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FRIDAY, FEB. 15, 2013

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Philipstown Town Board Picks Drake Loeb as Law Firm

Also continues discussion of salting the roads

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

As the Town of Philipstown's official new legal advisors, the Town Board Wednesday night (Feb. 13) selected Drake, Loeb, Heller, Kennedy, Gogerty, Gaba and Rodd — the firm of oft-embattled Cold Spring Village Attorney Stephen J. Gaba. However, the Town Board resolution on the choice stipulated that Drake Loeb's Dominic Cordisco, not Gaba or another lawyer, provide most of the representation.

The firm's attorneys, including Gaba and Cordisco, have already worked with the town government in various capacities, and the board on Feb. 7 named Gaba to handle a lawsuit a disgruntled resident filed over a post-hurricane bridge project.

"It makes sense to me" to choose Drake Loeb, said Supervisor Richard Shea, using the firm's abbreviated name. "They know the town. We've gotten good service from them." Councilors Nancy Montgomery and Betty Budney joined him in picking Drake Loeb. Councilor Dave Merandy voted "no" and Councilor John Van Tassel abstained.

"I just think there's nobody better to represent us in municipal law, zoning and planning," Montgomery said. "They've served us well and I think we should stick with them."

"They have a lot of expertise to pull from, in their firm," Budney added.

Van Tassel mentioned his satisfaction with Drake Loeb and Cordisco, but found another firm a bit more appealing. "The thing about Drake Loeb is there is baggage. I know there's some ill feeling toward Drake Loeb," he said.

"That was not with the town, though," Budney recalled.

Gaba became embroiled in controversy in Cold Spring over the Butterfield Hospital redevelopment when members of the village's Historic District Review Board rejected his interpretation of Village Code and the redevelopment oversight process. Three village trustees joined in the assault, and the Village Board, over the objections of Mayor Seth Gallagher, voted last fall to search for another law firm, though the outcome remains unclear.

Merandy objected vigorously to Drake Loeb. "I would never vote for them," he said, singling out Gaba. "He's part of their group, and if this is how they represent people I don't want to be associated with them, because I don't believe how he's represented them is actually good. It was not good for the village. It was good for the mayor. It was good, maybe, for the developer" of the Butterfield site, he claimed. "If a person is hired to represent a community's wishes and the board — which the mayor is part of, the mayor is not above everybody" and a lawyer should know that, Merandy argued. When working (Continued on page 5)



Lake Surprise Road; For more photos from *The Paper's* Winter Photofest, see page 16.

Photo by Phil Haber

Post Office at Butterfield or 'No Place,' Warns Mayor

Village Board moving toward ban on formula businesses

By Jeanne Tao

Cold Spring Mayor Seth Gallagher, who leaves office next month, exhorted Village Board trustees to keep the post office in the village and take a proactive stance on a zoning change for the Butterfield Hospital property at their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 12, even though the developer, Paul Guillaro, last week withdrew the zoning change request in light of public opposition to it at the Jan. 29 hearing.

In his report, Gallagher said that without the zoning change for the Butterfield

property, "we really don't have a plan for the post office." He explained that the post office has asked for the village's assistance to get an extension on their lease in the Foodtown Plaza and that extensions on that lease have in the past been contingent upon a plan for an alternate site. He therefore asked the board "to get involved and to take a stand and to help communicate with the public on why it's important," saying that he cannot be the only person to push for it.

That communication, Gallagher said, includes addressing issues brought up by the public at the hearing, many of which

he described as not relating to the project "and often are just stating things that aren't really the case, so it's a misinterpreting of events." They would be talking later in the meeting about chain and formula stores, which he said was a separate issue from the zoning change, and no restaurants would be allowed under the zoning.

On whether the development would be tax-positive or not, he said it would clearly be tax-positive to have only three single-family homes on the property as opposed to being completely taken up by several homes, (Continued on page 3)



Village attorney Stephen Gaba discusses banning formula businesses at the Village Board meeting Tuesday, Feb. 12.

Photo by J. Tao



J. Ralph Falloon

Falloon Will Run Unopposed for Mayor

'The village needs healing'

By Kevin E. Foley

J. Ralph Falloon will be the next mayor of Cold Spring on March 19 when the first voter selects his name. There will no other choice. Falloon, currently a village trustee, is running unopposed, but not before a bit of comic opera played out this past week regarding a supposed opponent.

Last weekend, Barney Molloy, a resident better known to local politicians and the *Putnam County News and Recorder (PCNR)* than the village citizenry, announced to an email list of presumably interested recipients (the list was hidden from view) that he was in fact running for mayor primarily because he didn't believe it made for good politics for someone to run unopposed. Forty-eight hours later, Molloy decided not to file his petition for a place on the ballot. He had indicated in his email that he had the necessary 50 signatures.

According to a story in the *PCNR*, Molloy, described as a "seasoned operative," withdrew from contention and threw his support behind Falloon after the two sat down for lunch to discuss mutual concerns.

Falloon, in an interview with *The Paper*, said he had (Continued on page 3)

Mouths to Feed

The Pinch of Salt

By Celia Barbour

I hit a wall last week. My mother had surgery, and in the aftermath she told me that she’s now on a low-sodium diet, doctor’s orders.

When people I love are ailing, my impulse has always been to cook for them. Making a pot of chicken soup or even just preparing a nice tray with buttered toast and ginger ale gives me a productive way to cope with the helplessness I feel in the face of their discomfort. But when my mom announced she had to cut salt out of her diet, I went completely blank. I literally could not think of a single dish to brighten her exile.

It startled me to realize I had come to such an impasse. After all, I have created food for all kinds of impossible eaters: Lactose-intolerant carnivores, gluten-free vegans, gluten-free non-vegans,

the nightshade-averse, the allergic-to-everything, and enough picky children to fill a CAFO. In fact, I cooked for nearly all of the above every day at camp last summer, and, yes, trying to keep it all straight made my head hurt. So why should a low-salt diet confound me?

Of course, I didn’t tell my mother how I was feeling. What I said was, “Great, okay, cool, no problem. Once you get used to it, you won’t even notice.” But inside, I was panicking. I mean, I love salt. I even add an extra pinch to cookie dough — and candy batter! — to balance the sweetness and add complexity and structure to the flavor.

My younger sister has a friend who does not consider her food salty enough unless she can feel the crystals

crunching in her teeth when she chews. I’m not that bad — and this fact alone gives me comfort: Perhaps it means that I’m not actually bad at all, but rather somewhere on the salty side of good!

I further justify my habit by telling myself that my family eats hardly any processed foods — the great malefactors when it comes to sodium content — and that trimming the salt from my home cooking may not be, scientifically speaking, necessary. The medical establishment has demonstrated that a low-salt diet is of clear value to people suf-



Photo by C. Barbour



Green sauce Photo by C. Barbour

fering from hypertension, kidney disease and diabetes. But for the rest of us, the jury is out. Salt has health benefits, and a few rogue dietitians are now saying that too little salt may be as harmful as too much. Maybe cutting salt from our diets is like wearing compression stockings when we don’t actually have phlebitis. Maybe it’s overkill.

Do I sound defensive? Because I am feeling a little bit defensive about my addiction here.

Anyway, sitting by my mother’s hospital bed that day, I finally managed to snap out of my catatonia. She was dictating a shopping list to me — no-salt soup, no-salt crackers, prune juice, milk — when a gear clicked and I suddenly remembered the many herb pastes I’ve made over the years. Yes, all of them contained salt, but

salt wasn’t the key to their flavor. That came instead from the freshness of the herbs, the zing of lemon zest, the bite of raw garlic or ginger, the swoony lushness of coconut milk. I’ve slathered such pastes on fritters and fish, on grilled leeks and roasted roots. I’ve swirled them into lamb stews and whisked them into salad dressings. They’ve always worked magic, adding vitality and brightness, and balancing all the deep, rich, caramelized flavors of cooked foods. I figured they’d do the same for canned soups and boiled vegetables.

Back home, I whipped up a couple such sauces for my mom. I had enough leftover of one to fill a small jar, so I did, and tucked it away in my fridge. All week, I added a bit to this and that, eating in solidarity with my convalescing mother. Except I cheated: Unlike hers, mine included half a teaspoon of salt.

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Green sauce

This is a great way to use up any leftover fresh herbs that might otherwise languish in your fridge. You can add this sauce to just about anything, from roast chicken to mayonnaise, or use it to bring leftover stews and soups back to life.

1 cup fresh parsley, mint, dill, basil and/or cilantro, in any combination

1-2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice grated zest of 1 lemon (yellow part only)

1 tablespoon capers

1-2 tablespoons olive oil

3 scallions, roughly chopped

¼ teaspoon sea salt (100 percent completely optional!)

1 clove garlic, chopped, optional

Combine all ingredients in a food processor and mix until a paste forms — if you like it rough, pulse quickly, or let it go longer for a smoother result. Transfer to a jar and store up to five days in the refrigerator, adding a little extra oil to the top each time you use it to keep the herbs from browning. Or freeze in ice-cube trays; when solid, transfer cubes to a freezer-safe plastic bag to store.

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Post Office at Butterfield or ‘No Place,’ Warns Mayor *(from page 1)*

which would incur more school-related tax costs.

As for the fear of more condominiums being built, he said the village cannot regulate that. “The village doesn’t have the authority to do that, and I think it’s important that we communicate that to the public. If we do want to reduce the chances for condominiums, [we need] to allow commercial use.”

Gallagher said their only option for housing the post office was at Butterfield, describing the alternative as “the almost certainty of the loss of the post office,” and weighing that against, for example, the “remote possibility of a Sleepy’s store.” He said he has tried unsuccessfully to find other property owners to develop space for the post office. “If the board can come up with another plan, that would be fine. But without that other plan, it’s either Butterfield at this point, or it’s no place.”

The mayor closed his report by warning the board that although “there’s some vocal opposition to the plan, if the post office did close, there would be way, way, way more anger and outrage than the Village Board allowed that to happen.”

A formula business ban

Addressing some residents’ concerns expressed at the Butterfield hearing, the Village Board also discussed the Com-

prehensive Plan Special Board’s report on a ban on formula businesses in the village and made moves toward drafting a local law to prohibit such businesses.

Last September, Village Attorney Stephen Gaba presented a memo to the board on the village’s power to ban formula businesses, and trustees asked the Special Board to conduct a study on the issue. Drawing from its Comprehensive Plan and Local Waterfront Revitalization Strategy, a subcommittee wrote a report that was approved by the Special Board on Jan. 17 and posted on the village’s website, coldpspringny.gov, on Feb. 6.

Mike Armstrong, chair of the Special Board, read highlights of the report at the meeting on Tuesday, providing grounds for a local law banning formula businesses and drive-thrus in the village. One impact would be to Cold Spring’s small-town character: “The Special Board is especially concerned that formula businesses will detract from Cold Spring’s unique, historic village character, the vitality of existing commercial areas, and the quality of life of Cold Spring residents. Cold Spring is recognized by residents and visitors for its independently owned small businesses. These businesses give Cold Spring its small-town character and contribute to its neighborly quality.”

In addition, the walkability of the vil-

lage would be reduced by formula businesses and “the attendant heavy vehicular traffic they would generate,” resulting in pollution and decreasing quality of life.

Safety and health issues also led the Special Board to recommend prohibiting drive-thrus: “Wherever cars are encouraged to cross the sidewalk, pedestrian safety is reduced. Drive-thrus generate potentially heavy traffic, pollution via car exhaust fumes (in particular when cars are waiting in line), and garbage via containers and food items dropped from the drive-thru window and vehicles. All of these outcomes would be detrimental to Cold Spring’s community character.”

The Special Board used the examples of Rhinebeck, Victor and Port Jefferson, municipalities in New York that have so far successfully restricted formula businesses in their local law, to argue for similar restrictions in Cold Spring.

The Village Board asked Gaba about next steps for the village to enact zoning regulations restricting formula businesses. Gaba continued to advise the village to proceed carefully, since such a local law might be difficult to defend in certain parts of the village. While the historic character of Cold Spring is easily seen along Main Street, it might be harder to make the same case amongst such businesses as in the Foodtown/Drug World area along Route 9D. The lo-

cal law may need to rely on an overlay map or description of the boundaries of the ban if it decides not to enact the zoning regulations village-wide.

Armstrong pointed out the Special Board’s argument in its report for applying the law to the entire village: “Since the Route 9D corridor is the gateway to the village, proliferation of formula businesses in that area would be quite destructive to village character, since they would alter residents’ and visitors’ perceptions of Cold Spring immediately upon entering the village, detracting from the 19th-century feel. Moreover, given the village’s very small size (less than 1 square mile) and the close proximity of the Route 9D corridor to Main Street, it would seem impossible to maintain the unique qualities of the village while allowing formula businesses in the former but not the latter.”

The Village Board asked Armstrong to discuss with the Special Board the boundaries of the ban and arguments for implementing it village-wide, while having Gaba draft a local law restricting formula businesses in Cold Spring.

The Special Board would meet Thursday, Feb. 14, to discuss the ban and the areas to which it would apply. Their meetings occur regularly on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Hall, and the public is invited to attend.

Falloon Will Run Unopposed for Mayor *(from page 1)*

welcomed the meeting with Molloy because it was an opportunity to discourage an opponent. “Now it’s a hurdle I don’t have to climb over,” he said with obvious relief in his voice.

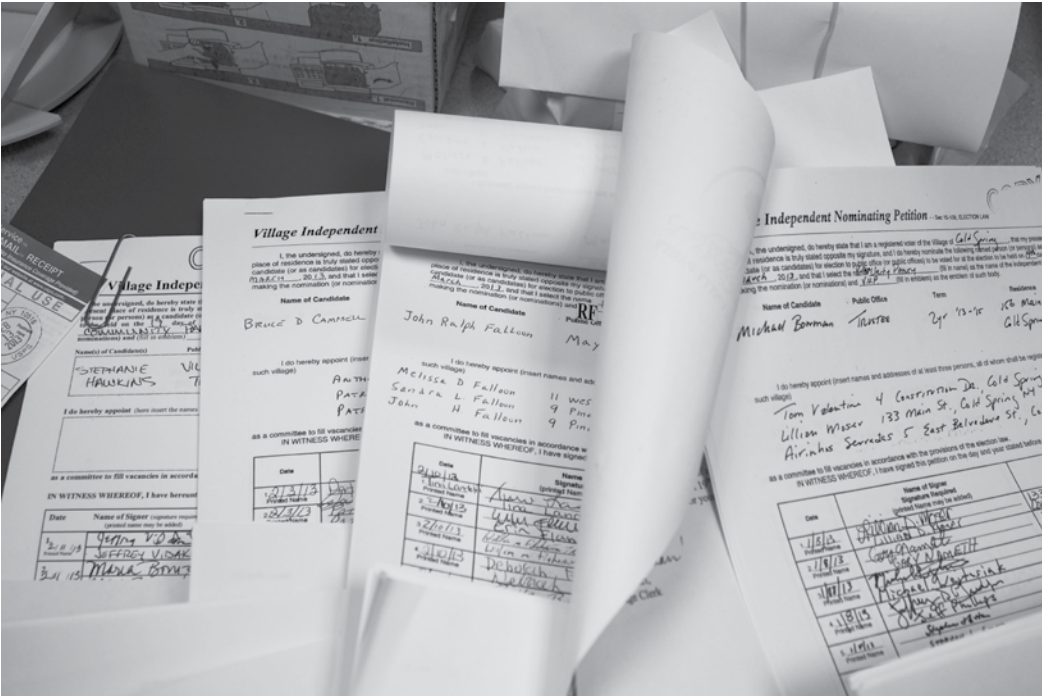
Falloon said he spoke freely with Molloy to give him “a feeling of who I was and how I wanted to accomplish things. I think he found I had the right mindset about matters in the village and how to approach them,” said Falloon. He said he welcomed Molloy’s support as he would any village resident, but he dismissed the idea of a political agreement and said there had been no discussion of endorsement during the meeting. “He didn’t say why he changed his mind,” said Falloon. Molloy has not responded to email inquiries from *The Paper*.

Given his lifelong roots in the village and his service in the fire company, on the Village Board, and his work coordinating emergency services for the county, Falloon had a right to feel confident about his chances against almost any opponent. However, he said: “You can’t go into a race thinking you are the winner. This is a big weight off my shoulders. I can start now to work on my vision and goals instead of having a month of stress

over the election. So it was worth it,” he said.

Falloon expressed understanding of how some people might suspect there was some kind of political accommodation involved, given the picture of him and Molloy exchanging a handshake in the PCNR. “If someone offers help, I’m going to take it.” As to any inference of deal making, Falloon laughed it off and listed “my mother, my wife and my kids” as the only people in a position to bargain with him in that way.

“I think my job as mayor will be to protect the interest of every single person in the village regardless of their views or backgrounds,” he said. Referring to the PCNR’s depiction of his welcomed support from Kathleen Foley (a member of the Historic District Review Board-and not related to this reporter) as upsetting to some members of the fire company (over arguments about the fire alarm siren in the past). Falloon said: “Kathleen works incredibly hard for the



Candidate petitions

Photo by K.E. Foley

village. There is an incredibly important task at hand. We need everybody willing to pitch in to solve our issues.

“The village needs healing, not more division over differences. I hope to be able to accomplish that,” said Falloon.

With the filing of petitions closed as of Wednesday, Feb. 13, incumbent Bruce Campbell and challengers Mike Bowman and Stephanie Hawkins are the three candidates for the two open trustee seats. A profile on Bowman can be seen on p. 5.

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LETTERS

A letter to Tara

Tara, ma cherie,
I write you here at *The Paper* hoping as one of its foremost correspondents, you might use your influence to bring attention to a local tragedy.
Today I thought of you as I walked at the Foundry. I remembered many sunny days when it was not forbidden to walk along that path and be greeted by you and your frolicking, furry friends communing with nature. Dear four-legged citizen, you know me to be law-abiding most of the time. From time to time, I confess that I have meandered westward on the Foundry path on a weekend day flouting the “Keep Out Sign” but doing no harm. Perhaps if you had been near, you might have heard me sing my favorite verse of “This Land Is Your Land” as I ducked under the chain through a gap so wide it seems to invite entry:
*As I went walking I saw a sign there
And on the sign it said “No Trespassing.”
But on the other side it didn’t say nothing,
That side was made for you and me.*
As I walked the westbound path, a felled tree blocked my way and so I brazenly turned and explored in an easterly direction. Mon dieu, ma copine! Dear wise soul in canine form, we can always have our memory of a time when the Foundry Park Preserve WAS a preserve. The crumbled bits of the factory walls, rusted remnants of machinery standing tribute to the hardworking laborers who forged the cannons that helped the North win the Civil War. A historic site where a body could sit down and allow the imagination to run.
The Foundry also has a personal historic meaning to me and my family. Many were the days I walked with a heavy heart and a clouded mind into our local place where time stood still and was cleansed by the rushing brook. Countless summer afternoons, I would dip my toes and those of my children in that clear cold water as we looked for fairies in the shady moss. Life decisions were made sitting on the limb that stretches from bank to bank; water finding its way downstream through debris offered a metaphor for the persistence I required. Dear Tara, I know if you were near, you would nuzzle up to me to offer your steadfast silent witness to my emotions much like the Foundry did.
I stifled my anguished wails only for fear of attracting attention to my trespassing. I found that if one stands at the brook with one’s back to the huge, shiny metal replica waterwheel that could only be a product of a 21st-century design and angles the body only slightly, one can still be calmed by the song of the water and the view of the waterfall.
Dear Tara, as I left, I wondered who will be picking up the Dunkin’ Donuts coffee cups left by those flocking to this Disney-ified park?
Your two-legged friend,
Kathie Scanlon

Plea to work together on Butterfield project

Dear Editor:
I moved to Cold Spring about a year ago to be closer to my family. I have fallen in love with this beautiful village and the people here. I am so happy to be living here! I feel very privileged also to be living in the senior housing at the Chestnut Ridge Apartments. Last summer I was very pleased to learn, with great interest, about the Butterfield Project proposals which would take place across the street from where I live. After hearing about all the wonderful additions this would make to our community, I could

really envision, once fine-tuned and completed, how this space was going to be an amazing and wonderful asset and benefit to the village. This is not only for older folks, but for all ages, and of great worth for a long time to come. Can you just imagine how valuable, useful, favorable, profitable and healthy to Cold Spring the following plans would be?
1. A desperately needed senior center (with kitchen and room for meals and events)
2. A community/youth center for local residents
3. A home for the Cold Spring post office
4. ADA compliant courts — saving money — without three sets of everything
5. Municipal building, town and village offices — sharing common area costs
6. New VFW/honor our veterans
7. The beautiful open green field for outdoor events
8. Need for a place for Putnam County services in this part of the county
How can this possibly begin to compare with 18 single-family houses now proposed for the site!??? I was really looking forward to this development becoming a reality for Cold Spring. But I was truly shocked and saddened by Paul Guillaro’s need to suspend the original plans for the project due to the lack of support of the “B4A” zoning amendment. How are 18 single-family homes built on this site going to be a benefit and asset to the Village of Cold Spring with a possible negative effect on the school system, a rise in school taxes?
I would like to ask the Village Board to be proactive and ensure and keep safe the above listed proposals offered by Paul Guillaro.
I really appreciate the great time, care, talent, agony, talent and money that have been poured into this project. It would really be a huge tragedy to Cold Spring to lose this pleasant, charming, neat, aesthetically appealing and valuable part of town that was originally proposed. I appeal to the Village Board and Paul Guillaro to work in harmony to resume the original Butterfield Project (with fine tuning) to make this project happen without delay. I believe you can do it!!
I want to urge the citizens of Cold Spring Village and surrounding area to support the Butterfield Project wholeheartedly. In addition, it would guarantee that the spot referred to as the Village Green is preserved, as it is so popular in the winter for kids sledding.
Thank you very much.
Yours truly,
Shirley Norton
Cold Spring

For biodiversity, go native

Dear Editor:
Is anybody there? Does anybody care? Does anybody see what I see?
I’m referring to the invasive vines and other non-native shrubs and plants along our highways, streams and forest edges. Have you not noticed all of the tangled jungles as you travel? The vines are growing insidiously and relentlessly, girdling the trees, either killing them outright or climbing up into their branches, breaking them with their weight, or forming a blanket-like canopy which blocks necessary sunlight to the trees and the forest floor below. We are losing millions of years’ worth of our majestic trees. The northeastern forest as we know it, is disappearing. Ultimately, the vines crowd out the native plants, significantly diminishing the value of wildlife habitat, in terms of food sources and nesting areas, and have a negative impact upon the number of species that can use the area.
In *Bringing Nature Home*, author

Doug Tallamy, an entomologist (professor of insects) and speaker at the Native Plant Center at Westchester Community College and the New York Botanical Garden, points out that we no longer have countless insects and states that “not only habitat loss by invasive plants has contributed to the loss of numbers of insects, but another reason for their decline is that insects seem to prefer native or indigenous plants of a region over alien species because they have coevolved with them over long periods of time, thousands of years.” By alien, I mean exotic non-native, non-indigenous plants from other parts of the world. They take but do not give back. They take the sun, water, nutrients and real estate for miles and miles along our roads, but do not feed the other living species, and this is unsustainable. Non-natives do nothing for our ecosystem. Tallamy said it does not promote biodiversity but inhibits it, and that includes sterile lawns, which only seem to support Japanese beetles.
You may very well say, “Who cares about insects?” and say that birds can eat the berries. Yes, the adult birds can but, according to Hastings-on-Hudson author Carolyn Summers, “Ninety-six percent of baby birds need insect larvae as food, while more than 90 percent of those same insect larvae require the leaves or parts of indigenous plants as food.” Bird counts are down because they are having much more trouble finding insects to feed their broods.
What can you do? Join “free-a-tree” to cut vines along our highways (and cut them elsewhere when you see them), check out leaveleavesalone.org, and you can replace some of your Asian-evolved plants with natives. Leave the milkweeds for the monarch’s sustenance for their long migration.
Tallamy has asserted that “biodiversity is a national treasure that we have abused terribly, partly because we have not understood the consequences of doing so.” Now that we are beginning to see and understand such consequences, it is time to act, in our own backyards. There are many plants that can be substitutes for the same old two dozen non-natives in everyone’s yards and gardens from coast to coast, so ... for biodiversity: GO NATIVE!!!
Annie Patton
Garrison

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Bowman Sees Transparency and Need for Better Follow-Up

A reform-minded candidate for village trustee

By Kevin E. Foley

Mike Bowman, candidate for Cold Spring Village Trustee, is no stranger to either village issues or running for elected office. A regular at village meetings in recent years and an elected officer and president of the Cold Spring Fire Co. for the past five years, Bowman sees himself as well prepared for the responsibilities of trustee, which do seem to be mounting and appear for some a bit daunting.

A life long resident of Philipstown, including Cold Spring, Bowman is in a three-way race for two trustee seats. He plans on emphasizing three separate but related concerns as he campaigns among his fellow villagers.

Bowman stresses first the need for greater openness and transparency in the operations of the village government. He concedes some progress has been made in recent years, but not enough in his view. “The state law [on government meetings] has to be the standard, he said. “No editing of the posted agenda right before the meeting,” is one of his complaints.

A frequent critic of outgoing Mayor Seth Gallagher’s meeting procedures, Bowman stressed his clashes weren’t personal but rather were about openness. For instance, on the controversy over a raise for Gallagher, Bowman said, “It wasn’t the money; it was the way it was handled.” Bowman also wants to see a more restrictive use of executive sessions by the trustees.

His second main issue is the need for better and more consistent follow-up on ideas regarding village initiatives. The perennial issue of parking is one example he offered. “Parking is an untapped



Mike Bowman

Photo by K.E. Foley

resource for revenue,” he said. Bowman suggested a meter system, which could be turned on for the weekend visitor traffic but turned off during the week, should be explored. He also would like to see the village traffic code updated and more aggressive and even-handed enforcement initiated. “Some people park on the village streets for days at a time; we need to do something about that,” he said.

Garbage cycling also fits under this category for Bowman. “Do we honestly know where the money goes under this program? It shouldn’t take much to study it and understand it better.”

The Village Code needs to be updated, using the adopted Comprehensive Plan as a guide and source for change, according to Bowman. He had high praise for current Comprehensive Plan Special

Board Chair Mike Armstrong and the other members, as well as people who served in years past. “The Comprehensive Plan is a great guideline for the future. We need the zoning code updated so the law reflects the plan,” he said.

Planning process

Third on his list of categories is what Bowman considers “a breakdown of the planning process.” He said he wants to review the way the village handles applications for projects and how and when the village board interacts with the planning board as well as other boards. He also would like to review the timelines needed for various boards to act and have better communication between and among the boards.

Related to this issue, Bowman would like to see a leveling of the powers be-

tween the mayor and the other trustees and “more input and communication among the trustees.” He said he thought the mayor’s position had taken on too much of the agenda-setting and that “the trustees have to step up” and take on more of the responsibility for addressing issues and making decisions based on five people voting.

Butterfield

On the specific issue of the Butterfield development, Bowman said he was “very cognizant of people’s misgivings” regarding the presence of government services at the site. “Unless Paul Guillaro [the developer] gets government to commit and lays that [answer] out, people have a right to misgivings,” he said. Bowman said he was not in favor of the proposed zoning change for this reason and instead agreed with others who think a return to the planned unit development approach is a better course.

Bowman expressed admiration for Guillaro and confidence the matter could be resolved. “He asked for the moon originally, but he came down to earth” after people had input, argues Bowman.

On other matters, Bowman expressed a willingness to be open to big changes. He said he would discuss consolidation of services within both the town and village organizations. “We have a lot of duplication, the courts, the various inspectors; look at the police.”

As to whether the village needs a full-time appointed manager to better organize planning and drive projects, Bowman said he could see the potential. “I would be reluctant to put another salary in the budget, but maybe the trustees could then serve on a volunteer basis,” he said.

Philipstown Town Board Picks Drake Loeb as New Law Firm *(from page 1)*

for a municipal government, “if they are not representing the whole board, then I would have a problem with that.”

“How can they represent the whole board? What if the board disagreed?” Montgomery asked.

Shea said that a municipal attorney typically takes direction from an official and also may say things people dislike hearing. “He may be representing unpopular stances,” he said. The supervisor told his colleagues that the Town Board is not locked into a lawyer selection permanently, because “if we’re not happy with the way things are going, we can change.” He urged his colleagues to reach a decision. “It’s gotten to the point where we do need somebody,” after two months without a board attorney, following the retirement of long-time town attorney Ed Doyle, he said. “We’ve got to appoint somebody.”

Shea said Drake Loeb’s prices were comparable to those of other outside firms “or a little lower” and that he expected the new arrangements to save money. “There’s no way we’re going to hit the amounts we used in the past,” he

said. A town employee, Doyle “was sort of a clearinghouse. He farmed a lot out,” turning to other firms to handle aspects of the legal work, Shea said. “We were shopping it out all over.”

Road salt

The board returned to a subject raised at a meeting the week before: the amount of salt used to de-ice town roads. “It is a problem,” Merandy said. He called for an explanation from Highway Superintendent Roger Chirico. “He’s got to make a statement about why” the department spreads so much salt, Merandy said.

Shea suggested that Merandy or another board member might organize an ad hoc committee to look at alternatives to salt.

Merandy replied that the question is not simply one of salt versus alternatives but “the amount” of salt used.

Shea observed that in the past the town relied more extensively on sand for icy roads. “Historically, we didn’t use this much” salt, which is harmful to clean water supplies, he said. “You can’t deny it’s an issue. You can’t keep doing something that detrimental to the envi-

ronment. I’m just concerned. It’s expensive. It’s toxic.”

At the same time, he emphasized, “we’re not blaming the highway superintendent.” In retrospect, Shea admitted, he wishes he had talked to Chirico before the board took up the road-salt question Feb. 7, responding to a citizen complaint. Shea said Chirico “is in a position where he’s trying to keep the roads open,” often under difficult conditions, while facing persistent demands from local drivers. “Ten minutes after the last snow flake, they want to go 60 miles per hour down the road,” Shea said.

The board agreed to meet with Chirico soon to review the situation.



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Patrolling the Rails: A Profile of the MTA Police Department

MTAPD police officers deal with everything from counter-terrorism and vehicles hit by trains to stolen goods and passengers in distress

By Michael Turton

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority Police Department (MTAPD) is relatively new compared to other law enforcement agencies in the region. It was formed in 1998 when the Long Island Rail Road and the Metro-North Railroad Police Departments merged. After the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the department expanded and dramatically expanded its counter-terrorism capabilities. Its last expansion occurred in 2005 when the Staten Island Railway Police Department also became part of MTAPD. The department now includes 780 uniformed and civilian members. Its police officers are unionized.



Accidents involving collisions between trains and vehicles are one of the most difficult situations that MTAPD police offers must deal with. Photo courtesy of MTA

Police officers with the MTAPD, all of whom are armed, are fully empowered under the New York State Public Authorities Law and are also commissioned in the state of Connecticut. The department’s jurisdiction extends across 14 counties and covers some 5,000 square miles, including New York City, Long Island, southeastern New York state and southern Connecticut. Philipstown is part of MTAPD’s northern region, which includes Metro-North’s Hudson Line. That line alone encompasses 75 miles of track and 28 train stations between Grand Central Station and Poughkeepsie. Police officers hired by MTA undergo a six-month training program at the NYPD Police Academy followed by a further two months of training with MTAPD before being assigned to a field training officer. Ensuring public safety of transit customers and employees and keeping MTA properties secure are the main goals of MTAPD. Its police officers are on duty around the clock, every day of the year. Its officers regularly patrol trains, road crossings, train stations and MTA rights-

of-way as well as its rail yards and maintenance facilities. MTAPD has mutual aid agreements with local and state law enforcement agencies throughout its jurisdiction, and its officers assist those agencies whenever the situation calls for it. As in any police department, MTAPD officers investigate many reported incidents, including crime. But according to MTA spokesman Aaron Donovan, “The number one request for assistance at the stations is a person in need of help, including injured or sick passengers.” Trespass on MTA property is also a very common situation that officers handle. Other routine tasks include dealing with lost or stolen property, parking violations in MTA parking lots and assisting during disruption of train service. When a crime is committed and an arrest is made, the offender is detained at one of MTA’s own facilities, not at the local police department. If an arrest takes place in Philipstown, processing is done at the MTAPD facility in Beacon. The role and makeup of the MTAPD has changed in recent years, in particular immediately after Sept. 11. “The counter-terrorism role increased dramatically — the department expanded, adding 200 positions,” Donovan said. “Canine and Emergency Services Units were added as well as an intelligence unit. And we dramatically increased police patrols and inspections.” The Emergency Services Unit, a tactical squad comparable to a SWAT team, is made up of specially trained officers skilled in such areas as heavy weapons, dealing with hazardous materials and train and vehicular extractions. Members of the unit are EMT qualified. The canine unit includes 50 dogs trained in detecting explosives. Dogs are partnered with designated police officers and are deployed throughout the entire MTAPD jurisdiction. In addition to detecting dangerous items, dogs are used to track individuals and to clear unattended belongings left on MTA properties. Every police officer has to deal with situations most people would not want to face. For MTAPD officers, “Every officer is different, but most will agree the most difficult are cases involving pedestrians struck by trains or vehicles carrying pas-



MTAPD’s jurisdiction extends over a 5,000 square mile area in 14 counties in southeast New York and southern Connecticut as well as Long Island and New York City. Photo by M. Turton

sengers that are struck by trains,” Donovan said. That reflects one aspect of MTAPD’s work that the public doesn’t fully grasp according to Donovan — ensuring public safety in and around MTA properties and facilities. “Trespassing on or near the tracks is extremely dangerous, even if you don’t see a train coming. And disobeying signals and gates at grade crossings is extremely dangerous, and potentially fatal,” he said. Officers routinely patrol grade crossings along MTA’s entire network of tracks.



The Special Service Unit of MTAPD was created soon after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Photo courtesy of MTA

Downtown Peekskill Restaurant Week Offers Prix Fixe Menus

Eateries and stores offer specials Feb. 25 through March 3

In the spirit of wishing winter a fond farewell, six downtown Peekskill restaurants are offering one week of prix fixe specials to celebrate the coming of warmer weather. In addition, diners who participate in Downtown Peekskill Restaurant Week between Feb. 25 and March 3 will receive special discounts at other participating businesses in downtown Peekskill. «It’s where you can find craft brew, a rock ‘n’ roll barber, vintage trains and vintage vinyl,” said Toni Senecal, host of Toni On! New York. “You can even feast on octopus pizza and dig into the best eggs benedict on homemade biscuits we’ve ever had.”

Downtown Peekskill Restaurant Week restaurants

- 12 Grapes Music & Wine Bar, 12 N. Division St., 914-737-6624
- Birdsall House, 970 Main St., 914-930-1880
- Division Street Grill, 26 N. Division St., 914-739-6380
- Gleason’s, 911 South St., 914-402-1950
- Quiet Man Public House, 15 N. Division St., 914-930-8230
- Ruben’s Mexican Cafe, 5 N. Division St., 914-739-4330

All participating restaurants will offer a \$15-per-person lunch prix fixe menu and a \$25-per-person dinner prix fixe menu. In addition, other participating local businesses will offer special discounts to restaurant week diners, including Kathleen’s Tea Room, the BeanRunner Cafe, The Peekskill Coffee House, Arthur Weeks Jewelry and Bruised Apple Books. Visit downtownpeekskill.com for more participating stores in the days ahead.

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

The Calendar



Zoe Perry, left, and Laurie Metcalf in the Broadway production of Sharr White's *The Other Place*

Photo by Joan Marcus, courtesy of Manhattan Theatre Club

Off the Wall Improv Troupe Back at The Beacon

The Beacon Theatre, the performance hall celebrating its 79th year on historic Main Street in Beacon, welcomes back their house improv troupe, 4th Wall Productions' Off the Wall, for two nights of improvised comedy on Friday, Feb. 15, and Saturday, Feb. 16, at 8 p.m.

The troupe creates a bevy of scenes, skits, stories and satires made up entirely from what that which is readily available — the audience. Audience participation is encouraged and preferable as the troupe performs short and long improvisational games based upon ideas of setting, characters and lines given to them.

Managed by Jeff Sculley, known regionally for his improv work, this event showcases the talents of other veteran improv performers from across the Hudson Valley. One of 4th Wall's most requested nights, the troupe works with no script or prior rehearsal, which means anything can happen.

The Beacon Theatre is located at 445 Main St. in Beacon. Tickets are \$12. For details, visit thebeacontheatre.org.

A Broadway Playwriting Debut for Cold Spring's Sharr White

Talking with White and his wife, Evelyn Carr White

By Alison Rooney

Sharr White claims he's quite cynical. Hopefully he's stashed that cynicism safely away so that he can fully enjoy a most heady period in his life: his debut as a Broadway playwright.

In January, his play *The Other Place* opened to very strong reviews, and its limited run at the Samuel J. Friedman Theater has already been extended through March 3. The storyline, laced with ominous mystery, concerns a brilliant scientist who slowly becomes undone from within by things she and those around her cannot immediately identify.

White, who lives in Cold Spring with his wife, Evelyn Carr White, is savoring being at the center of the "fast rising" and "up and coming" hyperbole, yet he knows that perception is deceptive; in many ways, actually, that's the theme of his play. The reality is, he has spent years rising before dawn, writing away, seeing his work produced incrementally while toiling at other jobs, on a path to this period of wider recognition.

The Paper sat down recently — as last Friday's (Feb. 8) snowflakes were just beginning to fall — with White and Carr White and talked about a range of things from his playwriting to her concerns with the impending budget slashes not only at Haldane — where she got narrowly edged out running for

school board trustee last year — but in New York state as a whole.

The two moved to Cold Spring about six years ago, almost as a lark, choosing it partially because it afforded a train commute long enough for White to use the time to get creative work done, to and from his job as a copywriter in the fashion industry. They love it here, Carr White enthusing, "I feel so lucky; it was so random how we landed in Cold Spring, and I'm so grateful. It's really beautiful and there are incredible people here." Formerly Brooklyn residents, both grew up in multiple locales, Carr White in Boston, New Orleans and Virginia — her father was a professor — and White in Southern California and then Colorado — his was, too.

Such moves no doubt have contributed to what White calls the "lostness and foundness" themes running through much of his work. "Those aren't real words, but they seem to be there in everything, though the structures are really different in each." Including himself amongst them, White said, "All my friends who are writers have some alienating event that makes them removed."

White found his calling as a writer after flirting first with biology (his father is a biophysicist, his brother an astrophysicist) and then acting. He received a master of fine arts in acting from San Francisco's American Conservatory Theater's graduate program and soon after departed for New York, where the usual joined-at-

the-hip pairing of aspiring actor and gainfully employed waiter categorized his first years there.

"Since I've known Sharr, his work ethic is staggering. He's gotten up at 5 a.m. every day and written."

Carr White, too, trained to be an actress, receiving her bachelor of fine arts from Carnegie Mellon but finding being constantly judged as "a commodity" marred the ideals of the profession. She switched to interior design, studying at Parsons and then working for architectural, design and fashion firms. Meanwhile, the writer in White was stealthily overtaking the actor. He spent years writing what he now calls "unproducible" plays and a novel, which was "politely rejected about 26 times."

Things shifted in 2006 when the by-then writer, actor-no-longer had a play picked up by the Actors Theatre of Louisville's renowned Humana

Festival of New American Plays. "It was the first time I had a real professional production," he said, "and it showed me that the real finishing school for a play is the actual production, where you can hone the crucial relationship: that between you and the audience."

Deciding that pursuing an MFA in playwriting, which would entail about eight years of study as he didn't have a BFA in the subject, was not the path for him, White said, "Anyone who goes through eight years of school should be a surgeon." He added, "Because I've never formally studied writing, the learning process has been through doing."

And doing he does, rising before dawn each day to put pen to paper, something that Carr White calls both admirable and essential. "Since I've known Sharr, his work ethic is staggering. He's gotten up at 5 a.m. every day and written."

Turning to her (Continued on page 11)



Sharr White and Evelyn Carr White

Photo by A. Rooney

SITTING on
the BENCH
❖ by Tara ❖



On these wintry days I spend my time at the Goose patrolling the aisles or keeping the boss company behind the counter. But sometimes I hurry to the door and stare through the glass, which surprises the boss. She is even more surprised when a few minutes later a favorite of mine, human or canine, walks in to receive my ecstatic welcome with much wagging of my tail. I'm sure she wonders how I know that a particular visitor is about to arrive when they're as much as a block away. I'm not telling. A grande dame such as the celebrated Tara is entitled to her secrets.

One of those I welcome is Figgy, the UPS delivery man, also known as Bob. He's a cheerful, hard-working fellow, very popular among Main Street shopkeepers for his helpfulness. Here I want to emphasize that while he always has a treat for me that has nothing to do with my fondness for him. The idea is so crass that I regret I feel obliged to publicly reject it.



That canard dealt with, I now report that Figgy will not be seen on Main Street for the next two months. His mother is ill and he has taken a two month leave from UPS to look after her. His substitute, Doug, is equally appealing but, even so, Figgy will be much missed. The boss pondered the situation and decided Figgy must be told that Cold Spring is thinking of him. I approved the idea, so she e-mailed all her fellow shopkeepers, asking them to sign a card of good wishes. The boss also said that she would dispatch a gift basket or two or three.

About forty merchants, through e-mails or phone calls, said they wanted to sign the card and a number of them offered to help defray the cost of the baskets which the boss would put together. I applaud them. Indeed, a shopper from tough, cold-hearted Manhattan heard the boss talking about the plan and said, "You do that sort of thing in Cold Spring?" He couldn't believe such a display of affection for a delivery guy.

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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!

ONGOING

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

Eleni Smolen: These Are Mine
11 A.M. - 6 P.M. FRIDAY TO SUNDAY
THEO GANZ STUDIO
149 Main St., Beacon
917-318-2239 | theoganzstudio.com
Ends March 3

Family
NOON - 5 P.M. MONDAY TO SATURDAY
MAD DOOLEY GALLERY
197 Main St., Beacon | 845-702-7045
Ends March 24

**Nature as Metaphor
Des Moments d'Amour**
NOON - 6 P.M. THURSDAY TO SUNDAY
GALLERY 66 NY
66 Main St., Cold Spring
845-809-5838 | gallery66ny.com
Ends Feb. 24

Peekskill Project V: The New Hudson River School
Ends July 28

The Power of Place
Ends April 28
11 A.M. - 5 P.M. FRIDAY
NOON - 6 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART
1701 Main St., Peekskill
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

Photography by Phil Haber
10 A.M. - 8 P.M. MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY
10 A.M. - 5 P.M. TUESDAY, THURSDAY TO SATURDAY
NOON - 3 P.M. SUNDAY
BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org
Ends March 14

Richard Outlaw Paintings: A Retrospective
1 TO 5 P.M. THURSDAY TO SUNDAY
HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org
Ends Feb. 23

Intimate Landscapes
NOON - 6 P.M. WEDNESDAY TO MONDAY
RIVERWINDS GALLERY
172 Main St., Beacon
845-838-2880 | riverwindsgallery.com
Ends March 4

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

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

Studio Mali by François Deschamps
NOON - 6 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
FOVEA EXHIBITIONS | 143 Main St., Beacon
917-930-0034 | foveaexhibitions.org
Ends April 7

Trio: Marina Yashina, Patricia Laitrella, Mario Nila
NOON - 6 P.M. FRIDAY TO SUNDAY
MARINA GALLERY
153 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2204 | themarinagallery.com
Through Feb. 24

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Kids & Community
School Break Mini-Camp (K-3)
9 - 11:30 A.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845-534-7781 | hhnaturemuseum.org

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

Children Read to Dogs (ages 7-10)
3:30 - 5 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

NHFD Pizza and Ice Cream Social
4 - 8 P.M. NORTH HIGHLANDS FIREHOUSE
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring
845-265-9595 | nhfd21.org

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

West Point Women's Club Casino Night
6 - 11 P.M. WEST POINT CLUB
603 Cullum Road, West Point
westpointwomensclub.shutterfly.com

Health & Fitness

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

Theater & Film

Pulp Fictions: Best Crime Novels on Film
2:30 P.M. MIAMI BLUES
7:15 P.M. MIAMI BLUES WITH Q-AND-A
5 & 10 P.M. COTTON COMES TO HARLEM
7:15 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Born Yesterday
8 P.M. COUNTY PLAYERS
2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls
845-298-1491 | countyplayers.org

Off the Wall Comedy Improv
8 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE
445 Main St., Beacon
845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

Music

Jeff Mangum of Neutral Milk Hotel
8 P.M. BARDAVON OPERA HOUSE
35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Songwriters Circle: My Furry Valentine
8 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 Route 52, Lake Carmel | 845-228-2685 |
artsonthelake.org | Rescheduled from Feb. 8

Led Zeppelin Tribute
8 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL
13 Main St., Tarrytown
914-631-3390, ext. 100 | tarrytownmusic hall.org

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

Meetings & Lectures

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

**How the Railroad Transformed the Beacon
Waterfront and Dutchess County**
7 P.M. BEACON SLOOP CLUB
2 Flynn Drive, Beacon
845-463-4660 | beaconsloopclub.org

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

Religious Services

Stations of the Cross
6 P.M. ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

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

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Kids & Community
Cold Spring Farmers' Market
8:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN
COMMUNITY CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Dr, Garrison | csfarmmarket.org

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

Outdoor Gear Demo/Sale & Snowshoe Race
9 A.M. - 1 P.M. DEMO/SALE
9 A.M. REGISTER FOR SNOWSHOE RACE
11 A.M. ADULT SNOWSHOE RACE
NOON. KIDS' SNOWSHOE RACE
LONG DOCK PARK, BEACON
845-473-4440, ext. 273 | scenichudson.org



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Sherry Mayo with her painting *Space for Love* at Gallery 66 NY opening of *Nature as Metaphor* and *Des Moments d'Amour*
Photo by K.E. Foley

Washington’s Birthday Celebration

10 A.M. - 4 P.M. CANTONMENT STATE HISTORIC SITE
374 Temple Hill Road, New Windsor
845-561-1765 | nysparks.com
Muskets fired at 11 a.m., 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.

Woodpecker Program

10 A.M. OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 | hhnaturemuseum.org

Wildlife History of New York (grades 3 and up)

11 A.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Estates & Collections Auction

1 P.M. PREVIEW
2 - 6 P.M. AUCTION
ST. MARY’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org
Preview at abaauction.com

Snowshoe Trek

1 P.M. TEATOWN LAKE RESERVATION
1600 Spring Valley Road, Ossining
914-762-2912, ext. 110 | teatown.org

Meet the Animals

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

Wine Tasting

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

Free Admission Night

5 - 8 P.M. MID-HUDSON CHILDREN’S MUSEUM
75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie
845-471-0589 | mhcm.org

Pet Portraits by Kids Auction

6 - 8 P.M. BEACON BAGEL
466 Main St., Beacon
845-440-6958 | thebeaconbagel.com
Rescheduled from Feb. 9

Valentine Dance

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

Health & Fitness

Tai-Chi Chuan Group

9:30 A.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 Route 52, Kent Lakes
845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

Red Cross Blood Drive

10 A.M. - 2 P.M. POUGHKEEPSIE GALLERIA
2001 South Road, Poughkeepsie
800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org

Sports

Army Hockey vs. Bentley

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

Art & Design

Cabin Fever Workshops

10 A.M. COSMIC FAMILY POTTERY
10 A.M. SIMPLY ELEGANT JEWELRY
GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Dia:Beacon Tour

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

Theater & Film

The Royal Hanneford Circus

10 A.M., 2 & 6 P.M. WESTCHESTER COUNTY CENTER
198 Central Ave., White Plains
914-995-4050 | countycenter.biz

Movies for Kids: Young Sherlock Holmes

NOON. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Marville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Pulp Fictions: Best Crime Novels on Film

2:30, 5 & 9:55 P.M. MADE IN U.S.A.
7 P.M. OSSESSIONE
JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

The Met : Live in HD : Verdi’s Rigoletto

1 P.M. BARDAVON OPERA HOUSE
35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Words That Paint: The New Hudson Valley School in Poetry and Prose

2 & 4 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART | 1701 Main St., Peekskill
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

Eddie Izzard (Comedy)

6 & 9 P.M. BARDAVON OPERA HOUSE
35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Silent Film Series: Safety Last (1923)

7 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Born Yesterday

8 P.M. COUNTY PLAYERS | Details under Friday

Off the Wall Comedy Improv

8 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE
See details under Friday.

Music

Rock Concert With Local Bands

5:30 - 11 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 Route 52, Lake Carmel
845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

Caroline Doctorow

7:30 P.M. TEMPLE BETH ELOHIM
31 Mt. Ebo Road North, Brewster
914-924-0929 | carolinedoctorow.com

Richard Shindell / Lucy Kaplansky

8 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL
13 Main St., Tarrytown
914-631-3390, ext. 100 | tarrytownmusichall.org

Live Music

9 P.M. MAX’S ON MAIN | See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures

Introduction to Buddhism

10 A.M. GRAYMOOR SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER
1350 Route 9, Garrison
914-522-9044 | maevetx1@optonline.net

Changing the Way We Eat

10:30 A.M. - 5:40 P.M. LIVE WEBCAST
3 P.M. FOOD LITERACY WORKSHOP FOR KIDS
FOVEA EXHIBITIONS, 143 MAIN ST., BEACON
917-930-0034 | foveaexhibitions.org

Free Computer Help

2 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
See details under Friday.

Religious Services

Jazz Vespers at First Presbyterian

5:30 P.M. 10 ACADEMY, COLD SPRING
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Mass at Our Lady of Loretto

5:30 P.M. 24 FAIR ST., COLD SPRING
845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Kids & Community

Woody Guthrie Block Party

10 A.M. 54 HILLSIDE ROAD, BEACON
914-907-4928 | beaconsloopclub.org

Farmer’s Market

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

Year of the Snake

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

Estates & Collections Auction

1 - 6 P.M. ST. MARY’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
See details under Saturday.

Meet the Animals

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

Washington’s Birthday Celebration

1 - 4 P.M. CANTONMENT STATE HISTORIC SITE
See details under Saturday.
Muskets fired at 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.

Pioneer Living Series: Trade and the General Store

2 P.M. COMMON GROUND FARM
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
845-231-4424 | commongroundfarm.org

Kids’ Open Mic Night

6 - 8 P.M. GRAPES | 12 N. Division St., Peekskill
914-737-6624 | 12grapes.com

Health & Fitness

Hudson Valley Co-Ed Soccer

7:45 A.M. FISHKILL RECREATION CENTER
793 Route 52, Fishkill
meetup.com/hudsonvalleycoedsoccer

Radical Wellness With Dr. Michael Finklestein

NOON. LIVING YOGA
3182 Route 9, Cold Spring
845-809-5900 | livingyogastudios.com
First of four weekly sessions.

Art & Design

Drop-In Art Sessions

9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. DRAWING & PAINTING FROM LIFE (LONG POSE)
10 A.M. - 1 P.M. ETCHING WITH THOM MUNTERICH
1:30 - 3:30 P.M. PRINTMAKING WITH HIRO ICHIKAWA
GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Intimate Landscapes (Reception)

3 - 6 P.M. RIVERWINDS GALLERY
172 Main St., Beacon
845-838-2880 | riverwindsgallery.com

Theater & Film

The Royal Hanneford Circus

10 A.M., 2 & 6 P.M. WESTCHESTER COUNTY CENTER
See details under Saturday.

Movies for Kids: Young Sherlock Holmes

NOON. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
See details under Saturday.

Pulp Fictions: Best Crime Novels on Film

12:10, 5 & 9:45 P.M. STRANGERS ON A TRAIN
2:25 & 7:10 P.M. OUT OF SIGHT
JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER | Details under Friday

Words That Paint: The New Hudson Valley School in Poetry and Prose

2 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART | Details under Saturday

Music

Ukulele Group

3 - 5 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 Route 52, Kent Lakes
845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

Piedmont Bluz

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

Meetings & Lectures

Beginner AA Meeting

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

Book Club: The Echo Maker

2 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Native Plants With Carolyn Summers

2 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org
Sponsored by Philipstown Garden Club

Brave New Gita With Madan Oppenheimer

4 P.M. BEACON YOGA CENTER
464 Main St., Beacon
347-489-8406 | beaconyogacenter.com

(Continued on next page)



The Calendar (from page 9)

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

Religious Services

Our Lady of Loretto
7:30, 9 & 11:45 A.M. MASS
24 Fair St., Cold Spring
845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church
8 & 10:30 A.M. 1 CHESTNUT ST., COLD SPRING
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

St. Philip’s Episcopal Church
8 & 10:30 A.M. 1101 ROUTE 9D, GARRISON
845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

Grace United Methodist
8:15 & 10 A.M. | 337 Peekskill Hollow Road,
Putnam Valley | 845-526-3788

St. Basil’s Academy Greek Orthodox Chapel
8:30 A.M. ROUTE 9D, GARRISON
845-424-3500 | saintbasilacademy.org

St. Luke’s Lutheran Church
9 A.M. 65 OSCAWANA LAKE RD., PUTNAM VALLEY
845-528-8858 | stlukesputnamvalley.org

First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown
9 A.M. ADULT BIBLE STUDY
10:30 A.M. SERVICE
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18

President’s Day

Kids & Community

School Break Mini-Camp
9 - 11:30 A.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
See details under Friday.



Fovea Exhibitions and Common Ground Farm present a live streaming of TEDx Talks from Manhattan on Saturday, Feb. 16, at Fovea in Beacon. Session 1 ‘Inform’ takes place 10:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Session 2 ‘Educate’ takes place 1:30 - 3:20 p.m. Session 3 ‘Empower’ runs from 4 - 5:40 p.m. with a children’s food literacy workshop onsite. For more information, visit tedxmanhattan.org.

Winter Mini Camp Opening Sessions
9 A.M. - NOON. AGES 4-5
9 A.M. - 3 P.M. AGES 6-12
TEATOWN LAKE RESERVATION
1600 Spring Valley Road, Ossining
914-762-2912, ext. 110 | teatown.org

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

Washington’s Birthday Celebration
10 A.M. - 4 P.M. CANTONMENT STATE HISTORIC SITE
See details under Saturday.
Muskets fired at 11 a.m., 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.

Friends of the Library Fabulous Fundraiser
2 - 5 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Art & Design

Drop-In Drawing & Painting from Life (Short Pose)
9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

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

Theater & Film

The Royal Hanneford Circus
10 A.M., 2 & 6 P.M. WESTCHESTER
COUNTY CENTER | See details under Saturday.

Movies for Kids: Young Sherlock Holmes
NOON. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
See details under Saturday.

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

Pulp Fictions: Best Crime Novels on Film
2:30 P.M. MIAMI BLUES
5:30 & 7:25 P.M. COCKFIGHTER
JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

Music

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

Meetings & Lectures

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Hudson Valley Shakespeare tickets on sale

Kids & Community

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

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

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

Theater & Film

Pulp Fictions: Best Crime Novels on Film
2:45 & 5:15 P.M. COTTON COMES TO HARLEM
7:30 P.M. MADE IN U.S.A. WITH Q-AND-A
JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER | Details under Friday

Music

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

Meetings & Lectures

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

Highland Knitters
NOON. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

There is a River - A Mighty River: Africans Along the Hudson

6 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Nelsonville Board of Trustees
7:30 P.M. VILLAGE HALL | 258 Main St.,
Nelsonville
845-265-2500 | villageofnelsonville.org

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

Cold Spring Board of Trustees Hearing and Workshop
7 P.M. HALDANE SCHOOOL CAFETERIA
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

The Unusual Roots of Rustic Style in America
7:30 P.M. CORNWALL PRESBYTERIAN
FELLOWSHIP HALL | 222 Hudson St., Cornwall
845-534-5506 | hhnaturemuseum.org

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

Religious Services

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Kids & Community

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

Chess Club With Moning Lin
10 A.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

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

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

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

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

Magic Treehouse Book Club
3:30 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Health & Fitness

Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group
7 P.M. PUTNAM HOSPITAL CENTER
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
800-532-4290 | supportconnection.org

Sports

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

Art & Design

Life Sketching Session
6 - 8:30 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 Route 52, Kent Lakes
845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

Theater & Film

Thurgood
1 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Pulp Fictions: Best Crime Novels on Film
2:25, 5 & 7:35 P.M. OUT OF SIGHT
JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER | Details under Friday

Once
7 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL
13 Main St., Tarrytown | 914-631-3390, ext. 100
tarrytownmusicall.org

Oscar Talk With Mark Harris and Janet Maslin
7:30 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

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



Dancing Dialogue

Suzi Tortora’s Baby Cues Baby Moves

Parent & Child Dance & Learn Classes

Ages 3 months - 7 years old

Dance ~ song ~ music ~ story ~ play ~ socialize

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

Dancing Dialogue A center for movement, music and dance-based arts supporting healing and self-expression.

Enhance your child’s:

- ♦ natural curiosity and creativity
- ♦ self-awareness
- ♦ confidence and independence
- ♦ positive self-image & body-image
- ♦ love of learning and discovery
- ♦ physical, mental, emotional, social growth

For more information:
www.dancingdialogue.com
suzitortora@mac.com; 845-265-1085
8 Marion Ave Suite 1 Cold Spring, NY

WINTER CLASSES BEGIN in JANUARY

The Calendar (from page 10)

Meetings & Lectures

Men’s Group

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

Library Board Meeting

7 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY | 10 Morris Ave.,
Cold Spring | 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

AA Meeting

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

Life Support Group

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

Garrison School Board

7:30 P.M. GARRISON SCHOOL | 1100 Route 9D,
Garrison | 845-424-3689 | gufs.org

Religious Services

Contemplative Prayer

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

Morning Minyan

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

Bible Study and Mass

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

Bible Study

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Kids & Community

Indoor Tot Park

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

Brain Games for Adults

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

Bouncing Babies

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

8th Grade vs. Faculty Basketball Game

7 P.M. GARRISON SCHOOL | 1100 Route 9D,
Garrison | 845-424-3689 | gufs.org

Health & Fitness

Breast Cancer Support Group

7 P.M. PUTNAM HOSPITAL CENTER
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
800-532-4290 | supportconnection.org

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball

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

Theater & Film

Pulp Fictions: Best Crime Novels on Film

2:40, 5:10 & 7:20 STRANGERS ON A TRAIN
JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER | Details under Friday

Movie Discussion Group: *Chronicles of Narnia*

7 P.M. GRAYMOOR SPIRITUAL CENTER
Seminar Room Pius X, 3rd Floor | 1350 Route 9,
Garrison | 800-338-2620 | graymoorcenter.org

My Reincarnation (Documentary) With Q-and-A

7:30 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

Music

Hudson Valley Comhaltas Classes

6:30 P.M. NORTH HIGHLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring
hudsonvalleycce@gmail.com

Rock & Jam Band Showcase

8 P.M. 12 GRAPES | 12 N. Division St., Peekskill
914-737-6624 | 12grapes.com

Meetings & Lectures

AARP Tax Assistance

10 A.M. - 2 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Zoning Board of Appeals

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

Hudson Valley Committee Against

Gun Violence | 7 P.M. FOVEA EXHIBITIONS
143 Main St., Beacon | nowisthetimehv.com

Philipstown Planning Board

7:30 P.M. VFW HALL
34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

AA Step Meeting

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

Philipstown Freemasons

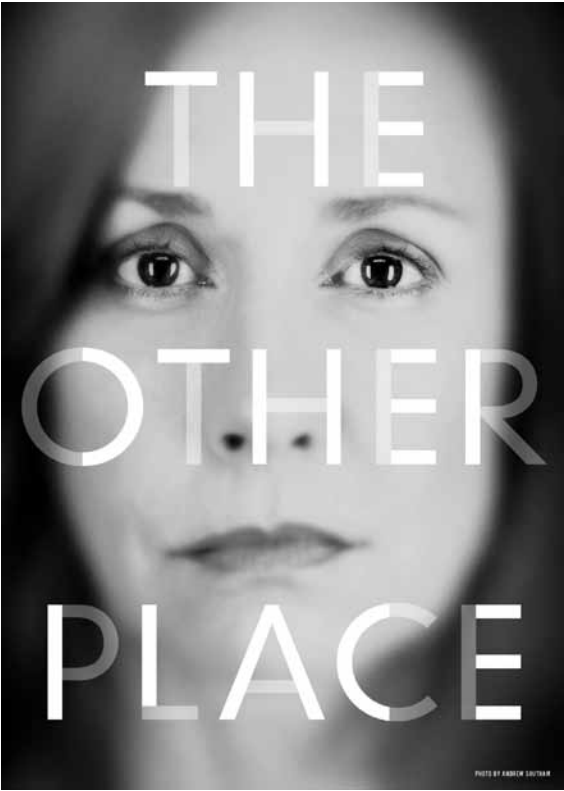
8 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN MASONIC LODGE
18 Secor St., Nelsonville
845-265-2244 | philipstown236fam.org

Religious Services

Hill Top Visionaries (Young Adults)

6:30 P.M. CHURCH ON THE HILL
245 Main St., Cold Spring | 845-265-2022
coldspringchurchonthehill.org

A Broadway Playwriting Debut for Cold Spring’s Sharr White (from page 7)



Advertisement for Sharr White’s *The Other Place*
Courtesy of Manhattan Theatre Club

husband, she added, “You go crazy if you don’t write. I give you a wide berth.”

White said, a touch wistfully, “It used to be 7” (before the birth of their two elementary-school-aged sons). He added, “It’s the only way to find the time. It happens to be a really good Darwinian weeding out of bad ideas. If I don’t feel compelled to get up, I have the wrong writing going on.”

With his playwriting profile increased through success at the Humana Festival, White began to accelerate in both productions of his work and attention, but to this day he has retained his “day job,” grateful to it for supporting his creative life and also for the opportunities it gives him to sharpen his use of words, streamlining them with precision, something he has put to excellent use in *The Other Place*, which has evolved from a two-act play into a finely-chiseled story told in about 75 minutes — unusual for Broadway. The paring down is intentional, White eliminating what he has called the “noise” of excess vocabulary in this piece.

That isn’t the case in his other work, for he tries not to repeat himself. “Once I’m done, if I attempt anything close to it, I’m making a bad copy,” he said, describing other works as, among other

things, “epic, with an episodic structure” (*Six Years*) and “a well-made play” (*Sunlight*), two relatively recent works. A current project he is working on looks to be “a big two-act.”

With *The Other Place*, he “really wanted to tell the story from a first-person perspective. It’s an outsider’s point of view, and when you look at that through a lens it’s hard to avoid moving into unintended condescension. You can’t escape the commentary of the narrator. We’re experiencing it with her, and the barrier between commentary and experience evaporates. I really wanted to work with a drastic shift in perspective, bringing the audience in and keeping structural transformations going throughout the play.”

That the audience has not only been able to follow along and also experience a deeper understanding and empathy with its hard-driving protagonist, who, it is revealed, is afflicted with early, slowly-escalating dementia, has been fascinating to White, who said the general situation was suggested by a friend of his. White “couldn’t initially find a way into it. But I used some mental health issues connected with my family. A lot of behavioral stuff I endured ... was like permission to get more personal.”

He has found it interesting “how much people want to connect with other people about what they’ve endured. The talkbacks have been very full; people want to be in contact with others going through this with a family member.” With a universal theme, *The Other Place* has already seen productions in Germany and Australia as well as in San Francisco, with more worldwide productions surely to follow. The work originated off-Broadway in 2011, produced by the MCC at the Lucille Lortel Theater.

The first person to read *The Other Place*, along with all of the other work White has produced during the 13 years they have been together, is Carr White. “She’s the first and mostly the only person I go to before I send it out,” said White. “She deeply understands theater.”

Carr White confirmed, “I give Sharr a

good eye, from the perspective of an audience, an actor and a female.”

Haldane has benefited from that good eye over the past couple of years, as Carr White has applied it and her energies to working on programs to enrich the public school experience within a tight budgetary framework. Aside from running for trustee, she is the Elementary School PTA vice president; is on the PLAY Haldane and Buildings and Grounds Committees; has been a class parent for two years; helped to expand the elementary and middle school after-school enrichment programs; and helped create new PTA-run (and thus funded) activities such as Lego Brick Kids, using skills honed in her former business life to provide enhancements for students in ways that haven’t tapped into Haldane’s already-constrained budget. Such organizational and fiscal skills are not newfound — she helped found a neighborhood association when she lived in Brooklyn and was a multi-term president of a 40-unit condo board there, running executive and shareholder meetings.

Carr White is extremely concerned with the fiscal challenges Haldane is facing this year and in the near future. “I’m the product of public education,” she said, “and it’s sad to recognize there’s no way with the budget that my kids will have a comparable education to the one I had. Unfunded mandates are huge, and

our community is being so stretched. Our neighbor is 96 years old and she can’t afford any increase in taxes. We’re considered a wealthy district so we receive no aid.”

Carr White thinks the current school board “has done a very good job, and I can’t sing the praises of [District Superintendent] Dr. Villanti any louder, but with this next budget we’re going to see some pretty deeply felt changes. So far there has been nothing the board has done that I wouldn’t have done. The Gap Elimination is in effect until the 2015-16 school year, and we don’t know who the governor will be and what the priorities will be. Is public education just not important anymore?”

Adding to the discussion, White said, “The irony of it is, it’s considered the teachers’ fault. There’s no recess break, no ‘creativity time.’” Carr White added, “When teachers can’t do their jobs, kids can’t do their jobs. Teachers have been designated the culprits when it’s not the teachers, it’s the lack of funding. The low-hanging fruit has all been picked, not to mention all the testing, which puts a stranglehold on everyone. It’s a real concern.”

The conversation ended with a now-common Cold Spring activity: a quick dash to a food store to gather provisions for the family in advance of a rapidly impending storm.



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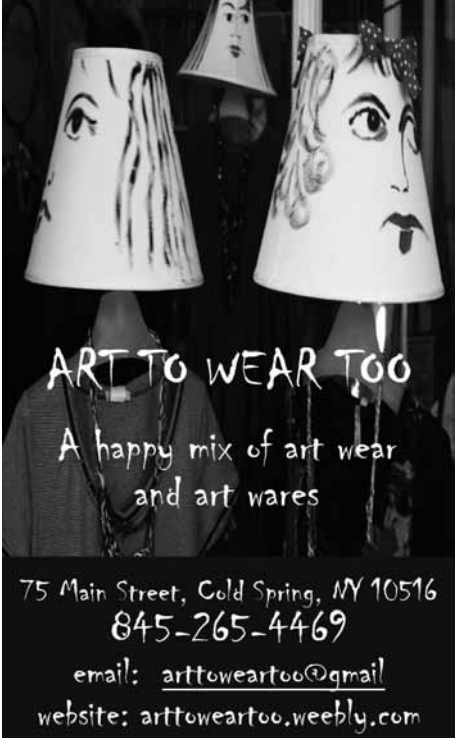
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Woodpeckers the Subject of Nature Museum Program

Environmental Educator Pam Golben will give a presentation on woodpeckers on Saturday, Feb. 16. She will talk about how to identify different species through photos and actual sound recordings and how to attract woodpeckers to backyards. Participants will make a batch of woodpecker food to take home.

The workshop will be held at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum's Outdoor Discover Center on Muser Drive, across from 174 Angola Road, in Cornwall. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children (members: \$5 and \$3). For more information, visit the museum's website, hnnaturemuseum.org, or call 845-534-5506, ext. 204.



Photo by Jim Ridley

Celebrate Washington's Birthday With Reenactment

Following the capture of British forces by the allied armies of France and America, at Yorktown, Va., in the fall of 1781, the northern Continental Army returned to the Hudson Highlands. The destruction of the principal British field army in the south broke England's will to continue the struggle. In the fall of 1782, near New Windsor, 7,500 Continental Army soldiers built a city of 600 log huts. Along with some of their family members, they braved the winter and kept a wary eye on the 12,000 British troops in New York City, just 60 miles away.

During the winter of 1782-83, the soldiers of the northern Continental Army anxiously waited, in New Windsor, for news of the peace treaty. Though peace might be announced, Washington still ordered his soldiers to train for battle.

On Saturday, Feb. 16, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 17, 1 to 4 p.m.; and Monday, Feb. 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Presidents' Weekend, soldiers will bring to life the Continental Army's final winter encampment with musket and cannon firings, blacksmithing, medical demonstrations and other aspects of daily life.

Muskets and a cannon will be fired on Saturday at 11 a.m., 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.; Sunday at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.; and Monday at 11 a.m., 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. Following these firings, children enlist in the Continental Army, drill with wooden muskets and get paid in Continental currency for their service.

New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site is co-located with the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor on Route 300, 374 Temple Hill Road, in New Windsor, just three miles south of the intersection of I-87 and I-84. For more information, call 845-561-1765, ext. 22.

Upcoming Palisades Parks Conservancy events include a half-marathon/5K run on May 5 at Ross Dock Park, N.J. (sign up online at escapetopalisades.com)

and the Palisades Founders Award Gala on June 13. For more information about the conservancy, visit their website, www.palisadesparksconservancy.org.

Garrison School Benefits From '80s Ball Feb. 23

The Garrison School PTA and Garrison Children's Education Fund (GCEF) have joined to host a fundraiser, the '80s Rock 'n' Roll Ball, at the Bear Mountain Inn on Feb. 23 from 7 to 11 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to wear their favorite '80s attire, old prom outfit or whatever they like.

For only \$90 per person or \$175 per couple, party-goers will enjoy open bar with a signature '80s cocktail, dinner and dancing to their favorite '80s tunes all night. There will be a Photo Booth Corner, where attendees may pose for fun, '80s-style photos (don't forget your camera phone), a Man's Game Corner with foosball, darts, bocce and arm-wrestling contests (for those who prefer their fun off the dance floor), and DJ Trivia, where you can impress friends with your '80s trivia knowledge.

'80s-themed gift baskets will be raffled off at the end of the evening. All proceeds from the event will support children's programs at the Garrison School.

Pre-register for the '80s Rock 'n' Roll Ball at gufspta.org. For more information on Garrison School programs and events, visit the Garrison School PTA's website and the GCEF website at gcef.net.

Cold Spring's Judy Farrell New VP for GuildNet

Takes on government affairs for Jewish Guild Healthcare

Cold Spring resident Judy A. Farrell recently joined Jewish Guild Healthcare as vice president of government affairs for GuildNet. Before she joined the Guild, Farrell was director of government affairs for Visiting Nurse Service of New York, where she worked from 2002 to 2013. Previously, she held positions in public service in the City of New York as the director of Health and Human Services and director of Policy/Budget for former Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer.

In her government affairs role at GuildNet, which has three health plans (GuildNet Managed Long Term Care, GuildNet Gold and GuildNet Health Advantage), Farrell will represent the plans with elected officials, government agencies, and community-based organizations. She will work with GuildNet's senior management to develop legislative priorities and strategic policy goals and enhance GuildNet's visibility with elect-



Judy Farrell Photo courtesy of Jewish Guild

ed leaders and community organizations across New York state.

Farrell received her master of public policy and administration from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, with a concentration in health policy and coursework at Columbia's Mailman School of Public Health. She received her bachelor's in political science from Lehman College, City University of New York.

Since its founding in 1914, the mission of the Jewish Guild has been to help those with vision loss live with independence and dignity. The Guild is a not-for-profit, non-sectarian agency that serves persons of all ages who are visually impaired, blind and multidisabled. It provides a wide range of programs and services that include clinical services, low vision rehabilitation, adult day health care, mental health services, education, and programs for individuals with developmental disabilities. It also offers health plans and provides, manages and coordinates health care services so that people with long-term care and other special needs can live safely at home. More information can be found at the website guildhealth.org.

Beacon Sloop Club Talk on the Railroad in Beacon

The Beacon Sloop Club's winter free lecture series is held on the third Friday of the month from January through May. The February program, *How the Railroad Transformed the Beacon Waterfront and Dutchess County*, features local railroad historian Bernard Rudberg discussing the history of the railroad in Dutchess county including the complete rebuilding of the Beacon waterfront before World War I, featuring rare photos from the Beacon Historical Society Collection.



Wicopee Junction Photo courtesy of Beacon Sloop Club

The year 1913 saw the founding of the City of Beacon, the opening of Grand Central Terminal, and a complete transformation of the Beacon waterfront. Rudberg will describe the history of the railroad from Dutchess Junction through Matteawan, Fishkill, Hopewell, Millbrook and Pine Plains to Millerton, based on the original railroad record books from the ND&C Railroad.

Rudberg grew up in a Swedish family in southern New Jersey. Railroad-ing has been in the Rudberg family for at least three generations. His great grandfather started with the Swedish railroads in 1874 and was stationmaster in Polcirkeln, where the tracks cross the Arctic Circle in northern Sweden. His grandfather was foreman of the station in the junction town of Boden. After retirement at the end of 1991, Rudberg wanted to continue the family tradition. He is the past president of the Hopewell Depot Restoration Corp, which owns the Hopewell depot and plans to restore it as a small museum and educational facility. Rudberg and his wife live in the Town of East Fishkill within hearing distance of the Beacon line and the former May-

brook line.

This free event will be held on Friday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m. at the Beacon Sloop Club, 2 Flynn Drive in Beacon (adjacent to the harbor). In the event of inclement weather, check the website at beaconsloopclub.org. For further information call 845-463-4660 or 914-879-1082.

Putnam Children's Committee Scholarships Available to HS Seniors

The Putnam County Children's Committee is offering scholarships to graduating seniors who are residents of Putnam County or graduates from a Putnam County school district with a desire to further their education. Students applying must send the following materials to the Putnam County Children's Committee, Inc. at P.O. Box 187, Carmel, NY 10512 with attention to the Scholarship Committee by April 15.

- A letter stating a desire to be considered, financial need and plans for further education, including information about siblings
- A transcript
- Two letters of recommendation and a letter from a guidance counselor
- A financial plan, noting college costs, money available, anticipated loans, scholarships, gifts and projected earnings
- A FASA report

Although financial need will be a priority, additional criteria for selection will be based on commitment to service to the community, strength of purpose in achieving an educational goal, ability and maturity.

The amount of the scholarship will be no less than \$500 and will be paid after successful completion of the first semester of study. Students selected to receive scholarships will be notified through their school guidance departments by May 10.

Chiara String Quartet Plays Debussy, Ravel From Memory

The Chiara String Quartet (Rebecca Fischer and Hyeyung Julie Yoon, violins; Jonah Sirota, viola; and Gregory Beaver, cello) will perform the

string quartets of French Impressionist composers Debussy and Ravel as part of the Grand Montgomery Chamber Music Series at the Montgomery Senior Center (36 Bridge St. in Montgomery) on Sunday, March 3, at 3 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public.

The ensemble will perform the entire concert "by heart" — from memory, without using printed sheet music. An unusual practice, it allows the group to be fully present in the moment. The Chiara recently recorded a forthcoming album of the complete string quartets of Brahms, entirely from memory, with Grammy Award-winning producer Judith Sherman.

In 2012-2013 the group celebrated 13 seasons of playing together. Recent honors include the nomination of its recording of Jefferson Friedman's String Quartet No. 3 for a Grammy Award in 2011 and the ASCAP/Chamber Music America Award for Adventurous Programming for the 2010-2011 season.

The Chiara Quartet is known for its innovative work in engagement with urban and rural communities of all ages throughout (continued on next page)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



The Chiara Quartet

Photo courtesy of Montgomery Chamber Music

(from previous page) the United States. In 2012 the Chiara appeared with the University Musical Society in Ann Arbor, Mich., performing in unusual venues including a vacant storefront and a Toyota factory. In 2011, the Chiara was the first judge of the online string quartet competition “The Quartet Project Challenge,” an opportunity for young quartets from around the world to post performances on YouTube of new works by composer Geoffrey Hudson and receive comments from a professional quartet. In the 2011-12 season, the Chiara presented a four-concert series at Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach, a unique organization serving the working poor and homeless in Lincoln, Neb.

More information about the Chiara Quartet can be found online at chiaraquartet.net and on Facebook at facebook.com/chiastringquartet. For more information about the March 3 concert, call 845-457-9867.

Beacon Institute Shows River Photos in *Watershed*

The Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries, a subsidiary of Clarkson University, will showcase the photographs of Robin Dana in her exhibit *Watershed: How Industry Has Changed the Water of the World*. The exhibit runs from March 9 through Oct. 7 at the Beacon Institute Gallery at 199 Main St. in Beacon. The Institute will celebrate the new exhibit with a free public reception for the artist on Saturday, March 9, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Watershed is a collection of images from the Hudson, Potomac and other watersheds around the world. Dana’s work reflects the scarification of the contemporary landscape, portrayed through large-format photography. Heavily influenced by her travels to Cuba, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Russia and Italy, Dana’s photographs document nature’s persistence in extreme conditions.

“Travel has confirmed my premise that



Photo by Robin Dana

Courtesy of Beacon Institute

water universally reflects nature’s ability to transform and beautify civilization’s misplaced stewardship,” said Dana. “My photographic efforts are a small part in the tradition of industrial landscape art memorializing the moment man blends with his most essential element.”

Dana, a native of Georgia, began her photographic exploration of a “new nature” in 2004, when struck by the odd transformation of her hometown landscape by its resident mining industry. Since that time, Dana has focused on capturing the lush colors, abstract beauty and surreal forms that have emerged from her observations of the amplified and often destructive impact by man on nature.

The Beacon Institute Gallery is open Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Fridays 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Saturdays 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Second Saturdays of the month 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.) and Sundays 12 - 5 p.m. The gallery can be reached at 845-838-1600, ext. 10. For more information about the Beacon Institute, visit bire.org

Peekskill BID Calls for Zoning Reform

Residences for non-artists needed to revitalize city center

The Peekskill Business Improvement District (BID) published a proposal to the City of Peekskill on Feb. 6 calling for residential zoning reforms to promote renewed investment and economic development in downtown Peekskill while building on the success of the Artist Spaces program.

The Artist Spaces program, created by the city in 1991 to attract artists to live and work in Peekskill, currently restricts the majority of residential use downtown to certified artists only. The “proportional housing” model the BID introduced would allow building owners to divide their residential units proportionally between those restricted to artist live/work units and those open to residents from all professions.

While the current policy succeeded in establishing Peekskill as a “City of Arts” and helped stabilize downtown through a period when the viability of downtowns were being tested nationwide, questions have emerged as to whether the zoning policy should be modified to spur further development and investment downtown.

“This is not about

ending the Artists District or the artist live/work program. We know the value of artists to downtown. We have been working hard at the BID to promote the arts, most recently in our Art Crawl partnership with HVCCA [Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art] during December,” said John Sharp, BID board president and owner of downtown-based Gleason’s and Birdsell House. “We realize the artist live/work program has been a success. Our goal is to build upon its success and find ways to promote more investment and development downtown.”

The BID began examining current residential zoning policy downtown and exploring potential reforms six months ago. This effort resulted in the report *Reforming Zoning Laws to Promote Further Downtown Residential Growth & Revitalization: Exploring a Strategy to Create a 24/7 Downtown Peekskill*, which presented five options for potential downtown residential zoning reform.

“The BID Board wants to help move us further in the direction of a ‘24/7’ downtown, with regular foot traffic during the weekdays to support local businesses and further community revitalization. We think this means increasing both the economic diversity and number of people living downtown,” said Ken Laudon, a BID board member and property owner who has had success developing downtown art lofts.

Over the past months, the BID has worked to gather feedback from the broad diversity of downtown stakeholders it represents, holding two public BID meetings devoted to the issue, surveying key stakeholders on proposed reform options, conducting numerous individual discussions, and communicating with the Peekskill Artists Alliance and Chamber of Commerce. This feedback led the BID to conclude that the proportional-housing strategy is the best way to meet the diversity of downtown interests.

The Peekskill BID is responsible for the development and oversight of activities that promote and improve the downtown BID area for BID property and business owners. To learn more about the Peekskill BID, visit downtownpeekskill.com.

Yoga, Chocolate and Wine at SkyBaby Yoga Feb. 15

Kathy Toris Rowe leads ‘heart-opening’ yoga practice



Kathy Toris Rowe

Image courtesy of SkyBaby Studio

Yoga instructor Kathy Toris Rowe will lead a “Heart Tonic” workshop at SkyBaby Studio on Friday, Feb. 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. The heart-opening yoga practice will be held by candlelight at the new studio on the third floor of the SkyBaby Building at 75 Main St. in Cold Spring.

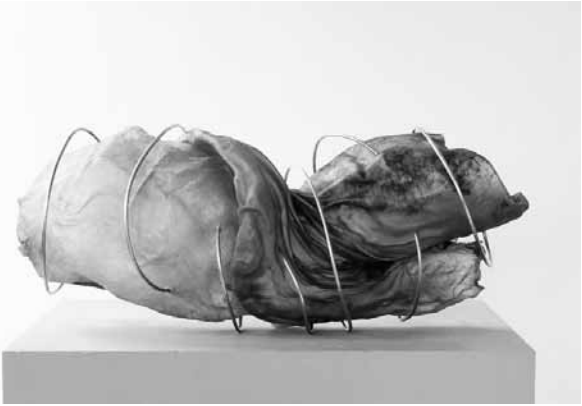
After the yoga practice, there will be local, organic chocolates and wine to enjoy.

Toris Rowe is a registered National Yoga Alliance teacher and yoga therapist with more than 10 years of teaching experience. Her teaching has been inspired by a variety of styles and techniques including Hatha, Iyengar, Vinyasa, Yin, Embodied Yoga and Chair Yoga. Her classes encourage students to integrate breath and movement, awareness and alignment, strength and fluidity.

The workshop costs \$40 for those registering online at skybabyyoga.com and \$45 at the studio. For more information, email skybabyyoga@gmail.com or call 845-265-4444.

Abstract Art in Focus at Ann Street Gallery

The Ann Street Gallery presents its newest exhibition *Abstractions: New Modernism*, with an artist reception on Saturday, March 2, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. This Newburgh event is free and open to the public.



Rosalyn Driscoll’s *Danae*, rawhide and copper

Photo courtesy of Ann Street Gallery

Within this exhibition, the extension of abstraction runs through various and diverse mediums: painting, drawing, sculpture, collage and digital images, while resisting grand generalizations and addressing skeptical attitudes and misunderstandings we often bring to our experience of abstract art.

Abstract art can be interpreted in various ways and relies on reflection for meaning to emerge. It doesn’t matter greatly whether someone likes or dislikes abstract art. It is a common tendency of people to narrow the field of what they consider permissible in art to their own personal prejudices. *Abstractions: New Modernism* offers an opportunity to transcend this way of thinking, to remain open for any individual response, especially those not confined to any single dictate or definition. The work of the artist is to affect the nature of the viewer’s response to their work.

Artists featured include Cyrille Allanic, Vivian Altman, Sedar Arat, Sarah Bednarek, Karlos Carcamo, Rosalyn Driscoll, Susan English, Catherine Evans, Kathryn Gabriel, Victoria Manning, Sanford Mirling, Kirsten Nash, Barbara Smith Gioia, Dina White and Jake Winiski.

The exhibition is on view through Saturday, April 13. The exhibition was curated by Virginia Walsh, director of the Ann Street Gallery. The Ann Street Gallery is a nonprofit art gallery specializing in contemporary emerging and established artists. The gallery is located at 104 Ann St. in Newburgh. Viewing hours are Wednesday and Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (closed for lunch 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.) and Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For more information, contact Walsh at 845-784-1146 or vwalsh@annstreet-gallery.org, or visit annstreetgallery.org.

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

Character Education Is a Crucial Part of the Curriculum at Haldane

By Alison Rooney

The Paper met recently with Haldane Elementary and Middle School Principal Brent Harrington and three members of the sixth-grade team to discuss this initiative. (The fourth team member, Jeff Sniffen, was not at school that day.)

In descriptions of the positives of small school districts like Haldane’s, there is inevitable mention of the benefits of a personalized, “we know our students” approach. Seeking to utilize these advantages in a way constructive to both academic success and each student’s overall personal development, the school has instituted a Character Education program in both the elementary and middle schools. Called Second Step, the program was piloted last year and implemented this year in grades 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7, with a goal to expand fully to grades K through 8 in the future.

Led by the sixth-grade team of four core academic subject area teachers, Kim McCollum, Jeff Sniffen, Tom Virgadamo and Mark Wick, working in tandem with Harrington, the program uses consistent themes each year relating to broad categories like impulse control, self-regulation, empathy and communication, bullying prevention and, in general, how to navigate challenging social situations without adult intervention. Towards the end of sixth grade, substance abuse prevention is introduced as a topic.

When Harrington came to Haldane a few years ago, he found teachers interested in and committed to implementing a character education program. Harrington himself believes in this strongly, calling it “important to have an articulated social/emotional curriculum.” He noted that “the research is clear: Students who demonstrate empathy trans-

late into academic success. It makes for fewer behavioral challenges and less of a focus on ‘managing’ our classes.”

The Elementary School Improvement Team (ESIT), Elementary and Middle School Assistant Principal Julia Sniffen and the Wellness Committee had been addressing these issues for some time. What was formerly in place was a 10-week transition-to-middle-school program offered at the beginning of sixth grade. Teachers felt this wasn’t enough, was inconsistent, and wasn’t supported by a program developed by experts in the field.

In his previous school district Harrington had exposure to Second Step, having helped implement it in an elementary school. Over a series of conversations, he encouraged the teachers to have a look at it. The teachers embraced the program as it gave a structure to the sixth-grade character development curriculum, and laid the groundwork for that curriculum in the earlier grades.

McCollum called it “teacher friendly.” Harrington added, “It takes the burden of planning off of the teachers, so they can focus on their academic area preparation but gives them a platform from which to work.”

In sixth grade, classes meet individually, one period per week, during homeroom; all classes follow the same overall template. Virgadamo described a typical session: “The lesson usually starts with a



Sixth-grade team members Tom Virgadamo, left, Mark Wick and Kim McCollum, with Second Step material

Photo by A. Rooney

videoclip, in which the students see the topic modeled with a small group of kids their age. Key vocabulary is introduced and questions are raised ... for instance with bystanders: How do you help solve the problem and not become part of it?”

Wick said the students “instantly make the connections. Playing a videoclip with real middle schoolers really gets them involved, and like everything with that age, once they’re engaged, they drop their defenses.”

McCollum concurred, “Students take it and go with it; they draw upon their own experiences and then they can apply this new knowledge to new situations they face.”

Citing the unit on empathy, Virgadamo said, “When we started, many did not know the word. Now they’re thinking before they speak.”

Questions and “vignettes” are built into each component of the package so there is a uniformity between classes and teachers, and the teachers don’t need to work up extensive lesson plans, as the plans are set in place already.

The students share personal experiences but are told not to use actual names, though they are welcome to revisit anything privately with their teacher later. Although the emphasis is on helping students recognize and analyze potentially problematic scenarios and learn to either stop them from happening or guide them to a peaceful conclusion without always seeking adult intervention, the students are always given the assurance that should they feel uncomfortable they should leave the situation and go and get an adult.

“We’re teaching students how to navigate uncomfortable social situations without an adult,” said Virgadamo. “Sometimes the students should try to navigate on their own; sometimes they shouldn’t. Teaching students to be assertive is hard — it’s a hard skill for adults too.”

Issues specific to potential outside-school violence and security are addressed completely separately, and naturally children are not advised to try to handle any such situation without seeking adult help.

McCollum said that interacting with the students in this context was helpful to her in understanding what might be behind some academic issues. “We are not always exposed to them in social situations; we don’t see them in the cafeteria, etc., so this opens a different window.”

All of the teachers said the application to academics was evident. Giving an example, Wick said, “One lesson dealt with the vocabulary words ‘passive,’ ‘assertive,’ ‘aggressive.’ We posted the words around the classroom and can relate to them during class time.”

Virgadamo said, “When they work in a small group for labs, they’re using that concept of how to behave when working as a team.”

“I can point to a poster [from the program] during regular class time to help them consider each other’s perspectives,” added McCollum.

Parents are most definitely part of the program’s equation as well. With each lesson there is a worksheet included that goes home to the parents, who must sign off. Harrington said it’s educational for the parents as well. “The word bullying is thrown around a lot, for example. However, there are instances where a child has made a decision that has harmed another child but it is not bullying. Most of our disciplinary issues here at Haldane are isolated incidents. This helps to define things better.”



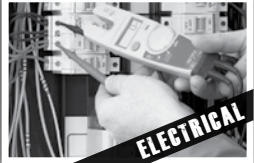

The Haldane School Foundation was supportive in covering half of the program’s costs (each kit, at one per student, cost \$239) when Second Step was introduced during the 2011-12 academic year, with the rest covered in the school’s budget. Luckily with the obvious budget cuts looming, there isn’t a problem, as the kits are retained and can be used repeatedly, and the school now has the curriculum and will continue to retain it.

Right now in seventh grade, “specials” teachers (non-academic classes such as guidance) are addressing specific areas as part of their curriculum; this may change next year into a quarterly class for that grade. Harrington said it has been more difficult to implement it into eighth grade because of scheduling and other considerations but that it is very much a goal — one he hopes to achieve by the 2014-15 academic year.

In categorizing character education, Harrington said, “In the wake of Newtown, understandably there are safety and security concerns. Ultimately, the best measure of security is ensuring that kids are emotionally stable. Not that this guarantees it, but we have the benefit of knowing our students and, at the very least we can try to ensure that our kids are connected with other kids.”

More information on the program can be found at secondstep.org.

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Howland Piano Festival Recital by Kuok Wai Lio

The Howland Chamber Music Circle continues its piano festival on Sunday, Feb. 24, at 4 p.m. with a performance by Kuok Wai Lio. The program will include Janáček's *In the Mists*, Schumann's *Davidstündertänze* and Schubert's B-flat Sonata.

Born in Macau in 1989, Lio began his piano studies at the age of 5. In 1997 he was awarded a scholarship to study at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, and in 2006 he entered the Curtis Institute of Music, where he studied piano with Gary Graffman. His principal teachers have included Gabriel Kwok, Graffman and Peter Frankl. Most recently, he has been working regularly with András Schiff at international master classes and festivals in Europe.

A regular participant of Open Chamber Music Prussia Cove, and the Marlboro and Santa Fe Chamber Music festivals, Lio has also performed with the Macau Orchestra, Hong Kong Philharmonic, China Philharmonic, Pan Asia Symphony Orchestra, Kansas City Symphony Orchestra, Curtis Chamber Orchestra, Russian Symphony Orchestra and Camerata Salzburg, and has given recitals in Japan, Germany and Italy.

Lio has received prizes in international competitions including Fulbright, Gina Bachauer, Seiler, Steinway, Ettlin-



Kuok Wai Lio Photo courtesy of the Howland Chamber Music Circle

gen and Chopin (Tokyo). In January 2004, he was awarded a Commendation of Merit given by the Chief Executive of Macau. That same year he was invited to perform for the President of China, Hu Jintao, at the fifth anniversary of Macau's handover to China.

The performance will take place at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St. in Beacon. Tickets are \$30 (student tickets are \$10). For more information, visit their website, howlandmusic.org, email info@howlandmusic.org or call 845-297-9243.

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



The Friends of the Howland Public Library will present the Friends Fabulous Fundraiser at the library on President's Day, Monday, Feb. 18, 2 - 5 p.m. The event is geared toward children and teens and will feature artists, authors, face painting, musicians, puppeteers and storytellers. The cost is \$10 per family, \$5 per person, which includes snacks and drinks. For more information visit beaconlibrary.org or email stacydedring@gmail.com.



Join The Paper's Winter Photofest


Contribute your best shots of the town in its winter splendor

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

Limit: three photos per person.


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





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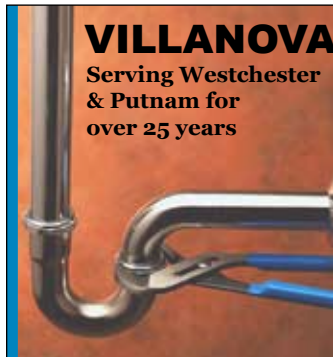
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View from Cold Spring Dock

Photo by Elizabeth Johnson Schmidt



Long Dock sunset, Beacon

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Cold Spring riverfront

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