Putnam County Legislature Chooses Chairman
Fractious debate shows rift
By Liz Schevetzhak 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 re-elect 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 including 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 yes’s from Oliverio, LoBue herself, Gross, and Wright, and nays from Albano, Castellano, Nacerino and Scuccimarra.

Consequently, Sant suggested the Republicans elect Oliverio, from Putnam Valley, a Democrat who also has run as a Conservative. He proposed LoBue for chairperson. Her nomination drew yes’s from Oliverio, LoBue herself, Gross and Wright, and nays from Albano, Castellano, Nacerino and Scuccimarra.

But Albano, Castellano, Nacerino and Scuccimarra voted “no.” Thus the stalemate continued.

Local Economy Hard to Forecast
Some business owners predict strength, others remain uncertain
By Michael Tortun

Patrick Cummings’ iGuitar Workshop is as local as a business can be given its Main Street Nelsenville 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 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.

A wintery day on the Hudson River
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 negative 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...
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 a crepe, so I cooked up a Julia Child batch with a freakishly rich chicken filling. The filling was not 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.

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.

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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 American 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.

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**Potato Crepes**

*Adapted from Roast Chicken and Other Stories, by Simon Hopkinson*

- 2 large russet potatoes (about 1¼ lbs.)
- ¾ cup milk
- 3 tablespoons cream
- 3 large eggs
- 2 tablespoons flour
- Salt and pepper
- Butter, for frying the crepes

1. 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.

2. Drain potatoes and pass them through a food mill or ricer into a bowl. Set aside to cool.

3. 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.

4. Heat a skillet over medium-high, then rub generously with butter. Drop the crepe batter by tablespoonsfuls 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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Photos by C. Barbour

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3-Time Winner: Best of Hudson Valley Magazine
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 the customer. “We also see a lot more jewelry repair and remodeling work. People are very savvy, cautious and wanting a good return on their investment.” Melissa Carlton, an agent in the same office, feels “guardedly optimistic. “We have a chance to be better 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. “We also ship 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 “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 Mark 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 that 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 ‘I am 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 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 back-lash 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 overarching 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?”

Winter Special Nights

at the Depot

Meatloaf Dinner $10
meatloaf, mashed potatoes, peas, bread

Tuesday Nights

Steak Night $16
Beefsteak, Steak Diane, Steak au Poivre or Steak Bleu w/baked potato and salad

Wednesday Nights

Mexican Night $14
Paella, and a whole group of Spanish dishes served with a salad

Thursday Nights

Italian Night $12
All fresh made pasta dishes made nightly w/salad and bread

Friday Nights

Seafood Night $16
All seafood items on the menu plus two freshly caught special items served with special price

Sundays Brunch

Third Ave Brunch
Eggs, steaks, waffles, pancakes, omelettes all served with choice of Mimosa, Bloody Mary or glass of wine.

The Paper January 10, 2014
Salaries for Most County Officials Remain Constant

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 leap 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 incoming year at its first regular meeting. Thus it finalized the 2013 salaries at a year-end session in December 2012 and fixed the 2014 salaries in January 2013.

In unanimous votes the legislature, including Philisptown’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 $80,477, $8,000 less. Recipients of the higher pay are longitudinal.

Putnam County Legislature Chooses Chairman

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 then 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 controversial 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 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. Substantial 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 legitimate to honestly say it doesn’t have a fiscal impact going forward.”

“It’s not ideal to do 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.”

The legislators next turned to the state auditor’s budget, with Sant nominating Nacerino and Albano as co-chairmen. With a motion seconded by LoBue, the legislators voted 7 to 2 to name Albano and Nacerino co-chairmen, with LoBue and Oliverio dissenting.

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 office.

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Town Board kicks off new year
By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

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Salaries for Most County Officials Remain Constant

Election commissioners draw raises
By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

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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 Crotf, the replacement for Robert Bennaert, 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 $158,913. 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 Pesa, the commissioner of highways and facilities, stays at $121,000.

Philisptown resident Vincent Tavagna will also 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 Patki, director of the Putnam County Tourism Office, does not appear in the pay roster; her agency is sometimes considered a quasi-governmental entity.

Election commissioners draw raises

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By Michael Turton

and the school district tied to the state—most 80 percent of the district’s budget, with salaries and benefits making up away soon. Villanti told said that the agreements recognize the to meet those goals,” he said. Henderson Through these agreements we were able and the community. “Our goal was to agreements” for both the associations to compete 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 recognizing for increasing access to advanced placement programs while also increasing the number of students who

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, conceptualized the design. Hughes said the building will cost approximately $144,000 and that the club has already raised about $80,000. 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 be allowed on the concession building, so cooking will be done only 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 Pidal, who has taught at Haldane for 36 years, and 18-year veteran Mike Klabnick. Christine Donovan, a teach-

(Continued on next page)

Haldane Settles Two Contracts

Villanti chapter closing

I

was business as usual for the Haldane Su-

perintendent of Schools Mark Villanti at the board’s 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 Hal-

dane Administrators Association and the Haldane Civil Service Employees Associ-

ation, were approved. Trustee Peter Hen-

derson 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, “Life within the (tax) cap is not going away soon.”

Villanti said the agreements, which include 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 agree-

ments, which are posted on the Haldane

Butterfield Project Set To Clear First Hurdle

unusual for a project of this size. How-

ever, there is no indication the Planning Board contemplates an additional stop. “As I listened there were no adverse environmental impacts dis-

cussed,” said Steven Bashar, attorney for developer Paul Guillaro’s Butterfield LLC, as he sought to postpone the ap-

proximately 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). Bashar’s assertion met with no con-

tradiction from board members or their consultants. One of three board members that raised issues or made comments about the planning process presented a lengthy series of points about the EAF’s adequacy in failing to address several issues or not supplying sufficient documentation for its claims. Four months later numerous off-

line 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 other by Voss. Both Voss and Planning Board lawyer Anna L. Georgiou have told the board several times that Guil-

laro 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 (coldspring- ny.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 consul-
tant 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 pro-

ponent 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 trust-

ees 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 professed amenities, a new post office, a senior citizen center, con-

solidated 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 vil-

lage 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 PCWY publisher Elizabeth Ailes, who has referred to a $500,000 pledge for that purpose in a recent newspaper several times. To fund an on-

ground center and staffing however, Odell would need county legislative approval. Odell has also said other agencies could conceivably have a presence at Butter-

field but no hard details have emerged.

At other times town and village offi-

cials have spoken favorably of combined offices but without specifying which offices, projects require funding and other detailed consider-

ations before becoming reality.

As this writing it is not clear if the village trustees had the accept the Plan-

ning Board’s negative declaration on en-

vironmental 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. In-

cumbent Matt Francisco, a Butterfield skeptic, is expected to run for re-election. Another open seat, 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 see 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 afore-

mentioned, 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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January 10, 2016 5
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 base." 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.

After years of educating herself and experimenting, constant requests from friends for 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 Eleanor's 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" accord- ing 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 it is not found in other places," Mercurio felt at home with the place. She found, and "saw that it impacted my back-to-earth, locally-grown food ethos places," Mercurio felt at home with the part because of its "more rural feel and the sense of humor, hopefully!," but I rea- lly like doing it. We take the work out of it and try to make it economical.

To share the marmalade-making wis- dom, 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 Wednes- day, Jan. 15, from 7 to 9 p.m. The cost is $50 for Philipstown residents and $65 for others. Call 845-424-6458 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.
Ivan Chermayeff’s 50 Collages exhibit kicks off birthday

By Alison Rooney

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 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)

Garrison Art Center Celebrates 50 Years

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 burned, haunting, beautiful, lyrical, and unforgettable. 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.

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(Continued on page 11)
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
845-440-4369 | mhcm.org

Wine Tasting
4 - 7 p.m. Artisan Wine Shop
180 Main St., Beacon
845-440-9223 | artisانwineshop.com

Wine & Cheese
5 - 8 p.m. Antipodean Books
29 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3699 | gifts.org

Gan стильты Workshops (6th Grade Play)
7 p.m. Garrison School | 1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-440-6923 | artisanwineshop.com

9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mid-Hudson Children’s Museum
Free Admission for Grandparents
175 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie
845-440-4369 | mhcm.org

Health & Fitness
Marika Blossfeldt: Smart Food Choices
7 p.m. The Living Room
845-265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mid-Hudson Children’s Museum
Free Admission for Grandparents
Kids & Community
philipstown.info. See you around town!

914-734-3896 | hvhc.org/events

1 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-533-5506 | hhtnathmusuem.org

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

Family concert with Lil’ John 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
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3689 | garrisonartcenter.org

Bully Buster Class for Kids
Noon. Movement-based tour
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3802

Knights of Columbus Free-Throw Championship (ages 9-14)
9:30 a.m. Registration
9:45 a.m. Competition begins
Capuchin Youth and Family Ministries Gym
781 Route 9D, Garrison | 845-265-3802

Holiday Workshop: To 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 | 845-533-5506
hhtnathmusuem.org

Grand Opening
Noon - 5 p.m. Artisan Wine Shop
845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

Backyard Chickens for Beginners
1 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
1090 Pine Creek Drive, Comwall
845-534-9500 | hhtnathmusuem.org

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

Meet the Animals
1 & 2:30 p.m. Wildlife Education Center
1701 Main St., Poughkeepsie
845-534-7781 | hhtnathmusuem.org

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

Code Springs (ages 5-14)
4 p.m. Desmondfishlibrary.org
233 Main St., Beacon | 845-424-3020
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3689 | garrisonartcenter.org

7 - 10 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave, Ossining | 914-714-9300
hardtangerandgraceevents.com

Hudson Beach Glass
Handmade art glass featuring internationally renowned artists
Happy New Year 2014

Please join us for the Closing Artist Reception Jan. 11, 2014 Second Saturday, 6-9 p.m.
Song Circle
4 - 7 p.m. Jake’s Main Street Music
382 Main St., Beacon
914-635-8548 | jakemainstreetmusic.com

Rock Concert with Local Bands
5:30 - 10 p.m. Arts on the Lake
640 Route 52, Kent Lakes
845-228-2685 | artsonthehike.org

Rock Band & Camp Performance: Talking Heads / Pretenders
5 p.m. Southern Dutchess Bowl
629 Route 52, Beacon | 845-765-8548 | jakemainstreetmusic.com

Peaceful Cabin by Robert Ferrucci, part of a new exhibit opening at RiverWinds in Beacon on Jan. 11
Image courtesy of RiverWinds

Leisurely Walk at Foundry Preserve
11 a.m. Meet at Gold Spring Metro-North halt
917-692-1159 | midhudsonrailroad.org

Winterfest
11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Federation State Park
1490 Route 301, Carmel
845-225-7207 | nysparks.com/parks/133

Free Admission for Beacon Residents
See details under Saturday.

World Wrestling Entertainment Live
5 p.m. Westchester County Center
198 Central Ave., White Plains
914-995-4050 | countycenter.biz

Meet the Animals
11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Wildlife Education Center
See details under Saturday.

Meetings & Lectures
Overeaters Anonymous
8:30 a.m. Graymoor
1350 Route 9, Garrison | 917-716-2488 | oa.org

Greg Westhoff’s Westchester Swing Band
6 p.m. 12 Grapes
845-202-3555 | 12grapes.com

Attic Sale at Cold Spring Metro-North lot
917-692-1159 | midhudsonadk.org

Winterfest
11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Taconic Outdoor Education Center
75 Mountain Laurel Lane, Cold Spring
845-265-3773 | putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

Meet the Animals
1 & 2:30 p.m. Wildlife Education Center
See details under Saturday.

Meetings & Lectures
Free Computer Help
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Friday.

Edgar Cayce Study Group
4 p.m. Beacon Yoga Center
464 Main St., Beacon
347-489-8406 | beaconyogacenter.com

Greg Westhoff’s Westchester Swing Band
6:45 p.m. 12 Grapes
845-202-3555 | 12grapes.com

Irish Music Session
6 - 8 p.m. Dogwood
47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com

Seth Glier / Liz Longley
7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café
See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures
Free Computer Help
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
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1350 Route 9, Garrison | 917-716-2488 | oa.org

Garrison Art Center
379 Main Street
Beacon, NY 12508

Thursday 1/9 7:30p
CHIP TAYLOR guest ARTIE TORIA
Friday 1/10 8:30p
SONNY LANDRETH guest GEOFF HARTWELL
Saturday 1/11 7:30p
TROUT FISHING IN AMERICA
Sunday 1/12 7:30p
SETH GRIER also LIZ LONDEY
Friday 1/17 8:30p
ELVIS BIRTHDAY BASH featuring THE LUSTIE KIDS
Saturday 1/18 8:30p
JOE LOUIS WALKER BAND
OPEN MIC Mon and Wed at 7pm
Tickets and info: townecrier.com | Dining reservations: 845-856-1300

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Brunch/Lunch Saturday & Sunday, 10:00a-2:30p
Dinner nightly from 4:30p • No show ticket needed
Closed Tuesdays

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Song Circle
4 - 7 p.m. Jake’s Main Street Music
382 Main St., Beacon
914-635-8548 | jakemainstreetmusic.com

Rock Concert with Local Bands
5:30 - 10 p.m. Arts on the Lake
640 Route 52, Kent Lakes
845-228-2685 | artsonthehike.org

Rock Band & Camp Performance: Talking Heads / Pretenders
5 p.m. Southern Dutchess Bowl
629 Route 52, Beacon | 845-765-8548 | jakemainstreetmusic.com

Peaceful Cabin by Robert Ferrucci, part of a new exhibit opening at RiverWinds in Beacon on Jan. 11
Image courtesy of RiverWinds

Leisurely Walk at Foundry Preserve
11 a.m. Meet at Gold Spring Metro-North halt
917-692-1159 | midhudsonrailroad.org

Winterfest
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1490 Route 301, Carmel
845-225-7207 | nysparks.com/parks/133

Free Admission for Beacon Residents
See details under Saturday.

World Wrestling Entertainment Live
5 p.m. Westchester County Center
198 Central Ave., White Plains
914-995-4050 | countycenter.biz

Meet the Animals
11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Wildlife Education Center
See details under Saturday.

Anadrus (1946)
3 p.m. Tarrytown Music Hall
13 Main St., Tarrytown
914-633-3300 x 100 | tarrytownmusichall.org

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)
3 p.m. The Beacon Theatre
See details under Friday.

Monty Python’s Spamalot (Auditions)
12:30 p.m. County Players
2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls
845-298-1491 | countyplayers.org

Phineas and the Lonely Leaves
5 p.m. Whistling Willie’s
See details under Friday.

Irish Music Session
6 - 8 p.m. Dogwood
47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com

Garrison Art Center
379 Main Street
Beacon, NY 12508

Tuesday 1/7 7:30p
CHIP TAYLOR guest ARTHIE TORIA
Friday 1/10 8:30p
SONNY LANDRETH guest GEOFF HARTWELL
Saturday 1/11 7:30p
TROUT FISHING IN AMERICA
Sunday 1/12 7:30p
SETH GRIER also LIZ LONDEY
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Closed Tuesdays

Ivan Chermayeff 50 Collages
January 11 – February 9, 2014
Opening reception January 11, 2014, 6 to 8
The Calendar

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
914-666-6053 | sawm@heraldtribune.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
845-831-9887 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Howland Public Library
9:30 a.m. Library 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)
6:45 & 10:45 a.m. Beacon Yoga
464 Main St., Beacon
845-416-5608 | dancingsadministrationgmail.com

Indoor Tot Lot
10:45 & 11:45 a.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
845-202-3955 | beaconmusicfactory.com

Health & Fitness

Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group
10 a.m. Putnam Hospital Center
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
845-265-6400 | supportconnection.org

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

Breast Cancer Support Group
7 p.m. Hudson Valley Hospital
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-962-6400 | supportconnection.org

Art & Design

Drop-In Drawing & Painting from Life
7 a.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

Health & Fitness

Rivertown Kids Chorus (ages 9-13)
477 Main St., Beacon
845-202-3955 | beaconmusicfactory.com

The Calendar (from page 9)

Kids & Community

Philipstown Depot Theatre, at Garrison's Landing, Garrison, will host 17/8 auditions on Monday evening.

Open Mic Night
7 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe
See details under Friday.

Beginning Guitar (First Session)
7:30 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | garrisonartcenter.org

Paul Kogut Trio (Jazz)
8 p.m. Quinn's
330 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | quinnsebeacon.com

Meetings & Lectures

Cold Spring Lions Club
6:30 p.m. Call for location
845-416-9609 | coldspringlions.org

Beacon School Board
10 a.m. South Avenue School
60 South Ave., Beacon
845-838-6900 | beaconcityinfo.org

Haldane Booster Club
7:30 p.m. Haldane School
15 Crapshack Drive, Cold Spring
845-205-9254 | haldaneschoool.org

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

Kids & Community

Philipstown Recreation Center
9 - 11 a.m. & Noon - 2 p.m. Indoor Tot Lot
6:30 p.m. Fruit in Mouth Players (ages 12-19)
See details under Saturday.

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 Lorane House
180 Old West Point Road, East Garrison
845-424-3184 | gm.moonnetwork.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 Choi (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
845-424-3000 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Cooking Class: Comfort Foods
7 p.m. Eila's Bells
418 Main St., Beacon
917-803-6857 | homecookingny.com

Health & Fitness

Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group
10:45 a.m. East Fishkill Community Library
914-734-3896 | hvhc.org/events

Conservation Advisory Committee (Scheduled)
7:30 p.m. Town Hall
236 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

Wednesday, January 15

Kids & Community

Philipstown Depot Theatre, at Garrison's Landing, Garrison, will host 17/8 auditions on Monday evening.

Bulletts 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
845-202-3955 | beaconmusicfactory.org

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
845-833-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Beacon Planning Board (Scheduled)
7 p.m. Municipal Plaza, Beacon
845-838-5002 | cityofbeacon.org

Haldane School Foundation
7 p.m. Butterfly Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-205-3611 | haldaneschooolfoundation.org

Conservation Advisory Committee (Scheduled)
7:30 p.m. Town Hall
236 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

Meetings & Lectures

Beacon Library Board (Scheduled)
7:30 p.m. Village Hall
85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringlions.com

Health & Fitness

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

Music

Open Mic Night
7 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe
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 Guttierre
7 p.m. Beacon Music Factory
12 Hanna Lane, Beacon
845-202-3955 | beaconmusicfactory.com

(To next page)
Garrison Art Center Turns 50

...are the participants in his creation. "We beckons us into our own invention. We wisdom of this wit is that his invention to bring the fragments into a whole. The..." Garrison Art Center's new collage 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 collageist 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 his 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 20th-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

Alcoholics Anonymous
Meetings & Lectures
8 p.m. | Masonic Lodge
16 Secor St., Nelsonville
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov
85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2244 | philipstown236fam.org
18 Secor St., Nelsonville
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov
85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2244 | philipstown236fam.org

Meeting of the Town Board
7:30 p.m. | 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

For more information, email admin@howlandpubliclibrary.org

Dinner Lecture: Identify Common Feather Birds
6 p.m. | Perrin Learning Center
33 Clearpool Road, Carmel
845-225-6226 | clearpool.greenhinxmons.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

Experience Qi Gong/Tai Chi at Butterfield Library
Qi Gong/Tai Chi
8:30 a.m. | Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-424-3800 | butterfieldlibrary.org

T’ai Chi Ch’uan (First Session)
10 a.m. | Putnam County Department of Health
1 Garwood Road, Brewster
845-608-1330 x43160 | putnamcounty.ny.gov

Silent Zen Retreat (Openings)
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
347-453-3182 | embarkpeekskill.com

Winter Lecture Series (Scheduled)
7:30 p.m. | Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

DVD Night Supper
Saturday, January 25, 2014, 7 p.m. | Midnight Highlands Country Club, Rt. 38, Garrison, N.Y.

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

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

For more information, email admin@howlandpubliclibrary.org

Call 845-629-5063 for check payment instructions or pay by credit card at hhlp.brownpapertickets.com

Michael Mc Kee, PhD
Licensed Psychologist
Cognitive Behavioral Psychotherapy (CBT)
358 Garrison Landing, Garrison, N.Y. 10524
45 Popham Road
Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583
(914) 584-9352
info@MckeeTherapy.com
www.MckeeTherapy.com

Empire State Development will host an informational meeting for businesses at 8 a.m. in the Dining Room of the Town Hall. For more information, visit www.esd.ny.gov or call 866-ESD-NY12.
Desmond-Fish Library Explores African American History at MLK Program

The Desmond-Fish Library in Gard-


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

Pipers plan fundraising dinner.  

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

The Beacon presents all 37 Shake-

peare plays in 99 minutes with just three actors. It’s fast-paced, witty, and fun — and you might even get to play a part or two — impromptu.

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

Auditions to be held Jan. 17

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 nancy.swann@

.com. Audition times will be assigned as closely as possible to requests. All roles are open, and women are in- vited to audition for some male roles. Please bring one song you are comf ortable singing along with sheet music.

Franciscan Friars of the Atonement hold Week of Prayer

The Week of Prayer for Chris- tian Unity takes place from Jan. 18 through 25. Rev. Thomas Orias, SA, Asso- ciate Director of Graymoor Ecumeni- cal and Interreligious Institute (GEII), a ministry of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, explains the 2014 theme: “Be- ing 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 iden- tities, 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: “Tu B’shevat and the Tree of Life”

Hosts Inaugural Artist Residency

AngeLika Rinchnhofer: a priori

Mattawan Gallery presents Ange- Lika Rinchnhofer: a priori from Jan. 25 to Feb. 15. The gallery will host a one-week residency for artist Angelika Rinchnhofer. She will be in the gallery from 6 to 9 p.m. each weekday, and noon to 6 p.m. on the weekends. Rinchnhofer will be available for interviews recorded with participants of her most recent project a priori.

For two years, Rinchnhofer has been working on a project with people who have, at some point, discovered their Jewish heritage. She collects narratives from these individuals about their curiosity and attempts to make sense of memo- ries, stories, and facts eventually led to the discovery of their ancestry. A priori, titled after Kant’s and Hume’s notion of valid knowl- edge independent of experience, is an art project focusing on the contemporary genealogies of Europeans and Ameri- cans who discover late in life this suppressed part of their heritage.

Considering the formal and repetitive aspect of a ritual, Rinchnhofer will occupy the otherwise empty gal-

The Hudson Highlands Pipe Band announces its eighth Annual Robert Burns Supper on Jan. 25, at the Highlands Coun- try Club on Route 9D, Garrison. The evening begins at 7 p.m. with a cocktail hour and moves into live, 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 enter- tainment for the evening and there are some surprise guests lined up to do toasts to the ladies and gentlemen. The cost is $125 per person.

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

The Hudson Highlands Pipe Band began in 2005 as the Cold Spring 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 in- vited to play 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 Lo- retto school building in Cold Spring on Monday nights. Lessons on the pipes and drums are free and begin at 6 p.m. No experience necessary.


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James Westwater Opens at Mad Doggie Gallery

James Westwater’s one-person exhibition Edgeponies, at Mad Doggie 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.

Edgeponies is Westwater’s third solo show with curator Carl Van Brunt. The first two were in Van Brunt’s Beacon Galeries 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 Doggie Gallery is located at 197 Main St., Beacon. Call 845-762-7045.


dark hours of winter to listen, write, and groundwork for future performative acts. It 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. Theo Ganz Studio presents an exhibition 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. 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 Davidsbündlertänze and Carnaval, Etudes Book 2 by György Ligeti, Ninth Pavan and Galliard from Passing Measures by William Byrd and Canon No.2 for Urralsa 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.
Bringing Order to Chaos

Garrison Concierge DeNitto arranges it all

By Alison Rooney

I

f 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 I’ll have to do or what I’ll never have the same day twice,” says DeNitto. “Nine of 10 people want someone to help them, but they don’t always want to be neat and tidy — there’s no one rule for all clients or, conversely adding some furnishings 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, 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 if they knew how much you helped them this day 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 it 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 imperceptible 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 Philpstown.

DeNitto is usually up to any assignment on the organizational tips that she isn’t, she is able to find trustworthy people who are. Be it picking up dry cleaning or doing laundry … and the mountains, the trees, the dirt roads. It’s populated with people who are extremely warm and welcoming and the mountains, the trees, the dirt roads. It’s populated with people who are extremely warm and welcoming.

“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 who are extremely warm and welcoming.”

Since moving here she’s become involved with the St. Philip’s choir and the Philpstown 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 concern are: garrisonconcierge.blogspot.com and stressedpressedmessed.com, and each has a Facebook page as well.

Everyone’s reading

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email ads@philpstown.info
It's January ... What To Do with the Christmas Tree?

By Pamela Doan

Recycling the Christmas tree can be has easy as dragging it to the curb for pickup, but in the yard, it has many use-

R

ful possibilities. The National Christmas

Tree Association (of course, that exists)

recommended an idea that hadn't oc-
curred to me. Trees can be used in fish-

ponds as food and a makeshift underwa-

ter 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 ni-

trogen 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 ad-


ditive or mulch.

The seesaw of freezing and mild tem-

peratures we're experiencing have a tu-

mulus 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.

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 Prac-

tically 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 some-

place in the yard? Create a dead hedge by

turning all the natural detritus that col-

lects in the yard into a wildlife-friendly

hedge. If you can tolerate messy, simply

pile shrub and tree trimmings, vines, fo-
lage and twigs in a row. For a neater and

more controlled hedge, use branches or

posts to make a structure for it. The au-
thors of How to Grow Practically Every-
thng 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 ef-

fectively 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 con-

sidered a problem. As invasive weeds in-

creasingly overtake our forests and deer

destroy native foliage, creating natural

spaces for wildlife is a good alternative
to making homes uninhabited in gar-

ages and crawl spaces.

As a last resort, many towns and vil-
lages will have curbside pickup of dis-
carded 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 re-

move 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.
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 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.

### Clothing Karma

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

By Mary Anne Myers

Generosity, satisfaction and style went around and around at the second semi-annual Philipstown Women’s Clothing Exchange held on Sunday, Jan. 5, at the Philipstown.info offices in Cold Spring. Approximately 30 people brought in well-loved, gently-used, but no-longer-wearable clothes to sort, and 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.

### PHOTOS

Photos by Michael Turton

**Michele Gedney, left, and Kate Vikstrom, organizers of the Philipstown Women’s Clothing Exchange, wearing some of their new things.**

**Polhemus Construction removed the old handball courts — it only took minutes.**

![Photo by Michael Turton](image-url)