

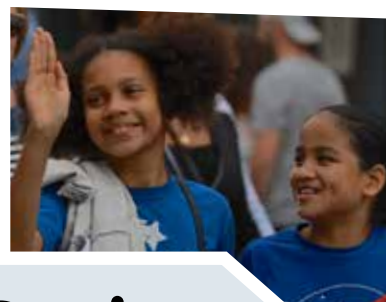
The HIGHLANDS Current



The Ad Man
Page 9

DECEMBER 28, 2018

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



2018: The Year in Review

Is it over already?

By Michael Turton

JANUARY

2 After a water line breaks on Kemble Avenue, Cold Spring highway and water department employees spent three days in temperatures as low as 7 degrees locating and repairing the leak... The federal government estimated that the number of people living on the streets or in shelters in the Hudson Valley rose by nearly 7 percent in the previous year.

5 Walt Carmichael of Fountain Square Antiques in Cold Spring announced he would close his Main Street shop after 23 years. He cited a lack of interest in antiques among younger people.

9 Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy announced the village, which picks up

garbage, would consider switching to a private contractor.... A Beacon Planning Board meeting provided the first look at how the long-delayed 248 Tioronda project could look after recent zoning changes.

10 Nelsonville residents voiced concern about the impact of a cell tower proposed for Rockledge Road overlooking the Cold Spring Cemetery.

11 A 52-year-old Philipstown woman died in a fire at the Stepping Stone Group Residence on Route 301 in Philipstown.... Roberto Muller was hired by Philipstown as its coordinator for the state's Climate

Smart Communities initiative.

19 The Haldane High School girls' 800-meter relay team broke the school record twice in three days.

22 Philipstown denied an application by Homeland Towers to construct a 180-foot cell tower near the intersection of Routes 9 and 301. A month later, Homeland and Verizon Wireless sued the town.

23 A group of Haldane eighth-graders proposed to the Cold Spring Village Board that a skateboard park be built in Mayor's Park.

26 Corrine Kelley, who owned The

Country Touch gift shop on Main Street in Cold Spring for 25 years, announced it would close in February.

FEBRUARY

3 Hundreds of New York City police officers lined Fair Street in Cold Spring outside the funeral service at Our Lady of Loretto for Detective Nicholas Budney, 36, a Haldane graduate who committed suicide. He had been married at Loretto in 2013.

5 After Putnam County town supervisors objected to the county not attempting to seek state funds for shared services initiatives in 2017, County Executive MaryEllen Odell said the county would participate.

(Continued on Page 19)



COLD SPRING AGLOW — Volunteers assembled, placed and lit 1,000 candles along Main Street on Dec. 23 from Route 9D to the waterfront. The event, organized by the Chamber of Commerce and the village, was delayed a day due to high winds. Above, Jim Famorotto, co-owner of The Gift Hut, lights one of the candles.

Photos by Michael Turton

Philipstown Board Appoints New Member

*Fills vacancy created by Nancy
Montgomery's election as county legislator*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Philipstown Town Board on Thursday (Dec. 27) appointed Judy Farrell, a Cold Spring resident long involved with public affairs, to fill the vacancy created by the departure of Councilor Nancy Montgomery.

Montgomery will take the oath on Monday, Dec. 31, to represent Philipstown on the nine-member county Legislature. The Democrat defeated two-term Republican Barbara Scuccimarra on Nov. 6.

Under state law, if a vacancy occurs, a town board's

Judy Farrell

Photo by Amy Kubik

(Continued on Page 6)

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5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: JEFF O'NEIL

By Jeff Simms

Jeff O'Neil owns Industrial Arts Brewing Co. in Rockland County. He plans to open a second brewery next year in Beacon.

Why Beacon?

I live in Cold Spring but Beacon is where most of my social life is. Before Two-Way Brewery opened, there wasn't a brewery in Beacon, so it was obvious there was an upside there. A strong local beer community can support dozens of breweries, even in a small town, and the people who are moving to Beacon are right in line with our typical customer. It started as a search for a retail outpost but I revisited properties earlier this year with an eye toward a satellite taproom. The property [on Fishkill Avenue] was just begging to be converted into a brewery.

What is a "satellite" taproom?

One of the big success stories in craft beer has been the "on-premise experience" that people seem to love. The consumer wants to know their brewer in the same way that they know their baker or their farmer. We've had good luck in Rockland County with having people come to see the whole process. The opportunities in Beacon are much bigger. We'll have a big deck and patio with amazing views [of Mount Beacon], and we'll build a much larger production facility, as well. It'll start as an outpost where we sell beer brewed in Rockland. We're going to do a food-truck thing and there will be an event center, too.



Jeff O'Neil inside the Beacon space that will be developed into a brewery, tasting room and event center
Point Five Creative

Why have craft breweries become so popular?

There are 7,000 breweries in the U.S., and five years ago there might have been 2,500. There's this trend toward local stuff of all sorts, and the consumer has finally been turned on to fresh beer. Beer is a living thing and it suffers the farther it goes from its source. It dovetails nicely with the farmers market experience. That's the best analogy I have for it. The Hudson Valley in the past few years has probably quadrupled its number of breweries, and has become a world-class place to travel and drink local beer. But even though we're all in the same 100-mile stretch of valley, the

roads don't tie us all together well. However, with Sloop Brewing Co. settling in East Fishkill and us and Hudson Valley Brewery in Beacon, plus Newburgh Brewing Co., there's a great belt that people can travel by mass transit or Uber. A bigger part of our vision is to make Beacon a center for craft beer.

How long have you been brewing?

About 20 years. I was born in Poughkeepsie and after college went out West and started working at craft breweries. My wife and I moved back with our kids seven or eight years ago. We're proud to be a part of a new tradition here.

A resident recently asked the City Council, seemingly out the blue, to reconsider its longstanding ban on pinball machines and "amusement centers." Coincidence?

One of the proposed uses that would run parallel with the brewery could be an arcade and virtual-reality facility. I don't know for sure if that was someone from our side, but we have been talking to the city about this for a number of months, and word may have gotten out. We've presented this to the Beacon Planning Board, so it's no secret.

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ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

Do you make any New Year's resolutions?

“

I make one every year but by Feb. 1, it's broken.

”



~ Tim O'Leary, Beacon

“

No, I know myself pretty well. It would just set me up for failure!

”



~ Nicole Keppel, Nelsonville

“

You can make resolutions any time. Why confine it to this time of year?

”



~ Julie Halama, Garrison

Mail Delivery



- ➔ Due to increased postage and printing costs, the price of mail delivery for *The Current* will increase on Jan. 1.
- ➔ Mail delivery can be started or renewed at the current rate (\$20 for one year or \$40 for two) until Dec. 31.
- ➔ See highlandscurrent.org/delivery or send a check to 161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.

Update

State Confirms PCBs Return to Hudson

Maloney warns EPA could side with GE

By Brian PJ Cronin

With doubts swirling about the efficacy of General Electric's pollution cleanup in the upper Hudson River, the state Department of Environmental Conservation said on Dec. 20 that it had found the level of PCB contamination is still above the level considered acceptable by the federal government.

Of eight sections sampled, six had PCB concentrations above an average of 1 part per million (PPM), the threshold the federal Environmental Protection Agency uses as a goal in Superfund cleanups. One section averaged nearly five times the acceptable amount.

The results reinforce a similar study commissioned by Scenic Hudson which found that areas of the Hudson that GE had dredged have experienced significant recontamination ("PCB Dredging Areas in Hudson Still Polluted," Dec. 14). The DEC study also questioned the methods that the EPA used to measure the effectiveness of the cleanup.

"This analysis affirms that remaining PCB 'hotspots' in the Upper Hudson — several of which are located near population centers — continue to pose a significant health risk to humans and wildlife," said Scenic Hudson President Ned Sullivan in a statement. "It is imperative that the EPA not issue General Electric a certificate of completion" after its second five-year review of the project.

Scenic Hudson also called on the EPA to order GE to investigate PCB levels in the lower Hudson River, "which remains as contaminated today as it was before the upriver dredging project," Sullivan said.

With the EPA's second five-year review of the dredging already overdue, environmental groups fear that the agency will rule that GE's cleanup is complete. Those fears were fanned by a recent statement



MORE TIRES DUMPED — More than 100 tires were again dumped near and into Indian Brook last week, according to Dave Marzollo, a Philipstown resident who pulled as many from the area in August. He and Dylan Stolowitz found about 80 more on Dec. 21, he said, dumped in three spots from Indian Brook Road. "We went just after the heavy rains, so the water was high and you couldn't see the creek bed," he said. "No doubt there are still a lot more down in the creek, too. I will have to get a crew together to get them out." He said the Philipstown Highway Department has said the tires can be brought there for disposal.

Photo by Chip Rowe

from U.S. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, whose House district includes the Highlands, that a decision from the EPA in favor of GE was imminent.

In a letter to the EPA, Maloney and five other members of Congress who represent areas adjacent to the Hudson River urged the agency not to declare an end to the cleanup, which has already cost GE billions of dollars.

"Continuing to live with this legacy of pollution and its impact on achieving waterfront community and economic development is not an acceptable path forward," they wrote. "Leaving such a large amount of polluted sediment behind will delay the river's full recovery by decades, limit future restoration opportunities, restrict deep-draft shipping in the river and Champlain Canal, and prevent communities from making long-term economic redevelopment plans."

In a statement, the EPA's Region 2 office said the agency continues its review and "hopes to come to some conclusions in the near term."

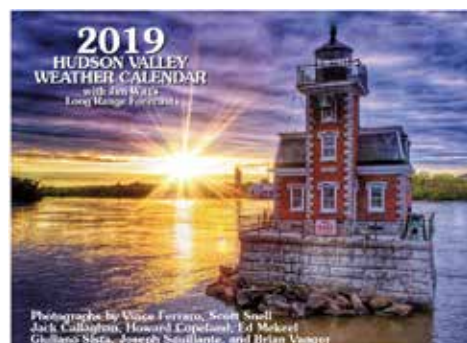
NEWS BRIEFS

Weather Calendar Available

Benefits local foundation for children

Jim Witt's annual weather calendar, which is sold to benefit the Hope for Youth Foundation, is available for 2019. It features 12 photographs of the Hudson Valley by local photographers, as well as Witt's weather predictions for every day of the coming year.

To order the \$12 calendar, which typically raises \$100,000 annually, see hfyf.org. It's also sold in the Beacon area at Adams Fairacre Farms, the Red Line Diner, Viscount Wines & Liquors and WHUD. In Cold Spring and Philipstown, it's available at C&E Paint Supply, Foodtown, Jaymark



Jim Witt's 2019 weather calendar is now available. Image provided

Jewelers, Marbled Meat Shop, the Putnam County News & Recorder and Vera's Market.



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Cell tower

Your article in the Dec. 21 issue ("Nelsonville Urges Philipstown to Resume Cell Tower Talks") presented an incomplete picture of a complex issue and added confusion to an already fraught situation.

Nelsonville Mayor Bill O'Neill's comments follow an unfortunate pattern: call me up, cherry-pick the conversation and articulate his version at a public forum. His bridge-burning style does not serve his constituents. Bombast and bluster never solve a problem.

Here is what I have been doing for the last year regarding the cell-tower proposals in Philipstown, and the lawsuit against the town: I have attended numerous settlement hearings in federal court in White Plains. I spent countless hours consulting with multiple attorneys to understand our position, liabilities and prospects. I have consulted with those who would be most affected by the two cell-tower proposals. In the end, and in consultation with my board, the decision was made to reject the one-sided settlement offer presented by Homeland Towers. The cell towers, as proposed, are bad for Philipstown, and that is why the decision was made.

I was never negotiating on behalf of Nelsonville, as that is not within my purview. That is the sole responsibility of the mayor of Nelsonville. Real battles like this one are won and lost in court and the more prepared you are, the better the outcome. If Mayor O'Neill "has confidence that we will win," why would I settle for a monstrous 190-foot cell tower that would have huge negative consequences for the residents of my town? The 5G race is on and this is not the last of this issue.

Richard Shea, *Philipstown*
Shea is the Philipstown supervisor.

Bag ban

A tax or fee on plastic bags and similar plastic items such as straws and beverage and food containers might be sensible if these revenues were to stay local to be used to clean up our streets, sidewalks, drain gutters, trees, parks and beaches ("Dutchess Adopts Plastic Bag Ban," Dec. 14).

The fee could be partially waived for biodegradable, deposit/return or recyclable plastic items. The use of plastics, and

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Tell us what you think

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.org 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.

pollution and littering, due to the emphasis on maximum profit, and general irresponsibility, is clearly out of control.

Frank Haggarty, *via highlandscurrent.org*

Basing a fee or tax for plastic based on the cost of immediate clean up, as Frank Haggarty suggests, is reasonable but too limited. More reasonable would be to include costs not borne locally. This is difficult to do. What is the cost, in dollars and cents, of oceanic plastic patches, or of plastic litter blowing through the countryside, and what infinitesimal fraction is rightly apportioned to a given plastic bag involved in a Target run?

The virtue of a market economy is the equilibrium between supply and demand in light of cost. As an intellectual exercise, the cost of plastic bags is not reflected in the price paid by the merchant and indirectly by the consumer. In the absence of a "price signal," the tendency is to overconsume. I don't know the right number: 10 cents may be enough, but the overall costs are high. If you can understand it, you also understand how a carbon tax would work.

Sven Thiessen, *via highlandscurrent.org*

Municipal IDs

Beacon approved municipal IDs (Dec. 21) that will be available to illegal aliens. What's next on the agenda? Driver's licenses for illegal aliens? Voting for illegal aliens?

Ralph Pettorossi, *Fishkill*

Dutchess budget

The Dutchess County budget was passed by the majority of our Legislature, members who have lived and worked in the county long enough to understand its intricacies and the biggest issues facing their constituents ("Why Did You Vote Against Budget?" Dec. 21).

The "no" votes against this budget by

our two county legislators do not represent Beacon. They represent elected officials beholden to a political establishment. Most important, they do not serve the residents of Beacon, specifically the most marginalized, the youth, and the pearls of wisdom that are our most valuable resources.

Ali Muhammad, *Beacon*

Albany raises

Our state legislators want more money ("Pay Raises in Albany," Dec. 14) but only work six months out of the year, three days a week. Albany is a ghost town on Thursdays and Fridays. They get a six-week recess for winter, spring and midsession. They get perks and lulus on top of their \$79,000 salaries, and many make close to \$100,000 a year for a part-time job at which they do nothing. Oh, almost forgot the health insurance and support staff.

Kieran O'Hagan, *via Facebook*

State Sen. Sue Serino, who introduced a bill that would put pay raises for legislators on the ballot ("Serino: Let Voters Decide," Dec. 21), has had many years to support limiting outside income for legislators and put restrictions on campaign funding but has done nothing.

John McLaughlin, *via Facebook*

Beacon theater

One of the developers of the Beacon Theater says they were surprised to find out that a popcorn warming bin costs \$4,500 ("Owners: Beacon Theater Nearly Finished," Dec. 14). Maybe that's why movie popcorn is so expensive!

Kelly Ellenwood, *via Facebook*

I saw my first movie years ago at the Beacon Theater: *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang!*

Heather Alderman-Thompson,
via Facebook



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New State Laws

The list below contains some of the state laws that have gone into effect since August. During the 2017-18 legislative session, the Legislature in Albany sent 1,244 bills to the Gov. Andrew Cuomo; he signed 904, vetoed 137 and has not taken action on 203.

- Insurance agents and brokers no longer need to take continuing education courses for both their individual and agency insurance licenses.
- School bus drivers are subject to random drug and alcohol testing. They also cannot drink alcohol or take drugs within six hours of going on duty.
- "Culturally competent" safe house facilities will be created for victims of human trafficking.
- Renting dogs or cats as pets is illegal, along with their "repossession" by a seller if the animal is used as collateral.
- Anyone who fails to pay for barber or salon services can be prosecuted for theft.
- The Department of Taxation and Finance will prepare a report on the impact of the closing of the Indian Point nuclear power plant on municipalities in Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess counties and how they might be compensated for the loss of property taxes.
- Female inmates will no longer be

charged for feminine hygiene products.

- During a state-mandated evacuation, people can bring their pets aboard public transportation run by the Port Authority.
- The Department of Corrections will offer the same variety of rehabilitation programs at the state's three female prisons as are provided at its 51 facilities for men.
- Anyone younger than 18 cannot use indoor tanning salons, even with parental permission.
- Smoking is prohibited in private homes licensed as child care facilities, even when children are not present.
- The Commissioner of Health will issue a report by Oct. 1 that looks at any correlation between mental illness and tick-borne diseases such as Lyme.
- After training, pharmacy interns may administer immunization shots.
- The \$500 given annually to Gold Star Parents who have lost a son or daughter in the Armed Forces during war will increase with the cost of living.
- Auto lenders cannot remotely disable a vehicle without giving a delinquent borrower at least 10 days' notice.
- A person may not touch or require another person to engage in physical activity as part of the initiation process into any organization if it puts the inductee at risk of injury.



Gov. Cuomo signs a bill into law.

File photo

These laws take effect on Jan. 1:

Minimum wage

The minimum wage in the Highlands and most of the rest of the state will increase from \$10.40 to \$11.10 per hour. In New York City, it will be \$13.50 at smaller businesses and \$15 at those with more than 10 employees. In Westchester County and on Long Island, the minimum will be \$12. Fast-food workers will earn a minimum of \$12.75 per hour through the state and \$15 in New York City.

Paid family leave

The amount of paid family leave that an employee can take to care for a sick relative or spend time with a newborn, among other sit-

uations, will increase from eight to 10 weeks.

Firetruck warranties

Municipalities and fire districts will be protected by a "lemon law" that allows them to negotiate directly with the manufacturer (rather than the dealer) about newly acquired firetrucks or ambulances that do not function properly.

Gender X

In New York City, parents may choose to identify their newborns as gender "X" on city-issued birth certificates. The law also allows adults who have an affidavit from a doctor or mental health professional to change the gender on their certificates.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Philipstown Gets Climate Smart Grants

Will help town achieve certification

The state Department of Environmental Conservation has awarded Philipstown \$16,670 in grant funding for its Climate Smart Communities initiative.

The award was part of \$7.3 million in grants announced on Dec. 18 for municipalities around the state to support climate-change adaptation, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and assistance in becoming state-certified as Climate Smart Communities.

The Philipstown grant will help the town complete several actions, including resiliency planning, as it works toward being certified as a Climate Smart Community, the DEC said. The goal of the project is to determine the best strategies to mitigate the town's contribution to climate change and adapt to its effects.

In addition, Philipstown will work on an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions. The town can use these data to set emission reduction targets as part of its climate action plan.

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County Offers Quit-Smoking Class

Free nicotine replacement therapy

The Putnam County Department of Health will offer a free smoking cessation program beginning Jan. 8 for people who live or work in the county.

The hourlong classes will be held at lunchtime at the health department in Brewster on Tuesdays and Thursdays through Feb. 28. The county will provide participants with nicotine replacement therapy as long as the supplies last. Call 845-808-1390, ext. 43155, to register.

Heating Assistance

State program offers help

Senior citizens and low-income New Yorkers who expect they will be challenged by heating bills this winter can apply for federal help through the Home Energy Assistance Program.

Eligibility is based on the combination of how the home is heated and the number of people in the household. For example, a family of four with an annual income of \$55,178 may be eligible, and households with children under age 6 or adults ages 60 and older or those who are permanently disabled also may qualify. To check for eligibility, visit mybenefits.ny.gov. The program

also offers one-time emergency assistance for those already enrolled.

Group Needs Puppy Raisers

Recruiting for February class

Putnam Service Dogs is looking for volunteers to raise and train puppies that are candidates to become service dogs for people with disabilities other than blindness.

The mixed-breed puppies, which weigh from 45 to 65 pounds, will remain with the volunteers for 10 to 12 weeks. About a third of the pups don't become service dogs and will be available for adoption.

The nonprofit will hold informational lunches next month in Patterson, Yorktown Heights, Danbury and Brewster. The deadline for applications is Jan. 22. See putnam-servicedogs.org or call 917-449-5359.

Beacon Discounts

PTOs selling cards as fundraiser

The Parent-Teacher Organizations in the Beacon City School District have joined forces to raise funds by selling laminated cards that provide discounts donated by local merchants.

The cards, which cost \$10 each, offer \$1 off a wash at Beacon Car Wash, 5 percent off used books at Binnacle, \$2 off pickup pizzas at Brother's Trattoria, a free eye exam



Putnam Service Dogs is looking for volunteer puppy trainers. Photo provided

at Luxe Optique, \$10 off a \$100 purchase at Key Food, \$1 off at Beacon Creamery, \$5 off tickets to Bannerman Castle, \$5 off \$25 on Sundays at Brett's True Value, a large coffee for the price of a small at Trax, and 10 percent off at The Chocolate Studio, Mountain Tops Outfitters, Giannetta Salon and Spa, Salon Arje and Sal's Pizza and Pasta.

The cards, which are valid through Aug. 31, can be ordered at bit.ly/beacon-discount.

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Friday, Dec. 28, 8:30 p.m.
Upstate (formerly Upstate Rubdown)
Leslie Mendelson

Saturday, Dec. 29, 6 p.m.
Toland Brothers - Free

Saturday, Dec. 29, 8:30 p.m.
Myles Mancuso Band

Sunday, Dec. 30, 11:30 a.m.
Whispering Tree - Free

Sunday, Dec. 30, 6 p.m.
Peter Calo; also Don Lowe - Free

Monday, Dec. 31, 6 p.m.
Judith Tulloch; also Gwen Laster - Free

Monday, Dec. 31, 9:30 p.m.
New Year's Eve Celebration
feat. Slam Allen Band, Willa & Company,
Dan Brother Band

Thursday, Jan. 3, 7 p.m.
Mulebone - Free

Friday, Jan. 4, 8:30 p.m.
Martin Sexton
Chris Trapper

Saturday, Jan. 5, 6 p.m.
Paulina & Robert Hill - Free

Saturday, Jan. 5, 8:30 p.m.
Buffalo Stack

Sunday, Jan. 6, 7 p.m.
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Town Board *(from Page 1)*

remaining members can select a replacement to serve until Dec. 31 following the next election. Montgomery's four-year term would have ended in 2019; the seat will be on the ballot in November and Farrell can campaign to keep it.

In an interview before the vote, Supervisor Richard Shea described Farrell as a "diligent, hard-working and intelligent person," both "talented and amazingly humble," with "a great resume. She will be a real asset on the Town Board."

Farrell joins John Van Tassel, Robert Flaherty and Michael Leonard as one of the four councilors; the fifth vote belongs to Shea, who said on Thursday he planned to appoint Van Tassel as deputy supervisor, succeeding Montgomery. The deputy oversees town affairs in the absence of the supervisor.

Farrell, whose daughter attends Haldane Middle School, moved to Philipstown 15 years ago. She earned a master's degree in public health administration and spent 10 years with the Visiting Nurse Service of New York, working with children, people with disabilities and seniors. As the organization's director of government affairs, she was a liaison to state and federal policy-makers.

Her national efforts included providing reports and research for passage of the 1993 Family and Medical Leave Act, which protects the employment of adults who take unpaid time off for the birth or adoption of a child or to deal with a personal

health crisis or an ill family member.

She has likewise been involved with helping uninsured residents obtain health care through the New York State program, emergency preparedness for Hurricane Sandy, and the town Recreation Commission, which she joined earlier this year. She co-chairs the Hudson Valley Access to Health Care Coalition, a group of health care providers, community organizations and public agencies.

"I am passionate about public service and improving people's lives," she said.

Farrell said she hoped to use her experience and skills to bring more federal and state resources to Philipstown while collaborating with Montgomery on county-level initiatives.

She said the "biggest challenges" in her new role "will be preserving the beauty of our town from external environmental threats, whether a barge in the river or an ugly cell tower; keeping Philipstown affordable for everyone to continue living here and enjoying our beautiful community." She also mentioned the importance of fighting the opioid abuse epidemic, because "too many young people from Philipstown are gone."

She added that she would support the town's environmental conservation and Climate Smart Community initiatives; emergency services and public safety; the Philipstown Communities That Care Coalition and the town's coordinator for substance-abuse prevention and treatment; services for the elderly; and art and recreational programs for teens.

Two Haldane Seniors Poised to Become Eagle Scouts

Projects complete, they face only final interviews

By Alison Rooney

Two members of Philipstown's Boy Scout Troop 437, Randall Chiera and Ethan Gunther, both seniors at Haldane High School, are poised to reach the highest rank, Eagle Scout. Their final projects are complete, and soon each will face a board of review — four or five people from the community, none of whom knows the candidate, firing questions.

"My project was to create a drop box for old flags" outside the Masonic Lodge in Nelsonville, says Chiera, 16, who joined the Scouts in the fifth grade. "It is for people who have tattered and old flags to easily drop them off for the Scout troop to retire. I decided on this after being asked many times by people how to go about retiring flags. I feel it is important that these symbols of our nation get the respect they are owed, and a proper retirement after a long life of service is part of that respect."

Within two weeks of installation, three flags had been deposited, he says, and on Veterans' Day, the Scouts held a ceremony to retire a flag they had replaced during a hike on the Trail of the Fallen at Popolo-pen Torne, near Fort Montgomery.

Chiera has been accepted into Utica College and Penn State to study cybersecurity but hopes to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy.

For his project, Gunther, 17, built a picnic bench at the Tots Park in Cold Spring designed to accommodate physically dis-

abled visitors. "I knew I wanted to do something that had a very clear function, that anyone could enjoy and easily use," he says. "I also knew that the Tots Park had no good place for families to gather. While digging the holes for the table legs, I found an old foundation, presumably from the old Haldane school."

"I'm a perfectionist and I can't stand to see something I made not turn out exactly like I wanted it to," says Gunther, who plans to pursue a career in architecture. "I was thrilled to see that it came out better than I expected."

Gunther says he joined the Scouts when he was about 6, and there were times after he got older when he wanted to leave because of the work involved. But his father, Gary, who has been scoutmaster of the Philipstown Cub Scout pack since 2009, encouraged him to continue. "I always wanted to be an Eagle Scout," Gunther says. "I wanted to be a part of that elite group."

The Boy Scouts have two programs: Cub Scouts for grades kindergarten through five, and Boy Scouts for the sixth through 12th grades. There are seven Boy Scout ranks: Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life and Eagle, each of which has specific requirements outlined in the *Boy Scout Handbook*.

For example, three of the requirements to reach Second Class involve overnight camping, including skills such as building a fire, planning and cooking a hot breakfast or lunch, using a compass and map together on a 5-mile hike, demonstrating first-aid techniques and explaining Leave No Trace principles.

At First Class, the Scout begins earning merit badges, explains Erik Noor-



Randall Chiera stands beside his flag depository in Nelsonville.

Photos provided

mae, an Eagle Scout who is a parent and adult leader with the Philipstown Scouts. A Scout needs to earn 21 merit badges to reach Eagle Scout, and there are about 140 in all, from beekeeping to weather, graphic arts to crime prevention and kayaking.

Pursuing the Eagle Scout rank is a big decision, Noormae says. "There's a maturity level needed to plan, execute and complete the project. The Scout typically comes up with the idea himself. It must be something helpful to the community. He writes a detailed proposal, then determines whom to contact to get permissions and all the other components of bringing the concept to frui-

tion. He also needs to fundraise. There is no supervisor — the candidate runs the project. The purpose of it is to lead."

The goal of Scouting is to develop leadership skills, he says. "The scoutmaster is there mainly to prevent anarchy! The boys lead. For example, when planning an overnight hike, they learn about first-aid requirements and assemble the kit. They devise a menu. The boys learn to resolve conflicts. They build an appreciation of nature and the outdoors, becoming stewards of the environment."



Ethan Gunther (left) and other Scouts work on his Tots Park table.

Highlands Scouts

Cub Scouts (grades K-5)

Pack 137 (Philipstown)

Gary Gunther (cubmaster@cubscoutpack137.org)

Pack 403 (Garrison)

Bill Hussung (bhussung@mccaffreyrealty.com)

Pack 3001 (Beacon)

Anthony Maxaner (amaxaner@gmail.com)

Boy Scouts (grades 6-12)

Troop 437 (Garrison)

John Maasik (jmaasik@gmail.com)

Troop 3001 (Beacon)

Leon Lopez (troop1.beacon@gmail.com)

Troop 3041 (Glenham/Beacon)

Lawrence Wood (lwoodrox@aol.com)

Venturing (co-ed, ages 14-20)

Crew 3758 (Hopewell Junction)

Competitive shooting sports rifle

Daniel Briscoe (danbriscoe@aol.com)

For more information, visit beascout.org.

AROUND TOWN



DANCING WITH A STAR — Tony Dovolani (kneeling), a professional dancer who appeared on 21 seasons of *Dancing With the Stars*, visited the Fred Astaire Dance Studio of Cold Spring on Dec. 17 for a day of coaching and a group class.
Photo by Steph Woman

WATCH THE SKIES — Wintering eagles arrive in December with concentrations peaking in January and February, according to the state Department of Environmental Conservation. Four of the best viewing spots are Constitution Island from the North Dock at West Point, the Route 6/202 overlook above Iona Island State Park and Riverfront Park and Charles Point/China Pier in Peekskill. The birds are most active between 7 and 9 a.m. and 4 and 5 p.m. *DEC*



FINAL SERVICE — After 16 years as rector at St. Mary's Church in Cold Spring, Father Shane Scott-Hamblen presided over his last service on Christmas Eve. Because of financial difficulties, the 178-year-old church will rely on temporary clergy supplied by the Episcopal Church.
Photo by Christopher Colon

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Alighiero Boetti
Pier Paolo Calzolari
Luciano Fabro
Jannis Kounellis
Mario Merz

Marisa Merz
Giulio Paolini
Pino Pascali
Giuseppe Penone
Michelangelo Pistoletto
Gilberto Zorio

Thursday through Monday,
11am to 5pm

Admission is free to
the public

2700 Route 9
Cold Spring, NY 10516
magazzino.art

The Calendar

Mastering the Pitch

TV commercial veteran will share tips with teens

By Alison Rooney

Despite having appeared in more than 50 television commercials, Bill Coelius of Cold Spring says he has only been recognized once on the street.

The person did a double take, Coelius says, and yelled: “Hey! You’re the Zantac guy!”

Indeed, he is, or was. Coelius has appeared in, by his count, 51 commercials since he was in middle school in Michigan, when he auditioned for an ad for a roller coaster. (His father taught high school drama, which may have helped with his confidence.) By the time he graduated from Eastern Michigan University with degrees in communications and philosophy, Coelius had enough credits to obtain membership in the three major actors’ unions.

“If someone had actually taught me how to do it,” there might have been many more commercials, he says. “Instead, I made it up as I went along.”

The industry veteran will share his knowledge beginning Tuesday, Jan. 8, in an eight-session workshop for students in grades 8 to 12 that will focus on how to audition for commercials. Two-hour classes will be held at 4 p.m. each week at the Old VFW Hall on Kemble Avenue in Cold Spring. The \$300 course is capped at 15 students; email info@theworkingactorsolution.com.

Coelius says the class is suitable both for teenagers who have experience as actors and for beginners. He sees it as providing “life lessons for the kids which extend beyond the audition room to the classroom, to the boardroom.” The curriculum will be as much about the psychology of cracking the audition-room code as it is about line readings and learning how to interact with the camera.

“The foundation of the class is about how to be in service, in terms of ‘How can I help?’” rather than taking personally any criticism from directors and producers who are under pressure from the client to get it right, he says. It’s about recognizing “what is actually needed in the moment, which may not be what you think.”

In addition to commercials, Coelius has appeared on episodic television, including *Criminal Minds*, *American Horror Story* and *Modern Family*, and been directed by Martin Scorsese and Ang Lee. He’s always mindful, though, that “commercials are the working actor’s bread and butter.” In fact, he says, commercial actors who are



Bill Coelius

Photo by A. Rooney

union members collectively earn nearly as much as those working in film and TV.

The course curriculum will mimic classes Coelius has been teaching for years to adults. The first sessions cover basics such as signing in and “slating” (stating one’s name before performing), what to do in a callback and how to walk off a set. Some work will be done on camera. All the copy will reflect parts the teenagers could actually land. The final sessions are run like simulated auditions, including precise timings and director feedback.

After living in Chicago (two years, after college), New York City (14 years) and Los Angeles (6), Coelius happily made the move to Cold Spring in 2015 with his wife, Jennifer Williams, a therapist who practices in Beacon and New York City, and their daughter, Claudette, who is now 4. They were enticed by Instagram posts from friends who had moved to the area.

In addition to teaching commercial acting at the Maggie Flanagan Studio in Manhattan, Coelius instructs students in drama at the Manitou School, near Cold Spring. He also recently finished *Art Thieves*, a collaborative program for eighth-graders that reflects his years doing experimental theater. This past summer, the troupe “kidnapped” a production of *James and the Giant Peach*.

“They created a manifesto, their own characters, new props, their own lights — using just flashlights, and their own words,” Coelius says. “Everything had to fit into a backpack so it could be packed up when they were done. It was a great experience. I’ve found that for that age, if you just set up a few parameters, the volume of creativity is fantastic.”



Bill Coelius has appeared in more than 50 commercials, including for Subway, the NFL, skin-cancer screenings, Geico, Hershey's and Zantac.



For the Actor: How to Love a Product

“What does the product want you to think of it? And what do you actually think of it? For example, superstores want us to think of them as All-American, family friendly, quality goods, which is different from what I actually think of them, which is: cheap crap destroying the mom-and-pop fabric of this country. If I’m not careful that will create an unconsciously cynical slate. I’ve seen it in class over and over and unfortunately noticed it in my own auditions. Your thoughts follow you into the room. Focus on what they want you to think, instead of what you actually think.”

~ Bill Coelius



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WEB# PO1518939 | Cold Spring | \$865,000



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WEB# PO1509257 | Cold Spring | \$615,000



WHY PAY RENT

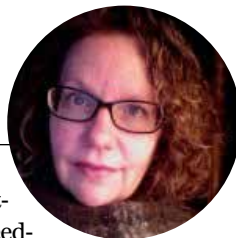
Two-family home in the village. Two-bedrooms in each. First floor with private entrance.
WEB# PO1520431 | Cold Spring | \$369,000

COLD SPRING BROKERAGE 845.265.5500
HOULIHANLAWRENCE.COM

Art Beat

Can Art Keep Up with the Times?

By Alison Rooney



The arts story which generated the most feed-

back this year was a Sept. 21 interview with Matteawan Gallery owner Karlyn Benson in which she talked about why she closed the Beacon gallery after a five-year run.

With developments rising up and down Main Street, the assumption was that her landlord raised the rent, forcing her out, but Benson was quick to explain that her rent was fair. There just weren't enough customers, despite Beacon's reputation in the Hudson Valley as a mecca for the visual arts.

Visitors seemed enthusiastic about what she had on display, Benson said, and she sold plenty of pieces, but they weren't expensive enough to pay the rent and justify the time and energy required to run the business.

"Although artists support each other well here, there aren't enough collectors, which still surprises me," Benson said. "There are months of planning for each exhibit, publicity, handling and hanging the art and all the other administrative duties that come with owning a small business. It's a labor of love, but after a while, you have to make money."

These sentiments were echoed by Eleni Smolen, who this year closed her TheoGanz Studio in Beacon. "What we really need in the Hudson Valley is more publicity that reaches the greater New York City audience," she said. "The concept of the classic white cube gallery may well be transitioning into new paradigms of art marketing. The bottom line is many galleries cannot afford to operate as museums."

With the continued funneling of young visual artists from Brooklyn to Beacon,

the question becomes: Is it realistic for them to be able to exhibit and sell their art, especially in light of increased rents forcing artists to continually find studio space in "undiscovered" spots?

"Having a gallery in Beacon requires deep pockets," notes artist Rick Rogers, the former president of BeaconArts. "You have your audience on Saturday and Sunday for perhaps six hours a day. If it's a rainy day or there's cold weather, your walk-ins are few. To depend on decent sales in that limited time frame is unrealistic. Beacon is a foodie and music destination with hikers sprinkled in."

Of course, making a living by selling what you create is a challenge that artists in all fields have grappled with for centuries. But they are a wily, determined bunch. Their creativity seeps through barriers. Over the past year, in Beacon and Philipstown, I've seen shows on the walls of a real-estate agency, a creative work space, a property administrative office, above a glass-blowing studio, in several coffee houses, in the entryway to a hotel and spa, in a bank, the front windows of a supermarket, a couple of restaurants, and on the piano-saturated streets of Beacon itself.

Although, somewhat miraculously, an actual gallery opened in Beacon this year — Mother Gallery, which is experimenting with longer exhibits — perhaps brick-and-mortar, commission-selling galleries are on their way out.

Writers may not need a storefront, but most experience the same frustrations in getting their work published. So what are many of them doing? Self-publishing. What was once a vaguely derogatory connotation has undergone a transformation, and many of the writers we covered this year got fed up with the slush pile and instead took the lead in getting their books published, distributed and marketed through companies that specialize in this growing market. At the same time, community groups such as Beacon's Get Lit built a literary force with its monthly open-to-all reading series.

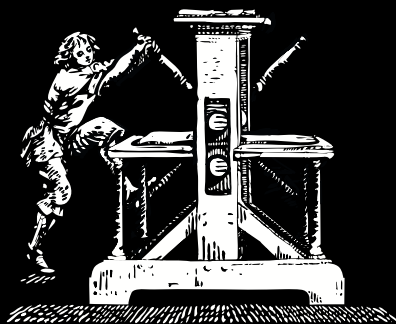
Local musicians are streaming their songs and building a fan base with social media. There are home studios all over the Highlands. Performing at local venues while promoting digital downloads can get the word out.

Theater is malleable, as well. Got no proscenium stage to mount a production? Re-fashion it as a reading. The Excellent Creature company has been doing that with its *Dialogues with Drama* series at the Philipstown Depot Theatre, and Beacon's Todd Hulet has, in the grand "Let's Put On a Show" tradition, begun producing community musicals at the Howland Cultural Center. A modern dance company, A-Y Dancers, founded by three recent SUNY Purchase grads, also had its first performances at the Howland this year.

The artists still streaming into Beacon are looking for a community. It just may not be where they expect to find it.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

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7 LITTLE WORDS

1. DISPOSAL | 2. OUTSTRIP | 3. BURIED | 4. WICKET
5. BOWED | 6. SHARE | 7. GOBBLES

ANSWERS TO THE PUZZLE ON PAGE 23



Last-Minute Giving Guide

While charitable donations help keep critically important community resources in operation year-round, you have until Dec. 31 to contribute to your favorite nonprofits and receive a deduction on your 2018 taxes.

Because the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act that took effect earlier this year nearly doubled the standard deduction for individuals to \$12,000 and for married couples filing jointly to \$24,000, many charities are concerned that giving will drop. With the new limits, charitable deductions will only benefit the relatively few Americans who itemize.

The impact won't be known until Dec. 31, as many people wait until the last minute to give — by one estimate, 30 percent of donations in the U.S. are made in December, and 10 percent in the last 48 hours of the year. The deadline for 2018 is 5 p.m. on Monday if you are mailing a check and midnight if you use a credit card. (There is no deadline to give your time — see Deb Lucke's cartoon on Page 12.) For a quick-and-easy clickable guide to the organizations below, visit highlandscurrent.org/giving-guide.



Animals

Animal Rescue Foundation

P.O. Box 1129, Beacon, NY 12508
arfbeacon.org

Dutchess County SPCA

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

Friends of the Beacon Dog Park

beacondogpark.org

Guiding Eyes for the Blind

611 Granite Springs Road
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598
guidingeyes.org

Mid Hudson Animal Aid (Cat Sanctuary)

54 Simmons Lane, Beacon, NY 12508
gofundme.com/have-a-heart-save-our-shelter



The cats Tux and Elianaw were adopted at Mid Hudson Animal Aid. *Photo provided*

Putnam County SPCA

P.O. Box 850, Brewster, NY 10509
spcaputnam.org

Putnam Humane Society

P.O. Box 297, Carmel, NY 10512
puthumane.org

Putnam Service Dogs

P.O. Box 573, Brewster, NY 10509
putnamservicedogs.org

Arts, Music & Theater

American Center for Folk Music

P.O. Box 782, Beacon, NY 12508
centerforfolkmusic.org
Checks: BeaconArts. Memo: ACFM

Beacon Arts Community Association

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

Chapel Restoration

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

Cold Spring Film Society

192 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
coldspringfilm.org



Cold Spring Film Society volunteers prepare for a free summer showing of *The Thing*. *Photo by Ross Corsair*

Collaborative Concepts at Saunders Farm

collaborativeconcepts.org

Dia:Beacon

3 Beekman St., Beacon, NY 12508
diaart.org

Downing Film Center

19 Front St., Newburgh, NY 12550
downingfilmcenter.com

Garrison Art Center

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

Howland Cultural Center

477 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508
howlandculturalcenter.org



A chamber music concert at the Howland Cultural Center *Photo provided*

Hudson Valley MOCA

1701 Main St., Peekskill, NY 10566
hudsonvalleymoca.org

Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival

143 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
hvshakespeare.org

Manitoga / Russel Wright Design Center

P.O. Box 249, Garrison, NY 10524
visitmanitoga.org

Philipstown Depot Theatre

P.O. Box 221, Garrison, NY 10524
philipstowndepottheatre.org

Education

Beacon Advocates for Music

P.O. Box 727, Beacon, NY 12508
beaconartsandeducation.org
Checks: BeaconArts. Memo: BAM

Beacon Arts & Education Foundation

P.O. Box 727, Beacon, NY 12508
beaconartsandeducation.org
Checks: BeaconArts. Memo: BAEF

Beacon High School PTSO

101 Matteawan Road, Beacon, NY 12508

Garrison Children's Education Fund

P.O. Box 262, Garrison, NY 10524
gcef.net

Garrison School PTA

1100 Route 9D, Garrison, NY 10524
gufspta.org

Glenham Elementary PTO

20 Chase Drive, Fishkill, NY 12524

Haldane Arts Alliance

15 Craigsides Dr., Cold Spring, NY 10516
facebook.com/haldanearts
Checks: Fractured Atlas. Memo: HAA

Haldane Blue Devil Booster Club

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

Haldane Central School District PTA

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

Haldane School Foundation

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

JV Forrestal Elementary PTSO

125 Liberty St., Beacon, NY 12508
jvfptso.com

Rombout Middle School PTO

84 Matteawan Road, Beacon, NY 12508

Sargent Elementary PTO

29 Education Drive, Beacon, NY 12508
sargentpto.org

South Avenue Elementary PTA

60 South Ave., Beacon, NY 12508
southavenuepta.com

Children & Teens

Boy Scouts of America

Hudson Valley Council
6 Jeanne Drive, Newburgh, NY 12550
hudsonvalleyscouting.org
Memo: Specify troop (see Page 7)

Boy Scouts of America

Westchester-Putnam Council
41 Saw Mill River Road, Hawthorne, NY 10532
wpcbsa.org
Memo: Specify troop (see Page 7)

Denniston International

256 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
dennistoninternational.org

Friends of Philipstown Recreation

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

Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson

2 Great Oak Lane, Pleasantville, NY 10570
girlscoutshh.org

Hudson Valley Seed

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

Philipstown Little League

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

Putnam County Children's Committee

P.O. Box 187, Carmel, NY 10512
pccchildren.org

Saint Basil Academy

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

SHRED Foundation

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

Community

Beacon Community Lions Club

P.O. Box 83, Beacon, NY 12508

THE VOLUNTEERS

We thought we'd send you off into 2019 with your faith in humanity reaffirmed...especially the humanity in close proximity to yourself. Read on.

Maximum Ebb at 7:30.

To gauge distance, look at a distant landmark on shore, find a closer one, and see how the relationship changes as we sail.

I've been here continually since 1978 when the Woody Guthrie arrived. I was a novice even though I'd been in the Navy (in Electronics). I sailed every night I could--trying to see how the different captains did things. By 1983-84, I was a captain! I'm at the helm every Thursday with the same crew (during sailing season).

I came for environmental reasons. Pete Seeger started Clearwater in '88 and helped organize the Sloop Club 10 years later.



The idea of the festivals is to get people down to the river to get them interested--to help clean it up! We want to have a positive impact, teach the history of the river, figure out what can be done. The issue now is sewage coming out in floods. And runoff from parking lots. Edgewater won't help.

Since I started there's a lot more things happening on the river, more boating, more people on the riverfront enjoying themselves.

The river is a lot cleaner. We still have fish warnings about how many you can eat in a week, but the birds of prey have made a comeback.

I guess you could say we've come some distance.

Tom LaBarr
Beacon Sloop Club
Fishkill Environmental Board

Glynwood is a teaching venue for aspiring farmers and a testbed for sustainable farming. Eleven or 12 years ago, I introduced myself and looked for ways to help out.



CLUCK CLUCK

We work at figuring out best practices...in irrigation, runoff, in the ways animals are processed. These mobile chicken coops are moved through the fields every few weeks as part of Glynwood's rotation grazing program. This allows manure to fertilize the field. The roofs self drain into a water feeder.

We're doing vegetable growing in high tunnels so we can plant tomato seeds in March.

Young farmers can learn skills like driving a tractor, but we also help them develop a business plan, figure out how to raise capital investment, how to get access to land. Of the 50 apprentices who went through the program, 39 are still farming or in food systems work.

I'm secretary of the board, I do the annual pig roast for staff and funders, man the hayride on Food & Farm Day, represent Glynwood one at a time (as I'm doing with you), restore the bluebird houses which sometimes have mice or a snake hiding in them, and I weed. After you've worked 30 years at IBM, getting your hands back in the dirt is healthy.



G. Kirby Brown
Secretary of the Board/
Glynwood
Yoga Instructor/
St. Christopher's
Philipstown Garden Club/
Conservation Group

@deblucke.2018

By Deblucke

I have this thing about people and hunger.



My pastor at the Tabernacle of Christ Church in Beacon came to me and said the Salvation Army was closing its doors and the homeless community relies on the food. He said, "Can we do something?" He and Pastor Ben from First Presbyterian, myself, and other concerned Beaconites had a meeting... Beacon Community Kitchen is the result. The church gives us the space. Some of the volunteers from the Salvation Army came here. We have two professional chefs trained at CIA cooking. The food is good! We're open M-Th 10:30-12:00.

We have about 30 regulars. Mostly men. Lots of newcomers the last three years. People are displaced. Nothing's affordable anymore. One man was living in the woods. We're busier at the end of the month when the stamps run out. Some of these people have lived in Beacon their whole lives. They've been shattered.

I was a social worker in Brooklyn but I'm not a social worker here. That is not my role. We're here to feed and feed is what we're going to do. If someone is out of order, I'm firm, but with love. I let them know that I won't leave them without. If you can't change your behavior, I will make you a take-out meal.

When I see that someone wants to help, my antenna goes up. I ask for specific things that I know our guys need, like toiletries. Sometimes we get donations of blankets, hats, scarves, and haircuts. We serve them respect, dignity, and once a month, birthday cake!



Candi Rivera
Beacon Community Kitchen

Michael Schoenberg
Welcome Table
Beacon Reads

I started volunteering years ago in Brooklyn as an EMT. It gave me hours toward my credentials as a physician's assistant. It was high stress in a high crime area. I went on to work at Beth Israel and then St. Francis in the area of addiction. When I retired, Gwen Nerrie recruited me to work at the Salvation Army feeding the homeless. Now we both volunteer at the Welcome Table at First Presbyterian and at Beacon Reads. It's fulfilling work, the giving, putting food out for people who are hungry. I've had problems with depression myself. I like the interaction with people. Some of the guys at the Welcome Table recognize me from my work at the hospital. They say, "Hi, Doc." It's mostly older men, some with mental health issues. I understand what they're going through.

We're here for the cats. ♥

We started here as newlyweds--trying to figure out where our lives were headed.

Twenty-eight years later, we're still here.

The cat sanctuary was started by two senior citizens, Ruth Valenti and Essie Dabrusin. At Essie's deathbed, I swore to take care of the shelter. We have close to 100 cats right now. We're one of the few shelters in the Hudson Valley that will take AIDS positive and Leukemia cats, as well as special needs cats.

We make sure the cats have a clean bill of health and are socialized. They're neutered or spayed. We're a throwaway society. Many cats are abandoned or abused. Some come from hoarding situations. It takes time for them to trust.

Beacon has no municipal shelter. We helped the city take care of 50 cats recently. When there's an issue--Mid-Hudson Animal Aid gets called.

We're impacting lives--people's and animals!

Mary and Don Petruncola
President, Treasurer, Secretary
Mid Hudson Animal Aid

Florence Northcutt
Board Member
Former President
Howland Cultural Center

I'm not a joiner. But I love the arts and wanted to get involved. I fell into it. I never intended for it to be my life. This has filled my later years enormously. I've been honored many times (including Dutchess County Executive's 2001 Volunteer of the Year.) I always think, "No--I should thank you."

My job as volunteer is everything from scheduling art exhibits to washing the tablecloths. I help recruit other volunteers to help out at events. We have a pool of 20-30 who open the house and host. I like working with the artists--and being at the openings and receptions. The joy that takes place in the room if it could only speak! We have it all: classical music, jazz, art shows, parties, weddings, poetry readings. "Cirque de la Lune" is this weekend. You should come!

Dr. Anesta Vannoy-Kwame
Disaster Response Chaplain
NAACP (Former President
Southern Dutchess)
Les Socurs Amiables

Hello! This is Anesta Kwame with the Beacon Democrats. Today is Election Day...

Rose Quirk

To volunteer at Welcome Table
Church office: 845-831-5322
To volunteer at Beacon Reads
friends@beaconlibrary.org

Nly mother and grandmother had me doing this [canvassing for votes] since I was a baby. This was the '60s. We grew up marching, climbing the steps of the courthouse carrying signs. And I'm still doing it! Did it work? Yes, it did! It affected our housing, our jobs.

NAACP is voters' rights...criminal justice. I was president of the Southern Dutchess Branch. We got involved with the school system in Beacon. It was a mess! Children were discriminated against, punished more than other kids. For a long time there wasn't a teacher of color. We met with parents' groups, advocated for the children. It's much better now.

I'm also involved in Beacon Prison Action and I'm liaison for Riverside Prison Ministry. We held candlelight vigils for Samuel Harrell who was beaten and killed at Fishkill Correctional Facility. We also give rides to families from the train to the prison and back.

I'm a retired NYC schoolteacher on a pension. I'd go crazy if I stayed home. Part of the reason I retired was to go into the ministry. I'm a Doctor of Ministry in Multi-faith Studies and I'm looking for a position as a Disaster Response Chaplain.

One of my favorite sayings is: To whom much is given, much is expected.

Vannoy-Kwame delivers pamphlets in Spanish about where to vote in Beacon.

FWISH

MHAA Volunteers: Come any day at 9:15 to help out, Howland Cultural Center: 845-831-4988, SDNAACP: Membership: 845-559-3483, beaconprisonrides@gmail.com



Last-Minute Giving Guide

Cold Spring Farmers’ Market
P.O. Box 325, Cold Spring, NY 10516
csfarmmarket.org

Cold Spring Lions Club
P.O. Box 308, Cold Spring, NY 10516
coldspringlions.org

Community Foundation of Dutchess County
80 Washington St., Suite 201
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
communityfoundationshv.org

Community Foundation of Putnam County
80 Washington St., Suite 201
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
communityfoundationshv.org

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County
2715 Route 44, Suite 1, Millbrook, NY 12545
ccedutchess.org

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



The Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County sponsored its annual youth forum in April. *Photo provided*

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

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

Highlands Current Inc.
161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
highlandscurrent.org

I Am Beacon
P.O. Box 265, Beacon, NY 12508
bit.ly/beacon-give

River Pool at Beacon
P.O. Box 173, Beacon, NY 12508
riverpool.org

Spirit of Beacon Day
P.O. Box 821, Beacon, NY 12508
spiritofbeacon.org

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

United Way of Westchester and Putnam
336 Central Park Ave., White Plains, NY 10606
uwwp.org

Emergency Services

Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps
P.O. Box 54, Beacon, NY 12508

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

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

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

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

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

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

Historical

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

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



Volunteers from the Beacon Historical Society placed flags on Memorial Day at Old St. Joachim’s Cemetery. *BHS*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Society for the Preservation of Historical Cemeteries
167 Tanglewylde Road, Lake Peekskill, NY 10537
putnamgraveyards.com

Hunger

Beacon Community Kitchen
c/o Multi-Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 1285, Beacon, NY 12508
Check: Multi-Services. Memo: BCK

Philipstown Food Pantry
10 Academy St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
presbychurchcoldspring.org/food-pantry.html

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

Libraries

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

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

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

Natural Resources

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

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

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



Common Ground Farm apprentices Alexis O'Brien and Kantu Thole prepare a truckload of lettuce for the Beacon schools. *Photo by Sarah Simon*

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

Ecological Citizen’s Project
69 South Mountain Pass, Garrison, NY 10524
ecologicalcitizens.org

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

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

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

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

Little Stony Point Citizens Association
P.O. Box 319, Cold Spring, NY 10516
facebook.com/littlestonypointpark

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

Riverkeeper
20 Secor Road, Ossining, NY 10562
riverkeeper.org

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

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

Rehabilitation Services

CoveCare Center
1808 Route 6, Carmel, NY 10512
covecarecenter.org

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

Support Connection
40 Triangle Center, Suite 100
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598
supportconnection.org

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

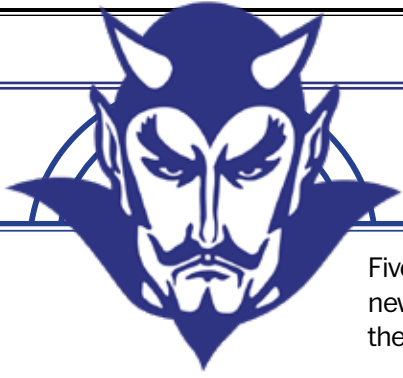
Veterans

American Legion Post 203
413 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508

American Legion Post 275
275 Cedar St., Cold Spring, NY 10516

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 666
413 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2362
P.O. Box 283, Cold Spring, NY 10516



THE BLUE PRINT

Five times each year, the members of Jenna Isabella and 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 December issue appear below.



The Haldane students who attended the Model UN at the University of Connecticut.

Haldane MUN Goes to UConn

By Catriona Fee

On the weekend of Nov. 2 to 4, eight Haldane High School students attended a Model UN Conference at the University of Connecticut. The conference was chaperoned by sixth-grade history teacher Mr. Sniffen and attended by Sophia Kottman, Joseph Carmicino, Damian Vladimiroff, Athena Stebe-Glorius, Andrew Nachamkin, Anneke Chan, Catriona Fee and Randall Chiera. This trip was made possible by a generous grant from

the Haldane School Foundation.

The conference was a multi-day simulation of the various committees of the UN by hundreds of high school students from schools across the Northeast. In Model UN, individual students take on the role of a delegate from a specific country and represent the views and interests of that nation in a specific committee.

Haldane students took on various country and committee assignments, including India, Haiti and South Africa, on the UN Commission for Refugees, France on the UN Environmental Programme, Pakistan and Russia on the Committee on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Israel on the Counter-Terrorism Committee, and on a special "alternate history" joint-crisis committee, Earl Henry Percy.

At the end of the conference, awards were given out for each committee for Most Improved Delegate and Best Delegate. This year, Haldane was fortunate enough to win two best delegate awards. Nachamkin, a junior, won for his representation of India on the UN High Commission for Refugees, and

Fee for representing Israel on the Counter-Terrorism Committee.

The issues students debated in committee ranged from cyberterrorism to the Kashmir refugee crisis and nearly everything in between. In these committees, students (or delegates) debate these topics, work together to compromise and come up with a solution, which is enumerated in a working paper, which are then voted on by the entire committee to determine if it will pass to become a resolution.

These conferences are very engaging and provide an immersive opportunity for students to improve their research, public speaking, leadership and collaborative skills, among others. Vladimiroff, who represented Pakistan on the Committee for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, said: "I learned a lot about the diplomatic process and inner workings of the United Nations, and I was pushed to improve my work ethic and stamina in my committee."

Model UN meets on Mondays during 10th period in Room 114, and new members are always welcome.

A Trip to the Movies with Liam & Riley

The Avengers: Infinity War



Review by Liam Marrinan

Marvel's *Avengers: Infinity War* will surely go down as one of the best superhero movies of all time. It is a fantastic climax to the Avengers series and Part 2 is right around the corner. With more than 76 cast members in the film, it is an incredible feat that directors Anthony and Josh Russo were able to keep the movie clear and understandable.

The scenes in the movie are shot on an impressively large scale with dozens of characters fighting all at the same time. Standout performances include Robert Downey Jr. as Ironman, Chris Hemsworth as Thor, Chris Evans as Captain America and Josh Brolin as Thanos.

The film follows the battle between Thanos and the Avengers over the infinity stones — six magical stones with untold power. Thanos tries to obtain these stones with the goal of killing half of the universe and it is up to the Avengers to stop him. The plot of the movie is complex and there are about a dozen previous Avengers universe movies you should see beforehand to get a deep understanding of the complexity of each of the 70 characters.

Overall *Avengers: Infinity War* is one of my top films of the year; it has great elements of comedy, while staying dramatic as the heroes battle the seemingly undefeatable Thanos.

Rating 9/10

MORE ON PAGE 16

REPORTERS: Riley Bissinger, Katrine Buslovich, Arden Conybear, Alden Dobosz, Catriona Fee, Riley Johanson, Liam Marinar, Ada McBride, Elizabeth Nelson, Katelyn Pidala, Julia Rotando, Natalie Sandick, Sophia Scanga, Damian Vladimiroff

A Trip to the Movies

(from Page 15)

Solo: A Star Wars Story



Review by Riley Johanson

The newest blockbuster film from Disney came in the form of *Solo: A Star Wars Story*, the epic adventure of everyone's favorite smuggler, Han Solo. Directed by Ron Howard and starring Alden Ehrenreich, Woody Harrelson, Emilia Clarke and Donald Glover, this film explores the origin story and the time Han spent prior to the events of *Star Wars: A New Hope*, giving this beloved character the backstory fans craved.

The film chronicles Solo's escape from his home planet and his enlistment in the imperial military, including how he got his famous last name and met his faithful sidekick Chewbacca. Throughout his journey, we meet a collection of old and classic, as well as new and interesting characters, that help drive the story.

Solo: A Star Wars Story has the feel of a Western-style adventure film, while maintaining the feel of the Star Wars Universe that fans know and love. Ultimately, this film is not a staple of the Star Wars franchise in the way that *A New Hope* or *Empire Strikes Back* is, yet it is certainly an entertaining experience for both dedicated fans of the Star Wars franchise and casual moviegoers alike.

Rating 7.8/10

THE BLUE PRINT (from previous page)

Romeo & Juliet

By Riley Johanson

The drama department at Haldane High School is well-known for the variety of successful productions enjoyed by the community over the years. On Dec. 7 and 8, the cast and crew performed Shakespeare's legendary work, *Romeo & Juliet*. Presenting a show of such caliber is no easy task and those involved spent months practicing lines, choreographing fights, and preparing sets in order to deliver an outstanding experience for the Haldane community.

The *Romeo & Juliet* cast and crew of more than 30 students was directed by Martha Mechalakos, and aided by parents and community members. Months of hard work paid off as the cast delivered their performance to an eager audience — tickets sold out for opening night. Though lengthy and delivered in the English of Shakespeare's time, the actors delivered great performances throughout the entire play.

The show follows the infamous story of star-crossed lovers Romeo (Justin Roffman) and Juliet (Sasha Levy), as they play out their doomed romance amid an ancient family feud that divides Verona and threatens to keep them apart. The leads of the show played their roles in way that honored Shakespeare and conveyed the



Juliet (Sasha Levy) pines for Romeo (Justin Roffman)

Photo by Ross Corsair

emotion of such a timeless classic.

Aside from the tragedy and romance, the nurse (Freya Wood-Gallagher) and Mercutio (Quinn Petkus), provided comic relief and entertainment and the actors often stole the scenes that they were in. Along with important characters like Friar Lawrence (Noah Bingham), Benvolio (Roisin Daly), Tybalt (Will Speziale), and a multitude of other characters (played by the rest of the talented cast), the tragic events of Romeo and Juliet's love story play out in an unforgettable stage experience.

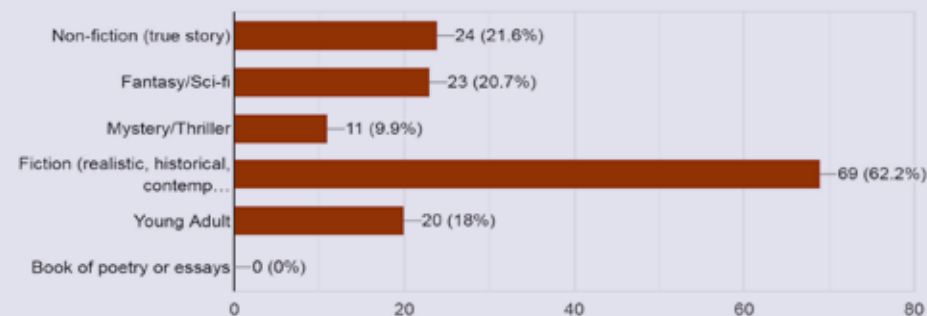
This show marked the end of an era for

several seniors here at Haldane, including Randy Chiera, Daly, Eric Holmbo, Maja Maxwell, Reid Sandlund, Adam Silhavy, Speziale, Wood-Gallagher and Roffman, who all gave standout performances in their final play. The role of the lighting, sound, and stage crew is often overlooked and underappreciated but the job they performed made the show possible and allowed for a creative and entertaining evening for the audience. For those who wish to see more of Haldane drama, the community has the annual musical to look forward to in the spring.

Haldane Reads

By Arden Conybear

I recently polled 111 Haldane High School students to gauge their reading interests. The wide range of responses did not reveal one single book as the most-read of 2018, but a majority of students enjoyed reading fiction books this year.



Haldane Girls' Soccer Goes to States

By Sophia Scanga

This year's girls' varsity soccer team participated in the state tournament in Cortland on Nov. 9. The students and faculty of Haldane cheered for their team as they sent them off with a high-energy ceremony before the girls got on the road. The inside of the bus was decorated with streamers, posters and photos of the girls playing soccer. After a five-hour bus ride, they arrived in Cortland.

The team attended a banquet and celebrated with the other teams com-

peting in the tournament that weekend. Teams from each section of the state were present. A sketch was performed and a short speech was given by Haldane captain Julia Rotando. After the girls traveled back to the hotel, Clarion Inn, they spent the evening in preparation for the semi-final game the next day. The next morning the team went to a glow-in-the-dark mini golf course. Next, Haldane went to the Ithaca waterfalls and the morning ended with a team lunch at Applebee's.

Their opponent, Stillwater, was unde-

feated with a record of 20-0-1. Haldane knew this wasn't going to be easy but they went in wanting to win. Temperatures were below freezing and the snow was getting heavier as the game went on.

Stillwater came out strong and Haldane never backed down. The final result was Stillwater coming out on top with a 4-0 win.

"I am very proud of my teammates. It was a great season, I will never forget it. This was a great way to end my senior year," said Katlyn Pidala. Kate Dwyer received the best sportsmanship award.



Members of the Haldane girls' team huddled during their state semi-final game on Nov. 9.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)
For a complete listing of events, see highlandscurrent.org/calendar.

COMMUNITY

SAT 29 64th Annual Putnam Christmas Bird Count

PHILIPSTOWN
putnamhighlandsaudubon.org
As part of the annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count, a tradition created by ornithologist Frank Chapman in 1900, the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society will conduct a census in Philipstown. Beginner birders welcome. The data helps assess the health of bird populations and guide conservation efforts. A group will gather at 6:30 p.m. to compile the results. Contact Charlie Roberto at 845-270-2979 or chasrob@optonline.net to participate.

TUES 1 First Day Hike

COLD SPRING
11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Little Stony Point 3011 Route 9D | littlestonypoint.org
Two hikes will be offered by the Little Stony Point Citizens Association and Friends of Fahnestock and Hudson Highlands State Parks: an easy one around Little Stony Point and a moderate one to the Northgate (Cornish Estate). Meet at the park office and tour the newly completed Volunteer Center before you head out.

THURS 3 Philipstown Senior Club

COLD SPRING
11 a.m. Chestnut Ridge (Community Room)
62 Chestnut St. | 845-809-5924

THURS 3 Community Blood Drive

BEACON
2 – 8 p.m. Knights of Columbus
31 Willow St. | 800-933-2566
nybloodcenter.org

THURS 3 Yarn Salon

GARRISON
5 – 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3960
garrisonartcenter.org

This monthly meet-up is for knitters of any level.

SPORTS

SUN 30 Army vs. Connecticut College (Women's Basketball)

WEST POINT
1 p.m. Christl Arena | 845-938-2526
goarmywestpoint.com
The Black Knights (4-6) will host the Camels (8-2). *Cost: \$12*

WED 2 Army vs. Bucknell (Men's Basketball)

WEST POINT
1 p.m. Christl Arena | 845-938-2526
goarmywestpoint.com

THURS 3 Haldane vs. Bronxville (Girls' Basketball)

COLD SPRING
6 p.m. Haldane
15 Craigside Dr. | haldaneschool.org

FRI 4 Beacon vs. Poughkeepsie (Boys' Basketball)

BEACON
4:30 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Dr. | beaconk12.org

SAT 5 Army vs. Lafayette (Men's Basketball)

WEST POINT
1 p.m. Christl Arena | 845-938-2526
goarmywestpoint.com

SUN 6 Army vs. Loyola Maryland (Women's Basketball)

WEST POINT
1 p.m. Christl Arena | 845-938-2526
goarmywestpoint.com

KIDS & FAMILY

MON 31 New Year's at Noon

POUGHKEEPSIE
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Mid Hudson Children's Museum
75 North Water St. | 845-471-0589
mhcm.org
The museum will host a New Year's countdown at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon, along with activities, refreshments, a DJ and a bagpipe band. *Cost: \$14 (\$10 members)*

MUSIC

SUN 30 Newburgh Chorale

BEACON
4 p.m. St. Andrew's Church
15 South Ave. | newburghchorale.org
Directed by Michael Saunders, the chorale will perform holiday

music from the British Isles during its program "Make We Joy Now in This Fest." *Cost: \$10 donation*

MON 31 New Year's Eve Bash

BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The Slam Allen Band and Willa and Company ring in the New Year. *Cost: \$55 (champagne) or \$125 (dinner)*

MON 31 Almost Queen

PEEKSKILL
9:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The tribute group performs in costume for the full experience. *Cost: \$37 to \$68*

TUES 1



Almost Queen

Mdou Mctar

BEACON
8 p.m. Quinn's
330 Main St. | 845-202-7447
facebook.com/quinnnsbeacon
The West African guitarist performs his original "desert

blues" music. *Cost: \$15*

SAT 5



Mdou Mctar

La Familia

BEACON
8 – 11 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-765-3012
howlandculturalcenter.org
The "swinging blues band" will lead a dance party that also includes waltz and freestyle. Free lesson at 7:30 p.m. *Cost: \$20*

SAT 5 The Reveries

BEACON
7:30 p.m. Denning's Point Distillery
10 N. Chestnut St. | 845-476-8413
denningpointdistillery.com
The five-piece band from Fishkill plays jams. *Cost: \$10 donation*

SUN 6 Newburgh Chamber Music: Ceres Quartet

NEWBURGH
3 p.m. St. George's Church
105 Grand St. | 845-534-2864
newburghchambermusic.org
The program will include Beethoven's *Opus 130*, Béla Bartók's *Sixth Quartet* and Haydn's *String Quartet Opus 76, No. 5*. *Cost: \$25 (\$5 students)*

VISUAL ARTS

SAT 5 Monochrome Photography Show

BEACON
2:30 – 4:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org
A reception will open this show, which is curated by Michael Bogdanffy-Kriegh and features work by 18 artists. It continues through Jan. 27.



New Year's at Noon



Beacon boy's basketball, Jan. 4

[THE WEEK AHEAD]

SAT 5
Kakizome: Japanese First Writing of the Year
POUGHKEEPSIE

2 – 4 p.m. Arts Mid-Hudson
9 Vassar St. | 845-454-3222
artsmidhudson.org

Volunteers will guide participants in writing *kanji*, a New Year tradition in which people use calligraphy to craft poems that express hopes and aspirations for the year. According to Arts Mid-Hudson, “the poems were burned, to seal the fate of the hope, a practice reminiscent of blowing out candles on a birthday cake after making a wish.” *Free*



STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 29
Cirque de la Lune
BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-765-3012
howlandculturalcenter.org

This repeat performance (the



Wildlife Images

first was in June) is an original musical by Hayden Wayne with Kelly Ellenwood, Rhiannon and Rowan Parsaca, Leah Siegel and Michael Bonanno. *Cost: \$10*

SAT 29
Searching for Bobby Fischer

NEWBURGH
11:30 a.m. Downing Film Center
19 Front St. | 845-561-3686
downingfilmcenter.com

In this 1993 film, starring Max Pomeranc, Joe Mantegna, Joan Allen and Ben Kingsley and nominated for an Oscar for cinematography, a chess prodigy hopes to become a champion who is

better liked than the elusive Bobby Fischer. Rated PG. *Cost: \$9 (\$8 students, \$7 seniors, children, \$6 members)*

TALKS AND TOURS

SAT 5
Extraordinary Wildlife Images

GARRISON
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Ed McGowan will share photographs from a four-year project focused on animals drawn to deer carcasses placed in Harriman State Park.



Elena Bower

SAT 5
New Year Reflections
COLD SPRING

3 p.m. Magazzino Italian Art
2700 Route 9 | 845-666-7202
magazzino.art

The museum and Ascend present an afternoon of yoga, art and self-reflection with yogi, teacher and author Elena Brower. Brower will share methods from her book/journal, *Practice You*, for charting a personal course in the New Year founded on physical, mental and emotional alignment. *Cost: \$60*

CIVIC

THURS 3
Town Board

PHILIPSTOWN
7:30 p.m. Town Hall
238 Main St. | 845-265-5200
philipstown.com

THURS 3
Zoning Board of Appeals

COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Village Hall
85 Main St. | 845-265-3611
coldspringny.gov

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2018: The Year in Review

(Continued from Page 1)

5 The Beacon City Council approved the appointment of Capt. Kevin Junjulas as its chief of police. He succeeded Doug Solomon, who resigned to take the same position in Newburgh.

6 The Beacon High School girls' bowling team finished the season at 16-0, winning 112 games without a loss. (They are still winning; as of Dec. 20, the team had a 27-match winning streak dating to January 2016.)

12 Haldane's 800-meter boys' relay team won gold at the Class C sectional championships.... The Beacon junior varsity boys' basketball team extended its record to 33-0.

14 Cold Spring's Historic District Review Board approved the demolition of buildings at 35 Market St. and 126 Main St.

15 The Port Authority approved a \$30 million expansion of the newly renamed New York Stewart International Airport.

22 Beacon and Haldane school officials ramped up security after 17 people died in a mass shooting at Parkland High School in Florida.

24 For the fifth consecutive season, the Haldane girls' basketball team won the Section 1, Class C championship, defeating Keio Academy, 50-30.

27 Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy spoke against a proposal to have the senior center planned for the Butterfield redevelopment also serve as a community center, stating it would violate Planning Board approvals.

MARCH

1 Beacon police officers used 19 canine teams to search district buildings after a perceived bomb threat was found written in a bathroom stall.... In the battle against opioid abuse, Philipstown named Danielle Pack McCarthy as its first prevention, treatment and recovery officer... The Philipstown Town Board began considering whether Magazzino Italian Art on Route 9, approved as a warehouse, should be rezoned as a museum.

2 A Putnam Valley Middle School student was

killed when a tree downed by a powerful Nor'easter split his home in half.

13 Abdelhady (Jimmy) Hussein, owner of the Silver Spoon Cafe in Cold Spring, canceled a Philipstown Gun Owners fundraiser after customers threatened a boycott... Cold Spring and New York officials agreed that the village will manage the state-owned Dockside Park through 2027.

14 A study by environmental consultants hired by the city indicated that Beacon's water supply is sufficient to sustain its projected population through 2035. Two weeks later, a moratorium on new construction was allowed to expire.

19 Beacon sold a 2.6-acre lot on Creek Drive to developer Rodney Weber for \$150,000. Weber said he planned to build nine residential units and a 12,000-square-foot co-working space.... The Coast Guard shelved plans to create 10 anchorage sites in the Hudson River, including one between Beacon and Newburgh.

23 Two reports indicated opioid overdose deaths continued to rise. Nearly 4,000 people died in New York in 2016, according to the latest figures, including 67 in Dutchess County and 23 in Putnam.

24 More than 150 people rallied in Beacon and thousands gathered in Poughkeepsie to protest gun violence... The iconic European copper beech tree at the Butterfield redevelopment site was cut down after arborists said it was beyond saving.

26 The German software firm DocuWare made a presentation to the Beacon City Council about a possible move from New Windsor.

APRIL

The Beacon Police Department outfitted its 20 patrol officers with high-definition body cameras.

5 Philipstown enacted a safe-storage gun law.

6 Beacon business owner Jason Hughes was summoned to court for a second time after clashing with city officials who believed his sign that read "Resist White Supremacy: Vote on Nov 6" required a permit. He ar-



Kacie Grossman and her Airedale Terrier, Bran, braved the elements on Cold Spring's Main Street on Jan. 4 at the height of a winter storm that buffeted the East Coast.

Photo by Michael Turton



An umpire stretches between innings at North Highlands field during a Little League game on July 13.

Photo by Ross Corsair

gued it was protected political speech....

10 Jean Marzollo, a longtime Philipstown resident and author of the *I Spy* series and many other children's books, died at age 75.

13 Philipstown board members blasted Putnam County for bypassing the designated emergency center during a March Nor'easter, using the Garrison firehouse instead.

14 Hunter Erickson of Garrison threw a no-hitter in Philipstown Little League play, striking out 16 of 19 batters.

15 State Assemblyman Frank Skartados, whose district includes Beacon, died of cancer at age 62.

16 After two years of wrangling, Nelsonville ratified a \$41,068.52 fire-protection contract with the Village of Cold Spring.

17 The Cold Spring Village Board held a 100th birthday party for Joe Etta.

24 Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy criticized the Putnam County Legislature for approving an additional \$300,000 for the senior center at Butterfield, pointing out that the county has consistently denied village requests for tourism-related funding from the village.

30 The Melzingah Tap House opened in Beacon at the former location of The Hop.

MAY

1 The Haldane school board hired Philip Benante to succeed Superintendent Diana Bowers, who planned to retire at the end of the school year.

15 A fierce afternoon thunderstorm ripped through the Highlands, killing an 11-year-old girl in Newburgh and causing extensive damage, power outages and road closures.... Four newcomers — John Hedlund at Haldane and Flora Stadler, James Case-Leal and Elissa Betterbid in Beacon — were elected to local school boards.

21 The Beacon City Council rejected a proposed law to regulate Airbnb and other

short-term rentals, effectively making them illegal. The council also approved a zoning change that would reduce the number of units in the proposed Edgewater apartment development by almost 25 percent.

JUNE

1 Heidi and Michael Bender announced the opening of their new bookstore in Cold Spring at 97 Main St.

4 Lenny Torres Jr., a 17-year-old senior at Beacon High School with a 98-mph fastball, was drafted by the Cleveland Indians.

9 In her third trip to the state track-and-field finals, Haldane senior Abbey Stowell won bronze in the pentathlon.

12 A six-townhouse development proposed for a half-acre lot near the Beacon train station drew fire from residents at a Planning Board hearing.

15 Developer Susan Green sued Philipstown, alleging that improper political influence thwarted her plans to construct a house on a lot split between the town and Nelsonville.

16 Tommy Tune returned to Garrison's Landing for a parade to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the filming there of scenes from the musical *Hello, Dolly!*

18 After operating out of a trailer adjacent to Foodtown since 2014, Cold Spring's new post office opened at the Butterfield redevelopment site.

20 The Philipstown Town Board adopted a six-month moratorium on the establishment of vape shops.

29 Homeland Towers and Verizon sued the Village of Nelsonville after its zoning board denied an application to build a cell tower overlooking the Cold Spring Cemetery.

30 A Families Belong Together rally in Beacon was one of 750 nationwide organized to protest the separation of immigrant families at the Mexican border.

(Continued on Page 20)



Jarren Vink cedes the right-of-way to his daughter, Birdie, on May 13 during a cleanup at the Tot Park in Cold Spring. Photo by Ross Corsair

2018: The Year in Review

(Continued from Page 19)

JULY

7 The Fishkill-Philipstown Little League team, dubbed “Fishtown,” won the District 19 Championship before bowing out in sectionals.

11 Dolly’s, the long-awaited restaurant in the building that housed Guinan’s Pub and Country Store for 50 years, opened on Garrison’s Landing.... The Garrison Board of Education hired Alex Levine as principal, following the departure of John Griffiths, who took a job in Croton-Harmon.

13 Beacon area artists added funk to function, painting the green wall surrounding the West End Lofts construction site.

17 The Economic Development Committee of the Putnam County Legislature announced its support for establishing an international business accelerator on Route 9 Philipstown.

21 The Cheese Shop opened at 104 Main St. in Cold Spring.... Scenic Hudson paid \$12 million to preserve 1,178 acres at Lake Valhalla.

24 The Village of Cold Spring Board declined to support a proposal by the Putnam County Legislature to ban vape shops.

29 The state Elks Association named Clara Lou Gould, the former mayor of Beacon, as Female Volunteer of the Year for her work assisting local veterans.

31 A busload of grannies, grandfathers and support crew from the Highlands left for the Mexican border to protest the federal government’s “zero-tolerance” immigration policy.

AUGUST

3 An intense microburst storm swept through Glynwood, outside Cold Spring, downing 22 trees and causing property damage but no injuries.

6 The Beacon City Council voted to regulate low-powered “small cell” antennae that wireless companies attach to buildings to fill gaps in broadband coverage.

17 St. Mary’s Episcopal Church in Cold Spring announced that Father Shane Scott-Hamblen would leave after 16 years because the church could no longer afford to have a full-time rector.

24 A satellite operation of Peekskill’s popular Homestyle Bakery opened in Nelsonville.

30 Beacon launched the Beacon Free Loop, a free bus service aimed at reducing congestion on Main Street.

31 As many as 100 tires were dumped into Indian Brook in Garrison.... Tourism consultants reported that visitors increased in 2017 by 6 percent in Dutchess County and 1 percent in Putnam.

SEPTEMBER

4 The Cold Spring Village Board denied a request from Green Mountain Energy to promote its services on Main Street sidewalks.

6 Beacon flipped the switch on a 20-acre solar farm near Dennings Point that was expected to save the city up to \$140,000 a year.

11 The Beacon Planning Board approved the 246-unit Edgewater development near the riverfront.

14 Theatre on the Road held the first of two weekend performances of *Dracula* on Bannerman’s Island.

17 The Nelsonville Village Board voted to study the feasibility of establishing sewers to replace existing septic systems.... The Environmental Protection Agency’s most recent five-year report on the Marathon Battery Co. site in Cold Spring indicated that while it can be redeveloped, pollution remains.

25 Jimmy Hussein, owner of the Silver Spoon Cafe on Main Street in Cold Spring, applied to convert the restaurant into seven rooms for his upstairs bed-and-breakfast.

28 Mid Hudson Animal Aid in Beacon, a no-kill cat shelter that opened in 1990, announced it would likely close at year’s end due to lack of funds.

29 The Haldane Athletic Hall of Fame welcomed 11 inductees, including the 1963 baseball team.

30 After new organizers stepped in, the Spirit of Beacon Day celebrated its 41st year.... More than 100 cyclists took part in Philipstown Bikes Day.

OCTOBER

1 The documentary *Divide and Conquer: The Story of Roger Ailes* premiered at the New York Film Festival,



AUG 12
Two participants, in costume, play on Aug. 12 during a Revolutionary War program at the Mount Gulian historic site outside Beacon.



SEP 30
A Sargent Elementary student practices her wave while marching in the Spirit of Beacon Day parade on Sept. 30.

outlining the life of the former Fox News chief, Garrison resident and owner of the *Putnam County News & Recorder*.

2 The Putnam County Legislature voted to raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco from 18 to 21.

5 The state again issued a Request for Proposals, promising \$6 million in grants, to redevelop the 39-acre former Beacon Correctional Facility.

7 Anti-Semitic fliers were posted outside two churches in Beacon.

11 Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley hosted a “town hall” in Cold Spring.

30 Just days after 11 people were killed at a synagogue in Pittsburgh, a home being built in Nelsonville by a Jewish resident was spray painted with anti-Semitic graffiti. On Nov. 14, two males, ages 17 and 18, were arrested and charged.

NOVEMBER

2 Cold Spring experienced a rash of vehicle break-ins.

6 Philipstown Town Board member Nancy Montgomery defeated incumbent Barbara Scuccimarra for a seat on the Putnam County Legislature. Jonathan Jacobson won the state Assembly seat left vacant by the death of Frank Skartados, state Sen. Sue Serino barely overcame a challenge for her third term, and Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell easily won re-election.

10 After winning sectional and regional titles, the Haldane girls’ soccer team lost to Stillwater, 4-0, in the Class C state semi-finals in Binghamton.

18 The Haldane football team lost to Moriah, 6-0, in the state Class D quarter-

finals to finish 7-2.

19 Nelsonville’s mayor and trustees voted to become a Climate Smart Community, joining Beacon and Philipstown.

DECEMBER

1 On the fifth anniversary of a Metro-North derailment that killed four people, including Jim Lovell of Philipstown, the MTA had yet to complete installation of safety equipment mandated by Congress in 2008.

3 The Dutchess County Legislature approved \$2.4 million in improvements to Dutchess Stadium, allowing the minor league Hudson Valley Renegades baseball team to continue to play there.

6 Dutchess County legislators banned single-use plastic shopping bags.

7 Country Clocks and Cupoccino, two longtime Main Street shops in Cold Spring, closed their doors.

13 The Putnam County Sheriff’s Office investigated a bomb threat that arrived by email at T. Webber Plumbing in Philipstown; it ended up being part of a nationwide hoax.

17 The Beacon City Council approved a municipal identification program.

18 After years of debate, revisions and setbacks, the Philipstown Friendship Center for seniors opened in the Lahey Pavilion at the Butterfield development site in Cold Spring.

20 President Donald Trump signed a \$867 billion farm bill that Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney described as “the best ever for the Hudson Valley.”

28 The Philipstown Town Board appointed Judy Farrell to fill the seat vacated by Nancy Montgomery, who will join the Putnam Legislature on Dec. 31.



OCT 4
A child reads names on the Vietnam Memorial Traveling Wall, which stopped in Carmel from Oct. 4 to 7.

Photos by Ross Corsair



Three books that will help gardeners get through the winter

Photo by P. Doan

Roots and Shoots

Reading for Long Winter Nights

By Pamela Doan

We're one week into winter and spring planting is months away. Pass the time by considering new ideas and learning new skills. Here are three books that will help until the days get longer.

Weedless Gardening: The Hassle-Free All-Organic System

By Lee Reich

I've learned most of what I know about fruit trees from another Reich book, *Uncommon Fruits for Every Garden*, and his blog about what he calls his "farmden" (that is, "more than a garden, not quite a farm") in upstate New York. He's also a researcher who has worked with the USDA and Cornell University. In this new book, he provides a step-by-step approach to no-till gardening that applies equally to flowers, fruit and vegetables. By not digging into soil, gardeners avoid stirring up weed seeds that are dormant underground. Weeds can be managed by topping the soil with mulch to block sunlight and hand pulled when necessary.

I re-evaluated my vegetable garden cleanup based on his advice. Ripping spent tomato plants out of the soil, for example, breaks up the microbial communities and brings the weed seeds to the surface. Cutting plants off at the soil, gently prying them out or using a trowel to scissor the roots up does less damage.

A gardener of any sort of plant, edible or ornamental, could pick up something from this book. While I am familiar with and practice "lasagna gardening" — a technique of layering organic matter to create and build soil — *Weedless Gardening* is

more thorough on low-impact soil improvements with less work. And if you want to lower your carbon footprint, not digging up soil lets it hold carbon dioxide. Every time you sink your shovel into the ground and turn up the earth, CO₂ is released. So hang up the tools and rototiller next season.

How Plants Work: The Science Behind the Amazing Things Plants Do

By Linda Chalker-Scott

Understanding horticulture can go a long way in becoming a better gardener. If the discussion of cell division doesn't click, though, Chalker-Scott includes practical applications. I found her chapter on trees especially useful. Pruning is not an art or guesswork. Understanding tree growth and being able to identify the parts of a tree are necessary, though, and will help you avoid serious mistakes.

Chalker-Scott is one of four academics who administrate a Facebook group called The Garden Professors, and a blog, gardenprofessor.com. I've learned a lot from reading the questions and comments there. It's rigorously moderated with information backed up by science, which I've always found more reliable than relying on anecdotes and opinions.

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants

By Robin Wall Kimmerer

I can only read this book a chapter or two at a time. Then I set it aside for a day or a week and let it permeate my thoughts. It changes the way I look at the connectedness of nature. A member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Kimmerer, a scientist, explores indigenous ecological values and traditions through both lenses and in the book channels the soul of gardening in respect for the earth.

I first learned of her work through an interview she did with Krista Tippett for the *On Being* podcast. I sought out her writing immediately and loved her other book, *Gathering Moss*, a meditative discovery of the world's most basic plant life. *Braiding Sweetgrass* will take you around the world and deeper into your own relationship with plants as you also learn about indigenous people and the history of America.

The Highlands Current

Dear Beacon Resident,

In 2015 we decided that our website and paper, which had been covering Cold Spring, should expand to Beacon, because there seemed such a strong connection between the artistic and civic life of the two communities. We even changed our name, from Philipstown.info to The Highlands Current, to reflect the change.

As a nonprofit, we rely on readers for 75 percent of the costs to publish our paper and website, which we distribute free of charge. (The rest comes from advertising revenue.) But most of our donors are still from Cold Spring and Garrison. If you enjoy the paper and our coverage of Beacon, please consider donating what you can. **Even \$10 is significant, especially if you have never given before**, because it signals your support and counts as a vote that we should continue. **See highlandscurrent.org/support, text CURRENT to 44-321 or write us at 161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.**

Whether you donate or not, we are always open to feedback from Beacon readers. Email Chip Rowe, the managing editor, at editor@highlandscurrent.org with thoughts you have about our coverage of the city, or any other ideas. What stories are we missing?

The Current Staff

Our Beacon reporters work out of Beahive on Main Street



Look for our blue boxes outside Key Food, Beacon Natural Market and the Beacon Bread Factory



Looking Back in Philipstown

By Chip Rowe

150 Years Ago (December 1868)

A man named Scotty, lying drunk on Main Street, was tormented by Cold Spring boys who put him in an iron hoop and pushed him down as fast as he attempted to rise. The *Cold Spring Recorder* said: "We are decided in the opinion that a drunken man has the same civil rights as when sober."

Jacob Denney's leg was amputated after it was crushed by ore cars at the Sunk Mine.

A signal from the engine of the 11:38 a.m. train spooked a team pulling N.P. Rogers and Mary Kipp in a sleigh. After throwing the driver and passenger, the horses turned up Main Street until stopping at the blacksmith shop of William Woods after the axle snapped.

The Cold Spring Board of Trustees ordered the enforcement of a law against peo-

ple sliding downhill on Main Street or on the sidewalks of the village, in any sleigh, sled, board or plank, under threat of a \$1 fine.

A group of residents calling themselves the Cold Spring Lecture Association met to organize a series of talks over the winter months. The first, in January, will be by Hatchik "Christopher" Oscanyan, an expert in the manners and customs of the modern Turk and author of the 1857 best-seller, *The Sultan and His People*.

The *Recorder* reported that a source had told its editor that Fishkill has been paying for train tickets to send its paupers to Cold Spring.

Burglars stole 100 pounds of white lead overnight from the paint shop of Thomas Best and 2,600 clams from Flaglar's fish store.

125 Years Ago (December 1893)

The burning of the undergrowth at the marsh south of Constitution Island caused such a large blaze that residents of Newburgh and Fishkill believed Cold Spring was on fire.

The *Recorder* reported that "a goodly number of our young men are addicted to the habit of playing poker... It is to be regretted, as it often leads young people to various evils in life."

The Haldane Debating Club defeated a "scrub" team captained by James Kennedy, 6-4, in a game of football at the Foundry field.

J.A. Tait, formerly of Cold Spring, has started a messenger service between Poughkeepsie and Brooklyn.

Charles Hustis of North Highlands died on the family farm, which has been owned by the family for 173 years, since 1715, when it was part of the Phillipse Patent and known as the Water Tract.

The Highland Grange Dairy secured the contract to supply West Point with milk.

William Ladue finished the shelves at the new Osborn Free Library, which is

now open from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. daily.

The new settlement on Cat Rock Road near Garrison is known as Forsonville.

A warrant was issued for Seymour Barton, of Nelsonville, on a complaint by his wife of desertion. It is said Barton left his family to join the Adventists at Middletown, who held services in a tent in Nelsonville this past summer.

F.A. Hoyt was walking on the tracks near Garrison when he was surprised by a train coming around a curve. He saw the engineering motioning to him, but instead of stepping off, Hoyt lay on the track as the two cars passed over him, brushing his coat on either side.

Professor Berk presented his illustrated lecture, "A Trip to Hawaii," at the Town Hall on Christmas Day.

Edward Payson Weston, 54, passed through Nelsonville during a jaunt from New York to Albany. Thirty years earlier he had walked from Boston to Washington, D.C., and written a book called *The Pedestrian*. In 1867 he walked 1,200 miles from Portland, Maine, to Chicago, and in 1871 he walked backward for 200 miles.

At 3 p.m. on Christmas Day the temperature was 66 degrees. A lilac bush in the yard of C.J. Baxter was seen in full bud.

Arrangements are being made for an addition to St. Philip's Church in Garrison sufficient for the organ and choir.

100 Years Ago (December 1918)

Nearly three months after being wounded in France during the Battle of Argonne Forest, Sgt. George A. Casey died of his wounds. [The American Legion post in Cold Spring was named for him.] A memorial service was held at Loretto Hall.

A letter arrived from Pvt. Harry Ireland, who wrote his father from the front in France: "We did nearly all our advancing at night. The Germans were always shelling the roads, and it was a hard thing to travel under shell fire with horses. If we were walking along and they started to fire at us, we could lay along the bank of the road and wait awhile, but when



Hatchik Oscanyan, who was booked in 1868 to speak in Cold Spring, promoted his lectures on "life in Turkey" with cards such as this one.

we had our horses we had to keep going. They used to get a lot of men and horses on that road."

At noon on Christmas Day, the Red Cross served dinner to soldiers at Garrison, Indian Brook and Sprout Brook and to the marines stationed in that neighborhood. Each guest received a pound of candy, tobacco, cigarettes, cigars, a sweater and a pair of woolen socks.

50 Years Ago (December 1968)

The Cold Spring Lions Club purchased two handheld stop signs for the Haldane school crossing guards, Clarence Glass and Edward Collard.

The Lombardo and Ramond families of Nelsonville lost their home five days before Christmas in a fire that apparently began in holiday decorations. They were

(Continued on Page 23)



Edward Payson Weston, one of the world's greatest pedestrians, passed through Nelsonville in 1893 on his way to Albany. He is shown here in 1909. LOC

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(Continued from Page 22)

renters on the first and second floor of the Alhambra house at the corner of Main and Division streets.

Joseph Rist Jr. retired after 28 years as the postal carrier in Garrison.

John Rinaldo, Janice Rielly, Phillip Pelitteri, Adele Williams, Nichole Benecasa, Joanne Constantino, Deborah Rinaldo, Winifred Ferris, William Rutz, Beth Kopicki, Lynn Millson, Susan Boulanger, Susan Constantino, Charles Mills, Michael Donnelly, Charles Eaton and Allyson Yates were named to the high honor roll at Haldane Central School.

After 25 years in business, Mom and Dan Domanello sold Mom's Restaurant on Route 9D in Garrison to Mr. Kelch, who plans to open an antique shop. Mom and Dan now reside in Fort Pierce, Florida.

Central Hudson completed the sale of its 670-acre Breakneck Mountain property to the State of New York to include in the new Hudson Highlands State Park between Beacon and Cold Spring.

The 300-seat Hudson Theater on Main Street was sold and renamed The Bijou. It will show second-run films.

The Continental Village Republican Club collected more than 700 signatures on a petition calling on Congress to do more to free the 83 men from a U.S. Navy ship, the USS Pueblo, that had been captured in January by North Korea. The club also raised \$50 for the Committee for Responsible Patriotism.

Thieves jimmied open two safes at the Garrison Post Office overnight and stole \$2,000 in stamps and \$200 cash.

25 Years Ago (December 1993)

The Cold Spring tree-lighting was a success, with electrical work by Tony Ricci, tree hook-up by Mackey Budney and Chuck Smith, staging and lighting by Ed Rendon and Tom Rolston, caroling by the Boy and Girl Scouts, and acting by Ed Toppel and Mary Ann Fullam.

Representatives from Scenic Hudson and Hudson River Sloop Clearwater joined Rep. Hamilton Fish Jr. and residents at a public

meeting in Poughkeepsie held by the state Department of Environmental Conservation and General Electric. The meeting was designed to explain what could be done to stop the ongoing flow of PCBs into the upper Hudson River from two GE factories.

Danny Schmitt, a 1992 Haldane graduate, and four of his classmates at the University of Richmond won a four-day ski trip after winning an episode of the MTV lip-syncing show, "Lip Service."

At a meeting of the Philipstown Town Board, Betty Budney reported that the toxic-waste collection by the North Highland Fire Co. had been a success, with the collection of 136 55-gallon drums.

At the same meeting, the board discussed Putnam County's gift of 76 parcels in Continental Village to the town. The parcels had been on the auction block for unpaid taxes.

George Cleantis, chairman of Continental Village's Fair Share Assessment Committee, announced that the group had asked the state Equalization Board for a special rate to be applied to the Philip-



Four of the five members of NuNu Kids, along with the host (right), after their 1993 performance on MTV's Lip Service of "The Right Stuff," by New Kids on the Block

stown segment of the Lakeland School District. The committee said the Lakeland/Philipstown community was over-assessed by about 35 percent.

The Cold Spring police began enforcing the two-hour limit on parking on Main Street after complaints from merchants that customers could not find spaces. It was estimated that about 70 people from Beacon parked their cars each morning on Main before commuting to the city because they believed it was safer.

Happy Holidays!

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7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 act of throwing away (8)	_____
2 remove wallpaper faster, say (8)	_____
3 hidden from sight (6)	_____
4 ticket office window opening (6)	_____
5 played violin or double bass (5)	_____
6 apportion equally (5)	_____
7 turkey cries (7)	_____

DI	WIC	TS	OS	IP
OU	ED	ES	KET	GOB
BOW	RE	RI	TR	AL
BU	BL	SP	SHA	ED

SEE ANSWERS: PAGE 10

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SPORTS



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David Paschal



Omar Abdo

Beacon Swim in Competitive Lane

After 4-1 start, hoping to finish at top of league

By Skip Pearlman

The Beacon High School boys' swim team picked up a 98-69 victory over Eastchester on Dec. 20 in a home meet, bringing its conference record to 4-1.

Coach Larry Collins said the Bulldogs hope to finish in the top three or four in their league, which has 11 teams, including Peekskill, Poughkeepsie, Yonkers and Lourdes.

Besides Eastchester, the Bulldogs have defeated Port Chester (49-42), Keio Academy (100-68) and Poughkeepsie (108-57). Beacon is 4-3 overall, with losses to Harrison (88-72) in the first meet of the year, and to two non-conference opponents, Middletown (66-28) and Minisink Valley (66-32).

Swimming in Section 1, which has three divisions and includes schools in Putnam, Dutchess, Westchester and Rockland counties, is highly competitive. Only two Bea-

con swimmers have Top 40 times: junior David Paschal in the 500-yard freestyle (at No. 37) and sophomore David Reilly in the 100-yard breaststroke (at No. 39).

Against Eastchester, Paschal won the 200-yard freestyle (2:04.78) and 500-yard freestyle (5:42.69, his section-best time), with both times being personal bests. "He's been dropping his times at almost every meet," said Collins.

Against Eastchester, sophomore James Patino won the 200-yard individual medley (one lap each of butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle) in 2:20.78, was second in the 100-yard freestyle, and was part of the winning 200-yard medley and 200-yard freestyle relay teams.

"James has been doing great," Collins said. "He needs a little more conditioning, but he's been swimming well."

Reilly won the 50-yard freestyle (26.96),



James Patino won the individual medley for Beacon against Eastchester.

100-yard breaststroke (1:11.50) and was also part of the 200 medley and 200 freestyle relay teams. "His goal is to set a school record in the 100 breaststroke," said Collins. "He has a few seconds to drop for that." (His best time is 1:10.84.)

The Bulldog captains are seniors Esteban Carmona and Kent Patino, who are both in their sixth year with the varsity. "We're looking for great leadership from them," Collins said. "They both should have a nice senior season."

They are among three seniors on the 18-member team (the other is Lucas O'Blaney), which also includes three juniors, four sophomores, four freshmen and four seventh-graders.

Beacon is scheduled to travel to Yorktown-Somers (4-1) on Friday, Jan. 4, for a 4:30 p.m. start.

Varsity Scoreboard

Girls' Bowling

Beacon 7, Mahopac 0

Boys' Bowling

Beacon 5, Mahopac 2

Indoor Track

Beacon @ Jim Mitchell Invite

Boys' 300-meters

3. Kaleb Istvan (36.14)

Boys' long jump

5. Mark Guzman (20-03.25)

Boy's triple jump

4. Mark Guzman (42-02)

Boys' shotput

5. Joshua Rivera (41-11)

Haldane @ Jim Mitchell Invite

Boys' 1,000 meters

13. Frank Bubbico (2:41.08)



Jeff Gutierrez pinned his Brewster opponent at 220 pounds.

Photos by S. Pearlman

Brewster Edges Beacon Wrestlers

Lack of two weight classes puts Bulldogs in hole

By Skip Pearlman

Beacon High School's wrestlers dropped a 41-35 home match to a solid Brewster team on Dec. 20, falling to 7-4 on the season.

Because it lacks wrestlers at two weight classes, the team must forfeit the matches, which puts Beacon in a hole before its meets begin.

"Brewster is a very good team," said Coach Ron Tompkins. "I thought for us to win, it would be close. But our problem is two forfeits. If we had won two close matches, we would have won the meet."

At 99 pounds, Chris Crawford won by pin to improve to 11-0. Tompkins predicted Crawford would do well at the 53rd Annual Mid-Hudson wrestling invitational scheduled for Dec. 27 and 28 at Arlington High School.

At 195 pounds, captain Dirani Haynes also pinned his opponent. "We needed a pin to stay in the match, and he came through," Tompkins said.

Jeff Gutierrez evened his record at 5-5 with a pin at 220 pounds. "It's his first year wrestling, but he works hard and picks it up fast," Tompkins said. "He'll challenge some good wrestlers."

Junior captain George Pinkhardt improved his season record to 10-2 with a victory at 285 pounds. "He also came through with a big pin," Tompkins said.

Tompkins says injuries have hampered the Bulldogs. "We have some kids missing," he said. "Once we get everyone back, the team will be better."

Beacon is scheduled to host Somers on Thursday, Jan. 3, at 4:30 p.m.