



Happy Valentines Day!
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Sheriff's Department Official Schramek Resigns as Investigations Continue

Putnam County settled case involving alleged mistreatment of suspect

By **Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong**

Investigator A. Gerald Schramek, a high-ranking Putnam County Sheriff's Department official connected to detective-work involving Philipstown, resigned effective Feb. 14, after allegations of mistreatment of a suspect and a \$35,000 settlement of those claims, ratified by the Putnam County Legislature in December.

Capt. William McNamara of the Sheriff's Department on Thursday morning (Feb. 12) confirmed Schramek's plans to depart, after about 12 years of service. As the chief of the Bureau (To page 3)



Just 9 Weeks Until 'Play Ball!'

Major League pitchers and catchers begin spring training Feb. 18, but Eddie Barry, president of Philipstown Little League, has even bigger news for

locals mired in winter. The first pitch at the Little League baseball field in North Highlands will be thrown on Saturday, April 11.

Photo by Michael Turton

The Serenade Orchestra Opens Chamber Concert Series on March 1

Concerts, sponsored posthumously by Gordon Stewart, to benefit St. Mary's Episcopal Church

By **Alison Rooney**

The first of a series of three chamber music concerts, sponsored posthumously by Gordon Stewart to benefit the Episcopal Church of St. Mary-in-the-Highlands, will take place there on March 1, at 4 p.m. It was Stewart's great wish to continue to bring the highest level of musicianship to his own community, and these concerts, unlikely to be repeated, are the culmination of this desire. Several of the musicians who will be performing in these concerts also played in either or both of Stewart's recent Handel's *Messiah* concerts and in the 2012 period-instrument Depot Theatre production of John Gay's *The Beggar's Opera*.

The first concert program features the Serenade Orchestra, six leading artists in both historical and contemporary music who perform frequently in both New York City and abroad: Krista Bennion Feeney and Keats Dieffenbach, violins; David Cerutti, viola; John Feeney, bass; and R.J. Kelley and Alexandra Cook, horns. They perform together in



Four members of the Serenade Orchestra, from left: David Cerutti, viola; Keats Dieffenbach, violin; Krista Bennion Feeney, violin; and John Feeney, bass

Image courtesy of the Serenade Orchestra

the Orchestra of St. Luke's, the American Classical Orchestra and numerous other ensembles.

John Feeney is principal double bass of the Orchestra of St. Luke's, the American Classical Orchestra and Opera Lafayette. Krista Bennion Feeney is concertmaster of the Orchestra of St. Luke's and the founding first violinist of the DNA Quintet, Loma Mar Quartet, and Ridge String Quartet. Cerutti, co-principal violist of the Orchestra of St. Luke's, appears regularly with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. Dieffenbach is in demand with New York City's leading contemporary and baroque ensembles, including the Orchestra of St. Luke's and the American Classical Orchestra. Kelley is recognized as America's foremost player of horns of

every historical era. Cook has played and recorded with most of the early music groups in the United States.

The first concert will include Mozart's Overture to *The Marriage of Figaro* and Divertimento No. 17, K. 334, Bartok's *Romanian Folk Dances*, the traditional Romanian dance *Dobra Dobra* and Johann Strauss' *Blue Danube* waltzes.

According to John Feeney, the Serenade Orchestra's configuration of instruments was the "most popular small ensemble for playing the social music of late 18th- and early 19th-century Vienna and was most commonly utilized for the socially oriented chamber music of the late 18th century and early 19th century. Mozart, Joseph and Michael Haydn, Sperger, Lanner, (Continued on page 6)

Haldane Board Grants Veterans School Property Tax Exemption

Forgoes consideration of a higher exemption until next year

By **Kevin E. Foley**

The Haldane Board of Education (BOE) voted this week to allow for a partial property tax exemption for homeowners who are veterans of the United States military. The board voted unanimously Tuesday night (Feb. 10) to put into effect the minimum level of exemption permitted under the new state law authorizing exemptions.

After state legislative approval, Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed the new state law in December 2013. Veterans were already eligible for a partial exemption for town property taxes. The state government did not offer any funding options to accompany the range of tax exemption options local school districts have.

Last week the BOE had signaled their approval after a public hearing at which only veterans turned out to support the exemption move. The BOE also said they were considering a new hearing regarding a possible move to the highest level of exemption but apparently thought differently about that idea this week.

Anne Dinio, the Haldane school district's business manager, confirmed to *The Paper* that the board (To page 3)

Small, Good Things

Chocolate and Flowers

By Joe Dizney

“All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn’t hurt.” ~ Charles M. Schulz

St. Valentine’s Day was first associated with romantic love in the High Middle Ages, particularly in the time of Chaucer, a very sensual and romantic man. It was ostensibly a celebration of the third-century Roman saint and martyr Valentinus, and it wasn’t until the 18th century that the numerous and confusing hagiographies gelled into the Hallmark event we know today signaled by the appearance of various red heart symbols, prepackaged sentimentalities and flowers.

And of course, sweets. And when we talk of lover’s sweets, the conversation usually comes around to chocolate.

In addition to being a premier comfort food, chocolate, the roasted, ground and processed seed or bean of the cacao plant, is yet another instance of a native Mesoamerican foodstuff whose universal popularity can be directly attributed to the Columbian exchange of foodstuffs between the old and new worlds.

Cultivating cacao for over three millennia, the Mayans considered it a commodity and actually used it as currency in addition to preparing and consuming the sacramental “divine beverage,” *xocolatl*, as homage to the god of wisdom and life, Quetzalcoatl, an honor and luxury afforded the privileged few. It was also believed to give the drinker numerous “strengths,” in particular purported aphrodisiac powers. The 16th-century Aztec emperor Montezuma reportedly consumed endless amounts as a precursor to romantic rendezvous.

While the overall sweetening and refinement of chocolate, as it came to be known in the Old World, reached a high point in the Netherlands, Belgium and Switzerland, its lusty reputation never really left it. It is rumored that the 18th-century Italian womanizer Casanova had a predilection for dark chocolate as a pre-assignment libido booster. And more chocolate may be consumed at Easter or on Halloween, but the romantic semiotics of its consumption center solidly on Valentine’s Day — think red, heart-shaped boxes.

There’s also been considerable if questionable scientific research done regarding the connection between love and chocolate. In the ’80s, researchers claimed to have solved the mystery of that connection, suggesting a chemical basis: The presence of PEA (phenyl ethylamine), a central nervous system stimulant thought to arouse emotions and

feelings of euphoria, was detected in chocolate.

Columbia psychiatrist Michael Liebowitz’s 1983 book *The Chemistry of Love* sparked a media flurry for its suggested “chocolate theory of love,” which was discounted as somewhat of an exaggeration. As late as 2006, a study in the *Journal of Sexual Medicine* was exploring whether women who ate chocolate had higher libidos than those who abstained. (From chocolate, that is. This too was later discounted for other mitigating factors.)

So I suppose what we’re left with is fantasy, which when you get right down to it, is smack dab in the middle of the province of love and romance. For this Valentine’s Day edition of “Small, Good Things,” I offer you a purely sensual trifle, a creamy smooth *pot de crème* of chocolate and flowers for your Valentine of choice.

I’ve used white chocolate, not actually chocolate in the strictest sense of the word, being an absolute refinement of the cocoa-making process; it contains cocoa butter, sugar and milk solids and none of the distinctive dark-colored solids. (As most marketed white chocolate is already sweetened, no additional sugar is added. If you were to make this recipe with dark or semisweet chocolate, which is absolutely possible and encouraged, the addition of 2 tablespoons to ¼ cup sugar is suggested.)

The floral seasonings also have reputed-if-questionable aphrodisiac properties. The first, vanilla, the fruit or cured seed pod of orchids of the genus *Vanilla*, is actually named for a perceived resemblance to female genitalia and, like chocolate, was a component of the Aztec aphrodisiac larder. And how romantic is this? The bloom of the vanilla orchid lasts for just one day and modern cultivation is achieved only by hand. It is universally the most common flavoring addition to chocolate and is the second most expensive spice (after saffron, also the product of a flower).

Lavender is of course known for its scent and for that alone is worth inclusion. A particularly French provincial culinary seasoning when used judiciously, it has also had a centuries-old reputation as the “herb of love” and was used in ancient times as an herbal additive to promote relaxation and fidelity to the object of one’s affection. (Again, in the world of debatable scientific research, a study at Chicago’s Smell and Taste Research Center led by Alan Hirsch, testing the ef-



White chocolate-lavender pots de crème

Photo by J. Dizney

fects of 24 different odors, found that the scent of lavender was instrumental in increasing the flow of blood to a specific member of the male anatomy. The effect was even more pronounced when com-

bined with the smell of pumpkin pie, but I’m not really sure where *that* leaves us.)

Then again lavender, like chocolate, vanilla, flowers and valentine’s cards, may just be a placebo, designed merely to calm or please someone, and isn’t that really what you’re trying to do here?


White Chocolate-Lavender Pots de Crème

Makes four 4-ounce servings

- | | |
|---|--|
| 3 large egg yolks | 1 cup coarsely chopped white chocolate |
| 1 cup heavy cream | ¼ cup hot milk |
| ½ vanilla bean pod, split and scraped | Pinch salt |
| 2 tablespoons dried lavender, roughly crushed | (Optional: Whipped cream, or sugar for brûlée) |

1. In a medium bowl, whisk together the egg yolks and set aside.
2. In a small saucepan over medium heat, combine the cream, the vanilla pod and seeds and the lavender; bring to a low simmer for 10 minutes. (Do not let it boil.) Strain to remove lavender and vanilla pods.
3. Return the cream mixture briefly to heat to rewarm. Slowly pour the hot cream mixture into the eggs, whisking to temper and combine. Fold in the chocolate pieces and continue whisking until smooth and completely incorporated. Add hot milk and salt. Pour the mixture into four 4-ounce ramekins. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight. Serve chilled.

Optional finishing: A dollop of whipped cream is an easy but unnecessary finish. Better: Dust each ramekin with ½ tablespoon of granulated sugar and brûlée (brown) with a small culinary torch or by running the ramekins under a hot broiler for a couple of minutes until the sugar begins to bubble and caramelize.



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Concept of Garrison Fire District Prompts Debate at Town Board

County emergency services representative visits

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Questions of governance of the Garrison Volunteer Fire Company dominated the Philipstown Town Board last week, with suggestions for both a new fire district for Garrison and the alternative of a consolidated district for all Philipstown — and with Town Board emphasis on the need for any move to come from firefighters themselves.

The Feb. 5 session, the board’s formal monthly meeting, began at Town Hall as many do with a Scout troop — this time, Tiger Cub Scout Pack 137 — leading the Pledge of Allegiance. After doing the honors, the cubs scooted back to their den, perhaps fortuitously, considering the sometimes strident comments subsequently exchanged by Garrison resident Joe Regele and Supervisor Richard Shea over fire company matters.

Garrison fire district

Long critical of the GVFC’s handling of its money, Regele got the fire district issue placed on the board agenda. Forming a Garrison district would transfer GVFC oversight from the Town Board to a set of elected fire district commissioners.

Regele opposed a stand-alone district. Instead, he advocated a consolidated district to oversee all four Philipstown fire departments. The controversial 2011 Graner report, a study by a veteran fire-fighting expert brought in to review Philipstown’s emergency services, made the same recommendation — which local firefighters heatedly rejected.

Now, Regele argued, Graner’s proposal deserves another look.

“There’s been a lot of discussion” off

and on recently about forming a Garrison fire district. “I was under the impression that this [discussion] was ongoing,” he said, asking that it take place openly. Creating a Garrison-only district “is absolutely flying in the face of the recommendation of the paid consultant,” Ron Graner, Regele declared. “I’d urge the Town Board: If there’s going to be talk about a fire district, this is the time to exert some leadership and attempt to bring together all the emergency services,” instead of establishing another small, new entity. “You have a very detailed report [from Graner] telling you that balkanizing the fire and emergency services is a very bad idea. My fear is that we’re about to set up another new ‘Balkan’ community” — a Garrison fire district. “I’m looking for the board to provide some leadership,” he said. “The issue is whether or not the Town Board takes the opportunity, rather than do this [Garrison district] to see if there’s not a way to pull the emergency services [together]. Make one district.”

Acknowledging that “some really initial discussions have occurred” about a Garrison district, Shea explained that “right now, this is in its nascent stage.” Furthermore, “when the fire company comes to the Town Board and says, ‘We’d like to open a discussion about a fire district,’ it’s worth pursuing,” he said. “We’re going to have these discussions about a district. What comes out of it, nobody knows. But I want it [the instigation] to come from the firehouse.”

Regele objected that “once you have a fire district for Garrison, we’ll have even less chance of trying to consolidate emergency services” town-wide.

Shea disagreed. “We feel it’s a step further toward that,” he said.

Councilor John Van Tassel suggested that experience with a fire district might familiarize everyone with how districts work and thus speed acceptance of a town-wide emergency services district.

Shea also said that with fire districts, members of the public can seek office as fire commissioners and exercise control over a fire department.

But Regele said that statewide data shows that fire commissioner elections tend to draw a minuscule pool of voters, many of them strongly connected to the fire company involved, “rather than having voters represented by the broader community.” Should Garrison get a fire district, “this will end up being a very small group of self-referencing people who will then do what they want. Therefore, I don’t believe it actually serves the interests of the town, even if the town is somewhat apathetic about it” and voters ignore commissioner elections, he said. The board seemed to say, ‘We’re going to offload this responsibility on the apathetic public.’ I’m asking for some leadership here,” he told the board.

Van Tassel said the quality of the fire district leadership “depends on the people” elected and questioned why a single town-wide district would draw a higher voter turnout in commissioner elections than a small, independent district.

Shea expressed less enthusiasm for the Graner report than Regele, saying he did not agree with all its conclusions and found “the mechanism was not all that effective.” Given the opposition it generated, it “brought together the fire companies like never before, but it didn’t create this sort of sense of harmony,” he said. “The one good thing to come out of this was that it did spark a discussion we weren’t having before.” Since then,

“we’ve made a lot of progress with all the emergency services,” including the Garrison fire company, which until recently often clashed with the Town Board over finances and procedures.

Shea and Van Tassel similarly mentioned greater fire department interaction, mutual training, and overall cooperation since 2011.

“If things are thrust upon the fire department,” consolidation won’t work, Shea stressed. “Unless this is a more organic, fire-department-driven process, it’s not going to be successful. It’s not based in reality to say, ‘OK, this year we’re going to start working on a town-wide fire district and get it done in the next year, year and a half, two years.’”

County-town ties

The board touched upon another emergency services topic in a brief visit from Bob Lipton, Putnam County’s acting commissioner of the Bureau of Emergency Services. The county is seeking a new full commissioner to succeed Adam Stiebeling, whom County Executive MaryEllen Odell did not reappoint in January but with whom, Van Tassel noted, the Town Board had enjoyed a good town-county working relationship.

Lipton expressed county interest in closer ties with municipalities and admitted that a recent attempt went awry: A pre-snowstorm conference phone call involving officials from multiple jurisdictions broke down when “we maxed-out the phone number,” overloading the system and excluding would-be participants.

“They all got busy signals,” including Philipstown Councilor Nancy Montgomery, Van Tassel recalled. He advised further efforts, before another storm or crisis.

“I think that’s a good idea, and the sooner the better we do it,” Lipton replied.

Haldane Board Grants Veterans School Property Tax Exemption

(from page 1)

had voted for the most basic level for this tax year and will consider revisiting the issue next year. She said the board was concerned with fairness to both veterans and non-veteran taxpayers.

If eligible, under the BOE decision a veteran homeowner could save an estimated average of \$192 on property taxes, with a combat veteran saving \$320 and a disabled veteran \$639.

It is estimated that the average increase to a property tax bill to account for the veterans’ exemption, with a home assessed at \$200,000 (market value at

approximately \$430,00), would be \$21. The state government has not yet determined this year’s level of aid to school districts, so the board exercised caution as to the total increase needed to fund the schools.

Under the state law, eligible veterans are defined as those who served during a period of war, those who did not serve during a period of war but received an expeditionary medal from one of the branches of service, or members of the reserves meeting additional qualifications.

Sheriff’s Department Official Schramek Resigns as Investigations Continue

(from page 1)

of Criminal Investigations, Schramek oversaw various local cases — such as the probe into a burglary at the Haldane Central School District and a violent attack on motorcycle club members just outside Cold Spring, both in 2013, and a Haldane trash fire in 2014.

However, Kenneth W. DeFreitas, facing robbery charges, accused two Sheriff’s Department investigators of beating him in Carmel on July 3, 2014, while in their custody — reportedly after DeFreitas tried to seize one investigator’s gun. The two investigators were identified as Schramek and Patrick Castaldo, who retired from the Sheriff’s Department in latter 2014.

Michelle Carter, a public information officer on the staff of Putnam County District Attorney Adam Levy, said the DeFreitas incident remains under review by Levy’s office. “There is an investiga-

tion, but until it’s complete I can’t confirm any [details],” she told *Philipstown.info/The Paper* on Thursday.

McNamara observed that “there’s still an open administrative investigation” in the Sheriff’s Department as well.

At their Dec. 22 year-end meeting, members of the county legislature unanimously approved the \$35,000 for DeFreitas after he initiated court action seeking a financial recovery, claiming he had been subject to “use of excessive force and a violation of his civil rights,” according to the legislature. The county’s legal department and the New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (NYMIR), an agency for local governments, recommended the settlement, which the legislature stated, in a resolution, “is in the public interest and has avoided the costs of further litigation.”

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USPS Ponders New Cold Spring Post Office

Sewer repairs and water connection to be costly

By Michael Turton

The discussion about where to locate a new Cold Spring Post Office is back on. Tuesday (Feb. 10) the Cold Spring Village Board trustees reviewed a letter from the U.S. Postal Service that listed four possible locations. The trustees quickly dismissed two sites: the VFW Hall on Kemble Avenue, which is being sold; and 159 Main St., which houses Powers and Haar Insurance, and is also likely unavailable. According to Mayor Ralph Falloon, the building’s owner, Rhinebeck Bank, intends to sell the property rather than establish a branch there.

The other locations include 51 Chestnut, which would require an expansion of Foodtown south to the edge of Benedict Avenue, and the Butterfield site. During the discussion, Carolyn’s Flowers, located on Main Street, was mentioned as a possibility, however that property is also for sale, and it is highly unlikely that the USPS is interested in the \$1 million price tag, since officials have indicated a strong preference for a rental property.

The Village Board intends to express its views to the USPS in writing. Residents can also send comments to the Postal Service, via mail, to Joseph Mulvey, USPS, 2 Congress St., Room 8, Milford, MA 01757. The letter, dated Feb. 2, indicated that no decision would be made for a minimum of 30 days.

Campbell on Main St., election

Deputy Mayor Bruce Campbell cleared the air on two issues. First, he presented a detailed update on the slower-than-slow Main Street project, which sparked edgy exchanges between Campbell and Trustee Cathryn Fadde at recent meetings. He also announced that he will not seek reelection.

The more than 20 pages of documentation presented by Campbell may have finally put to rest concerns Fadde has raised over the financial status of the Main Street project, an initiative to repair the worst sections of sidewalks along with additional work on Furnace Street and Mountain

A new temporary site in the lot to the left in the picture would be needed to expand the existing site.

Photo by K.E. Foley

Avenue. However, by far the biggest question remains: When will ground actually be broken on a project that was approved in June 2007 during Anthony Phillips’ tenure as mayor?

Campbell, with assistance from village accountant Ellen Mageean, clarified the project’s finances. Mageean corrected information previously provided to *The Paper* that described the project as having begun with an approved budget of \$1,070,000, explaining that the actual amount had been reduced by \$100,000 very early in the process, a practice she said is common with federal grants. Federal funds, administered through New York State, will pay 80 percent of the cost with the village paying 20 percent. To date, engineering costs have totaled \$189,375 — leaving an estimated \$755,000 for actual construction. The most optimistic estimate as to when the first shovel might break ground is October of this year. Failing that, spring 2016 is the likely start.

Campbell said little about his decision not to seek re-election other than he had been pondering the matter for months. He said that he would have more to say and that “there’s a lot of work to do” between now and the March 18 election.

Tight budget for code update

Jack Goldstein, chair of the Code Update Committee, reported to the board, expressing concern over the adequacy of the \$75,000 New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) grant being used to revise the code. “It’s not a lot [of money] to do the project,” he said. Goldstein has asked Barton & Loguidice, consultants on the

project, to consider working on a retainer as a way to stretch the funds as far as possible. He also pointed out that the budget provides only \$2,000 to complete the project after the committee finishes its work. That final stage will include a formal public hearing and what he said will likely be a full State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) review. “I don’t think it’s possible that \$2,000 will do that,” he said. The committee is awaiting a response from the consultant regarding how its fees can be reduced.

Sewer repairs, water connection

It was not a night for good financial news. Greg Phillips, superintendent of water and sewers, reported that video inspection of sewer lines beneath Fair, Market, Fish and North streets revealed numerous deficiencies in the aging system. His report estimated a “bottom line ... price tag of \$296,467” to repair 1,900 feet of the defective mains. The estimate includes “a generous contingency of \$51,115,” because as Phillips put it, “there is no way to foresee every possibility with underground projects such as this.” To fund the project, the village will likely increase the amount of a Bond Anticipation Note that comes due in May.

Phillips also reported that the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYDEP) considers its review of the village’s application to tap into the Catskill Aqueduct “substantially complete.” Cold Spring will connect to that water system, which passes near the edge of Nelsonville at Fishkill Road, during repairs to the village reservoirs. Cost of the connection is estimated at \$299,392. The village may use its water fund, which currently has a balance in excess of \$800,000, to fund the work.

Coal tar project clarified

A recent conference call between Falloon and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) helped clarify the status of the project to remove toxic coal tar from under the property occupied by the Cold Spring Boat Club.

“DEC is much easier to work with now that the scope of the work is coming into full view,” Falloon told trustees. “The conversation was much better than the correspondence,” which the mayor described as “threatening” in tone. He was referring to a letter received on Jan. 26 that indicated that the Boat Club would be required to vacate its building by March 31. The call revealed that the club won’t have to vacate until September and that DEC is agreeable to allowing the club to share the site with the contractor until the end of boating season in October. DEC officials also clarified that 100 percent of the coal tar found at shallow depths beneath the Boat Club building and the adjacent parking lot will be removed. Other deposits in the area, at a depth of 10 feet, will not be removed because they are not considered a health risk. The Boat Club building will be razed to complete the cleanup. DEC estimates that that the project will be complete by the spring of 2016.

Grand Larceny, Forgery Before Justice Court

Updates on youths charged in graffiti and trespassing incidents

By Michael Turton

A resident of New York City and a second from Connecticut appeared in Cold Spring Justice Court on Wednesday, Feb. 11, following their recent arrests resulting from two separate incidents.

Jillian E. Salcido, 29, of Danbury, Connecticut, faces a charge of grand larceny in the fourth degree. Cold Spring Police arrested her on Jan. 31 after investigation of an incident that occurred at Whistling Willie’s American Grill on Jan. 23. Salcido is alleged to have stolen a wallet. If found guilty of the Class E felony, she could face up to four years in prison.

Anthony D. Alvarado, 44, is charged with three counts of forgery in the second degree, criminal possession of a forged instrument and unlawful possession of marijuana following his arrest on Jan. 30 at Drug World in Cold Spring. Alvarado is alleged to have attempted to fill a forged prescription for oxycodone. Cold Spring Police said that he was in possession of three forged prescriptions. Conviction on a charge of second-degree forgery can result in a prison term of up to seven years and a fine of up to \$5,000.

Both cases were adjourned until March 11.

Update on youth cases

Judge Anthony Costello agreed to an adjournment in contemplation of dismissal (ACD) in the case of one of three

youths charged in connection with the graffiti spree that defaced property in several locations around Cold Spring last August. An ACD signals that charges will be dismissed. Addressing the defendant, the judge said: “You’ve had your bite at the ACD apple. If you appear in front of me again, there will be no second bite. And stay away from spray paint if you find yourself bored at 2 in the morning.” The defendant had completed community service and paid \$244.23 in restitution.

A second youth who was involved in the graffiti incident also appeared in court. Assistant Putnam County District Attorney David Bishop told Costello that while the youth had paid the \$244.23 in restitution as ordered by the court, he had not yet performed the community service also ordered as part of the sentence. Costello said that once the community service was complete an ACD would be granted. The case was adjourned until April 8 in order to give the defendant time to complete the work.

A third youth, charged with trespass at Haldane school and Mayor’s Park last August did not appear in court as scheduled, apparently due to confusion over the date he was to appear. Bishop told the judge that he had spoken to the boy’s father, who requested that his son’s community service be performed locally. Community service work is generally administered by ATI (Alternatives to Incarceration), a program of the Putnam County Court, however the program currently offers few venues on the west side of the county. The case was adjourned until March 11. Costello advised Bishop to have the youth check with Cold Spring area churches, the library and Haldane to see if work could be performed there. “I want to see him [in court] and I want to know about the community service,” Costello said. “I expect this to be resolved.”

A New Business Is Born, a Second Earns Award

Construction company changes hands, bridal service honored

By Michael Turton

Chris Darman recently took over Carlson Construction, purchasing the business from longtime Philipstown area builder Stephan Carlson. Just finding a job is a challenge for most 24-year-olds in the current economy. Few take on the added weight of starting their own company. But for Darman, a Cold Spring resident, doing that was “a logical decision.”

The road to establishing Darman Construction can be traced to one day — Darman’s graduation from Haldane High School in 2008. “It was a very proud day,” he recalled. “I graduated on Saturday, got a job and started working for Steve on Monday.”

Darman is clear about why he chose to take over a construction company. “I really enjoy carpentry,” he said. “I like how it combines the physical aspect with math — and a lot of creativity,” he said. “I want to be the best I can be.”

Carlson left Cold Spring earlier this year and is now living on Big Tancook Island, Nova Scotia. Contacted by *The Paper*, he said he’s confident that Darman will do well. “He’s wide-eyed and energetic. And he’s willing to take on any challenge,” he said.

Working with Carlson, Darman learned the trade through home building, reconstruction and renovation projects. One of the most challenging and educational was the disassembly and reconstruction of the historic Little Red Chapel, which was moved from its location on Route 9D south of Garrison to the northern end of Philipstown. “The hardest part was the re-assembly,” Darman said. “The layout was changed a bit, and we had to redo joints that used wooden pegs.”

Darman took over the business in early January, purchasing all of Carlson’s

tools and equipment, not the optimal time of year to start a new construction business. “With the snow it’s a little slow. But all things considered, I feel good. If it stays like it is, I’ll do fine,” Darman said. One advantage he sees with winter is the effect of ice and snow on roofs. “If you have a leak, you know it,” he said, adding that he already has three or four roofing jobs in the works.

“Make sure it’s something you really want to do. It’s not a hobby — it’s a career. It’s 100 percent of your time, every day. And if it is something you want, don’t let anyone tell you not to do it. It’s definitely an exciting journey.”

Accomplishments have been small thus far, but they have been meaningful to Darman. “Just seeing the LLC (limited liability company) papers, realizing that Darman Construction is an actual entity — that was very rewarding, a really great moment,” he said. On the other hand, he has been surprised by the amount of time it takes to handle the paperwork and “bureaucratic”



Chris Darman, 24, now heads Darman Construction. Photo by M. Turton

aspects of running a business — from licensing and insurance to bookkeeping.

His youth is a factor that Darman realizes he must deal with. “I know there are guys out there with 30 years’ experience,” he said. “But my age also shows how determined I am. People think I’m older, and when they ask, they’re a little surprised!”

Asked what advice he might give others his age who are considering going into business, Darman had this to say: “Make sure it’s something you really want to do. It’s not a hobby — it’s a career. It’s 100 percent of your time, every day. And if it is something you want, don’t let anyone tell you not to do it. It’s definitely an exciting journey.”

Bridal service wins award

Baby Breath Bridal Services, a Cold Spring-area business owned and operated by celebrity makeup artist Heather Canavan, was named winner of a 2015 WeddingWire Couples Choice Award earlier this month. The awards are unique in that they are based solely on reviews submitted to the WeddingWire Network’s website by up to 2 million newlyweds. Winners rank among the top 5 percent of wedding professionals in the network, which includes 200,000 wedding professionals across North America and abroad. Leading wedding sites such as Martha Stewart Weddings, Project Wedding, Brides.com and Weddingbee are among its members.

Canavan has been in the makeup and hair business for 26 years. Prior to making the switch to work with brides, she was a celebrity makeup artist for such stars as William H. Macy, Barbara Eden, Jamie Fox, Robin Williams and Pat Benatar.

“If you think [celebrities] are a tough crew to please, brides are in a league of



Award-winner Heather Canavan also serves as president of Shepherd’s View Animal Sanctuary. Photo provided

their own. After all it is their big day,” Canavan said. “To be recognized by the wedding community is a real accomplishment and honor.”

But it was neither celebrities nor brides-to-be who helped Canavan win one of television’s most coveted awards. “Ironically, I won an Emmy for Fox Studios East for work I did on a show called *The Pet Department* on FX. Right up my alley!” she said.

It was “right up her alley” because Canavan’s other passion is serving as president of Shepherd’s View Animal Sanctuary, located at her home and surrounding property just outside Cold Spring.

The mention of animals quickly turned her attention away from awards to the sanctuary’s needs. “Feed costs twice as much in winter and we need donations,” she said, adding that contributions can include money but also hay, grain, cat food and cat litter. The 45 animals currently being cared for at Shepherd’s View include several goats, sheep, ducks, chickens and rabbits along with a turkey, a parrot and a pig. “We really need homes for the bunnies,” Canavan said. The sanctuary will host an adoption day this spring.

For more about Shepherd’s View Animal Sanctuary, visit their Facebook page.

Candidates for Mayor and Trustee File Petitions

Election will decide Village Board’s new majority

By Kevin E. Foley

The Cold Spring Village election race is now perhaps as interesting for who is not running as it is for who is a candidate. With the deadline for filing signatures to obtain a place on the ballot having expired this past Tuesday (Feb. 10), we now know for sure that three incumbents, Mayor Ralph Falloon and Trustees Stephanie Hawkins and, perhaps most surprising, Bruce Campbell, have decided not to run for re-election.

Falloon had signaled for a while that he wanted to move on, although he has not said much about his reasons. The same is true of Hawkins, who commutes daily to New York City for work. Last year, Hawkins married Dave Merandy, a mayoral candidate, so the business of the Village Board might still be part of her life.

Campbell had remained mum about his intentions. In the past, the veteran trustee and top vote-getter had expressed some interest in running for mayor if Falloon did not. But until this week he declined to say anything. And for now he has only acknowledged his decision not to run, promising to say more later.

A new majority

With about five weeks of campaigning and debating ahead, the race now will

decide the composition of a new majority on the Village Board.

Two strong personalities, current Philipstown Town Board Councilor and former Haldane School Board President (both elected positions) Merandy and appointed Cold Spring Planning Board Chairman Barney Molloy, are set to square off as the two mayoral candidates.

Marie Early, an experienced village stalwart on zoning and planning issues, running as the People’s Party with Merandy; Fran Murphy, a former academic administrator and village government volunteer running as an independent; and Robert Ferris, a sheriff’s investigator running as the Vote Party with Molloy, will all compete for the two trustee seats.

So far the race has been quiet with candidates mainly out gathering signatures, shaking hands and fine-tuning their messages. Both *The Paper* (March 2 in the music room at Haldane) and *The Putnam County News and Recorder* (PNCR) (March 9 at the Cold Spring Firehouse) will hold candidate events providing an opportunity for voters to take measure of those who would be new stewards of the village government.

The race, particularly for mayor, is likely to heat up. Both candidates are experienced political hands, Merandy here in Philipstown and Molloy in Peekskill. Although the election is still considered nonpartisan, Merandy will likely rely on his allies in the town-wide Democratic

Party, including many village residents, and Molloy will doubtless look to the local Republican Party (he works for a Republican legislator in Westchester) and allies such as Barbara Scuccimarra, Philipstown’s county legislator, to bolster his chances.

Merandy is presently part of an all-Democratic Town Board team led by Supervisor Richard Shea.

Molloy masterminded last year’s successful joint BOFA trustee campaign by Michael Bowman and Main Street

restaurateur Cathryn Fadde. Both continue as the other two trustees on the Village Board. Fadde shares a home with Molloy.

So far Molloy and Ferris have kept their distance, telling *The Paper* they have been strapped for time in getting in photos and announcement material over more than two weeks of requests. They have, however, managed to find time to get their announcement into the *PCNR* and then to visit that paper for an interview.

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The Serenade Orchestra Opens Chamber Concert Series on March 1 (from page 1)

Strauss, Schubert and so many more prized the unique rhythmic punctuation, range, clarity and resonance of the double bass as the sole stringed basso instrument in this music. We specialize in the divertimenti, cassations, marches, waltzes and, of course, serenades that were an integral part of the vibrant music-making from Mozart and Haydn's day and beyond. This music was often performed outdoors, the standing musicians playing an introductory march as they approached the destination where they had been hired to provide music for festive gatherings of all types. We perform with the same historical instruments originally used to play this music, imbuing it with warmth and intimacy of expression."

The second program, on May 17, will be performed by the Serenade Quartet (two violins, viola and bass) — the nucleus of the Serenade Orchestra, along with special guest Rachel Evans on viola.

The second concert will consist of Franz Schubert's Overture in C Minor for String Quartet, D. 8A, for two violins, viola and basso, and his Galopp; Johannes Brahms' Hungarian Dance No. 1 in G Minor; Haydn's Op. 9, No. 4; Mozart's Divertimento, K. 136, and Joseph Lanner's Die Romantiker Waltzer, Op. 167.

The third program, on June 14, will feature solo string music by Johann Sebastian Bach performed by Krista Feeney, violin; Evans, viola; and John Feeney, bass, joining in for a trio.

Stewart asked John and Krista Feeney and Evans to come to his home last August. There, he informed them of the gravity of his illness and told them that he would like to present a series of three concerts over the course of the ensuing year. "He said he saw this series as his 'secret' — something giving him great pleasure," Krista Feeney related. "It was very, very moving and also a happy meet-

ing, at the same time." Stewart asked John Feeney to put the first two concerts together, and requested the same of Evans for the third.

John Feeney and Stewart developed a close personal and musical relationship during the last few years of Stewart's life (he passed away last November). The admiration, which developed on both sides, was an impetus for these concerts. Stewart, according to Krista Feeney, "didn't know whether he'd be able to hear these concerts. He wanted to make sure that John would be there."

Feeney described Stewart as "a man possessed of a great social conscience. He judged things from a pure and completely personal vantage point. He believed in things because the truth in them resonated within him. His eyes, ears and intellect were open and untainted by prejudice of any kind. When he heard of the true history of the double bass in classical music — a history that had been denied him and all others for more than 150 years — he was intrigued, to say the least. After revealing to him the wealth of recently uncovered truths revealing the history of tampering with the scoring of the great composers' music by editors and wayward historians, he was 'all on' for shedding light where darkness has been."

Evans expanded on this: "Though we think of string quartets as two violins, two violas and a cello, originally many early quartets were published with bass rather than cello. Little by little cello took over. One of the benefits to this original orchestration is that the viola is heard



Above, Alexandra Cook, and at right, R. J. Kelley, members of the Serenade Orchestra Images courtesy of the Serenade Orchestra



A Chess Game With Death

At the gathering where Gordon Stewart told musicians Rachel Evans, Krista Feeney and John Feeney of the gravity of his illness and presented them with the idea for these concerts, he spoke of the Ingmar Bergman film *The Seventh Seal* as his inspiration for them. He described a particular scene in which a medieval knight plays a chess game with a death figure, related by Krista Feeney in this description:

"At one point it's clear that Death is winning. The knight smiles, and Death asks him: 'Why do you look so pleased?'

"The knight says, 'That's my secret.'

"After a little more conversation it was clear that the knight was stretching out the game. Death is confused because the knight is enjoying himself. The knight laughs and says, 'Our game amuses me. It will take its time.'

"The movie inspired him. The way he wanted to deal with his own chess game with death was to have a secret. For Gordon these concerts were his secret. He had a look of glee on his face, like a little kid, telling us this story."

Gordon — astounded by his vision, his generosity and drive. He wanted to hear this great music played the way the composers intended it, and made sure that it would be. We will keep Gordon in our hearts and St. Mary's will resonate with this music due to Gordon Stewart's vision, heart and generosity."

General admission tickets cost \$20 and are available at brownpapertickets.com. Supporter tickets at \$100 and sponsor tickets at \$250 include preferred seating and acknowledgement in the program and can be purchased by mailing a check to St. Mary's, 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.

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6:15pm Battlerope Suspension Training (Jose)
6:45pm Spin Stretch (Ashley)
7:30pm Battlerope Suspension Training (Jose)

Tuesday

9:45am High Intensity Interval Spin 45 (Leslie)
6:00pm Total Body Barre (Deanna)

Wednesday

9:30am Barre 60 (Deanna)
6:15 Battlerope Suspension Training (Jose)
6:45pm Spin45 (Sam)
7:30pm Battlerope Suspension Training (Jose)

Thursday

9:45am Spin 45 (Sam)
6:45pm Barre Cardio Sculpt (Deanna)

Friday

9:45am Barre 60 (Deanna)
5:15pm TRX Spin (Sam)

Saturday

8:00am Barre 60 (Deanna)
9:15am Spin 45 (Ashley)
9:30am Battlerope Suspension Training (Jose)
11:30am Intro to Battlerope Suspension Training (Jose)

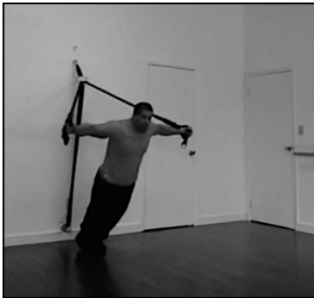
Sunday

9:00am Spin 45 (Sam)
9:45am Hot Power Flow Yoga (Alessandra)

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The Calendar



Above, photographer Markie Baylash gives a commentary of the images in *My Heroes Have Always Been Strong Women*, the exhibition of his work at the Howland Library. (Photo by A. Rooney) At right, *Priscilla and Madison*, by Markie Baylash, is included in the show. (Image courtesy of the artist)



Markie Baylash Exhibit at Howland Library: *My Heroes Have Always Been Strong Women*

On photography: I never believed that there was such a thing as ‘that thing in life,’ but there is and I found it.

By Alison Rooney

Markie Baylash isn’t one of those people who wants things to remain just as they were. A Beacon native who at one point spent 10 years away from his hometown before returning, he said he’s seen it “go from good to bad to good again. Now everyone has a positive quality about themselves and the city.” Baylash has focused on the positive qualities of women, in particular, in an exhibition of his photographs, largely taken in Beacon, titled *My Heroes Have Always Been Strong Women*,

curated by Rick Rogers, currently on view in the Community Room Exhibit Space at Howland Public Library through March 8. An artist reception will be held on Second Saturday, Feb. 14, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Baylash, a familiar figure in Beacon spotted frequently walking up and down Main Street with camera in hand, said Beacon was neighborly in his youth, but “things then became a disaster. It stopped being ‘neighbor does for neighbor,’ but now that’s returned. New arrivals, people from the city, have never bothered me. The influx of new people and



Kendra and Anastasia by Markie Baylash, included in the *My Heroes Have Always Been Strong Women* exhibit at Howland Library

(Image courtesy of the artist)

older people is working — the two generations are caring for each other; it doesn’t need to be conflict. I shovel everybody’s snow, and in exchange they might buy me a cup of coffee. If a store

owner has left their light on overnight by accident, I let them know. I’d rather find a little bit of good out there and be happy with the day.”

Baylash is surprised by his own success with the camera, something he didn’t pick up until a mere four years ago, taking a picture of a rainbow with his Blackberry. He happened to show the image to a photographer friend, who told him, “You’ve got the eye.”

Inspired, he went on Craigslist, picked up an inexpensive camera and just started taking pictures, and he pretty much hasn’t stopped. “I always have a camera on me now,” he said.

Spending years in jobs he himself dubbed “menial,” including many years spent doing cooking, Baylash said he was always “looking for a way to be creative, but not finding it. It took 45 years of searching for

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Groombridge Games’ flags, designed by Philipstown’s Gary Tooth

Got Game? Groombridge Games Does

Main Street’s newest business is a center for Magic: The Gathering tournaments and sells strategy board games and other merchandise

By Alison Rooney

Philipstown’s avid game players have already found their way to Cold Spring’s Groombridge Games, even though the store has been open for less than two weeks. Word is out on the gaming street about “GG,” the only such store in the area (others, located in Wappingers and Peekskill, have recently shut their doors, leaving one in Poughkeepsie the closest) focusing on Magic: The Gath-

ering (MTG) and other card-based games familiar to many in their teens and 20s. One advantage of their Main Street location, in relation to their sometimes not-driving-yet clientele, is it is are walkable from the train station.

Peering into Groombridge Games, one does not see the bank of computer terminals associated with online gaming, but rather, along with display cases filled with merchandise, there are tables set up for communal game playing, for actual person-to-person interaction and competition. Interaction there already is — the store hosted a birthday party during its opening week, and tournament play has begun.

In addition to its focus on MTG and other collectable card games (Pokemon, Yugio), which includes trays of cards for sale (GG also buys cards), the new store

has much more in stock, from board games to books, action figures and accessories like plastic sleeves and deck boxes to hold cards. The board games tend toward those in which players employ strategizing and/or role-playing. Many are cooperative games in which players play against the game itself rather than against each other. Games currently in stock include Diplomacy, Ingenious, Civilization, Shadowman, Ace of Rebellion, Edge of Empire, Axis and Allies, Road Rally, Provincia Romana, Power Grid, a variety of Star Wars games and many Munchkin games, which are a sort of parody of Dungeons and Dragons.

There are also action figures and collectibles from MTG, *Game of Thrones* and *Big Hero*, a collection of sci-fi books and miscellaneous related

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The Calendar

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Kids & Community

Family Night Out (ages 5+)
6 - 9:30 p.m. All Sport Health & Fitness
17 Old Main St., Fishkill
845-896-5678 | allsportfishkill.com

Fellowship Supper
6 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

Health & Fitness

Partner Yoga Workshop
6:30 p.m. SkyBaby Yoga
75 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-4444 | skybabyyoga.com

Couples Yoga Class
7 p.m. Living Yoga Studios
3182 Route 9, Cold Spring
845-809-5900 | livingyogastudios.com

Art & Design

Komic Kreators of the Mid-Hudson Valley (Preview)
6 - 8 p.m. Arts Mid-Hudson
9 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie
845-454-3222 | artsmidhudson.org

Film & Theater

Tournées French Film Festival: Amour (2012)
6:30 p.m. Vogelstein Center (Vassar)
124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie
845-437-5473 | film.vassar.edu

Ras Cuba! (Documentary, 2008)
7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Almost Maine: A Romantic Comedy
8 p.m. The Beacon Theatre
445 Main St., Beacon
845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

Goblin Market (Musical)
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

Boeing-Boeing
8 p.m. County Players Theater
2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls
845-298-1491 | countyplayers.org

Jim Breuer (Comedy)
8 p.m. Tarrytown Music Hall | 13 Main St., Tarrytown
914-631-3390 | tarrytownmusichall.org

Music

Todd Londagin Band
8 p.m. BeanRunner Café | 201 S. Division St., Peekskill
914-737-1701 | beanrunnercafe.com

Scott Beall & Friends
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe
379 Main St., Beacon
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Lucky House
9 p.m. Whistling Willie's
184 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

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

Mike Milazzo
9:30 p.m. 12 Grapes | 12 N. Division St., Peekskill
914-737-6624 | 12grapes.com

Harmony Band
10 p.m. The Hudson Room
23 S. Division St., Peekskill
914-788-3663 | hudsonroom.com

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Valentine's Day
Second Saturday in Beacon

Kids & Community

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

Lovey Dovey Valentines
10 a.m. Wildlife Education Center
25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845-534-7781 | hhnaturemuseum.org

Love Your Library Children's Program
11 a.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Winter Jamboree
Noon - 3 p.m. Stony Kill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
845-831-1617 | stonykill.org

One Billion Rising
4 p.m. Field Library | 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill
914-671-7772 | onebillionrising.org

Big Gay Hudson Valley Show Your Love Ball
6:30 - 11 p.m. Locust Grove Estate
2683 Route 9, Poughkeepsie
biggayhudsonvalley.com

Health & Fitness

Caregiver Support Group
9:30 a.m. Hudson Valley Hospital
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-734-3257 | hvhc.org/events

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

Art & Design

Cabin Fever Workshop: Drawing With Thread and Love
10 a.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Komic Kreators of the Mid-Hudson Valley
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Arts Mid-Hudson
See details under Friday.

Prem Krishnamurthy on On Kawara
2 p.m. Dia:Beacon | 3 Beekman St., Beacon
845-440-0100 | diabeacon.org

Love: The First of the 7 Virtues (Opening)
5 - 7 p.m. Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art | 1701 Main St., Peekskill
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

Beacon Second Saturday Openings

Linda Puiatti: Paintings
5 - 8 p.m. RiverWinds Gallery
172 Main St., Beacon
845-838-2880 | riverwindsgallery.com

Lynn Sweeney: Obstructed Memories
Markie Baylash: My Heroes Have Always Been Strong Women

5 - 7 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Group Show: (in)Action Figures 3
6 - 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery
163 Main St., Beacon | 212-255-2505
shop.cluttermagazine.com/gallery

Group Show: duets
6 - 9 p.m. Matteawan Gallery
454 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7901 | matteawan.com

Group Show: The Key to Her Heart Was A Knife
6 - 9 p.m. Dream in Plastic
177 Main St., Beacon
845-632-3383 | dreaminplastic.com

Loren Elferman: The Windows Project
Lori Adams | Ted Walsh: Paintings
6 - 9 p.m. bau Gallery
506 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7584 | baugallery.com

Film & Theater

The Met Live in HD: Tchaikovsky's Iolanta / Bartok's Duke Bluebeard's Castle
12:30 p.m. Bardavon
35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Royal Winnipeg Ballet: Moulin Rouge (Film)
3 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

Silent Film Series: Monte Cristo (1922)
7 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Almost Maine: A Romantic Comedy
8 p.m. The Beacon Theatre
See details under Friday.

Boeing-Boeing
8 p.m. County Players Theater
See details under Friday.

Goblin Market (Musical)
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
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Music

Mardi Gras on Valentine’s Day (Jazz)

3 p.m. First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Hudson Heart Red Ball

8 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center
14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie
845-454-5800 | midhudsonciviccenter.org

Kazy Oliver (Drummer/Percussionist)

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

Modfest: My Funny Valentine (Jazz)

8 p.m. Vassar College
124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie
845-437-7294 | music.vassar.edu

Pop, Rock & Doo-Wop Show

8 p.m. Tarrytown Music Hall
13 Main St., Tarrytown | 914-631-3390, ext. 100
tarrytownmusic hall.org

The Hudson Room

8 p.m. John Ford | 10 p.m. Lost Soulz Band
See details under Friday.

Tony Jefferson & Groovocity

8 p.m. BeanRunner Café | Details under Friday

Mary Fahl of October Project

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe
See details under Friday.

Crossroads Band

9 p.m. Whistling Willie’s | Details under Friday

Talking Machine

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

Hart & Soul

9:30 p.m. 12 Grapes | See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures

The Faiths of the Founding Fathers (Talk)

2 p.m. FDR Presidential Library
4079 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park
845-486-7745 | fdrlibrary.marist.edu

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Kids & Community

Hudson Valley Reptile Expo

9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center
14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie
845-454-5800 | midhudsonciviccenter.org

Beacon Farmers Market

11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Scenic Hudson River Center
Long Dock Drive, Beacon
845-234-9325 | beaconfarmersmarket.org

Kids’ Open-Mic Night

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

Health & Fitness

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball

6 - 8 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Sports

Army vs. Bucknell (Men’s Basketball)

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

Art & Design

Arm Knitting Class

10 a.m. RiverWinds Gallery
See details under Saturday.

Cocktails, Canvas & Cupcakes

3 p.m. Piano Piano Wine Bar
1064 Main St., Fishkill | eplstudio.com

Film & Theater

Boeing-Boeing

2 p.m. County Players Theater
See details under Friday.

The Vatican Museums (Film)

2 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
See details under Saturday.

Goblin Market (Musical)

2 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
See details under Friday.

Almost Maine: A Romantic Comedy

3 p.m. The Beacon Theatre
See details under Friday.

Cabin Fever Film Series: Kiki Smith and

Louise Bourgeois

3:30 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

National Theatre of London: Treasure Island

7:15 p.m. Downing Film Center
19 Front St., Newburgh
845-561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.com

Music

Rock Band Boot Camp: Purple Rain

3 p.m. Southern Dutchess Bowl
629 Route 52, Beacon
845-765-0472 | beaconmusicfactory.com

Lydia Adams Davis & The Whispering Tree

4 - 6 p.m. BeanRunner Café
See details under Friday.

Pick n’ Grin Acoustic Session

6 - 9:30 p.m. Dogwood
47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com

Leon Russell

7 p.m. Tarrytown Music Hall
See details under Saturday.

Rob Stoner’s Rolling Thunder Revival

7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe
See details under Friday.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Presidents’ Day

Local schools closed

Philipstown Recreation closed

Kids & Community

Vacation Camp (ages 5–12)

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. All Sport Health & Fitness
17 Old Main St., Fishkill
845-896-5678 | allsportfishkill.com

Arts Holiday (ages 4–9)

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
917-318-7801 | compassarts.org

Winter Workshop for Kids (grades pre-K to 8)

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

The Beacon Theatre (First Sessions)

4 p.m. Drama (ages 5–8)
5 p.m. Tap for Kids (Beginner/Intermediate)
6 p.m. Tap for Kids (Intermediate/Advanced)
445 Main St., Beacon | 845-453-2978
thebeacontheatre.org | Rescheduled from Feb. 16.

Personal Writing and College Essay

Workshop (grades 10–12) (First Session)

5 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org
Rescheduled from Feb. 9

Film & Theater

National Theatre of London: Treasure Island

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

Meetings & Lectures

Public Meeting to Discuss Proposed Firehouse

7 p.m. Cold Spring Firehouse
152 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-9241 | coldspringfd.org
Rescheduled from Feb. 9.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Kids & Community

Indoor Tot Lot

9 - 11 a.m. & Noon - 2 p.m. Philipstown Rec Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Winter Workshop for Kids (grades pre-K to 8)

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Garrison Art Center
See details under Monday.

Howland Public Library

10:30 a.m. Baby & Me (ages 0–2)
4 p.m. Crazy 8s Math Club (grades 3–5)
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Knit & Crochet Group (First Session)

Noon. Continental Village Clubhouse
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Cooking With the Mediterranean Diet (Class)

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

Hand-Building With Clay (ages 5–10)

(First Session)

4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
917-318-7801 | beaconcraftworkshop.com

Kids’ Craft Hour (grades 2+)

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

Third Tuesday Beacon Queer Night

6:30 - 9 p.m. Dogwood
47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com

Music

Country Line Dancing

7 - 10 p.m. Bear Mountain Inn
55 Hessian Drive, Highland Falls
845-786-2731 | visitbearmountain.com

Meetings & Lectures

Understanding the V.A. and Its Services

3 p.m. Veterans’ Administration Clinic
1875 Route 6 (2nd floor), Carmel
845-225-4646

Local Beer / Hudson Valley Foodshed (Talks)

6 p.m. Scenic Hudson
8 Long Dock Road, Beacon
845-473-4440, ext. 273 | scenichudson.org

Book Club: This Book Is Overdue!

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

Digital Salon

7 - 10 p.m. Beahive Beacon
291 Main St., Beacon
845-765-1890 | beahivebzzz.com

Board of Trustees

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

Lessons From the Honeybee (Talk)

7:30 p.m. Cornwall Presbyterian
222 Hudson St., Cornwall-on-Hudson
845-534-5506, ext. 204 | hhnaturemuseum.org

Nelsonville Village Board

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Ash Wednesday

Kids & Community

Howland Public Library

9:45 a.m. Come and Play (ages 0–3)
3 p.m. Toddler Tales (ages 2–3)
4 p.m. Children Read to Dogs (grades K–5)
See details under Tuesday.

Senior Bus Trip to Fishkill

10 a.m. Chestnut Ridge, Cold Spring
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Desmond-Fish Library

10:30 a.m. Music & Motion for Toddlers
1:30 p.m. Preschool Story Hour
See details under Tuesday.

Indoor Tot Lot

Noon - 2 p.m. Philipstown Rec Center
See details under Tuesday.

Passed Hors d’oeuvres: Chicken Fajitas (Class)

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

Health & Fitness

Heart Healthy Nutritional Seminar

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

Sports

Army vs. Colgate (Women’s Basketball)

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

(To page 10)

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Friday 2/13 8:30pm
SCOTT BEALL & FRIENDS

Saturday 2/14 8:30pm
MARY FAHL
guest HELEN AVAKIAN

Sunday 2/15 7:30pm
Bob Dylan Tribute
ROB STONER'S
ROLLING THUNDER REVIVAL
featuring James Maddock
& Bill Carbone

Thursday 2/19 7:30pm
ERIC BIBB & GUY DAVIS

Friday 2/20 8:30pm
LEO KOTKE

Saturday 2/21 8:30pm
LUTHER "GUITAR JR." JOHNSON
& THE MAGIC ROCKERS

Sunday 2/22 7:30pm
SOCKS IN THE FRYING PAN
from Ireland

Open Mic Wednesday, 7pm

Tickets and info: townecrier.com • 845-855-1300

Thursday 2/26 7:30pm
MARGARET McDUFFIE
& FRIENDS

Friday 2/27 8:30pm
DUKE ROBILLARD BAND

Saturday 2/28 8:30pm
STEPHANE WREMBEL

Friday 3/6 8:30pm
HOT CLUB OF COWTOWN

Saturday 3/7 8:30pm
KIM SIMMONDS
& SAVOY BROWN
50th Anniversary Celebration

Thursday 3/12 7:30pm
NEW RIDERS
OF THE PURPLE SAGE

Friday 3/13 8:30pm
TOM CHAPIN
WITH THE CHAPIN SISTERS & FRIENDS
70th Birthday Concert

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Kitchen closes 9:30pm (Fri. & Sat. at 10:30pm)
Closed Mon. & Tue.

The Calendar (from page 9)

Music

Ladies' Night With Julie Corbalis
8 p.m. 12 Grapes | See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures

Introduction to the Art of Somatic Coaching (Opens)
3 p.m. Garrison Institute | 14 Mary's Way, Garrison
845-424-4800 | garrisoninstitute.org

Putnam and Beyond Book Club: Orange Is the New Black
6:45 p.m. Ravenna Osteria | 1099 N Division St., Peekskill | meetup.com/P-B-B-C

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

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

Garrison School Board
7:30 p.m. Garrison School
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3689 | gufs.org

Ash Wednesday Services

Our Lady of Loretto
8:15 a.m., 3:45 & 7:30 p.m.
24 Fair St, Cold Spring | 845-265-3718

St. Mary's Episcopal
10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m. 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

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

NY Alert

For the latest updates on weather-related or other emergencies, sign up at www.nyalert.gov.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Kids & Community

Chinese New Year Ceremony
5:30 a.m. Morning service
10 a.m. Dharma talks, offering lights and blessing
1:30 p.m. Mangala Sutra Chanting, Auspiciousness, Thread Blessing
5 p.m. Evening bell and drum service.
Chuang-Yen Monastery (Kuan Yin Hall)
2020 Route 301, Carmel | 845-225-1819 | baus.org

Indoor Tot Lot
9 - 11 a.m. & Noon - 2 p.m. Philipstown Rec Center
See details under Tuesday.

Howland Public Library
10 a.m. Brain Games for Seniors
10:30 a.m. Pre-K Story Time (ages 3–5)
3:45 p.m. Lego Club (ages 4+)
See details under Tuesday.

Free Tax Assistance for Seniors & Low-Income
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Butterfield Library
10:30 a.m. Bouncing Babies
12:30 p.m. Little Bookworms (ages 2.5–5)
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

New Moms & Infants Group
11 a.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
Email whiteside.ks@gmail.com

Winter Meat and Vegetable Store
3 - 6 p.m. Glynwood Farm
362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring
845-265-3338 | store.glynwood.org

Cooking Class: Hearty Vegetarian Entrees
4 p.m. Dempsey House | Details under Tuesday

Stitch Circle (ages 7–12) (First Session)
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under Tuesday.

Carnevale
6 - 9 p.m. Culinary Institute of America (Caterina de Medici) | 1946 Campus Drive, Hyde Park
845-471-6608 | ciarestaurantgroup.com

Health & Fitness

Indoor Yoga With Ishia Wilson
6:30 p.m. Stony Kill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
845-831-1617 | stonykill.org

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball
7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
See details under Sunday.

Music

Eric Bibb & Guy Davis
7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe
See details under Friday.

Live Band Karaoke
8:30 - 11:30 p.m. 12 Grapes | Details under Friday

Meetings & Lectures

Zoning Board of Appeals
7 p.m. Village Hall
85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

Philipstown Planning Board
7:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3329 | philipstown.com

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Kids & Community

Indoor Tot Lot
9 - 11 a.m. & Noon - 2 p.m. Philipstown Rec Center
See details under Tuesday.

Free Tax Assistance for Seniors & Low-Income
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Howland Public Library
See details under Thursday.

Gaming Club
3 - 5 p.m. Howland Public Library
See details under Tuesday.

Girls' Lacrosse Ice Cream Social (grades 1–4)
3:30 - 5 p.m. St. Philip's Parish Hall
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
Email carol08@optonline.net

Pizza Night and Ice Cream Social
4 - 8 p.m. North Highlands Firehouse
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring
Call 845-265-9595 for takeout.

Frozen Sing-along
5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

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

Film & Theater

Tournées French Film Festival: Blue Is the Warmest Color (2013)
6:30 p.m. Vogelstein Center (Vassar)
See details under Feb. 13.

Support Groups

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

Through a Lens Darkly (Documentary, 2014)
7 p.m. Bardavon
35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Bobby Collins (Comedy)
8 p.m. Tarrytown Music Hall
See details under Feb. 13.

Almost Maine: A Romantic Comedy
8 p.m. The Beacon Theatre
See details under Feb. 13.

Boeing-Boeing
8 p.m. County Players Theatre
See details under Feb. 13.

Goblin Market (Musical)
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
See details under Feb. 13.

Music

Open-Mic Night
8 - 10 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Two Dollar Goat (Bluegrass)
8 p.m. BeanRunner Café | Details under Feb. 13

Leo Kottke
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe
See details under Feb. 13.

Jason Gisser
9 p.m. Max's on Main | See details under Feb. 13.

Thrown Together
9 p.m. Whistling Willie's | Details under Feb. 13

Jonny Rosch and Friends
10 p.m. The Hudson Room | Details under Feb. 13

Meetings & Lectures

Bob Doppelt: The Leadership for Resilience Workshop (Opens)
3 p.m. Garrison Institute
See details under Wednesday.

ONGOING

Art & Design

Visit philipstown.info/galleries


Religious Services

Visit philipstown.info/services

Meetings & Lectures

Alcoholics Anonymous
Visit philipstown.info/aa

Support Groups
Visit philipstown.info/sg



MARDIGRAS
ON
VALENTINE'S DAY

A 6-piece Jazz Band
with
Miss Rene Bailey
at the
First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown
10 Academy Street, Cold Spring
Saturday, February 14, 3:00 P.M.
Admission FREE
(Donations accepted)



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ThePaper

Markie Baylash Exhibit at Howland Library: *My Heroes Have Always Been Strong Women* (from page 7)

something, finding nothing, but one day I just found that thing. I never believed that there was such a thing as ‘that thing in life,’ but there is and I found it.”

Attracted most of all to cityscapes, he is drawn to shadows and alleys. “I take what I see: a shadow, a reflection, an interesting scene.” He doesn’t ignore people in his photography, frequently going to someone encountered on Main Street, sometimes taking candid. “It’s not a job,” Baylash noted, “it’s a passion. If someone was to say you can never take another photo again, I’d basically die.”

Even a stroke Baylash suffered in 2013, which caused him to temporarily lose sight in his right eye, didn’t impede him. “I had to train my left eye,” he said. “I wore a patch for seven or eight months, and looked out of my left. I call those my left-eye photos and I can always identify which ones came from that time.”

Baylash said he has an “innate ability to look at a photo — not just mine — and tell you everything about it. I digest photos with my mind: I eat the photos.”

Baylash first showed his photos in a “Windows on Main” display at the Lauren & Riley clothing store, accompanied by a second exhibit at Beacon Yoga. At his very first exhibition, someone walked up to him and told him, referring to one of his images, “I have to have it.”

“I was speechless,” Baylash said. “I

hand-delivered it to her the next day.”

Parting with the image brought a tinge of sadness, because it was the only one of that shot that he had, as he doesn’t believe in making multiple prints. “A photo is a slice of the world that’s perfect,” he explained, “a perfect millisecond in history. I don’t want anyone else to have that little slice of perfection.” Although some wonder why he doesn’t print up larger images, Baylash prefers to work with 8-by-10s, because “everything looks different as you get up close, and I like that.”

Earlier this year Baylash was included in the Howland Center’s *This Is Beacon!* photography exhibit, and, when asked by Howland Library curator Rogers to put together a new one with a different theme, Baylash was initially stumped, but then it came to him. “All the women I know around town are strong women who deserve something good. Of the people in my life who have



A shadowy alley in Beacon — a favorite subject of photographer Markie Baylash

Image supplied by the artist

helped me the most, 95 percent of them have been women — they’re caring, nurturing and down to earth.”

Baylash gave a quick running commentary of the subjects of the images displayed in the exhibition; here are some excerpts: “This is my sister. She has cerebral palsy. I took care of her for 10 years. ... This is at a rally: Miss Flora, a wonderful woman. Her answering machine says, ‘This is Flora, not Fauna, leave a message.’ ... Here’s Florence, from the Howland Center. I see her as the First Lady of Beacon. ... and Ricki, used to live next door to me, always listened to music with earphones on, no one talked to her because of that, but I just walked right up to her because I talk to everybody ... Anik from The Beacon Bagel — she always walks with a double stroller. She has to be two women, so I made sure to get her reflection in the glass ... Here’s Ivy, she’s really involved in

the environment; Doreen, works at Bank Square, sticking her tongue out — she wasn’t in a good mood right then. ... Heather, hoop class instructor — she told me, ‘Wow, my calves look great’ in the picture so that’s what I titled it. ... Carmen, she’s an animal rights activist and some of the photo is out of focus but she’s listening so intently to someone and that’s what I was going for. ... my great-niece Madison with her mom, Priscilla. ... Kendra, hairdresser to Anastasia, everything’s gold in the photo. ... Lauren, Kim’s daughter, my best friends; they’re true friends ... she told me to dress nice for this interview!”

Baylash’s connection to the community brought him an invitation to provide content for the Humans of Beacon Facebook page, something he has enjoyed doing for the past six months or so. The camera brings Baylash happiness, simple as that.

“You can be happy, no matter what,” he said. “For years I was very sad. You don’t have to be sad. If you walk outside, something fantastic is going to happen, or, if it doesn’t, at least you got outside.”

Howland Public Library is located at 313 Main St. in Beacon. The Community Room Exhibit Space is open during regular library hours, but may not be accessible during some library programs; consult the calendar at beaconlibrary.org.

Got Game? Groombridge Games Does (from page 7)

goods, for example a card game called Gloom, in which a player draws a family of misfits and the goal is to make them as unhappy as possible before they die! The store does not stock traditional board games for children, though they will have chess sets for sale and are also looking at a possible sideline in “cosplay” accessories (cosplay is dressing up as a character from a movie, book or video game, which originated in Japan particularly around manga and anime). Groombridge Games is able to do special orders, and they’ll be stocking new games as time goes on; current opening inventory is just a taste of what’s to come.

Opening a store of this kind has long been an idea of Ian Groombridge, who manages it. Groombridge, 22, said he started becoming interested in games through video games, at around the age of 10. This was followed by a fascination with Dungeons and Dragons, the fantasy role-playing game that many feel was one of the inspirations for MTG. Groombridge started playing MTG about four years ago. He thinks its appeal lies in the combination of skill and luck required for success, as players create their own decks and then

see how they fare against other players.

Groombridge’s mother and partner in the store, Kim Conner, called MTG “personally interactive. People come to stores across the country to play it, every Friday night.” Conner described being in a Silicon Valley mall recently, where four storefronts had been taken over for tournaments, with over a hundred people standing in line to get in. “There’s a social component to it,” she noted, adding that “these games are not just for kids; the average age for MTG players is about 22.”

Neither Groombridge nor Conner has ever owned a retail store, though Groombridge does have experience working in a store similar to this one. In the parent-child endeavor, with Conner determined that Groombridge take on most of the operational setup, including ordering stock, wading through all the requisite paperwork, etc., there has been the usual learning curve for both of them, made more specific by the type of merchandise they are offering.

“There are a lot of hoops to jump through to become a store,” said Conner, “particularly with the company that makes MTG, which has established

it as sort of a network ... You have to open your store and stock it with their products before being allowed to have ‘official’ game nights ... There are also very few companies that distribute these games.” Groombridge added, “You have to prove that you’re a brick-and-mortar

store, so that they don’t think you’re going to just sell things online.”

Conner said she had been thinking of having a Main Street business for a while, but was never certain what it should be. She said the impetus behind GG was to “have *(Continued on page 16)*



Ian Groombridge and Kim Conner, proprietors of Groombridge Games Photo by A. Rooney



Congratulations to all Garrison and Haldane 7th graders who participated in our annual Jean Saunders history contest!

Peter Angelopoulos
Kailyn August
Anna Brief
Gaetano Cervone
McKenzie Clark
Madison Clark
Jonnie Colasurdo
Jill Cox
Lukas DeRoche
Denis Driscoll
Bridget Goldberg
Henry Heckert
Benjamin Thomas Higbee
Megan Horan
Lila Janski
Riley Johanson
Alek Maasik

Remy Mancuso
Valerie Mancuso
Hayden Mayer
Aurora McKee
Solana McKee
Conor McMahon
Ben McPherson
Connor O’Reilly
Molly Reid
Ava Rouxel
Anna Rowe
Natalie Sandik
Adam Sharifi
Emerson Smith
William Stark
Athena Stebe-Glorius
Isaac Walker
Rex Young

The prize winners were:

- 1st place - Riley Johanson, Haldane, “Battle of Fort Clinton and Montgomery”
- 2nd place tie - Isaac Walker, Garrison, “The Evolution of the Appalachian Trail” and Alek Maasik, Haldane, “Castle Rock”
- 3rd place - Hayden Mayer and Remy Mancuso, Garrison, “Revolutionary War in Philipstown.”

The Putnam History Museum
63 Chestnut Street, Cold Spring, New York
www.putnamhistorymuseum.org • 845.265.4010

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Evening by Linda Puiatti Photo courtesy of RiverWinds Gallery

(From previous page) visit riverwinds-gallery.com or call 845-838-2880.

Norwegian Film *O'Horten* Shows at Howland Library
Comedy/drama screens 7 p.m. Feb. 27

The Norwegian film *O'Horten* will be shown at the Howland Public Library on Friday, Feb. 27, at 7 p.m. This comedy/drama focuses on a life-changing moment in 67-year-old train engineer Odd Horten's existence: the evening of his retirement. The film is rated PG-13 and is 90 minutes in length.

This event is free and no registration is required. All films are shown in their original language with English subtitles. Doors open at 6:30 and film starts promptly at 7.

The Howland Public Library is located at 313 Main St. in Beacon. For more information, contact Alison Herrero, adult services librarian, at 845-831-1134.

Benefit Dinner for Sloop Woody at Towne Crier
E'lissa Jones Band to provide live music March 1

The Beacon Sloop Club announces its Ninth Annual Woody Benefit Dinner, scheduled for Sunday, March 1, at the Towne Crier Café, 379 Main St. in Beacon.

Cocktail hour and appetizers begin at 5 p.m. A buffet dinner follows at 6, with raffle and door prizes. Live music will be provided by the E'lissa Jones Band, a kinetic band known for buoyantly blending elements of rock, jazz, blues, funk, coun-

try, folk and tango into a good time.

Jones is a prolific singer-songwriter and classically trained violinist who also plays guitar, piano, mandolin, ukulele and cello. This multi-instrumentalist is originally from Colorado and currently lives in the Hudson Valley. Jones is presently touring the Tristate area with her backing bandmates, Mark McNutt on guitar, Mickey Kopchak on bass and Michael Hickey on drums, with whom she has performed for the past seven years.

Jones has released five CDs, toured with legends and is currently working on the release of her new CD. Musical stylings range from folk to rock to reinvented popular covers. For more information on Jones, visit elissajones.com.

Proceeds go to the restoration of the Beacon Sloop Club's environmental education sailing sloop, the Woody Guthrie, which needs a new hull this year. Tickets cost \$75. To reserve online, go to woodydinner.brownpapertickets.com. Reservations are required as space is limited. For dinner details or to print a reservation form, visit beaconsloopclub.org.



E'lissa Jones Photo courtesy of Beacon Sloop Club



Inon Barnatan Photo courtesy of HCMC

Howland Piano Festival Continues With Barnatan
NY Philharmonic's artist in association gives recital Feb. 22

The Howland Chamber Music Circle's annual winter series of piano concerts continues with a performance by Israeli pianist Inon Barnatan.

Barnatan has been named the New York Philharmonic's first "Artist in Association," a major three-season appointment highlighted by multiple concerto and chamber music collaborations with the orchestra. The Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient's recent Kennedy Center solo debut prompted *The Washington Post* to marvel: "Although there was firecracker technique on display, it was Barnatan's intelligence, musicality and story-telling ability that most impressed." His 2013 recording of Schubert's late sonatas reveals "superior playing, in which penetrating musicianship, compelling interpretive insight, and elegant pianism achieve near perfect equilibrium" (*BBC Music* magazine), while his solo album *Darkness Visible* was described as one of the "Best of 2012" by *The New York Times*.

To launch his unprecedented new partnership with the NY Philharmonic, Barnatan makes his subscription debut playing Ravel's concerto under Alan Gilbert. For his concert at the Howland Center, Barnatan has chosen to play Beethoven's Sonata No. 31 in A-flat Major, Op. 110; Sonata in E-flat minor, Op. 26, by Samuel Barber; *Prélude, Chorale et Fugue* by Cesar Franck; and *Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel* by Johannes Brahms.

The concert will take place on Sunday, Feb. 22, at 4 p.m. at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St. in Beacon, and will be followed by a reception to meet the artist.

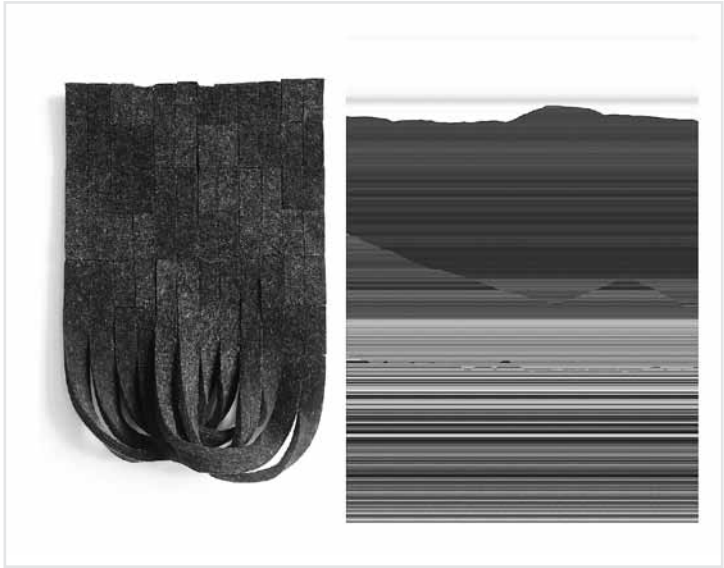
Tickets at \$30 (\$10 for students) can be reserved by calling 845-297-9243. See also howlandmusic.org, where information on this and other programs can be found.

Matteawan Gallery Shows Couples' Art in *duets*
Exhibit opens with Second Saturday reception

Matteawan Gallery presents *duets*, a group exhibition featuring the work of four couples: Jill Baroff and Stefana McClure, Karlos Carcamo and Eleanor White, Matt Frieburghaus and Laura Kaufman, and Meg Hitchcock and Kurt Steger. The exhibition opens on Feb. 14 and runs through March 8. The opening reception takes place on Second Saturday, Feb. 14, from 6 to 9 p.m.

duets brings together four artist couples from the New York area whose work has a similar reliance on process and concept, showing how the work of two people who live together can be similar or different, how ideas and experiences they share are expressed in their art. In some cases there is much common ground, but in others there is very little obvious connection. In the end, viewing the couples' work side by side is a compelling way to acknowledge their shared lives.

Matteawan Gallery is located at 464 Main St., Beacon. For more information, visit matteawan.com or contact info@matteawan.com or 845-440-7901.



Shrug by Laura Kaufman, left, and Valley by Matt Frieburghaus Photographs courtesy of the artists

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Pooh the Rattler Delights Audience at Taconic Outdoor Education Center

Snake crosses river to visit

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Gen. Christopher Gadsden, a Revolutionary War patriot, reportedly considered the rattlesnake so apt a symbol of dangerous resolve that the 1775 flag attributed to him features one — coiled — above the slogan “Don’t Tread on Me.”

Some 240 years later, that remains

good advice for anyone walking the hills of the Hudson Valley, home to the timber rattler (in Latin, *Crotalus horridus*, a name that pretty much explains itself). The snakes are described as typically shy, although one, dubbed Pooh, found herself mingling (under close supervision) with human society at the Taconic Outdoor Education Center (TOEC) in

“They don’t want to be seen
... they just want to stay
cryptic.”

Fahnestock State Park on Jan. 10. Ed McGowan, director of the Trailside Museum and Zoo at Bear Mountain State Park, across the Hudson River from Philipstown, brought Pooh to the TOEC for a talk on rattlesnakes, part of a Saturday program, sponsored by the Hudson Highlands Audubon Society, that included sales of bird seed and a chili lunch.

Often “they don’t want to be seen,” McGowan said of timber rattlers. “They just want to stay cryptic.” If encountering one, he advised that a hiker “look at it from a safe distance, enjoy it, and then give it a wide berth.” He added that it is “really infrequent” that a timber rattler bites someone, “considering all the hikers and all the people” outdoors in the Hudson Highlands.





Although the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation refers to the timber rattlesnake, a form of pit viper, as “the largest venomous snake in New York,” it also lists the rattlers as “threatened,” after long-standing efforts by two-legged predators (*Homo sapiens*) to exterminate them — dead rat-

tlers once brought bounties, a practice banned in 1971. Development also took its toll. “Contrary to popular opinion, a rattlesnake will not pursue or attack a person unless threatened or provoked,” the DEC website declares. They eat small mammals, as well as the occasional bird, amphibian or other snake, and in New York, “protection of habitat is now a primary concern,” the agency also notes. “Collecting rattlers from the wild is prohibited, but poachers are still active in supplying the black-market pet trade.”

Seemingly oblivious to such concerns, at the TOEC Pooh displayed her light-colored head and geometric decorations on a brownish-ochre body. She appeared to be about 3 feet long, if stretched out. McGowan said such rattlers do not grow to gigantic lengths. “There are no 6-foot rattlesnakes around here,” he told the audience.

According to McGowan, Pooh, who retains her venom, weighs approximately 750 grams (about 1.66 pounds) and is “pretty chunky.” At some point, she came down with “listless syndrome.” The same malady affected another wild timber rattler, rescued and called Winnie. “So they ended up living with us,” (To next page)

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Roots and Shoots

For a Good Harvest, Start With the Soil

By Pamela Doan

Recently I've gotten a lot of questions about organic gardening and why to do it at home. Conventional agriculture strikes fear into most of us. It tends to mean using large quantities of chemicals in order to grow food. In order to turn the greatest profit, corporations compromise the health of the environment and the consumer — at least that's the common conception. Local is better and local/organic is best in the hierarchy of food that's good for us. Although most people still purchase the majority of their fruits and vegetables at chain grocery stores instead of a farmers market, there are many more choices.

In the long run, is a little bit of pesticide, herbicide or a general-use synthetic fertilizer going to do that much harm in a small vegetable garden? We tend to blame agribusiness for reckless disregard for the environment and focus less on home gardener's choices simply because the scale is smaller, therefore the problem is smaller. It all contributes to



It's hard to imagine right now but there is a garden waiting under all that snow.

Photo by P. Doan

the bigger problem, though.

Organic gardening relies on living, vital soil and pest management methods instead of chemicals. Soil is the basis for

plants to get nutrients. The main nutrients are nitrogen for shoots (growth), potassium for fruits and phosphorus for roots. On a bag of fertilizer these are represented as N, K and P, respectively. If your tomatoes get a blast of nitrogen and not enough potassium, you'll have tall, leafy plants and a not-so-great yield. It's all about balance.

Soil can be enhanced with organic materials that will slowly release these nutrients as they decompose. Sometimes plants need a quick infusion, though, and chemical fertilizers will do the trick. They are absorbed much faster because they don't have to break down.

The downside is that it doesn't remain in the soil and has to be reapplied, and it's tricky to get the right amount in the right place. Chemical fertilizers applied incorrectly can harm the plants and be washed into streams, lakes and rivers by rainfall. Following directions carefully when using chemical fertilizers is essential.

Organic gardening doesn't have those negatives. I've never heard from a gardener whose soil was too good because they'd added too much compost. Even using a store-brand organic fertilizer like bone meal or manure can't cause the kind of harm to the environment that a

synthetic fertilizer can.

Paying attention to healthy soil means that plants are stronger and better able to withstand pests and disease; they don't need as many interventions with pesticides or herbicides. Soil that is enhanced with organic matter has better water retention, drainage and structure. Soil microbes feed on organic matter and break it down. There's a whole cycle of life in soil that is supported with organic gardening methods. If you do nothing else organically, creating a solid foundation for your plants with soil amendments will get you most of the way to successful growing.

Consider the chemicals that are commonly used in conventional agriculture. Roundup, a popular and widely available herbicide, has been linked as a possible cause of colony collapse disorder in mass die-offs of bees, for example. Pesticides don't just affect a single insect species but can indeterminately kill all the insects that come in contact with it, even the beneficial insects. Chemical fertilizers, as I mentioned, don't have to stay in the place where they're applied. Once they get into the soil, they can move. Unleashing any synthetic materials or chemicals into a green space leads to consequences, whether you can see it or not.

Organic gardening is a way to approach a more harmonious relationship with the environment. By choosing to leave out chemicals and synthetics, the gardener is forced to learn about the plot of land and what it needs for maximum vitality to encourage the desired results.

The setup needs might be more demanding in the beginning, like a composting system and adding organic materials to the soil, but once these are in motion, maintaining it over the long term isn't as challenging or time-consuming once you're in the groove. Going the conventional route requires constantly adding synthetic fertilizer to soil that doesn't have the nutrients a plant needs and won't until it's organically balanced. It will be depleted more and more. While you're making that list and drawing out the garden this year, take care of the soil and let nature do the rest.

Pooh the Rattler Delights Audience (from previous page)



Ed McGowan guides Pooh the rattlesnake toward her carrying bag.

in the zoo, McGowan said Jan. 20 in a follow-up phone conversation with *The Paper*. He attributed the syndrome to a nematode, a blood-borne parasitic worm. By McGowan's estimate, Pooh and Winnie are 20 or 25 years old. "They can live a long time" and scientists determined one rattler, not in captivity, to be about 40 years old, he said.

In winter, timber rattlers hibernate, unless like Pooh and Winnie they live indoors in heated quarters, he said. "Ours are active but a little sluggish. They go through a seasonal slowing down."


Slowed down or not, Pooh delighted the three-dozen-plus attendees of all ages at the TOEC as she wandered the floor in serpentine waves, eyes focused and slender tongue wisping through the air. McGowan kept her well back from anyone's feet and she did not seem to mind being the subject of intense attention and awe.

When it was time for the star attraction to retire and everyone else to eat lunch, McGowan scooped her up with a hooked rod and returned her to a bag — perhaps for a well-deserved snakely snooze.

Pooh, a timber rattlesnake from the Bear Mountain State Park zoo, checks out the floor space at the Taconic Outdoor Education Center.


Photos by L.S. Armstrong





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Sports

Haldane Captures League Title in Win Over Putnam Valley

By Peter Farrell

In a Friday night classic, the Haldane varsity boys basketball team visited Putnam Valley High School on Feb. 6 to take on the Tigers. Meeting for the second time in three weeks, the Blue Devils were playing in front of a lively, standing room only crowd, half of them Haldane fans who made the short trip to the valley.

From the opening tip to the final buzzer, the Blue Devils and Tigers left it all out on the floor. So did their fans. Haldane fans in attendance matched the vocal Putnam Valley home crowd, cheer for cheer. The tenacious Blue Devil defense enabled Haldane to pull out to a comfortable 11-point lead heading into halftime. In the third quarter, the Tigers' offense began to chip away at the Haldane lead; they entered the fourth quarter tied at 33-33.

Utilizing their towering defense to shut down the Tigers' offense, the Blue Devils took control of the game late in the fourth. As chants of "Let's go, Haldane" echoed through the high school halls, the Blue Devils made the crucial baskets in the final minutes to pull away with a 49-43 victory.

The victory gave the Blue Devils a sweep of the season series and the Conference 1 League C title. Leading scorer for Haldane was Peter Hoffmann with 23 points. The Blue Devil defense blocked 16 shots.



Ryan McCollum, left, and Blue Devil defense deny Putnam Valley. Photo by P. Farrell

Got Game? Groombridge Games Does *(from page 11)*

a place where kids can come and just 'be,' because that's never been available here. Now kids can come in after school and play Magic and hang out and talk to people. It's designed for drop-ins. We have Wi-Fi on a guest network and snacks are available."

Tournament play has begun — Groombridge is a certified MTG judge, and GG has officially been approved by Wizards of the Coast to host MTG tournaments and Dungeons and Dragons Adventures. The tournaments basically involve an entrance fee and then prize support, with game packs awarded depending on how you play. They are currently hosting MTG Standard Tournaments on Friday nights, and MTG Limited events on Saturday nights. (The difference between Constructed Magic, of which Standard is a part, and Limited Magic is that in Constructed Magic you build a deck out of your personal collection and play it, whereas in Limited you build a deck out of a set of cards opened on the spot.) GG is also available for party rental in a basic way: You bring in the cake; they'll provide the games.

Taking over what was formerly the Terence Donovan Gallery, GG enlisted local talent and workmanship to ready the space for opening. Their logo was designed by Gary Tooth of Empire Design Studio; a *mappa mundi* of the imaginary land of Magic on the floor of the shop was designed and painted by Susan English; while Russell and Ellen Roessel and Brian Levine, of Roessel Builders Inc., helped get the store ready to open.

Groombridge Games is located at 165 Main St. (phone 845-809-5614). They are open from noon to 9 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. Up-to-date information can be found on their Facebook page and at groombridge-games.com.

What Is Magic: The Gathering?

For the uninitiated, MTG is a trading card game, replete with complex rules and the tried-and-true goal of defeating one's opponents, in this case with spells, artifacts and creatures. First published about 20 years ago and now played by over 12 million players worldwide, MTG is played using a deck of actual cards (over 60 of them) or via the online equivalent cards through various software programs.

Magic is a game of strategy played by two or more players in which each player's deck contains cards of various fantastical creatures, spells and artifacts. These cards combine both fantasy (wizards, goblins, etc.) and mythological imagery (sphinxes, shamans, etc.), and each figure has its own unique effects and abilities. Strategically, the game combines various elements of gameplay, with a mix of elements drawn from such disparate sources as poker and chess, along with luck of the draw. In addition to the games, played casually or in organized tournaments (some players are professionals), the cards themselves, though looking like ordinary cardboard rectangles with designs on them, have evolved into their own currency, per se, with values attached to their rarity and usefulness in gameplay.

(Note: Many of these details were provided by this reporter's 18-year-old son.)



One of many trays of Magic: The Gathering cards for sale at Groombridge Games Photo by A. Rooney

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