A FINAL SALUTE – New York City police officers lined Fair Street in Cold Spring on Feb. 3 to salute Detective Nicholas Budney after his funeral service at Our Lady of Loretto. Budney, 36, who graduated from Haldane High School in 2000 and from the New York City Police Academy in 2005, committed suicide on Jan. 27. (Photo by Paul Lansdale) Inset, Budney is shown with his wife, Shannon; the couple married at Loretto in 2013.

Beacon Names New Police Chief
Mayor critical of ‘leaks’ about decision
By Jeff Simms

The Beacon City Council has unanimously approved the appointment of Capt. Kevin Junjulas, a 23-year veteran of the police department, as chief of police, succeeding Doug Solomon, who resigned in December to take the same job in Newburgh. Junjulas, who is a resident of Cold Spring, had been serving as interim chief. He was recommended by Mayor Randy Casale, who before the vote blasted council members for allegedly leaking the news that Junjulas would be appointed.

“Trust is a valuable word, and I have lost a lot of trust,” Casale said, implying that the leak led some residents to protest the hiring process. The mayor said he had received emails suggesting he should have asked for input from the public before making his recommendation to the council.

Casale said that he told council members Jan. 29 during a closed session that he would name Junjulas, who will serve on a provisional basis until he takes the Dutchess County civil service exam for police officers, which is currently scheduled to be given in March 2019. If he scores highly, he could then be named permanent chief and begin a one-year probationary period.

At the council’s Monday, Feb. 5, meeting, the debate focused on.

Candidates Launch Campaigns for Federal, State, County Offices

Early challengers to Maloney, Serino
By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

They’re off and running. Hopefuls for federal state and county offices are launching campaigns, seeking money and volunteers, and pursuing victory in the Nov. 6 general election.

Typically, several candidates declare for state or federal races; all must gather the required number of signatures of registered voters to appear on the ballot. Any one running for U.S. House, for example, must gather at least 1,250 signatures in the six weeks beginning March 6.

House of Representatives

Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, the incumbent Democrat whose House District 18 includes the Highlands, has two Republican challengers, Jarred Buchanan and James O’Donnell, who share a background in law enforcement and enthusiasm for President Donald Trump’s policies.

Raised in Yorktown, Buchanan graduated from Lakeland High School in 2001 and joined the New York City Police Department in 2007. He declared his candidacy on Facebook on Nov. 23, saying he was motivated to run by dismay at the federal response to the 2012 attack on the U.S. Embassy in Libya. Hillary Clinton, the U.S. secretary of state in 2012, “is a liar and never fully told the truth,” he wrote, adding that Maloney, who served in the White House under President Bill Clinton, is “cut from the same cloth as those liars and corrupt, horrible people.”

Buchanan called his target “tax-raise Maloney” and accused him of having a “socialist agenda”; criticized NATO leaders as “some of the most tactically unsound people I have ever seen”; said the United Nations “needs to leave America” because “those people are war criminals”; and described himself as “very pro-gun” and eager “to repeal all laws on the federal level [and] all local and state laws that stand against your right to have and carry a firearm.”

The other GOP (Continued on Page 6)
Judith Enck is the former Environmental Protection Agency administrator for Region 2, which includes New York and Puerto Rico. She will be honored Feb. 11 at Clearwater’s Sprit of the Hudson Gala at The Garrison.

You spent seven years at the EPA before stepping down in January 2017, after President Trump took office. What are you most proud of?

The massive amounts of PCBs (pollutants) we got out of the Hudson River. We also were able to get a number of aging public schools in New York City to remove lighting fixtures that contained PCBs. I’m also proud of a number of things we accomplished in Puerto Rico. This was before hurricanes Maria and Irma. We jumpstarted recycling, we filed importunations and the Virgin Islands: solar, local energy grids, wind, fuel cells.

What can be done?


What should happen next with the PCB cleanup in the Hudson?

There’s been criticism that the EPA didn’t get enough PCBs out of the river. The agency got a lot out, but it’s important for the State of New York to remove PCBs from the Champlain Canal, which runs parallel to the Hudson. The EPA couldn’t touch the canal as part of the Superfund cleanup because it doesn’t have the legal authority to do navigational dredging.

What is your assessment of the EPA under Scott Pruitt, who was confirmed as administrator a month after you left?

I’m surprised at how fast he has gutted the agency. I feel sad for my former colleagues, many of whom have been there for 25 or 30 years and feel they’re watching it get torn apart. They tell me Pruitt does not talk to the agency’s experts before making a decision, so they can’t even put up a fight. The EPA posted on its webpage — because it’s proud of this — a list of regulations that either have been or are being repealed. These are major environmental regulations being rolled back for no good reason other than that polluters have asked for it. Attorneys general from many states, including New York, are challenging a lot of these changes, but in the meantime the EPA is not enforcing the regulations.

What is your view of the courts as you leave?

The courts and the public are stepping in where the federal government has failed. People are fighting their game while the federal government is missing in action. People also should donate to effective environmental groups like Clearwater or Earthjustice, which does a great job litigating. I have no financial interest in these groups, but if you normally would send $10, send $20.

What is your assessment of the PCB cleanup because it doesn’t have the legal authority to do navigational dredging?

It’s a huge problem, and any one of the four groups that has been named to oversee the cleanup — because it’s proud of this — a list of regulations that either have been or are being repealed. These are major environmental regulations being rolled back for no good reason other than that polluters have asked for it. Attorneys general from many states, including New York, are challenging a lot of these changes, but in the meantime the EPA is not enforcing the regulations.

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Butterfield Beech Blues

Arborist recommends removal of a favorite tree

By Michael Turton

An arborist has recommended that the iconic copper beech located on the lawn of the Butterfield redevelopment be removed because it has deteriorated to the point it cannot be saved.

In an undated letter to Unicorn Contracting, the company developing the site on behalf of Butterfield Realty and developer Paul Guillaro, arborist Joshua Maddocks wrote that the tree “is beyond a point of positive regrowth and has survived its anticipated life span.” He recommended cutting it down and replacing it with another colorful tree.

Matt Moran of Butterfield Realty forwarded Maddocks’ letter to Matt Francisco, who chairs the Cold Spring Planning Board, on Jan. 19. Francisco said it was discussed at the board meeting that evening.

On Jan. 22, Francisco said, he replied to Moran, asking that removal of the tree be delayed because its protection had been “a condition of approval on an active project” when the development’s site plan was approved by the board in 2015.

An easement also restricts the future owners of two homes that will be built as part of the project along Paulding Avenue from pruning the tree. The drip line for the copper beech extends over part of both residential lots.

Maddocks, who owns Garrison Tree Inc., said he has monitored and treated the tree since 2010 and that “it has never been in great shape.” Despite being treated for pests, fertilized and pruned, it “continues to be in a state of decline.” He also expressed concern about falling limbs.

At the Feb. 6 meeting of the Cold Spring Village Board, Mayor Dave Merandy said he would request a second assessment of the tree by arborists at SavAtree, the company that created a tree protection plan for the copper beech.

“It seems that the tree that was supposed to be protected and was a focal point during Butterfield approvals will shortly no longer be, sadly,” Merandy said. He added that in 2013, SavAtree felt that the beech’s condition was not a concern and that it was “savable” but that now, “four or five years later, it’s in need of being taken down.”

ICE BREAKER — The Coast Guard spent the weekend of Jan. 20 and 21 freeing barges from the frozen Hudson.

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Horton Road project
I am the environmental consultant working for Horton Road LLC on the Hudson Highlands Reserve project in Philipstown (“Proposed Development Gets Pushback,” Jan. 26).

Most of my work in recent years has involved opposing bad projects. I worked against casino projects proposed in Sterling Forest State Park and adjacent to Harriman State Park in Woodbury, as well as an IKEA that was proposed in New Rochelle and a residential/golf course project, also within Sterling Forest State Park. Recently, the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) used my arguments to deny permitting for the proposed 124-mile Constitution Pipeline, which had been previously approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. But I’m not anti-development, and it’s a pleasure to work for a client that wants to do things right.

This project was designed to preserve the most environmentally and culturally valuable features of the property, and to place development on those areas most suitable for development. It is proposed to preserve about 74 percent of the 210-acre property, which will include all of the wetlands, streams, Ulmar Pond, primary wildlife corridors, unfragmented forest, an early-19th-century barn, and an historic stone-wall-lined road.

The developed portion of the project will utilize areas that have been previously disturbed and which contain invasive, non-native plant species, and which are already considered to be fragmented forest due to their proximity to Route 9 and existing residential and commercial development. A natural, 140-foot undisturbed buffer will be preserved around Ulmar Pond as part of the conservation easement that will be placed on all the preserved lands. The pond itself, which suffers from algal blooms, will be cleaned up and restored, which will include the planting of additional native plant material to replace non-native species.

The Clove Creek, streams and wetlands will be left completely untouched, with preserved buffers exceeding 300 feet. The original historic road through the property, which probably served as a major north-south thoroughfare prior to the existing Route 9 alignment, will be preserved as a linear park behind the proposed homes.

The unfragmented forest to be preserved includes a 50-acre parcel that was purchased solely for the purpose of preserving it, and will bolster the functioning of the unfragmented forest contained in the nearby Fahnestock State Park.

Partnerships with private developers who are willing to set aside large portions of their land are an important mechanism to preserve land that would otherwise be too expensive or simply unavailable to purchase. That was indeed the purpose of creating the option for a conservation subdivision in the Town Code. In order to work, however, developers must be able to realize a sufficient return on their investment in order to support the donation of the remaining land for open space. It has to be a win-win for all sides.

This same property had been previously approved for a soil mine. The project now proposed instead can serve as a textbook example of environmentally responsible development, and if Michelle Smith of the Hudson Highlands Land Trust is correct about this proposal inspiring other similar developments in the area, this would be a very positive trend indeed.

Stephen Gross, Warwick
Gross is the owner of Hudson Highlands Environmental Consulting and from 1988 to 1997 worked for Tim Miller Associates in Cold Spring.
One more memory

I remember skiing down the closed Metro-North tracks during a blizzard in the 1990s from Cold Spring to Garrison's Landing, with Guinan's as my destination (“Memories of Guinan’s,” Feb. 2).

When I walked in, Mr. Guinan, a plow operator and the mailman were hunkered down by the crackling fire watching an episode of Perry Mason on a black-and-white set. They wondered where I had come from. I wondered if I had entered The Twilight Zone.

Tom Ptacek, Garrison

Kelly Guinan behind the bar on Guinan’s last night, Jan. 31, 2008, with the “wall of honor” of first responder patches behind her

Haldane Will Have Student “Advisor”

After appointing a high school senior in November as a non-voting student member, the Haldane school board voted on Feb. 6 to change its bylaws to refer to the student as an “advisor” rather than a “representative” (“Students on Board,” Jan. 26).

A review of a 2003 state law that dictates requirements for student representatives prompted the Beacon school board to earlier re-appoint its two newly appointed representatives as advisors.

Edward Swarm

Edward Swarm, appointed six weeks ago by newly elected Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley Jr. as his captain of patrol, resigned on Feb. 1, citing personal reasons (“Langley Names Command Team,” Dec. 22). The sheriff has not yet named a successor.

Election Film

Elizabeth Wolff Dermont, daughter of Cold Spring mayoral candidate Alison Anthonine, who filmed Village Board meetings and interviewed Mayor Dave Merandy and board members for a documentary about small-town elections without revealing her connection to the campaign, says she has not yet done anything with the footage (“Letter: Filmmaker Says Thanks,” March 31).

“She’s been busy producing other projects,” said Dermont, whose father is political reporter Michael Wolff, author of the bestseller about the Trump White House, Fire and Fury. “There are no immediate plans for the footage but seeing how many women are coming forward to run for elected office is further proof that my mother’s efforts were on the right side of history. Quite inspiring!”

Patrol Caption Resigns

Craig House Sale Final

The sale of the 64-acre Tioronda estate in Beacon, which includes the former Craig House facility, from the estate of philanthropist Robert Wilson to an investment group led by Bernard Kohn, Craig Realty Holding LLC, closed in October (“Craig House Sold to Investment Group,” Sept. 22). The buyers paid $5.5 million.

Elizabeth Wolff Dermont (with phone) and videographer Emilie Jackson at the March 28 absentee-ballot vote in Carmel

Lyme Outlook

In April, Richard Ostfeld, a disease ecologist at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies in Millbrook, who has studied Lyme disease for 20 years, said he expected 2017 and 2018 to be particularly risky years for the disease (“Lyme Bomb,” April 7). He said on Feb. 7 that scientists had found “a strong increase in some life stages of the black-legged tick” in 2017 but that they have not yet analyzed the data, which is being collected as part of a long-term study.

“For this coming spring and summer, we expect more modest tick numbers, on the basis of low population sizes of white-footed mice in summer 2017,” Ostfeld said. “Of course, it’s important to realize that the threat of Lyme and other tick-borne diseases is always substantial in large parts of the eastern U.S., so that’s not a license to relax your vigilance!”

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LEGAL NOTICE

Public hearing for a proposed local law to amend the code of the Town of Philipstown by adding a new Chapter 140 to be entitled, “Safe Storage of Firearms.”

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Philipstown, Putnam County, New York, will conduct a PUBLIC HEARING on Wednesday, February 21, 2018, at 7:30 p.m., Prevailing Time, at Haldane Central School, 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring, New York, to consider a Proposed Local Law to Amend the Code of the Town of Philipstown by adding a new Chapter 140 to be entitled, “Safe Storage of Firearms.”

All persons interested will be heard at the time, date and place specified above.

A copy of the proposed Local Law is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk and may be examined during regular business hours.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN

Tina M. Merando, Town Clerk


UPDATES TO PAST STORIES

Haldane Will Have Student “Advisor”

Craig House

Elizabeth Wolff Dermont (with phone) and videographer Emilie Jackson at the March 28 absentee-ballot vote in Carmel

File photo by M. Turton

File photo by Sami Fego

File photo by M. Turton

February 9, 2018 5
For State Senate: Serino, Tyner

Candidates Launch Campaigns for Federal, State, County Offices (from Page 1)

For County: MaryEllen Odell, clerk Michael Bartolotti

Beacon Speaks Out, a quarterly meeting of residents and city officials, convened Monday, but Casale read a statement in his absence indicating his or her support for the appointment but not necessarily the procedure. “People just want to know how this process worked and how the decision was come to,” Grant said.

Yet, said Council Member George Manfield, “as much as I value the opinion of the public, I can’t imagine how much it will actually influence our discussion with tangible information.”

Three Beacon religious leaders — Pastor Ed Benson of the New Vision Church of Deliverance, the Rev. Ricardo Pacheco of Tabernacle of Christ Church and Rabbi Brent Spodek of the Beacon Hebrew Alliance — also emailed Casale to ask for a delay.

“We know the history of the Beacon police,” Pacheco said in an interview on Feb. 7, referencing past oversight of the department by the U.S. Justice Department following allegations of brutality. “But we don’t know the new chief and we don’t know his vision as far as community relations.”

Three years ago, Pacheco helped initiate a dialogue that led to the creation of Beacon Speaks Out, a quarterly meeting of residents and city officials, including Solomon and Casale.

“Some helped to quell some of the community’s concerns at that time,” he said. “We don’t want to go back to having our police department (engaged in) racial profiling.”

Solomon, who was confirmed by the Newburgh City Council on Feb. 5 as that city’s provisional chief, has been credited with restoring order to the Beacon Police Department after he was hired in 2012. Federal oversight was lifted in 2016 after departmental undertakings last year before hiring a superintendent.

Tyner, from Rhinebeck, announced his plans on Dec. 3 on Facebook. His platform includes promoting “a minimum wage that’s a living wage, single-payer [health plan] for New York, full school funding, eliminating school property taxes by restoring truly progressive taxation of the wealthy, strict campaign finance limits, public funding of elections,” and various other initiatives, including making New York fossil-fuel free by 2035 and legalizing marijuana use.

Labeling Serino “Sell-Out-Sue,” on Jan. 27 he accused

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Beacon Names New Police Chief (from Page 1)

procedure and not on Junjulas’ merits as a candidate.

“T’s nothing more deteriorating to an organization than to have no leader,” said resident Pat Kelliher, urging the council to approve the appointment.

But Lisa Marie Martinez asked that the council delay its vote, citing the lengthy search that the Beacon City School District undertook last year before hiring Matt Landahl as its superintendent.

“This is the city’s opportunity to have an ally of the people and not more of the same from a department with a tarnished reputation and bad community relations,” she said.

Council Member Amber Grant said that while she had no objection to Junjulas, “if the community wants to have some information about this person, I think they have that right.”

Casale agreed but said, “I don’t think [Junjulas] needs to answer to the community before I make the appointment. This isn’t government by committee, this is government by elected officials.”

The discussion continued for nearly an hour, with each council member ultimately indicating his or her support for the appointment but not necessarily the procedure. “People just want to know how this process worked and how the decision was come to,” Grant said.

Yet, said Council Member George Manfield, “as much as I value the opinion of the public, I can’t imagine how much it will actually influence our discussion with tangible information.”

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Solomon, who was confirmed by the Newburgh City Council on Feb. 5 as that city’s provisional chief, has been credited with restoring order to the Beacon Police Department after he was hired in 2012. Federal oversight was lifted in 2016 after the department demonstrated “substantial compliance” with recommendations regarding the use of force, the type and quantity of ammunition carried by officers, the city’s system for handling public complaints and officer training methods, among other issues.

For State Senate: Serino, Tyner
Beacon to Study Airbnb Rentals

Council will revisit issue raised three years ago

By Jeff Simms

A year after Airbnb bookings jumped by 62 percent in Beacon, the City Council is preparing to explore whether to regulate the room-rental industry.

The council considered legislation in 2014 and 2015 to regulate short-term rentals, which would include those made through Airbnb.com, but deferred to the state Legislature, which was expected to pass its own law.

The law that was adopted, however, applied only to New York City, where legislation passed its own law.

The city’s code defines a “tourist home” — a place in which overnight accommodations are provided or offered for transient guests. The code, however, does not outline restrictions for tourist homes as it does for the other classifications, such as hotel rooms.

Airbnb provides a valuable stream of income for homeowners while also attracting tourists, especially in rural areas or smaller towns where there are not many hotels. It also can generate tax revenue for counties; Dutchess County collects a room tax on every Airbnb rental, just as it does with hotel rooms.

As in Philipstown and Cold Spring, Beacon’s existing regulations raise questions. The city’s code defines a “tourist home” — distinguishing it from bed-and-breakfast facilities, hotels or boardinghouses — as a place in which overnight accommodations are provided or offered for transient guests. The code, however, does not outline restrictions for tourist homes as it does for the other classifications, such as the number of guests, length of stay or need for inspection.

“We need to have some kind of legislation,” Beacon Mayor Randy Casale said during the council’s Jan. 29 workshop. “I want to get a law for short-term rentals and I think simplest is easy. We can’t just keep putting it off.”

Regulation would certainly help get a grasp on how many Airbnbs there are in Beacon. Casale said he’s heard a range of numbers from 100 to 125; a search for “Beacon, New York, on Airbnb turned up 88, ranging in price from $45 to $375 per night.

Casale said he hopes the council will move quickly to consider a proposal that would require Airbnb hosts to obtain a permit from the city and have their rental spaces inspected at least once a year. He also would like to see a requirement that rental spaces be owner-occupied, so that second homes could not be used exclusively as Airbnb rentals.

“I don’t believe we should have people buying houses and just using them for Airbnb,” he said. “The more houses you take off the market to do that, the less houses are out there and the more prices are going to go up.”

City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis said he would draft a law for the council to review.

Statistics provided by Airbnb show that the number of hosts in Beacon grew by 40 percent from 2016 to 2017, and the website promotes everything from a camper to single rooms to a “palace on [the] creek” being offered in the city.

“It’s a quality of life issue for me,” said Council Member Terry Nelson. “If some-
Beacon to Study Airbnb Rentals  (from Page 7)

one next door to me buys a house and there's some new person coming in and out, that affects the quality of life for me and my neighbors. Where we stand now, it's the wild, wild west."

Several residents asked the City Council to look into short-term rentals last year after an Orchard Place property owner cut down more than a dozen trees, fueling speculation that the home was being refurbished as an Airbnb rental.

The owner, David Allis, said this week that work continues on the home, but he's unsure whether he'll list it for rental.

Rosemary Merhige lives on the outskirts of Beacon, where she rents two extra bedrooms through Airbnb for $130 per night. Her clientele is mostly couples, hikers and wedding guests, she said, and she's booked for most weekends.

For two-night stays, Merhige will give guests a spare key, but she said either she or her husband are always at home overnight.

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her of “devotion to corporations instead of us.” A day later, he suggested voters elect someone “not afraid to stand up strong for what's right, no matter what the cost politically” as, he said, his actions the previous year demonstrated.

An eight-term veteran of the Dutchess Legislature, Tyner was censured in 2017 by colleagues there for language which, he said, his actions the previous year demonstrated.

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The New York State Board of Elections (NYSBOE) did not show any financial data for Tyner's campaign as of Feb. 7, while Serino reported campaign funds totaling $88,425. Her campaign Facebook page promoted a Feb. 10 gala but otherwise showed no signs of ongoing activity. She won her first term in 2014, defeating incumbent Terry Gipson.

Putnam County

MaryEllen Odell, a Republican, seeks her third three-year term as Putnam County executive. As of Feb. 7, she had no apparent opponents and a campaign balance of $3,448, according to NYSBOE.

Odell's campaign website cited her record as county executive in ensuring that Putnam “has the lowest tax bill of any of the 62 counties in New York,” while maintaining an excellent bond rating; keeping budget increases under the state’s 2 percent cap; fighting the opioid crisis by suing “Big Pharma” drug companies; overseeing construction of a senior center in Cold Spring; and trying “to protect our citizens from an unwarranted invasion of their safety and personal privacy” by joining county clerks in rejecting a Freedom of Information Law request for gun owners’ names and addresses.

Another Republican, County Clerk Michael Bartolotti, elected in 2014, announced on Feb. 6 that he will seek re-election. He also had no early opposition. His campaign funds total $7,094.

If elected to a second term, Bartolotti said, he will work for “the betterment of the community.” He said he intends to focus on unveiling an electronic land records system; possibly opening Department of Motor Vehicles branches throughout the county; pressing Albany for “our fair share of DMV revenue to further offset property taxes; exploring emerging technology to streamline office operations” and advocate “the rights of pistol-license holders.”

Candidates Launch Campaigns for Federal, State, County Offices  (from Page 6)

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Cooking with Color

Beacon photographer blends her art with food

By Alison Rooney

Meredith Heuer has a lot of irons in the fire at the moment. An exhibit of the Beacon artist’s photos and watercolors opens at the Matteawan Gallery on Feb. 10, and on March 6 her photos will be published in *Six Basic Cooking Techniques*, written by Jennifer Clair and designed by Dan Weise, who are also both based in Beacon.

The works in Colorfields, her Matteawan exhibit, came about after Heuer (pronounced “hue-er”) became intrigued by how much “the color of the thing, rather than the thing itself” was affecting her, she says. For instance, she prefers to organize her photos by color, not subject.

She decided to pursue a personal investigation of color and settled on, of all things, gelatin to help her do it. “It was a perfect medium because of the way light passes through it,” she says. “It seemed a poor choice, but then it made sense. Each challenge the gelatin presented turned out to be an opportunity to delve into abstract expressions of emotions through color.”

Heuer grew up in Detroit, and when she was in high school, her stepfather, a photo hobbyist, gave her a camera. She went west to study French literature at the University of California at Berkeley, and while there, she worked in a darkroom in the architecture building, which gave her a place for experimentation.

After moving to New York City, she found work as a photo librarian at the School of Visual Arts. Finally, there, she began to pursue photography. Her timing was right. “It was the era of the big budgets” for magazines, “and that made it a time when people were willing to take chances,” she recalls. She traveled the world for *Fortune, Travel + Leisure and Gourmet*, specializing in travel stories for the latter — China, Vienna, farms — rather than close-ups of dishes. After nine years in Manhattan, Heuer and her husband, Thomas Wright, a designer, moved to San Francisco for five years. On the day their eldest son, Cleveland, now 13, was born, Wright and his Brooklyn-based partner, Joseph Fratesi, got a call from *Vogue*, which wanted to feature their AS4 furniture line.

A photo by Meredith Heuer of a Jennifer Clair recipe: casserole-roasted chicken with melted root vegetables

Heuer, who says she favors “stronger emotions” than San Francisco can muster, suggested they return to the East Coast. They chose Beacon somewhat by accident after making a pit stop at the Yankee Clipper, then exploring the city more closely. Twelve years later, having roosted with Cleveland, his brother, August, 11, and a passel of chickens, they decided to settle here.

Heuer and Wright say they are happily entrenched. In 2016, Heuer was elected to the city’s school board.

Heuer’s affection for the city was amply reflected in her 2013 Beacon Portrait Project, in which she photographed more than 100 residents, each in his or her own home and in natural light, with each subject recommending the next.

One of the people Heuer met soon after moving to Beacon was Jennifer Clair, the founder of Home Cooking New York. “We met through revolving pot-lucks,” Heuer recalls. “We’d have lunch and talk about the food.” They also did a show on the community radio station, The Ground. Her love of cooking, Heuer says, originated in high school when she and her brother each had to cook one meal a week for the family. “I’m comfortable taking on any recipe,” she says.

Heuer, who has taken the photographs for four previous books, including *At Home in the Hudson Valley*, says she and Clair tried to balance the “make it look pretty” approach with the “make it look do-able” aesthetic. “You don’t want to intimidate people with beautiful images that look difficult to do,” she says.
FRIDAY, FEB. 9
Winter Carnival Spaghetti Dinner & Movie (The Mighty Ducks)
6 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
107 Glenclyffe, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com
Beacon Players: Sweet Sound for Our Shed
6:30 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon
Email ellyJane138@gmail.com.
Minute-to-Win-It Valentine’s Party (grades 6-8)
6:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org
Hudson Valley Poets Open Reading
7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon | howlandculturalcenter.org
North by Northwest
7:30 p.m. Bardavon
2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls
845-298-1491 | countyplayers.org
You Can’t Take It With You
8 p.m. County Players Theatre
2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls
845-298-1491 | countyplayers.org
BEACON SECOND SATURDAY
Sound/Peace Concert
4 p.m. St. Andrew’s Church
15 South Ave., Beacon | standrewsbeaconny.org
Anna West: The Chairs
5 – 6 p.m. Denise Gianna Designs
494 Main St., Beacon
denise-gianna.squarespace.com
Mark Rosengarten: Hudson Valley Beauty
5 – 8 p.m. RiverWinds Gallery
172 Main St., Beacon
845-838-2880 | rivervindsgallery.com
Group Show: (In)Action Figures / Knights of the Slice
6 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery | 163 Main St., Beacon
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com
ARTSG0 Artists in Residence 2015-17 (Film)
6 p.m. Beacon Institute
199 Main St., Beacon
845-838-1600 | beaconarts.org
Lori Adams: Studio at the Studio
6 – 8 p.m. Theo Ganz
149 Main St., Beacon
917-318-2239 | theoganzstudio.com
Elizabeth Arnold: Some Memories Fade
In Pictures
917-318-2239 | theoganzstudio.com
Benny Neill and Nicolas Collins
7:30 p.m. Dogwood
47 E. Main St., Beacon | dogwoodbar.com
Love Letters
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre See details under Saturday.
BEACON OPERAS
Hudson Opera Theatre: La Boheme (Abridged)
7:30 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass
162 Main St., Beacon
845-440-0068 | hudsonbeachglass.com
Donna Mikkelsen: Live Drawing Performance
7 - 10 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass
162 Main St., Beacon
845-440-0068 | hudsonbeachglass.com

SUNDAY, FEB. 11
Cabin Fever Workshop: Japanese Shibori Master
10 a.m. Garrison Art Center
See details under Saturday.
Snow Day
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
Musey Drive, Cornwall
845-534-6500 x204 | hhm.org
Made & Given Valentine’s Market
Noon – 6 p.m. Beacon
See details under Saturday.

SUNDAY, FEB. 10
Hudson River Eaglefest Viewing
9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Boscoebil | 1601 Route 9D, Cold Spring
leatown.org/events/eaglefest
Cabin Fever Workshop: Napkin Basket Weaving
10 a.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3680 | garrisonartcenter.org
Army vs. Navy (Women’s Basketball)
11 a.m. Christl Arena, West Point
845-938-2526 | goarmywestpoint.com
Winter on the Farm
11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Storytill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
storytill.org
Gear Breakdown Workshop for Rockers
1 p.m. Beacon Music Factory
333 Foxkill Ave., Beacon
845-785-0472 | beaconmusicfactory.com
5th Annual Philipstown Winter Carnival
1 – 5 p.m. Philipstown Community Center
1 – 5 p.m. Winter Hill, Garrison
philipstownwintercarnival.com
Made & Given Valentine’s Market
1 – 9 p.m. 17 East Main St., Beacon
facebook.com/MadeandGivenNY
Show Some Love for the Serpico Family (Fundraiser)
7 – 11 p.m. Hudson Valley Brewery
2 Churchill St., Beacon
gofundme.com/help-the-serpico-family

OPEN LUNCH AND DINNER
TUESDAY – SUNDAY
Riverview
Contemporary Casual Dining
Special Valentines Menu
RESERVATIONS: 845.265.4778
45 Fair Street
Cold Spring, NY 10516
riverviewdining.com
contact@riverviewdining.com

FRIDAY, FEB. 15
Dance Jam
7 p.m. Towne Crier Café
379 Main St., Beacon
845-655-1300 | townecriерь.com
Garrison School Budget Workshop
7 p.m. Garrison School
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3689 | gfus.org

FRIDAY, FEB. 16
Zine Club
3:30 p.m. Howland Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org
Talk and Tasting: Beers
7:15 p.m. Valley Restaurant
2015 Route 9, Garrison
845-424-3604 x39 | thegarrison.com
Open Mic
7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under Feb. 9.
Depot Docs: An Inconvenient Sequel (2017)
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre See details under Saturday.
Marc Cohn
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
See details under Sunday.

New Moms and Infants Group
11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Desmon-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
Email whiteside.ks@gmail.com.
Word Blaster Game Night
5:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
See details under Friday.
Cold Spring Board of Trustees
7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14
Valentine’s Day
Margrit Wenzel and Katelin Kirby: Appends (Opening)
6 – 9 p.m. Catalyst Gallery | 137 Main St., Beacon
845-204-3844 | catalystgallery.com
Army vs. Holy Cross (Men’s Basketball)
7 p.m. Christl Arena, West Point
845-938-2526 | goarmywestpoint.com
Nelsonville Village Board Workshop
7 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St., Nelsonville
845-265-2500 | villageofnelsonville.org
Steve Biamires: Scotland’s Ethnic Cleansing (Talk)
7:30 p.m. Beavish Beacon | 291 Main St., Beacon
845-785-1890 | beavishbeez.com
Love Letters
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre See details under Saturday.

THURSDAY, FEB. 15

Hudson Opera Theatre: La Boheme (Abridged)
7:30 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass
162 Main St., Beacon
845-440-0068 | hudsonbeachglass.com

SUNDAY, FEB. 11
Cabin Fever Workshop: Japanese Shibori Master
10 a.m. Garrison Art Center
See details under Saturday.
Snow Day
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
Musey Drive, Cornwall
845-534-6500 x204 | hhm.org
Made & Given Valentine’s Market
Noon – 6 p.m. Beacon
See details under Saturday.
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater Gala
3 p.m. The Garrison
2015 Route 9, Garrison
See details under Saturday.
Hudson Opera Theatre: La Boheme (Abridged)
4 p.m. Beacon Hebrew Alliance
See details under Saturday.
Rodgers & Hammerstein’s Cinderella
5 p.m. Eisenhower Hall
655 Ruger Road, West Point
845-938-4159 | lehail.com
Al Stewart
7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com
Ben Neill and Nicolas Collins
7:30 p.m. Dogwood
47 E. Main St., Beacon
dogwoodbar.com
Love Letters
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
See details under Saturday.

MONDAY, FEB. 12
Beacon City Council Workshop
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon
845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org
Beacon School Board
7 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon
845-838-6900 | bealcon12.org

TUESDAY, FEB. 13
Morning at the Museum (ages 2-4)
10 a.m. Putnam History Museum
63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-4010 | putnamhistorymuseum.org

Valentine Bouquets at
Now In Bloom
66 Main St., Cold Spring
Open Friday - Sunday: 10-5
Feb. 13 & 14: 10-8
Pre-order: bocorre4@gmail.com.

For upcoming events visit highlandscurrent.com. Send event listings to calendar@highlandscurrent.com.
A Room Above the Spoon

Five hotel rooms open over Cold Spring cafe
By Alison Rooney

The Silver Spoon Cafe in Cold Spring expanded in November to the second floor of its Main Street building, adding five bed-and-breakfast rooms with private baths. They are rented through Airbnb for $136 per night.

Owner Abdelhady (Jimmy) Hussein says when he bought the building four years ago, he never considered opening a B&B. But once the idea hit him, he gave the tenants in the two apartments notice and, eight months later, began renovating.

“I pulled out the lights, decided upon the beds and colors, everything,” he says, with backing from his friend (and fellow Egyptian) Arafat Ali, owner of Alley’s Way Car Service in Philipstown.

Each room at Cold Spring Bed & Breakfast has a carved mahogany queen bed and stained-glass windows. The bathrooms have walk-in showers, toilets and hair dryers. There is a common area at the second-floor landing with a table of snacks, water and juice. Breakfast is served at the Silver Spoon, and dinners for guests are 50 percent off. Hussein says he’s had many guests who are visiting West Point; he has received rave reviews on Airbnb.

Soon after the B&B opened, its website was hacked (along with the website for the Silver Spoon), and the content replaced by the image of a skull and bones. Hussein says he doesn’t want to know who was responsible but that he believes it was designed to compel him to close shop, which he says he will not do.

Hussein, who lives in Wappingers with his wife, Mona, and their three children first came to Cold Spring to work at the Depot Restaurant after having worked in the hospitality business for 15 years. Cold Spring Bed & Breakfast is located at 124 Main St. See coldspringbedandbreakfast.com or call 845-265-2525.

Cold Spring Bed & Breakfast is upstairs from the Silver Spoon Cafe. Photos by A. Rooney

The Chairs by Anna West

DENISE GIANNA DESIGNS
494 Main Street
Beacon, New York
February 1-28, 2018
917.753.0538
Meet the Highlands’ Youngest Fire Department

Despite logo, no ‘Mickey Mouse’ organization

By Michael Turton

The smiling, fire-hose-wielding Mickey Mouse that adorns Dutchess Junction Fire Department vehicles has to be the most distinctive logo of any fire company in the state.

“We got permission from Disney to use it,” explains Chief John Miller. “We put Mickey on our first truck, purchased from Mahopac Falls Fire Department in 1973,” the year after the Dutchess Junction company was founded, and it became a tradition.

Miller notes that the volunteer company, which serves 550 residents and has a firehouse on Slocum Road in Beacon, is not only one of the smallest in the state, but one of the youngest, having been established only 45 years ago. By comparison, the Beacon Fire Department was founded in 1886, Cold Spring in 1896, Garrison in 1929, Continental Village in 1950 and North Highlands in 1969.

The Dutchess Junction district covers a swath along Route 9D between Breakneck Ridge and Slocum Road, south of Beacon. Hudson Highlands State Park makes up 90 percent of the district, Miller said.

The department has 20 to 25 firefighters, with nine or 10 serving as its core, according to Assistant Chief Sean Barry, who has been a firefighter with the company for 43 of its 45 years.

The department has a 23-year-old, 2,500-gallon tanker, a 1986 Jeep utility vehicle and an engine purchased in 2015, the first new vehicle it ever bought. It provides mutual aid to a number of nearby departments, including North Highlands, Garrison, Cold Spring, Glenham, Chelsea, Rombout, Fishkill and Castle Point.

Miller and Barry agree that, like with most of the roughly 1,500 all-volunteer fire companies in the state, recruitment is a constant concern at Dutchess Junction.

“Young guys are often interested,” Barry said. “But after their senior year at Beacon High School, they go away to college.” Residents who work two jobs or commute to the city are also less likely to volunteer.

“The amount of time required for training is a challenge,” he said.

The Dutchess Junction Fire Department offsets its expenses with two annual fundraisers. On Saturday, Feb. 17, it will host its seventh annual roast beef dinner from 4 to 8 p.m. at the firehouse, at 75 Slocum Road. Tickets for eat-in or takeout are $18 per adult, $16 per senior and $12 for children younger than 12. It has also held a pancake breakfast every Palm Sunday since 1973.
Talking Shot at Photographers’ Salon

Highlands group meets monthly at Garrison Art Center

By Alison Rooney

The conversation was flowing freely at the January meeting of the Highland Photographers’ Salon at the Garrison Art Center.

The seven photographers at the get-together peppered each other with questions and comments.

“Do you have a primary lens?”

“That one’s a 24-105.”

“What number, on the gourd?”

“24.”

“That’s a straight 50.”

“Are you bracketing with aperture? Bracket with shutter and you won’t have any problems.”

“A F16 aperture, one-and-a-half seconds open.”

“Can I ask what paper you’re printing on?”

The salon began last April through the efforts of Christine Ashburn of Cold Spring and Erin Wik of Garrison, who are both professional photographers. The January session attracted three other seasoned photographers, along with a dentist and a house painter/wallpaperer.

The salon was inspired by one that Wik attended in Woodstock after she decided to pursue photography as a career in 2011. She grew up in Garrison and remembers asking for the latest point-and-shoot camera at every birthday. She apprenticed at Coco B. Sweet Photography in Beacon for a year before launching a “lifestyle portraiture” business.

Ashburn began her career in photography 10 years ago in the darkroom at the art center and “turned pro” about five years ago. Her clients include Chronogram and Hudson Valley Magazine, and in 2014 the Hudson Highlands Land Trust published a collection of her work called Connecting: The People and Places of the Hudson Highlands.

Anyone, at any level, is welcome to attend the salon, share his or her work in print or digital form, and to offer comment, constructively.

“Be respectful in giving opinions; this is a chance for people to grow,” Ashburn told the group in January.

Each of the other photographers introduced themselves, before one took out his large prints (no digital work was shown at this session) and displayed them on a low table for the group to examine. The other photographers shared their images in the same way.

David Nicholls’ photos were taken mostly during his annual holiday visit to his native England. “I’m trying to get beyond the documentation side of architecture,” he said. His passing mention of ON1, an image-processing software, led to a discussion comparing it to others.

For Jack Gish, it’s all about tugboats, a natural subject for someone who sees them pass regularly by his Manitou home. “I have an app which allows me to identify when one is coming, where it has come from and where it’s going, as well as its history,” he explained.

Mark Vrzala said he shoots “anything but screaming kids. This is my weekend; I’ve enjoyed art since I was little. When I get into shows, it’s a nice feeling when someone likes something and wants it on their wall.”

Nancy Faulds’ journey began with classes at the Putnam Arts Council in the 1990s. She also belongs to a Digital Discussion Group in Mahopac. Her subjects are landscapes and architecture, particularly abandoned buildings, some of which she visits with a group called Abandoned America.

“I’ve been trying to figure out a way to make money from this,” she said. “I haven’t been successful in that yet but have been in some juried shows.”

Craig Watters went to school to study photography, then worked in commercial photography, largely marketing and advertising-oriented, in particular catalog work for the automotive industry.

“There was crossover between technically proficient and creative work,” he said. “I’m more on the technical side, but this turned out to be niche work. Then digital came in and changed the economics of it all. I tried other genres, but they weren’t my thing, so I ‘retired.’ ” Now working in real estate, he said he has developed an interest in drone photography and brought examples.

Tugboat Marie J. Turecamo, by Jack Gill

Blue On Blue, photo by Mark Vrzala

Walking With Monet, photo by Mark Vrzala

Age 13, Lake Valhalla, by Christine Ashburn

Grandma at Home, Lake Hopatcong, New Jersey, by Erin Wik

Beacon Photographers

The Beacon Photography Group hosts an annual show of its members’ work at the Howland Public Library, its 300 members share and discuss images at facebook.com/groups/beaconphotogroup.

Salons occur on the last Wednesday of the month. The next session will be held at 7 p.m. on Feb. 28 at the art center on Garrison’s Landing. The fee is $5 for art center members, or $10 otherwise.
Spring Programming at Philipstown Recreation Center
Registration opens February 5: Residents
February 12: Non-residents

Book is available at www.philipstownrecreation.com/booklets

Call 845-424-4618 or 845-424-4662 to register
R = Resident / NR = Non-Resident

Summer Camp is coming!
Camp brochure will be available March 7
8 weeks starting June 25
Registration opens March 12
Summer Camp employment
Applications will be accepted until March 2
Minimum age requirement 15 for CITs and 16 for counselors.
Applications: philipstownrecreation.com/forms

EARLY EDUCATION

Indoor Tot Park
T,TH 9-11am & M-F 12-1:30pm
$1 per session

Little Sluggers (ages 3)
Starts April 21
$70 R / $85 NR

Pre-Ballet (ages 3-5)
Starts April 10 or 12
$85 R / $100 NR

T-Ball (ages 4-5)
Starts April 21
$70 R / $85 NR

The Learning Center (ages 3-5)
Registration opens March 19th
for the 2018-19 school year!

YOUTH/TEEN PROGRAMS

After Care & Before Care
Programs
Registration opens March 19th
for the 2018-2019 school year!

Building Bonanza (Grades K-6)
Starts March 15
$50 R / $65 NR

Breakfast Buffet (Grade K-6)
Starts April 21
$50 R / $65 NR

Color Splash (Grades K-6)
Starts May 9
$40 R / $55 NR

Fruit to Art (Grades K-6)
Starts March 12
$55 R / $70 NR

Potions 101 (Grades K-6)
Starts May 10
$40 R / $55 NR

Quilting for Kids (Grades K-6)
Starts May 7
$40 R / $55 NR

Sweet Treats (Grades K-6)
Starts March 13
$55 R / $70 NR

SPORTS AND MOVEMENT

Beginning Ballet (Grades K-1)
Starts April 10 or 12
$85 R / $100 NR

Baseball Skills & Drills
(Grades 2-7)
Ongoing
$1 per night

Basketball Skills & Drills
(Grades 3-8)
Ongoing
$1 per night

Co-Ed Soccer Clinic (Grades 1-6)
Starts April 21
$45 R / $60 NR

Floor Hockey
Starts March 21
$40 R / $55 NR

Lacrosse (Grades K-8)
Philippstown Highlanders
Teams for Boys and Girls

Teen Night (Grades 6-8)
March 10
Residents only!
$5

Teen Movie Nights (Grades 6-8)
Captain American Civil War
Pre-Registration is required

FAMILY

Winter Carnival
February 11

CERAMICS

Adults
Starts April 10 or 12
$360 R / $365 NR

Afterschool (Grades K-3)
Starts April 10 or 11
$240 R / $255 NR

Afterschool (Grades 4-6)
Starts April 12
$240 R / $255 NR

Teens (Grades 7 and up)
Starts April 10
$240 R / $255 NR

Mudbunnies (ages 3-5)
Start April 11
$180 R / $195 NR

SENIORS

Chair Yoga
Continental Village Clubhouse
Starts March 8

Core Strength & Balance
Chestnut Ridge
Starts March 14

Fit for Life
Continental Village Clubhouse
Starts March 12

Zumba Gold
Chestnut Ridge / Starts March 13

Line Dancing
Continental Village
March 14, 28, April 11, 25, May 23

Mah Jongg Open Play
Old VFW Hall, Cold Spring
Ongoing Wednesdays

Senior Luncheons
February 28 / May 4

Senior Bus Trip to Fishkill
Feb 14, 27, March 14, 25, April 11, 25, May 8, 23, June 6, 20

SPORTS (18+)

Trip St. Patty’s Day at Aquaturf Club
March 20
$43 R / $58 NR

Trip New York Botanical Gardens & Lunch
April 13
$61 R / $72 NR

Trip Empire City Casino & Lunch
May 2
$46 R / $61 NR

ADULTS – EDUCATION

Write Your World
Starts March 21
$95 R / $110 NR

ADULTS – EXERCISE

Ballet for Adults
Starts April 10 & Jan 12
$130 R / $145 NR

Basic Pilates/Buffet Bones
Starts March 16
$85 R / $100 NR

Cize Live
Starts April 9
$85 R / $100 NR

Intermediate Pilates
Starts March 26
$85 R / $100 NR

Power Hour for Women
Starts April 9 or March 21

Yamuna Body Rolling
Starts March 5
$45 R / $60 NR

Yoga with Kathy Barnes
Starts April 9
$75 R / $90 NR

Yoga with Kathie Scanlon
Starts March 13
$75 R / $90 NR

Zumba
Starts March 22
$85 R / $100 NR

SPORTS (18+)

Volleyball
Thursdays 7:30-9:30, Sundays 6-8
$3 R / $5 NR
Things That May Be Eaten in Italy and Elsewhere

By Joe Dizney

Winter has certainly settled in and while the overall effect has lately been more arctic than alpine, February generally reinforces an appetite for ingredients and combinations common to — of all places — the ski lodge: warm, oozy cheeses (think Raclette or fondue), potatoes (Raclette, again, or if you’re Québécois, poutine) and... buckwheat pasta?

You may be familiar with soba (Japanese for buckwheat) noodles, but the European Alps have a history of embracing buckwheat: in Lombardy in Northern Italy, pizzoccheri; in the French Savoie, crozets; and recipes that use either or both to create humble but distinctive comfort foods.

Pizzoccheri (peet-zoh-CHAY-ree) is believed to be one of the earliest forms of pasta, as it was cut in pieces or strips from larger sheets of buckwheat lasagna and prescribed in size and shape (2½ inches wide by 3 to 4 inches long) by the Academy of Pizzoccheri in the Lombard village of Teglio. The dish Pizzoccheri alla Valtellina (a reference to the valley which produces the casena and bitto cheeses in the official recipe) is described as early as 1550 in Orsensio Landi’s Catalog of Inventories of Things That May Be Eaten in Italy.

In addition to buckwheat pasta and Alpine cheeses, the sanctioned recipe includes slivered or cubed potatoes, cabbage, garlic-infused butter and the specific herbal flavor of sage. If it sounds complicated, it’s not: the potatoes, pasta and cabbage are incrementally boiled together in the same pot and tossed with the garlic-infused butter, sage and cheeses.

Because we are not in Lombardy, you are authorized to alter the ingredients for an Americanized, Hudson Valley version. Substitute Fontina, Montasio or an American-made Raclette for the casera, or a combination and some Emmental, Gruyere or Gouda for the bitto.

Savoy cabbage is traditional, but any hearty crucifer (chard, kale, radicchio) or spinach will do. Authentic pizzoccheri pasta may be hard to come by, but it can be found pack-aged dry online or at Eataly or Buon Italia in the Chelsea Market in Manhattan. Dry pastas will require an adjustment in the sequence and time of the one-pot cooking method.

Fresh buckwheat pasta can be had from Rafetto’s and elsewhere but it needs to be cut into shorter strips for proper texture. If you’re a real cook, make your own, but the nutty character of the grain is what makes pizzoccheri, well, pizzoccheri. If worse comes to worse, an imperfect but acceptable substitute is whole wheat (or spelt) fettuccine.

Pizzoccheri alla Valtellina is traditionally tossed and served straight from the pot, but I’ve incorporated a variation suggested by Marcella Hazan and present it as a casserole topped with a bread crumb-parmesan crust. This allows you to prepare it ahead of time or freeze a batch.

Pizzoccheri alla Valle dell’Hudson

Serves 6 to 8

8 tablespoons (one stick) unsalted butter
4 to 6 cloves garlic, smashed
8 fresh sage leaves
1 pound (Yukon Gold) potatoes, peeled and sliced into ¼-inch sticks or batons
1 pound pizzoccheri pasta, cut as wide fettuccine and into 4-to-5-inch strips

1. Put a large pasta pot three-quarters full of water on to boil and salt it like sea. Butter a large (about 4-quart) casserole dish and set aside. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

2. Melt butter in a small saucepan over medium-low heat. Add garlic and cook enough to flavor oil but not brown the garlic. Remove from heat, discard garlic and set aside. Add sage leaves to cooling butter.

3. Once the water is boiling, add potatoes and cook about 3 minutes. Add the pasta and cook all for an additional 2 minutes. Add cabbage and as soon as it is wilted (about 1 minute) drain all to a large strainer.

4. Return drained pasta and vegetables to the pot and douse with the garlic-infused butter, sage and the specific herbal flavor of sage. Mix the pasta-vegetable mixture. Pour all into the buttered casserole.

5. Combine grated cheese and breadcrumbs and sprinkle evenly over casserole. Bake in center of oven for 30 to 45 minutes until topping browns lightly. Serve hot.
Play Ball … Soon
Little League registration open

The Philipstown Little League has opened registration for the spring season and is offering early bird discounts through Feb. 16. See philipstownlittleleague.com. Children in kindergarten through seventh grade (age 12) of any skill level are welcome to play.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

Photo Show Features Local Artists
Opens Feb. 10 in Poughkeepsie

The Barrett Art Center in Poughkeepsie will open its 31st annual Photowork show with a reception from 3 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 10. Among the 58 photos are works by Beacon artists Evan D’Arpino and Denise DeVore and Cold Spring artists Jane Soodalter and Bidu Tashjian. The photos were selected from among 800 submissions by E. Jason Wabgams, the 2017 Pulitzer Prize winner for photography. See barrettartcenter.org.

Genetic Testing and Cancer
Webinar will discuss diagnostic tool

Support Connection, a cancer support organization for people affected by breast and ovarian cancers, will host a free webinar on genetic testing at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 15. Dr. Wendy Chung will discuss and answer questions about how genetic testing can be used by people who have been diagnosed with breast or ovarian cancer. Register by calling 914-962-6402.

Birds of the Night
Museum to host guided hike

Join a two-hour Owl Prowl with Hudson Highlands Nature Museum educators and learn about native owls and their habits. The hike on Saturday, Feb. 17, will begin at 7 p.m. at the Wildlife Education Center and on Sunday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m. at the Outdoor Discovery Center. Both are in Cornwall. After introducing an owl from the museum’s wildlife rescue, an educator will use a calling device to attract owls in the wild. See hhnm.org.

Beacon Valentine Pop-Up
Made & Given, a curated market of handmade Valentine’s Day gifts, will be held at 17 East Main St. in Beacon on Saturday, Feb. 10, from 1 to 9 p.m. and on Sunday, Feb. 11, from noon to 6 p.m. The selection includes Le Marais Chocolate, Rock Dove Rings, paintings by Johnny Defeo, cards and personal-care products. See facebook.com/madeandgivenny.

The Book of Love
Reception at gallery for new release

An art and poetry book by Margrit Wenzel and Katelin Kirby exploring the many facets of love will be released on Valentine’s Day, Feb. 14, with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. at Catalyst Gallery in Beacon. Appendage will be on display and available for purchase. See catalystgallery.com.

Dance Your Heart Away
Valentine’s Dance on Feb. 10

The Howland Cultural Center in Beacon will host a Valentine’s dance party with the Louie Tunes Band at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 10, with everything from Motown to rock to disco. Admission is $10 per person or $15 per couple.

(To next page)
COMMUNITY BRIEFS  (from previous page)

Baby and Dog

This feature is designed as a counterweight to all the bad news in the world that weighs people down. We could share a photo of a baby, or a photo of a dog, but we are giving you both. How many newspapers can say that? Kelly and Tyler Pellerin of Wappingers Falls shared this photo of their son, Ellis, just home from neonatal intensive care after being born two-and-half months early, with Lily, his new protector.

If you have a photo of a baby and a dog, submit it for consideration to editor@highlandscurrent.com.

Wellness Tours

Beacon Pilates has new space

Beacon Pilates will open its new space at 18 W. Main St., from 5 to 8 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 10. Receive a tour, meet the instructors and bring donations of new indoor or outdoor sporting goods for the Children’s Home in Poughkeepsie.

On the same day, from 1 to 10 p.m., the Beacon of Light Wellness Center (formerly Shambhala) at 4 S. Chestnut St. will celebrate its grand opening with tours, food, children’s activities and a holistic fair. There will also be live music at 7 p.m. See beaconoflightwellnesscenter.com.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

Magic on the Court

Harlem Wizards to perform

The Harlem Wizards basketball team will play members of the Beacon City School District staff at Beacon High School on Friday, Feb. 23, in a benefit for the Rombout Middle School PTO, Beacon High School PTO and the National Honor Society. The game begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are $10 to $35 at the door or romboutpto.org/p/harlem-wizards.html.

THE PURSUIT — This painting by Stephanie Del Carpio is among the small works that will be on display at the Bannerman Island Gallery in Beacon starting with a reception on Second Saturday, Feb. 10, from 4 to 6 p.m. The other featured artists are Amanda Brown and Kate Manire.

THREE BRIDGES — Mark Rosengarten’s photography, including this shot, will be on display at RiverWinds Gallery in Beacon beginning with a reception from 5 to 8 p.m. on Second Saturday, Feb. 10. The exhibit is called Hudson River Beauty.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

LYNX OR BOBCAT? — Lucy Freilich of Garrison took this photo of what appears to be a bobcat near her home. Bobcats are sometimes mistaken as lynx. Although similar in appearance, the state Department of Environmental Conservation says lynx are extirpated in the state.

Share Your News With Our Readers

To submit your upcoming events and announcements for consideration in our Community Briefs section (in print and online) submit a text-only press release (250 words or less) along with a separately attached high-resolution photograph to calendar@highlandscurrent.com.
Haldane Drafts Athletic Code of Conduct

Would remove discretion from coaches

By Chip Rowe

The Haldane Central School District has drafted a code of conduct for sports and extracurricular activities that removes the discretion of coaches in how a student will be punished for using alcohol, tobacco or drugs or other violations of the law.

If adopted by the school board, the draft, dated Feb. 1 and posted on the Haldane website, would prohibit students taking part in athletics or extracurricular activities such as plays, musical performances and student government from using or possessing alcohol, tobacco or other illegal drugs, including vaping pens and steroids or “lookalike products that appear to be illegal drugs,” as well as abusing prescription drugs or over-the-counter products.

It also would ban students from hosting or “actively participating” in parties where drugs or alcohol are consumed by minors, posting photos online that depict the use of drugs or alcohol, or engaging in “vandalism, theft, harassment, intimidation, bullying, assault (verbal or physical), haz ing or other serious, inappropriate acts.”

It is not clear from the draft if the code would apply to students during the off-season of their sports, including the summer. Currently, discipline for infractions that occur off school grounds are left to the discretion of each coach.

If adopted, the new Haldane policy calls for a minimum two-week suspension for a first offense within a calendar year, a suspension for 50 percent of the remaining games or activities for a second offense, and a year-long suspension after a third offense. Coaches and administrators will be able to impose additional punishment. It does not outline an appeals process.

The Haldane school board said on Oct. 3 it would draft a policy after complaints from parents at what they saw as a lax attitude by some coaches toward athletes caught using alcohol or drugs.

In Beacon, the school district forbids athletes from using alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs or performance-enhancing drugs from the start of the fall season to the last day of the spring season, regardless of the sport. The punishment for a first offense is a two-week suspension from sports; for a second offense, removal for one sports season or two months, whichever is longer; and for a third, removal from the athletic program for one year.

Appeals may be filed within five days to the Beacon athletic director for review by an appeals committee of the A.D., a neutral coach and an administrator.
Haldane Explains Neutral-Site Decision  
(from Page 20)

“invite the teams to practice together [at Haldane] and share a meal as a way to build friendships and promote a positive relationship.”

In her own letter to parents, Wills said the bad blood began in February 2016, when “an incident occurred on the Putnam Valley campus following a boys’ basketball game with Haldane which resulted in the significant injury of one of our students by a fan of the opposing school.” According to witnesses, the student was punched and required hospitalization.

Wills said that the player who took the lewd photo “received swift consequences by the school to the extent allowable and immediate removal from the basketball team.” The second two students “received school consequences in addition to a team consequence.”

In a comment posted at highlandscurrent.com, Michael Monteleone, the father of two Haldane girls’ basketball players who said he attended multiple meetings with administrators, coaches and a Putnam County sheriff’s deputy about the incident, expressed disappointment with the responses of both administrators. He argued that the reason the games were moved was simple: To allow the two boys still on the team to play in the “away” game.

“The three players from Putnam Valley made a bad choice,” he wrote. “One crossed a serious line. Punishment was given — not enough in my judgment, but I was OK with it. What I don’t agree with is the decision by Putnam Valley administrators to make a basketball game more important than sexual misconduct against 11 girls who ranged in age from 13 to 16.”

He added: “After the incident, Putnam Valley played at Haldane [during the 2016-17 season] without the three boys, and there were no incidents. In fact, the schools compete in many sports with no issues. So why move the two games this year?”

Bowers said she was writing her Feb. 5 letter “because a local reporter is about to share intimate details about the situation that were “provided by an individual not affiliated with our district.”

The reporter, Rich Thomaselli, who writes the online Hudson Valley Sports Report and contributes sports coverage to the Putnam County News & Recorder, reported on the change of venue in the paper’s Feb. 7 issue. The previous week, he had written a column for the PCNR blasting administrators at both schools for being “two-faced” and “disingenuous” for not saying more about what happened.

In her letter, Wills said that “the public might not be fully informed” about the move “due to the responsibility of school districts to maintain confidentiality about discipline and student issues.

“We know that as educators we are responsible to help students learn from mistakes, even egregious ones,” she wrote. “Adolescence is a time when we use every opportunity to turn errors into learning opportunities when students learn about consequences, remorse, forgiveness and making amends. We are seeking the most balanced approach, holding students accountable, but allowing them to move forward without permanent exclusion from positive community experiences.”

The student section was empty during the Feb. 5 girls’ basketball game at Haldane versus Putnam Valley.  

The Highlands Current Team of the Week

After blanking Carmel, Ketcham and Arlington in the past week, the Beacon High School girls’ bowling team finished a perfect season with a 16-0 record, winning 112 straight games without a loss.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Pins</th>
<th>Avg.</th>
<th>Game</th>
<th>Series</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selena Virtuoso</td>
<td>9,235</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jenna Maffei</td>
<td>9,166</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brianna Virtuoso</td>
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<td>180</td>
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<td>Alexia Alexander</td>
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<td>Jamie Brown</td>
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<td>Julia Lahey</td>
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<td>Kaitlyn Bierce</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lia Muscat</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SENIOR NIGHT – The Haldane boys’ basketball team recognized its seniors on Feb. 1 at their game against Pawling. From left: Anthony Lombardo, Nick DiPalo, Liam Irwin, Coach Joe Virgadamo, Aiden Siegel, Anthony Sinchi, Ronan Tinsley and Daniel Rotando. Seven of the nine players on the 2017-18 squad will graduate in June; the other two are sophomores.  

(Photo by Sharon DiPalo)
Haldane Explains Neutral-Site Decision

Boys’ basketball games against Putnam Valley played in Brewster

By Chip Rowe

The Haldane and Putnam Valley school districts conceded this week that they played their two boys’ varsity basketball games this season at a neutral site — Brewster High School — because of an incident last season involving Putnam Valley players who were visiting Haldane for a joint practice.

Athletic directors at the schools said on Jan. 26 that the change of venue was due to past conflicts, but did not provide specifics. The superintendents of both districts released letters this week providing more details.

After conflicts between fans last season, including a fistfight after the game at Putnam Valley, administrators arranged a peacemaking dinner and practice with the boys’ varsity teams from both schools that took place at Haldane. During the practice, the superintendents said, the Putnam Valley players dressed in the girls’ locker room, which is standard practice for visiting teams.

According to the superintendents, the boys found a phone in the locker room, which other sources say belonged to a female junior varsity player. It did not have a password, and two boys used it to take a “selfie” of their faces while a third player snapped a photo of his genitals that he sent to the phone’s contact list, which included many of the players on the girls’ junior varsity team.

According to the accounts provided by the superintendents, all three boys were removed from the team and suspended from school. In addition, Haldane sent the three boys notice that if they returned to the Haldane campus, they would be charged with trespassing.

Before the 2017-18 season, Putnam Valley asked if the two boys who had taken the selfie could play in the game at Haldane, arguing they were less culpable than the third boy who had taken the lewd image, according to Haldane Superintendent Fran Wills. (Putnam Valley Superintendent Fran Wills wrote that the school viewed the situation as two separate incidents.) Haldane declined to lift the trespassing order but agreed to play the boys’ games at Brewster.

As part of the agreement, no students were allowed to attend either game and the junior varsity games were canceled. The schools also agreed that the two Putnam Valley players would not attend either of the girls’ games as spectators.

In addition, on Feb. 5 Haldane barred students from the girls’ varsity game at Haldane against Putnam Valley and abruptly canceled the junior varsity girls’ game scheduled for that same day. Police officers were present at the Feb. 5 girls’ game, as well as those played at Brewster.

Putnam Valley is in Class B, based on its student population, while Haldane is Class D, but the two schools have a long and competitive athletic rivalry. In one sport, wrestling, two Haldane students compete with the Putnam Valley team, and the track and football teams have practiced together.

The Journal News reported on the neutral-site agreement on Jan. 26. At the time, Chris Salumm, the Haldane athletic director, and Brian Burrow, the Putnam Valley athletic director, declined to comment about the reasons for the move, but Salumm told the paper “there have been issues with Putnam Valley in the past.”

On Feb. 5, Bowers, saying she was writing in anticipation of further reporting on the matter, told parents and community members that the agreement had been made due to “problematic behaviors that infiltrated our sporting events.” (Haldane and Putnam Valley are not the only match-ups in which spectators, including parents, have displayed poor behavior. A parent from Westlake was thrown out by referees during the Haldane girls’ home victory on Feb. 2.)

“Over the past few years, there have been circumstances where spectators at the games did not show the appropriate level of sportsmanship and inflamed tempers that shifted positive events to negative ones,” Bowers wrote.

She said she and the high school principal at the time (Peter Carlucci) met with administrators from Putnam Valley and decided to

Varsity Scoreboard

Boys’ Basketball

Haldane 55, Pawling 43
Putnam Valley 46, Haldane 32
Haldane 56, Edgemont 41
Nick DiPalo (25), Matt Champlin (15)
North Salem 52, Haldane 50
Beacon 47, Henry Hudson 45
Dayion Thompson (10)
Beacon 69, Cornwall 63
Manny Garner (18)
Beacon 71, Lourdes 55
Jemond Gallaway (17)

Girls’ Basketball

Haldane 48, Pawling 27
Haldane 53, Westlake 35
Olivia McDermott (17)
North Salem 42, Haldane 34
Putnam Valley 35, Haldane 28
Henry Hudson 50, Beacon 22
Pearl River 50, Beacon 23
Beacon 40, Peekskill 30

Boys’ Bowling

Beacon 7, Carmel 0
Beacon 5, Ketcham 2
Beacon 7, Arlington 0

Girls’ Bowling

Beacon 7, Carmel 0
Beacon 7, Ketcham 0
Beacon 7, Arlington 0

Indoor Track

Haldane at Varsity Classic
Top finishers

Girls’ 800 meters
48. Emma Rippon (2:35.79)
Girls’ 1,600 meters
47. Shannon Ferri (5:57.86)
Girls’ 4 x 400-meter relay
15. Haldane (4:45.40)
Boys’ 1,600 meters
37. Nicholas Farrell (4:47.80)
Boys’ 4 x 800-meter relay
23. Haldane (8:39.66)
Boys’ long jump
34. Justin Gonzalez (17-04.50)
Boys’ triple jump
35. Justin Gonzalez (36-06.50)