The students showed the Haldane class some of the work they were completing that day, and gave a presentation of a car being lifted into the air on a machine, as they worked under it fixing flaws.

Students at Alfred E. Smith choose between auto mechanics or graphic design when they are freshmen. Then, their schedules revolve around the topic that they selected for the remainder of high school. The first students who showed them the mechanics workshop had obviously all selected auto mechanics.

The next thing the Haldane students

were introduced to was the excelling graphic design classes. Professional equipment was everywhere, including 3D printers, Mac labs, and the latest most advanced graphic design software. Each year the graphic design students create a yearbook and they proudly showed the Haldane class some examples from previous years.

Then they brought the sociology class to numerous design labs, full of computers and student projects and designs. The school allows graphics students to take classes at art schools and offers scholarship opportunities to attend great design schools. The equipment in all these classrooms was breathtaking.

After visiting the mechanics and graphic design classes, a pizza lunch was enjoyed by a group of students from Alfred E. Smith and the Haldane class. Everyone was mingling, chatting and laughing. Conversations about differences in schools came up, as well as location differences and the classes that

Advisor: Ashley Linda

Reporters: Mollie Altucher, Grace Campanille, Sophia Catalina, Laura Cosma, Julie Geller, Bridget Goldberg, Chrisel Mauricette, Anna Rowe, Natalie Sandick

they were taking. Students shared funny stories with one another, plans for college, and the best spots to eat in their neighborhoods.

Diversity was another topic that was discussed at length. Alfred E. Smith is comprised of mainly black and Hispanic students, while Haldane is a mostly white co-ed school. Students celebrated their differences instead of hiding them, and everyone had an amazing time.

Plans were made for Alfred E. Smith to visit Haldane's campus. Many memories were made and the group of Haldane students got to step outside the "bubble" of Cold Spring and enjoy a school very different from their own.

BONJOUR MONTREAL

By Bridget Goldberg

Montreal is a modern, culturally dynamic city with the second largest population of any city in Canada. This year, it also was the home of the Haldane International Club and French and Spanish students from Oct. 4 to Oct. 7. We visited many different parts of the city and experienced a variety of activities to get a taste of authentic Montreal. We started off in the oldest part of Montreal to learn about its history.

Day 1

In Old Montreal, we first took a tour of the area around city hall which still makes use of the original buildings in Montreal. We learned about the discovery of Montreal by Jacques Cartier and the two main founders of Montreal, as well as a brief history of how Montreal has developed since then. We then toured the Notre-Dame Basilica, a brilliant architectural feat, and ended the day with a scavenger hunt that featured Montreal's key monuments and buildings. We ate at Chez Brisket, where we had a smoked meat dinner.

Day 2

On day two, we started off exploring the Biodome, a re-creation of five unique ecosystems located in the former Olympic stadium. We saw a wide range of animals from penguins to monkeys. We then traveled

(Continued on Page 14)



Top: Haldane High School (File photo by L.S. Armstrong); Alfred E. Smith High School

(Photo by Jim Henderson/Wikipedia)

THE BLUE PRINT *(from previous page)*



A group shot of the Haldane students during their visit to Montreal

to Cafe Graffiti where we designed hats. After a lunch of empanadas, we visited the Au Sommet Place Ville Marie where we viewed Montreal from 42 stories in the air. We finished the day at the underground city, an enormous underground mall.

Day 3

We started day three with a virtual tour of the birthplace of Montreal back in Old Montreal. We were then free to wander the ancient streets and eat lunch on our own. After lunch we visited the science center of Montreal where we participated in projects and experiments involving the human body, the future, and engineering. We then visited a less urban area to experience “sugaring off” with a lumberjack dinner with folk songs and dancing.

Day 4

We concluded our trip with a drive up Mount Royal to a viewing area where we could see the entire city stretched out below us. After that, we made our lunch of poutine and meat pies in a cooking class. Before long, it was time to go back home.

As a whole, I think it was a positive experience for us American students to experience the culture of Montreal. There are so many different kinds of people in Montreal who form a complex culture very different from our own. The trip was a great opportunity for us to practice speaking French and even some Spanish with our tour guide and citizens of Montreal. Overall, I would highly recommend the trip to anyone interested in other cultures, history, or having a good time!

FILLING THE GAP

By Mollie Altucher

A difficult question for many high school students is, what comes next? Most students automatically drift toward the now common path of diving straight into college or university life, without having a clear idea of what they want to do in life or what they want to study. In reality, there is an increasing opportunity for students to take a gap year in between high school and college, and jumpstart their lives.

Taking a gap year after high school is now supported by numerous studies. By taking a glance at the American Gap Association website, one can view many different benefits or statistics about gap

years for graduating high schoolers.

Relevant data collected shows that 90 percent of students who take gap years return to schooling within a year, and 88 percent feel their gap year boosts their employability, according to surveys and information collected from the *Wall Street Journal* and additional sources.

A number of schools are on board as well. For example, the well-respected Vassar College allows students to defer their acceptances for up to an entire year. Other schools favorable to deferrals include Barnard College, New York University and Skidmore.

Students can take part in a variety of different volunteering or internship programs that can guide their year of transition. The decision of how to make use of the gap year can be hard to make, but all the information students need is right at their fingertips. By searching through a variety of websites such as idealist.org or americangap.org, one can look through different internships, volunteer programs, or other programs available.

Programs covered on the American Gap Association page, such as Carpe Diem Education and Thinking Beyond Borders, offer students opportunities to further their education and immerse themselves in cultures abroad. Additionally, idealist.org mentions both job openings and organizations within your own area. Hudson Valley specific programs or job openings at local businesses are shown all across the home page.

Students should be aware of all the possibilities available to them before making decisions that impact the rest of their lives. If anyone has hesitations about immediately diving into their degree, they should feel free to look into programs that might be a better fit for their own individual needs.

PASSIONATE PRINCIPAL

By Chishel Mauricette

When it was time to choose someone to interview the new high school principal, I thought I would offer a unique perspective, being new myself. But Julia Sniffen is not new to Haldane; in fact, Mrs. Sniffen has been working at Haldane for 21 years.

Making the decision to become the new high school principal was fitting because Mrs. Sniffen loves to challenge

herself, try new things, and help others, especially students. Before she goes to bed at night she asks herself: Did I do everything I could to help today? The answer must always be yes.

A typical day for Mrs. Sniffen starts early, so she can greet students as they walk into the school. She then spends a lot of time in meetings, which comes with the new job. As principal, Mrs. Sniffen is currently meeting with the teachers asking them questions about what’s working, what needs improvement, and what they love about their jobs. She is working hard to be a leader that both teachers and students can look up to and she is setting everyone up for a very successful year.

With Haldane being such a small school, she believes that there are amazing opportunities for everyone to “come together and care for one another.”

When she is not in her office or roaming the halls of the high school, Mrs. Sniffen is watching students participate in one of the many arts programs, play sports, or playing sports herself. She played two sports in college and still plays soccer on Wednesday nights. She makes sure to spend time with her family — “I love watching my kids play sports,” she said — and goes camping



Julia Sniffen

and hiking with her family.

In my opinion, Mrs. Sniffen is a really athletic person and I’m happy to have a positive role model in her; she doesn’t let how old she is, or what job she has, determine what she can do and what makes her happy. She would make a good motivational personal trainer (something she has thought about doing in the future).

When I asked Mrs. Sniffen what profession she would work in if she wasn’t a principal, it’s no surprise that she said she would want to work in the mental health profession, “lobbying for those in need.” It is clear that she is a caring principal and I enjoyed meeting with her and the conversation we had.



Preparing the treat

Photo by Gabriela Rodiles/TheGourmet Gab.com

JAMMIN IN THE KITCHEN WITH JULIE

By Julie Geller

Today we will be making chocolate-pretzel treats! They are perfect for a quick and easy dessert for the holidays when watching movies, hanging out with friends or just a yummy treat!

Chocolate-Pretzel Treat

5-minute prep time
2- to 4-minute cook time

Ingredients

A bag of mini-square pretzels
A bag of M&Ms
A bag of Rolos

1. Get a baking pan and line it with parchment paper and preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
2. Lie the pretzels flat on the baking sheet so that the pan is full with

- pretzels.
3. Put a Rolo on each pretzel but do not put an M&M.
4. Put the Rolo and pretzels in the oven for two minutes and check to see if they are soft, but still hold their shape.
5. Put an M&M in the hole of the Rolo and press down just hard enough so that the M&Ms go into the Rolo.
6. Let them cool and enjoy!

Mouths to Feed

My I-Don't-Know Alaska

By Celia Barbour

I can't count the times I've made a fool of myself for love. Not because there are so many, but because in order to count them I have to recall them, and I can't get past the first one without feeling such acute, wincing embarrassment that I have to stop and take several deep breaths to carry on with my day.

I can, however, vividly recall the handful of times when someone risked their pride for me. When I think back on those sweet-silly gestures, I don't feel disdainful or judgmental. On the contrary, I'm filled with enormous tenderness and gratitude that someone was willing to put their heart on the line.

But there you have it: We carry around memories of our own failed romantic deeds in bashed-up, fetid suitcases, and others' in velvet boxes.

Of course, not all grand-heartbreak fiascoes are motivated by romance, unless by romance you mean "a quest that involves bravery and strong values," as Literary-Terms.net puts it.

Last summer, a hapless cook I'll call V embarked on such a quest. V worked in one of the summer camp kitchens I oversaw. For the summer's celebratory feast, she decided to make Baked Alaska — for 200 people. She talked it up for weeks beforehand not to the campers (it was a surprise for them) but to every other staff member

she could buttonhole to hear her vision.

And what a vision: Snowdrifts of meringue piled in glorious swoops atop a mountain of ice cream stacked high on a massive pedestal of chocolate cake. Once the meringue was toasted (with a welding torch), the whole shebang would be wheeled — wheeled! — into the dining hall, doused in spirits (V'd gotten permission from the director to use alcohol) and lit on fire.

Wow.

I asked V if she'd ever made Baked Alaska. She hadn't. "How hard can it be?" She had studied the recipe and watched a YouTube video.

You know where this is going. I did, too, but swallowed my doubts and offered pointers: Make the cake two days ahead and freeze it hard; add the ice cream, then re-freeze overnight; do the meringue at the last minute. It was summer, after all.

V nodded but didn't appear to be listening.

And what a vision: Snowdrifts of meringue piled in glorious swoops atop a mountain of ice cream stacked high on a massive pedestal of chocolate cake.

What could I say? I, too, have nurtured a Baked Alaska fantasy ever since I tasted one at my cello teacher's house in Muncie, Indiana, when I was 13. The misery of perspiring through my sonata was redeemed by the most magnificent dessert I'd ever encountered: warm, toasted meringue en-



Temptation in a Teacup

Photo by Henry Weed

veloping cold peppermint-stick ice cream atop chewy brownie. Since then, I've often recalled that absurdly wonderful dessert but never had the courage to make one.

I was not at camp when the celebration occurred, but ran into her later.

"How'd it go?"

"I don't want to talk about it."

According to eyewitnesses, the cake was still warm so the ice cream melted on contact. The meringue broke (spongy icebergs of overwhipped egg white atop a watery slop), so a team was dispatched to procure a case of marshmallow crème from another camp. Back in their kitchen, it slid off the ice cream and slumped in a

sticky puddle at the base.

By this point, the campers had been waiting a half-hour for dessert. At last, V rolled the mess into the dining hall, where the director poured one bottle and then another of high-proof liquor over it. Numerous lighters were held to its surface, but the Baked Alaska never caught.

All of which makes Baked Alaska the ideal dessert for Valentine's Day, a holiday powered by the notion that romance can be willed into being. It can't, any more than a dessert can be baked from dreams. But to play it safe, I made mine in teacups (ramekins would also work), because one thing I've learned is that failures and desserts are best in small doses.

Temptation in a Teacup

Makes 6 to 8 servings

Start baking the cake at least six hours, or up to two days, before you plan to serve these. I have posted a good chocolate cake recipe at highlandscurrent.com, but you can substitute your favorite flourless chocolate cake or a fudgy brownie. Use your favorite store-bought ice cream for the ice cream layer.

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 recipe flourless chocolate cake (see note above) | 1 cup sugar |
| 1 quart ice cream (see note above) | ¼ teaspoon cream of tartar |
| 4 egg whites | ½ teaspoon vanilla |

1. Prepare the cake according to recipe. When cool, press an overturned teacup or ramekin gently into the cake's surface to mark circles; cut out and press one circle into the bottom of each cup; if your cups are deep, cut up the remaining scraps of cake to make a crumbly second layer. Transfer cups to the freezer and freeze for two hours.
2. If your freezer is very cold, transfer ice cream to the refrigerator for about 30 minutes, or microwave for 20 seconds, to soften slightly. Remove cups from freezer, and place a scoop of ice cream in each, flattening gently. Return to freezer.
3. Prepare the meringue: Fit the whisk attachment onto your electric mixer. In the mixer bowl, whisk together the egg whites, sugar and cream of tartar. Using a pot that will accommodate the mixer bowl without allowing it to rest on the bottom (i.e., an improvised double-boiler), bring 3 to 4 inches of water to a boil. Reduce to a simmer, and set the mixing bowl over the water, whisking constantly. Continue to whisk the egg white mixture vigorously until the sugar is completely dissolved and the egg whites are hot. (I usually burn my finger to find out, but a spoon could also work.) Transfer the bowl to your mixer, and whisk on slow, then medium, for about 5 to 7 minutes total until the meringue is glossy and holds a peak when you lift the beater. Add the vanilla and mix just until combined.
4. Turn on your broiler; set rack toward the bottom of the oven. Remove the cups from the freezer, and arrange on a baking sheet. Scoop a generous dollop of meringue onto each cup, swirling as you go. When the broiler is hot, place the cups in the oven and toast the meringue, watching constantly and rotating the pan frequently, until all the meringues are golden. Serve at once.



AUDITIONS

for May 18 - June 10 production of

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See philipstowndepottheatre.org/auditions for more info.

.....

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Feb. 10, 11, 14 ~ All shows at 8 p.m.

.....

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Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m.

Reception and Q&A following film

philipstowndepottheatre.org

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Skaters at the Recreation Center rink at a previous Winter Carnival, which this year will be held on Feb. 9 and 10

Photo provided

Celebrate Winter

Philipstown carnival is Feb. 9-10

The fifth annual Philipstown Winter Carnival opens Friday, Feb. 9, with a free pasta dinner and a screening of *The Mighty Ducks* at the Philipstown Recreation Center in Garrison. The doors open at 6 p.m. for dinner. Register by calling 845-424-4618.

On Saturday, Feb. 10, starting at 1 p.m., Winter Hill in Garrison will host sledding and entertainment for children. In addition,

there will be open skating at the Philipstown Recreation Center rink, and a free shuttle bus running between the two locations. Food will be available for purchase. See philipstownwintercarnival.com.

Life-Saving Class

Free CPR course in Carmel

The American Heart Association will offer a free CPR class for people who aren't required to take it for work at the Putnam Hospital Center in Carmel on

Sunday, Feb. 18, beginning at 9 a.m. The course is designed for anyone age 12 and older. Call 845-475-9742 to register.

Young Actors Needed

Shakespeare Fest casting for summer show

The Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival is casting two young actors for its summer production of *The Heart of Robin Hood*. Auditions take place Saturday, Feb. 10, from noon to 5 p.m. at the Old VFW Hall in Cold Spring. There are openings for a male age 10 to 15 and a female age 9 to 12. Rehearsals begin April 9. Email smcnall@hvshakespeare.org.

Reptiles and Amphibians

Talk at Desmond-Fish on Feb. 3

Ed McGowan, director of the Bear Mountain Zoo, will present an illustrated program at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 3, at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison on reptiles and amphibians that live in the lower Hudson Valley and how their populations have changed over the past 150 years. The free program is sponsored by the library and the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society.

Beacon

Piano Series Continues

Charlie Albright returns to Howland

Pianist Charlie Albright will perform at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 11, at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon as the third in a series of concerts presented by the Howland Music Circle. Albright will play his own compositions as well as selections by Kapustin and Chopin. See howlandmusic.org.



Pianist Charlie Albright will perform on Feb. 11 at the Howland Cultural Center.

Photo provided

Innovative Instruments

Free concert at Dogwood

Two musical improvisers, Ben Neill and Nicolas Collins, will perform on their hybrid brass and electronic instruments at Dogwood in Beacon at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 11. The free show will include original compositions, collaborative tracks and David Bowie's *Five Years*.

New Board Members at Beacon Arts

Four newcomers elected Jan. 31

Members of BeaconArts on Jan. 31 elected Hanny Ahern, Karlyn Benson, Meghan Gorla and Linda Pratt Kimmel to the organization's nine-member board. The group also released a mission statement that came out of a strategic planning process funded in part by a Dyson Foundation grant and facilitated by Eve Madelengoitia and the New York Council of Non Profits.

The statement defines the BeaconArts mission to promote the city "as a center for arts and culture" and enable artists of all disciplines "to live and thrive" in Beacon by promoting their projects and events. At the same time, it will develop "inspiring creative experiences and programs" for the community.

Opera Highlights

Abridged show on Feb. 10-11

The Hudson Opera Theatre and Ezra-Guitar will collaborate on an abridged production of the Italian opera, *La Bohème*, called *Bohemians in Love and in Life*, at the Beacon Hebrew Alliance. See hotopera.com for \$25 tickets to either of two shows, on Saturday, Feb. 10, at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 11 at 4 p.m.

Fighting for Lower Emissions

Citizens lobby meets Feb. 8

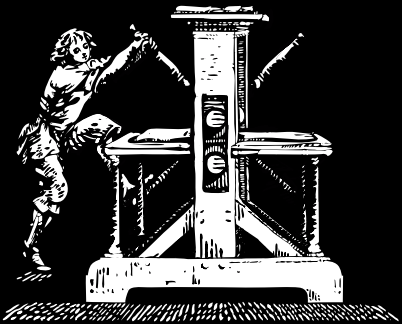
The Citizens Climate Lobby NY 18, which organizes political action on climate change in the 18th Congressional District, which includes Beacon and Philipstown, will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 8, at the Beahive. Michael O'Hara will speak about what's happening with climate policy in the state. The group meets on the second Thursday of each month. See facebook.com/cclny18.

A Turning Point from Space

Protest and the Apollo mission

Neil Maher, a professor and writer who (To next page)

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4:45 8:00, SUN 12:30 3:45
MON 3:45 7:00, TUE 7:00
WED 12:30 3:45 7:00, THU 7:00

Maze Runner
The Death Cure (PG13)
FRI 2:45 6:00 9:15, SAT 1:45
5:00 8:15, SUN 12:45 4:00
MON 4:00 7:15, TUE 7:15
WED 12:45 4:00 7:15, THU 7:15

**Three Billboards Outside
Ebbing, Missouri (R)**
Nominated for 7 Oscars, including Best Picture
FRI 3:00 6:15 9:30, SAT 2:00
5:15 8:30, SUN 1:00 4:15
MON 4:15 7:30, TUE 7:30
WED 1:00 4:15 7:30, THU 7:30
Road to Bali (1953, NR)
WED (2/7) 2:00

COMMUNITY BRIEFS (from previous page)

focuses on U.S. environmental and political history, will speak at the Beacon Sloop Club at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 6, about how protest movements in the 1960s pulled NASA's attention away from space exploration. "Apollo in the Age of Aquarius" will cover how NASA responded to pressure from the activists and focused some of its technology back on earth.

The Sound of Peace

Harmony in dissonant times


Craig Chin and Andy Rinehart will perform a Sound/Peace concert, "Seeking Harmony in Dissonant Times," at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Beacon at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 10. The pair will create a contemplative atmosphere using electronic and acoustic instruments as the sun sets and the natural light in the room changes. The audience can bring pillows or mats and there will be a labyrinth for walking meditation.



DANGER ZONE — A crew filming scenes for the ABC drama *Quantico* on Jan. 19 near the Bear Mountain Inn installed this foreboding sign, which warns that "deadly force is authorized" against trespassers. The episode is expected to air next year.


Photo by Kay Corkrum

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.



Baby and Dog Cat

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? We knew this would happen eventually: the cat people want in. Sam Adels of Beacon submitted this shot of his daughter, Juniper, with feline Sabu. If you have a photo of a baby and a dog, submit it for consideration to editor@highlandscurrent.com.





HONORED FOR SERVICE — Mark Pisanelli of Beacon (left) and Orlando Villa, specialists in the New York Guard, were named Soldiers of the Year for the 56th Area Command.

Photo by Sgt. Zach Perkins



HIT FILM — *This is Home*, edited by Toby Shimin of Philipstown, won the Audience Award for World Cinema Documentary at the Sundance Film Festival on Jan. 27. The film is a portrait of four Syrian families who immigrate to Baltimore and struggle to find their footing.

Sundance

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Memories of Guinan's

(from Page 9)

of the cadets, soldiers and military families I drove to West Point after they missed the last ferry or the taxi never arrived. I miss Jim, John, Chris, Joe Brady Jr. and Mike at his corner of the bar, and the rising of the moon.

Richard Weckman

If those bar stools could talk ...

TJ Murphy

First met "Himself," as Jimmy was known, in 1971. I was working construction at West Point. A buddy and I had boated to Garrison's Landing and Jimmy docked us



The bar at Guinan's, looking north

Photos by Russ Cusick



Scenes from the last night, Jan. 31, 2008

Between the River and the Rails

By Andy Revkin

When I'm feeling so low that road kill looks lucky,

This happens more times than you might like to hear.

There's one destination that makes me feel better.

Down where the tide flows by just like the beer.

Between the river and the rails,
In the room behind the store.

Fireplace roaring, Guinness pouring,
How could you ask for anything more?

From Revkin's album, *A Very Fine Line*

at the marina. Showing typical Irish hospitality, he invited us to join him in the pub, where we met Peg and a few of the brood. We were treated to some fine Irish stew, and thus began a wonderful and warm friendship which endured for many, many years. God bless the Guinans.

Amo Doyle

I remember asking for a Bud and the price was \$3. I tipped the bartender \$5. One of the regulars said, "You must be a rich guy from the city." I explained that I

was far from it, and added that, the night before, I paid \$9 for a beer in the city. He almost had a heart attack.

For more photos from the last days of Guinan's, see highlandscurrent.com.

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Sports

What to Look for on the Ice at the Winter Olympics

Breaking down the frontrunners

By Michael Seibert

This year's Olympics should be especially exciting in three of the events, with the gold medal coming down to who can deliver on that night's performance. That is unusual in skating, as there is usually one competitor who dominates.

With the men, it is all about the quads, which are jumps with four or four-and-a-half revolutions: Who will land them and how many will they will include in the program? American Nathan Chen is certainly in the running. He has delivered on his promise during the fall competitions. His skating is a straightforward presentation of the jumps and ability to skate. He's not wrapped up in crazy theatrical packaging.

Japan's Yuzuru Hanyu hasn't been seen because of injury. If healthy and in good form, he will be a contender, as will Javier Fernandez of Spain. Hanyu has a long list of quads but how many he will incorporate is unknown. Fernandez is known as the polished presenter and interpreter, and he will be challenged by the excitement generated by the arsenal of quads the other two can do. This is not to say he

doesn't deliver. It all comes down to who stands up on the night.

Ice dancing is another toss up, led by the French team of Gabriella Papadakis and Guillaume Cizeron and the Canadians, Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir, who won gold in 2010. Mistakes can't be overlooked when the two top teams are so competitive. The Canadians would seem to have the advantage in the short dance and the French in the long, which is worth more in the total but also has more places for error. The twizzles, when the skaters spin on one foot while gliding across the ice, can take their toll.

The newly minted American champions, Madison Hubbell and Zachary Donohue, also could be on the podium, which could give their coaching staff of Marie-France and Patrice Lauzon a trifecta because they train all three teams from their base in Montreal.

Again, it's all about the night of for the women. The reigning champion and expected winner, Yevgenia Medvedeva, had an injury this fall and lost the European championships to a younger Russian, Alina Zagitova. I expect the Russians to be first and second but in which order is the question mark.

Medvedeva has had six weeks to heal



Michael Seibert

Photo by A. Rooney

and train, so I suspect she will be on her A game. Though the new U.S. champion, Bradie Tennell, has less experience on the world stage, her jumps and poise have been consistent and she seems to skate with joy. The pressure of the Olympics usually brings some surprises.

The fourth event, pairs, seems to have evolved into a new acrobatic place and they have yet to master the quad throws so the event feels slightly dangerous. It also tends toward movements that are physically difficult, particularly the entrances and exits of the lifts, though not necessarily musical or attractive.

Another Haldane Record Falls

The week after the Haldane girls' relay team twice broke the school record in the 4x800, senior Heather Winne ran the 600 meters in 1:44.36 on Jan. 28 to shave 0.44 seconds off the mark set by Jan Neville in 2002.



Heather Winne on Jan. 28 broke a 15-year-old Haldane record in the 600 meters.

Photo by Michael Haines

The Blue Devils were competing in the Northern County Championships at the Armory in Manhattan. Winne finished fourth and junior Ashley Haines was sixth in 1:46:28.

In other events, junior Maura Kane-Seitz placed fourth in the 1,500 meters in 5:14:82 and freshman Shannon Ferri was fifth in 5:30:53. Nick Farrell, a senior, was second in the 1,600 meters in 4:33:30.

For Varsity Scoreboard, see highlandscurrent.com.

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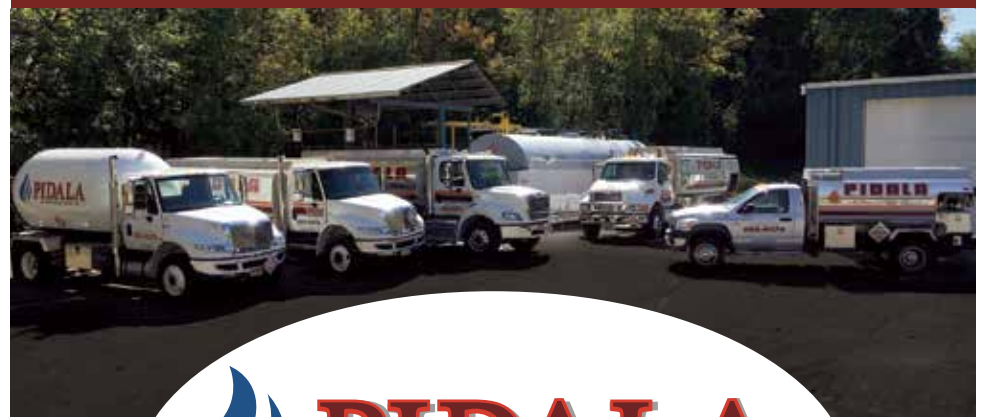
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Sports



Bradie Tennell

Photo by Jay Adef/ U.S. Figure Skating



Madison Hubbell and Zachary Donohue

U.S. Figure Skating



Nathan Chen

Photo by Jay Adef/ U.S. Figure Skating

Q&A: Olympian Michael Seibert

Beacon resident offers insider look at figure-skating competition

By Alison Rooney

Michael Seibert of Beacon, who with his partner on ice, Judy Blumberg, was a five-time national champion in ice dance, competed in two Olympics: in 1980 at Lake Placid, where the pair finished seventh, and 1984 in Sarajevo, where they were fourth.

Today, Seibert runs an interior design business and is a real-estate agent for Houlihan Lawrence in Cold Spring. Alison Rooney, who profiled Seibert for *The Current* in 2016, spoke with him about the sport of figure skating, which will be on display at the Winter Olympics in Gangneung, South Korea, starting Friday, Feb. 9.

How are figure skaters able to keep completing more difficult jumps?

There always seems to be a leader who masters the next level and, once that bar is set, in the minds of his or her competitors it can be done. So that creates a new level. It moves fast. Brian Orser was the first male skater to master the triple axel in 1984 and by the next Olympics if you didn't do one, you were not going to be able to win. Now Nathan Chen is planning four or five quads. If you can only manage one, I wouldn't think that can be a podium skate. Dorothy Hamill in 1976 did a double axel, no triple, yet when I'm in the rink

with the kids I teach, the intermediate-level skaters are attempting triples.

The sport has been declining in the U.S. but growing in Asia. Why is that?

The rise of "celebrity champions" sparks interest in youngsters in the country the stars are from. I was among the first skaters to do the first full hour of ABC's *Wide World of Sports*, from Beijing, in 1979. They had never seen skating before, but they have had many champions in the decades since. China is a power, and Japan, as well.

Because Russia was banned from the Games, its skaters will be "countryless" during competition. Do you think that will affect them?

The Russians I know are very patriotic. If anything, I would expect them to rise above their normal level of excellence to make their homeland proud.

Has doping ever been an issue in skating?

Very little to none.

With current judging, is technical prowess valued more than artistic expression?

There is a move afoot to add a separate artistic medal. I'm not sure about that. I often don't understand what is being judged as artistic. The programs sometimes look to me like bad theater.

What is one of the trickiest jumps to master?

Skaters seem to excel in a particular

jump, for no specific reason. Orser could do triple axels, yet it seems to be one of the weaker jumps for Chen. But Chen is a master at quads, which I doubt Orser ever tried. Brian Boitano could do triple jumps but did not do quads. The difference with the axel is that you take off facing forward while all the other jumps you start backward. What makes each jump unique is the various edges of takeoff: right or left foot, inside or outside edges. That is the basic understanding of what makes a loop, lutz, salchow.

In creating a program, who determines the music and choreography?

The choreographer, whose job is like being a director. The best programs I've made have been collaborations. While I can bring music and costumes, I need a buy-in from the skater. It has to be his or her vision.

How does a skater end up as a single versus pairs skater, or an ice dancer?

It's usually what they are exposed to at a young age. When I started skating, I was considered older and it happened that one of the coaches was stronger in dance. Like most things, teachers make such a difference.

What do coaches whisper to the skaters just before they head out?

"Do it like you do in practice." Everyone at the Olympics is capable of winning; it's all about who delivers. Keeping your head in the game, as they say, is huge.

What goes through a skater's mind after a disappointing performance?

It is hard to process when you fail in a performance that counts. Sometimes with the Olympics, there is not going to be another chance. So, there can be a longer "fog" afterward, and it happens to young people who have known mostly only their sport. They have to move into the larger world, and skating in particular is not a college sport, so I think it is harder.

How do male skaters get in and out of those one-piece, formfitting costumes?

There are zippers all over the place!

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Olympic Insights

For Michael Seibert's analysis of the Winter Olympics figure-skating competition, see Page 19

Coaches and Parents

We welcome your contributions of scores, highlights and photos.
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