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Putnam County Legislature Chooses Chairman

Fractious debate shows rift

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Putnam County legislators Tuesday (Jan. 7) demonstrated the limits of party dominance when the largely Republican legislature split over election of a new chairman and took four rounds of voting to finally settle on someone – District 5 Legislator Carl Albano.

On another contested move during its yearly reorganization meeting, the legislature filled a vacancy in District 3 with a former legislator and Kent town councilman who failed to win re-election to his town board two months ago.

The new District 3 legislator, Louis Tartaro, recommended by Kent's Republican committee, will fill out the remainder of the term, ending Dec. 31, of ex-Legislator Richard Othmer. Othmer's resignation to become Kent's highway superintendent not only prompted the search for a new legislative chairman, since he had served in that capacity, but forced a decision on how to handle the District 3 vacancy. Options included leaving the seat empty, for voters to fill in November.

With no chairman available, Putnam County Clerk Dennis Sant presided over the opening of the meeting and urged the eight legislators to pick Othmer's successor. But since Tartaro's appointment had not yet occurred, they deadlocked.

District 7 Legislator Joseph Castellano proposed Albano as chairman and the nominee got four "yes" votes – from Castellano and Albano himself, plus District 4 Legislator Ginny Nacerino and District 1 Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra, who represents Philipstown. Elected last November, District 9 Legislator Kevin Wright abstained, since Albano had once been his client. District 2 Legislator Sam Oliverio, District 6 Legislator Roger Gross, and District 8 Legislator Dini LoBue voted "no" and the nomination failed.

All legislators are Republicans except Oliverio, from Putnam Valley, a Democrat who also has run as a Conservative. He proposed LoBue for chairperson. Her nomination drew yeas from Oliverio, LoBue herself, Gross, and Wright, and nays from Albano, Castellano, Nacerino and Scuccimarra.

Consequently, Sant suggested the Republicans convene privately to resolve their differences. But having gathered behind closed doors earlier they eschewed further discussion.

Because "we seem to be at a stalemate right now," Oliverio nominated Gross as a compromise. The motion garnered four votes: Oliverio's and those of LoBue, Wright, and Gross himself. But Albano, Castellano, Nacerino, and Scuccimarra voted "no." Thus the stalemate continued.

(Continued on page 4)



A wintery day on the Hudson River

Photo by Michael Turton



iGuitar caters to a global market.

File photo by M. Turton

Local Economy Hard to Forecast

Some business owners predict strength, others remain uncertain

By Michael Turton

Patrick Cummings' iGuitar Workshop is as local as a business can be given its Main Street Nelsonville location. Yet the main market for his custom-made guitars can only be described as global.

"Most of my business is completely outside this area," he said, listing Japan, England and Australia as some of the typical places his customers call home. He also does business across the U.S. "I just had someone in Georgia buy his 25th guitar from me." Cummings' views



Bruce Kehr, owner of ESP Inc.

Photo by M. Turton

on the local economy going into 2014 reflect those of a number of other area businesses recently contacted by *The Paper*. "I'd say things have continued to progress since coming out of the recession," he said. "The improvement in 2011, '12 and '13 has not been amazing – but it's coming back – it was in the toilet." He expects the modest improvement to continue. "I think it will continue to inch forward – just not as fast as I'd like." Cummings has thoughts on what might hasten the upward trend for small business. "If the people running the country could get along, if they could work together more sensibly, it would help small business." And locally? "It would be fabulous for business if right at Route 9 and Route 301, and even at the Taconic, something beautiful could be put in place saying 'Welcome to Cold Spring.'" He suggests that attractive, landscaped signage should include terms such as "business district, restaurants, shops and live music" – giving drivers a reason to turn toward the village.

Consumers adjust

Nicole Giachinta established the Nicole Brooke Salon in Philipstown Plaza on Route 9 in April 2012.

"It was definitely slow at first," she said. "But business really started to pick up about six to nine months after we opened." Still, she sees caution in current spending

(Continued on page 3)

Butterfield Project Set to Clear First Hurdle

Planning Board may find no adverse impact

By Kevin E. Foley

The long-proposed, twice-withdrawn proposal to build condos for seniors and office buildings for commercial and possible governmental use on the site of the defunct Butterfield Hospital on Chestnut Street (Route 9D) in Cold Spring appears to be inching toward clearing its first hurdle in the latest iteration of the plan.

The Cold Spring Planning Board, the designated lead agency for reviewing the project, seems poised to vote soon to affirm the applicant's contention that the project will not have any significant adverse impact on the village's environment according to the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process. The approval would come in the form of a determination that the applicant had filed a complete and satisfactory response in its Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) to the board's inquiry and that further "negative declaration" on potential adverse impacts to the environment is appropriate.

The "negative declaration" by the lead agency notifies other interested local, county and state agencies that the applicant has complied with the SEQR requirements by addressing concerns they may have about the project.

By contrast, a "positive declaration" by the Planning Board would trigger the requirement for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), a more elaborate, expensive, more detailed study of the project's potential impact. Requiring an EIS would not be

(Continued on page 5)

Mouths to Feed

One Potato, Two Potato

By Celia Barbour

Right now seems like as good a time as any to think about potatoes, those cozy little lumps of starchiness rich with flu-fighting Vitamin C. So stolid is their appearance that they’ve become the vegetal symbol of our own indolence — we do not call ourselves couch artichokes, now do we? And if ever there was a month when indolence is likely to dog us, January is it, as we recoil from the cold and turn inwards to quietly survey the damage (psychological, economic, adipose) wrought by superstorm Christmas.

Not that thinking about potatoes will in and of itself keep you warm as you lie there on your sofa. On the other hand, it will not make you colder than thinking about anything else. According to *Scientific American*, our brains consume a disproportionate amount of our bodies’ energy — some 20 percent of it, despite accounting for a mere two percent of our body weight. But no studies to date have proved conclusively that they burn more energy thinking about difficult things like Fermat’s last theorem or healthcare than they do thinking about simple things like potatoes. So the choice is yours.

And I know which one I’d go with. In fact, I found myself engaging in some prolonged potato contemplation just the other day, after my family returned from an extended holiday trip and came face to face with our empty refrigerator and pantry. This wasn’t a surprise; we had planned it by eating everything perishable before we left. Still, surveying a barren kitchen gives one a terribly desolate sensation in the

pit of one’s stomach, and I decided on the spot that a stash of potatoes was the best cure.

Although I shortly thereafter bought several pounds of russets and Yukon Golds, I proceeded to ignore them because my California sister arrived for a belated visit, and, as she often reminds me, the only thing that sustains her through those long, hard California months is thoughts of the food I cook for her at holiday time.

Okay, that’s an exaggeration. Whatever. For her, I wanted to make crepes, so I cooked up a Julia Child batch with a freakishly rich chicken filling. The filling was

“This root, no matter how you prepare it ... cannot pass for an agreeable food.’ Which is, hello, just wrong on so many levels, starting with the fact that the potato is quite possibly the most agreeable food of all time.”

good but the crepes failed because I do not have a crepe pan. And then I remembered a recipe from Simon Hopkinson’s wonderful cookbook, *Roast Chicken and Other Stories*, for crepes Parmentier — light, soft potato cakes a little bigger and thicker than silver dollar pancakes. They are reliably great, and a very nice way to dress up a dish you’d normally serve with



Potato crepes

Photos by C. Barbour

roasted, mashed, or boiled potatoes, or with bread. We had them with beef stew.

Hopkinson’s recipe is gourmet — the batter is passed through a sieve and cooked in clarified butter. But it’s easy enough to dumb down. The potatoes don’t mind. Lord knows, they’ve suffered worse indignities. For a century and a half, after being uprooted from their Andean homes and dragged off to Europe, they were disparaged and slandered, described as sustenance suitable for only

livestock and starving peasants. Diderot wrote, “This root, no matter how you prepare it ... cannot pass for an agreeable food.” Which is, hello, just wrong on so many levels, starting with the fact that the potato is quite possibly the most agreeable food of all time. Today, potatoes are the fourth largest food crop worldwide, after corn, wheat, and rice — and the most important vegetable one. And everyone loves them, whether as chips or fries, mashed or roasted, baked or made into pretty little crepes.

All of which will give you something to think about as you lie on your sofa, cogitating the month away.

Potato Crepes

Adapted from Roast Chicken and Other Stories, by Simon Hopkinson

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 2 large russet potatoes (about 1¼ lbs.) | 4 eggs |
| ¼ cup milk | 3 egg whites |
| 3 tablespoons cream | 2½ tablespoons flour |
| | salt and pepper |
| | butter, for frying the crepes |

- Preheat the oven to 200° Bring 2” of water to boil in a pot with a steamer placed in it. Peel the potatoes, cut them into chunks, and transfer to the pot. Cover tightly and steam the potatoes until soft, about 10 minutes.
- Drain potatoes and pass them through a food mill or ricer into a bowl. Set aside to cool.
- Combine the remaining ingredients except for the butter in the jar of a blender; blend on high until smooth, about 40 seconds. Add this liquid to the cooled potatoes, and whisk to combine.
- Heat a skillet over medium-high, then rub generously with butter. Drop the crepe batter by tablespoonfuls onto the surface. Cook until the tops start to look opaque, about 2 minutes. Flip and briefly cook the other side, just until golden. Place finished crepes in a single layer in the warm oven until ready to serve. (If you won’t be eating them soon, cover crepes with a barely-damp, clean dish towel to keep them from drying out.)



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Local Economy Hard to Forecast *(from page 1)*

habits. “People are extending the time between cuts. They’re spending less, doing their own coloring, buying less product.” Giachinta, who has been cutting hair for 11 years, said that’s very different than just a few years ago when consumers got their nails done and hair styled, “as a matter of routine.” Yet Giachinta is very positive about the year ahead. “I think it is going to be a really good year if it keeps going the way it has been.” Some of that optimism comes from the fact that while people are spending less, her customer base has increased. “I’ve built up a large clientele.” She has also kept a close eye on overhead. She cut back on advertising but has been able to promote her business through word-of-mouth — especially via social media. “Facebook has made a huge difference,” she said.

“Are we affected by the national economy? Absolutely ... business is off a little, but not a lot ... it’s been mediocre.” That’s how Jim Matero summed up the state of his business, Jaymark Jewelers, located on Route 9 north of Philipstown Plaza. He said that business was a little worse in 2013 than the year before. “I don’t know if it’s justified — but consumers have a lot of fear, uncertainty. People are nervous.” Like Giachinta, Matero said that consumers have changed. “As people feel their budget tighten — they sell more,” he said. Jaymark purchases gold, silver, platinum and diamonds directly from customers. “We also see a lot more jewelry repair and remodeling work. People save money doing that.” As to what can be done to improve the economic climate, Matero is unsure. “It’s a complex question. The economic formulae are very complicated. It’s going to take a lot of time.” While he doesn’t have a strong gut feeling about the year ahead, he is

guardedly optimistic. “We have a chance to be better than in 2013. I anticipate a better year.”

Each year a little better

Expanded Supply Products Inc. (ESP) is also located along the Route 9 corridor. “Last year was better than 2012,” said owner Bruce Kehr. “It’s improved over the last couple years. Not a lot — but it improved.”

ESP specializes in excavation, highway, water and sewer supplies — doing business over a wide area from northern New Jersey and Rockland County to Westchester County and western Connecticut. “And we just shipped pipe and filter fabric to Florida,” Kehr said. “Each year has been a little better — five to 10 percent. That’s better than going the other way.” The cause of the slow recovery? “The Obama administration hasn’t helped us, that’s for sure. There’s no jobs. Nobody’s spending money.” Kehr said there are “shovel-ready” projects pending but no money to get them started. “The (federal) stimulus money for infrastructure projects was a good idea — but it didn’t happen,” Kehr said. “You have to wonder where the money went.” Money wasn’t an issue six or seven years ago he recalled. “The phone never stopped ringing. Price wasn’t much of a factor. People just wanted it done — now.” The new “now” is very different. Kehr said that bids are looked at very carefully these days. “Price is a big issue now.”

Tires or food?

Like jewelry and hair styling, motorcycles don’t exactly qualify as necessities. “2013 was a strange year — unpredictable,” said Mike Schwartz, owner of Phat Custom Motorcycles located on Route 9 north of Route 301. Phat builds

custom-made motorcycles, repairs and services bikes and sells related products. “In September (2013), when the government shut down, the phone just stopped ringing.” Despite a beautiful fall, usually a boon to bike riding, Schwartz said the custom motorcycle industry took a nose-dive. Spending slowed. Some of Phat’s vendors closed their doors. “Money spent here isn’t for something you have to have — it’s a luxury item, a toy,” he said. Gone are the days when easy-to-come-by home equity loans translated into sales for Schwartz. “When people say ‘Am I going to put tires on my motorcycle or food on the table’ — what are they going to do?” he asked. “People hold onto their money when they get nervous.” Schwartz isn’t down or up about the future — he just doesn’t know. “I have no clue. I wish I did. I don’t know what it’s going to be.”

Savvy homebuyers

The slow but gradual recovery alluded to by some business owners seems to hold true in real estate as well. Sylvia Wallin, manager of Houlihan-Lawrence Real Estate in Cold Spring said that sales increased slightly more than 20 percent in Philipstown last year, although the total value of sales increased by only about five percent. She is “cautiously optimistic” about 2014. Wallin said that the young buyers who move from Manhattan to Brooklyn and then to Philipstown are very savvy, cautious and wanting a good return on their investment. Melissa Carlton, an agent in the same office, feels much the same. “Buyers coming into the market all know someone who lost significantly in the last crash,” she said. While people may not expect an actual guarantee, they do want to be confident their investment won’t lose value,” Carlton said. “I’m optimistic that it will be a good year,” she said, indicating that first- and second-time homebuyers want



Despite beautiful fall weather, sales in the custom motorcycle industry slipped in 2013.

Photo by M. Turton

to take advantage of continued low interest rates, although financing can be a challenge. “You need a bit more to finance now,” she said. On the other hand Carlton said that in the wake of the backlash following the mortgage crisis, major banks have begun streamlining the loan process. Light at the end of the tunnel?

At least in this small sample, there was no overwhelming pattern as local business owners tried to predict how the economy will behave in 2014. Repeated predictions included terms such as “nervous,” “progress,” “uncertain,” “better” and “slow.” Some expressed optimism, if somewhat guardedly. One owner who asked not to be named referred to media reports that indicate there is now “light at the end of the tunnel” when it comes to the economy. “But you wonder,” the dubious business owner said. “Is it light at the end of the tunnel? Or an on coming train?”



Early in the evening of Tuesday, Jan. 7, fire destroyed a house trailer on Wall Street in Cold Spring. Firefighters from the Cold Spring Fire Company fought the blaze, also battling frigid, single-digit temperatures. Fire companies from Fishkill, Garrison, North Highlands and Putnam Valley also assisted, standard procedure in the event of structural fires. The fire was caused accidentally during an attempt to heat frozen pipes. No one was injured in the incident.

Photo by Michael Turton

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By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

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Salaries for Most County Officials Remain Constant

Election commissioners draw raises

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Key Putnam County government officials began the new year with the same salaries as in 2013, with a few notable exceptions — such as the two election commissioners whose pay apparently leapt by more than 12 percent — comparisons of the salary rosters for 2013 and 2014 reveal.

Typically, the Putnam County Legislature sets the salaries for the oncoming year at its prior-year final meeting. Thus it finalized the 2013 salaries at a year-end session in December 2012 and fixed the 2014 salaries on Dec. 20, 2013.

In unanimous votes the legislature, including Philipstown's representative Barbara Scuccimarra, made the 2014 salary for its members \$35,136, as in 2013. Likewise, it kept the pay of County Executive MaryEllen Odell at \$148,635. However, the legislators voted to pay the two election commissioners \$71,477 each. Minutes of the 2012-end-of-the-year meeting show that the legislature set the election commissioners' 2013 pay at \$63,477, \$8,000 less. Recipients of the higher pay are long-

Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell, shown at a meeting in Carmel last August, is drawing the same pay for 2014 as in 2013. Photo by L.S. Armstrong

time Republican Commissioner Anthony Scannapieco and new Democratic Commissioner Catherine Croft, the replacement for Robert Bennett, who held the office for years before retiring last month. Each party has one commissioner.

Under New York State law, the salaries for Odell and the elected commissioners take effect 45 days after their adoption unless challenged by a permissive referendum (launched by a voter petition).

Further line-by-line salary comparison

shows that the legislature set the 2013 pay of District Attorney Adam Levy at \$158,933. For 2014, the legislature voted to give the district attorney \$165,657. Whether Levy hangs onto his job this year remains unclear, given his embroilment in investigations over rape allegations involving a friend and questions of his own conduct in various capacities.

The salary of the county clerk, Dennis Sant, who generated national controversy last year for his refusal to divulge public records with gun-ownership details, will get \$119,494 for 2014, as in 2013.

Recently re-elected Sheriff Donald Smith and Commissioner of Finance William Carlin also are drawing the same pay in 2014 as they did in 2013: \$137,273 for Smith and \$131,263 for Carlin. And the salary of Fred Pena, the commissioner of highways and facilities, stays at \$121,000.

Philipstown resident Vincent Tamagna also will draw the same amount, \$75,000, in 2014 as in 2013 for serving as county transportation program manager (called the operations manager in the 2013 salary schedule). The salary of another local resident, Libby Pataki, director of the Putnam County Tourism Office, does not appear in the pay roster; her agency is sometimes considered a quasi-governmental entity.

Putnam County Legislature Chooses Chairman (from page 1)

Sounding exasperated, Sant again invited the Republicans to caucus "and see if we could come up with a decision. We have a lot of work to go through tonight. We've only been here five minutes and we already have a roadblock. This is really all about the people of Putnam County, who put you into office" and who, he implied, want the legislature to avoid bickering and address serious matters.

Once more the Republicans rebuffed him.

When Oliverio repeated his attempt to make Gross chairman, Sant declined to call another vote and proposed, for the third time, that the Republicans confer to make peace among themselves and "help move this along." For the third time, they refused to do so.

Legislative vacancy

Sant next brought up the District 3 vacancy. Albano nominated Tartaro to fill it.

Oliverio requested they "keep the spot open for the [term's] remainder," citing numerous pleas from Kent voters "who feel this should be a straight run, candidate against candidate, 10 months from now." Choosing Tartaro "is a very contro-

versial move and the push-back from the constituency will be great," he said.

LoBue also objected. "I'm breaking ranks," she said. "I just can't circumvent the will of the people."

Albano advocated action. "We've been here five or 10 minutes and we're already in a deadlock. We're not going to get anything done" without a ninth legislator as a tie-breaker, he said. "I think it is important that we fill this position and move on and get our work done."

They then approved Tartaro's appointment with only LoBue and Oliverio voting "no."

Tartaro claimed his place on the dais and Castellano re-nominated Albano as chairman. This time Tartaro joined Castellano, Nacerino, Scuccimarra, and Albano in voting "yes," while LoBue, Oliverio, and Gross said "no" and Wright abstained.

"May God be with you in your wisdom," Sant remarked as he turned over the meeting to Albano.

Deputy chair

The legislators voted 6 to 3 to name Nacerino as deputy chairperson, with

LoBue, Gross and Oliverio again the dissenters.

The legislators subsequently took up more than 60 pages of pro forma appointments and routine chores. Substantive differences only emerged over making two temporary workers in the county historian's office permanent part-time employees.

LoBue protested that the move to change their status came "outside the budget cycle," not during budget preparation.

"There's no fiscal impact," Scuccimarra responded.

Wright disagreed, asserting that "it's not legislatively honest to say it doesn't have a fiscal impact going forward."

"It's not ideal to do it this way" but involves "a mistake that came to us. And I think we handled it in the right fashion," Castellano said, noting that the two employees would receive vision and dental benefits but not health-care coverage.

The legislature then approved the duo's appointment, with only Wright and LoBue voting "no."

Workers installed a trailer next to the Cold Spring post office on Wednesday, Jan. 8. The trailer will serve as the village postal outlet while the location for a new post office is determined. One scenario that has been discussed would see Cold Spring's postal routes operate out of the Garrison post office and a new, smaller retail outlet established in Cold Spring. In the interim, a trailer has also been stationed at the Garrison post oOffice. Photo by Michael Turton

Haldane Settles Two Contracts

Villanti chapter closing

By Michael Turton

It was business as usual for Haldane Superintendent of Schools Mark Villanti at the district's board meeting Tuesday (Jan. 7), but the occasion marked his final meeting before his impending retirement.

Agreements with two of the school district's three bargaining units, the Haldane Administrators Association and the Haldane Civil Service Employees Association, were approved. Trustee Peter Henderson termed the contracts "excellent agreements" for both the associations and the community. "Our goal was to stay within the tax cap and avoid layoffs. Through these agreements we were able to meet those goals," he said. Henderson said that the agreements recognize the new economic "normal," adding that, "Life within the [tax] cap is not going away soon." Villanti told *The Paper* that with salaries and benefits making up almost 80 percent of the district's budget, and the school district tied to the state-imposed tax cap, both associations "recognized the dilemma we're in." He said the agreements both call for increases of 1.5 to 1.6 percent per year. The agreements, which are posted on the Haldane

website, run from July 2014 through June 2016. The contract with the teachers' union is not yet settled.

Haldane honors

Trustees took time out from their regular business to honor a number of students. Haldane senior Giana Grandetti received the Putnam-Northern Westchester BOCES Student of Distinction Award, bestowed upon only one student from the 18 member school districts. Grandetti, who is in the BOCES culinary program, was also a member of the 2013 girls varsity soccer team.

The 2013 fall season was an excellent one for Haldane's student athletes and members of four teams received certificates honoring their accomplishments. The girls varsity volleyball team won the Class D State Championship while the girls varsity soccer team made it to the state final. The boys and girls cross country teams also both competed in state finals.

Haldane High School earned honors with a spot on the 4th Annual AP District Honor Roll. With more than 20,000 high schools across the U.S. and Canada, Haldane was one of just 477 to achieve Honor Roll status. Recipient schools are recognized for increasing access to advanced placement programs while also increasing the number of students who



Haldane senior Giana Grandetti, right, Haldane School Board President Gillian Thorpe and John McCarthy of BOCES

Photo by M. Turton

earn a score of three or more on AP exams. Students earning those grades are considered to have completed college level work.

Concession stand plans

With the new athletic field in place since September, attention turns to fundraising for a new concession stand and viewing area to be located next to the field. The Blue Devils Booster Club's Dan Hughes and Roger Hoffman presented plans for the proposed two-story building. Hoffman, an architect, contributed the design. Hughes said the building will cost approximately \$144,000 and that the club has already raised about

\$30,000. The initial phase of construction will cost \$45,000, an amount he said is less than expected because two local contractors have offered discount rates to complete the work. Cost savings will also be realized because no cooking will take place inside the concession building, being done instead on outdoor grills.

Three retirements

Trustees received notices from three teachers who have announced that they will retire by the end of the school year. The retirees include teachers Ginny Pidala, who has taught at Haldane for 36 years, and 18-year veteran Mike Klubnick. Christine Donovan, a teach-

(Continued on next page)

Butterfield Project Set To Clear First Hurdle *(from page 1)*

unusual for a project of this size. However, there is no indication the Planning Board contemplates such an action.

"As I listened tonight there were no adverse environmental impacts discussed," said Steven Barshov, attorney for developer Paul Guillaro's Butterfield LLC, as he sought to punctuate the approximately 60-minute Planning Board consideration of the 600-plus-page EAF. The meeting was at the VFW Hall on Kemble Avenue Wednesday night (Jan. 8). Barshov's assertion met with no contradiction from board members or their consultants. Only three board members even raised issues and many of those were clarifications on language or a request for reassurance on certain points.

While the process is still open and the board has yet to vote, there was no indication at the meeting or a previous one on Dec. 18 that the board has any appetite for further SEQR review.

The process began in September when Planning Board consultant Chuck Voss advised the board that Butterfield LLC's EAF was inadequate in failing to address several issues or not supplying sufficient documentation for its claims. Four months later after numerous offline exchanges between Voss and Tim Miller Associates, a planning consul-

tancy based in Cold Spring, the EAF has tripled in page size, a point driven home often by Voss. Both Voss and Planning Board lawyer Anna L. Georgiou have told the board several times that Guillaro and his team have been cooperative and responsive and that they believe the EAF is complete.

The current EAF can be seen at the Cold Spring Village website (coldspringny.gov).

The next meeting of the Planning Board is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Jan. 15, at the Village Hall on Main Street. At the meeting the board's planning consultant and lawyer will present their final recommendations on moving forward, which is very likely to be to accept the EAF as complete and to move to a "negative declaration."

Should the board make a "negative declaration" next week or soon after, the next step would be to send their findings to the Village Board of Trustees. The Village Board will then take up its proposed zoning change for the Butterfield site, which is necessary for the project to go forward. While the Planning Board is not required to hold a public hearing on its SEQR review, trustees will have to hold one on the zoning change.

When the village held a public hearing

a year ago on the move from a B4 to a broader B4a zoning scheme, the trustees encountered a firestorm of protest. Residents in opposition centered their argument on the issue of granting the zoning change to the developer, while promised or proffered amenities, (a new post office, a senior citizen center, consolidated government offices, preserved public open space on the site) remain at best in limbo. Guillaro has said he will work with federal, county, town and village officials to create the services often bandied about.

Political implications

County Executive MaryEllen Odell has made strong statements in recent months about the county funding a senior citizen center in concert with PCNR publisher Elizabeth Ailes, who has referred to a \$500,000 pledge for that purpose in her newspaper several times. To fund an ongoing lease and staffing however, Odell would need county legislative approval. Odell has also said other agencies could conceivably have a presence at Butterfield but no hard details have emerged.

At other times town and village officials have spoken favorably of combined court offices and other consolidation possibilities but such projects require funding and other detailed consider-

ations before becoming reality.

As of this writing it is not clear if the village trustees have to accept the Planning Board's negative declaration on environmental impact and proceed to the zoning change or whether they can seek further information from the developer to satisfy their environmental concerns before moving to the zoning change.

Adding to the political implications is the village election in March when two trustee seats are up for voting. Incumbent Matt Francisco, a Butterfield skeptic, is expected to run for re-election with another seat open, assuming Chuck Hustis keeps to his determination not to run again. Restaurateur Cathryn Fadde and Mike Bowman, former Cold Spring Fire Company president, are said to be gearing up to run as a team.

It will be interesting to say the least to see the timing of the Planning Board and the Village Board's deliberations given the election scenario.

Don't forget the site plan

Assuming approval of all the aforementioned, the Planning Board would still have to conduct a granular site plan review wherein all the demolition and construction details of the Butterfield LLC project would have to be reviewed.



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Eleanor’s Best: Garrison-made Jam, Jelly and Marmalade

Stepping back in time through taste

By Alison Rooney

Once partially relegated to the “time-consuming, outdated” way of doing things, canning and preserving, along with similar traditions once handed down generation to generation, have returned to favor. More people are rejecting heavily processed foods, seeing value in using unaltered ingredients to feed themselves and their families. Garrison’s Jennifer Mercurio grew up in a family with these traditions. Her great-grandmother taught all of her daughters how to preserve “everything.” Her great-aunt’s home had a “huge canning basement.” But Mercurio “didn’t think much of it” — until fairly recently. Her career as an attorney in the tech world demanded many hours and it wasn’t until she and her family, including young daughter Eleanor, moved to Garrison that she revisited the ways of the women who came before her, and decided to learn what they once could have taught her.



The first four products launched by Eleanor’s Best
Photo courtesy of Eleanor’s Best

After years of educating herself and experimenting, constant requests from friends for the jams, jellies and preserves she creates has led her to begin a new business, called “Eleanor’s Best,” after her daughter as well as many other Eleanors in her family. An initial line of four products debuted a couple of weeks before Christmas. Stocked solely by Cold Spring’s The Country Goose, the spreads have been “flying off the shelves” according to proprietor Leonora Burton, with re-stocking going on every few days since their first appearance. Having chosen this area to move to in part because of its “more rural feel and the fact that the community connected nature in a way not found in other places,” Mercurio felt at home with the back-to-earth, locally-grown food ethos she found, and “saw that it impacted my family directly; we wanted to feed ourselves, so along with joining a CSA, I started to grow things for our consumption. I noticed my friends canning and

asked them if it was easy, and their reply was: ‘It’s not too difficult, and it’s fun.’” Regretting that the equipment that her elders had used was long-gone, she took the plunge and bought her own, then researched heavily, learning, first and foremost, how to proceed safely and properly. “It’s almost a lost art,” she says, “and it can be scary knowing that doing one thing wrong can have drastic consequences.” Reaping a bumper crop of raw materials from her growing labors, she began experimenting with recipes, particularly for jams, jellies and marmalades, all of which pleased the eager tasters around her. “I started getting requests from friends, then friends of friends, and family for the stuff I was making,” she relates, “so it became a natural extension to offer it to others.” Mercurio secured a New York State Department of Agriculture Home Processing License and got to work. Using seasonal produce, Mercurio developed a range of four flavors to start. By seasonal, this can mean a week-to-week output, for instance this is “Bitter Orange” season; however the fruit doesn’t turn orange until January — the taste is the same regardless of the color, but the hue is green. And while citrus in general rules the roost in winter, Meyer Lemons will likely phase out in February this year because of unusual cold blasts in California. Fall was filled with apple, pear and quince and spring brings stone fruit. Mercurio works hard to locate growers who grow completely naturally, not using gases to alter their fruits. She has found growers very receptive. “It’s very difficult to grow crops in this country competing with huge agricultural businesses. I like to work with people whom I consider artisans — local farmers who are artists in crop maintenance, seed-saving and in producing heirloom varieties. Everyone we use is either certified organic or without certification only because the certification process can be expensive and onerous and not everyone can afford it.” Giving broad definitions to her four mainstays, Mercurio says jam “has some fruit in it; think of it as lots of fruit, squished and processed.” A preserve, on the other hand, “is a lumpier version of jam, usually using bigger fruits.” With marmalade, “one uses all of the fruit to make the product: juice, cut-up peel, just about everything.” Even the pieces of pith taken away are put in a cloth and boiled to make the pectin, which thickens it. For jelly “you’re using liquid condensed from the fruit, but no part of the

fruit except for that liquid; you’re collecting the juice, processing it, adding sugar and pectin,” she explains. Mercurio has “learned a lot of science on the fly” since becoming expert in preserving. She has “been more or less forced to re-engineer both a bitter orange and a grapefruit marmalade because I found serious issues with things found elsewhere.” With the first few products selected (blueberry jam, grapefruit marmalade, Meyer Lemon marmalade and Blood Orange marmalade — more flavors to appear in the future), the next stage, which Mercurio is just embarking on, is marketing. “It hasn’t been difficult reaching out to people over the last few months, finding places in the Hudson Valley where Eleanor’s Best will be stocked imminently,” she said. With the soft opening for the products at Country Goose bringing largely unanticipated success, Mercurio has been catching up with all the daily re-stocking needed, while making plans based on this initial demand and more. “There’s been tremendous demand thus far, but I’m taking it one step at a time, talking to caterers, restaurants, farm stalls and other places, and now the emphasis will be on facilitating this. We’re really at the front end right now.” Mercurio is lavish with praise for Leonora Burton — “I don’t know how to thank her enough for her support in all of this; she’s been amazing.” Fueling all of this effort is Mercurio’s belief that there is a real desire out there from many to eat “real, good food. Believe me, this stuff is good and it is real. It takes time to create it. If I’m going to have a slice of toast or oatmeal, I don’t



Jennifer Mercurio, the woman behind Eleanor’s Best.
Photo by A. Rooney

want a schmear of empty calories on it, or things engineered to taste like food. I want to have an experience that is true. I think a lot of people desire access to that. Making it requires time, patience, knowledge, equipment and a sense of humor. Not everyone has all of these (except the sense of humor, hopefully!), but I really like doing it. We take the work out of it and try to make it economical.” To share the marmalade-making wisdom, Mercurio will be teaching two classes next week at the Philipstown Rec Center: one is Monday, Jan. 13, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., and the other is Wednesday, Jan. 15, from 7 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$50 for Philipstown residents and \$65 for others. Call 845-424-6418 to register. As of now, all of the Eleanor’s Best products can be found solely at Country Goose, 115 Main St., Cold Spring. Follow the newly-made Facebook page as they develop further and expand both the range of their products and where they are sold. A website is under development.

Haldane Settles Two Contracts (from page 5)

ing assistant for 10 years, will also retire.

Manitou School review

Haldane will play a role in approving plans for the Manitou School proposed for the Plumbush Inn site on Route 9D near Cold Spring. The private school plans to offer K-8 instruction beginning with K-4 next year. While the new school must be approved by New York State Department of Education, Villanti said that the Haldane District’s role will be “to determine that the facility is safe and that the program is equivalent, but not identical, to a public education program.”

Donations welcomed

Donations were announced at the meeting. Christine McCoy, branch manager of M&T Bank in Cold Spring, presented a check for \$2,500 for the athletic field project. And fall 2013 grants from the Haldane School Foundation totaled \$39,587 towards a wide variety of programs.

The last word

Haldane School Board President Gilian Thorpe reported that interviews with six candidates for position of superintendent of schools will begin soon. Villanti concludes his duties Jan. 17, when John Chambers takes over as interim superintendent. The full-time superintendent will take the helm in July. Villanti’s tenure as superintendent began in July 2007. Early in Tuesday’s meeting, a brief video was presented in which numerous staff, from maintenance workers to teachers and administrators, said goodbye to Villanti, universally praising him for his leadership and human touch. At the end of what was his last public meeting, he asked if he might also have the last word. Always a staunch and at times emotional defender of public education, Villanti ended his final board meeting by simply saying, “Parting is such sweet sorrow.”

PHILIPSTOWN
DEPOT THEATRE

Depot Docs presents: **Detropia**
January 17, 7:30 p.m.
Followed by reception and Q and A with director Rachel Grady
Tickets: \$20

Music Tracks presents: **Shaken not Stirred:
An Evening of Bond Songs**
Hosted by Lisa Sabin with Christine Bokhour, Jenn Lee,
Cat Guthrie, Tom McCoy and more ...
January 25, 7 and 9 p.m.
Tickets: \$20

Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com or 845.424.3900
www.philipstowndepottheatre.org
Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station)

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The Calendar

Garrison Art Center Celebrates 50 Years

Ivan Chermayeff's 50 Collages exhibit kicks off birthday

By Alison Rooney

If Ivan Chermayeff's collages have a graphic look to them, it makes sense, as he has been one of the most celebrated graphic designers in the world for the past half century or so, creating logos and brand identities ingrained in collective consciousness. A friend of the Garrison Art Center, after being introduced to it by painter Grace Knowlton while he and his wife were renting a home in Garrison, he offered to create 50 small collages in honor of the art center's 50th birthday celebration this year, and an exhibit of this work kicks off what will be a year-long series of festivities. The

exhibit opens on Jan. 11, with a reception to meet the artist and toast the 50th from 6 to 8 p.m.

Chermayeff's design firm, co-founded with Tom Geismar, has produced logos for myriad entities and institutions, among them The Museum of Modern Art, Pan Am, PBS and Chase Bank. If a logo comes to mind when you think of any of these, it is likely a design by Chermayeff and Geismar. The firm is also known for the exhibits and environmental art installations it has designed, including those found at the Ellis Island Immigration Museum and two World's Fair pavilions. A more recent area of expertise is motion graphics, on behalf of clients from PBS to Alicia Keys.

Chermayeff's numerous accolades include the Gold Medal of the American Institute of Graphic Arts; a special award from the Fifth Avenue Association for his contributions to the visual environment of New York City; the Gold Medal from the Philadelphia College of Art; the Yale Arts Award Medal and an honorary doctorate in fine arts from the Corcoran Museum of Art in Washington. A past president of the American Institute of Graphic Arts, Chermayeff was a trustee of the Museum of Modern Art in New York for 20 years. He was a member of both the Yale Committee on Art and Architecture and the Harvard University Board of Overseers Committee on Visual and Environmental Studies.

In online interviews Chermayeff has been quoted saying "Design is a service; we try not to have a style ... work hard and be as self-critical as you can about what you've been doing. Don't let it stop you from seeing if it can go further." In the online journal *Bak Magazine*, he expanded further on his process: "Designing a brand identity is



Penmanship Mouth by Ivan Chermayeff Image courtesy of Garrison Art Center

much more than designing a logo. You have to think, you have to research, you have to have an idea about every single nuance that differentiates the brand from the competitors. Beyond that, you work with companies worldwide, from Asia to Europe and Middle East to Latin America, which gives you another responsibility, that is the requirement to know about the cultures and the languages of those communities."

Along with his career in design, Chermayeff has long been absorbed by fine art: painting, drawing, architecture, illustration, sculpture and collage, and it is in the latter that he himself has created many works, described as "both refreshingly ingenuous and engagingly complex." Publisher's notes for a 2001 book on the collages, *Suspects, Smokers, Soldiers and Salesladies*, describe his process and results: "Ivan Chermayeff's collages suggest personalities that grow out of envelopes and stamps, letterheads and labels, pebbles and Polaroids, all magically transformed into eyes, noses, mouths, ears and earrings, hats, and cigarettes. Some are sad, (Continued on page 11)



Scraps with White N by Ivan Chermayeff Image courtesy of Garrison Art Center

Depot Docs Screens *Detropia*

Director Rachel Grady to make Q-and-A appearance

By James O'Barr

Did you know that Detroit has been the setting or shooting location for more than 80 films, and a couple of handfuls of TV shows? Probably not, given the high corn content and low production values of most of them. On the other hand, *Detropia*, set for the next Depot Docs screening at Garrison's Landing on Friday, Jan. 17, is harrowing, haunting, beautiful, lyrical, and unforgettable.

First, a word about the title. There's a shot of a sign on an auto parts store that had been reworked by an artist to say UTOPIA. Riffing on that, the film's co-directors, Heidi Ewing and Rachel Grady, came up with the clever portmanteau, leaving open the question of whether Detroit is *utopia*, or *dystopia*, in the

making. It's a question that the film poses, but does not answer, strongly suggesting that it's not just about one city, but about the entire American experiment. Tommy Stephens, owner of The Raven, a blues bar and grill and the film's spiritual center, puts it parabolically: "When you see your neighbor's house is on fire, you need to help them put it out because you know your house will be next."

Rather than simply being the location or the setting of the film, Detroit is the lead. A glamorous showcase for the glories of the automotive age, and of American industrial hegemony, in 1930 the "Motor City" was the fastest growing (Continued on page 15)



Still images from *Detropia*, cinematography by Tony Hardmon Images courtesy of Depot Docs

The Calendar

Looking for things to do in and around Philipstown? Grab The Calendar and go. For more details and ongoing events, visit philipstown.info. Send event listings to calendar@philipstown.info. See you around town!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

Kids & Community

Free Admission for Grandparents
9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mid-Hudson Children's Museum
75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie
845-471-0589 | mhcm.org

Wine Tasting
4 - 7 p.m. Artisan Wine Shop
180 Main St., Beacon
845-440-6923 | artisanwineshop.com

Wine & Cheese
5 - 8 p.m. Antipodean Books
29 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3867 | antipodean.com

Gaslight Stories (6th Grade Play)
7 p.m. Garrison School | 1100 Route 9D,
Garrison | 845-424-3689 | gufs.org

Health & Fitness

Marika Blossfeldt: Smart Food Choices
7 p.m. The Living Room
103 Main St., Cold Spring
646-241-8478 | marikab.com

Film & Theater

Godspell
8 p.m. Cunneen-Hackett Center
12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie
845-486-4571 | cunneen-hackett.org

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)
8 p.m. The Beacon Theatre
445 Main St., Beacon
845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

Music

Trigger Happy
8 p.m. Tarrytown Music Hall
13 Main St., Tarrytown
914-631-3390 x100 | tarrytownmusichall.org

Frank Migliorelli & The Dirt Nappers
8 p.m. Bean Runner Café
201 S. Division, Peekskill
914-737-1701 | beanrunnercafe.com

Nik Rael
8 p.m. Whistling Willie's
184 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

Live Music
8 p.m. Cold Spring Depot
1 Depot Square, Cold Spring
845-265-5000 | coldspringdepot.com

Sonny Landreth / Geoff Harwell
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café
379 Main St., Beacon
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Nailed Shutt
9:30 p.m. Max's on Main
246 Main St., Beacon
845-838-6297 | maxsonmain.com

Meetings & Lectures

Garrison PTA
1:30 p.m. Garrison School
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3689 | gufspta.org

Free Computer Help
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

Beacon Second Saturday
Kids & Community
Project FeederWatch
8-10 a.m. Croton Point Nature Center
1 Croton Point Ave., Croton-on-Hudson
914-862-5297 | parks.westchestergov.com

Cold Spring Farmers' Market
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. St. Mary's
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring | csfarmmarket.org

Saw Mill River Audubon Walks
9 a.m. Eagles and More | Croton Point Nature Center | 1 Croton Point Ave., Croton-on-Hudson
9 a.m. Brinton Brook (ages 6 and up)
Parking area off Route 9A, north of Croton
914-666-6503 | sawmillriveraudubon.org
Noon. Potluck soup lunch

Winter Bird Seed Order Pickup
9 a.m. - Noon. Taconic Outdoor Education Center
75 Mountain Laurel Lane, Cold Spring
845-265-3773 | putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

Food Pantry
9 - 10 a.m. First Presbyterian Church
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Recycling Center Open
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 59 Lane Gate Road, Cold Spring
coldspringny.gov

Knights of Columbus Free-Throw Championship (ages 9-14)
9:15 a.m. Registration
9:45 a.m. Competition begins
Capuchin Youth and Family Ministries Gym
781 Route 9D, Garrison | 845-265-3802

Holiday Workshop: Tu B'Shevat! (ages 2-7)
9:45 a.m. Reform Temple of Putnam Valley
362 Church Road, Putnam Valley
845-528-4774 | rtpv.org

Woodpeckers Program
10 a.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall | 845-534-5506
hhnaturemuseum.org

Soup Kitchen
11 a.m. Presbyterian Church
50 Liberty St., Beacon | 845-831-5322
beaconpresbychurch.com

Family Concert with Lydia Adams Davis
11 a.m. Howland Cultural Center | 477 Main St., Beacon | 845-297-9243 | howlandmusic.org

Fancy Nancy, The Musical
11 a.m. & 3 p.m. Tarrytown Music Hall
13 Main St., Tarrytown
914-631-3390 x100 | tarrytownmusichall.org

Bully Buster Class for Kids
Noon. All Sport Health & Fitness | 17 Old Main St., Fishkill | 845-896-5678 | allsportfishkill.com

Grand Opening
Noon - 9 p.m. Beacon Homebrew
468 Main St., Beacon
facebook.com/beacon.homebrew

Backyard Chickens for Beginners
1 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 | hhnaturemuseum.org

Make a Musical Instrument
2 p.m. Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art
1701 Main St., Peekskill
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

Meet the Animals
1 & 2:30 p.m. Wildlife Education Center
25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845-534-7781 | hhnaturemuseum.org

Wine Tasting
3 - 6 p.m. Artisan Wine Shop
See details under Friday.

Code Springers (ages 5-14)
4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison | codespringers.org

Clothing Swap and "Trashion" Show
6 - 9 p.m. Blackbird Attic Boutique | 442 Main St., Beacon | 845-418-4840 | blackbirdattic.com

International Folk Dance
6:30 p.m. New Era Creative Space
1016 Brown St., Peekskill | necspace.com

Haldane Class of 2014 Fundraiser: The Big Easy
7 - 10 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring | 914-714-9309
haldanemardigras.eventbrite.com

Health & Fitness

Tai Chai
9 a.m. St. Philip's (Parish House) | 1101 Route 9D, Garrison | 845-424-3571
stphilipshighlands.org

Hudson Valley Hospital
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Childbirth Classes
9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Community CPR
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-734-3896 | hvhc.org/events

Tai-Chi Chuan
9:30 a.m. Arts on the Lake | 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes | 845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

Bereavement Support Group
11 a.m. Our Lady of Loretto
24 Fair St., Cold Spring
845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

Sports

Main Street Boxing
4 p.m. Westchester County Center
198 Central Ave., White Plains
914-995-4050 | countycenter.biz

Art & Design

Community Day at Dia:Beacon
11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission
11 a.m. Movement workshop (ages 7-10)
Noon. Movement-based tour
1 p.m. Movement workshop: Fred Sandback's Work
1 p.m. Lens of the Body Tour
2 p.m. Christopher Bennett on Alighiero e Boetti
3 Beekman St., Beacon
845-440-0100 | diabeacon.org

Open House & Class Registration
Noon - 3 p.m. Embark@EMC | 925 South St., Peekskill | 347-453-3182 | embarkpeekskill.com

Darkroom Photography (First Session)
1:30 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Gallery Show Openings

Beacon High School Winter Exhibit
4 - 7 p.m. The Lofts at Beacon
18 Front St., Beacon
845-831-7867 | loftsatbeacon.com

Robert Ferrucci: Contemporary American Folk Art
5 - 8 p.m. RiverWinds Gallery | 172 Main St., Beacon | 845-838-2880 | riverwindsgallery.com

Ivan Chermayeff: 50 Collages
6 - 8 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

John Ebbert: My Face Lies, Autoportraits
6 - 8 p.m. Theo Ganz Studio Gallery
149 Main St., Beacon
917-318-2239 | theoganzstudio.com

bau Gallery
6 - 9 p.m. Francesco Mastalia: *Organic*
6 - 9 p.m. Tony Moore: *Coomaraswamy's Bridge*
506 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7584 | baugallery.com

Group Custom Toy Show: (In)Action Figures 2
6 - 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery | 163 Main St., Beacon
212-255-2505 | shop.cluttermagazine.com/gallery

Mary Anne Erickson: Vanishing Roadside (Closing)
6 - 9 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass | 162 Main St., Beacon | 845-440-0068 | hudsonbeachglass.com

The Art of Michael Martin Eagan
6 - 9 p.m. Prudential Serls Prime Properties
179 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-3080
beaconoffice.prudentialserls.com

Tim Ginexi: View the World and Question Within
9:30 p.m. Eat. Paint. Love.
331 Main St., Beacon | eat-paint-love.com

Theater & Film

Godspell
3 & 7:30 p.m. Cunneen-Hackett Center
See details under Friday.

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)
8 p.m. The Beacon Theatre | Details under Friday

Music

Chamber Music Group (First Session)
9 a.m. Beacon Music Factory
12 Hanna Lane, Beacon
845-202-3555 | beaconmusicfactory.com

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Second Saturday, 6-9pm



CAFE (somewhere out west), 40"x 60", Oil on Canvas

Mary Anne Erickson
at Hudson Beach Gallery
162 Main St, Beacon, NY

Vanishing Roadside

Oil Paintings

Contacts:
Carl Van Brunt
carl@vanbruntgallery.com 917.327.3597
Suzanne Ball
suzanne@vanbruntprojects.com 917.327.1351

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The Calendar *(from page 9)*

Religious Services

See philipstown.info/churches for Sunday listings

MONDAY, JANUARY 13

Kids & Community

Monday Bird Walk

8:30 a.m. Rockefeller State Park
125 Phelps Way, Pleasantville
914-666-6503 | sawmillriveraudubon.org

Be Decadent, Make Marmalade (Class)

9:30 a.m. Philipstown Community Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Bridge Club

9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Howland Public Library

9:30 a.m. Literacy Connections Class
3 - 5 p.m. Drop-in Homework Center (grades 1-8)
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 x103 | beaconlibrary.org

Dancing Tree Yoga (ages 1.5 to 3)

(First Session)

9:45 & 10:45 a.m. Beacon Yoga
464 Main St., Beacon
845-416-5608 | dancingtreekids@gmail.com

Indoor Tot Lot

Noon - 2 p.m. Philipstown Rec Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Beacon Music Factory (First Sessions)

4 p.m. Kids Drumming (ages 7-9)
5 p.m. Kids Drumming (ages 9-12)
5 p.m. Rock Band Camp (Kids)
7 p.m. Rock Band Camp (Adults): B-52s
12 Hanna Lane, Beacon
845-202-3555 | beaconmusicfactory.com

Health & Fitness

Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group

10 a.m. Putnam Hospital Center
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

Basketball at Philipstown Rec

6:15 p.m. Youth Skills/Drills (grades 3-8)
7:30 p.m. Men's Pick-up
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Breast Cancer Support Group

7 p.m. Hudson Valley Hospital
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

Art & Design

Drop-In Drawing & Painting from Life (Short Pose)

9:30 a.m. Garrison Art Center | Details under Sunday

Theater & Film

1776 (Auditions)

6 - 9 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison Landing, Garrison
914-522-5837 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

Monty Python's Spamalot (Auditions)

7 - 9 p.m. County Players
See details under Sunday.

California Suite, Clybourne Park, The 39 Steps, The Fantasticks (Auditions)

7 - 9 p.m. The Beacon Theatre
See details under Sunday.

Le Joli Mai (1963)

7:30 p.m. Jacob Burns Film Center
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Music

MLK Jr. Day March Song Rehearsal

6 p.m. Springfield Baptist Church
8 Church St., Beacon

Studio II Open Mic

6 - 9 p.m. Bean Runner Café
See details under Friday.

Community Chorus

7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org



Philipstown Depot Theatre, at Garrison's Landing, Garrison, will host 1776 auditions on Monday evening.

File photo by L.S. Armstrong

Open Mic Night

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

Beginning Guitar (First Session)

7:30 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Paul Kogut Trio (Jazz)

8 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St., Beacon
845-831-8065 | quinnnsbeacon.com

Meetings & Lectures

Cold Spring Lions Club

6:30 p.m. Call for location.
914-456-9698 | coldspringlions.com

Beacon School Board

7 p.m. South Avenue School
60 South Ave., Beacon
845-838-6900 | beaconcityk12.org

Haldane Booster Club

7:30 p.m. Haldane School
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

Kids & Community

Philipstown Recreation Center

9 - 11 a.m. & Noon - 2 p.m. Indoor Tot Lot
6:30 p.m. Foot in Mouth Players (ages 12-19)
See details under Monday.

Animals & Nature Together (ages 2-3) (First Session)

10 a.m. Wildlife Education Center
See details under Saturday.

Senior Day Center

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mother Lurana House
166 Old West Point Road East, Garrison
845-424-3184 | graymoorcenter.org

Howland Public Library

10:30 a.m. Baby & Me (ages 0-2)
1:30 p.m. Book Club: *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*
3 - 5 p.m. Drop-in Homework Center (grades 1-8)
4 - 5:30 p.m. Children Read to Dogs
See details under Monday.

Gung Hay Fat Choy! (grades K-5)

4 p.m. Beacon Music Factory (First Sessions)
See details under Monday.

Kids Craft Hour

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

Cooking Class: Comfort Foods

7 p.m. Ella's Bellas
418 Main St., Beacon
917-803-6857 | homecookingny.com

Health & Fitness

Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group

10:15 a.m. East Fishkill Community Library
348 New York 376, Hopewell Junction
800-532-4290 | supportconnection.org

Art & Design

Club / Draw

8 - 11:30 p.m. Quinn's
330 Main St., Beacon | clubdraw.tumblr.com

Theater & Film

California Suite, Clybourne Park, The 39 Steps, The Fantasticks (Auditions)

7 - 9 p.m. The Beacon Theatre
See details under Sunday.

Bullets Over Broadway (1994) plus Q&A

7:15 p.m. Jacob Burns Film Center
See details under Monday.

Music

Beacon Music Factory (First Sessions)

6 p.m. Group Guitar for the People
6 p.m. Ukulele 101
7:30 p.m. Rock Band Camp: Def Leppard's *Pyromania*
12 Hanna Lane, Beacon
845-202-3555 | beaconmusicfactory.com

Old-Timey Southern Fiddle Jam Session

7 - 10 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org.

Meetings & Lectures

Knitting Club

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

Beacon Planning Board (Scheduled)

7 p.m. 1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon
845-838-5002 | cityofbeacon.org

Haldane School Foundation

7 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
haldaneschoolfoundation.org

Board of Trustees

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

Conservation Advisory Committee (Scheduled)

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

Kids & Community

Howland Public Library

9:45 a.m. Come & Play (ages 0-3)
10:30 a.m. Toddler Tales (ages 2-3)
3 - 5 p.m. Drop-in Homework Center
See details under Monday.

Mahjong Open Play

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. VFW Hall
34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Desmond-Fish Library

10:15 a.m. Music and Movement for Toddlers
1:30 p.m. Pre-school Story Hour
See details under Tuesday.

Indoor Tot Lot

Noon - 2 p.m. Philipstown Community Center
See details under Monday.

Animals & Nature Together (First Sessions)

1 p.m. Ages 2-4
3 p.m. Ages 3-4
Wildlife Education Center
See details under Saturday.

Kripalu Kids Yoga

3:15 p.m. SkyBaby Yoga
75 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-4444 | skybabyyoga.com

Rivertown Kids Chorus (ages 9-13)

4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-264-3393 | rivertownkids.org

Cooking Class: Seafood Feasts

5 p.m. Dempsey House
1992 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-734-3896 | hvhc.org/events

The Kids Rock Project (ages 8-11) (First Session)

5 p.m. Beacon Music Factory
See details under Monday.

Be Decadent, Make Marmalade (Class)

7 p.m. Philipstown Community Center
See details under Monday.

Health & Fitness

Breastfeeding Support Group

11 a.m. Dempsey House (Kitchen)
1992 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-734-3896 | hvhc.org/events

Heartsaver AED/CPR Class

6-10 p.m. All Sport Health & Fitness
17 Old Main St., Fishkill
845-896-5678 | allsportfishkill.com

Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group

7 p.m. Putnam Hospital Center
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
800-532-4290 | supportconnection.org

Sports

Army vs. Holy Cross (Men's Basketball)

7 p.m. Christl Arena, West Point
845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

Art & Design

Guided Painting Workshop

6:30 p.m. Eat. Paint. Love.
331 Main St., Beacon | eat-paint-love.com

Music

Open Mic Night

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

Rock Band Camp: The Replacements (First Session)

7 p.m. Beacon Music Factory
See details under Tuesday.

People's Choir with Cat Guthrie

7 p.m. Beacon Music Factory
12 Hanna Lane, Beacon
845-202-3555 | beaconmusicfactory.com

(To next page)





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Garrison Art Center Turns 50 (from page 7)

some angry, some economic, yet all are engaging and inventive. As Joseph Giovaninni writes in his introductory essay, “These are elliptical works that, like puzzles, challenge us to make connections that Chermayeff has made, to bring the fragments into a whole. The wisdom of this wit is that his invention beckons us into our own invention. We are the participants in his creation.”

Chermayeff’s work as a fine artist in collages and sculpture has been exhibited throughout the United States and in Japan. In January 2007, two exhibitions opened at the Pera Museum in Istanbul, one showcasing the last 50 years of Chermayeff & Geismar graphic design and the other focusing on Ivan

Chermayeff’s recent collages and small sculpture. The museum’s website notes read: “In 2007, the galleries of Pera Museum welcomed the work of the remarkable artist, Ivan Chermayeff. He has been producing collages and assemblages for over 40 years, utilizing the everyday ephemera collected in different parts of the world where he has worked and traveled. He saves the envelopes received from friends and colleagues, who send him abandoned gloves, discarded candy wrappers and other visual delights to add to those he has picked up on the streets of the world ... A collagist working from a pile of debris that he has collected over several decades, Chermayeff abstracts materials

from their original context, and casts them into figurative shapes of great character and representational specificity. Quoting Joseph Giovaninni, the Pera site calls the collages “... at the same time abstract, figurative, materialist, objective, subjective and disarming ... Always in Chermayeff’s framed collages, and now, more recently, in free-standing collage sculpture, the New York artist and graphic designer fuses charm and wit in inimitable mixed-media inventions.”

Garrison Art Center’s director Carinda Swann, has her own take on the collages: “In each of these small pieces, it is apparent that cast-off items have taken on a new and larger

existence. Under the studied eye and hand of the artist these no-longer-valued bits of life have clearly moved up the visual food chain. The perfect juxtaposition of shape, color and texture — often with just the right touch of wit — creates a small masterpiece that packs a giant wallop. Collectors of 20th-century American artists will not want to miss this 21st-century opportunity.”

Ivan Chermayeff: 50 Collages will run through Feb. 9, 2014. The Riverside Galleries at 23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison, are open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit garrisonartcenter.org or call 845-424-3960.

The Calendar (from page 10)

Meetings & Lectures

SBA/WEDC Business Seminar

8:15 a.m. SBA Financing Programs
10:30 a.m. Federal Procurement Assistance
Marist College | 3399 North Road, Poughkeepsie
845-575-3438

Becoming a Supervisor for the First Time

9:30 a.m. Mahopac Public Library
668 Route 6, Mahopac
wvp.org/management-center.shtml

Meditative Tu Bishvat Seder

7 p.m. Beacon Hebrew Alliance 331
Verplanck Ave., Beacon | 845-831-2012
beaconhebrewalliance.org

Putnam and Beyond Book Club:

The Round House
7 p.m. Arturo’s Tavern
878 Route 6, Mahopac | meetup.com/P-B-B-C

Life Support Group

7:30 p.m. St. Philip’s Church | 1100 Route 9D,
Garrison | 845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

Town Board Workshop with Ad Hoc Committee on Comprehensive Plan

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

Kids & Community

Indoor Tot Lot

9 - 11 a.m. & Noon - 2 p.m. | Philipstown
Community Center | See details under Monday.

Howland Public Library

10 a.m. Brain Games for Adults
10:30 a.m. Pre-K Story Time (ages 3-5)
3:45 - 5 p.m. Lego Club and Block Party
See details under Monday.

Senior Day Center

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mother Lurana House
See details under Tuesday.

Little Bookworms (ages 2.5 to 5)

12:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Meat & Egg Store Open

3 - 6 p.m. Glynwood Farm (Dairy)
362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring
845-265-3338 | glynwood.org

Dinner Lecture: Identify Common Feeder Birds

6 p.m. Perrin Learning Center
33 Clearpool Road, Carmel
845-225-8226 | clearpool.greenchimneys.org

All About Owls

7 p.m. Rockefeller State Park Preserve
125 Phelps Way, Pleasantville
914-666-6503 | sawmillriveraudubon.org

Health & Fitness



Experience Qi Gong/Tai Chi at
Butterfield Library

Qi Gong/Tai Chi

8:30 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Tai Chi Ch’uan (First Session)

9 a.m. Garrison Institute | 14 Mary’s Way,
Garrison | 914-204-3619 | garrisoninstitute.org

Breast Feeding Support Group

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

Hudson Valley Hospital

6 p.m. Living with Cancer Support Group
7 p.m. Women’s Prenatal/Postpartum Discussion
Group | 1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-736-7700 | northeastdoulas.com

Breast Cancer Support Group

7 p.m. Putnam Hospital Center
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
800-532-4290 | supportconnection.org

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
See details under Monday.

Theater & Film

Schooled: The Price of College Sports (Documentary) plus Q&A

7:30 p.m. Jacob Burns Film Center
See details under Monday.

Music

J and Ray

7 p.m. Cup and Saucer
165 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-6287

Rock Band Camp: Origins of Rock and Roll (First Session)

7 p.m. Beacon Music Factory | Details under Tuesday

Piano Bar Night

7 - 11 p.m. Bear Mountain Inn
55 Hessian Drive, Highland Falls
845-786-2731 | visitbearmountain.com

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy

8 p.m. Tarrytown Music Hall
See details under Friday.

Live Band Karaoke & Rock Jam

8:30 p.m. 12 Grapes
See details under Friday.

Karaoke Night

9:30 p.m. Max’s on Main | See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures

Silent Zen Retreat (Opens)

3 p.m. Garrison Institute | 14 Mary’s Way,
Garrison | 845-424-4800 | garrisoninstitute.org

Informational Meeting: Plans for Dockside Park

7 p.m. Cold Spring Firehouse
154 Main St., Cold Spring | 845-633-8153

Speak It Up! Play It Up! Writing Workshop (First Session)

7 p.m. Embark@EMC | 925 South St., Peekskill
347-453-3182 | embarkpeekskill.com

Winter Lecture Series (Scheduled)

7 p.m. Beacon Sloop Club | 2 Red Flynn Drive,
Beacon | 914-907-4928 | beaconsloopclub.org

Philipstown Planning Board (Scheduled)

7:30 p.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave.,
Cold Spring | 845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

Reign of Error: The Hoax of the Privatization Movement (Talk and Signing)

7:30 p.m. Fox Lane High School
632 S. Bedford Road, Bedford
Sponsored by Westchester Putnam School
Boards Association

Zoning Board of Appeals

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

Philipstown Freemasons

8 p.m. Masonic Lodge
18 Secor St., Nelsonville
845-265-2244 | philipstown236fam.org

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

Kids & Community

Westchester County Center Shows

Noon - 6 p.m. Stamp, Coin, and Paper Money
1 - 7 p.m. Baseball Cards | 198 Central Ave.,
White Plains | 914-995-4050 | countycenter.biz

Health & Fitness

Red Cross Blood Drive

1 - 6 p.m. East Fishkill Police Department
2502 Route 52, Hopewell Junction
800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org

Meetings & Lectures

Navigating Healthcare Options

10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
800-453-4666 | misn-ny.org
Appointment required.

ONGOING

Art & Design

Visit philipstown.info/galleries

Religious Services

Visit philipstown.info/services

Meetings & Lectures

Alcoholics Anonymous

Visit philipstown.info/aa

HUDSON HIGHLANDS PIPE BAND

presents the 8th Annual

BURNS NIGHT SUPPER

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25TH, 2014, 7PM - MIDNIGHT
Highlands Country Club, Rt. 9D, Garrison, NY

Featuring traditional music by The T McCann Band as well as readings, traditional toasts, and dancing. Performances by the Hudson Highlands Pipe Band.

Tickets are limited so please respond early.
\$125/pp or \$1,000 for table of 10. Includes full Scottish inspired dinner (with haggis), open beer and wine bar until 11 pm, and whiskey toasts.

For more information, email info@hhpb.org
Call 845-629-5063 for check payment instructions
or pay by credit card at hhpb.brownpapertickets.com



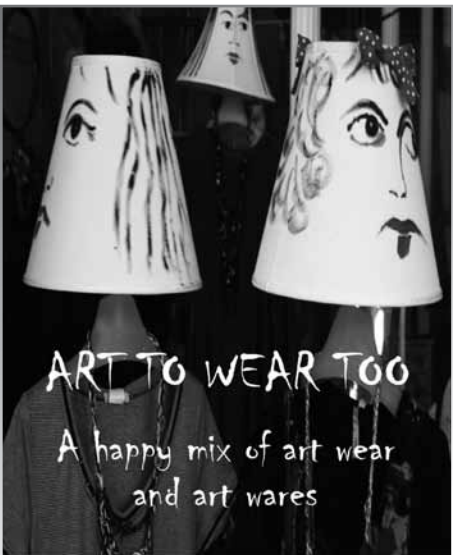
honoring the memory and verse of Scottish poet Robert Burns 1759 - 1796

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Desmond-Fish Library
Explores African
American History at
MLK Program

The Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison presents its 18th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day observances: “Bringing the Dream Home: Civil Rights and the Hudson Valley,” with an adult speaker’s program and potluck supper Jan. 19, and a family program Jan. 20.

The MLK adult program was partly inspired by the memoir and 2013 film



April Armstrong Photo courtesy of Desmond-Fish Library

Twelve Years A Slave about the life of Solomon Northup of Saratoga Springs, N.Y. Dr. A.J. Williams-Myers, professor of African American Studies at SUNY New Paltz, will speak on the social and economic contributions of African Americans to life along the Hudson since Dutch colonial times, relating it to King’s views on the importance of more accurate and inclusive history in the fight against racism.

Williams-Myers is the former director of the New York African American Institute and former chair of SUNY New Paltz’s Black Studies department. He is a leading expert and prolific author on the African American experience in New York and throughout the Americas.

His talk at 7 p.m. on Jan. 19, will be “about real people who lived in the valley along the mighty Hudson, and it speaks to Solomon Northup’s 12 years experience as a slave,” Williams-Myers says. “It fleshes out who those real people were as well as their role in fashioning the great bastion of freedom New York has become in the 21st century.” His talk will be preceded by a free potluck supper at 6:30 p.m. Bringing food to share is welcome and optional.

At 2 p.m. on Monday Jan. 20, the library presents its MLK family program, featuring actress, singer and storyteller April Armstrong. Armstrong will present *This Little Light of Mine: Walking for Freedom, A Journey to Justice and Hope*. It’s a program of storytelling and music appropriate for all ages about Ruby Bridges, an African American child who was the first to attend and integrate a Southern all-white school. Award-winning pianist and composer Alva Nelson will accompany her, and Cold Spring’s own storyteller Jonathan Kruk will emcee.

Events are free and open to the public. Call 845-424-3020 or visit desmondfishlibrary.org/mlk.

Visit www.philipstown.info for news updates and latest information.



Pipers plan fundraising dinner.

Photo courtesy of Hudson Highlands Pipe Band

Hudson Highlands
Pipe Band Plans
Burns Night Supper

The Hudson Highlands Pipe Band announces its eighth Annual Robert Burns Supper on Jan. 25, at the Highlands Country Club on Route 9D, Garrison. The evening begins at 7 p.m. with a cocktail hour and moves into live music, full Scottish-inspired dinner including Haggis, whiskey toasts, pipe band performances, whiskey toasts, Guinness on tap and speeches. The T McCann band will provide musical entertainment for the evening and there are some surprise guests lined up to do the toasts to the laddies and lassies. The cost is \$125 per person.

The evening is a fundraiser for the band and helps defray the high costs of outfitting members, hiring instructors and buying equipment. There will be a raffle for a Highland Basket of Cheer, dancing, singing and general carrying-on. For ticket information, email info@hhpb.org or call Michelle at 845-809-5702.

The Hudson Highlands Pipe Band began in 2005 as the Cold Spring Fire Department Pipes and Drums. Since its inception, the band has played in nearly all local St. Patrick’s Day parades as well as many area fire department parades. In 2008 the band played in the New York City St. Patrick’s Day parade and was invited to play on stage at Carnegie Hall with The Chieftains later that night. They will be joining The Chieftains for the fourth time on March 8, at Town Hall in New York City.

The band practices at Our Lady of Loreto school building in Cold Spring on Monday nights. Lessons on the pipes or drums are free and begin at 6 p.m. No experience necessary.

Philipstown Reform
Synagogue Celebrates *Tu
B’shevat*, Festival of Trees

On Saturday evening, Jan. 18, the Philipstown Reform Synagogue (PRS) will celebrate the trees, the four worlds and foods of *Tu B’shevat* at the home of Stephanie Rudolph and David Hardy in Cold Spring. The event begins at 6 p.m. and includes a dinner incorporating fruits and grains honored by the holiday. Guests will be asked to bring a short poem or excerpt from a poem about trees, which will be collected and read at intervals throughout the evening.

Tu B’shevat or the “New Year of the Tree” is a Jewish holiday observed on the 15th (*tu*) of the Hebrew month of Shevat. It is considered a joyous festival of

nature in anticipation of spring and the renewal of the natural world. The holiday has become a tree planting festival in Israel, in which both Israelis and Jews around the world plant trees in honor or in memory of a loved one or friend.

In the 17th century, Kabbalists created a ritual for *Tu B’shevat* that is similar to a Passover seder, the structure of which corresponds to the four “worlds” through which, the Kabbalists believe, the life-giving flow of the Divine is channeled and filtered — the world of the physical (*asiyah*), emotional (*yetzirah*), mental (*briya*) and spiritual (*atzilut*).

The PRS *Tu B’shevat* is open to all. There is no charge but reservations are essential as space is limited and attendance will be capped. Reserve by e-mail at philipstownreformsynagogue@gmail.com or at 845-265-8011. PRS was founded in 2002 with the purpose of creating an inclusive venue to investigate the practice of Judaism, both intellectually and spiritually.

Depot Theatre Seeks
Actors and Singers for *In
Concert Version of 1776*

Auditions to be held Jan. 13

The Depot Theatre is seeking actors and singers for their *In Concert Version of 1776*, directed by Nancy Swann, which will run weekends only, March 7-23. Auditions will be held Monday Jan. 13, from 6 to 9 p.m. To schedule an audition time call 914-522-5837 or email nancyswann@aol.com. Audition times will be assigned as closely as possible to requests.

All roles are open, and women are invited to audition for some male roles. Please bring one song you are comfortable singing along with sheet music.

Franciscan Friars of the
Atonement at Graymoor
Hold Week of Prayer

The 2014 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity takes place from Jan. 18 through 25. Rev. Thomas Orians, SA, Associate Director of Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute (GEII), a ministry of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, explains the 2014 theme: “Being faithful to Christ’s desire for the unity of his disciples has led to this year’s theme which focuses on Saint Paul’s provocative question in 1 Corinthians – “Has Christ Been Divided?” Christians continue to be divided by doctrine, polity, and practice, and to maintain our own religious identities, yet our pilgrimage towards unity continues under God’s guidance.”

The week of prayer events and speakers at Graymoor and in the Hudson Valley area include:

- Jan. 18, 7 p.m., Rev. Dr. Ken Ardrey: third floor conference room, St. Pius X Building, Graymoor, Garrison.
- Jan. 19, 5 p.m., Rev. Emil Tomaskovic, SA: St. Columbanus Church, Cortlandt Manor.
- Jan. 20, 7 p.m., Rev. Jay Edward Lewis: St. Christopher’s Inn, Graymoor.
- Jan. 21, 7 p.m., Rev. Leslie Mott: Sisters of the Atonement St. Francis Convent, Graymoor.
- Jan. 22, 7 p.m., Rev. Anthony Stephens: third floor conference room, St. Pius X Building, Graymoor.
- Jan. 23, 7 p.m., Rev. Wilfred Tyrrell, SA: third floor conference room, St. Pius X Building, Graymoor.

• Jan. 24, 4 p.m., Rev. Samuel Sanchez: third floor conference room, St. Pius X Building, Graymoor.

• Jan. 25, 7 p.m., Sister (Dr.) Lorelei Fuchs, SA, library, St. Pius X Building (5th floor), Graymoor.

All prayer service events are open to the public. Call Graymoor Spiritual Life Center at 845-424-2111. Graymoor is located at 1350 Route 9, Garrison. The Franciscan Friars of the Atonement are a Roman Catholic order of brothers and priests founded in 1898 by Fr. Paul Wattson, SA at Graymoor in Garrison. Visit atonementfriars.org.

Beacon

The Complete Works of
William Shakespeare
(Abridged) at The Beacon

The Beacon presents all 37 Shakespeare plays in 97 minutes with just three actors. It’s fast-paced, witty, and fun — and you might even get to play a part or two — impromptu.

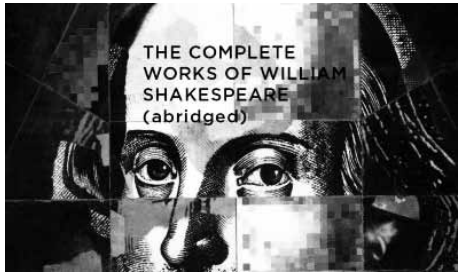


Image courtesy of The Beacon

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) runs from Jan 10-19 at The Beacon, 445 Main St., Beacon. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Jan. 10, 11, 17 and 18, and at 3 p.m. on Sundays Jan. 12 and 19. Call 845-226-8099 or visit thebeacontheatre.org for tickets. This is part of 4th Wall Productions’ 2013-14 season that runs until June.

Brian Apfel, Director of Social Media and Online Initiatives at Marist College, is directing and acting in this production.

Apfel is joined by veteran regional actors Jeff Battersby, premiering at The Beacon for the two-week run, and Pat Manning, also known as the retired New York State Assemblyman. The show is rarely performed in the area due to the number of roles and fast-paced structure of the show that challenges even the most acrobatic of actors.

Matteawan Gallery
Hosts Inaugural Artist
Residency

Angelika Rinnhofer: *a priori*

Matteawan Gallery presents *Angelika Rinnhofer: a priori* from Jan. 25 until Jan. 31. The gallery will host a one-week residency for artist Angelika Rinnhofer. She will be in the gallery from 6 to 8 p.m. each weekday, and noon to 6 p.m. on the weekend, and will transcribe interviews recorded with participants of her most recent project *a priori*.

For two years, Rinnhofer has been working on *a priori* with people who have, at some point, discovered their Jewish heritage. She collects narratives from these individuals whose curiosity and attempts to make sense of memories, stories, and facts eventually led to the disclosure of their ancestry. *A priori*, titled after Kant’s notion of valid knowledge independent of experience, is an art project focusing on the contemporary generations of Europeans and Americans who discover late in life this suppressed part of their heritage.

Considering the formal and repetitive aspect of a ritual, Rinnhofer will occupy the otherwise empty gal- (To next page)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Work by Angelika Rinnhofer
Photo courtesy of Matteawan Gallery

(from previous page) lery space in the dark hours of winter to listen, write, and transcribe her participants’ interviews. She welcomes visitors.

A priori represents the first short-term residency that the gallery is hosting, and is itself a gallery experiment, which lays the groundwork for future performative acts.

Rinnhofer immigrated to the United States from Germany in 1995. She works primarily in photography, video, dance, and performance, but incorporates non-traditional art media such as baking and gaming into her practice. She currently lives in Beacon.

Visit apriori.angelikarinnhofer.com. Matteawan Gallery is located at 464 Main St., Beacon. Call 845-440-7901, email info@matteawan.com, or visit matteawan.com.

Robert Ferrucci:
Contemporary American
Folk Art Opens at
RiverWinds Gallery

RiverWinds Gallery announces the Robert Ferrucci: Contemporary American Folk Art exhibit, scenes of

Hudson Valley farms and New England. His strong pallet of rich colors, bold shapes and forms has grown over the years, bringing a new series to delight the eye and heart. The show opens on Beacon Second Saturday Jan. 11, and runs through Feb. 2, 2014. The artist reception will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 11.

Ferrucci has a lifelong love of rural landscapes. His family’s country home, a red cottage surrounded by farms, gave him memories of farms, cows and black and white barns.

“I try to convey the serenity I feel by simplifying the images I see; strong landscapes, old homes, barns and faded images in the distance,” Ferrucci said. “I love combining soft quiet areas with a strong central image.”

RiverWinds Gallery is located at 172 Main St., Beacon. Call 845-838-2880, or visit riverwindsgallery.com. Hours: Wednesday – Monday, noon to 6 p.m. and Beacon Second Saturday, noon to 9 p.m.

Edgeponies Exhibit by
James Westwater Opens
at Mad Dooley Gallery

James Westwater’s one-person exhibition *Edgeponies*, at Mad Dooley Gallery, features new paintings and drawings from two bodies of work: *Finding Pegasus* and *Edges*. The show runs Jan. 4 through Feb. 2.

Best known for his 15-year meditation on a single geometric form, a parallel-sided oval or pill shape, Westwater has been painting another Hard-edge series, the more rarified *Edges*, even longer. Begun in the 1990s as a purely geometric exercise, *Edges* has taken on multiple meanings. These rigorously executed paintings feature thin, parallel bars along their outer edges. They are about the edges of perception, geographical boundaries and limits, the edge of plausibility, and going to the brink.

Finding Pegasus, the “ponies” part of the coupling, is a series that Westwater began in September 2013, while an artist-in-residence at Foundation OBRAS in Evoramonte, Portugal. A sprawling and ambitious body of work, involving found objects from rural Portugal, appropriated and modified paintings, photography, and works on paper that



Edgeponies by James Westwater is on view through Feb. 2.
Photo courtesy of Mad Dooley Gallery

feature the eponymous mythical winged horse, *Finding Pegasus* is a freewheeling counterpoint to the more contained and intellectualized *Edges*.

Edgeponies is Westwater’s third solo show with curator Carl Van Brunt. The first two were in Van Brunt’s Beacon Galleries in 2008 and 2010. A former resident of Beacon, Westwater now lives and works in College Station, Texas, with his wife and their dog. Mad Dooley Gallery is located at 197 Main St., Beacon. Call 845-702-7045.

John Ebbert Exhibit
Opens Jan. 11 at Theo
Ganz Studio

Theo Ganz Studio presents a solo exhibition of work by John Ebbert entitled *My Face Lies, Autoportraits*. The opening reception for the artist is from 6 to 9 p.m. Jan. 11, and the show runs through Feb. 2. The installation will include approximately 60 drawings — all blind gesture drawings — completed over a period of several years, a sculpture and one large painting, also a self portrait.



Theo Ganz Studio presents an exhibition by John Ebbert entitled *My Face Lies, Autoportraits*. Photo courtesy of Theo Ganz Studio

These blind gesture drawings, or autoportraits, in their “finished” versions take on a striking 3D quality as they appear to shift and move in volumetric space. Working a few minutes each day over the course of a week on one self-portrait, erasing what came before and starting anew each day, Ebbert describes the process as one in which resolution is never possible.

Ebbert’s work was included in the gallery’s group show, *Elegy* (March 9 - April 7, 2013). This is his first solo show with the gallery. Visit theoganzstudio.com/exhibitions or contact Eleni Smolen, theoganzstudio@tds.net. The gallery is open Friday through Sunday,

noon to 5 p.m., and by appointment. Call 917-318-2239.

Jeremy Denk Returns to
Piano Festival

Some tickets may be available at performance

The Howland Chamber Music Circle hosts a Jan. 19 performance by pianist Jeremy Denk, recipient of a 2013 MacArthur “Genius Grant” award.

Denk has appeared as soloist with the great American orchestras, as recitalist at Carnegie Hall and throughout the United States, London’s Wigmore Hall and toured with the Australian Chamber Orchestra.

For his concert at the Howland Center, Denk has chosen to play two works by Robert Schumann: the *Dauids-bündlertänze* and *Carnaval, Etudes Book 2* by György Ligeti, *Ninth Pavan* and *Galliard* from *Passing Measures* by William Byrd and *Canon No.2 for Ursula* by Conlon Nancarrow.

The performance will take place at 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19, at Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., Beacon, followed by a reception to meet the artist.

Tickets to the concert are sought-after, but some tickets may be available at the door. For information, visit howlandmusic.org.

Visit www.philipstown.info for news updates and latest information.



Lark Rise by Robert Ferrucci
Image courtesy of RiverWinds

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Bringing Order to Chaos

Garrison Concierge DeNitto arranges it all

By Alison Rooney

If the term concierge brings to mind the wrangling of theater tickets, or the obtaining of the best suite in a hotel, the realm of “Garrison Concierge,” aka Madeleine DeNitto, is more mundane, but nonetheless just as valuable to those needing assistance.

The services most often requested involve an inability to attend to things: from animal-sitting to prescription filling; testing pool chemical levels to delivering documents.

“Each time the phone rings, I never know what will be on the end of it — I never have the same day twice,” says DeNitto. “Nine of 10 people want someone else to do a certain task so they can do something more important or simply more fun. They can count on me to do things that take up their time.”

DeNitto began Garrison Concierge two years ago, as a sideline to her main business, as a professional organizer, something she has been doing for 15 years. She originally launched a business in Atlanta, where she was largely raised, then in New York City and Charleston, S.C., and, finally in this area, to which she moved in 2010 (she still retains clients in the city.) A member of the National Association of Professional Organizers, she has

been on its board for the past two years. Attesting to the underlying seriousness of her organizer job, she is also a member of the Institute for Challenging Chronic Disorganization, which provides ongoing educational guidance on a number of psychological disorders that can produce behaviors such as hoarding, which most organizers will encounter.

DeNitto stresses the importance of knowledge of different disorders and “ways of learning” for those affected by them: “Are they visual or auditory learners? It’s important to be able to ‘read’ your clients, to figure out what their needs are and how best to choose a system that will work for them. People think of organizers as pushing bins or baskets, but it’s psychological — we need to be understanding and compassionate. For example, some creative people don’t always want to be neat and tidy — there’s no one rule for all clients ... I take care with observing and listening; some clients are more willing than others. It’s important not to judge them or do things like crazy cleanouts. If an adult child calls me with an issue with an elderly parent I always have to keep in mind that I am working for that senior,



Madeleine DeNitto, aka the Garrison Concierge
Photo provided by Madeleine DeNitto

not the child of the senior, as certain things can make it worse for the person having the hoarding tendencies — they can go into despair. The best compliment a client can give you is ‘I like how you helped me do this and now it works for me; you were patient and it wasn’t just a quick fix.’ They’ve gained something valuable out of

the process and are no longer frantic — their wheels are going and they’re not running into potholes.”

But the “concierge” sideline requires far less psychological analysis. It’s pretty simple, in fact: there is a need and the concierge fills it. Some of it stems from people who are not around all the time and need house- or pet-sitting done. Others may have physical difficulties or may be unexpectedly thrown into a caregiving mode for someone else which suddenly limits their free time and ability to take care of their own needs, from simple grocery shopping to more complicated chores like assembling paperwork for medical insurance or tax purposes. DeNitto is also able to help clients with relatively uncomplicated computer and home office tasks, such as organizing computer files, and the dreaded “paper management.” It can simply be wading through several impenetrable layers on a desk to years’ worth of things thrown in boxes. Sometimes her services are needed just once, while other jobs are recurrent. Pricing for concierge services is dependent on what the job entails and how much time it takes to do it, while fees for the organizational services are standard hourly rates, with discounts for those living in Philipstown.

DeNitto is usually up to any assignment, and on the rare occasions that she isn’t, she is able to find trustworthy people who are. Be it picking up dry cleaning to heading into the city to deliver documents or pick up mail, just about

anything is possible. DeNitto also specializes in ‘staging’ for-sale properties, which can mean de-cluttering a house or, conversely adding some furnishings to an empty one to bring it to life.

DeNitto came to her profession in a happenstance way. Back in Atlanta, her son was a member of a choir, and she was constantly helping out, organizing the music in the music library, hearing the comment, “You should get paid for what you do” frequently. A trained opera singer, she was performing with an opera company and was always helping them with organization. Finally they hired her to re-organize “everything” — something which took her more than a year.

“They became my first client. From that point on it was all word of mouth; my next job was a corporate relocation,” she said. “By the time I moved back to New York City in 2004 I was a professional organizer and I immediately got a lot of clients and jobs, often teaming with others on big assignments. For 15 years I’ve had a lot of fun.”


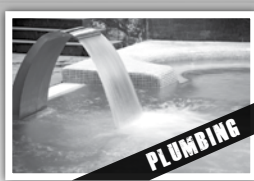


DeNitto and her husband discovered Philipstown on a weekend visit to Cold Spring, and she loves it here.

“Garrison is like utopia,” she says. “The people are extremely warm and welcoming ... and the mountains, the trees, the dirt roads. It’s populated with people with a deep understanding of the environment.”

Since moving here she’s become involved with the St. Philip’s choir and the Philipstown Garden Club and never plans on leaving — in fact she and her husband were scheduled to close on a home just days after this interview. Surely all the required papers from their end were well in order.

For more information on Garrison Concierge services, contact 917-536-2033 or email garrisonconcierge@gmail.com. For organizing, call 917-536-2033 or email stressedpressedmessed@gmail.com. The dedicated websites for each are: garrisonconcierge.blogspot.com and stressedpressedmessed.com, and each has a Facebook page as well.

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Roots and Shoots

It's January ... What To Do with the Christmas Tree?

By Pamela Doan

Recycling the Christmas tree can be as easy as dragging it to the curb for pickup, but in the yard, it has many useful possibilities. The National Christmas Tree Association (of course, that exists) recommended an idea that hadn't occurred to me. Trees can be used in fishponds as food and a makeshift underwater habitat. Think of it like decorating an aquarium and making a habitat for the fish. Sink the tree into a fishpond, don't just drop it in to float in an unsightly mess, but actually place it for best results.

Since not everyone in Philipstown has a fishpond in the yard and it's best if we don't all go out and drop our trees into the Hudson River or a reservoir, other suggestions include creating a bird feeder using the entire tree. Prop it up or lay it on the side in the yard. Coat the branches with peanut butter or hang suet from the branches to attract the birds and they can use it for shelter on these frigid winter days.

The tree can also serve as shelter and

food for deer and other wildlife in the yard. It won't look as nice as it did in the living room, so find an out-of-the-way spot where it can drop its needles. Deer will forage on it and other animals will use it for a place to hide and sleep. If you've got a chipper or access to one, make your own wood chips to line a path. Don't place fresh wood chips directly on flowerbeds, gardens or use as mulch. As they decompose, they'll hold up the nitrogen in the soil from the plants and that would take away a needed nutrient. Set fresh wood chips aside in a pile for at least a year before using them as an additive or mulch.

The seesaw of freezing and mild temperatures we're experiencing have a tumultuous effect on our sleeping plants. As the ground freezes and thaws rapidly, it heaves, pushing up bulbs and roots. A good layer of mulch helps protect plants and shrubs from this effect, regulating the temperature. Put the Christmas tree to good use to protect the flowerbeds. Cut off branches and place them around the base of shrubs, younger trees, and in flowerbeds where bulbs are planted.



There are many uses for Christmas trees now that the holidays are over. Photo by P. Doan

The branches from my tree are going to add another layer of mulch to the garlic I planted last fall. The branches are easy to place and remove in the spring once the garlic sprouts and will also protect tender bulbs from exposure if there's an early warm spell followed by a frost.

Another solution is to recycle the Christmas tree into a dead hedge, an idea adapted from *How to Grow Practically Everything* by Zia Allaway and Lia Leendertz. They don't specifically mention this as a method for recycling Christmas trees, but it fits the concept. Need a barrier or natural fence someplace in the yard? Create a dead hedge by turning all the natural detritus that collects in the yard into a wildlife-friendly hedge. If you can tolerate messy, simply pile shrub and tree trimmings, vines, foliage and twigs in a row. For a neater and more controlled hedge, use branches or posts to make a structure for it. The authors of *How to Grow Practically Everything* suggest weaving willow branches to create sides, but unless you have that

on hand, it defeats the purpose of an easy DIY hedge solution in my opinion. As the branches and foliage break down, the hedge can be refilled from the top and become an ongoing solution to effectively composting yard waste that would otherwise be a chore to dispose of. Critters that are attracted to making the hedge their home shouldn't be considered a problem. As invasive weeds increasingly overtake our forests and deer destroy native foliage, creating natural spaces for wildlife is a good alternative to them making homes uninvited in garages and crawl spaces.

As a last resort, many towns and villages will have curbside pickup of discarded Christmas trees and may also provide wood chips for pickup. Check your local resources for pickup times and other options if you simply can't recycle it in the yard. Remember to carefully remove all ornaments, hooks, lights, and tinsel before discarding it, whatever you do with it. Those things will not break down and could harm birds or animals.

Depot Docs Screens *Detropia*

(from page 7)

metropolis in the world. An important part of that growth was the Great Migration of African-Americans from the South, which increased Detroit's black population from under 6,000 in 1910 to 120,000. In the words of George McGregor, president of United Auto Workers Local 22 who serves in another of the film's featured supporting roles as historian and commentator, "The middle class — it was started right here!" And he's not just talking about white Americans. Living on union wages, a black family could afford a decent standard of living, with ample benefits and the expectation of a dignified retirement. But serious race riots rocked the city in 1943 and again 1967, sending thousands of whites into the suburbs. When co-director/co-producer Heidi Ewing was growing up in Farmington Hills, just outside the city, industrial decline, urban decay, and serious depopulation had begun to take their terrible toll. By the early 2000s, the city's population had shrunk from its 1950 peak of 1.8 million to just over 700,000, mostly African-American. With a jobless rate ranging from 30 to 50 percent, the city close to bankruptcy, a third of the city's schools closed, and basic services, like street lighting and firefighters, barely functional, Detroit was on life-support, consisting mostly of citizens unwilling to let their city die.

Enter Ewing and her business and creative partner, Rachel Grady (who will be Depot Docs' special guest at the showing). After founding their non-fiction film production company, Loki Films, in 2001, they made several highly praised films, including the Academy Award-

nominated *Jesus Camp*, the Peabody Award-winning *12th and Delaware*, and the Emmy-nominated *The Boys of Baraka*. Over the years, Ewing says she'd been hearing from her family, who still live near Detroit, how bad things were. So, in 2009, she and Grady decided to visit, do a little shooting, talk to people. They initially stayed for three days, came back, and lived downtown for a year. "We raised the money very quickly," says Ewing. "Turned out there were other people also interested in Detroit." And in an unusual distribution gambit, they did it themselves, raising the money through a Kickstarter campaign.

The film has the feeling of "found art." In fact, we follow one of the other supporting players, a young video blogger, Crystal Starr, as she wanders through abandoned buildings and derelict factories, filming, doing a running commentary on what she sees. The directors found her working in a coffee shop, across the street from the Detroit Opera House. Says Ewing: "It was so nice to have a young, black Detroiter, born and raised — not a newcomer — who looks at the city with wonder." *Detropia* does just that: looks at the city with wonder, and sees through all of the detritus of failure and decay, the possibility of renewal and reinvention as a work of art.

Detropia will be shown at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 17, at the Philipstown Depot Theatre, Garrison's Landing. Rachel Grady will be present for a post-screening Q-and-A and a Depot Docs reception. For more information call the Depot Theatre at 845-424-3900.

For tickets (recommended) go to brownpapertickets.com/event/538538/.



Still images from *Detropia*, cinematography by Tony Hardmon Image courtesy of Depot Docs

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Philipstown Ice Rink Taking Shape

Skating could start later this month

By Michael Turton

Philipstown may not have a Zamboni machine, but it will soon have an ice rink. Work on the temporary outdoor skating facility got underway on Jan. 9 (Thursday) with the removal of the old handball courts at the Claudio Marzollo Community Center in Garrison. Recreation Director Amber Stickle hopes skating can begin by the end of January. “We definitely want it ready for the Winter Carnival on Feb. 8,” she said. The rink’s foundation, an impervious, tarp-like ground cover measuring 140 feet by 64 feet with a low border to help retain water, will arrive next week. Prior to that the area around the former handball court must be graded into a level surface. The Garrison Volunteer Fire Company has volunteered to fill the rink with water once it’s ready.

The \$7,000 cost of purchasing the rink, as well as the cost of installation, is being funded by the Friends of Philipstown Recreation. “We’re really excited,” Stickle said. “The rink will be up for as long as it’s cold enough – and then we’ll have it for future use as well.” Once the rink hosts its first skaters, Stickle will be looking for volunteers to help maintain it. A simple device designed for resurfacing the ice will make that task easier. “It’s basically a giant squeegee with a water hose attached to it,” she explained. Originally, the rink was to be built at Philipstown Park but Stickle said it made more sense to locate it at the Community Center where the road and the parking lot are already plowed in winter and indoor restrooms are available along with other facilities at the main building. The only major unknown is Mother Nature – as evidenced by a predicted 60-degree variation in temperatures this week. “A lot will depend upon the weather,” Stickle said.



Polhemus Construction removed the old handball courts ... it only took minutes.
Photos by Michael Turton

Clothing Karma

Garment remainders from women’s exchange donated to Walter Hoving Home

By Mary Anne Myers

Generosity, satisfaction and style went around and came around at the second semi-annual Philipstown Women’s Clothing Exchange held on Sunday afternoon, Jan. 5, at the Philipstown.info/The Paper offices in Cold Spring.



Michele Gedney, left, and Kate Vikstrom, organizers of the women’s clothing exchange, wearing some of their new things
Photo by Mary Ann Ebner

Approximately 30 people brought in well-loved, gently-used, but no-longer-wearable clothes and left with some fabulous new finds, having enjoyed a bit of camaraderie and confection in between. Not a penny changed hands; the only investments required were some time, care, and opinions shared as to what looked good or maybe not. Several participants expressed their joy at seeing their former dress or skirt going home with someone else who found it “just right.” After two hours of successful treasure-seeking, the last shoppers packed the untaken goods into bags and dropped them off at The Walter Hoving Home in Garrison, where residents received them happily.

The Philipstown Women’s Clothing Exchange, a concept imported to Philipstown from Alaska by Kate Vikstrom, layout editor of Philipstown.info/The Paper, has been embraced by her colleague Michele Gedney, Advertising Director, and supported by other members of the staff and the community. The second event more than doubled the number of contributions and customers from the May inaugural, motivating the team to plan a third Philipstown Women’s Clothing Exchange in early summer.

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