



The Paper



16-millimeter film screenings in Beacon
See Page 7

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2016

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Parents: “Beacon Kids Deserve Better”

Almost 400 in attendance at canceled school board meeting

By Jeff Simms

With no Board of Education present to hear their comments, nearly 400 parents, teachers and concerned citizens packed the Seeger Auditorium at Beacon High School on Monday night, Jan. 11, criticizing a perceived lack of responsiveness from the school board and calling for the dismissal of Superintendent Barbara Walkley.

Several speakers (Meredith Heuer and Antony Tseng, along with Michael Rutkoske, who did not address the crowd) also announced their candidacy for the school board Monday night. Three of the nine seats on the board will be contested in May.

A board meeting had been scheduled for 7 p.m. but with only three members and Walkley — not enough for a quorum — present, it was quickly canceled. Scores of Beacon parents, however, remained, as hundreds more continued to file into the school’s auditorium.

By 7:10 p.m., when Heuer, the chairperson of the Beacon Arts & Education Foundation, approached the podium to speak, the auditorium was half-full, although the nameplates for Walkley and the Board of Education members were being removed from the empty table in front of the stage.

No longer an official meeting, the gathering continued for about another hour, as a number of *(Continued on Page 3)*



Three sheep call the Shepherd’s View Animal Sanctuary home. *Photos by M. Turton*



Hot foods such as soup are needed at the pantry in winter.

Food and Shelter Against the Storm

Winter months pose challenge for pantry, shelter

By Michael Turton

As Philipstown residents settle in for the cold winter months, two local charitable organizations are appealing to the public for help. One makes sure families have food and coats. The other cares for animals that otherwise would not have a home.

The Philipstown Food Pantry provides nourishment for as many as 50 families, and winter signals the need for hot foods. “This time of year, clients are in particu-

lar need of hot cereal, soups, stews, broth and hot beverages such as tea, cocoa and coffee,” said Andrea Bach, the pantry’s volunteer coordinator, adding that low-sodium products are preferable, especially for seniors.

Bach said donations to the pantry sometimes tail off in winter, a time when they are especially needed. “During the holidays everyone steps up; there’s an abundance of contributions,” she said. “What’s so good about this town is that donations never really stop — but they do slow down a bit after the holidays.”

Contributions can take several forms, but Bach stresses that a cash donation is by far the most cost effective. “Money does



Andrea Bach, volunteer coordinator at Philipstown Food Pantry

the most good in terms of the amount of food purchased,” she said, explaining that the pantry uses cash donations to buy food from the Hudson Valley Food Bank in Cornwall at greatly discounted rates, paying only a few cents per pound.

Residents who *(Continued on Page 4)*



Frank Haggerty opposes changing the election date. *Photo by M. Turton*

Tax Cap Severely Limits Village Spending

Cold Spring election date debate continues

By Michael Turton

Facing a tax cap of 0.12 percent for the 2016-17 fiscal year, Village of Cold Spring trustees will again be challenged to produce a budget that provides necessary services while staying within the state-imposed spending limit.

As part of her monthly financial report at the board’s Jan. 12 meeting, Village Accountant Ellen Mageean said the tax cap will restrict spending to an increase of \$1,882 next year within a tax levy of \$1.6 million and a total budget of just over \$2.8 million. The budget includes the Main Street project, the majority of which is being funded through a federal grant.

Mageean said there may be a small increase in the spending

limit after the state calculates the village “growth factor.” That could result in an allowable spending increase of about \$3,000 at most, “and that’s on the high end,” she said.

Deputy Mayor Marie Early underlined the difficulty that the cap presents, pointing out that some village expenses such as the cost of employee health care will increase significantly next year.

The village board can choose to exceed the tax cap but must pass a local law to do so. A tentative budget will be drafted by March 18 with a public hearing to be held in mid-April. The village board must *(Continued on Page 3)*



Mike Armstrong favors November elections.

File photo

Roots and Shoots

Surviving a Warm Winter

Plants, animals resilient but vulnerable

By Pamela Doan

Since 1998, global temperature records have been set and broken, and this year is already predicted to be hotter than last. The warming trend, combined with the strongest El Niño season ever recorded, has brought changes to the natural world in our area as plants and



Yarrow blooming on Main Street in Cold Spring in December Photos by Kathleen E. Foley

animals respond: lilacs blooming in the yard at Christmas; a bullfrog and water snake in Fahnestock after Christmas; a wasp in the air even as snow flurried.

In my own yard, primrose and sedums had new green leaves. I've heard stories from gardeners about yarrow, foxglove, Queen Anne's lace, dandelions and asters blooming. A neighbor saw daffodil shoots.

Since the New Year, more seasonally appropriate temperatures prevailed. But what does it mean for all those plants?

Jennifer Stengle, the resource educator with Cornell Cooperative Extension in Putnam County, has been answering a lot of these questions. She's observed that ornamental and non-native species that are adapted to this climate but haven't evolved in it are more likely showing aberrant responses than native plants. "I haven't seen maples or swamp vegetation like alders breaking buds," she said. "Spicebush isn't growing. There must be some evolutionary advantage to hang in there and not break bud. I haven't seen any data about why that's the case, but that's the next step to research."

There are different types of dormancy for plants and animals. Some go into stages of dormancy in the fall. Plants lose leaves in early dormancy but don't shut down and stop growing until it gets really cold. The temperatures trigger the process.

Insects like ticks can go dormant but



Buds on a Hellebore, also called a Lenten Rose, just after Christmas

emerge during a warm spell and go dormant again when the temperature drops. Deep dormancy is a factor in the timing for pruning some trees, shrubs and plants, Stengle said. If pruned too early in the winter, they could be triggered to grow again and weaken or die when winter truly hits.

However, "plants have resilience built into their plan," she said. "Further in the bud are the next couple of leaves and that redundancy that's built into plants is what gets them through disaster." A daffodil can still bloom in the spring because the leaves poking up now are the first tips. Below the ground, there are another set of leaves and another below that. The bulb doesn't freeze, just the foliage. That's why it's important to plant bulbs at the correct depth, she said.

Similarly, woody plants like the lilac have other buds hidden, what Stengle calls the plant's "back-up plan." That's the reason that even if deer browse a shrub in winter and eat all the buds, it will still bloom in the spring. Lilacs are an example of a plant that is hardy in our region but didn't originate here.

At Fishkill Farms, where there are nearly 300 acres of orchards with apples and peaches, there is concern that the unseasonal temperatures could damage trees and affect the harvest. "The good news is that there's nothing obviously wrong and

the trees haven't broken dormancy but the soil is quite warm and it makes the likelihood of an early blossom rather high," said General Manager Mark Doyle, adding that the staff probably wouldn't know if the trees have suffered until February or March.

If they do bloom early, it increases the risk of fluctuating temperatures damaging the blossoms. A strong fruit season at Fishkill Farms also put stress on the trees, Doyle said.

The Christmas Bird Count, an annual event organized by the Audubon Society that has been held around the world for 116 years and in Putnam County for 62 years, also produced some notable results due to the unusually warm conditions.

The count is a citizen science project in which volunteers take a one-day inventory of every bird they can see. This year's count, on Jan. 2, set new highs for sightings of Canadian Geese, which had stayed in the area for the abundance of food and open water but started migrating the day of the count. Overall, local volunteers saw record numbers of species and significant increases in Eastern bluebirds, cardinals, slate-colored juncos and red-shoulder hawks. However, "it was the first year we didn't have any winter finches," said Charlie Roberto, the count organizer for Putnam County. "They probably had good food sources up north and haven't migrated down."

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Parents: "Beacon Kids Deserve Better" *(from Page 1)*

speakers addressed the crowd, many drawing applause with the refrain "Beacon kids deserve better."

"It was an incredible swell of support for change," Heuer said Wednesday.

Parents' issues with Walkley date back to her appointment in early 2015 and seemed to intensify last summer, when 27 Beacon City School District teachers were reassigned across various schools and grade levels. The move occurred in June, a day before the school year ended, and appeared to be decided behind closed doors, said Kristan Flynn, one of the organizers of the grassroots Advocates for Beacon Schools organization.

"It seemed like the public had some information that countered the administrative story," Flynn said on Wednesday. "It felt like, 'OK, something bigger is going on.'"

As discontent continued to mount

among many parents, Melissa Rutkoske — the wife of Michael Rutkoske, the school board candidate — filed a petition in December with the New York State Education Department over "troubling, unethical, inappropriate and illegal behaviors" among district leadership, including an allegedly inappropriate relationship between Walkley and former teachers' union president Kimberly Pilla that Rutkoske claimed involved sharing confidential information.

Walkley did not return calls and emails from *The Paper* seeking comment.

The petition, which included copies of emails sent to Pilla's union account, called for Walkley's dismissal and the appointment of new legal counsel "due to the failure of the attorney to protect the (Beacon City School District) from this behavior."

In an 18-page response, the district's attorney, Michael Lambert, dismissed Rutko-

ske's complaint as a "personally motivated vendetta" and wrote that the petition "fails to cite any district policy that was allegedly violated or any taxpayer funds that were allegedly misused." While acknowledging that Walkley and Pilla do have a "close personal friendship," he wrote that any attempt to "suggest through innuendo something salacious" was "outrageous and offensive."

At Beacon High School on Monday night, Melissa Rutkoske was one of around a dozen speakers who addressed the crowd, which was announced at 376. She said that she fully expects her petition to be rejected by the state.

"Do not think that the state will come in and help us," she said. "They will not. We have to do it ourselves. We have a big problem here, but it's one we can fix."

Also among the speakers were John Burns, the current Beacon Teachers'

Union president, and Larry Cohen, a former three-term board member who is now on the Fishkill Town Council.

"This is despicable, even by their standards," Burns said, motioning toward the empty meeting table. "We can't let this stop us. We will continue to fight and bring about some positive change in the district. They think we're going away, and we're not going away."

Cohen said that while he initially supported Walkley after her appointment, he has observed inappropriate relations between school board members as well as other unethical behavior. "The consideration of multiple resignations should be placed on the table immediately," he said.

Although Walkley did not respond to *The Paper*, she told the *Poughkeepsie Journal* on Monday that she does not intend to resign.

Tax Cap Severely Limits Village Spending

adopt a new budget by April 29. In the unlikely event that trustees cannot agree on a final budget, Mageean said state law requires that the tentative budget be adopted.

The cost of being efficient

Village budgeting became even more daunting when the previous board accepted the state's challenge to reduce spending by one percent a year for each of three years, 2016, 2017 and 2018, through efficiencies. That has been accomplished so far through measures such

as eliminating the parking enforcement officer, improving the office phone system and savings in the cost of general insurance, part of an efficiency plan submitted to the state by the village.

When the one percent challenge is met, village residents receive a small rebate check, although the amount is so small that at Tuesday's meeting trustees questioned the value of the effort, especially in light of the spending restrictions imposed by the tax cap. "A plan is a plan — it doesn't (necessarily) mean it gets carried out," said Trustee Cathryn Fadde. She said the parking enforcement officer, which the parking committee advocates reinstating, is a self-funding position.

Early added that officials from the New York Conference of Mayors (NYCOM) had indicated to her that the state has no mechanism in place for monitoring municipalities' adherence to the efficient plans they submit.

The village's efficiency plan also included possible cost savings that would result from moving Cold Spring's election to November. If that were done, the Putnam County Board of Elections would bear the entire cost of the election, a savings to the village of more than \$6,000.



Mayor Dave Merandy feels a referendum will decide the election date question, "once and for all."

Photo by M. Turton

The election date debate

The discussion over whether to move the village election from March to November continued as a formal agenda item. Mayor Dave Merandy has not endorsed moving the election, but said it should go to a public referendum to settle "once and for all" a debate that has been going for some time. A referendum is required if the date is to be changed; the board cannot make

the switch on its own. "I really think the community is split" on the issue, Merandy said. By going to a referendum, he said, the democratic process would decide the issue.

Trustee Michael Bowman spoke against moving the election, arguing that holding it in November would make it part of a contentious national election cycle. "It's not going to be Cold Spring anymore" if the election is moved, he said. Asked by Merandy for his view on deciding the

question through a voter referendum, Bowman said he did not support the idea.

Trustee Fran Murphy disagreed, saying that the best way to answer the question is to let the voters decide. Fadde seemed to support the notion of a referendum. She commented that perhaps voters need to be fired up to get them out to the polls on the election date question and that "if they stay home, they get the government they deserve."

Although discussion of the election date was on the agenda, only three residents attended the meeting and spoke to the is-

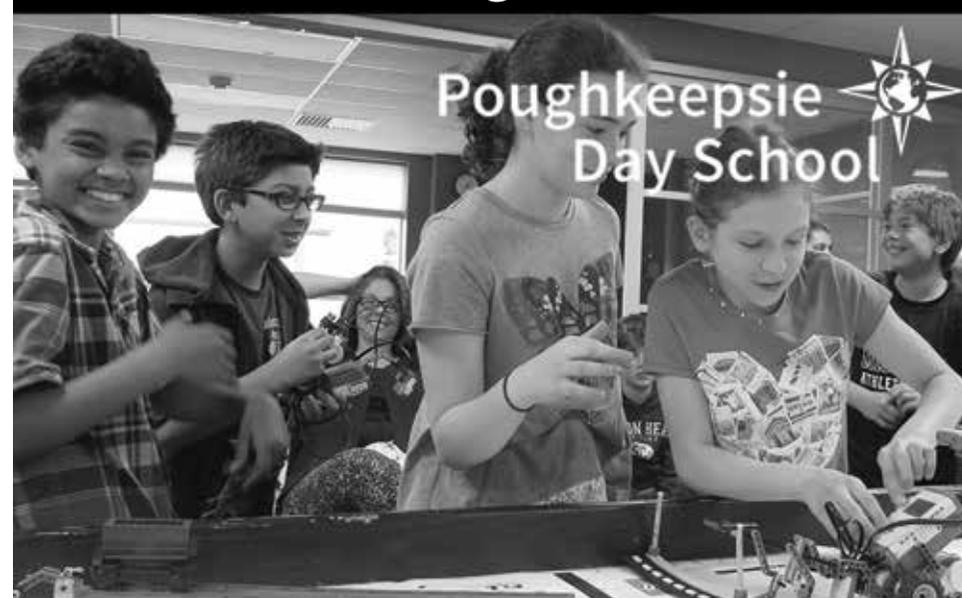
sue. Michael Armstrong argued in favor of a November election while Frank Haggerty spoke against it. Kathleen Foley supported the idea of deciding the issue through a referendum and advocated more public discussion of the pros and cons of changing the date.

Trustees will vote on Jan. 26 as to whether the question will be put on the ballot for the March election.

30 days later ...

"What a difference a month makes" is how Superintendent of Water and Sewers Greg Phillips began his *(Continued on Page 6)*

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OPINION

Should Town and Villages Consolidate?

*Readers respond to call
for merger*

Kevin E. Foley's op-ed article "The Town of Cold Spring" (Jan. 8), calling for the consolidation of the Cold Spring, Nelsonville and Philipstown governments, prompted a spirited discussion at Philipstown.info. Here are excerpts from a selection of reader comments:

Teri Waivada

Makes sense. First step should be an assessment for consolidation of duplicative services. Change will be alarming to many residents. It is time for social and economic attitudes dating back 100 years between villages, hamlets and town residents to end. As a first step, let's get a cost analyses for a phased-in consolidation of services. Let's hear from others in town. What are the pros and cons?

Frank Haggerty

Fewer but larger governmental bodies, or more concentrated, or less "restrained," or more "streamlined," or move "effective" governments are not compatible with freedom or equality or justice or security. See Albany or Washington D.C.

Patty Villanova

You left out one of the biggest money savers of all — get rid of the totally inefficient and unnecessary Cold Spring Police Department. The Town of Philipstown, in

which Cold Spring resides, does not have its own police department. Like neighboring Putnam Valley, the very capable and effective Sheriff's Department provides all necessary police services, as does the State Police. Why is it necessary for the tiny Village of Cold Spring to have and pay for not one, not two, but three separate police agencies?

Michael Armstrong

Cold Spring residents pay much higher taxes than residents of Nelsonville, with almost all of the difference accounted for by the expense of the Cold Spring police. This creates an insurmountable obstacle to consolidation, since the residents of Nelsonville (and Philipstown) would have to agree to higher taxes under any consolidation scheme, to pay for those Cold Spring police — even if overall the consolidation saved money.

Merging the villages of Cold Spring and Nelsonville makes much more sense than consolidating both of them into the Town. This is because these are basically urban communities, with small-scale urban infrastructures, transportation hubs, and a special sense of "place." Philipstown is primarily a suburban/rural community, where most people draw their water from wells and contract for their own garbage collection.

J. Ralph Falloon, former Cold Spring mayor

Power, money and distrust of others

controlling our piece of the pie is why any substantial consolidation will not happen.

Tom Valentine

While people think consolidation is always the answer, loss of services is really the answer. Can anyone think of any services that improved with larger government consolidation and control or when costs decreased? Those of you that walk home from the train after a show or game or working late, are you going to feel safer with a consolidated force that will not have dedicated patrols in the Village? Look at other parts of Putnam County and judge. Dedicated patrols cost more than the present police.

Many people will jump on the consolidation bandwagon. But think why you have lived here your entire life or why you moved here: small-town feel and quality of life. That comes from local control. When you give that up, you give up what you have.

Village of Cold Spring tax bills are not outrageous for the services received. I will pay a few extra dollars to not be like ... take your pick in the area, there are many choices.

Frank Haggerty

Amen to that, brother. As you cede local control, so you cede all control. Cold Spring is a rare, special place. Let's not allow it to be lost on our watch.

Food and Shelter Against the Storm *(from Page 1)*

have already purchased food items can drop them off at the pantry, located in the First Presbyterian Church on Academy Street in Cold Spring. Drop-off is on Saturday between 9 and 10 a.m. or Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon.

Foodtown shoppers can donate their Club Card points at the checkout as well as coupons earned for a free turkey or ham. Gift cards can also be donated. "Foodtown has been really supportive," Bach said.

Volunteers needed

The pantry is also looking for help with transporting food from the regional food bank to Cold Spring. "We need volunteer drivers to pick up food in Cornwall, something we do about twice a month," Bach said. Volunteers currently use a station wagon or a small SUV but Bach said that a bigger vehicle is needed to adequately handle the twice-monthly runs. "A pickup or a large commercial van would be much better," she said.

Bach also emphasized that volunteers are needed year-round, "especially people with ideas for fundraising and the time and ability to help organize events," she said.

Checks made payable to Philipstown Food Pantry can be mailed to the pantry c/o First Presbyterian Church, 10 Academy St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. Donations are tax deductible. For more information,



Adele was "skin and bones" when she arrived at the sanctuary.

Photos by M. Turton

email Bach at ptfp2481f@gmail.com. The pantry also has a Facebook page.

Winter coat drive

Houlihan-Lawrence Real Estate collects coats throughout the winter at its office at 60 Main Street in Cold Spring and distributes them through the Philipstown Food Pantry. Associate Real Estate Broker Abbie Carey, who takes the donated coats to the pantry each week, said the community has been very generous. One donation stands out so far this year, she said. "We received

five large bags of coats from a Garrison resident working at the Veterans Hospital in Montrose," Carey said. "The coats were for children and the hospital only takes coats for adults." Winter coats for children or adults can be dropped off at the Houlihan-Lawrence office daily between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. This is the sixth year that the company has overseen the program.

Various types of clothing as well as shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, bedding, draperies and stuffed animals can also be donated *(Continued on next page)*

Beacon Volunteers Keep Soup Kitchen Going

One closes unexpectedly, another opens

By Brian PJ Cronin

It's a cold Monday morning outside the Tabernacle of Christ Church at 483 Main St. in Beacon and the city's newest soup kitchen is minutes away from opening its doors for lunch. There's just one problem: The food hasn't shown up.

Candi Rivera, who runs the soup kitchen on behalf of her nonprofit organization In Care Of, is on the phone with a social services group that was going to drop off enough pre-cooked food to feed about 25 people — Rivera calls them her "guests" — who will be showing up any minute. A recently injured foot is the only thing that's keeping her from nervously pacing back and forth as she tries to figure out if the food is coming.

It's not. She hangs up, looks at the eight assembled volunteers and says, "Well, we're just going to have to do this."

Rivera ducks out to the store to buy half a dozen loaves of bread while the volunteers (and anyone else who happens to be passing by) make coffee, set tables and thaw bricks of frozen cheese with their hands. The ancient massive stove in the church basement sputters as volunteer John Kelly fires up a skillet the size of a car tire. A donation of potatoes, onions, peppers and spinach gets diced and sauteed before being dumped into a roasting pan and slid into the oven. "We'll call it potato surprise," said Kelly. This is his first time volunteering at the soup kitchen and he's here on his birthday. His wife, Zoe Markwalter, who's washing serving bowls and cutting boards, was one of the people who helped get the kitchen up and running in

November after budget restraints forced the Salvation Army in Beacon to close their soup kitchen without warning.

"This is what makes our soup kitchen unique, I think," Rivera says 20 minutes later with a smile as volunteers serve plates of potatoes and scores of grilled cheese sandwiches. "When there's a problem, the volunteers just jump in and get it done. Ninety-nine percent of the people involved here are part of the Beacon community. Originally we talked about this being a temporary thing, but if the community can sustain this then we can make it permanent."

Pitching in and getting it done is what made the Beacon Soup Kitchen happen. On Nov. 14, shortly after the Salvation Army had closed, a group of community leaders met at the First Presbyterian Church, including Rivera, Markwater and other members of Common Ground Farm, and Dutchess Outreach. The church, who has been running a soup kitchen on Saturdays, agreed to open on Fridays, as well. Rivera knew that United Tabernacle had the space. All they needed was a commercial refrigerator, a reliable stove, volunteers and food. The group made plans to meet again.

They didn't need to. On the following Monday, Dutchess Outreach told Rivera it could donate food to get the kitchen going. Ella's Bellas in Beacon donated a consumer refrigerator to hold the kitchen over until they could find a larger, commercial one. On Tuesday, members of United Tabernacle made a flier. On Wednesday they distributed it. Thursday they opened.

Only six people showed up for the meal, significantly less than the 45 or so the Salvation Army was serving on a regular basis.

"We knew we still had to let the word get out," Rivera said. "I went around to the guests and said 'OK, I need something from you. I need you to go out and tell people you know that we have a new soup



Volunteers at the Beacon Soup Kitchen after a meal. Candi Rivera, who runs the kitchen, is fourth from the left.

Photo by B. Cronin

kitchen here and that they're welcome to come.' " Soon the kitchen was serving around 25 people a day, but Rivera knows that the need is greater.

"There are people like single parents who work, families, who need this but can't come when we're open" on Monday to Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon, she said. Eventually, Rivera would like to serve at locations throughout town on Sundays, when more people could take advantage of the program.

The Beacon Soup Kitchen is still looking for a commercial refrigerator, a reliable stove ("The stove top is pretty good, but sometimes the oven acts up," Rivera said) volunteers, food and cash donations. Prospective volunteers can sign up online through the Beacon Soup Kitchen's Facebook page or by calling In Care Of at 845-831-1300. Tax-deductible cash donations from individuals and the Beacon Sloop Club, as well as a grant from Sam's Club, allow Rivera to make emergency runs to Key Food when something is needed or to trips to wholesale markets to buy things like meat in bulk, which can then be frozen.

For food donations, Rivera said she needs

non-perishable food in bulk that can be used to make large meals either at the kitchen or at home by volunteers. "We have a lot of good cooks in this church that I've been calling on," she said. Long-grain rice, crushed tomatoes, dried beans, cooking oils, salt, pepper, hot sauce, pasta, coffee, tea, sugar and spices top the list. Disposable utensils and serving ware are also always needed, as well as anything perishable that can easily be frozen such as cheese, butter or broth. Donations can be dropped off at the church Mondays through Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., or by making an appointment with Rivera.

For now, the kitchen will remain at United Tabernacle. "Will this be the place forever? Only God knows," Rivera said, as her satisfied guests begin making their way back outside. "Good lunch today!" said one to those cleaning up in the kitchen before leaving. Rivera smiled and thanked her.

"She's not just saying that, you know," said Rivera with a laugh, after the woman had left. "She tells it like it is. On days when the food's not so good, she lets us know!"

Food and Shelter Against the Storm *(from Page 4)*

at the drop-box at St. Mary's Church in Cold Spring. Receipts for tax purposes are available at the box, which is operated by St. Pauly Textile. Donations are distributed to needy families locally and throughout the U.S. and globally.

Helping animals get through winter

Shepherd's View Animal Sanctuary, located just north of Route 301 off Route 9, provides food, shelter and a home for a variety of animals. Residents include a pot-bellied pig named Adele, two parrots, three sheep, three goats, four cats, five ducks, seven chickens, seven dogs, nine rabbits and one red-tailed boa constrictor.

Sanctuary President Heather Canavan said most animals end up at the sanctuary because their owners grossly underestimated the work involved with keeping them as pets. "Adele was nothing but skin and bones" when she arrived, Canavan said, adding that the pig had been abused. She is anything but skinny now. "We weren't equipped to take in a pig," Canavan said. "But no one else would take her." The sanctuary's small barn was not

designed to withstand a pig, and Adele has taken a toll on the wood.

"We need building materials and people with the skills to construct a small, proper barn," Canavan said, estimating that a structure as small as 10 square feet would do the job. Alternatively, she said she would consider moving some of the sanctuary's animals to an appropriate barn offsite if a suitable building is made available.

Just as critical, food to last through the winter is needed for all of the animals. "Our food needs include hay, goat, chicken, pig and parrot food as well as canned dog and cat food," Canavan said. "And we desperately need scoopable cat litter."

Suitable homes sought

The sanctuary is intended to be a "forever home" for its residents but the current population has outgrown capacity. Homes are being sought for the cats, rabbits and ducks. "The ducks really need a pond," Canavan said. The boa constrictor, which was found dying in a dumpster, also needs a home and comes with a beautiful, appropriate cage, she said.

Canavan praised Garrison farmer Sandy Saunders, who has donated hay a number of times, and also the Manitou School in Cold Spring for a vital financial contribution.

Contributions to Shepherd's View Animal Sanctuary are tax deductible and can

be made through the organization's Facebook page. Inquiries regarding donations of food, construction materials, carpentry and use of off-site barns, and animal adoption can also be made there.

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Tax Cap Limits Village Spending *(from Page 3)*

monthly report. In December, village reservoirs were at 58 percent of capacity. But the mild temperatures of the late fall and early winter have brought rain rather than snow, and within the past month reservoirs have risen to 96 percent of capacity. The board moved to immediately remove the restrictions on outdoor water use that had been in place.

Phillips also reported that he would make a recommendation regarding replacement of water meters throughout the village by the end of January. The meters, almost 900 in number, are 18 years old and approaching the end of their usable life. New cellular meters will permit the

water department and residents to monitor use remotely on a daily basis.

At the wastewater treatment plant, Phillips said the new electrical service is on-line and powering the facility, including the recently upgraded aeration system. The new equipment and electrical service will greatly reduce the cost of operating the plant, he said.

In other business...

- Former village trustee Bruce Campbell was appointed chair of the Independence Day Committee. Merandy said more volunteers are needed to plan festivities and help out. Anyone interested in serving on the committee should

contact Village Clerk Mary Saari.

- It seems a small village produces a surprising amount of waste. In his monthly update, Cold Spring Highway Department Foreman Ed Trimble reported that in December crews picked up 47 tons of garbage and 25 tons of material to be recycled. That works out to approximately 47 pounds of garbage and 25 pounds of recyclables per village resident.
- Early reported that the Code Update Committee hopes to hold its first public

meeting by the end of March to review revisions to the zoning code. The code is being updated to bring it into conformity with the Comprehensive Plan adopted in 2012.

- Cold Spring Police Department Officer-in-Charge George Kane reminded residents that they should call 845-747-SNOW (7669) after a snowfall or when a storm is predicted to determine if overnight parking is prohibited on village streets. Cars will be ticketed if left on the street overnight when the ban is in effect.

Indecent Exposure Reported at Library

Suspect fled after police called

The Putnam County Sheriff's Office and Cold Spring Police Department are investigating an incident of indecent exposure at the Butterfield Library. At about 1 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 11, a man allegedly exposed himself to a female patron inside the library, which is located at 10 Morris Avenue.

The suspect is described as a black man in his mid-20s or early 30s, about 5'10," with a stocky build. He was wearing a blue Nike sweatshirt with gray sleeves and gray sweatpants.

According to Library Director Gillian Thorpe, the man fled the library when police were called. "I'd like to thank our patrons, staff and local police for their as-



A photo of the suspect taken by a library security camera.

sistance in this matter," she said. "Thankfully, the library recently installed security cameras and we were able to give the police pictures to assist with their investigation. Lastly, please speak with your children about public safety. Although we do our best to keep the library safe, this is a good reminder that no public place is 100 percent safe."

Investigators believe that the suspect may have recently committed similar acts at other libraries in lower Dutchess County. Authorities are asking persons who have information about the suspect or his identity to call the Cold Spring Police Department at 845-265-9111 or the Sheriff's Office at 845-225-4300. Calls will be kept confidential.



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The Calendar

Strange Tales and Forgotten Masterpieces

16-millimeter film screenings in Beacon full of surprises

By Clayton Smith

A younger person might not be able to identify a roll of film, let alone a movie reel, but could still be curious about the “ancient” technology. An older person might feel nostalgic hearing the familiar click of a reel projector. A bi-weekly fest of rediscovered 16-millimeter films held every other week at Dogwood, called screen16, hopes to appeal to both sensibilities.

Each screening, which typically lasts from 90 minutes to two hours, features a selection of short films from the collection of organizer John Froats, whose interest in vintage photography led to an enthusiasm for moving images. His collection consists of over 800 obscure movies gathered over a 23-year span. Although the format dates to the 1920s,

most of the reels he owns were shot during the 1940s and '50s and range from commercial films to home movies to educational documentaries meant for classrooms.

The collector's interest in film was sparked when he was 11 and borrowed his father's 8-millimeter camera to make a movie about Earth Day. “I remember the blurry footage of discarded roadside trash I shot out the backseat passenger window of my parents' Impala,” he said. His father made home movies for a brief period and Froats still has the projector from his childhood.

Although he acquired a large collection of 16-millimeter reels from a private collector as the foundation of his personal library, he is constantly looking to expand



his selection using collectors' websites like eBay and Ruby Lane. He also frequents the Beacon Flea Market and various Cold Spring antique shops. “If I find something locally, I show it immediately for instant gratification,” he said. Before screenings, he simply rustles around his basement to find something new to share at a screening. The unpredictable selection is part of

the fun for Froats, who enjoys having his audience reflect on the various films. “There's this moment when the film is over and we think about it. It's like closing a book,” he said.

Froats' enthusiasm for 16-millimeter reels stems from his desire to uncover the beauty in the art. He analyzes the form, content and process of each reel, noting

(Continued on Page 10)

Helping Those Who Give, and Receive

Putnam community foundation has new director, funds

By Alison Rooney

The saying that money goes out as fast as it comes in is a good thing as far as the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley (CFHV) is concerned. It's what it's all about, in fact. This independent philanthropic organization gives and receives: working with people who wish

to become philanthropists and helping them support the charitable causes they feel most drawn to, on the one hand, while providing, from pooled funds, grants and other support to community organizations in need, on the other.

There are approximately 700 such foundations nationwide, handling roughly \$35 billion in assets. Dutchess County accounts for nearly all of the CFHV's assets, administering some \$49 million in assets for 470 funds; with Ulster overseeing about \$2.7 million in 58 funds and Putnam County \$246,000 in nine funds.

The Community Foundation for Putnam County has maintained a low-key presence since its founding in 2008, but now, thanks to a \$100,000 matching challenge grant by the Dyson Foundation for projects of lasting impact, and the appointment of Nancy Rossi Brownell, a Cold Spring native, longtime volunteer and CFHV board member as vice president of Putnam, its profile is rising. Brownell, along with CFHV board member Nat Prentice, are spreading the word about the benefits to Putnam communities reaped through working with the Putnam foundation.

For Brownell, involvement



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with the CFHV began with a party – the foundation's annual garden party benefit. Brownell's in-laws had set up a scholarship fund through the foundation, and a few people at the party suggested she join their benefit committee. She rose through volunteer ranks through the years and, recently, she found herself “stepping out of volunteering and stepping in” as a foundation employee.

Prentice, who has long roots in Garrison, became familiar with the foundation while studying “to get me more initials after my name,” he jokes. During the process of obtaining those initials – CAP, for Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy – he became familiar with the organization and “came to understand that it defies a one-sentence description; I got fascinated.” When friends on the board came calling, hoping he'd become involved in a “you'd be helpful in helping people become aware of what it is” kind of way, he joined them.

Prentice is pleased to be working with the CFHV of Putnam County, noting that he speaks with both donors and nonprofits and thinks “many feel a little neglected in Putnam. Everyone's excited that we are on the ground. There's a lot of need here, and sometimes people feel ignored. This way private funds can benefit particular charities.”

Looking first at the giving side of the equation, Brownell says people often think establishing a charitable fund is only for the very wealthy. “A lot of people have charitable goals, but think they don't have the means to do it,” she says. “We help them to, in a thoughtful way. You can write a check to something you care about but not know where it's going. We do. When we dispense money out to a nonprofit on your behalf, we know what they'll be doing with it.” Community foundations work with individuals and businesses and with those who serve them: attorneys, *(Continued on Page 11)*



Nat Prentice

Photo provided

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

Member Exhibit (Opening)

5-7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org
Through Jan. 24

Open-Mic Night

7:30 p.m. Sign-up begins | 8 p.m. Performances
Howland Cultural Center | 477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

Sandy Galef Town Hall Meeting

10 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring | 914-941-1111
assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Sandy-Galef

Beacon High Winter Exhibit 2016 (Opening)

1 - 5 p.m. The Lofts at Beacon
18 Front St., Beacon
845-831-7837 | loftsatbeacon.com

The Met Live in HD: Bizet's Les Pêcheurs de Perles

1 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Beacon Lions Club Organizational Meeting

1:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-234-9525 | lionsclubs.org

Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra:**Arabian Nights**

1:30 p.m. Interactive music fair
3 p.m. Family concert
Mount Saint Mary College (Aquinas Hall)
330 Powell Avenue, Newburgh
845-913-7157 | newburghsymphony.org

Free Admission

5-8 p.m. Mid-Hudson Children's Museum
75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie
845-471-0589 | mhcm.org

MLK Jazz Celebration

5:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Friends of the Library Holiday Party

6-8 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Adam Carolla (Comedy)

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

Live Film and Music Party

8 p.m. Binnacle Books
321 Main St., Beacon
845-838-6191 | binnaclebooks.com

Calendar Highlights

For upcoming events visit philipstown.info.Send event listings to calendar@philipstown.info.**Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson & The Magic Rockers**

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

Kids' Open Mic

6-8 p.m. 12 Grapes | 12 N. Division St., Peekskill
914-737-6624 | 12grapes.com

Martin Luther King Day Community Potluck

6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

National Theatre Live: Jane Eyre

7 p.m. Downing Film Center
19 Front St., Newburgh
845-561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.com

MONDAY, JANUARY 18

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**Howland Library closed****38th Annual MLK, Jr. Day Celebration**

10 a.m. Main St., Beacon

MLK, Jr. Day Kids' Events

10:30 a.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Sunday.

National Theatre Live: Jane Eyre

1:30 p.m. Downing Film Center
See details under Sunday.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: Rev.**Cynthia Major**

7 p.m. Sisters of the Atonement St. Francis Convent
1350 Route 9, Garrison
845-424-3549 | atonementfriars.org

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19

Dance With Me Baby with Katie Bissinger**(First Session)**

10:45 a.m. Ballet Arts Studio
107 Teller Ave., Beacon
845-831-1870 | balletartsstudio.com

New Moms & Infants Group

11 a.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
Email whiteside.ks@gmail.com

Tugboats on the Hudson, Then and Now (Talk)

11 a.m. MSMC Desmond Campus
6 Albany Post Road, Newburgh
845-565-2076 | msmc.edu/communityed

Haldane School Board Workshop: Test Score**Analysis/Common Core/Race to the Top**

7 p.m. Haldane School (Music Room)
15 Craigsides Dr., Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: Rev.**Robert Johnson**

7 p.m. St. Christopher's Inn | 1350 Route 9, Garrison
845-424-3549 | atonementfriars.org

Nelsonville Village Board

7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St., Nelsonville
845-265-2500 | villageofnelsonville.org

Dutchess County Genealogical Society

7:30 p.m. LDS Church
204 Spackenkill Road, Poughkeepsie | dcgs-gen.org

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20

Music and Movement for Toddlers**(First Session)**

10:15 a.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Children's Pottery (ages 6-12) (First Session)

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

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:**Rev. Jan Nunley**

7 p.m. St. Pius X Building (5th Floor Library)
1350 Route 9, Garrison
845-424-3549 | atonementfriars.org

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21

Haldane PTA Coffee

9 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldanepta.org

Young Chefs of Hudson Valley (First Session)

4:30 p.m. Dempsey House
1992 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-734-3780 | hvhc.org/events

Lifeguard Training Class (First Session)

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

Go to Meals Cooking Workshop

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

More than Honey (Documentary, 2012) and Panel

7 p.m. Beacon Sloop Club | 2 Red Flynn Dr., Beacon
845-463-4660 | beaconsloopclub.org

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:**Rev. Gary Battle**

7 p.m. St. Pius X Building (5th Floor Library)
See details under Wednesday.

Garrison School Board

7:30 p.m. O'Neill High School | Morgan Road, Highland Falls | 845-424-3689 | gufs.org

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:**V. Rev. Brian F. Terry**

11 a.m. St. Pius X Building (5th Floor Library)
See details under Wednesday.

Card Games/Dungeons & Dragons Club Kickoff

3-5 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Children's Pottery (ages 6-12) (First Session)

4 p.m. Garrison Art Center
See details under Wednesday.

Studio Hip Hop for Boys with Katie Bissinger (First Session)

4:30 p.m. Ballet Arts Studio | Details under Tuesday

Minecraft Mania (grades 3+)

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

Drag Bingo!

7 p.m. The Beacon Theatre | 445 Main St., Beacon
845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

International Film Night: The Water Diviner (Turkey, 2014)

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

Laminated Menu

8:30 p.m. Dogwood | 47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com

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46 Haldane Students Join NHS

Six officers also elected for academic society

By Clayton Smith

On Monday, Jan. 11, Haldane High School's chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) inducted 46 students and elected six seniors as officers at a dinner at the Taconic Outdoor Education Center in Cold Spring.

Kristen Peparo, a math teacher at Hal-

dane, and Nancy Martinez, an English teacher, who serve as advisors to the group, welcomed parents and relatives and members of the school administration before Haldane High School Principal Brian Alm pushed students to consider the weight of their achievements and build upon them in their future. Martinez also shared the history and background of the NHS, which honors academic achievement.

Each of the new officers spoke about one of the four pillars of the NHS: Anna Birn (president) discussed service, Coryd-

on Zouzias (vice president) covered scholarship, Melissa Tringali (treasurer) addressed leadership and Maisy Curto (one of three secretaries, with Allison Marino and Adele Westerhuis) spoke on character.

Each officer lit a candle representing their pillar, and then the members were called up individually to give a brief speech about the pillar of their choice. Members also lit their candles and recited the National Honor Society pledge before District Superintendent Diana Bowers closed the ceremony.

The new NHS members are: Amelia Rose Allison, Josephine Altucher, Sarah F. Anderson, Sophia Carnabucci, Alexandra Rose Cinquanta, Mary-Margaret E. Dwyer, John Liam Eng-Wong, Amanda Erickson, Teresa Figueiras, Blaine W. Fitzgerald, Sean Gannon, Rebecca Gore, Brian Michael Haines, Brendan Hamel, Michael Harmancin, Will P. Heintzman, Michaela Khadabux, Isabella Laifer, Jocelyn S. Lane, Hannah Langer, Alessandra N. LaRocco, Madison Taylor Lee, Harper Levy, Marissa J. Lisikatos, Liam Macnamara, Justin Maldonado, Ruby McEwen, Timothy McGovern, Andrew J. Mikalsen, Kyra Moskowitz, Elizabeth Osborn, Catherine M. Parr, Christopher Pidala, Andrew Jerome Platt, Dara Ricketts, Jeremy A. Roffman, Evan J. Schweikhart, Asami Nikki Shiga, Cole Sussmeier, Cassandra Jude Traina, Hali Terese Traina, Brooke C. Vahos, Seth M. Warren, Alexandra Gariepy, Sophia Traina and Jason Zielinski.



Honor Society inductees hold candles representing a pillar of service, scholarship, leadership or character.

Photo by C. Smith



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Strange Tales and Forgotten Masterpieces *(from Page 7)*

how each long-forgotten filmmaker used the elements. His goal is to give the audience an opportunity to analyze the films with him. "I want to educate, illuminate and initiate a dialogue between viewers," said Froats.

Before screenings, Froats runs a reel to check for major flaws and breaks and then cleans the roll with a cotton ball and film cleaner. It's clear he has a purist mindset about the sometimes-unpolished footage: He attempts to show every film the way it was originally intended, embracing each unique scratch and "pop." "I'm not interested in the Polaroid effect," Froats said. "I'm interested in the Polaroid."

Dogwood owner George Mansfield says he appreciates the program as an unusual form of entertainment to bring people together in what is already an unconventional setting. Mansfield does not have televisions in his bar and instead stresses

conversation and live entertainment. He is a fan of screen16, he says, in part because the short films allow for breaks for attendees to get up, say hello to one another, and maybe grab a drink. "It complements the goal of Dogwood by providing creative, not numbing, distractions," he said.

On Sunday, Jan. 10, Froats' bimonthly screening started off with two of a number of films he owns by a company called Weston Woods that created animated shorts based on popular children's books. This session's selections were *The Caterpillar and the Polliwog* and *Goodnight Gorilla*. Then came a slapstick comedy called *Phoney Cronies* that was reminiscent of *The Three Stooges*. Next the audience was given an intimate look at the life of a toddler and his family through an anonymous home movie. Finally, the show wrapped up with two educational films: one about the geography and economy of Canada and the other about agriculture in America. The broad range of Sunday's films offered unique form, content and process for all to reflect on.

The program typically occurs every other week, although due to scheduling conflicts the next screen16 is scheduled for 4 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 14. Froats maintains a public Facebook group at [facebook.com/groups/screen16](https://www.facebook.com/groups/screen16). Dogwood is located at 47 East Main St. in Beacon.

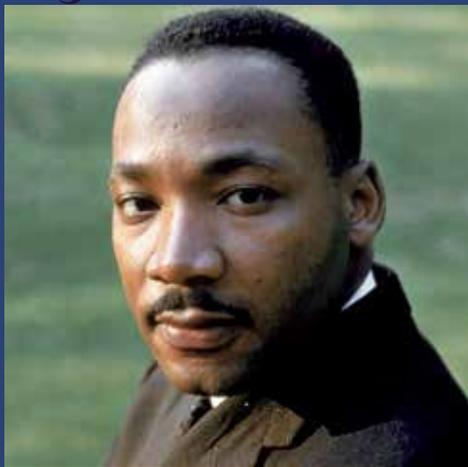


John Froats

Photo by Chip Rowe

MLK Jazz Celebration

...A Man for Our Time
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Helping Those Who Give, and Receive *(from Page 7)*

accountants, financial planners, etc. designing gift plans specific to the donor's situation and instruction and aligned with the donor's values.

Prentice adds: "A community foundation is technically a public charity, and what it is a sponsor organization, a place where individuals and families can establish their own funds, permanent funds and/or legacy funds and have these funds do what they want them to do. The time, trouble and effort involved with having their own foundation is eliminated by doing it through a community foundation. Having your own foundation can be a nightmare, especially relating to tax filings, so taking advantage of community foundation sponsorship, staff resources and all their experience can really be worthwhile."

There are other benefits, according to Brownell: "When you start something up with us, it is in perpetuity. This can help with potential family disagreements and succession difficulties and other situations which do arise. And sometimes particular nonprofits go out of business; if that happens, we can approach the redirection of funds in a very mindful way, knowing the intention of the foundation."

The establishment of funds needn't solely be through cash. It can be donations of real estate, stocks, valued artwork, IRAs, "many different types of vehicles," according to Brownell. And the funds themselves can be set up in a number of beneficial ways, including supporting a specific charity, or broader programs in the arts, for community health, faith-directed, education, animal welfare, virtually anything.

Funds can be restricted to one particular thing, or unrestricted, with just a directive to be given back to a



Education and Food Security - Hudson Valley Seed School Gardens: More than 1500 elementary school students participate in the Hudson Valley Seeds school gardening program supported by various Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley.

particular community. And they can be directed to entities outside of the geographic area, as well — such as an alumnus directing funds towards an educational institution in another state.

Along with more traditional unrestricted, donor-designated, trust and scholarship funds, there are also special "Donor Advised Funds," which Prentice calls, "a simple vehicle; they are set up and can be pre-funded, giving a tax credit, with the monies dispersed in later years. You can choose how and when to disperse and the community foundation does it for you." In fact, donors are sent periodic lists detailing particular donation opportunities, and these can be very specific — for instance a recent one provided the opportunity to fund an excursion to the Bardavon in Poughkeepsie for a group of seniors. The small scale nature of it is precisely what makes it a community foundation. "These funds pass to your heirs," Prentice explains, "and it's a way of establishing your wishes beyond your life."

Working with the monies from established funds, CFHV has an investment committee which consists, Brownell says, of "top experts in the field. Historically we have done very well. These volunteers are recruited for their exper-



Nancy Rossi Brownell

tise and tend to be a group made up of community activists and leaders."

Prentice notes that the CFHV investors "have the luxury of taking a permanent approach to it." Gifts are invested for growth and income, and a set amount is designated for grants which will strengthen the community. Once a gift has been made, the donor may choose to stay actively involved with the grant-making process, or simply leave that function to the

foundation.

A sampling of Putnam County nonprofits which have received gifts from funds established with CFHV includes many familiar names, among them: Manitoga, St. Christopher's Inn, PARC, Support Connection, Graymoor, Hudson Valley Seed, Green Chimneys, Hudson Valley Shakespeare, the Putnam Humane Society and local fire departments and food pantries. Beneficiaries in other counties the CFHV serves have included libraries and community housing groups, and many funds have been directed toward food and hunger initiatives. There are also 11 scholarship funds available to Putnam County students as well as Partnership in Education grants open to teachers in the county who submit proposals, which in the past have ranged from equipment needs to field trips.

Information on these funds (the application deadline of the partnership grants is March 15) as well as larger CFHV endeavors is available at cfhvny.org. To contact the foundation, call 845-452-3077 or visit its site. *(See sidebar below.)*



Maribel Pregnall, a science teacher at Arlington High School, teaches marine biology in an aquarium classroom funded by a grant from the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley.

Photo by Michael Gold

Money to Learn

Foundation offers grants for students and teachers

The Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley has opened the online application process for more than \$385,000 in education grants and scholarships for residents of Putnam, Dutchess and Ulster counties.

Education grants

The Fund for Excellence in Education provides grants for preschool through grade 12 teachers at public, parochial and private/independent schools to support classroom projects or professional development (i.e., not to fulfill as master's degree or certification requirements). Grants are also available for professional development to teach writing or improve student writing. There are also smaller grants for public schools in specific locations.

This year, the Verizon Foundation is

sponsoring grants for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) projects, activities and equipment. In Dutchess County, Taconic IPA Science Education Grants pay for laboratory science equipment for grades 7 to 12.

Teachers apply online at cfhvny.org/Receive/Grants/Grant-Programs under "Education." Applications are due March 15 and the awards will be announced in May.

Academic scholarships

Last year, 65 families, individuals and community groups donated more than \$275,000 for scholarships for college or vocational training. Some are earmarked for students in specific school districts or for those pursuing a specialized course of study, while others are open to all graduating high school seniors. Apply online at cfhvny.org/Receive/Scholarships.aspx. Unless noted, applications are due April 1, and awards will be announced in late June.

2nd Annual

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Vocalists: Laura Bach, Tess Dul and Tyler Mell

Friday, February 26 7:30
Piano Concert with Jiayan Sun

Saturday, February 27 7:30
A Night of Opera with Neal Goren

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For more information visit philipstowndepottheatre.org Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



April Armstrong

Image provided

Desmond-Fish to Host 20th MLK, Jr. Day Events

Potluck and speaker on Jan. 17; family celebration Jan. 18

The Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison will present its 20th annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Day observance with a free potluck supper and speaker starting at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 17, followed at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 18 by a family program.

Hasan Azad, a doctoral candidate specializing in Islamic Studies at Columbia University, will speak at the adult program on Sunday about historical factors behind racism against Muslims in Europe and the United States, the “politics” of Islamophobia, some of the history behind ISIS/ISIL and protecting the civil rights of Muslims in the U.S. Azad, who has a B.A. in English and an M.A. in Islamic societies and cultures from the University of London, is spearheading an online platform — Islam(s) First — dedicated to the public study of Islam from an academic perspective.

On Monday, the library welcomes storyteller and program emcee Jonathan Kruk and actress, singer and storyteller April Armstrong back for their popular MLK, Jr. Family Program. This year’s program will feature multicultural songs and stories

about freedom seekers around the world.

Armstrong’s career has spanned Broadway national tours, regional theater, television, film, and books (she contributed to the *Wall Street Journal* bestseller *The Big Moo*). She’s also the author of the one-woman show *Two Wings to Heaven*, about the black aviatrix, Bessie Coleman. Alva Nelson will accompany her on piano.

Both events are free and supported by a grant from the Friends of the Desmond-Fish Library. For more information, call 845-424-3020 or visit desmondfishlibrary.org/mlk.

Is Your Christmas Tree Still Up?

Highway departments to pick up holiday debris



The Village of Cold Spring Highway Department will pick up discarded Christmas trees and other yard debris to be mulched on Wednesdays until the snow begins. Remove all decorations, lights and tinsel and place the tree and other debris at curbside on Tuesday evenings after 4 p.m.

In Beacon, the highway department will pick up Christmas trees at curbside through January. Trees should be free of ornaments and not placed in plastic bags.

Graymoor to Host Week of Prayer

Annual event promotes Christian unity

Each year, the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement at Graymoor in Garrison organize and help promote the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which takes place at venues around the world.

The event first took place at Graymoor as the Church Unity Octave in January 1908. Father Paul Wattson and Mother Lurana White, co-founders of the Society of the Atonement at Graymoor, wrote letters and articles encouraging others to pray with them “that all may be one ... that the world may believe,” based on John 17:21. In the late 1960s, other prayer movements joined with the Octave to form what is now the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The theme for 2016 is “Called to Proclaim the Mighty Acts of the Lord” (cf. 1 Peter 2:9). The event begins at 7 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 18, at the Sisters of the Atonement St. Francis Convent; the speaker will be the Rev. Cynthia Major,

pastor of the Peekskill United Methodist Church.

At 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 19, the Rev. Robert Johnson of the American Baptist Church and Director of Pastoral Ministries at the Veterans Hospital in Montrose will speak at St. Christopher’s Inn.

On Wednesday, Jan. 20, at 7 p.m., the Rev. Jan Nunley, pastor of St. Peter Episcopal Church in Peekskill, will speak in the fifth-floor library of the St. Pius X Building. The Rev. Gary Battle of the Refugee Church of Christ in Peekskill will speak at the library at the same time on Thursday, Jan. 21.

At 11 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 22, the Very Rev. Brian F. Terry, minister general of the Friars of the Atonement, will speak at the library, and on Saturday, Jan. 23 at 7 p.m. the speaker will be the Rev. Agnes Campbell Saffoury from Highland Falls. On Sunday, Jan. 24, at 3 p.m., the Very Rev. Bishop Andrew Dietsche of the Episcopal Diocese of New York will speak at the Peekskill Presbyterian Church. Finally, on Monday, Jan. 25, at 7 p.m., the Rev. Alexi Vinogradov of the Wappingers Falls Orthodox Church will speak at the St. Pius X Building library.

Volunteer to Help Others with Taxes

Butterfield to offer free training course

The Butterfield Library in Cold Spring will offer a free four-hour training session on Tuesday, Jan. 26 for anyone interested in learning how to work as a volunteer tax assistant. Michelle Duchowny of the New York State Office of Taxpayer Rights will lead the class. Once a volunteer completes the program and an hour-long online IRS ethics course, he or she will be qualified to assist with basic online tax filings at the library or through other organizations.

Registration is required through the library’s online calendar at butterfieldlibrary.org or by calling 845-265-3040.

Learn Your Birds

Program will help with IDs

Learn to identify common birds at a workshop led by Pete Salmansohn of the Hudson Highlands Land Trust, River of Words and Audubon taking place at the Desmond-Fish Library at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 24. The free, interactive program is designed for children ages 8 and older and is sponsored by the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society and the Desmond-Fish Library. Refreshments will be available. For more info, visit putnam-highlandsaudubon.org.

highlandsaudubon.org.

On Friday, Feb. 12 through Monday, Feb. 15, use your newfound knowledge to take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count (birdcount.org), organized by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society. Last year more than 140,000 people submitted observations.



“What am I?” (*See below for answer)

Butterfield Plans Mystery for Teens

Middle-school students invited to play along

The Butterfield Library in Cold Spring will host a “Find the Spy Mystery Game” on Saturday, Jan. 23 for Philipstown students in the sixth to eighth grades. The 90-minute event starts at 6:30 p.m. at the library, at 10 Morris Ave.

Here’s the plot: Cornelia Crimson has stolen something from you that you hold very dear to your heart. She will plant a spy among the invited guests and pose a series of challenges to conquer in order to receive clues about the spy’s identity. The one who guesses the spy will leave the castle as the heir or heiress of the Crimson estate! The game includes three rounds with challenges to test intellectual strength, teamwork and physical agility.

To register and receive your character, visit the calendar at butterfieldlibrary.org and click on the event name. Call 845-265-3040 for more information.



Think and Drink Fundraiser Set for Jan. 23

Will benefit environmental education at Garrison School

The Garrison School’s Environmental Education Committee invites members of the community to attend the third annual Think and Drink on Saturday, Jan. 23, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at 14 Cutler Lane in Garrison. The event raises funds for School Forest Day to be held on May 9,

*(Chickadee)

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as well as other environmental education initiatives. This year, David Gordon will speak on community-building and environmental stewardship.

Gordon's family pioneered educational and conservation initiatives in our area more than a century ago. His grandfather founded the Malcolm Gordon School in Garrison in 1927. An active environmental steward, Gordon has served on the Board of the Constitution Island Association and the original Garrison School Forest Committee. He has volunteered at School Forest Day since its inception. After the Malcolm Gordon School closed in 1990, David worked with the Open Space Institute to preserve the Malcolm Gordon School property. This work led to OSI's 1995 gift of Philipstown Park to the community.

Enjoy a variety of Trisha Mulligan's fresh botanically infused spirits blended in partnership with handcrafted syrups & bitters from More Good in Beacon. Drinks will be accompanied by tasty seasonal nibbles, created by food writer Celia Barbour and the rest of the team.

Tickets are \$35 in advance or \$40 at the door. Family tickets are \$75 in advance or \$80 at the door. Make checks payable to GUFSS EE Fund and mail to C. Foertsch, 14 Cutler Lane, Garrison, NY 10524. For more information, email Mulligan at terrafioratrish@gmail.com.

Synagogue to Celebrate Festival of Trees

Cold Spring service set for Jan. 23

Philipstown Reform Synagogue will celebrate Tu B'shevat, or the New Year of the Trees, on Saturday, Jan. 23 at 4 p.m. at St. Mary's Parish Hall in Cold Spring. The holiday has been observed by Jews with a seder meal of fruits since the 16th century. Ancient Jewish law emphasizes concern for the protection of fruit trees and specifically forbade the destruction of fruit trees during war.

The ancient agricultural holiday has at its core a belief that it is our obligation to care for the environment and our sacred responsibility to share the fruits of God's earth with all. In modern times, the holiday has taken on added meaning as Jewish people around the world express their joy and thankfulness for trees, harvests and the natural world and recognize our responsibility for caring for the earth.

The seder for the New Year of the Trees will be led by Rabbi Helaine Ettinger. For more informatno, call 845-265-8011 or email philipstownreformsynagogue@gmail.com.

Clearwater to Host Seeger Tribute

Benefit will raise funds for sloop restoration

Hudson River Sloop Clearwater will host a concert to raise funds for the restoration of the iconic ship at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 24 at the Rosendale Recre-



Guy Davis

ation Center. The master of ceremonies will be Jimmy Buff, morning host at Radio Woodstock 100.1 WDST. Performers include blues guitarist Guy Davis, Decora, Betty & the Baby Boomers, Dan Einbender, Dave Bernz, Fiona and Lori Gross, Kelleigh McKenzie and Gilles Malkine and Mikhail Horowitz. The event will also feature a potluck (including the sharing of "stone soup") and a silent auction.

Tickets, which are \$30 or \$50 for adults, \$20 for children 12 and under and \$100, \$250 or \$500 for reserved seating and parking and a reception with the artists, can be purchased at clearwater.org/pettribute. The center is located at 1055 Route 32 in Rosendale, near Kingston. For more information, call 845-265-8080, ext. 7113. The snow date is Feb. 7.

Hospital to Offer Student Cooking Class

Designed for ages 11 to 13

The New York - Presbyterian/Hudson Valley Hospital is expanding its Young Chefs of Hudson Valley, which allows students ages 11 to 13 to learn about nutrition through cooking classes led by a professional chef. Classes will meet from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. beginning Thursday, Jan. 21, at the Chef Peter X. Kelly Teaching Kitchen, 1992 Crompond Road, in Cortlandt Manor. The cost is \$120, which includes all ingredients and equipment. For information, call 914-734-3780 or email mbulger@hvhc.org.

Digital Magazines Ready for Checkout

Zinio service available free through libraries

The Butterfield, Desmond-Fish and Howland libraries now offer patrons access to Zinio, the online newsstand, which provides 94 digital magazines that can be read on computers or mobile devices. To access, visit butterfieldlibrary.org,

Share Your News With Our Readers

Share news and announcements with the readers of *Philipstown.info* and *The Paper*. To submit your upcoming events and announcements for consideration in our Community Briefs section (in print and online) submit a text-only press release (250 words or less) along with a separately attached high-resolution photograph to arts@philipstown.info.

desmondfishlibrary.org or beaconlibrary.org and click on the Zinio logo.

Anyone with a library card can check out digital issues with no due dates. They also can be downloaded for offline reading, and back issues are available for the previous 12 months. Popular titles include *The Atlantic*, *Better Homes & Gardens*, *Discover*, *Dwell*, *The Economist*, *Elle*, *ESPN*, *Esquire*, *Family Circle*, *Field & Stream*, *Forbes*, *House Beautiful*, *iPhone Life*, *Martha Stewart Living*, *Mental Floss*, *National Geographic*, *New York*, *The New York Review of Books*, *Newsweek*, *the New Yorker*, *OK!*, *Popular Science*, *Reader's Digest*, *Saveur*, *Star*, *Vanity Fair*, *The Week* and *Working Mom*.

Beacon

Sloop Club to Screen *More than Honey*

Film examines Colony Collapse Disorder

The Beacon Sloop Club winter lecture series begins at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 21, with a free screening of the 2012 Swiss documentary, *More Than Honey*, followed by a panel discussion.

The film investigates the global phenomenon of Colony Collapse Disorder, in which bees leave their hives and don't return, and features exquisite macro-photography of bees in flight and in their hives. The follow-up discussion will be led



A scene from *More Than Honey*

by beekeeper Ralph Szur, who has been raising honeybees in the Hudson Valley for more than 20 years.

For more information, visit beacon-sloopclub.org or call 845-463-4660. The club is located at 2 Flynn Dr., adjacent to the harbor, across from the train station.

Howland to Launch Games Club for Teens

Includes Magic, Dungeons & Dragons, others

The Howland Library in Beacon will launch a Cards/Dungeons & Dragons Game Club for middle and high school students from 3 to 5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 22. After its first gathering, the club will meet at the same time every first and third Friday through May.

Participants may bring cards for any game, including Magic: The Gathering, Yugioh, Vanguard and Shadowrun, or join a game of Dungeons & Dragons, which the library will provide. Beginners are welcome and a snack will be provided. The library is located at 313 Main St. For more information, email youth@beaconlibrary.org or 845-831-1134, ext. 103.



A Dungeons & Dragons card

(Continued on next page)

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Beacon Bookstore Throwing a Party

Binnacle hosts short films and music on Jan. 16

Binnacle Books in Beacon will host a film and music party starting at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 16. Brent Green will share his short films, which have been screened at venues such as the Museum of Modern Art, the J. Paul Getty Museum and the Sundance Film Festi-



Lonesome Leash Photo by Alleyn Evans

val (as well as on rooftops and in warehouses), with live music and narration. The songwriter and instrumentalist Lonesome Leash (Walt McClements) also will perform.

Tickets are \$10 and available at the door or in advance at binnaclebooks.com/events. Binnacle Books is located at 321 Main St.



The Big Draw Calls for Art Deadline is Jan. 31 for submissions

Organizers of *The Big Draw*, a juried two-day show and sale in Beacon scheduled for February 26 to 28, have put out a call for art for the show. The submission deadline is Saturday, Jan. 31.



The acclaimed 2015 documentary about the late singer Amy Winehouse, *Amy*, will be screened at Beacon Music Factory, 629 Route 52, at 6 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 24.

Artists may submit up to three works; they can measure up to 11-by-14 inches, and any media on paper is accepted (photo, collage, painting, mixed media, drawing, etc.). Every work in the show will sell for \$70.

Artists must be 18 years of age or older. For more submission guidelines, visit [big-](http://bigdrawbeacon.weebly.com)

drawbeacon.weebly.com. There is no fee to enter.

Support Groups

For a full list of area support groups, visit: philipstown.info/sg



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Indoor market is open from 9:30am - 1:30pm

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Butterfield Construction



Last month, workers began erecting the frame of the first building being constructed as part of the Butterfield project in Cold Spring *Photo by Michael Turton*

HUDSON HIGHLANDS
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Saturday, January 30, 5:00-7:00pm

Join us for the inaugural **Salon Series**, an evening with Ralph Erenzo, co-founder of Hudson Whiskey and Tuthilltown Spirits. Ralph will speak on prohibition, its impact on the Hudson Valley, and the re-birth of small-batch spirits.

The early bird ticket price is \$40 per person and includes Ralph's presentation, a whiskey tasting, cocktails featuring the distillery's line of craft spirits, and light hors d'oeuvres. The price for tickets purchased January 26 and later is \$45.

Tickets may be purchased at www.putnamhistorymuseum.org or by mailing a check to Putnam History Museum, 63 Chestnut Street, Cold Spring, NY, 10516.

Tickets will also be available at the door. For more information, please call 845-265-4010.



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A vintage village home with rocking chair porch near the commuter train, Hudson park and the Hudson.

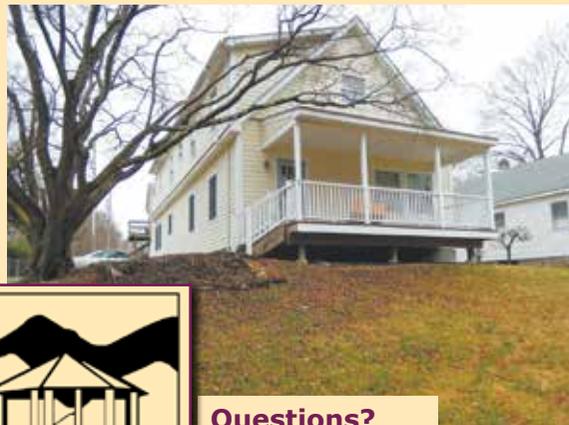
This 2-bedroom home has upgraded electric

and lighting, a new eat-in-kitchen with tile floor and new stainless steel appliances. The rear deck overlooks the fenced yard and garden.



COLD SPRING \$525,000.

A rebuilt village colonial with 4 bedrooms and 3 baths on a nice lot. New appliances, granite countertops, tiled bath floors, walk-in closets, CAC and also an income producing apartment over the garage.



**Questions?
Contact Pat:
845.222.5820**

GARRISON \$299,000.

COLD SPRING \$548,000.

Village multi-unit home just off Main Street and a 2-block walk to commuter rail. The building has a 3-bedroom duplex apartment, a studio and 2 office rentals. There is plenty of off-street parking to accommodate the tenants.



plus a separate heated artist studio, and sited on 2 acres, is priced to go. Newish eat-in-kitchen, tiled master bath, tile and hardwood floors make for an easy move-in.

Sports



Far left: Ruby McEwen set a Haldane record in the 1500 meters with a time of 5:10.10 during the Freedom Games meet held at Ocean Breeze on Staten Island on Jan. 9. At left, Theo Henderson set a Haldane record in the 1600 meters with a time of 4:27.79 at the games. (Photos by Michael Haines) Below, the Haldane junior varsity basketball team during the Coaches vs. Cancer Tournament at Haldane on Jan. 9. (Photo by Peter Farrell)



Above, left: Kyle Sussmier shoots as teammate Will Zuvic prepares to rebound. The Blue Devils (8-6) defeated Dover 59-40 at home on Jan. 9. Blaine Fitzgerald led Haldane scorers with 21 points. Above, Taylor Farrell defends against John Jay during the opening game of the Coaches vs. Cancer Tournament to benefit the American Cancer Society at Haldane on Jan. 9. The junior varsity fell, 46-30. At left, David Rotando looks for help after driving the lane during the Blue Devils' game against John Jay on Jan. 9. (Photos by Peter Farrell)