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FRIDAY, JAN. 25, 2013

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Putnam Pols Claim Victory in Gun Info Dispute

But they don't support the gun control legislation that provides their vindication

By Kevin E. Foley

Putnam County officials stood arm-in-arm in support of the county clerk's refusal of a *Journal News* freedom-of-information request (FOIL) for gun ownership data, which at the time was clearly public information. They are also unified in their feelings of vindication after the state legislature and Gov. Andrew Cuomo created a new law on gun ownership, whose provisions include an opt-out section wherein individuals filing for all gun ownership permits can apply to have their personal information shielded from public view.

The new law, considered by many the strictest state gun control initiative in the country, also freezes any access to the current registration information for 120 days while state officials develop new registration forms that will require all gun owners to reapply for five-year renewable permits. This makes moot any immediate consequence of Dennis Sant's defiant rejection of the FOIL request, a move supported by County Executive MaryEllen Odell; District Attorney Adam Levy; and Sheriff Donald B. Smith, elected officials all.

State Sen. Greg Ball was also a full-throated advocate for Sant's stand and an acerbic critic of *The Journal News* for posting the gun permit information online after it was elicited from Rockland and Westchester, where officials readily provided the information as the-then relevant law required. Ball also takes credit for demanding the legislature put the new proviso into the new law, which seeks, among other things, to ban the availability of a wide array of assault rifles and put limits on the ammunition loads of other weapons.

Adding to the aura of a brief battle fought and won, *The Journal News*, a Gannett-chain daily print and online newspaper, announced its decision to take down the interactive map it had posted with the names and addresses of registered gun owners. In a statement released on a Friday afternoon (Jan. 18) — a traditional time for government and business to release negative news — *The Journal News* Publisher Janet Hasson said the information had been up long enough for anyone interested to see it.

Whatever victory the county officials can lay claim to, it has the quality of a first-act development with a second act yet to come, the new state law having declared an intermission.

Although the Putnam County clerk refused to provide any information, the new law does not provide complete across-the-board protection from public scrutiny for gun owners, but it is broad in defining who is (Continued on page 3)



For more of *The Paper's* Winter Photofest pictures, see page 16 Photo by Richard Ovaduke

Luring Visitors to Cold Spring Part II on tourism

By Ron Soodalter

As County Tourism Director Libby Pataki sees it, the biggest challenge the village faces in regard to tourism is the lack of overnight accommodations. "I am not advocating bringing in a Holiday Inn, but rather the building of an attractive inn or hotel to accommodate overnight and long-term visitors," said Pataki. "I believe the village has desirable sites — Mystery Point, the Kemble Avenue property, possibly the Butterfield site. My goal is to put the county on the map, and that indicates more rooms."

Teri Barr, owner of Hudson Valley Outfitters, agreed. "Another hotel would be excellent. I find that many people would prefer to stay for two days. That way, they could hike Breakneck Ridge, kayak on the Hudson, have the time to visit our shops and enjoy our restaurants."

"I recently had an opening, and two of my artists wanted to stay overnight. They couldn't find available rooms," said Barbara Galazzo of Gallery 66 NY.

While Michael Armstrong, chair of the Special Board for the Comprehensive Plan, believes that Butterfield would be a good site for a hotel or inn of 25 or 30 rooms, he prefers an informal system of local bed-and-breakfasts, with the type of booking service employed by Columbia County. It would, he suggested, create a source of income for older residents, as well as involve them more in the business of tourism. "It would create a warmth that is preferable to staying in a hotel."

Not all the merchants feel that additional accommodations are necessary. Regina Bei, co-owner of the Hudson House, finds the idea of another hotel "ridiculous. Perhaps it would work on weekends, during the tourist season, but what would the proprietors do during the week, and in the off-season? I don't believe the town is losing business for lack of rooms." Although Bei said that business is "great," she acknowledged, "We have to make it on weekends," and faced a solid six weeks of slow time between New Year's Day and Valentine's Day.

Transporting visitors

There is general agreement that the vil-

lage trolleys are a largely untapped resource. The Depot Restaurant's owner Tom Rolston sees them as a "total waste" and thinks they should convey hikers to Breakneck Ridge, at the very least. "Our tourism is largely based on hikers," he said, "and we have to service them."

Pataki suggested the trolleys "have to be made more accessible. The service must be revamped. Repeat visitors are our goal, and proper use of the trolleys can help bring them back." Various locals have observed that the function, schedule, route — and even the number — of the village's trolleys remain a mystery. Pataki "tried for months to get a schedule and couldn't find one." Carinda Swann, executive director of the Garrison Art Center, sees the trolley service as a strong potential resource for carrying visitors — and locals — to and from historic, artistic and natural sites, but said, "Nobody I know could tell you what its loop actually is."

Cold Spring Mayor Seth Gallagher points out that the village's two trolleys are primarily federally funded and must adhere to fixed federal schedules. However, he said, there (Continued on page 3)

Butterfield Zoning Change a Fateful Step

Hearing Tuesday could be the last chance to ask basic questions before vote

By Kevin E. Foley

Next week on Tuesday, Jan. 29, the public may have its last chance to let the Cold Spring Village Board of Trustees know its views and concerns about the proposed Butterfield project. The hearing is specifically intended to gather citizen input on the upcoming trustee vote on amending the village zoning code to permit a much broader use of the 5.7-acre property the old Butterfield Hospital occupies along Chestnut Street (Route 9D).

The vote to come in the days after the hearing is not on the project itself, but since the zoning change is formally described as "conditional" in the proposed amendment — conditional on the eventual detailed site plan for the project conforming to what is now known as the concept plan — approval of the zoning change, which was drawn up specifically at the request of Butterfield Realty LLC (the developer), will be seen by many as tantamount to a formal blessing from the Village Board, if in fact they approve the change. Certainly Mayor Seth Gallagher believes that, as he pushes hard for approval of the zoning amendment.

The proposed "B4A" zoning change is intended to expand the current B4 medical and healthcare use to allow multiple uses, among them, senior citizen housing, municipal and other governmental uses, retail stores, business, banks and professional offices. In addition, the proposed changes allow for an R1 use, so that three single-family homes can be constructed along the Paulding Avenue side of the property.

To be sure, the current concept plan has found a great deal of support, or at least acceptance, beyond the elected officials who have lined up behind it and the developer, Paul Guillaro. The plan, which itself is not yet formally submitted to the village, does reflect the input the developer received over a nearly yearlong stop-and-start review process, which began when he first applied for approval at the beginning of last year and then after he withdrew the proposal but continued to lobby for it informally with new concept drawings.

After numerous Village Board and Planning Board sessions, as well as a few public hearings and a charrette that drew nearly a hundred people to discuss the issue for several hours, ideas about preserving more open space, limiting the height and changing the location of the buildings, having only market-rate senior housing and providing for adequate parking, among others, have been included in the concept plan to one degree or another.

But the central question at this juncture is whether (Continued on page 4)



Teri Barr of Hudson Valley Outfitters

Photo by Jeanne Tao

Mouths to Feed

Rémoulade of Things Past

By Celia Barbour

A few weeks back, my big sister called. She lives in Berkeley, Calif. We don't talk often, but when we do, it spans whole phases of the day — we start out in broad daylight and by the time we hang up, it is well past dusk (Eastern Standard Time).

I was cooking when the phone rang, so I borrowed my son's headphones. While Elisa updated me about her Ph.D. thesis, her advisor, her cats and her travels, I chopped. My chopping must have been noisy.

"What are you making?" she asked.

"Celery-root rémoulade," I told her, and also that I was going to serve it with ham and raisin sauce, and maybe a watercress salad.

Elisa was quiet then, so I picked up the thread: "Anyway, so, after your paper was published ... ?"

"Look," she interrupted me, "I don't want you to go to any trouble, but can you cook something memorable when I come visit? I like having something to think about all year."

I laughed, flattered that she believes me capable of cooking food memorable enough to sustain a whole year of mental re-visitation, and, moreover, that I can do so without going to any trouble. "Like what?" I asked.

"Like whatever that is you're making right now: celery rémoulade. That would be fine."

So now she is here. And although I was hoping to think up a spectacularly memorable menu for her visit, I have not succeeded. Celery-root rémoulade it will be.

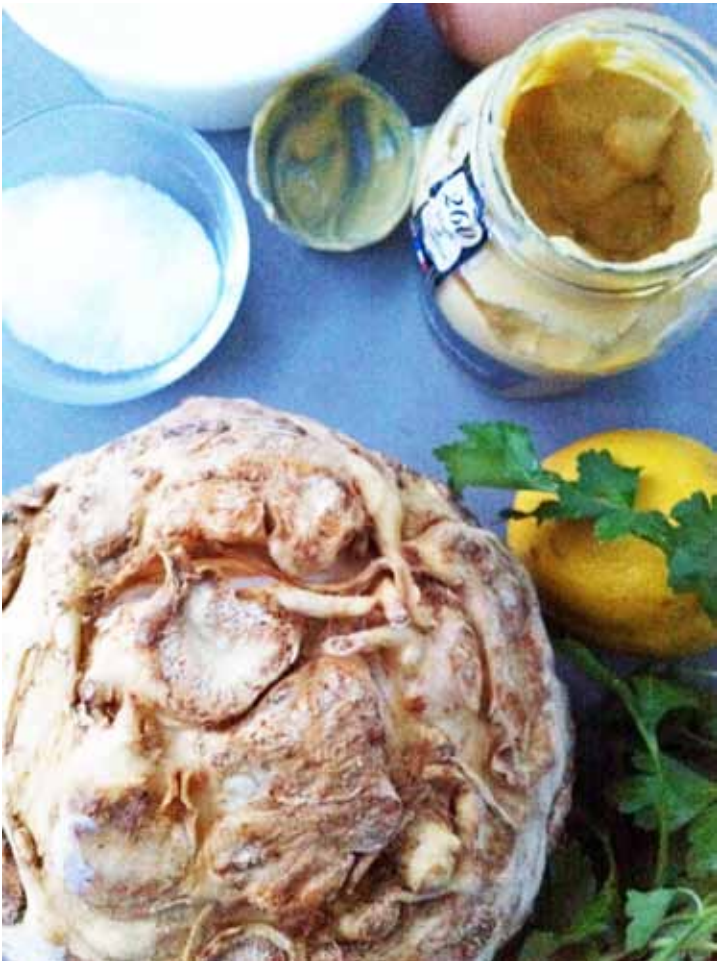
Some people describe it as French coleslaw, and while that certainly conveys the role it plays in a meal, it does not do justice to the experience of eating it. (And I say that as someone who loves a good coleslaw.) The flavors of celery-root rémoulade are complex and compelling, with the sharp bite of Dijon mustard calmed by silky mayonnaise mixed with bitter parsley (and sometimes crème fraîche for tang), and all of it offset by the deep, quiet earthiness of the celeriac.

I was probably 20 the first time I tasted it, having requested a sample in a little gourmet takeout shop on Martha's Vineyard. I was living on that island for the summer with a group of friends, in a sprawling, dangerous apartment — some of our light switches would shock you if you touched them; we thought this was funny and edgy rather than stupidly hazardous.

My friends Laura and Stephanie both had summer birthdays, so the three of us decided to celebrate with a beach picnic: a bottle of white wine and the most sophisticated nibbles

we could afford on our waitress salaries. I might have blown my entire share on celery-root rémoulade after sampling the spoonful passed to me by the kid behind the counter; it seemed to answer some craving I hadn't even known I possessed before then. But it wasn't my birthday, so we opted for variety, including cake.

The beach was chilly. We wore thick wool sweaters and went barefoot, and we took pictures of ourselves in the cerulean light. I still have those photographs.



Celery root, lower left, and other ingredients



Celery-root rémoulade with ham and watercress salad

We look like young women amazed at the sheer abundance of new things the world was handing over to us to taste for the first time ... and also like we were just beginning to realize how thrilling and romantic and wretched it would feel to pass, again and again, from not knowing, each step through that portal an irreversible one.

I've never again had celery-root rémoulade as good as what we ate that summer. Nonetheless, I will serve the best version I can muster to my sister tonight, alongside duck confit and mâche salad. For, much as I'd like to whip up something neither of us has ever tasted before — to fill our senses with an entirely new gustatory experience — it is January, and I am not feeling brave. It will be enough to serve a good, simple meal that we can both think back on happily in the months to come.

Celery-root rémoulade

Start this dish a few hours before serving it, since it needs time to marinate. The technique for steeping the celery root in salt and lemon to soften it first comes from Julia Child's *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*. Homemade mayonnaise makes this dish amazing; the recipe that follows incorporates the mustard, vinegar, salt and pepper from this dish, so don't duplicate those ingredients if you use it instead of store-bought.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 pound celery root (or about 3½ cups julienned) | ½ cup mayonnaise* or ¼ cup mayonnaise and ¼ cup crème fraîche |
| 1½ teaspoon salt | 1 tablespoon white wine vinegar |
| juice of one lemon | salt and pepper |
| 4 tablespoons Dijon mustard | 3 tablespoons chopped parsley |

1. Wash the celery root, trim away the rough root-y end then peel all over with a potato peeler. Cut in half, place one half cut-side down on the cutting board, and slice as thin as you can. Stack the slices and cut through them to create matchsticks (or use a julienne slicer). Transfer the matchsticks to a bowl and toss with the lemon juice and salt. Let steep for 30 minutes, then rinse in cold water and pat dry.
2. Make mayonnaise (see below) OR: Whisk together the mustard, mayonnaise, crème fraîche (if using) and vinegar. Add salt and pepper to taste.
3. Toss dressing with the celery root. Cover bowl and refrigerate for 2 to 3 hours. Stir in chopped parsley before serving.

*To make mayonnaise: Using a wire whisk, beat together 1 very fresh egg yolk (preferably from a farm you know) and the juice of 1 lemon until pale and thick. Pouring very slowly in a thin stream, drizzle in 1/3 cup mild vegetable oil, whisking vigorously all the while. When the oil is incorporated, repeat with 1/3 to ½ cup olive oil. Mix in 4 tablespoons Dijon mustard, and salt and pepper to taste. Return to recipe at step 3, substituting up to half crème fraîche for the mayonnaise you use to dress the celery root.




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Putnam Pols Claim Victory in Gun Info Dispute *(from page 1)*

eligible to ask for it. Active and retired law enforcement members, people who served on juries, individuals under orders of protection, witnesses to crimes, and spouses, domestic partners and household members of any of the above are all eligible to opt out. And then, in more potentially catchall criteria, applicants can assert their safety may be endangered or that they will be subject to harassment if their information is disclosed.

Given the stated attitude in Putnam County, it is hard to imagine any applicant having a problem shielding information for whatever reason upon request.

Good-government groups and media organizations have already begun to ask the state Legislature to reconsider this section as overly broad and possibly setting a bad precedent for other forms of information that allow for scrutiny of government activity and performance through FOIL. *The New York Times*, *The Albany Times-Union* and *The Journal News*, among others, have asked for amended language, although they have tellingly not called directly for returning

to complete openness of the files.

Contributing to a sense of more to come, Hasson declared her paper “will continue to report aggressively on gun ownership. We will continue to pursue our request for data from Putnam County,” suggesting a replay of the short-circuited standoff may be yet to come, albeit many months from now.

While each new large-scale gun tragedy brings renewed calls for increased gun ownership restrictions, those same incidents have given rise to more controls on the dissemination of gun ownership data. The national trend among states is against making gun ownership records public, with only a dozen states currently making it entirely public. The New York state government has certainly moved that way in its eagerness to react to the Newtown, Conn., murders in other ways. Seen in that light, the Putnam officials’ stance, notwithstanding it was an obvious ignoring of state law at the time, was more consistent with the mainstream than some might appreciate.

Opposition to the thrust of the new state law

Nevertheless, in the aftermath of Newtown, the issue of guns and violence is certainly a far larger matter in state and national forums. The president and others raised it at Monday’s (Jan. 21) inaugural ceremony — but not in Putnam County. While protecting the personal information of gun owners caused alarm and an outspoken resolve to resist state law among all county officials, no such fulsome reaction occurred immediately after the Newtown shootings, a relative short drive from Carmel.

The sheriff at the time was the only county public official to act on a response to Newtown. He assembled a group of law enforcement representatives and educators to discuss security concerns and possible new police responses. While no new programs emerged from that first meeting and Smith declined when asked to discuss gun restrictions, he did use the event to underscore that such an incident could happen in Putnam County.

Sen. Ball, a Republican, has spent

his considerable public-relations energy trumpeting his role in getting the information-limitation in the bill, but he voted against the legislation rather than support gun restrictions. Sen. Terry Gipson and Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, both Democrats, who unlike Ball represent Philipstown in Albany, both voted in favor of the bill.

Odell also claimed vindication on the issue but limited her praise of Cuomo and the Legislature only to that provision. When she first announced her support for refusing to provide the gun ownership data, Odell took pains to say the issue had nothing to do with the Newtown deaths.

In April 2011, Odell (then a candidate for county executive) and Ball were leaders of a demonstration against the idea of Philipstown restricting bringing guns to public meetings. “This proposal in Philipstown is nothing less than government infringing upon the freedoms of law-abiding citizens. We’re tired of such attempts from the state government, and we absolutely will not stand for it at the local level,” she said at the time.

Luring Visitors to Cold Spring *(from page 1)*

are plans to extend the trolley service to the Foundry Preserve, and possibly north to Breakneck Ridge. He adds that there is no reason why its route and schedule can’t be better publicized — a project best taken on, he said, by the Chamber of Commerce.

Andy Chmar, executive director of the Hudson Highlands Land Trust, believes that the village’s two best assets for increasing tourism are Metro-North and the Hudson River. “Trains and boats make so much more sense, for the environment as well as the traffic situation, than hundreds of people getting in their cars.” There appears to be no disagreement, from government officials, merchants, or environmentalists.

Riding the rails

The ride on Metro-North’s Hudson Line from Grand Central Station to Cold Spring is short and convenient and offers spectacular views of the scenic west side of the river. Pataki is a strong proponent of train travel. “We have a tremendous railway system,” she said. “Our biggest strength is day trippers. It’s an ideal situation; they take the train here, spend tourist dollars in our shops and restaurants, and take the train back.”

Much of Barr’s kayaking and outfitting business “comes up on the train from New York City,” and Leonora Burton of the Country Goose said, “Foreign trade is good, thanks to Metro-North. It’s the only stop on the line where you get off the train, and you’re right in town.” Gallagher sees Metro-North as “distinctly pro-tourist. They put extra trains on during the fall foliage season and are always open to package deals. And it takes cars out of the loop.”

Pataki agreed. “I’ve developed a strong relationship with Metro-North. They do weekend getaway packages and are open to doing whatever we want. The question is, what can we do?”

Rolling on the river

Increasingly, the Hudson is being viewed as a rich potential source of visitors. Virtually every venue and activity — historic, artistic, commercial and environmental — can be better served by an increased presence of tour boats on the river. Chmar sees “a significant change in the last five or six years. There’s greater access to the river, especially at Cold Spring. The new rails at the dock feature gates, providing ease of access to private and commercial vessels.”

Gallagher has worked to change attitudes toward river traffic. “As a kid, I remember boats at the dock. People used to be open to boats here,” he said, “but a local law prevented them from docking here, on pain of an hourly fine. We changed the law, first to allow boats of historical interest to dock, and then to commercial vessels as well.”

Allowing commercial boats to dock at Cold Spring — for a mooring fee — provides a potentially significant source of revenue for the village. “This summer,” recalled Gallagher, “we realized \$3,000 from one tour boat alone. The money went straight to the village — and the good news was, no cars!”

Various tour boats are now docking at Cold Spring, and there is talk of establishing a ferry service to and from West Point. “West Point is Upstate New York’s number 2 tourist attraction,” said David Lilburne, proprietor of Garrison’s Antipodean Books. “A visitor ferry service back and forth would be fantastic; I think Libby [Pataki] might just be able to pull it off.”

This summer, Bei was delighted when a tour boat from Manhattan’s Battery Park Pier dropped off 150 passengers. “Our restaurant was packed. And when they boarded the boat after spending time in the village, they were carrying tons of packages. That’s what people do — shop and eat!” Passenger boats will also convey hikers, bikers and kayakers, as well as visitors to the West Point Foundry Preserve, Constitution Island and Foundry Dock Park.

The lure of the outdoors

As Gallagher observed, “We’re a little village, surrounded by natural resources. There is no development around us, which makes Cold Spring special. People come here for that.”

A number of historic and environmental projects are currently underway that promise to significantly enhance the number of visitors. Environmental groups such as the Hudson Highlands Land Trust and Scenic Hudson are seeking to preserve as much natural land as possible and make it available to visitors. Chmar commented, “Here we are, less than 40 miles from New York City, and there are four state parks near where we’re sitting!” He added, “Our mission is to preserve both national resources and community character. If we and other resource-conscious agencies do our jobs, the beauty of this place won’t change, and people will enjoy it for decades to come.

There is a perfect correlation between our work and the attraction of visitors to the area.”

Outdoor events such as the Putnam Cycling Classic — formerly known as the Tour de Putnam — are designed to bring both competitors and spectators to the region. Pataki has moved the starting point of the bike race to Cold Spring, and — despite a somewhat rocky start in 2012 — sees it attracting an increasing number of visitors. Two of the more ambitious outdoor-oriented projects currently underway are the West Point Foundry Preserve and the Hudson Fjord Hike/Bike Trail.

The West Point Foundry Preserve

The West Point Foundry Preserve is currently undergoing a years-long multimillion-dollar program of preservation and interpretation. “Thus far,” said Director of Parks Rita Shaheen, “we’ve invested over \$7 million in the project, from planning to construction. We’ve worked very closely with the village for a long time, and we’re very committed to bringing people here.” Shaheen envisions a symbiotic relationship with the local Putnam County Museum, whereby visitors would tour the foundry site and then walk or take a trolley up the hill to the museum, to view its impressive permanent exhibit on the foundry. “We plan to install a kiosk,” said Shaheen, “with a map that will cover not only the foundry but Main Street, as well as a number of other sites of interest.” With most of the foundry’s buildings gone, nature has reclaimed much of the

preserve, so the site attracts hikers and birders as well as history buffs.

The Hudson Fjord Hike/Bike Trail

Another project sponsored in part by Scenic Hudson as well as the Hudson Highlands Land Trust, the Open Space Institute, Metro-North and various state parks, organizations and riverfront communities, is the Hudson Fjord Hike/Bike Trail. It has been in the works for some 15 years, and as the name indicates, it will be a multi-use trail, designed to run 10 miles along Route 9D from Constitution Island to the Beacon train station. The stretch is a popular one among hikers and was named by *Newsweek* as one of the ten top hiking destinations in the nation; Trails.com designated the Breakneck Ridge trail the country’s number one day hike.

The specific objective in building the trail is, according to Scenic Hudson, “to transform a portion of state Route 9D ... from a high-speed thoroughfare into a multi-use, user-friendly recreational, tourist-oriented parkway that provides people with a stronger visual and physical connection with the Hudson River.” It is also designed to allow hikers, climbers and bikers a safer access to the trailheads and the various scenic spots along the route. Project Manager Mark Wildonger said, “The project is largely grant-reliant, but if all goes well, and the plan is funded and approved, we hope to break ground in February 2014.”




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PUBLISHER

Gordon Stewart

MANAGING EDITOR

Kevin E. Foley

ARTS/FEATURE EDITOR

Alison Rooney

SENIOR CORRESPONDENTS

Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Michael Turton

LAYOUT EDITOR

Kate Vikstrom

CALENDAR EDITOR

Chip Rowe

calendar@philipstown.info

COPY EDITOR

Jeanne Tao

REPORTERS

Mary Ann Ebner

Christine Simek

Pete Smith

PHOTOGRAPHER

Maggie Benmour

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Michele Rubin

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LETTERS

Assemblywoman Galef hosts panel on campaign finance reform

To the Editor:

Since we have all just experienced an election cycle with one of the highest price tags ever, I thought it would be helpful to discuss alternative approaches to financing campaigns. Last year, I polled my constituents about their feelings on public financing of campaigns. I was surprised that only about 50 percent were in favor of full or partial public financing. I feel there are great benefits to be realized with some form of public financing, and I think it would be helpful for everyone to learn more about how such models have worked effectively elsewhere.

Campaign financing plays a pivotal role in the choices voters have at the polls. Studies, including one recently released by Citizens Union of the City of New York, identify a higher percentage of contested elections in both primary and general elections when full or partial public financing is available to can-

didates and when contribution limits are strictly enforced.

Last September, I hosted Sean Eldridge, founder of Protect Our Democracy, on my local public access television show, *Speak Out*, to discuss how his organization is working towards changing New York state's campaign finance laws. More recently, on *Speak Out*, I hosted Rachael Fauss, who authored the Citizens Union report entitled *Fair Elections for New York State: How Public Matching Creates Greater Voter Choice and Competition* (the full report is available on the Citizens Union homepage at www.citizensunion.org), and Ian Vandewalker from the Brennan Center to discuss the issue.

Now, I have asked some of these good government groups to join me on Saturday, Feb. 2, from 12:15 to 2:15 p.m. at Desmond-Fish Library, 472 Route 403 in Garrison (snow date: Sunday, Feb. 3), for a panel discussion. The panelists are Dick Dadey, executive director, Citizens Union of the City of New York; Jesse Laymon, downstate campaigns man-

ager, Citizen Action of New York; and Susan Lerner, executive director, Common Cause/NY. Anyone interested may also come at 11 a.m. for a short town hall meeting on general issues in the state. I will be hosting more of these general meetings around my district next week and the following week. Call my office or visit my Assembly website for more information.

I encourage you to join my guests and me at the Desmond-Fish Library on Feb. 2 to discuss campaign finance reform. I am sure it will be an interesting conversation and that there will be ample statistics provided that will illustrate the benefits of changing the campaign finance system from what it is currently to something that creates greater equity, transparency and choice in elections and in government.

Sincerely,
Sandy Galef
Assemblywoman, 95th A.D.
914-941-1111

Butterfield Zoning Change a Fateful Step (from page 1)

it is in the long-term interest of the village to proceed with a zoning change that, however "conditional" on keeping to the proposed concept, creates a situation where there is an "as of right" to proceed with the approved elements of the plan, or is it better to insist on a planned unit development (PUD), as some citizens suggested at the last public hearing on Nov. 29, 2012.

So far, despite the PUD views expressed, the Village Board has not offered an official explanation as to why it is proceeding in this way.

A PUD approach is what Guillaro originally proposed before he withdraw it last May in the face of sharp objections from the Village Planning Board to aspects of the plan, many of which he subsequently addressed.

What some see as the advantage of the PUD is that the critical elements of the plan, especially the details of the highly touted but not yet formulated 15,000-square-foot plan for a governmental services building, could become more tangible under a process where government had to actively partner with the developer in creating the reality of a new governmental village square before construction begins.

Enhanced and consolidated government services have formed the major civic selling point of the project from the outset. Saving the post office, giving seniors space for services and community gathering, as well as consolidating town and village functions such as courts, administrative departments and public meeting rooms and adding heretofore unavailable county services constitute an oft-heard mantra resonating from the first discussions after Guillaro purchased the property from Hudson Valley Hospital in 2007. (The hospital retains a long-lease arrangement for the Lahey Pavillion, which houses medical services on the property.)

But to date any plans for such things to happen remain largely rhetorical and theoretical. The village and town governments have, at Guillaro's urging, authorized letters of intent regarding leasing space in the proposed municipal building. And County Executive MaryEllen Odell has repeatedly said she would work to deliver several new services to the historically neglected western end of Putnam, including a senior center and a DMV office. But none of the governments have actually authorized funds or even begun to make specific plans.

The town government, although officially still onboard, has already begun to consider the use of the American Legion property behind Town Hall as a new town office facility rather than Butterfield. (See our website for a more

thorough examination of the history and status of the town and village commitment actions.)

All three governments, county, town and village, operate with tight budgets constrained by resistance to tax increases and the demands of fixed obligations. The notion that new, undetermined expenses can be borne under the Butterfield concept without an arduous review process just might contain a degree of wishful thinking over fiscal reality. The new head of the Putnam County Legislature, Richard Othmer, has described this year's budget process as "lean and mean in '13."

With the zoning change approach, the idea seems to be "build it and they will come." That certainly was the message County Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra and Gallagher delivered at the last village board meeting on Jan 15. Gallagher insisted a few times (with Scuccimarra's agreement) that it was critical the village demonstrate to the county it wants the services Odell is promising by approving the zoning change and eventually the project plans. When fellow trustees questioned Scuccimarra on the county's intentions, Gallagher forcefully objected, declaring that "now is not the time to bring up potential problems with the project."

For some it is hard to appreciate the mayor's sense of dire urgency for approval before understanding more clearly what the village (and for that matter the town) is getting by way of enhanced services. Gallagher is expected to leave office in March, having said he is not running for re-election.

To read some media reports, it would be easy to conclude that the proposed Butterfield project is on the fast track toward approval by the Cold Spring Village Board and presumably the various other government agencies that would have to eventually pass judgment. *The Putnam County News and Recorder* headlines scream, "It's a Go," and a recent article in *The Journal News* had Odell, Scuccimarra, Guillaro and Gallagher all singing in harmony as to the likelihood of imminent success.

Perhaps that is the case. The Village Board is apparently the lead agency in the matter, allowing the developer to bypass the Planning Board in pursuit of the zoning change. So they could conceivably bring the matter to a vote shortly after the public hearing.

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ThePaper

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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. Please title photo file with your last name and photo location.

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

Residents Ponder Local Solutions to Address Climate Change

Water levels expected to rise 4 feet in Cold Spring by 2080

By Michael Turton

Climate change is often discussed on a global scale, but it took on a sense of urgency at the most local level — the Village of Cold Spring — at a public forum held in the music room at Haldane on Saturday, Jan. 18. *Hurricanes and High Water* brought together more than 40 residents, who first heard from a representative of the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) regarding how climate change is likely to affect the village and what can be done about it on a broad scale, before beginning the task of identifying local problems and potential solutions.

Rising waters

Kristin Marcell, special projects coordinator of the Hudson River Estuary Program, a partnership between the DEC and Cornell University, gave a rather dire summary of what is happening to climate in the Hudson Valley. The most startling statistic she offered is a predicted 4-foot rise in water levels at Cold Spring by 2080 — just 63 years from now.



Current water levels at Cold Spring's dock

Photo by M. Turton

Marcell said that the number of storms that have produced more than an inch of rainfall increased by 74 percent between 1958 and 2010. The increase in intense rainfall events is expected to continue. The 100-year storm — a weather event severe enough that there is only a 1 percent probability of it occurring at any given time — is also changing. While that storm used to produce 5.5 inches of rain, it is now calculated to produce 7 inches of rainfall. A storm producing 5.5 inches of rain is now considered the 66-year storm, meaning it is that much more likely to occur than in the past. In addition, winter rainfall will increase while summer rainfall will decrease. Excessive heat is expected in summer months and short-term droughts are also predicted.

Michael Armstrong, chair of the Special Board for the Comprehensive Plan/Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP), said that the purpose of the meeting was to “get community input ... share and gather information regarding resources and possible strategies.”

The Waterfront Plan

The DEC is encouraging communities to take a serious look at climate change and especially how to address the challenges it presents. Communities that agree to take a pledge and meet a number of basic, action-based initiatives can be designated a “Climate Smart Community” and with that receive free technical advice from leading experts as they plan their strategies.

For Cold Spring, the timing is good. Armstrong said that a draft LWRP will be complete by May. It will include policies and

recommendations for shoreline management and related topics. The Special Board is in the midst of drafting policies now, including those dealing with flooding. He said information gathered at Saturday's meeting will be incorporated in the LWRP's policies and, while another forum focusing on climate change and rising water levels will not likely take place, those issues will be addressed at the twice-monthly LWRP meetings, which are open to the public.

Once the LWRP is accepted by the Cold Spring Village Board, it will undergo extensive review, including SEQRA and by state and federal agencies. When final approval is given, the LWRP will have legal standing at all levels of government, and local laws will be required to comply with

its policies. The plan will give the village the ability to adopt laws regarding shoreline use, and Armstrong said that having an LWRP could pay dividends to Cold Spring in the form of government grants as it develops its strategies for managing the shoreline in the face of climate change. He said that Dobbs Ferry, a down-river community with a completed LWRP, recently received \$6 million dollars in grants for its waterfront initiatives.

Shoreline treatment

Marcell highlighted a number of solutions adopted elsewhere that Cold Spring may consider. She said that New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo is stressing the use of “green infrastructure” in shoreline management — approaches that incorporate the use of more cost-effective, vegetative-based solutions and less rigid designs than in traditional treatments, which often used costly, hard metal surfaces and straight-line designs.

Upriver at Esopus Meadows, a shoreline treatment utilizing green solutions withstood both Hurricane Irene and Hurricane Sandy. At Brooklyn Bridge Park, a wetland was constructed as part of shoreline protection. In Tarrytown, at the former General Motors Co. property, a greenway was created at the water's edge incorporating buffer areas and trails. In other locales, zoning has been used to control development in 100-year floodplain areas. And in Hamburg, Germany, an area of the city was designed to intentionally allow flood waters to temporarily inundate streets and the first floor of buildings, allowing life to go on



Residents identified major village assets that could be affected by increased water levels and changing weather patterns.

Photo by M. Turton

as normal on the higher floors until flood waters recede.

A plus for Cold Spring is that Dockside Park and Foundry Park have been recently chosen as demonstration sites as part of a partnership among the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve and the DEC. The sites will be used to show how green infrastructure can be incorporated into shoreline management. Commenting on the selection of the two parks as demonstration sites, Special Board Vice Chair Anne Impellizzeri said, “We are very privileged,” to which Marcell added, “And it's on the state's dime.” The Demonstration Site Network Program will pay project costs.

Discussing solutions

Marcell encouraged Cold Spring residents to address key questions about its waterfront in light of the climate change that is taking place: What is the lifespan of the infrastructure? What is the long-term vision for a waterfront plan? What assets need to be conserved? Is there a strategy for moving certain resources if necessary? In finding solutions that make sense for Cold Spring, Marcell said that key riverfront assets need to be identified and prioritized along with the risks that threaten them.

Participants broke into three groups to begin the process of identifying key assets along the Cold Spring waterfront, challenges and possible solutions. Maps recently produced by Scenic Hudson that show the projected rise in river levels were used as part of the exercise. Key assets identified included businesses and residences in the area of lower Main Street, the sewage treatment plant and pumping station, and the bridge,


which provides the only access point to the riverfront. The Metro-North tracks were underlined as a resource of vital importance to commuters and tourism, although some expressed concern that the railway company is not doing enough planning regarding such issues as the effect of rising water levels on the tracks.

Solutions discussed included dredging the marshes south of the village in order to increase their water storage, while using the fill to increase the elevation of properties such as Dockside. Cold Spring's Water and Wastewater Superintendent Greg Phillips was not able to attend but provided a detailed memo analyzing the situation and possible approaches regarding the sewage treatment plant and pumping station.

Severe storms, flooding, power outages and other weather-related disruptions have increased in frequency in recent years. Residents near the waterfront experienced severe flooding from the river during Hurricane Sandy and others from inland streams during Hurricane Irene. “It's clearly not an abstraction,” Armstrong said. In summing up, he cited the pumping station on West Street, which lies in the flood zone and is worth tens of thousands of dollars, emphasizing the need to stabilize the shoreline at Dockside and to more effectively manage storm-water runoff that flows down from the village to the riverfront.

During one of the discussion groups, a participant suggested that one possible solution might be to move residences out from below the railroad tracks to other locations while creating a marina on the riverfront.

Rita Seibel who lives close to the riverfront responded emotionally. “Please don't underestimate that our homes are there. It's easy to say relocate, but I don't want to lose my home.”



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Haldane High School Presents Accomplishments to Garrison School Board

Parents also concerned whether to announce lockdown drills or not

By Jeanne Tao

The Garrison School Board of Education was host Wednesday night (Jan. 23) to Haldane Superintendent Mark Villanti, High School Principal Brian Alm, and two of their star seniors, Lindy Labriola and Simon Close, also Garrison School alumni. The visit occurs every year to present an annual report to the board, as a receiving high school for Garrison's eighth-graders.

Because Garrison School does not have its own high school, graduates of the middle school continuing in the public school system choose between Haldane in Cold Spring and James O'Neill High School across the river in Highland Falls. There will be more opportunities for Garrison's eighth-graders and their families to find out about the two high schools on visits, and O'Neill High School will also make a presentation to the Garrison School Board at an upcoming meeting.

A few parents attended the meeting Wednesday expressly to hear about Haldane. Villanti and Alm began with a PowerPoint presentation highlighting statistics such as the SAT profile, state assessment results, and status as silver medalist according to *U.S. News & World Report*.

Alm pointed out that Haldane has had success giving their high school students a head start in college, because seniors take a social studies elective affiliated with Dutchess Community College and because they encourage most of their students to take Advanced Placement (AP) courses, which can provide students with college credits if they pass AP exams. Alm mentioned that studies show students who took AP courses, whether they passed the exams or not, tend to perform much better in college than those didn't attempt any AP courses.

He said, "Our hope is that every student who goes through Haldane will at least attempt one AP. If you raise expectations for all students, students meet those expectations." In the past five years, their AP participation rate has more than tripled, with more students taking AP courses and achievement rates remaining steady.

Labriola and Close answered questions posed by Villanti and Alm as well as by board members. Labriola has taken nine out of the available 11 AP courses

offered at Haldane will attend Amherst next year. Close is taking six AP courses and is "tired all the time," being heavily involved in drama and other activities, but he said he wanted "to be challenged in that way." He has applied to many Ivy League schools.



Haldane seniors and Garrison School alumni Lindy Labriola and Simon Close talk to the Garrison School Board about their experiences at Haldane on Jan. 23.

Photo by J. Tao

Asked by Trustee Jim Cannon about the challenges, especially concerning state mandates, that the high school faces, Alm said that their answer lies in common planning time for teachers and creative scheduling. "I think that's what's going to keep us all alive in this age of outside-imposed, unfunded mandates," Alm said. "We have to preserve the opportunity for teachers to be professional, to work together and share their craft and troubleshoot together, and model the type of learning that we want our students to have in class."

Budget update

Garrison Superintendent Gloria Colucci said that the administration is still working on the 2013-14 budget, but there are still many unknowns, including numbers for kindergarten registration (which occurs Feb. 5-6) and the costs of implementing the new teacher and principal evaluations (APPR). Colucci's goal is to remain within the 2 percent tax cap, but she pointed out recent disappointing news from Gov. Andrew Cuomo's proposed budget, which reduces Garrison's state aid by almost 10 percent compared to last year (this year's state aid totaling only \$56,000).

Cannon asked whether there could be any changes to the governor's budget.

Colucci replied that the state has had to shift aid from districts with higher wealth ratios to more needy districts, so there may be some resistance from Long Island and Westchester districts, but in her experience, the governor's proposed budget "typically prevails."

Safety and lockdown drills

Trustee Charlotte Rowe asked Colucci about a recent safety meeting held with the PTA, which had sparked discussion among parents over the weekend. Rowe asked about the results of a recent security audit by the sheriff's office.

Colucci said the sheriff's deputy was impressed by Garrison, which is locked during the school day and only opened to visitors after verifying their identity. There are panic buttons in the school, which were recently tested by accident when a child pushed one, causing police to respond within two to three minutes. Much of the technology was installed seven to eight years ago, however, so some systems may need upgrading. This could include installing a camera with an upgraded buzzer system, key cards, and a new PA system, which would have to be approved first by the board.

Rowe acknowledged that these steps might be necessary, but she pointed out that the shooter in Newtown, Conn., did not try to buzz into the school but simply shot his way in, so he was only deterred a few seconds. Many parents, she added, want multiple, unannounced lockdown drills, even though they are not required.

Colucci elaborated that the school typically conducts larger drills (lockdown, shelter-in-place, evacuation or high-wind) at least twice a year. An evacuation drill occurs every October in coordination with the county, where all schools practice sending students home early. The school will conduct a lockdown drill soon, but it will practice first with only faculty, so that they can troubleshoot before the full drill.

Another concern parents have expressed, Colucci said, is that they do not want their children to be upset or frightened by these drills. She said having calm discussions in class would help, giving the example of a teacher who read aloud a book about a fish who needed to find a safe place.

Gerard McCarthy, the only parent in attendance by the end of the meeting, asked whether there was a reason the school does not notify parents before a drill. Colucci explained that the principal does send a letter home before and after large drills — namely the evacuation and lockdown drills.

When asked by the board why he wants parents to be notified of the drills, McCarthy answered, "So they can decide whether they want their kids to participate or not. Or if they want to prepare them."

Colucci said, "The drills are actually

Garrison Kindergarten Registration Feb. 5 & 6

Documents required to register for 2013-14 school year

The Garrison Union Free School will hold registration for kindergarten on Tuesday, Feb. 5, and Wednesday, Feb. 6, from 1 - 3 p.m. in the hallway outside the main office.

To register a child for kindergarten during the 2013-14 school year, the child must be 5 years old by Dec. 31, 2013. A parent or guardian needs to bring the child's original birth certificate, immunization records and proof of residency. To document residency, owners should bring a signed contract of sale or deed and a utility/service bill (electric, telephone, cable, etc.). Renters should bring two of the following: a notarized affidavit of landlord, rent receipt (within 30 days) that indicates address, and a utility/service bill (electric, telephone, cable, etc.).

Information about the May 1 Orientation will be given out at the registration. Children being registered do not need to accompany parents or guardians for registration. For additional information, call the school at 845-424-3689, ext. 230 or 221.

required by the state Education Department. We are required to do the drills, and there is also a protocol to follow in doing the drills, and part of that protocol has always been that a letter go out announcing the drill. I don't know if that will change going forward."

Trustee Theresa Orlandi asked whether they were allowed, then, to do surprise drills, and Colucci replied that they can.

Cannon said he was concerned that students who opt out of the announced drills would be less prepared than others in the event of an emergency. This is why, he added, families are encouraged to practice what to do in case of a fire at home.

McCarthy clarified that while the advantages and disadvantages of doing the drills are "debatable," he was making the point that parents should be informed on when the drills will take place.

Board goals

School Board President Richard O'Rourke thanked the community and parents for their input through the process of revising the board's long-term goals. In response to parents' request in the goals for better communication from the school, Principal Stephanie Impellittere announced the publication of *The Garrison Connection*, a newsletter put together by parent Emily Lansbury and Technology Specialist Nancy Romano. It can be viewed on the school's website, gufs.org.

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The Calendar



Elaine Bromka as Lady Bird, left, (Photo by Natalie Heller) and as Betty Ford, right (Photo by Ron Marotta) in *Tea for Three*



Three First Ladies in One-Woman Show *Tea for Three* at Depot Theatre

Elaine Bromka plays Lady Bird, Pat Nixon and Betty Ford

Three former First Ladies will be sharing secrets at the Depot Theatre on Sunday, Feb. 3, in the one-woman show, *Tea for Three: Lady Bird, Pat & Betty*.

Written by Eric H. Weinberger with Elaine Bromka, and starring the Emmy Award-winning Bromka, the play is a reimagining of three women who suddenly found themselves celebrities — a behind-the-scenes look at Lady Bird Johnson, Pat Nixon and Betty Ford, revealing the personal cost of what Pat Nixon called the “hardest unpaid job in the world.”

Bromka has over 30 years’ experience in film and television, on and off Broadway. She appeared as the mom in *Uncle Buck* with John Candy, as Stella on *Days of our Lives*, and on *E.R.*, *The Sopranos*, and *Law and Order*.

“These were women of intelligence and grit who suddenly found themselves in a fishbowl. I realized I wanted to tell the story from their point of view.”

The inspiration for *Tea for Three* came about when Bromka starred opposite Rich Little in *The Presidents*, which she performed across the country and on PBS. Called upon to impersonate eight of the most recent first ladies, she ended up spending months poring over videotapes of the women. Studying nuances of their body language and speech patterns to explore psychologically why they moved and spoke as they did, she became more and more drawn in by their personalities.

“These were women of intelligence and grit who suddenly found themselves in a fishbowl,” Bromka observed. “I realized I wanted to tell the story from their point of view.”

“And I wanted to explode myths. Pat was called ‘Plastic Pat’ in the press, for example, because she was always smiling. Look more closely at her eyes,

though. There’s nothing plastic about her. You see the eyes of a private, watchful survivor.”

Her collaborator, Drama Desk and Lucille Lortel Award nominee Weinberger, is the author of several off-Broadway plays, including *Wanda’s World* and *Class Mothers ’68*. He and Bromka zeroed in on the three women, linking their stories by revealing each one at the threshold moment of the end of her time in the White House.

Directed by Byam Stevens, the 85-minute performance will be at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 3, at the Depot Theatre, 10 Garrison’s Landing in Garrison. Tickets are \$35. To purchase tickets, call 845-424-3900 or visit brownpapertickets.com.

Emerging Hudson Valley Artists Open HVCCA Show

Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art (HVCCA) will present *The Power of Place*, an exhibition of works by members of the Peekskill Artist Club, holding an opening reception with the artists on Sunday, Jan. 27, from 5 to 7 p.m. The Peekskill Artist Club is a group of emerging artists from the Hudson Valley region who have been meeting monthly at HVCCA for dialogue and critique, eager to continue the growth found through discourse that characterized their time in art school.

The Peekskill Artist Club had its



A recent meeting of the Peekskill Artist Club

Photo courtesy of HVCCA

The Big Draw Gala Party Benefits Beacon Open Studios

Show of \$50 6-by-8-inch artworks closes Saturday, Jan. 26

The Big Draw Gala Party at Hudson Beach Glass on Saturday, Jan. 26, from 7 to 10 p.m., is a night of live drawing, prix fixe art, music, food and drink, an open bar and other festivities. A night of art in action, this year’s party will feature a live drawing rally, a photo booth and, new this year, a silent auction of some special works by *The Big Draw’s* artists.



The Big Draw 2012 was held at Scenic Hudson’s River Center.

Photo courtesy of Beacon Open Studios

At Saturday night’s Drawing Rally, four artists, Catherine Welshman, Dan Weise, Gail Robbins and Chris Sanders, will be drawing live in the gallery. There will be a photo booth with an array of costumes and disguises ready for revelers to be captured by professional photographer Rob Penner. Special 11-by-14-inch drawings by Erica Hauser and Andrea Moreau will be auctioned off during Saturday’s silent auction. Artisan Wines and The Hop are supplying libations for the gala, and snacks will also be available.

Hudson Beach Glass is located at 162 Main St. in Beacon. Tickets for the party will be available at the door on the night of the event. Tickets are \$15 each or two for \$25. Proceeds from the evening’s event will benefit Beacon Open Studios and the participating artists.

Beacon Open Studios is an annual, citywide art event, connecting local artists and their studios to the public. Visitors and art enthusiasts have total viewing access to workspaces where artists display past, current and artworks in progress. Artists who participate have unfiltered access to an audience for their art without the need to rely on a gallery or outside curator. Now in its fifth year, it is scheduled for April 20-21. For more information about Beacon Open Studios, visit their website, beaconopenstudios.org. Beacon Open Studios and *The Big Draw* are made possible by the sponsorship of BeaconArts.

first meeting in May of 2010. With the knowledge that HVCCA founders Livia and Marc Straus had helped establish a similar group in Manhattan, several artists appealed to HVCCA as a venue. The idea was congruous with HVCCA’s mission to enable emerging artists, foster creative growth and experimental projects, as well as to help establish the reputation of the Hudson Valley as a place for important contemporary art.

Over two and a half years, their work has grown and morphed, gaining from group critique and constructive self-analysis. This exhibition is a culmination of their time together, a step along the path to greater artistic growth, self-knowledge and creativity.

Artists include Gulgun Aliriza (Westchester), Emil Alzamora (Beacon), Cristina Alvarez Arnold (Peekskill), Matthew Arnold (Peekskill), Andrew Barthelmes (Peekskill), Katrina Ellis (Cold Spring), Geoff Feder (Peekskill), Philip Hardy (Rhinebeck), Katherine Mangiardi (Croton-on-Hudson), James Mulvaney (Mahopac), Adam Niklewicz (North Haven, Conn.), Jason Repolle (Highland), Shara Shisheboran (Peekskill), Tim Smith (Peekskill), Ken Vallario (Rosendale) and Michael Zelehoski (Beacon).

HVCCA is located at 1701 Main St. in Peekskill and is open Friday 11 a.m. - 5

p.m., Saturday and Sunday 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.



Studio Mali by Francois Deschamps opens Saturday, Jan. 26, 5 - 9 p.m., with an artist’s talk at 6:30, at Fovea Exhibitions, 143 Main St. in Beacon. Visit foveaeditons.org for more information.

Photo courtesy of Fovea

SITTING on
the BENCH
❖ by Tara ❖



The saga of the Hanging House Painter at Rock and Main Streets rolls on. My team of investigators has learned that the eight-foot cut-out has returned from exile in Poughkeepsie to his long-time home in Cold Spring. It seems that even as my last column on the subject was thundering off the presses, the iconic image was being driven here by his patrons, Steve and Cecile Lindstedt, now retired to Poughkeepsie, to be turned over to the new owners of their building, Dave and Melia Marzollo. The couple are, of course, the son and daughter-in-law of the charming and famous Claudio and Jean Marzollo.

Dave assured my investigators that the house painter will soon return to his former position. “We have a very tall ladder,” Dave said. He and Melia have launched a yoga studio, SkyBaby, on the third floor where classes are now in progress. “The painter is already in a yoga position so it will be entirely appropriate,” he added. Stand by for the final episode and get the brass band ready for celebrations.



Just as important was the photograph of my boss on last week’s front page of *The Paper*. Now the boss is almost as modest as moi and she was overcome by the number of messages remarking on her prominence. I was struck by the accompanying story, a solid non-partisan piece of reporting almost up to my standard, on the thoughts and ideas of Main Street merchants about its economic future. There were, thank goodness, no hymns to the beauty of Cold Spring, which surely is a given, and no vague visionary hopes for success.

However, I also got a message, this from Sara Dulaney, chiding me for writing about the splendid gardening work of volunteers without mentioning the Highlands Garden Club. She pointed out that “this group maintains the flowers around the memorial at 301 and Chestnut, around the bandstand near the dock and in the beds at the foot of Main Street. This club also provides plants to the veterans at Castle Point VA hospital and to the Philipstown seniors at the Friendship Club.” Happy now, Ms. Dulaney?

I now demonstrate my graciousness by promoting Boo, even though he is not a black Labrador. The boss has several new versions of Petite Boo all on display at the Goose.



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The Calendar

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

European Sensibilities: 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

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

The Shifting by Liliane Tomasko
In Search of America by Stephen Cox
10 A.M. - 5 P.M. TUESDAY TO SUNDAY
GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org
Jan. 26 to March 3

Peekskill Project V: The New Hudson River School, The Power of Place
JAN. 27 TO APRIL 28
11 A.M. - 5 P.M. FRIDAY
NOON - 6 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
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

The Big Draw
10 A.M. - 6 P.M. MONDAY TO SATURDAY
11 A.M. - 6 P.M. SUNDAY
HUDSON BEACH GLASS
162 Main St., Beacon
845-440-0068 | hudsonbeachglass.com
Ends Jan. 26

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

Kids & Community

Animals and Nature Together (Ages 2-4)
10 A.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845-534-5506, ext. 204 | hnnaturemuseum.org
First of six weekly sessions.

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

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

Tu B'shevat Seder & Pot Luck Dinner
5:30 P.M. ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-8011 | philipstownreformsynagogue.org
With Rabbi Claire Ginsburg Goldstein

Sports

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

Theater & Film

International Film Night: Malena
7 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Ladies' Film Night: Magic Mike
7:30 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

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

Drew Scecina
8 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE'S
184 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

The Compact
9 P.M. MAX'S ON MAIN
246 Main St., Beacon
845-838-6297 | maxsonmain.com

Meetings & Lectures

Masonic Information Night
7 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN MASONIC LODGE
18 Secor St., Nelsonville
845-265-2244 | philipstown236fam.org

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

Religious Services

Week of Prayer: Rev. Margaret Laemmel
7 P.M. MOTHER LURANA HOUSE
Graymoor, 1350 Route 9, Garrison
800-338-2620 | graymoorcenter.org

Service at Beacon Hebrew Alliance
7:30 P.M. 331 VERPLANCK, BEACON
847-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

Service at Reform Temple of Putnam Valley
8 P.M. 362 CHURCH, PUTNAM VALLEY
845-528-4774 | ny069.urj.net

The Riverside Galleries January 26 through March 3, 2013

Reception for the Artists Saturday Jan. 26, 6 to 8



The Shifting Paintings by LILIANE TOMASKO
In Search of America Drawings by STEPHEN COX

Garrison Art Center

23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison, NY

Open Tues thru Sun 10–5

845-424-3960

info@garrisonartcenter.org

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

Kids & Community

The Business Institute (Seminar)
8 A.M. - 4 P.M. MID-HUDSON LIBRARY
SYSTEM AUDITORIUM
105 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-454-1700, ext. 1000 | poklib.org

Cold Spring Farmers’ Market
8:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN
COMMUNITY CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison | csfarmmarket.org

Food Pantry
9 - 10 A.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF PHILIPSTOWN
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

High Peter’s Kill Snowshoe
10 A.M. MINNEWASKA STATE PARK PRESERVE
Route 44/55, 5 miles west of Route 299,
Gardiner | 845-255-0752. Registration required.

Ferret Frolic
11 A.M. TEATOWN LAKE RESERVATION
1600 Spring Valley Road, Ossining
914-762-2912, ext. 110 | teatown.org

Mastodons: Ice Age to Discovery
11 A.M., 1 P.M. & 2 P.M. WILDLIFE
EDUCATION CENTER
25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845-534-7781 | hnnaturemuseum.org

Meet the Animals
1 & 2:30 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
25 Boulevard, Cornwall
845-534-7781 | hnnaturemuseum.org

Members Only Winter Walk
2 P.M. STORM KING ART CENTER
1 Museum Road, New Windsor
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Wine Tasting
3 - 6 P.M. ARTISAN WINE SHOP
See details under Friday.

**Burns Night Supper With Hudson Highlands
Pipe Band**
7 P.M. HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB
955 Route 9D, Garrison
845-809-5702 | hhpband.org

Health & Fitness

**Elemental Cleansing and Detoxifying Yoga
Workshop With Lisa Bennett Matkin**
2:30 - 5 P.M. SKYBABY STUDIO
75 Main St., Third Floor, Cold Spring
845-265-4444 | skybabyyoga.com

Sports

Army Men’s Basketball vs. American
3 P.M. CHRISTI ARENA, WEST POINT
845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

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

Art & Design

Dia:Beacon Tour
1 P.M. 3 BEEKMAN ST., BEACON
845-440-0100 | diabeacon.org

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

Studio Mali by Francois Deschamps
5-9 P.M. OPENING
6:30 P.M. ARTIST TALK
Fovea Exhibitions, 143 Main St., Beacon
917-930-0034 | foveaexhibitions.org

The Shifting / In Search of America (Opening)
6 - 8 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | theriversidegalleries.org

Members Gathering
7 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 Route 52, Kent Lakes
845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org



An environmental educator points out Peter’s Kill climbing area on a guided snowshoe hike in Minnewaska State Park Preserve. A High Peter’s Kill snowshoe will take place at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 26. Source: nysparks.com

The Big Draw Gala Party
7 P.M. HUDSON BEACH GLASS
162 Main St., Beacon
beaconopenstudios.org

Theater & Film

Movies for Kids: Tarzan and His Mate
NOON. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

For Colored Girls ...
8 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE
See details under Friday.

Music

**A Song is Born: Todd Giudice and
Kathleen Pemble**
8 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN.INFO
69 Main St., Cold Spring | 845-809-5584

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

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

Religious Services

Blessing of Waters and Vasilopita Celebration
11 A.M. ST. BASIL’S ACADEMY GREEK
ORTHODOX CHAPEL | Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3500 | saintbasilacademy.org

Our Lady of Loretto
5:30 P.M. MASS
24 Fair St., Cold Spring
845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

Kids & Community

Farmer’s Market
11 A.M. - 3 P.M. SCENIC HUDSON’S RIVER CENTER
Long Dock Drive, Beacon
845-234-9325 | thebeaconfarmersmarket.com

Mastodons: Ice Age to Discovery
11 A.M, 1 P.M. & 2:30 P.M. WILDLIFE
EDUCATION CENTER | See details under Saturday.

Bird Feeding for Beginners (Ages 6-12)
1 P.M. TRAILSIDE MUSEUMS AND ZOO
Bear Mountain | 845-786-2701, ext. 293.
Registration required.

Meet the Animals
1 & 2:30 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
See details under Saturday.

Health & Fitness

Hudson Valley Co-Ed Soccer
7:45 A.M. FISHKILL RECREATION CENTER
793 Route 52, Fishkill
meetup.com/hudsonvalleycoedsoccer

Music

The Celtic Notes
5 - 8 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIES
184 Main St, Cold Spring | 845-265-2012 |
whistlingwillies.com

Meetings & Lectures

Beginner AA Meeting
NOON. GRAYMOOR SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER
1350 Route 9, Garrison
800-338-2620 | graymoorcenter.org

**Out of the Shadows: The History of Negro
League Baseball**
2:30 P.M. MID-HUDSON LIBRARY 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

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 of Philipstown
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)

Ring out the old and breathe in the new at SkyBaby Studio

Welcome 2013 with a new year elemental cleansing and detoxifying yoga workshop with Lisa Bennett Matkin!

Saturday, January 26th from 2:30-5pm
Investment \$40

The end of the year is an ideal time to cleanse and detoxify.

This workshop will focus on asanas and pranayama that will facilitate the removal of ama - toxins in the body and increase agni, which will balance digestive fire. This will help to alleviate allergy symptoms, and aid in digestion and weight control. A guided cleansing meditation will bring clarity and new inspiration to your mind.

SkyBaby Studio
Yoga and Pilates

www.skybabyyoga.com
845-265-4444

Lisa Bennett Matkin
LISA BENNETT MATKIN has been teaching yoga for 20 years. Lisa’s Yoga Zone: Power Yoga video was rated number one by Natural Health Magazine, and her classes have been rated as the “best high energy in the country” by Allure magazine. She has been on the faculty of Kripalu, Omega, and The Open Center. She is currently a contributing Editor at Fit Yoga Magazine, and has also contributed to numerous other publications. Lisa’s teaching style finds inspiration from her own life challenges and experiences, which she shares generously from her heart and spirit to guide others to reconnect with their own uniqueness.

SkyBaby Yoga and Pilates...
Just through the rainbow doors

75 Main Street
3rd floor
Cold Spring, New York

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

Graymoor Spiritual Life Center
11 A.M. PILGRIM HALL, 1350 ROUTE 9, GARRISON
800-338-2620 | graymoorcenter.org

MONDAY, JANUARY 28

Kids & Community

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

Little Bookworms (Ages 2 1/2 to 5)
10 A.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

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

Health & Fitness

Red Cross Blood Drive
1 - 6 P.M. CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
953 Main St., Fishkill
800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org

Youth Basketball Skills/Drills (Grades 6-8)
6:15 - 7:15 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Meditation for Women With Cancer
6:30 P.M. MAHOPAC PUBLIC LIBRARY
668 Route 6, Mahopac
914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

Men's Basketball
7:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Sports

Haldane Girls' Basketball vs. Pawling
6 P.M. HALDANE HIGH SCHOOL
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Theater & Film

An Evening With Dick Cavett
Best of the 2012 Transylvania International Film Festival: Everybody in Our Family
7:30 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Music

Community Chorus
7 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Jazz Open Jam Session
8 P.M. TURNING POINT MUSIC CAFÉ
468 Piermont Ave., Piermont
845-359-1089 | turningpointcafe.com

Meetings & Lectures

Free Computer Help
4 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Cold Spring Lions Club
6:30 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE'S
184 Main St., Cold Spring
914-456-9698 | coldspringlions.com

AA Big Book Meeting
8 P.M. ST. PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1101 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

Kids & Community

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

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

Breast Cancer Support Group
7 P.M. SUPPORT CONNECTION OFFICE
40 Triangle Center, Suite 100, Yorktown | 914-962-6402 supportconnection.org

Sports

Haldane Boys' Basketball vs. Garrison
4:15 P.M. HALDANE SCHOOL
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Theater & Film

Jacob Burns Film Center Events
7:15 P.M. STAND UP GUYS AND Q&A
7:30 P.M. BEST OF THE 2012 TRANSYLVANIA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL: *THREE DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS (THE LAST DAYS IN THE LIFE OF ELENA AND NICOLAE CEAUSESCU)*
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Music

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

Highlands Garden Club
1 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

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

Board of Trustees Public Hearing: Butterfield Zoning Change
7:30 P.M. VFW HALL
34 Kemble Ave., 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 30

Kids & Community

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

Mah Jongg Open Play
10 A.M. - 1 P.M. VFW HALL
34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring
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

Great Reads for Guys (Grades 4-5)
3:30 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Sports

Haldane Girls' Basketball vs. JFK
6 P.M. HALDANE HIGH SCHOOL
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Army Women's Basketball vs. Holy Cross
7 P.M. CHRISTI ARENA, WEST POINT
845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

Theater & Film

Best of the 2012 Transylvania International Film Festival: A Dream's Merchant
7:30 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org



Loten Namling performs at St. Philip's Church in Garrison on Thursday, Jan. 31, at 7 p.m. Photo courtesy of St. Philip's

Music

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

Meetings & Lectures

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

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WWW.HUDSONDESIGN.PRO

The Calendar *(from page 10)*

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 and Mass

9:30 A.M. ST. PIUS X CHAPEL, 6TH FLOOR
Graymoor, 1350 Route 9, Garrison
800-338-2620 | graymoorcenter.org

Bible Study

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

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.

Health & Fitness

The Health Care Revolution & Its Impact on Small Business

6 P.M. PUTNAM HOSPITAL CENTER | 670
Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel | 845-406-1769 |
dambv@hvfcu.org | Registration required.

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

Music

A Journey for Freedom: An Evening With

Tibetan Musician/Storyteller Loten Namling

7 p.m. St. Philip's Episcopal Church
1101 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

Meetings & Lectures

Special Board for Comprehensive Plan/LWRP

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

Town Board Workshop

7:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN TOWN HALL
238 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-5200
philipstown.com

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

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

Good Things Happen Here: Creating Public Spaces That Aid the Feeling of Belonging

A novel urban-planning workshop series germinates at Beacon's School of Jellyfish

By Alison Rooney

What makes people who have the ability to choose determine whether any particular location is the right one for them? Once they've moved in, what satisfies them and contributes to the putting down of roots? What factors help those who have lived in a place for generations feel that it belongs to them but should be open to others as well? All of these questions are part of the petri dish of tangibles and intangibles that contribute to shaping geographic centers. And with populations shifting steadily to urban areas, even small cities like Beacon are doing self-examination and figuring out their identities.

It is with all of this as a backdrop that Beacon's School of Jellyfish (SOJ) — an interdisciplinary design center that aims to use its role as a community forum to generate sustainability and alternative-energy consulting ideas for entities large and small, public and private — is holding a series of workshops. Entitled *Good Things Happen Here*, the workshops focus on ideas for making Beacon a "successful city, a place to which people feel they belong," according to SOJ founders Oliver Schaper and Lily Zand.

Zand, an architect and professor, said learning to look at the details and the whole at the same time is integral to the discipline of architecture. Zand, a Cooper Union graduate in architecture with a master's in design studies from the Harvard School of Design, is a fervent believer in giving more than you take and in the importance of looking at the world and understanding that everything and everybody are parts of a collective system, humans dependent on ants, and so on.

After spending what is now four years in Beacon with SOJ, Zand and Schaper, her husband, an architect who has worked extensively in urban design and with master planning strategies relating to sustainability, are starting to ask questions of the community, the answers to which they hope will shape the city's development.

Anchored to the coming centennial celebration in Beacon, Schaper and Zand encouraged attendees at their recent workshop to both look back 100 years and look forward 100 years, giving con-



Exterior of School of Jellyfish on workshop day

Photo by A. Rooney

sideration to what has benefited the area and what hasn't in formulating a plan for the future. The object is to avoid disposable architecture and growth and to avoid a misplaced nostalgia for things in the past as well. Schaper noted, "If we continue to put up buildings which look like they were built a hundred years ago, a hundred years from now there'll be no record of this time." Schaper urged a long-term vision: "Build stuff that is valid — that will still matter 100 years from now. Even if the thing itself doesn't survive, the idea does. Because we have become so stingy with resources — as we should be — things feel limitless, but actually are limited; understand the limits of the body within an unlimited space."

In speaking of urban expansion, Schaper said, "When it makes sense, a unified vision opens a city up for growth and it's not a negative." He explained, "The idea is to promote the city as a live organism, which acts as one."

This workshop, which focused on public spaces, followed an introductory presentation a few months ago at the Beacon Institute and will be continued with other workshops — the next investigating *Transportation as a Public Space* — in the months to come.

The workshop opened with a viewing of a film that highlighted the description, by a number of astronauts, of the first time they looked at earth from space. Each described what is known as "the overview effect," in which there is a kind of ecstatic realization that the individual self is a manifestation of the whole earth. With this as backdrop, Zand and Schaper asked the attendees to consider, "What is a public space of our time?"

Thinking first of the city as a whole, under the name "Parametric Cities," Schaper said: "When you think of a city as a fabric, everything connects. Study public spaces; they are a catalyst where cultural innovation happens. The idea is look at it again and see what sense of belonging occurs, when and how. A sense of belonging comes third (after physiological need and a feeling of safety) in importance. What does belonging offer? It is critical that everyone feels contributory, valued, part of a system."

Schaper detailed five crucial "big issue" points for strategists and the public to consider in urban development:

1. A mandate of sustainable development;
2. Urban population versus non-urban population
3. Ecological urbanism
4. Live local and participate
5. Access, connectivity and choice of transportation

In relation to sustainable development, Schaper felt that changes were afoot. "Big corporations now see it as a matter of survival to look where their raw materials come from. We as people can demand it. The consciousness of living green becomes not a matter of decision-making; it just is."

In discussing point 4, he said that "every master plan which has succeeded has done so because of number 4; those that fail don't include it."

Zand called the notion of "How can I change the world?" too daunting, and, as part of this gathering, she detailed a sort of communal think-tank effort, under the guise of a "competition" for "10 nanoscale, cheap, quick interventions

for Beacon" — not just on Main Street, but everywhere, as "the city as organism has to grow all over." With this type of small-scale 10-pack generated by the community, Zand sees a real potential for funding: "If it's nano and affordable it can happen. If we can get 10 percent of the total population onto Main Street, it creates another dynamic, because people go where other people are — it's a ripple effect, and then these turn into bigger ideas. Sometimes it's a 'temporary idea' which gets it over the threshold," she said, citing the London Eye as an example of that process.

The small ideas should "compress the space of Beacon into events which happen here which become that next thing that guides you ... must be do-able from now until the summer," Zand said. She suggested a first one as a "live feed of Main Street on view at the Beacon Metro-North station" so that the city can benefit from the 75,000 annual visitors to Dia at that end of town. The goal is to "retain the Dia draw and siphon it up the hill."

Responding to a comment made by a participant who mentioned a series of banners created by local artists that greet visitors near Dia and act as kind of "breadcrumbs leading them up to Main Street," Zand said, "It doesn't need to become Disneyland-ish to cultivate the mind of a walker."

Reiterating the overarching need for residents to "have a city they feel part of," Zand called belongingness "a sense of personal involvement in a social system so that persons feel themselves to be an indispensable and integral part of the system; that's the essence of belonging." A discussion followed about how long-standing community members might relate to any changes, and what newcomers could do to become part of the existing Beacon community.

Ideas were then solicited from participants; one suggested project was to evoke a town square anchored by a fountain by creating it in miniature — say, a ceramic pot equipped with a pump, making it a gathering place with a water feature. Encouraging others to come up with more, Zand emphasized, "The important thing is that though everything starts with a vision, it can't be eclectic — you must know what connects and gather the information together."

For more information on School of Jellyfish and their many activities, including future *Good Things Happen Here* workshops, visit schoolofjellyfish.com or their Facebook page. Also see an earlier story on SOJ from Oct. 14, 2010, on philipstown.info.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Beacon Represented at NY Times Travel Show

BeaconArts and their sponsors joined Dutchess County Tourism in their booth at *The New York Times* Travel Show at the Javitts Center on Jan. 18, 19 and 20. They handed out over 800 Beacon maps and 800 Art Along the Hudson brochures. Teamed with other venues from Dutchess County, they helped spread the word about Beacon and other Dutchess County communities that have art, history, culinary treats and scenery.

BeaconArts extends thanks to their joining sponsors — Art Along the Hudson, Mountain Tops, Hudson Beach Glass and RiverWinds Gallery. Special thanks go to Kirsten Heincke for creating the banner, Robert Rodriguez Jr. for his image and Grey Printing for printing the banner.

The Beacon community is one of the 10 communities of ArtAlongTheHudson.com. Representatives spoke to participants about Dia:Beacon, Dutchess County art happenings, specialty shops, food and drink venues, historical sites and the mountains and river. For more information, visit beaconarts.org, artalongthehudson.com and dutchesscountytourism.com.



BeaconArts President Linda Hubbard at the travel show in New York City

Photo courtesy of BeaconArts

Winterfest on March 2 Preps for Beacon’s Riverfest

Beacon Winterfest 2013 is the major fundraiser in support of Beacon Riverfest with all proceeds going to support this summer’s fourth annual event. Organized to brighten up the bleak, mid-winter months, this first-ever concert in the Waterfall Room at The Roundhouse at Beacon Falls will take place Saturday, March 2, at 7 p.m. Winterfest 2013 will feature musical performances by Yarn, the Big Bright, and Antje Duvekot.



The headliners, Yarn, are jammy, Americana alt-country rockers led by singer/songwriter Blake Christiana.

The Big Bright, a new collaboration between Glenn Patscha and Fiona McBain of Americana stalwarts Ollabelle, and singer/songwriter Liz Tormes make their Hudson Valley debut with a selection of Brit-pop and vintage New Wave guilty pleasures in support of a new disc called *I Slept Through the '80s*.

Antje Duvekot (pronounced aunt-yuh doo-va-kott), a Boston-based singer/songwriter, combines vocals with a poetic sensibility influenced by the likes of Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell, Paul Simon and Leonard Cohen.

The event is sponsored by Beacon Natural Market, The Roundhouse at Beacon Falls, *Chronogram*, WFUV-FM and the Beacon Music Factory.

Tickets are available at brownpapertickets.com and are \$45 (with a limited number of VIP “Snow Angel” preferred seats available for \$90).

Howland Piano Festival Continues With Jenny Lin

The Howland Chamber Music Circle’s Piano Festival continues with a performance by the young Taiwanese pianist Jenny Lin in the second of a series of four midwinter presentations of pianists.

Lin’s ability to combine classical and contemporary literature has brought her to the attention of international critics and audiences. She has been acclaimed for her “remarkable technical command” and “a gift for melodic flow” by *The New York Times*.

The Washington Post praised “Lin’s confident fingers” and “spectacular technique,” and *Gramophone* magazine has hailed her as “an exceptionally sensitive pianist.” Pianist Martha Argerich wrote: “Miss Jenny Lin is a very gifted young musician and a brilliant pianist.”

As a soloist, Lin has appeared with major orchestras and conductors in the United States, Canada, Europe and Taiwan, and her recitals have taken her to Carnegie Hall,



Pianist Jenny Lin will perform at the Howland Cultural Center on Feb. 10.

Photo courtesy of HCMC

Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center and other venues worldwide.

For her concert at the Howland Center, Lin has chosen to play a selection of preludes and fugues from J. S. Bach’s *Well-Tempered Clavier* and from 24 Preludes and Fugues, Op. 87 by Dimitri Shostakovich. The second part of the concert will highlight a number of ballades: by Johannes Brahms (from Op. 10, No. 1 in D minor and No. 2 in D major), Ballade by George Perle, Ballade Op. 46 by Samuel Barber and Ballade No. 1 in G minor by Frederic Chopin.

The concert will take place on Sunday, Feb. 10, at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., Beacon, and will be followed by a reception to meet the artist.

Tickets may be reserved by a subscription to the remaining three concerts of the series at \$80. Tickets to individual concerts are \$30. All student tickets are \$10. Subscriptions and tickets can be reserved by calling 845-297-9243 or on the Howland Chamber Music Circle’s website, howlandmusic.org. Due to the popularity of the Piano Festival, reservations are recommended.

Beacon Institute Launches New Clarkson Graduate Program

Coinciding with *U.S. News & World Report’s* ranking of the best online graduate business programs, Beacon Institute (a subsidiary of Clarkson University) launched a new Clarkson University master of science in engineering management on Friday, Jan. 18, at the Institute’s Hudson River campus in Beacon.

U.S. News & World Report ranked Clarkson University’s graduate business programs 12th in the nation. Clarkson offers both a master of business administration (MBA) and a master of science in engineering management online. The new M.S. in engineering management is the first graduate program to be offered by Clarkson University in the Hudson Valley region.

The hybrid program in Beacon, a combination of in-person and online classes, is taught by Clarkson University faculty and has attracted 18 students representing 17 different corporate and government entities from six different states around the U.S. The students are working professionals, most in engineering-related positions, looking to advance their degrees while earning a living.

The opportunity to study online is vital to students who need to further their education for career advancement but cannot attend graduate school in person full-time or part-time because of their work, family and travel schedules.

Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries is a not-for-profit environmental research organization engaging scientists, engineers, educators and policy experts in collaborative work focusing on real-time monitoring of river ecosystems. For more information, visit their website, bire.org

Located just outside the Adirondack Park in Potsdam, N.Y., Clarkson University is a research university for undergraduates with select graduate programs. For more information about the university, visit their website, clarkson.edu.

Bear Mountain Celebrates Groundhog Day on Feb. 2

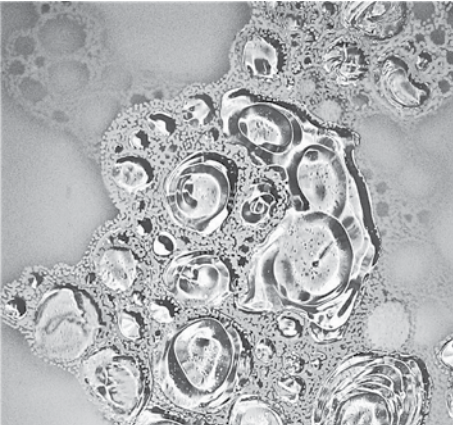
By the Bear Mountain Merry-Go-Round on Saturday, Feb. 2, at 11:30 a.m., the newest member in the long line of weather-predicting groundhogs from Trailside Museum and Zoo — Trailside Jack — will look for his shadow to indicate whether or not there will be six more weeks of winter this year.

At the Groundhog Day celebration, the park will offer hot chocolate and other refreshments at the Merry-Go-Round and at the Bear Mountain Inn. There will be skating at the ice skating rink, and Trailside Museums and Zoo educators and volunteers will lead kid-friendly crafts and games.

For more information, call 845-786-2701, ext. 265, or visit nysparks.com, nj-palisades.org or palisadesparksconservancy.org.

Trailside Museums and Zoo at Bear Mountain State Park is part of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, which administers 28 parks, parkways and historic sites for the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in New York as well as the Palisades Interstate Park and parkway in New Jersey.

Since their founding over a century ago, the Palisades Interstate Park Commission has depended on donations as well as public funds for financial support to meet their (continued on next page)



Water 1 by Carla Goldberg

Photo courtesy of Gallery 66 NY



Albiflora by Leigh Taylor Mickelson

Photo courtesy of Gallery 66 NY

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

(from previous page) mission to promote and expand the preservation of natural, historical and cultural resources. These donations enable the commission to conserve and protect open space and wildlife habitats, improve facilities and enhance programs and services for our visitors.

The Palisades Parks Conservancy, Inc., the charitable partner of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission is a freestanding, federally registered nonprofit corporation exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations may be made over their secure website at palisadesparksconservancy.org or by mailing to Palisades Parks Conservancy, Bear Mountain State Park, Administration Building, Bear Mountain, NY 10911. For more information, call 845-786-2701 or email admin@palisadesparksconservancy.org.

Nature and Love Subjects of Shows at Gallery 66 NY

Gallery 66 NY presents two exhibits: *Nature as Metaphor* and *Des Moments d'Amour*. The shows will be on display Feb. 1-24, with an opening reception on Cold Spring's First Friday, Feb. 1 from 6 to 9 p.m. at 66 Main St.

Nature as Metaphor is an exhibition of works by Carla Goldberg of Cold Spring and Leigh Taylor Mickelson of Ossining, where each artist interprets her vision of the essence of organic forms in nature. While neither artist copies nature true to life, both use references from the natural world. Through art, there is an opportunity to capture nature's tremendous power and immense tranquility.

For Goldberg, her approach to nature

reveals itself through the fluidity of meandering lines and intricate and delicate patterns expressed as shadows and shimmering light on the surface of water and just below the surface. Her imagery is rooted in that innocent childhood memory of water. For Mickelson, it is the private "business" of flowering plants that reveals a world that mimics human interaction. Forms found inside plants, once magnified, divulge a beauty that is regrettably unseen by the naked eye. Her work reveals this essence of beauty and celebrates nature's will to attract and therefore produce.

The back gallery exhibit of *Des Moments d'Amour*, or moments of love, is a group show that features art relating to all forms of love: real, sensual, requited and abstract. Twenty artists' works will be displayed portraying their visions of love in all its glory.

Opera singer Linda Speziale will give a special musical performance of love songs on opening night, Feb. 1, at 7:30 p.m. She will be accompanied by Jenna Van der Merwe on guitar.

For more information, call Gallery 66 NY at 845-809-5838 or visit gallery-66ny.com.

Assemblywoman Galef Hosts Town Meetings

Holds campaign finance reform discussion at Desmond-Fish Feb. 2

Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, representing New York's 95th District, will hold "Town Meetings" throughout the district to communicate what is going on in Albany and to gather ideas and suggestions from constituents on what needs to be done to improve the state. The meetings will take place in Ossining,



Galef and constituents at a previous Town Meeting at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison Source: Assembly website

Garrison, Peekskill, Kent and Croton-on-Hudson.

Galef's Town Meeting in Garrison will take place at the Desmond-Fish Library on Saturday, Feb. 2, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., followed by a panel discussion entitled *Campaign Finance Reform: Time for a Change*, from 12:15 to 2:15 p.m. A panel of three experts will speak on how campaign finance reform has changed elections in New York City. (See Galef's Letter to the Editor on p. 4 for more information on the event and on campaign finance reform.) The snow date is the following Sunday, Feb. 3. The Desmond-Fish Library is located at 472 Route 403 in Garrison.

State Senator Announces Committee Assignments

Gipson to focus on key issues for Dutchess and Putnam counties

Dutchess and Putnam counties' state Sen. Terry Gipson announced his committee assignments Tuesday, Jan. 22.

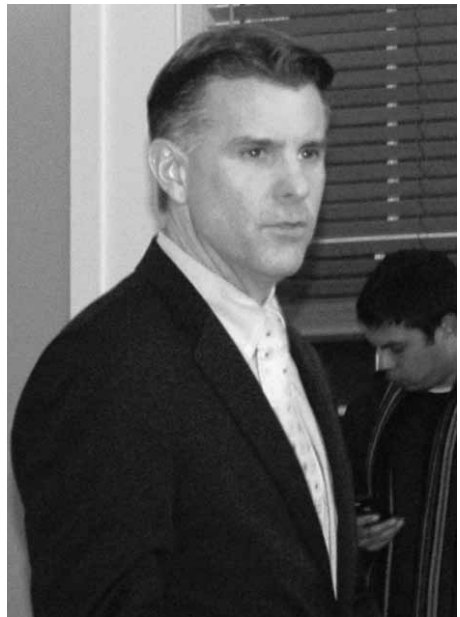
In his first term representing New York's 41st District, Gipson will serve on the Banking, Consumer Protection, Cultural Affairs and Tourism, Veterans,

and Racing and Wagering and will be the ranking Democratic member on the Agriculture and Local Government Committees.

"I am proud to be selected to serve on these important committees. The people of my district will be well represented by my participation. I am especially pleased to sit on the Agriculture, Banking, Tourism, and Veterans Committees, since these issues are important to the Hudson Valley," Gipson said.

"In just his first few days in office, Sen. Gipson has shown the leadership and the drive deserving of these important committee assignments. I am confident that he will bring the voices of the people in his district to Albany," said Democratic Conference Leader Sen. Stewart-Cousins.

Gipson stressed that his committee assignments will give him an opportunity to focus on key issues for both Dutchess and Putnam counties.



State Sen. Terry Gipson in Carmel earlier this year Photo by L.S. Armstrong

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Here Comes the Sun: Local Residents Embrace Solar Power

Panels offer financial and environmental benefits

By Michael Turton

The late U.S. Sen. Tip O’Neill once coined the phrase, “All politics is local,” and, were he alive today, he might very well have adapted that cliché to read, “All environmental issues are local,” as well. Yet, while local politics appear on these pages every week, global environmental issues such as climate change, carbon dioxide emissions and whether or not nuclear energy should be embraced often seem beyond the scope of everyday life for most local residents. Active citizen involvement in long-term, cost-effective environmental solutions probably seems even more remote. At least two local residents are in fact

ergy systems to power their homes with electricity.

Power for 60 light bulbs

Robinson and his wife Dar Williams live on High Street in Cold Spring. Four years ago, they installed solar panels that now generate about 80 percent of their household electrical needs. The system includes 27 solar panels placed on the sections of their roof that face south and east, the orientation that best captures the sun’s energy-giving rays. The panels produce up to 6,000 watts of electricity at any given time. Just what does that mean in real terms? “Basically it’s enough to power 60 100-watt light bulbs at a time,” Robinson said.

Robinson takes the occasional “cloudy day joke” about the system in stride and said he has been pleasantly surprised that “even on a cloudy day it produces some electricity; it’s

to provide electricity during the sun’s downtimes. The system is monitored by a meter that runs both forwards and backwards. A home hooked up only to the grid sees that meter run forward exclusively. The more electricity that is used, the more the meter runs, and the greater the amount owed on the monthly bill. But when Robinson’s solar electric system is operating, the meter runs backwards. He is generating his own electricity — and contributing electricity to the grid while reducing the amount of money he owes each month.

Free electricity

“We save about \$1,500 a year,” Williams said. “We sat down and figured out what we made on our investment. I think it’s about a 5 percent return.” Robinson added, “A CD (certificate of deposit) right now yields about one-half a percent. We are very happy; this is one place we are not sorry our money went.”

That initial investment, made just before the recession, was substantial. Robinson estimates that he spent about \$23,000 on the system after government incentives. That translates to about \$4 per watt of electricity. “Now (four years later) the cost is about \$2 a watt,” he said. He estimates that the system will pay for itself after a time. “After 12 years we’ll get free electricity,” Williams said.

Historic concerns

Robinson and Williams’ home has historic value — it was built in 1886. Robinson recalls a “huge battle” with Cold Spring’s Historic District Review Board (HDRB) when he proposed installing the rooftop system. The HDRB was concerned that the solar panels would be visible from the road. “I wanted them to be visible so that people could see them and say, ‘That’s something I can do,’” Robinson said.

“Shell Oil is not going to do it for us,” Williams said. “It has to be neighbors helping neighbors. We want people to know about it. We’re open to the community. We’re happy to be guinea pigs.”

Asked if he installed the system for environmental reasons or to save money, Robinson replied, “It was definitely both. It was for the environment but with the added perk of being a good, solid financial investment.”

Timing — and buy North American

Williams, a folk singer, also thinks the timing was right in terms of their current careers and their life a little further down the road. “We invested now. It’s good to have fewer expenses later in life,” she said. “Free electricity for the rest of our lives sounded good.”

She also had a few words of advice for prospective buyers. “It’s a really good idea to buy solar panels built in the U.S. or Canada,” she said, explaining that China, which has been a big supplier of panels, has had problems with quality control.

Williams hopes that local government will also see the benefits of going solar. “A lot of the municipal buildings would be good candidates for solar,” she said.

Costs have improved

Peter Henderson installed a solar electric system in his Marion Avenue home in November 2012. It was a 6-month process, in part because the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) had to review his proposal before approving a rebate. “They won’t give a rebate if there is more than 20 percent energy loss due to shading,” he said. “Our roof is not due



Peter Henderson points to the inverter, which converts direct current generated by rooftop solar panels into alternating current to be used in his home.

Photo by M. Turton

south, so we lose a little. Most (energy) loss is from shading, time of day and time of year.”

Henderson’s 24-panel system produces 240 watts each for a maximum output of 5.76 kilowatt-hours, “when the sun is high in the sky,” he said.

“It’s a complicated formula but based on last year, NYSERDA said we can generate 102 percent of our electrical needs for the year.”

Henderson said that with the NYSERDA rebate and state and federal tax credits, his system cost less than half of what Robinson’s did just four years ago. He estimates that the system will pay for itself in a little more than eight years. Because the panels are warranted for 25 years, he thinks he can enjoy free electricity for 18 years.

The only additional expense he anticipates is eventually having to replace the inverter, the device that takes the direct current produced by the solar panels and converts it to standard, alternating current for use in his home. A new inverter today would cost slightly less than \$5,000.

Like Robinson, Henderson’s system includes a forward-backward meter so that he now only pays for electricity that the solar system can’t provide. And like Robinson, he has been surprised that not only bright sun produces power. “I’ve come down (to the meter) on very overcast days, and the system still generates some power,” he said.

New alternatives

Henderson said that solar power isn’t for everyone and every property. “For many people it may not work — their house may be facing the wrong way or there may be too much shade.” While he acknowledged that the upfront cost can be a deterrent, he said there is a new alternative. Lease arrangements are now available that require no upfront expenditure for the homeowner. “It’s very attractive,” Henderson said, “although the long-term financial benefit is less.”

It was community involvement that got Henderson, now a trustee on the Haldane School Board, interested in solar energy. “My initial motivation was purely concern for global warming and the impact of burning fossil fuels,” he said. “I became very interested in alternative energy sources while working on the Comprehensive Plan for the Village of Cold Spring,” including microhydro power and wind turbines. He also learned about geothermal systems while working as a volunteer committee member when Haldane was investigating that type of heating and cooling for its schools.

Henderson thinks that the case for solar-generated home electricity has gotten stronger in recent years. “Five years ago the cost didn’t make solar practical. But costs have fallen considerably. Panel costs are lower and the rebates and tax credits make it attractive financially.”

He said that part of the reason why the state is offering incentives it that is helping to create a larger network of private sector installers.



Michael Robinson’s system includes 27 solar panels that generate 80 percent of the household’s electricity needs.


Photo by M. Turton



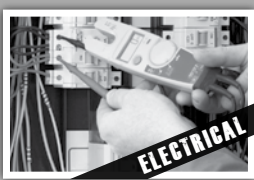
involved — not just because they believe it is the right thing to do environmentally, but because they also believe they will save a considerable amount of money along the way. Michael Robinson and Peter Henderson have installed solar en-

photovoltaic, so it will squeeze out whatever it can.”

One imperfection of a solar-based electric power system is that it has no ability to store the energy it generates. As a result, Robinson still relies on the grid

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Village Government Fetes Employees and Volunteers

Event draws county and state officials, too

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Cold Spring village officials Friday, Jan. 18, saluted all those, paid and unpaid, who keep the wheels of local government running, whether in major departments or on the advisory boards that handle many nitty-gritty municipal chores.



CSFC President Mike Bowman, center, chats with state Sen. Terry Gipson, back to camera, and others.

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

Hosted by the Village Board, the annual event, formally called the Holiday Appreciation Gathering, filled the firehouse meeting room, as a small Christmas tree twinkled in the corner. Throughout the evening, village staff and members of Cold Spring Fire Company No. 1 mingled with other volunteers, guests, and five non-Cold Spring elected officials: County Executive MaryEllen Odell, District 1 Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra, state Sen. Terry Gipson, Nelsonville Mayor Tom Corless, and Philipstown Town Board

Member Betty Budney. Gathered first near the fire trucks — and beverages — and then around tables for dinner, attendees caught up with friends and local gossip, celebrated grassroots-level civil and volunteer service, and partook of a buffet supper, coordinated by Trustee Bruce Campbell.

Mayor Seth Gallagher recited a long list of people and groups to thank, from the often-unheralded, such as garden club members — “we really appreciate what they do to make the village look good” — to members of the Water and Wastewater and Highway Departments; school crossing guards; police and fire-fighters; Tot Park parents; election day polling aides; Planning, Historic District Review, and Comprehensive Plan-Local Waterfront Revitalization boards; Zoning Board of Appeals and Recreation Commission members; individuals who donate electrician or roofing assistance or funds; and others, including Trustees Charles Hustis, Matt Francisco and Ralph Falloon, Gallagher’s colleagues on the Village Board, and the other elected officials present.

“As you can see, there are a ton of people who help out the village,” Gallagher said. “You can’t do it with just a few.”


Gallagher has announced that he will not seek re-election this March, and he used the party for a short farewell. “It’s been a pleasure and honor to serve as mayor the last four years. Thank you very much” for the opportunity, he said.

After Gallagher finished, none of the other elected officials delivered remarks, except for Campbell, who had a brief announcement: “We have lots of dessert waiting!”



Supper tables fill the fire house hall.


Photo by L.S. Armstrong



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