



The Philipstown.info Paper

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State Reps on School Funding

Galef and Gipson attend School Board meeting

By Michael Turton

Funding for public education, or the shortage of it, was on everyone's mind at the Tuesday, Jan. 15, meeting of the Haldane School Board, as veteran New York State Assemblywoman Sandy Galef (D) and newly elected state Sen. Terry Gipson (D) were on hand to hear people's concerns and offer their views. The boardroom in the Mabel Merritt building was filled to capacity.

Superintendent of Schools Mark Villanti began the meeting by reviewing his oft-repeated summary of the tough financial position the Haldane Central School District finds itself in as it prepares its 2013-14 budget, emphasizing reductions in state aid during the past four years. He underlined that as the state grappled with its own fiscal crisis, Haldane's aid was reduced by a total of \$1,659,563 while, at the same time, foundation funding from the state increased by only \$9,066. "We're not crying wolf. This is real," Villanti said.

Cuts to programs

A series of other speakers including PTA representatives, parents and students all voiced essentially the same basic message — that Haldane has done a good job of keeping spending in



Leonora Burton of the Country Goose

Photo by J. Tao

Tourism Challenge in a Changing Market for Local Merchants

Parking, Comprehensive Plan improvements could help

By Ron Soodalter

The effort to bring back a bicycling event to Cold Spring, spearheaded by Putnam County Tourism Director Libby Pataki, underscores the many issues involved in the question of tourism's possibilities and problems. *The Paper* asked several people to comment on tourism from a variety of perspectives. Centered on Cold Spring, where most of the town's tourism activity takes place, this is the first part of the report.

Changing market

Endowed with a large share of natural beauty, Cold Spring offers a wide range of options and activities for visitors. People come for the arts and culture, the history and the outdoor activities. The most immediate attractions are the shops and galleries on Main

Street. Eventually, he explained, the collections passed to their children, who have shown little or no desire to maintain or grow them. And for those who choose to furnish their homes with period furniture, the ready availability of well-made, reasonably priced reproductions has wreaked havoc on the sale of fine antique pieces.

The advent of eBay in the late '90s, combined with the monumental role computers now play in our daily lives, has all but eliminated the need to leave the house to shop for antiques. As a result, the stores and antique fairs have taken a major hit. For years, Cooke was the moving force behind the Cold Spring Antiques Show, a highly touted outdoor event that drew dealers, pickers and collectors alike. Increasingly, the ranks of both buyers and sellers thinned, to the point where the show is no longer viable.

Leonora Burton came to Cold Spring from her native Wales 28 years ago and has owned and operated the Country Goose ever since. She agreed with Cooke's analysis, adding, "People today don't seem interested in anything that isn't readily disposable." She wistfully recalled the Cold Spring Galleries, which conducted twice-monthly Monday auctions at the foot of Main Street. "Previews were on Sunday, and they would draw people by the hundreds. Main Street filled up, and I could pay my (Continued on page 3)

Residents of Dirt Roads Express Opposing Views on Paving

Both sides invoke safety in their arguments

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Residents of Philipstown's dirt roads jammed Town Hall on Wednesday night (Jan. 16) with impassioned arguments for or against the paving of dirt roads, with both camps grounding their arguments in concerns about safety.

Drawing at least 70 participants, the three-hour discussion occurred about two months after Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea announced that he expects the town to pave some trouble-prone dirt-road sections this year to address maintenance and environmental problems and save money. Likely targets include the Saunders Hill stretch of Old Albany Post Road and the western end of South Mountain Pass, as well 450 feet at the southern end of Old Albany Post Road, in the works for more than three years. His statement in November galvanized an ad hoc anti-paving group into action but also elicited a favorable response from those who support paving — at least on some parts of some roads.

Shea informed everyone Wednesday that "this is not an end. It's a beginning. The Town Board does not make snap judgments" and wants good input. He observed that the dirt-roads issue has been around for years "and everybody gets very excited" as claims proliferate "that it's a plot to pave every road. It's not."

He said, "One of the drivers of this is cost. That's not the main driver for me. I have grave concerns about the environmental issues." Streams often run alongside dirt roads and "our road material is in those streams. They're being filled in."

Also raising environmental issues, Councilor Nancy Montgomery said, "I love the dirt road, but what I love most is the stream next to the dirt road. And the dirt road isn't there anymore. I see the fish eggs being suffocated by the Item 4," a treatment used on dirt roads.

Shea said the (Continued on page 5)



Gipson spoke with Haldane senior Lindy Labriola during the break. Labriola expressed concern about the future of education programs at Haldane.

Photo by M. Turton

check while fending off substantial cuts through such measures as the use of reserves and trimming costs in nonessential areas — but the time has come now when education programs are at risk of being cut. One after another, they asked the state representatives to help ensure that that does not happen.

Neither Galef nor Gipson offered any magical solutions.

"This is the issue I'm going to focus on," Gipson said. "Cost is the issue here. I'm talking to all senators in Albany, looking for partners and ways to take the (financial) responsibility off the back of property owners." Gipson favors a move to income-tax-based funding for public education, a strategy that he feels would more fairly distribute costs. Education is currently funded through property taxes.

Galef outlined the state's financial woes that led (Continued on page 4)

Street — and foremost among these have been the antiques stores. For years, visitors have been drawn to Cold Spring for the antiques. Since the late 1990s, a billboard stood on Route 9, advertising the village's "25 Antiques Shops." The sign was knocked down during Hurricane Sandy, which was perhaps appropriate, since Cold Spring no longer offers anywhere near that number — the most optimistic estimate is 14 — and many locals have commented that the inventory at the remaining shops doesn't reflect the quality of past years.

Dave Cooke, proprietor of the Cold Spring Antiques Center and co-founder of the Cold Spring Merchants Association, points to three determining factors for the decline. "Eighteen years ago," said Cooke, "antiques were hot and heavy. People were building collections — Coca Cola signs, art glass, whatever. Everybody loved an-



Town Board dirt-road workshop

Photo by Mike Turton

Mouths to Feed

Egging Myself On

By Celia Barbour

Sometimes I cannot cook. For days on end, everything I make comes out wrong: The lentils are mushy, the braised cabbage too sweet, even the simple green salad is oversalted. For the past week, I’ve introduced every meal with an apology.

Meanwhile, my family is supposed to be on a post-holiday frugality regimen, in which we nullify December extravagances, financial and otherwise, by engaging in January asceticisms — PB&Js and walks in the woods to cancel out pork loin and ski trips, for example. So I can’t just throw my cooking disasters in the compost and order a pizza, because that would be wasteful. Instead, I grit my teeth and carry on: overcooked pasta, burnt grits. And the more I mess up, the more I stress out. And the more I stress out, the worse I cook.

Yesterday, through the fog of failure came a familiar voice from long ago. “Let



Spinach and eggs



Photos by C. Barbour

go of the wheel,” it said.

The wheel in question was the steering wheel of a vintage Karmann Ghia convertible, a car already older than me on the spring morning that I opened the passenger door and climbed in. This car belonged to — nay, was adored and obsessed over by — my friend Margo’s big brother Rob, a guy we’d known previously only as an aloof figure who wanted nothing to do with us kids. But now it was May, the school year almost over, and we had just stayed up all night, *all night*, in his carriage house. As the sky lightened, someone suggested we go to the Jersey shore, and, miraculously, Rob not only agreed to come along, he offered to drive ... me.

At 17, I wanted nothing more than to have a life, so I said yes instead of piling into Margo’s sedan like ev-

eryone else. Halfway there, Rob pulled over onto the shoulder of the highway, announced that he was tired and asked me to drive.

I take a deep breath even now as I write this, because here’s the thing about that car: Rob had cranked the steering mechanism so absurdly tight that a touch, the merest vibration from my hand, would send it veering off towards the median, and my attempts to correct it would only make things worse, rocketing the car towards the woods. I swerved down the (mercifully empty) highway in a keen panic, Rob having immediately dozed off in the passenger seat. But whenever the oscillations would get truly out of hand, he would say, without opening his eyes, “Let go of the wheel.” It was the hardest thing in the world to do, utterly counter-intuitive, but the moment I did, the car righted itself. By the time we arrived at the beach, I could actually drive the high-strung beast.

And that, friends, is the story of the

actual wheel, which I recall vividly no doubt because adrenaline etched it onto my brain. These days, I’m happy to possess this memory because it reminds me how to handle life’s metaphorical wheels, which I have a habit of gripping too tightly whenever things go off course. I apply myself to some task, it goes wrong, so I try harder, and when that makes things worse, I try *even harder*, and so forth. It takes a while for me to remember to let go and allow things to right themselves — which they inevitably do.

I realize this has nothing to do with food, but keep in mind that it might be best for everyone’s sake if I stay away from food at the moment. With the possible exception of eggs, because the kids are getting hungry, and frying up some eggs for supper is almost like doing nothing at all, only better for you. Especially since there is a bag of spinach in the fridge, and a nice rind of parmesan to grate over top, and toast to pile it on top of. It is a combination that tastes surprisingly, deliciously perfect, the way that things do when you finally let go.



Photo by C. Barbour

Spinach and eggs

At suppertime, I often leave the garlic in the oil, but for breakfast, it’s nice to take it out after it has warmed just a few minutes so that the flavor isn’t overwhelming.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 2-3 tablespoons olive oil | salt and pepper |
| 2-3 cloves garlic, peeled and gently crushed | 4-6 eggs |
| 1 pound spinach, washed and stemmed | ½ ounce parmesan |
| | buttered toast, for serving |

In a skillet over low heat, warm the olive oil and crushed garlic cloves for several minutes, until the garlic smells fragrant and begins to turn translucent. Shake most of the water from the spinach and add it to the skillet along with a sprinkle of salt and a few grindings of pepper. Toss the spinach with the oil, turn the heat to medium, and sauté until most of the water is evaporated.

Lower the heat, push the spinach to the sides, add more oil if the pan seems dry, and break the eggs into it. Cook until the whites are set and the yolks still a bit runny. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, flip the eggs over and break the yolks if desired, then cook for about one minute more. Grate parmesan over everything and serve immediately, on pieces of buttered toast.



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Main Street Views on Cold Spring Tourism *(from page 1)*

bills for a month just from the business I did on preview day.” When the auction gallery moved to Beacon in 1992, the revenue went with it.

The antiques shops are not alone in seeing a challenge to their business. “In the beginning,” Burton recalled, “we mainly sold kitchenware and specialized in gift baskets. Then Wal-Mart opened up, undercutting my prices; ever since, my business has focused mainly on the gift baskets. We’re holding our own, but our customers now are mainly over 40. People still come to shop, but not like before. Younger people will come in, see something they like, take a picture of it with their iPhone and order it online for less money. Recently, I threw a man out of my store for trying to photograph a postcard of Bannerman’s Island, rather than pay the 65 cents!”

Burton said that a number of high-end suppliers, such as Crabtree & Evelyn, are no longer filling local orders, preferring to sell their products directly in such mega-shopping centers as Woodbury Common. In order to cope with current trends, a number of business owners, including Cooke and Burton, have gone online to enhance their trade. “We use the social media,” said Burton, “including Facebook, to get people interested.”

Some change is evident. Barbara Galazzo, local resident, artist and recent founder of Main Street’s Gallery 66 NY, commented, “This gallery used to be a beautiful little bookstore, until Barnes and Noble and Borders opened up. The bookstore simply couldn’t compete.” Looking ahead, she said, “It’s known that Beacon has a lot of art galleries. Now, with more than one in the village, as well as exhibitions at Boscobel and Garrison, Cold Spring can become a destination for art collectors as well.”

Cold Spring Mayor Seth Gallagher sees art galleries as “a new thing, important to the village. They appeal to both weekend and evening traffic, and are good for locals and visitors alike.” Michael Armstrong, chairman of the Special Board for a Comprehensive Plan, agreed: “The artist community is growing as more galleries open their doors.”

As Teri Barr, long-time owner of Hudson Valley Outfitters, sees it, “We’re getting as many people as always, but the amount of money they have to spend has changed dramatically.” Barr established her business on the sale of outdoor clothing and equipment to hikers and kayakers, the promotion of guided river tours, and the sale of kayaks. According to Barr, sales have declined since 2008, which ironically was when kayaking went mainstream. “The market became flooded with kayaks, many of lesser quality — and lower prices — than those we offered.” Barr stopped selling kayaks and now focuses

on retail clothing sales, boat rentals and river tours. “Rentals and tours continue strong, and we have a solid market of shoe sales to the local kids. We give personalized service, which is something the Internet can’t do. Still,” she said, “there’s less money in our pockets.”

Making things better

There is no lack of suggestions by the Main Street merchants when it comes to improving the appearance and services of Cold Spring, to make it more attractive to visitors. Many feel the village is looking rundown and could use a facelift. “The village could bury its phone and electric lines and address the issue of signage,” said Barr. “People already think this is a charming spot; sprucing it up can only make it better.”

Armstrong considers the current signage “God-awful” and inadequate, and encourages their revision for the sake of both appearance and function. Cold Spring’s Comprehensive Plan lists a number of areas in need of improvement, including consistent signage, better lighting and more “user-friendly” sidewalks and crosswalks.

According to Mayor Gallagher, a number of the issues listed in the 103-page plan are currently being addressed. “Between 20 and 25 percent of the suggestions made in the Comprehensive Plan are either implemented already or in the process. We have a big project going on for Main Street,” he added, “including handicap access and sidewalk repairs. It’s a million-dollar project and should take a few years to complete.” The project is being funded on the federal level, and the plan needs to be approved and monitored by the federal Department of Transportation. “We must remember,” said Gallagher, “that we have a 19th-century Main Street, working hard to accommodate the 21st century. And while I welcome and support visitors coming here, my job as mayor is to represent the people who live here. I don’t want Cold Spring to turn into another New Hope (referring to a heavily tourist-oriented Pennsylvania town). It’s a tricky balance.”

Parking

One issue that strikes an almost universally sour note among merchants, residents and visitors alike is the parking situation. “If the merchants park on Main Street, there’s no room for visitors’ cars. And forget tour buses; buses come here from Stonecrop and Boscobel, and there are simply no provisions for them. One bus driver recently got a parking ticket for putting his bus in the only space he could find,” said Burton.

Regina Bei, co-owner of the 180-year-old Hudson House, concurred. “Everybody agrees it’s a problem. It’s awful for people



Dave Cook of Cold Spring Antiques Center

Photo by J. Tao

to make the trip here only to get a ticket.”

“It’s unfortunate,” added Barr, “when the first person a visitor sees is the guy who swipes his tires with white chalk.”

Professional photographer Cali Gorovic observed, “Parking has become very challenging in the 12 years since I moved to Cold Spring. It used to be just tourist weekends that were so frustrating, but now it is a constant fact of life here. Is anyone addressing this problem?”

According to Pataki, the issue is, in fact, being addressed. “A task force is being put together as we speak to look into bus routes as an alternative to car traffic, to increase service to various points of interest in Philipstown. A park-and-ride service would greatly alleviate many of the parking issues in Cold Spring.”

A few years ago, Armstrong conducted an extensive study of the parking situation in the village and reports that he counted 2,500 spaces — enough, he feels, to accommodate the village’s parking requirements. He is a strong proponent of metered parking, both as a means of “maintaining order” and as a source of

revenue. “There are plenty of available spaces,” he stated. “They are just not being managed properly. The Metro-North lot has around 227 spaces; it represents a great, untapped resource. Although the lot fills up on weekdays, it offers lots of opportunity for parking on the weekends. Also,” Armstrong added, “a second lot east of the tracks would benefit both Metro-North and the village, by adding another 100 spaces.” He pointed out that some parking is available near the playing field on Fair Street. Many visitors, however, feel this is beyond reasonable walking distance to Main Street. And there are no signs in the village to indicate that parking is available either on Fair Street or in the train lot.

Mayor Gallagher acknowledged that “there are not a lot of options regarding parking,” but he believes that space can usually be found somewhere in the village. He is, however, less sanguine on the subject of metered parking. “I’m willing to be convinced, but I personally would find it inconvenient.”

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Photo by L.S. Armstrong

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LETTERS

On Dunkin' Donuts menu board

Dear Editor:

So it appears that the sad saga of Dunkin' Donuts has closed with a final insult by the HDRB in approving a large, backlit menu board. After going to such trouble to fix up the rear of Foodtown, they have caved to Fast Food, Incorporated, condoning a garish pink altar that will shine out over Marion Avenue for all to see.

Mr. Downey, according to reports, commented on the decision that those who move near a commercial strip must pay the price, being "fully aware they bought property behind Foodtown." For heaven's sake! If that isn't the least friendly thing anyone could say in this awful situation.

These are families we are talking about, members of your community! Yes, they could have moved to Fishkill but they wanted to be in Cold Spring. They actually thought that once they moved here they would be a part of our community. Do we take care of our own, our neighbors? Obviously not. Instead we condemn them forever for their choice.

The original site plan for Marion Avenue had smaller ranches set so they were not facing the commercial area. But our boards back in 2001 saw fit to refuse the plan, insisting on the current architectural designs because they were more historically appropriate. They also required that the houses face out with big porches, implying that the homeowners

could enjoy the amenity.

We created this mess. So why is it, when these neighbors of ours ask for help, you thumb your nose at them? And the planning board isn't any less guilty. You allowed nighttime deliveries — as many as 20 a week. Do you want to listen to trucks at night along with the crickets?

At one of the public hearings it was said that it's the people who make Cold Spring what it is. One would hope it's not just some people, but all the people. Next time, it could be you with the problem. Let's all try to remember to love our neighbors as ourselves when the next issue arises.

Judith Rose
Cold Spring

State Reps on School Funding (from page 1)

to the cuts Haldane and other school districts are experiencing — including state deficits of as much as \$10 billion in recent years. When she indicated that aid to "high needs" areas in the state was cut by 6 to 8 percent while other areas were cut by 11 percent, Villanti commented, "We were cut 20 percent by the Gap (Elimination Adjustment)." Galef responded, "No one is selecting you (Haldane) to be cut; it is formula-based."

Possible savings

Galef pointed to some areas where school districts can save money. "Pension reform is significant. And new hires, over time, will save funds," she said, referring to the increases in employee contributions (and decreases in district contributions) to pension funds. Galef also said there are funds available to districts that "lean toward shared services and consolidation," and singled out Sullivan County as an area where school districts have used BOCES services as a way to cut costs. She also suggested that school districts lobby Putnam County in order to receive a share of funds from a recent increase in the county sales tax.

Consolidation has often been mentioned locally by those who believe money could be saved if Haldane and Garrison School Districts merged. "It's a tough issue," Galef admitted, "and it (consolidation) has to come from the school boards." She also recognized what has long been a financial thorn in the side of school districts across the state — unfunded mandates — and was critical of a report from the New York State Commission on Education. "I thought the Commission would have addressed mandate relief. Instead they dealt with such things as longer school hours, pre-kindergarten," she said.

Galef said that there is a movement to eliminate the unfunded mandate that districts must conduct internal audits — a task that costs Haldane approximately \$10,000. Trustee Evan Schwartz pointed out that while some mandates are relatively small in cost, they add up over time and remain in place even as state funding is reduced. "Expenses slowly creep up," he said. "(A mandate) is sometimes seen as a good idea

— we shouldn't mark our own exams — but that becomes an extra expense of \$10,000 to \$15,000."

"I share your disappointment that the commission failed to address the fiscal issues," Trustee Peter Henderson said. "The tax cap has provided tax relief, but you haven't provided the tools for us to control costs and to stay within the cap." He referred to the current fiscal situation as "unsustainable."

Hurricane Sandy

Gov. Andrew Cuomo's proposed state budget is expected next week, and Galef expressed no optimism about a possible increase in aid to school districts. Even the weather seems to have worked against any hope of that. "Hurricane Sandy relief was not expected," she said, referring to the considerable funds that the state will have to set aside to assist those affected by the mammoth storm that hit the shores of New York and New Jersey in October. She did, however, refer to possible new tax credits which, if initiated, would benefit those who contribute to the Haldane School Foundation, which supports local education programs.

Asked by *The Paper* if New York state has looked to any of the other 49 states for ideas on improving funding of public education, Galef said that New York now spends the most per child on education of all the states. She said that school districts in Virginia spend less per student than in New York but have produced better test results, and that Massachusetts, which also had a tax cap on education spending, still produced improved test results in math and science.

Gipson said that his staff is currently looking at other states for possible new approaches. "Think about the things our government has invested in

New York State Assemblywoman Sandy Galef suggested regional negotiations, shared services and greater use of BOCES services as ways to reduce costs. Photo by M. Turton

— nothing has paid off more than education. It produces wealth," he said, "but we've forgotten how to do it."

The need for change

Towards the end of the meeting, Galef again emphasized the need for a more collective approach. "We have to look at ourselves," she said. "We (need to consider) regional negotiations — that's what they do in other states. There are economies of scale" to be realized in areas such as administration, she said. "I really think BOCES may be a key," once again referring to Sullivan County as a potential model. She also suggested that a "hybrid" form of funding that includes both property taxes and income taxes may be worth investigating.

Evelyn Carr-White, a vice president with the Haldane PTA, expressed concerns that may go to the heart of what many local residents fear. "I am so worried about the education of our kids, that (cuts) will mean 28 kids in a classroom, that sports and the arts (will be cut). What is the likelihood of sweeping change?" she asked.

"I think it will take something really big to make a difference," Gipson said, adding that in his view, switching to income-tax-based funding for education "would generate an enormous amount of money" and is more fair to property owners. "A radically different path is where I'm interested in going. I'm more interested in looking at the big things rather than (trimming) around the edges."

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ThePaper

Scuccimarra: Will Work With Village Board on Butterfield Project

Encourages letters to county legislators on desire for services and senior center

By Jeanne Tao

Just two weeks into her term as District 1's new county legislator, Barbara Scuccimarra (R) visited a meeting of the Cold Spring Village Board of Trustees on Tuesday night (Jan. 15), vowing to speak to her fellow legislators about establishing county services, including a senior center, at the proposed Butterfield development.

Asked by Trustee Ralph Falloon about the Putnam County Legislature's thinking on housing county services in Cold Spring, the newly elected Scuccimarra said: "It hasn't been brought up as of yet, but what I've been doing is working the room." She said that on the next day, Jan. 16, she was bringing County Legislators Roger Gross and Dini LoBue, "just to let them see what we're doing. They haven't seen the project. They weren't sure of what everything entailed and what we're dealing with. I said the best way to do it is to come up." Developer Paul Guillaro would be there to speak with them. "They want to look at the plans," she said.

Guillaro of Butterfield Realty LLC, the property's owner, has presented plans to create a complex with three single-family homes, multi-government mu-



Cold Spring Village Clerk Mary Saari, left, takes notes as Putnam County Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra speaks to the Village Board during her visit to their meeting Jan. 15.

Photo by J. Tao

nicipal building and senior/community center, post office, condominiums for retirement-age buyers, and a commercial "square" along Route 9D. The current B4 zoning must be changed for the project to proceed, because the current law does not permit a post office or any governmental offices above the village level.

Scuccimarra also said that in a recent meeting, newly elected state Sen. Terry Gipson (D) mentioned that he was looking for a place to establish a satellite office. Scuccimarra said she told him, "Well I have the place for you," meaning the

proposed Butterfield development. "We can bring him into the fold."

Trustee Matt Francisco asked what they could do to help the process, explaining that the project approvals hinge somewhat upon a commitment or expression of interest in providing county services in Cold Spring. Scuccimarra replied, "With Seth meeting with them, that's a plus." She did stress, however, "They're not going to do it unless they know that there's a place to do it, so once the approvals start coming through, we're on the right road, I think. The county's not

going to say, 'OK, let's put it in this year's budget,' if there's not even a building yet."

Mayor Seth Gallagher emphasized that the Village Board could help the project along by showing support of and a desire for the project and by allowing the proposed zoning change. "They [the county] are not going to do it unless people say they want it," he said. "Our role is just allowing it to happen, rezoning it," Gallagher added later.

Gallagher's and Scuccimarra's insistence on overall project approval as the key to eventually obtaining county services underscored a fault line between their and Francisco and Falloon's thinking that more certainty on the municipal services is key to approving the zoning change and ultimately the project.

Francisco pointed out that the developer, Guillaro, has used the prospect of municipal services as a lynchpin of the project from the outset. Francisco expressed concern that the zoning approval without commitments on municipal services could result in additional commercial and retail operations if the services don't come through after the buildings are built.

But Gallagher insisted that "the most effective thing is to show a unified community wanting it, not presenting problems and reasons it won't or cannot happen."

Francisco countered that raising issues shouldn't be seen as wrong. He said further that *(Continued on page 6)*

Residents of Dirt Roads Express Opposing Views on Paving *(from page 1)*

Town Board wants to gather data and pursue "best practices. In some cases, paving is the best practice." However, he emphasized, "We are not wholesale proponents of paving all the dirt roads in Philipstown."

Well over an hour of the session was taken up by presentations by the coalition of paving opponents. A movie showing residents happily walking on dirt roads was followed by a lengthy PowerPoint presentation by Paul Crabtree, a Colorado engineering expert brought in by the dirt-road supporters, and by talks by others, all of whom suggested the town focus on alternatives to paving, including better maintenance of the dirt roads. "These roads are hundreds of years old and we should be looking 100 hundred years out, or 200 years out," Crabtree said. His many suggestions included ways to build or rebuild better roads and deal with runoff, such as holding ponds, rain gardens and trenching on both sides of a road, avoiding the old formula of "pave, pipe and dump ... dump into the stream."

Town Board members expressed skepticism about some of what they heard.

Councilor Dave Merandy questioned Minnesota data Crabtree used. Minnesota has a flatter terrain and "I think you're taking a pretty big jump" to compare it to Philipstown, he said.

Councilor John Van Tassel wondered "how would two cars pass" or a large vehicle like a fire truck maneuver on a narrow dirt road with a trench on both sides. He recalled the post-hurricane isolation of some homes. "There were a number in this town that were completely inaccessible," he said. Furthermore, the town had explored some of the techniques Crabtree recommended "and were told it wouldn't work with dirt roads," he noted.

Speeding danger

Montgomery criticized the belief that dirt roads are typically quiet and non-hazardous. "I just have a real issue with this perception that cars are going slower" on dirt roads, she said. "It's a huge problem."

"You'd be astounded at the speeds on some of these roads," including Old Albany Post Road, Shea added. "They're not going slower."

Indeed, the dangers of speeding were invoked, by both sides.

Gordon Stewart, who lives on Chapman Road near a piece of Old Albany Post Road proposed for paving, cited "two irrefutable behavioral factors with human beings and their automobiles. One, the more easy and convenient you make it to use a roadway, the more of them will use it. Two, the faster it is possible to drive a motor vehicle, the faster people will drive it. Already we have people going 50 miles an hour" on Old Albany Post Road. He honed in on statistics from Crabtree's talk that gave the level of pedestrian fatalities in pedestrian-car accidents as 15 percent on gravel roads, 45 percent on paved roads, and 85 percent on wide paved roads. "I think that life and death is a factor that needs to be weighed" in the decision-making, said Stewart, publisher of *Philipstown.info/The Paper*. "That's not something that can be avoided."

Montgomery reiterated, "We have a se-

rious problem with speeding on our dirt roads."

Stewart replied, "If we have a problem now, why would we not be increasing it by paving?"


Merandy, who said he had not made up his mind on paving, urged compilation of data on accidents on dirt roads versus paved roads. "I don't think we should say that if we pave, we're going to have dead people all over the road." At the same time, "it's a concern, it's a valid point," and thus the town needs the facts, he said.

Maria Kelley, who drove a school bus in Garrison for five years, said that "in some situations, there's no other option," but paving. On some dirt road stretches, "it's not safe the way it is, and we can't leave it that way," she said. "So are we going to wait for some tragedy to happen? Or are we going to do something about it?"

Scott Higbee, a father of four young children on Old Albany Post Road, described his family as converts to the view that "paving is a must-do. The smart thing to do is pave part of this road." Along with basic safety, he, too, mentioned issues of environmental pro-

tection and costs. "A paved road makes more sense economically. Let's do what's best for the town. Let's not be selfish" and force Philipstown citizens who do not live on Garrison dirt roads to pay the high road costs for dirt-road backers. "This is for the collective good of the town and not just the vocal minority."

Joe Giachinta extended thanks to the town for paving part of Lane Gate Road. "For 30 years I watched that road wash down to Route 9. It went down to the stream, down *(Continued on page 6)*



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Bringing Home The Dream

The Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison, New York will present its 17th annual Martin Luther King Day observances, "Bringing the Dream Home: Civil Rights and the Hudson Valley"


Sun, Jan 20 at 6:30pm

Potluck Dinner and Talk by Stewart Burns, Author of "To The Mountaintop"

Mon, Jan 21 at 2:00pm

Musical Performance by the Ebony Hillbillies

Sponsored by The Friends of the Library, Philipstown.info, The Paper, & the EASTER Foundation - Anne & Fred Osborn III



Story of Medea Retold as Comedy at World’s End Theater Reading

Free reading this Saturday at 69 Main of Charles Ludlam’s twist on the classic Greek tragedy

The ancient Greek masks of comedy and drama overlap and intertwine courtesy of the happily demented mind of playwright Charles Ludlam, who headed the Ridiculous Theater, a fixture in Greenwich Village at the Sheridan Square Theater during the 1970s and ’80s. Ludlam adapted the ancient Greek tragedy, written by Euripides in 431 B.C., tapping easily into its eternal theme of revenge and justice in an unjust society to tell the tale through the scrim of a parody on melodrama, but never losing sight of the power of the original.

Weaving his trademark “wit, parody, poignant melodrama, satire, detailed literary references, gender politics, clever manipulation of language and image ... and a plethora of acting styles” (David Kaufman, *The Life and Times of Charles Ludlam*) into one of the canons of Western theater, the plot closely follows the original as Medea, a barbarian woman brought to Athens by her husband, the great warrior Jason, finds her position in his world threatened by his liaison with a princess who gives him access to greater political powers.

Described as a “possessor of a personal yet influential vision of modern American stage comedy as a synthesis of wit, parody, vaudeville farce, melodrama and satire,” Ludlam had “pursued this vision as a superb actor, inventive director, delightful designer and — most significantly, prodigious playwright, with

a year-round company dedicated exclusively to producing his works” (Steven Samuels, “Charles Ludlam, A Brief Life”). In 1984, the Ridiculous Theatrica; Company had its greatest commercial success with *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, which, incidentally became the most produced play in the United States in 1991 and became the longest-running play ever produced in Brazil. Ludlam’s death from AIDS, at age 44 in 1987, cut short his rising career.

World’s End Theater is presenting this work, one of about 30 plays of Ludlam’s, all of which satirized a particular genre or literary style, as part of its *20th-Century Classics* play-reading series, which takes place monthly at the *Philipstown.info/The Paper* space at 69 Main St. in Cold Spring. The readings are free and with seating on a first-come, first-served basis. Arriving early for the 8 p.m. performance is suggested, as previous readings have had large turnouts.

Director Alison Rooney (*Philipstown.info/The Paper*’s arts editor and reporter) has assembled what she calls a “willing, hammy and very adept” cast headed by Christine Brooks Bokhour as Medea. Bokhour was seen in World’s End’s full production of *The Way of The World* last year and who has appeared on Broadway in *Chicago* and *Cats*. Joining her, playing an assortment of good kings, not-so-good kings, a messenger, tutor and nurse will



Photo (above) courtesy of the artist



Christine Brooks Bokhour plays Medea. Photo by A. Rooney

be Dan Anderson, Michael Heintzman, George Kimmel and Sterling Swann. Haldane High School students Alison Duncan, Mina Elwell, Aidan Gallagher and Emma Kimmel will be commenting constantly on their peers, as teenagers are known to do, as the Greek Chorus.

Residents of Dirt Roads Express Opposing Views

(from page 5)

to the wetlands. I’m not saying pave every single road. But we have to look at these steep grades. Salt running into streams is an environmental issue. Some of the roads need to be paved; not every one of them.”

Concerns about history being obliterated arose, too.

In talking about paving a road like Old Albany, “You’re talking about paving history,” Garrison resident Christine Foertsch said. “I built there because of what this place looks like. Is the only answer paving?”

“I would say if we pave one section of one road, we’re not going to destroy the character of Philipstown ... or destroy our heritage,” Merandy said.

The ramifications of paving for inter-governmental relations likewise came up.

Terry Zaleski, a lawyer, warned of unease among state and federal officials as well as trail-hiking organizations over the paving plans. The New York Department of Environmental Conservation has “a real concern about what has been proposed,” Zaleski said. “The National Park Service has expressed a real concern to me” because of the proximity of the Old Albany Post Road to the Appalachian Trail. Bonding could prove problematic and the state Department of Transpor-

tation would be unhappy if — as critics contend — paving would be a short-term solution only and state money were involved, he said, raising the specter of allegations of “material misrepresentation” as a result. “Town folks need to understand the consequences,” Zaleski said.

Shea objected to “veiled threats” and told Zaleski, “You’re suggesting we could never pave another road. We have had success in paving roads, and they have been durable.” Besides, he said, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has a low tolerance for municipalities seeking repeated aid. “You can’t keep going back to FEMA. They won’t fund you. None of this is taken lightly,” he said of the town decision-making on dirt roads. “We don’t side-step the law.”

One dirt roads aficionado, Old Road Society Vice President Noel Kropf, said the group is “willing to co-fund, with the town,” a review of alternatives to paving, “to try it out.” He noted that a five-year work outline prepared by Highway Superintendent Roger Chirico (who did not attend the workshop) calls “for paving half of Old Albany Post Road. So that’s a concern.” Nonetheless, he also said, “I personally am very open to the idea parts of the road are better-off paved.”

Scuccimarra: Will Work With Village Board on Obtaining County Services for Butterfield Project

(from page 5)

residents have the expectation that some version of a municipal building with municipal services will be part of the project.

“Everyone knows the municipal is not a given,” said Gallagher.

Falloon argued that the public does have great interest in having county services at Butterfield. “You can rest assured, we want this,” he said. “They [the village] would rather see that than, I assume, commercial or retail.”

“For over 10 years, we’ve said the need and the want is here,” he continued. “For them [the county] to ask, ‘Oh, well, do they want us there?’ — that’s crazy.”

Sales-tax revenue?

The Butterfield discussion over, Gallagher quipped, “When do we get the sales tax?” He was referring to the question of sharing the county’s sales-tax revenue,

which many counties in New York do, but which Putnam does not.

Gallagher proposed starting a revenue-sharing program at a very low rate, and that it would not even have to start now but perhaps in a few years. If it were “started at half a percent, or something that was almost zero, then the sales tax revenue is going to grow as the economy grows, as will the mortgage tax.”

“Sounds good, Seth. I don’t know,” Scuccimarra laughed. “What’s killing the county right now is the mandates — 75 percent of their budget. If we get some mandate relief, which they are rallying for in Albany, maybe down the road it’s a possibility. I would love to see it.”

She ended by saying that she would try to attend as many Village Board meetings as possible.

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Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station.)

The Calendar

An American Eye Amidst European Sensibilities

Donna Blais’ photographs of Italy contrast with works produced by overseas artists

By Alison Rooney

Donna Lee Blais has an addiction to which she is quick to admit. She is a serial traveler to Italy — six times in the past seven years, up, down all over the country. There have been a few constants with these trips: She’s done all of them with the same friend (a friend with an even deeper addiction — she has traveled there 17 times); they have largely, but not entirely, stayed clear of the big cities and tourist attractions; and, most importantly, Blais has always packed her camera. These trips have yielded a trove of photographs, initially landscapes and now largely “people-scapes,” which are now on display at Gallery 66 NY as part of the group show *European Sensibility: Near and Far*, now on view through Jan. 27.

European Sensibility, which occupies the four rooms of the gallery, aims to be an eclectic survey of contemporary art created in Europe, largely by European artists. Blais represents the eye of the traveler, seeing Italy with a foreigner’s appreciation for its colors and the life of its streets in addition to its as-always superlative landscapes.

A newcomer to having her work shown in a gallery, by day Blais, who lives in New Paltz, is the sales director for the Glassbury Estates development



Straw Man and Blue Bike, photo by Donna Blais, on display at Gallery 66 in Cold Spring

Photo courtesy of Gallery 66 NY

on Route 9, which was home to the ArtFull Living Designers’ Show House last year. It was her involvement, initially solely as a representative of the developers, which led to her sudden interaction with the art community. Whilst coordinating the project with showhouse creator Barbara Galazzo, and working with many interior designers there, Blais mentioned her photographs. After Galazzo saw them, she decided to include them in the show house.

Emboldened by their inclusion, Blais then submitted a work to the *PHOTOcentric* competition at the Garrison Art Center, where it competed against international submissions, some from professional photographers. She wound up, in her first competition, with a first-place award in the open competition. This was followed by the selection of one of her images, by juror Deborah Willis, in the Professional Women Photographer’s competition this past fall.

Despite the lack of gallery experience, Blais has been what she calls a “serious photographer” for many years. Self-taught, she began early on when given a camera by her parents at age 10. Interested throughout her youth, at 25 she bought her first serious 35 mm camera, and brought it along with her “24/7, everywhere.” She developed darkroom techniques until the advent of digital camera technology, but she still does very little software “tweaking” of (Continued on page 15)

A Song Is Born Series Continues With Todd Giudice and Kathleen Pemble

Second in the series takes place on Jan. 26 at 69 Main

By Alison Rooney

The second of *Philipstown.info’s A Song Is Born* series takes place at 8 p.m. on Jan. 26 when Philipstown songwriters Todd Giudice and Kathleen Pemble join up for a look into lyric, melody, harmony and collaboration



Todd Giudice

— tied neatly into a bundle of playing songs individually as well as together, and talking to the audience about how each song came to be. Giudice and Pemble haven’t actually sung together often, but they have collaborated on occasion and have “been running songs by each other for over a decade,” said Pemble. “We’re both really direct critics with each other — a great combination.” Pemble called Giudice,

who is a guitarist, drummer, singer/songwriter and producer, “great at making suggestions about chord changes which change the meaning of the moment, sometimes from major to minor. He’s more structured, using an A-B-A form; I wander. He’s very good with nuts and bolts while I’m good with embroidery.”

Pemble described her music as “a lot of percussive guitar; the language is finely-honed and kind of fierce — fiercely sad, fiercely happy, fiercely comical. Make a big splash in the first couple of lines so the listener goes, ‘Whoa!’” Pemble described Giudice’s music as “roots-inspired Americana. He’s a really good songwriter and an excellent harmony singer. He decided to put down the guitar and writing because he wanted to drum. He has a fantastic studio and he’s an amazing producer.”

Here’s Giudice on Pemble: “She has very inventive chord shapes, different tunings — she brings a lushness to the sound; she doesn’t use standard guitar tunings. This brings a whole new dimension to her songs. I like to sing with her; we get along vocally, with timbre especially.”

Giudice called his music “Americana, with scratchy guitars and all that,” and



Kathleen Pemble with her guitar

Photo courtesy of the artist

referenced Tom Petty as in a similar vein. He described his music as evolving: “My last record has a real acoustic singer/songwriter sensibility, but now I’m going for less controlled, a little more steppin’ out energy.”

Kathleen Pemble: Distillation

Pemble’s songs need to be peeled back like onions. Their exteriors are a fragile skin and appear literal. But take that skin off and the core is exposed. She said: “Storytelling can be veiled — sometimes the songs are (Continued on page 16)

SITTING on
the BENCH
❖ by Tara ❖



As an animal with a notable sense of humor, I’ve always delighted in the life-size cut-out of a house painter clinging precariously to the side of the marvelous old brick building at the corner of Rock and Main Street. So witty, such an essential part of the village. But for months the painter has been absent from his post. With my usual determination I decided to find out what was going on. I launched my investigative team into the field and awaited their report. It turns out he has gone to Poughkeepsie where he faces an uncertain future. Sadly, I learned that his owners, Steve and Cecile Lindstedt, those pillars of the village, have sold the building after 40 years and left Cold Spring to retire to a little cottage in the southern section of Poughkeepsie.

There, however, is still hope that the painter could return. Steve declares that he would be happy to let the new owners of the Rock Street building restore the cut-out in his possession to its historic position if they wished to do so. We will see. Perhaps I will launch a campaign for its return. If that happens we should have a brass band, or at least a couple of bagpipes, playing to celebrate.



Even sadder, Cecile will no longer be here to care for the trees and flowers that are another essential aspect of Main Street’s character. Every spring and summer she and other volunteers would be out there working with watering cans and implements. I liked to call her the Head Gardener of Main Street. (We mustn’t forget the Philipstown Garden Club volunteers who tend the flowers outside the Garrison post office.)

I always knew Cecile was a cat admirer but she insists she is not anti-dog, especially where I’m concerned. However, she was not amused by dogs that seemed to think the trees signaled a bathroom for their special use and did her very best to fend them off.

I don’t know if Steve and Cecile will miss Cold Spring but, for sure, Cold Spring will miss Steve and Cecile.

At the Country Goose meanwhile romance is in full flower with a wonderful selection of Valentine merchandise and chocolates to bewitch recipients. L’amour toujours.



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PAID ADVERTISEMENT

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!

ONGOING

As the Crow Flies
9 A.M. - 5 P.M. MONDAY TO THURSDAY
11 A.M. - 5 P.M. SATURDAY
NOON - 5 P.M. SUNDAY
BEACON INSTITUTE
199 Main St., Beacon
845-838-1600 | bire.org/events
Ends March 2

Beacon Teen Reflections
NOON TO 6 P.M. WEDNESDAY TO MONDAY
RIVERWINDS GALLERY
172 Main St., Beacon
845-838-2880 | riverwindsgallery.com
Ends Feb. 3

Blue Collar Blues: Celebrating the Struggle and Satisfaction of Our Labor
1 - 5 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
FAITH IN ART GALLERY
50 Liberty St., Beacon
845-831-5322 | beaconpresbychurch.com
Ends Jan. 27

European Sensibility: Near and Far
NOON - 6 P.M. THURSDAY TO SUNDAY
GALLERY 66 NY
66 Main St., Cold Spring
845-809-5838 | gallery66ny.com
Ends Jan. 27

First Exhibition of 2013
3 - 8 P.M. FRIDAY
NOON TO 6 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
BEACON ARTIST UNION (BAU)
506 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7584 | baugallery.com
Ends Feb. 3

Fluid Cats
6 - 9 P.M. SPIRE STUDIOS
45 Beekman St., Beacon
845-231-3275 | spirestudios.org
Ends Jan. 26

Form and Function
11 A.M. - 6 P.M. FRIDAY TO SUNDAY
THEO GANZ STUDIO
149 Main St., Beacon
917-318-2239 | theoganzstudio.com
Ends Feb. 3

Member Exhibition
10 A.M. - 5 P.M. TUESDAY TO SUNDAY
GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org
Ends Jan. 20



Montego by Grey Zeien, one of the artists whose works are on exhibit at bau, 506 Main St. in Beacon

Image courtesy of bau

Peekskill Project V: The New Hudson River School
FRIDAY 11 A.M. - 5 P.M.
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY NOON - 6 P.M.
HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART
1701 Main St., Peekskill
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org
Ends July 28

Say Peekskill by Ben Altman
9 A.M. - 9 P.M. MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY
11 A.M. - 9 P.M. WEDNESDAY
9 A.M. - 5 P.M. FRIDAY
10 A.M. - 5 P.M. SATURDAY
1 P.M. - 4 P.M. SUNDAY
FIELD LIBRARY GALLERY
4 Nelson Lane, Peekskill
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org
Ends March 28

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18

Kids & Community
Indoor Tot Park
NOON - 2 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Free Admission for Grandparents
1 -5 P.M. MID-HUDSON CHILDREN’S MUSEUM
75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie
845-471-0589 | mhcm.org

Children Read to Dogs (Ages 7-10)
3:30 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Pizza Night and Ice Cream Social
4 - 8 P.M. NORTH HIGHLANDS FIRE DEPARTMENT
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring
For take out, call 845-265-9595

Wine Tasting
4 - 7 P.M. ARTISAN WINE SHOP
180 Main St., Beacon
845-440-6923 | artisanwineshop.com

Wine & Cheese
5 - 8 P.M. ANTIPODEAN BOOKS
29 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3867 | antipodean.com

Community Fellowship Supper
6 - 8 P.M. ST. MARY’S CHURCH
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

Free Community Skate
6 - 7:30 P.M. BEAR MOUNTAIN SKATE PARK
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com
Registration required

Health & Fitness

Red Cross Blood Drive
1 - 6 P.M. EAST FISHKILL FIRE DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS
2502 Route 52, Hopewell Junction
800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org

Advanced Stage Cancer Support Group
12:30 - 2:30 P.M. YORKTOWN JEWISH CENTER
2966 Crompond Road, Yorktown Heights
800-532-4290 | supportconnection.org

Sports

Haldane Ice Hockey vs. Byram Hills
3:30 P.M. BREWSTER ICE ARENA
63 Fields Lane, Brewster
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Haldane Girls’ Basketball vs. North Salem
7 P.M. HALDANE HIGH SCHOOL
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Army Hockey vs. RIT
7 P.M. TATE RINK, WEST POINT
845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

Theater & Film

For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/ When The Rainbow is Enuf
8 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE
445 Main St., Beacon
845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

Music

Local Bands Rock
6 - 10 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 Route 52, Lake Carmel
845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

Nik Rael
8 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE’S
184 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

Talking Machine
9 P.M. MAX’S ON MAIN | 246 Main St., Beacon
845-838-6297 | maxsonmain.com

Meetings & Lectures

Free Computer Help
2 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Alternative Energy Solutions
7 P.M. BEACON SLOOP CLUBHOUSE
2 Flynn Drive, Beacon
845-463-4660 | beaconsloopclub.org

Beginner AA Meeting
8 P.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Religious Services

Service at Reform Temple of Putnam Valley
7 P.M. SERVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
8 P.M. SERVICE
362 Church, Putnam Valley
845-528-4774 | ny069.urj.net



Service at Beacon Hebrew Alliance

7:30 P.M. 331 VERPLANCK, BEACON

847-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

Kids & Community

Scrapbookers Winter Retreat

8 A.M. - 5 P.M. HOMEWOOD SUITES

180 Breunig Road, New Windsor

meetup.com/scrapbookers-of-putnam-county

Cold Spring Farmers' Market

8:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER | 107 Glenclyffe Dr, Garrison

csfarmmarket.org

Food Pantry

9 - 10 A.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PHILIPSTOWN | 10 Academy St., Cold Spring

845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Wacky and Wild Weather (ages 5 and older)

10 A.M. OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER

100 Muser Drive, Cornwall

845-534-5506 | hhnaturemuseum.org

Meet the Animals

1 & 2:30 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER

25 Boulevard, Cornwall

845-534-7781 | hhnaturemuseum.org

Wine Tasting

3 - 6 P.M. ARTISAN WINE SHOP

See details under Friday.

Free Admission

5 - 8 P.M. MID-HUDSON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie

845-471-0589 | mhcm.org

Health & Fitness

Open House

10 A.M. - 4 P.M. YOGA AT THE ROUNDHOUSE

2 East Main St., Beacon

roundhousebeacon.com

Art & Design

Dia:Beacon Tour

1 P.M. 3 BEEKMAN ST., BEACON

845-440-0100 | diabeacon.org

B&W Darkroom Photography (First Session)

1:30 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER

23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison

845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Fluid Cats: 4 Cats on Stage + 4 Cats on the Balcony | 7 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER

477 Main St., Beacon

845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Fluid Cats After Party

9:30 P.M. SPIRE STUDIOS

45 Beekman St., Beacon

845-231-3275 | spirestudios.org

Theater & Film

Medea by Ridiculous Theatrical Company (Reading)

8 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN.INFO

69 Main St., Cold Spring

worldsendtheater.org

For Colored Girls ...

8 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE

See details under Friday.

Music

The Met: Live in HD: Donizetti's Maria Stuarda

1 P.M. BARDAVON OPERA HOUSE

35 Market St., Poughkeepsie

845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Sandy Relief Benefit Concert

7 P.M. KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

25 Townsend St., Beacon

\$10 donation. 21 and older

The Trapps

8 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE'S

184 Main St., Cold Spring

845-265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

Bert Rechtschaffer Jazz Trio

9 P.M. CHILL WINE BAR

173 Main St., Beacon | 845-765-0885

For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow Is Enuf opens at the Beacon Theatre Jan. 18.

Image courtesy of Beacon Theatre

Nick Bukavalas

9 P.M. MAX'S ON MAIN | 246 Main St., Beacon

845-838-6297 | maxsonmain.com

Meetings & Lectures

Introduction to Buddhism

10 A.M. GRAYMOOR SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER

1350 Route 9, Garrison

914-522-9044 | maevetx1@optonline.net

Cold Spring Special Board: Hurricanes and High Water

2 P.M. HALDANE SCHOOL MUSIC ROOM

15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring

845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Free Computer Help

2 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY

See details under Friday.

Rediscovering America on the Hudson

5 P.M. PUTNAM HISTORY MUSEUM

63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring

845-265-4010 | putnamhistorymuseum.org

Religious Services

Our Lady of Loretto

5:30 P.M. MASS

24 Fair St., Cold Spring

845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

First Presbyterian Church

5:30 P.M. JAZZ VESPERS

10 Academy, Cold Spring

845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Farmer's Market

11 A.M. - 3 P.M. SCENIC HUDSON'S RIVER CENTER

Long Dock Drive, Beacon

845-234-9325 | thebeaconfarmersmarket.com

FRESH COMPANY

Artful cooking / event planning

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8:30AM - 1:30PM

Grab-n-go / Take home items

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www.freshcompany.net

Meet the Animals

1 & 2:30 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER

See details under Saturday.

Snowshoe Beacon Hill

1 P.M. MINNEWASKA STATE PARK PRESERVE

Route 44/55 five miles west of intersection with Route 299, Gardiner | 845-255-0752

All Things Clay Workshops for Kids

2 - 4 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

1701 Main St., Peekskill

914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

Kids' Open Mic Night

6 - 8 P.M. 12 GRAPES

12 N. Division St., Peekskill

914-737-6624 | 12grapes.com

MLK Day Potluck and Program

6:30 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY

472 Route 403, Garrison

845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

With Stewart Burns, author of To the Mountaintop

Health & Fitness

Hudson Valley Co-Ed Soccer

7:45 A.M. FISHKILL RECREATION CENTER

793 Route 52, Fishkill

meetup.com/hudsonvalleycoedsoccer

Brave New Gita With Madan Oppenheimer

4 P.M. BEACON YOGA CENTER

464 Main St, Beacon

347-489-8406 | beaconyogacenter.com

Sports

Army Men's Basketball vs. Navy

NOON. CHRISTI ARENA, WEST POINT

845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

Army Women's Basketball vs. Navy

2:30 P.M. CHRISTI ARENA, WEST POINT

845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

Theater & Film

For Colored Girls ...

3 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE

See details under Friday

Music

Ukulele Group

4 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE

640 Route 52, Lake Carmel

845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

Piano Festival: Juho Pohjonen

4 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER

477 Main St., Beacon

845-297-9243 | howlandmusic.org

Paco Peña Flamenco Music & Dance

7 P.M. BARDAVON OPERA HOUSE

35 Market St., Poughkeepsie

845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Meetings & Lectures

Beginner AA Meeting

NOON. GRAYMOOR SPIRITUAL CENTER

1350 Route 9, Garrison

800-338-2620 | graymoorcenter.org

Book Club With Mary Newell

2 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER

23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison

845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Baseball in Black & White: Black Barnstorming in the Hudson Valley

2:30 P.M. MID-HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM AUDITORIUM | 105 Market St., Poughkeepsie

845-485-3445, ext. 3306 | poklib.org

AA Open Meeting

8 P.M. ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring

845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

Book Club: What Maisie Knew

2 P.M. Please call Garrison Art Center at 845-424-3960 for location.

Religious Services

Our Lady of Loretto

7:30, 9, & 11:45 A.M. MASS

24 Fair St., Cold Spring

845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

8 & 10:30 A.M. 1 CHESTNUT ST., COLD SPRING

845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

St. Philip's Episcopal Church

8 & 10:30 A.M. 1101 ROUTE 9D, GARRISON

845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

Grace United Methodist

8:15 & 10 A.M.

337 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley

845-526-3788

St. Basil's Academy Greek Orthodox Chapel

8:30 A.M. ROUTE 9D, GARRISON

845-424-3500 | saintbasilacademy.org

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

9 A.M. 65 OSCAWANA LAKE RD., PUTNAM VALLEY

845-528-8858 | stlukesputnamvalley.org

First Presbyterian Church

9 A.M. ADULT BIBLE STUDY

10:30 A.M. SERVICE

10 Academy St., Cold Spring

845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

(Continued on next page)

Dancing Dialogue

Suzi Tortora's Baby Cues Baby Moves

Parent & Child Dance & Learn Classes

Ages 3 months - 7 years old

Dance ~ song ~ music ~ story ~ play ~ socialize

Enhance your child's mind/body/self through dance

Dancing Dialogue A center for movement, music and dance-based arts supporting healing and self-expression. Enhance your child's:

◆ natural curiosity and creativity

◆ self-awareness

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◆ positive self-image & body-image

◆ love of learning and discovery

◆ physical, mental, emotional, social growth

Research-based classes support:

◆ your child's growing body and brain

◆ diverse learning styles

◆ your relationship with child and community

◆ learning games to play at home

For more information:

www.dancingdialogue.com

suzitortora@mac.com; 845-265-1085

8 Marion Ave Suite 1 Cold Spring, NY

WINTER CLASSES BEGIN in JANUARY

The Calendar *(from page 9)*

South Highland Methodist Church
9:30 A.M. 19 SNAKE HILL ROAD, GARRISON
845-265-3365

Quaker Friends Worship
10 A.M. WHYATT HOME | 845-424-3525
Call for directions.

St. Joseph’s Chapel
10:15 A.M. 74 UPPER STATION ROAD, GARRISON
845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

Fourth Unitarian Society
10:30 A.M. 1698 STRAWBERRY ROAD,
MOHEGAN LAKE | 914-528-7131 | fourthuu.org

Church on the Hill
10:30 A.M. 245 MAIN ST., COLD SPRING
845-265-2022 | coldspringchurchonthehill.org

United Methodist Church
11 A.M. 216 MAIN ST., COLD SPRING
845-265-3365

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

Kids & Community

School’s Out Mini-Camp (K-3)
9 – 11:30 A.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845-534-7781 | hhnaturemuseum.org
Registration required

Bridge Club
9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

The Ebony Hillbillies
2 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Rivertown Kids Celebration for Social Justice (Music)
7:30 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Health & Fitness

Breast Cancer Support Group
7 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY HOSPITAL CENTER
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
800-532-4290 | supportconnection.org

Theater & Film

Teen Theater Workshop (Grades 6-12)
10 A.M. - 6 P.M. BREWSTER THEATER COMPANY
67 Main St., Brewster
845-598-1621 | brewstertheatercompany.org

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

Kids & Community

Animals and Nature Together (Ages 2-3)
10 A.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
25 Boulevard, Cornwall
845-534-5506, ext. 204 | hhnaturemuseum.org
First of six weekly sessions

Indoor Tot Park
9 -11 A.M. & NOON - 2 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN
RECREATION CENTER | Details under Friday

Cross-Country Ski to Echo Rock
1 P.M. MINNEWASKA STATE PARK PRESERVE
See details under Sunday.

Block Party (0-3) & Lego Club (4+)
4 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Kids Craft Hour
4 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Health & Fitness

Free Flu Vaccine Clinic
2 - 7 P.M. PUTNAM COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
1 Geneva Road, Brewster
845-808-1332 | putnamflu.com
Registration required.

Weight-Loss Surgery
6 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY HOSPITAL CENTER
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-734-3794 | stopobesityforlife.com

Music

Open Mic
6:30 P.M. SIGNUP
7:30 P.M. PERFORMANCES
BANK SQUARE COFFEEHOUSE
129 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7165 | banksquarecoffeehouse.com

The Dream Choir
7 P.M. YOGASONG STUDIO
27 Travis Corners Road, Garrison
845-424-4340 | yogasongstudio.com

Meetings & Lectures

Knitting Club
10 A.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

AA Open Meeting
7 P.M. ST. PHILIP’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1101 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

Nelsonville Board of Trustees
7 P.M. VILLAGE HALL | 258 Main St., Nelsonville
845-265-2500 | villageofnelsonville.org

Board of Trustees Workshop
7:30 P.M. VILLAGE HALL
85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

Women’s AA Meeting
7:30 P.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Religious Services

Bible Study
7 P.M. OUR LADY OF LORETTO
24 Fair St., Cold Spring
845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

Kids & Community

Indoor Tot Park
9 - 11 A.M. & NOON - 2 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN
RECREATION CENTER | See details under Friday.

Animals and Nature Together (Ages 2-3)
10 A.M. & 1 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
See details under Tuesday.

Mah Jongg Open Play
10 A.M. - 1 P.M. VFW HALL
34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Senior Bus Trip to Fishkill
10 A.M. PICK-UP AT CHESTNUT RIDGE
10:15 A.M. PICK-UP AT PERKS PLAZA
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Music & Movement for Toddlers
10:15 A.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Preschool Story Hour
1:30 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Young Naturalist Program Open House
3:30 p.m. Wildlife Education Center
25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845-534-7781 | hhnaturemuseum.org
Museum members only.

Sports

Army Women’s Basketvall vs. Colgate
7 P.M. CHRISTI ARENA, WEST POINT
845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

Art & Design

BeaconArts Annual Meeting
7 P.M. BEAHIVE BEACON
291 Main St., Beacon | beaconarts.org



The Ebony Hillbillies will perform at Desmond Fish Library (see story on page 12.)
Photo by Weston Wells

Music

Open Mic Night
8 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE’S
184 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

Meetings & Lectures

Knitting Circle for Women With Cancer
6:30 P.M. SUPPORT CONNECTION
40 Triangle Center, Suite 100, Yorktown Heights
914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

Men’s Group
6:30 P.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

AA Meeting
7:15 P.M. BEGINNERS
8:30 CLOSED DISCUSSION
ST. PHILIP’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1101 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

Life Support Group
7:30 P.M. ST. PHILIP’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1101 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

Town Board Workshop: Code Enforcement
7:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN TOWN HALL
238 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

Visual Arts Book Club: *Provenance: How a Con Man and a Forger Rewrote the History of Modern Art* | 7:30 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY CENTER
FOR CONTEMPORARY ART
1701 Main St., Peekskill
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

Historic District Review Board
8 P.M. VILLAGE HALL
85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

Religious Services

Contemplative Prayer
7 A.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
PHILIPSTOWN | 10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Morning Minyan
8:30 A.M. BEACON HEBREW ALLIANCE
331 Verplanck Ave., Beacon
847-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

Bible Study
7 P.M. CHURCH ON THE HILL
245 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2022 | coldspringchurchonthehill.org

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24

Kids & Community

Brain Games for Adults
10 A.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Bouncing Babies
10:30 A.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Indoor Tot Park
NOON- 2 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
See details under Friday.

Chili Throwdown
7 - 9 P.M. ALL SPORT HEALTH AND FITNESS
17 Old Main St., Fishkill
845-896-5678 | allsporthealthandfitness.com

Health & Fitness

Red Cross Blood Drive
NOON - 5 P.M. THE VILLAGE AT MERRITT PARK
80 Jefferson Boulevard, Fishkill
800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org

Free Level 2 Yoga Class
6:30 P.M. LIVING YOGA STUDIOS
3182 Route 9, Cold Spring
845-809-5539 | livingyogastudios.com

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball
7:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Breakthrough Wellness With Marika Blossfeldt
7:30 P.M. THE LIVING ROOM
103 Main St., Cold Spring
845-270-8210 | coldspringlivingroom.com

Theater & Film

Acting Classes for Adults (First Session)
7 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

The Magistrate From National Theatre, London
7:30 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Music

Beginning Fiddle, Cello and Mandolin
7 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org
First of four weekly sessions

Meetings & Lectures

Dying on the Job: Murder and Mayhem in the American Workplace
6 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

AA Step Meeting
8 P.M. ST. MARY’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

Religious Services

Hill Top Visionaries (Young Adults)
6:30 P.M. CHURCH ON THE HILL
245 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2022 | coldspringchurchonthehill.org

Utensil Kitchenware Mixes Modern and Classic Ingredients

New Beacon store embraces the practicality of cooking

By Alison Rooney

A kitchenware store's reach extends to both sides of the fork in the road of cookery: goods for those who are passionate about it, and necessities for those for whom making dinner is a chore. So says Emily Burke, owner of Beacon's new store Utensil. The ability to provide both needed and wanted goods for both the "Hudson Valley foodie vibe people and for residents in need of good quality basics" supports her goals for the business.

Burke has "long wanted to do this — I've been thinking about it for about 10 years." After years spent working in marketing for places like Saks and Fragments jewelry, jobs she "enjoyed but wasn't completely drawn to," in 2001 Burke relocated to London, where her husband was working, and found a job managing a retail shop.

It was there that she realized that was what she wanted to do. Interrupted by the trajectory of returning to Lower Manhattan, having two children and moving up to Beacon about seven years ago, Burke spent that period "waiting for the right time." With both of her children now in school, that time is now.

Drawn to Beacon initially through an interest in Hudson River towns, Burke has taken note of "the fluctuations with businesses there — some have opened and closed, but many have opened and

are thriving," and she has cast a watchful eye on commercial potential. "I've cultivated this idea for a long time before it became brick and mortar," she said. "Knowing my needs as a resident and a Main Street shopper who loves to cook, I see the practicality behind it. In a kitchenware shop, you can always find something — for \$5 or \$500, there's something here you can use."

"Main Street is fabulous," she said, "and I want to provide something that's a need, not just a want. With this store, we can provide both. It can be a simple thing like a new dishtowel or strainer, just to brighten things up, and I also have people in aprons running in from a nearby restaurant, needing a muffin tray."

Pots, pans, baking dishes, mixing bowls, containers, gadgets and yes, utensils, fill the bi-level space to the brim with very browse-able shelves of goods. (Burke's husband is an architect and kept a close eye on spatial proportions as the store was designed; he also made the countertops of the two long tables in the lower room.) Burke is "trying hard to keep prices affordable," as well as keeping an eye on design, fusing the "modern and tried and true classics."

It's important to Burke that "things be fairly understandable. I'm not a huge fan of tools that are supposed to do a hundred things. A few really good cook's tools will get you far," she said.

Researching a great deal, Burke tries out most of what she sells, and she also welcomes suggestions from customers and can do special orders. Although the products are sourced from "all over," she tries to incorporate, where possible, a lot of goods made in the U.S.

She also stocks a number of things made by local Beacon artisans, including Jessica Wickham's cutting boards, glassware from Ten Willow Studio and ceramics from ModCraft. A knife-sharpening service has just started. In the weeks



Utensil store interior

Photo by A. Rooney

since the November opening, bestsellers have included bakeware, cast iron, Wickham's boards and Joseph Joseph's line of accessories. Local restaurants have also been ordering specialty items.

Beginning now with "a good representation of the basics," eventually Burke hopes to expand into tabletop items, linens and gift registries. She has a whole basement in which to do so. For now, she is taking in her customer base and "seeing what people really like."

She's also enjoying experiencing Beacon from a very new perspective. "There's a different sense of Beacon being a shop owner rather than someone who lives

here," she explained. "There's an incredibly supportive group of storeowners, too. On the day we opened, a nearby florist sent flowers. Beacon has a real sense of community, and Main Street is a whole other community within the Beacon community."

Utensil is located at 480 Main St. in Beacon and can be reached at 845-202-7181. The store is open every day except Tuesdays. For more information, visit utensilkitchenware.com or the Facebook page.

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



Utensil store owner Emily Burke

Photo by A. Rooney



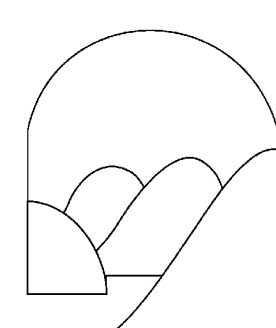
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FINE
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BUYING GOLD
Highest price for Gold, Diamonds,
Silver, Coins, etc.
We buy to resell, not to scrap.

Store: 845-265-2323
Cell: 914-213-8749

171 Main Street
Cold Spring NY 10516
• Thursday & Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
• Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.





Philipstown
★ Reform Synagogue

Tu B'shevat
New Year of the Trees

**Tu B'shevat Seder
and Pot Luck Dinner**
follows Shabbat Candlelighting
with Rabbi Claire Ginsburg Goldstein

**Friday, January 25, 2013 at
St. Mary's Parish Hall**
(corner Routes 9D & 301, Cold Spring)
5:30 gather / 6:00 service begins

ALL ARE WELCOME
The Tu B'shevat seder is a kid favorite
\$15 per family suggested donation
RSVP's appreciated

**For more info or to rsvp: call 845-265-8011
or e-mail philipstownreformsynagogue@gmail.com**

www.philipstownreformsynagogue.org

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

What Would King Say?

MLK celebrated at Desmond-Fish

The Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison will present its 17th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day observance, *Bringing the Dream Home: Civil Rights and the Hudson Valley*, with a potluck supper and speaker’s program for adults Sunday evening, Jan. 20, at 6:30 p.m., and a concert for children and families Monday afternoon, Jan. 21, at 2 p.m.



Stewart Burns will speak on Sunday, Jan. 20. Photo courtesy of Desmond-Fish Library



Storyteller Jonathan Kruk will emcee the Jan. 21 concert. Photo courtesy Desmond-Fish Library

Had he lived, Martin Luther King Jr. would be turning 84 this week. What would he have thought and done about the key issues confronting Americans today — the economy, national security, the environment? That is the theme of this year’s Sunday evening potluck supper, speaker’s program and discussion, featuring nationally recognized civil rights historian Stewart Burns. Burns’ books include his award-winning 2004 MLK biography *To the Mountaintop*, his Montgomery bus boycott history *Daybreak of Freedom*, which was made into the HBO dramatic film *Boycott*, and his forthcoming *Regeneration*, on how King’s legacy could help build a democracy capable of confronting poverty, racism, war and climate change.

At the library, Burns will show excerpts from the film and answer questions about his views in *Regeneration*, on how contemporary issues and social movements, from Afghanistan to Occupy to climate change, relate to King’s actions and words, including his seminal 1967 speech at Manhattan’s Riverside Church.

“Of course we can’t know exactly what Dr. King would have said about the big issues of our time, but his values and spirit are highly relevant,” said Burns. “He spoke of the ‘triple perils’ of poverty, racism and militarism, all intertwined in a malignant kinship,” said Burns. “That’s still a relevant insight today, though there have been significant changes in the last 45 years. For example, today we’d have to add environmental threats to King’s list of key, interconnected perils. He couldn’t have anticipated climate change or for that matter the explosion in technology. But there is much in his teachings and legacy that we can apply to today’s realities.” In fact, Burns does this in his own work as longtime activist engaged in movements for peace, racial understanding, and economic and environmental justice. He is currently the coordinator of community engagement at Williams College.

Monday at 2 p.m., the library presents its MLK Day children’s program featuring the American roots music of the Ebony Hillbillies, emceed by Cold Spring storyteller Jonathan Kruk. One of the last black old-time string bands in the U.S. and the only one based in New York City, they’ve delighted audiences at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, and once before in the library’s program room. Now they’re returning for an MLK Day con-

cert appropriate for all ages. The group’s members are Henrique Prince (fiddle, vocals), Norris Bennett (banjo, guitar, dulcimer, vocals), William “Salty Bill” Salter (acoustic bass, vocals), Newman Taylor Baker (washboard, percussion, vocals) and Gloria Thomas Gassaway (bones, vocals). Creating an untamed and joyful vibe that shatters cultural boundaries, the Ebony Hillbillies bring American musical history alive and reveal its deep African roots.

Both the Jan. 20 adult program and Jan. 21 family program are free and open to the public. Bringing food to share to the Sunday evening potluck supper is welcome but not required. These events are made possible by generous support from The Friends of Desmond-Fish Library, *Philipstown.info* / *The Paper* and EASTER Foundation / Ann & Fred Osborn III. For more information see *desmondfishlibrary.org*, email *dfstaff@highlands.com*, or call 845-424-3020.

Beacon Theatre Opens For Colored Girls Jan. 18

The Beacon Theatre, in association with 4th Wall Productions, will present Ntozake Shange’s 1975 Broadway choreopoem play, *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow Is Enuf*, directed by AnnChris Warren. Seven local and visiting actresses will dramatize wheels-within-wheels characters, each dressed in their signature rainbow color.

This Southern Dutchess debut production weaves together poetry, movement and music, enveloping the themes of “love, abandonment, rape and abortion” as related in various stories. The play was recently adapted into a hit film directed by Tyler Perry, starring Felicia Rashad and Janet Jackson.

“The most wonderful thing about how it came to be that I would direct *For Colored Girls* was that I was asked by the producers of 4th Wall Productions if I would mind directing an ‘ethnic piece,’” said director Warren, of Kingston. “‘Mind?’ I thought. I would be honored! As an African American director and performer in the Hudson Valley, this is a rare treat. It’s even more of a rarity to do a show that centers around seven African American women.”

“*For Colored Girls* is all about strength, overcoming obstacles, loving yourself as you are, accepting all the choices you have made in life, good and bad, and the scars you have to prove it,” Warren continued. “I approached this show with the goal to bring this strength and love out of the writing through these seven beautiful women and never for a second stopped to think how it would change me as an individual. Then boom — there it was. A new understanding of who I am and what it truly means to be yourself, love yourself, and stay strong and proud as you move to the end of your own rainbow.”

The show opens on Friday, Jan. 18, at 8 p.m., with subsequent performances on Saturday, Jan. 19, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Jan. 20, at 3 p.m. Three additional performances take place the next weekend: Friday, Jan. 25, and Saturday, Jan. 26, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Jan. 27, at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$18; to purchase go to *thebeacontheatre.org*. The Beacon Theatre is located at 445 Main St. in Beacon.

Local Knights of Columbus Free-Throw Champs Advance

Eight boys and girls from Philipstown were named local champions of the 2013 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship and have earned the right to compete at the district level, to be held in February, with an eye toward moving on to the regional, downstate and state levels of competition. Loretto Council #536 sponsored the local competition at the Capuchin Youth and Family Ministries Gym on Saturday, Jan. 12. There were a total of 21 participants.

Matt Champlin won the 10-year-old boys’ bracket by making 10 out of 15 shots, and Olivia McDermott shot 9 for 15 to take the 10-year-old girls’ bracket. Kyle Kisslinger won the 11-year-old boys’ bracket by shooting 13 out of 15 shots, and Zoe Lyons-Davis shot 7 for 15 to take the 11-year-old girls’ bracket. Sam Curto won the 12-year-old boys’ bracket, shooting 11 for 15, and Luke DiFucci shot 8 for 15 to win the 13-year-old boys’ bracket. Will Heintzman took the 14-year-old boys’ bracket by shooting 8 for 15, and Sofiya Petri shot 5 for 15 to win the 14-year-old girls’ bracket.

Each youngster who entered the competition received a certificate of participation. The local champions will each receive an engraved trophy and championship certificate from Loretto Council.

PRS Celebrates Tu B’shevat, New Year of the Trees, Jan. 25

On Friday evening, Jan. 25, the Philipstown Reform Synagogue (PRS) will welcome friends and congregants to celebrate Tu B’shevat, the Jewish New Year of the Trees. Guest Rabbi Claire Ginsburg Goldstein will lead the observances, including a special Tu B’shevat “seder.” Guests are invited to gather at St. Mary’s Parish Hall at 5:30 p.m. Observances will begin at 6 p.m. with Shabbat candlelighting and a short service, followed by the seder and a potluck dinner. With its emphasis on fruit, the Tu B’shevat seder is a special favorite for kids and family members of all ages.

Tu B’shevat may have originally been an agricultural festival, marking the emergence of spring. The theme most commonly ascribed to the holiday today is the environment. It is considered a festival of nature, full of wonder, joy and thankfulness for God’s creation and renewal of the natural world. It is also a tree planting festival in Israel, in which both Israelis and Jews around the world plant trees in honor or in memory of a loved one or friend. The Tu B’shevat seder can be traced back to the Jewish mystics of the 17th century, who created a special

ritual modeled after the Passover seder, to celebrate God’s presence in nature.

Goldstein is currently the Jewish resource supervisor at Surprise Lake Camp in Cold Spring and has also worked as a Jewish educator at various synagogues, including Congregation Beth Israel/Beth Sholom in Teaneck, N.J., and Temple Israel of Ridgewood, N.J.

All are welcome to attend this event. St. Mary’s Parish Hall is at the corners of Routes 9D and 301 in Cold Spring. There will be a suggested donation of \$15 per family at the door. Those wishing to bring a dish should contact PRS. Drinks are BYOB. Reservations are appreciated for planning purposes. At all PRS gatherings, donations of canned goods and money are collected for the Philipstown Food Pantry.

PRS is marking its 10th year anniversary. The synagogue was created in 2002 with the purpose of creating an inclusive venue to investigate the practice of Judaism, both intellectually and spiritually. PRS hosts monthly services and holiday events, provides religious education and offers opportunities to participate in social welfare activities. PRS can be found on the web at *philipstownreformsynagogue.org* and contacted by calling 845-265-8011 or by email at *philipstownreformsynagogue@gmail.com*.

Tibetan Musician Performs at St. Philip’s

Tibetan musician, storyteller and activist Loten Namling will present a concert of Tibetan songs and stories at St. Philips Church in Garrison at 7 p.m. on Jan. 31.

Namling has performed all over the world, playing his dranyen (Tibetan lute) and singing traditional Tibetan songs. Currently based in Switzerland, Loten is touring the United States playing Tibetan music and telling stories about his life. He presents a rare opportunity for American audiences to connect directly with a culture that is in danger of vanishing. His songs and stories take the listener on a complex journey through the landscape of Tibetan history and spirituality.

In 2012, the musician undertook a 50-day pilgrimage across Switzerland walking and prostrating himself for over 150 miles, dragging a black coffin symbolizing the death of Tibet. He performed concerts along the way to raise awareness of the drastic situation in Tibet. Now he is extending that pilgrimage to the rest of the world. In October 2012, Namling was given the Free Spirit Award for this “Journey of Freedom” in McLeod Ganj, home of the exiled Dalai Lama.

St. Philips Church is located at 1101 Route 9D (across the street from the Garrison School). Admission is open to all and is free of charge, with donations requested.



Tibetan musician, storyteller and activist Loten Namling Photo courtesy of St. Philip’s

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Eaglefest Opens Boscobel Grounds for Eagle Viewing
Free admission on Saturday, Feb. 9

Each winter, between December and March, bald eagles from Canada and northern New York and New England fly south to the Hudson Valley to feed on fish and waterfowl found in unfrozen waters. The bald eagle, which was considered an endangered species prior to 1995, shed its federal threatened status in 2007. Today, biologists estimate that about 150 bald eagles overwinter in the lower Hudson Valley. Every year the bald eagles' return affirms the continued health of the Hudson River and nearby habitats for wildlife and people.

Boscobel is honored to be a part of the Teatown Lake Reservation's annual EagleFest event in 2013. Various festivities



View from the Belvedere at Boscobel
Photo courtesy of Boscobel

and activities will be headquartered at Croton Point Park in Westchester County (for schedule, visit teatown.org/eaglefest), and there will be multiple eagle-viewing locations along the Hudson River.

On Saturday, Feb. 9, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (snow date Feb. 10), Boscobel offers free grounds admission for eagle viewing. There will be eagle experts with scopes to assist visitors, as well as a heated tent and complimentary hot cocoa for warming up. Free, keepsake maps will be available, showing all the eagle-viewing locations.

Boscobel is located on Route 9D in Garrison, just one mile south of Cold Spring and directly across the river from West Point. For more information, visit Boscobel.org or call 845-265-3638.

Beacon Sloop Club Presents *Alternative Energy Solutions*

The Beacon Sloop Club's winter free lecture series will be held on the third Friday of the month from January through May. The first program is called *Alternative Energy Solutions*, featuring three local speakers.

Christina Bagen, a NABCEP certified project planner with Hudson Solar, will present "Solar 101," explaining how solar photovoltaic systems work, their environmental benefits, and incentives and economic factors for residential and commercial systems.

Saul Rozinsky will speak on grid-independent systems, which can provide power to remote locations, portable applications, and backup power systems for lighting and personal communications equipment. There will be a hands-on workshop in the spring where participants can learn to build their own system.

Vane Lashua, a member of the Geothermal Energy Association, will speak on direct electricity generation from deep geothermal energy. Technical and economic challenges still exist for this emerging technology. Vane will discuss the need for a national effort to refine and develop new techniques to exploit this resource.

This free event will be held on Friday, Jan. 18, 7 p.m. at the Beacon Sloop Club, 2 Flynn Drive, Beacon (adjacent to the harbor). In the event of inclement weather, check the website at beaconsloopclub.org. For further information, call 845-463-4660 or 914-879-1082.

Peekskill Project V Offers Workshops and Yoga

The Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art (HVCCA) in Peekskill continues Peekskill Project V programming at the center as well as around town. HVCCA is located at 1701 Main St. in Peekskill. The museum is open Fridays 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 12 - 6 p.m., and Tuesday through Thursday by appointment. For more information, contact HVCCA at 914-788-0100 or info@hvcca.org, or visit their website, hvcca.org.

Sunday, Jan. 20, 2 - 4 p.m.

All Things Clay With Jo-Ann Brody

Workshop #1 will take inspiration from the work of Peekskill Project V artist Brie Ruais. The class starts with a look at a video of Ruais creating her piece, and then participants use their hands and fingers to experience pushing, pulling and manipulating colored clays on a board. The results will

be fired and glazed and can be picked up mid-February.

Workshop #2 explores the Hudson Valley landscape. Participants will choose an image to draw and paint on a clay tile in glaze. The resulting tiles will be fired and assembled into a mural on South Street in Peekskill.

The workshops are open to kids of all ages, but parents must supervise children under 5. They are free with HVCCA admission (\$5 adult, \$4 seniors, \$2 students), but members are always admitted free. Space is limited for both workshops; reserve places by contacting Cora Harris at charris@hvcca.org.

Thursday, Jan. 24, 4 p.m.

Support the Arts Vinyasa

Partnering with iHARTyoga, HVCCA will begin offering a vinyasa yoga session open to all levels on Thursdays at 4 p.m. Drop-ins cost \$15; the six-class series is \$50. A minimum of 10 people is needed to run the series. Portions of the proceeds are donated to HVCCA. For more information or to make reservations, call 212-767-9979.

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



This photograph by Sara Hart is part of a Peekskill Project V exhibit at the Peekskill Coffee House through Jan. 31. Photo courtesy of HVCCA

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PCBs by the Trainload Dredged From the Upper Hudson River

Steady progress in cleaning the river, say gov't officials and environmental advocates

By Kevin E. Foley

Federal and state environmental scientists, engineers and health officials, along with all the key Hudson Valley environmental groups, gathered last Wednesday, Jan. 16, to assess the progress the General Electric Company (GE) is making (under strict supervision) in dredging the Upper Hudson River of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

The meeting, with over 200 hundred interested people in attendance, took place along the river in Poughkeepsie at the Cornell Boathouse on the Marist College campus.

1976 was the year the New York State Department of Environmental Protection (DEC) first ordered GE to stop dumping PCBs into the Hudson River from their manufacturing plants in Hudson Falls and Fort Edward, N.Y., along the upper region of the waterway.

PCBs are a complex grouping of individual chemical compounds that have been linked to causing cancer and other health problems and were federally banned from usage in manufacturing around the same time as the DEC order to GE.

Decades passed with extensive and acrimonious litigation among GE, various government agencies and environmental groups before in 2002 the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a Record of Decision for the designated Hudson River PCBs Superfund site. That move called for “the targeted environmental dredging of approximately 2.65 million cubic yards of PCB-contaminated sediment from a 40-mile



Hudson River dredging Source: EPA Superfund website

section of the Upper Hudson River,” according to the EPA.

A decade later, success in finally cleaning the river bottom of PCBs appears to be on the horizon. Phase 1 of the dredging began in 2009 after years of testing and preparation. Phase 2 is now underway after an evaluation of the first phase efforts. The total cost for GE is estimated to be over \$1 billion.

“The first three years have been effective,” pronounced Ned Sullivan, president of Scenic Hudson, one of the sponsors, as he opened the forum. Sullivan said the results included reduced water toxicity, wildlife habitat renewal and improved water quality. Although the work primarily involves a 40-mile stretch of the Upper Hudson above Troy (near Albany), where the bulk of PCBs settled into the sediment at the river bottom, Sullivan and others emphasized that the work and the resulting gains to the health of

the river benefitted all river communities all the way to Battery Park, Manhattan, at the river’s southern end.

The work itself is a monumental project. “It operates 24 hours a day, six days a week,” said Dave King, project field director for the EPA. King described a process whereby the dredged material is first scooped into barges under a careful process, then the barges unload it at special sites where the sediment is treated and filtered before the separated PCB-blended material is laced into specially lined railcars and shipped to toxic dump sites. “Last year we shipped 86, 93-car trainloads,” said King.

Phase 2 of the effort is expected to take another five to seven years, with the project eventually moving downriver where there is a far lower concentration of the PCBs.

The state DEC is responsible for the

cleanup of the two plant sites and the surrounding land areas where Kevin Farrar of the hazardous waste division said the agency and GE were making substantial progress. “The plants are no longer a threat,” he said.

Remaining health concerns for all residents of the river communities are the quality of the water and condition of fish life in the aftermath of the introduction of PCBs into the food chain.


The conference consensus is that water quality has generally improved. The river is thought safe for swimming but a shower is recommended afterwards.




Fish consumption is a more complicated matter, and restraint is the watchword. Fish absorb and accumulate PCBs into their fat and pass it on through the food chain and the generations. Through the remediation work, the situation is slowly improving, but it may still be many years before anyone can say with confidence all fish in the Hudson can be eaten with regularity.

Regina Keegan coordinates the state Department of Health advisory efforts on fish consumption. The principal advice “is a matter of who you are, where you are and what you are catching,” said Keegan. Her department discourages women under 50 and children under 15 from any consumption. Others should limit consumption to no more than a couple of times a month, depending on how far upriver the catch and which species.

“You cannot taste or smell PCBs in fish,” warned Keegan, contrary to some people’s thinking. The Health Department website has a more elaborate discussion of the issue and a breakdown of different kinds of fish and their relative risk factors as well as preparation and cooking techniques.

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Philipstown Masonic Lodge to host MASONIC INFORMATION NIGHT

Friday, January 25, 7 PM • 18 Secor Street • Nelsonville • NY



Masonic Compact

Because I am a Freemason ...

- ... I believe that **freedom of religion** is an inalienable human right and **tolerance** an indispensable trait of human character; therefore, I will stand in my Lodge with Brothers of all faiths, and respect their beliefs as they respect mine, and I will demonstrate the spirit of Brotherhood in all respects of my life.
- ... I know that **education** and the rational use of the mind are the keys to facing the problems of humanity; therefore, I will bring my questions and my ideas to my Lodge, and strive to advance the growth of my mind alongside my Brothers.
- ... I know that the rich **tradition of Freemasonry** and its framework of **Ritual** are important platforms for growth and learning; therefore, I vow to stand upon these platforms to improve myself as a human being, and I vow to help in the mission of the Craft to provide tools, atmosphere, challenges and motivation to help each Brother do the same.
- ... I know that **charity** is the distinguishing human virtue, and that **personal community service** is the best demonstration of one’s commitment to humanity; I acknowledge that words without deeds are meaningless, and I vow to work with my Lodge to provide service to the community, and to promote charity, friendship, morality, harmony, integrity, fidelity and love.
- ... I know that my obligation to community extends beyond my local sphere and is partly fulfilled in my **patriotism**: love of my country, obedience to its laws and celebration of the freedoms and opportunities it symbolizes.
- ... I know that **leadership** is best demonstrated by **commitment to serving others**; I will therefore participate in, and help work at improving individual leadership skills, and serve the Brothers of my Lodge to the best of my ability.
- ... I know that **friendship, fidelity and family** are the foundation of a well-lived life; I therefore vow to be a faithful friend to my Brothers, as I expect my Lodge to respect my personal obligations, and to treat my family as though my family were their own.
- ... I know that the last great lesson of Freemasonry – **the value of personal integrity and the sanctity of one’s word** – is a lesson for all people in all times; I therefore vow to be a man of my word.
- ... I know that Masonry’s power is best exercised when its light is shared with the world at large; I therefore vow to bring the best of myself to my Lodge, in order that my growth might be fostered and nurtured, and to present myself to the world as a working Freemason, on the path to building a more perfect temple.

Because I am a Freemason, these values and aspirations are guideposts for my progress through life.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

An American Eye Amidst European Sensibilities (from page 7)

her images. In fact, nearly all of the images displayed in the exhibit are not only unadulterated but also the result of just one or two snaps of the camera, as Blais takes her shots on the fly and rarely does any posed photographs.

Instead, renting apartments and driving around, stopping suddenly when she spots an interesting shot, she has captured such varied slices of Italian life as a mime, an ad hoc sculptural assortment of locks, graffitied walls resembling con-



Mending the Nets, by Donna Blais Photo courtesy of Gallery 66 NY

temporary frescoes, a statue of St. Francis of Assisi seemingly ministering to the mist and beyond, and two large landscapes. For one of these landscapes, Blais used an HDR (High Dynamics Range) melding technique, wherein she sets her camera at a fixed spot (she doesn't travel with a tripod) and then shoots photos at different exposures, including one in the "normal" mode and then melds them, achieving what she calls a "surreal look. It's a process photographers are playing around with," she said.

Attending her first artists' opening reception as one of the artists, Blais was excited to get the feedback on her work, much of which focused on the vivid colors throughout. She is planning her next trip already.

The photography exhibit complements the rest of the works being shown under the umbrella of *European Sensibility*. These include the works of seven disparate artists currently living in Germany, as curated by Carla Goldberg. On a brief tour through the collection, Galazzo spoke of the different relationships of day-to-day life and the creation of art in Germany and the United States. The artists shown are working in a variety of media including wood panels, sculpture and painting. Also being shown are sculptures from leading Lithuanian sculptor Vladas Vildziunas.

Gallery 66 NY is located at 66 Main St. in Cold Spring. For details and opening hours, visit gallery66ny.com or call 845-809-5838.

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Join *The Paper's* Winter Photofest

Contribute your best shots of the town in its winter splendor

Over the next few weeks *The Paper* will collect high-resolution, color pictures from local photographers of local winter scenes and themes. We prefer pictures taken this year. The best photos (in our opinion) will be featured in *The Paper* on its color pages.

Limit: three photos per person.

Send photos (or questions) to editor@philipstown.info.





Photo by Ross Corsair

A Song Is Born Series Continues With Todd Giudice and Kathleen Pemble

(from page 7)

about me, sometimes about someone else. Things can be really concrete in them — shockingly so — you’d never know it. I try to keep the emotional content universal so whoever is listening can tap in. Songwriters fall down when they’re only talking about themselves. I’m better at distillation; tapping into the human experience is what makes people willing to listen and can make the difference between an engaged and a disengaged audience.”

It may surprise those who have seen her perform confidently on many stages in this region over the past decade or so, but Pemble didn’t start playing in front of people until the age of 35. Growing up in Westchester, her mother was a piano teacher, and circumstances meant that during a tough stretch, their Steinway piano needed to be sold, “because she needed to feed us. So I picked up the guitar instead.”

“I still play piano,” said Pemble, “but guitar is my first instrument.” (She’s now added banjo, bass and, recently, ukulele.) Encounters with *Joni Mitchell Made Easy* and the Carly Simon and Fleetwood Mac counterparts developed her songwriting interest, and she began making some up on her own.

Pemble went to her first open mic at age 39, describing herself as unwilling to do so “until I was brave enough to sing in front of people as well as I could in my dining room.” Stricken with continued stage fright, her knees would shake and her voice wasn’t up to par, and she kept making mistakes initially. “I was told it was a muscle — that I should go to lots of open mics and just sing.” So, she did, and kept on doing, until she grew more comfortable onstage.

“I showed up, went to friends’ gigs and finally asked (at Danny’s Café in Ossining) for a gig. I got 10 people to play with me — a huge cluster of a band. That was the start.” Since then, Pemble has “played in some big, major places, but I’ve realized than even though you get that ‘next big room,’ there’s no ladder to climb — it’s

a trap you go around.”

Pemble stated, “All I ever wanted to do was to be as good as I could be. I wasn’t hungry for anything but comfort. People sense when you’re trying to be the next big thing.”

Nowadays, Pemble combines performing with private teaching to children as young as 3 through teenagers and adults. She taught early childhood music for 20 years and still does one class each week at Philipstown Rec, where she calls herself less a music teacher than a facilitator. Her future plans include recording her third CD, at Giudice’s studio, and also working on what she calls her “swing project.” It’s “comical swing music that you can dance to: bass, drums, guitar, sax — me and two other women doing Andrews Sisters-type harmonies using ’40s tunes like ‘Rag Mop,’ children’s songs and pop songs and making them swing.” Pemble’s earlier recordings can be found on iTunes and on Amazon — her most recent CD, with all original material, is called *Learning to Live Again* and was released in 2004.

For the *A Song Is Born* performance, Pemble intends to choose a variety of writing styles, “different meters, keys — I want to mix it up.”

Todd Giudice

Giudice grew up as one of those always-listening-to-music kids in Newburgh. He said his first musical education came from “constantly learning what sounds right by hearing it — osmosis.” From the Beatles to the Kinks, The Who, Springsteen, blues and basically anything rock and roll, especially anything guitar-dominated. “I jammed with my high school friends and found a musical identity, though there wasn’t much of a music scene in Newburgh and there were no places to play.” Giudice headed to Berklee



Kathleen Pemble and Todd Giudice

Photo courtesy of Kathleen Pemble



Photo by Suzanne Bal



Photo by Jack Revkin

more closely and realized it was written years before [the person who wrote it] meeting me. I pulled my guitar out of its case and didn’t expect the sound that came out. I then wrote a song from that. It’s so often happenstance: little things that pepper other things.”

In choosing songs for this concert, Giudice is still mulling his choices over: “Is it about the story or the song itself?” He has a bunch to choose from, as his third record is almost done. And it will be a record, and not a CD, as this one is coming out on vinyl.

Giudice’s experiences working with renowned sound engineer Scott Hull and being mentored by him led to his turning a lot of his energies toward production and opening up a studio, Roots Celar Recordings, in Cold Spring. “I learned about production, working with people, while making my second record over a few years. Now production has become more what I do now.”

Giudice is fairly new to Cold Spring but visited for quite some time before settling here. He was Poughkeepsie-based for a long time, playing gigs at the Cubbyhole and working for the *Poughkeepsie Live* television show, among other things. Through meeting Pemble, she told him about the music scene here, and Giudice started turning up at The Listening Room events and elsewhere. “I found the music scene so rich that I felt at home. Working in Newburgh there was no scene, no camaraderie. Here I felt like I was in the right place. I’ve found an atmosphere here that helps me be more creative.”

Giudice’s recordings can be found at CDBaby.com. Visit KathleenPemble.com and ToddGiudice.com for more details and to hear tracks.

Admission to *A Song Is Born* is free with donations for the performers welcomed. Call 845-809-5584 to reserve seats.