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 Cordiso, not Gaba or another lawyer, provide most of the representation.

The firm's attorneys, including Gaba and Cordiso, 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 Shear, 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 Cordiso, 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.

"Tell me about 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 week to withdraw 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)

Post Office at Butterfield or ‘No Place,’ Warns Mayor

By Jeannie Tao

Cold Spring Mayor Seth Gallagher, who leaves office next month, expressed 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.

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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 be 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)
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 impulsion 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 her food salty enough unilaterally 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 her food salty enough un-

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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 suffering 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 that trimming the salt from 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.

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 clove garlic, chopped, optional
1 teaspoon grated zest of 1 lemon (yellow part only)
1 tablespoon capers
3 scallions, roughly chopped
1 ½ teaspoons sea salt (100 percent
1-2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
1-2 tablespoons olive oil
½ teaspoon sea salt (100 percent
completely 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.
Post Office at Butterfield or ‘No Place,’ Warns Mayor

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 condominums, [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 warning that against, for example, the “remote possibility of a Sleepy’s store.” He said he has tried unsuccessfully to find proper 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 warn ing the board that although “there’s some vocal opposition to the plan, if the post office is no place.”

Falloon expressed under standing 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 village. There is an incredibly important task at hand. We needs 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.

Everyone’s reading

Candidate petitions for the two open trustee seats. 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.

Falloon Will Run Unopposed for Mayor (from page 1)

welcomed the meeting with Molloy be cause it was an opportunity to discour age 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 Mol ly 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 endorse ment during the meeting. “He didn’t say why he changed his mind,” said Falloon. Molloy has not responded to email inqui ries from The Paper.

Given his lifelong roots in the village and his service in the fire company, on the Village Board, and his work co ordinating emergency services for the coun try, Falloon had a right to feel confident about his chances against almost any op ponent. However, he said: “You can’t go into a race thinking you are the winner. 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.

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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 forbidden to walk along that path and be greeted by you and your frolicking, furry friends communing with nature. Dear four-legged citizen, you knew 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 anything.
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 meandered 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 was a park that 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 feed 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 historical 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 in 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 anguish 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 rusted remnants and one’s face turned away from the “Keep Out Sign” one can 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, fit 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, fitting to the village.

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I really appreciate the great time, care, talent, agony, talent and money that have been poured into this project that 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!!

What can you do? Join “free-a-tree” to cut vines along our highways (and cut them elsewhere when you see them), check out leaveasewealsalone.org, and you can replace some of your Asian-evolved plants with natives. Leave the milkweeds for monarchs 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!!!

Anna Patton

Garrison

Everyone’s reading

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, breathing on their weight, or forming a blanket-like canopy which blocks necessary sunlight to the trees and the forest floor below. We are losing countless species and trees’ years’ worth of our majestic trees.

The northeastern forest as we know it, is disappearing. Ultimately, the vines crowd the native plants out, 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

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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 long resident of Philipstown, including Cold Spring, Bowman is in a three-way race for two trustee seats. He plans on focusing on village-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 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 personal issue of parking is one example he offered. “Parking is an unattended resource for revenue,” he said. Bowman suggested a meter system, which could turn on for residents and tourist 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 between the mayor and the other trustees and “more input and communication among the trustees.” He said he thought the mayor’s position had taken 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 free polling voting.

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

Mike Bowman
Photo by K.E. Foley

A reform-minded candidate for village trustee
By Kevin E. Foley

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Bowman expressed admiration for Gallagher 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, “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.
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 Railroad 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.

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. The department'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.

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

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

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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 MTAPD’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 EMR 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 property.

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 passengers 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.

Downtown Peekskill Restaurant Week Offers Prix Fixe Menus

Eaters 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.

"So 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
- Birdsal House, 970 Main St., 914-930-1880
- Division Street Grill, 26 N. Division St., 914-739-6380
- Glaeasona, 204 N. Division St., 914-462-5959
- Quiet Man Public House, 15 N. Division St., 914-930-8230
- Rubens Mexican Cafe, 5 N. Division St., 914-739-4130
- Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station.)

Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com or 845.424.3900

Tickets $20/$15

Hudson Beach Glass
Glass Bead Making Workshops

TWO FULL DAYS
March 16 & 17, 2013
Hands on bead making
Learn with an extraordinary teacher
All materials and tools are provided
Call to sign up

“Makes a nice birthday gift.”

8200
10am to 5pm

162 Main St, Beacon, NY 12508
(845) 440-0068
Open daily 10am - 6pm, Sunday 11am - 6pm
www.hudsonbeachglass.com
Talking with White and his wife, Evelyn Carr White

By Alison Rooney

S harr 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, and then acting. He spent six years writing what he now calls “a commodity” 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.”

While 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” unproduceable, White, who is a renowned Humana Theater alum and fashion industry copywriter, attended New York University 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.

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, White in Boston, New Orleans and Virginia — her father was a professor — and Carr White, too, trained to be an astrophysicist (and then acting). 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.”

As an award-winning playwright, White said, “Anyone who goes through eight years of study should a BFA in the subject, was not the path for him, White said, “Anyone who goes through eight years of study 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.”

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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” unproduceable, married 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 “unproduceable” 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.”

(Continued on page 11)
The Calendar

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

Sitting on the bench
by Tara

O n these wintery days I spend my time at the Goose sipping the chai and looking over the shop company behind the counter. But sometimes I hear to the door and stare through the glass, which surprises the boss. She is 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 am sure she knows how I know that a particular visitor is about to arrive when the noise as such as a block away. I am 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 said, I would like to 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 approve the idea, so she mailed all her fellow shopkeepers, asking them to sign a card of good wishes. The boss also said that she would dispatch gift baskets to 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 applauded 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.

Believe this: Now in stock at the Country Goose are eco-friendly products for your laundry, kitchen and bathroom from The Good Home Company. These products are safe for you and the environment.

The Country Goose
151 Main Street • Cold Spring NY
845-263-3229 • www.highlandbakers.com

ASSISTING
by Tara

ON GOING
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
BEECH GARDEN
149 Main St, Beacon
845-838-1600 | freeorg/events
Ends March 2

Eliot Smoked: These Are Mine
11 A.M. - 6 P.M. FRIDAY TO SUNDAY
MODDY GALLERY
197 Main St, Beacon | 845-702-7045
Ends March 24

Nature as Metaphor
Two Moments of Earnest
NOON - 6 P.M. THURSDAY TO SUNDAY
GALLERY 66 NY
66 Main St, Cold Spring
845-809-5838 | gallery66ny.com
Ends Feb. 24

Peckish! Project 2: The New Hudson River School
Ends July 28
The Power of Place
Ends April 29
11 A.M. - 5 P.M. FRIDAY
NOON - 6 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
HUSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART
1705 Main St, Peckskill
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org
Ends March 14

Richard Outlow Paintings: A Retrospective
1 TO 5 P.M. THURSDAY TO SUNDAY
HOWNLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St, Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlondenculturalcenter.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 Peckish! 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
11 A.M. - 4 P.M. SUNDAY
FIELD LIBRARY GALLERY
4 Nelson Lane, Peckskill
914-788-0100 | freeorg/events
Ends March 28

The Stillling by Lilianne 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 Mail by Francois Deschamps
NOON - 6 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
FOXXA EXHIBITIONS | 143 Main St, Beacon
917-930-0034 | foxxaeshibtion.com
Ends April 7

Trici: Marina Yashkina, Patrizia Lattreilha, Mario Nila
NOON - 6 P.M. FRIDAY TO SUNDAY
MARINA GALLERY
153 Main St, Cold Spring
845-265-2204 | themarinagallery.com
Through Feb. 24

FRI, FEBRUARY 15
Kids & Community
School Break Mini-Camp (K-3)
9 - 11:30 A.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845-537-7811 | htnaturecenter.org
Ends Feb. 14

Children Road to Dogs (ages 7-10)
9 - 11 A.M. MIDD-HUDDON CHILDREN’S MUSEUM
75 N. Water St, Poughkeepsie
845-471-0589 | mhkm.org
Ends March 28

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

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

West Point Women’s Club Banquet Night
6 - 11 P.M. WEST POINT CLUB
603 Culm Road, West Point
westpointwomenclubs.shutterfly.com

Health & Fitness
Advanced Stage Cancer Support Group
12:30 P.M. YORKTOWN JEWISH CENTER
2960 Grondum 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 HARMEL
7:15 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-476-5555 | 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
149 Main St, Beacon
845-453-2078 | thebeacontheatre.org

Music
Jeff Mangum of Neutral Milk Hotel
8 P.M. BARDOWN OPERA HOUSE
35 Market St, HugFroopke pke
845-475-2072 | bardown.org

Songwriters Circle: My Funny Valentine
8 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 Route 52, Lake Carmil | 845-228-2865 | artsontable.org | Rescheduled from Feb. 8

Led Zeppelin Tribute
8 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC MALL
13 Main St, Tarrytown
914-631-3390, ext. 500 | tarrytownmusichall.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. DESCENDING-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3000 | descendingfishlibrary.org

How the Railroad Transformed the Beacon Waterfront and Dutchess County
7 P.M. BEACON SLOOP CLUB
2 Fryarl Drive, Beacon
845-332-4660 | beaconsloopclub.com

Beginner AA Meeting
8 P.M. FIRST PRESBITHERIAN CHURCH
10 Academy St, Cold Spring
845-265-9202 | presbytechurchcoldspring.org

Religious Services
Stations of the Cross
6 P.M. ST. MARY’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-424-3000 | stmaryspscoldspring.org

Service at Beacon Hebrew Alliance
7:30 P.M. 331 VERPLANCK, BEACON
845-831-2012 | beacanthebrewalliance.org

Service at Reform Temple of Putnam Valley
8 P.M. 362 CHURCH, PUTNAM VALLEY
845-528-4774 | ny003@jv.org

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16
Kids & Community
Cold Spring Farmers’ Market
8:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER
107 Garden St, Garrison | cfmmarket.com

Food Pantry
9 - 10 A.M. FIRST PRESBITHERIAN CHURCH OF PHILIPSTOWN | 10 Academy St, Cold Spring
845-265-9202 | presbytechurchcoldspring.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 DUCK PADDLE, BEACON
845-474-4440, ext. 273 | scancovidhudson.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 DUCK PADDLE, BEACON
845-474-4440, ext. 273 | scancovidhudson.org
Sherry Mayo with her painting Space for Love at Gallery 66 NY opening of Nature as Metaphor and Des Moments d'Amour by K.E. Foley

Washington's Birthday Celebration
10 A.M. - 4 P.M. CAMPIONTE STATE HISTORIC SITE
374 Temple Hill Road, New Windsor
845-561-1765 | nysparks.com
Musket fired at 11 a.m., 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.

Woodpecker Program
10 A.M. OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER
100 Miazer Drive, Cornwall
845-634-5506 | 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 Chatham St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org
Preview at abaauction.com

Snowshoe Trek
1 P.M. TEATON 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 | thebeaconfarmersmarket.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 | artsonthehlake.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. TAYTOWN MUSICAL MALL
13 Main St., Taytowen
845-938-2526 | gaamysports.com

Art & Design
Cabin Fever Workshops
10 A.M. COSMIC FAMILY POTTERY
GARRISON ART CENTER
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Movies for Kids: Young Sherlock Holmes
NOON. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Pulp Fictions: Best Crime Novels on Film
2:30, 5 & 8:55 P.M. MADE IN U.S.A.
JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

The Met: Live in HD: Verdi's AIDA
2 & 4 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART
1701 Main St., Peekskill
914-786-0100 | hacca.org

Eddie Izzard (Comedy)
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

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

Richard Shindell / Lucy Kaplansky
8 P.M. TAYTOWN MUSICAL MALL
13 Main St., Taytowen
914-631-3390, ext. 101 | tarytownmusicalhall.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
914-622-9044 | maatset1@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
FOXVA EXHIBITIONS, 143 MAIN ST., BEACON
917930-0034 | foxvashibitions.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. 24 FAIR ST., COLD SPRING
845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

Mass at Our Lady of Loreto
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. TEATON LAKE RESERVATION
1600 Spring Valley Road, Ossining
914-762-2912, ext. 110 | teatown.org

Estates & Collections Auction
1 - 2 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
See details under Saturday.

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

The Royal Hannford Circus
10 A.M. - 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 & 8:45 P.M. STRANGERS ON A TRAIN
2:25 & 7:10 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER | Details under Friday.

Wine Tasting with Carolyn Summers
3 - 6 P.M. ARTISAN WINE SHOP
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. CAMPIONTE STATE HISTORIC SITE
Musket fired at 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.

Pioneer Living Studios: 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., POUGHKEEPSIE
914-737-6024 | 12grapes.com

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

Radical Wellness With Dr. Michael Finkelstein
NOON. LIVING YOGA
3182 Route 5, 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 PISO)
10 A.M. - 1 P.M. ETCHING WITH THOM MUNTERICH
1:30 - 3:30 P.M. PAINTING WITH HIRO SICHIKA
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 Hannford Circus
10 A.M. - 6 P.M. WESTCHESTER COUNTY CENTER
See details under Saturday.

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

Piedmont Bluze
4 P.M. MOHLAND 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
845-424-5000 | desmondfishlibrary.org
Sponsored by Philipstown Garden Club

Brave New Gta With Madan Oppenheimer
4 P.M. BEACON YOGA CENTER
464 Main St., Beacon
347-488-8406 | beaconyogacentre.com
(Continued on next page)
Religious Services

Our Lady of Loreto
7:30, 9 & 11:45 A.M. MASS
24 Fair St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

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

St. Philip’s Episcopal Church
8 & 10:30 A.M. 1101 ROUTE 90, GARRISON
845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

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

St. Basil’s Academy Greek Orthodox Chapel
8:30 A.M. ROUTE 90, GARRISON
845-424-3509 | gogreeksc.com

St. Luke’s Lutheran Church
9 A.M. 65 OSCHANA LAKE RD., PUTNAM VALLEY
845-529-8858 | stlukesputnamvalley.org

First Presbyterian Church of Philmont
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 ROAD, GARRISON
845-635-3365

Quaker Friends Worship
10 A.M. WHYHT HINE
845-424-3532 | quakerconnection.org

St. Joseph’s Chapel
10:15 A.M. 74 UPPER STATION ROAD, GARRISON
845-265-3788 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

Graymoor Spiritual Life Center
10:30 A.M. 1340 LOOKOUT ROAD, MOUNTBECK, GREYMOOR
914-528-7131 | fourthuu.org

United Methodist Church
11 A.M. 216 W. MAIN ST., COLD SPRING
845-635-3365

Monday, February 18

President’s Day

Kids & Community

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

Dancing Dialogue
Suzi Tortora’s Baby Cues Baby Moves
Parent & Child Dance & Learn Classes Ages 3 months - 7 years old
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

Religious Services

Bible Study
7 P.M. OUR LADY OF LORETO
24 Fair St, Cold Spring
845-265-3788 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

Kids & Community

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

Chess Club With Moming Lin
10 A.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
774 Main St., Garrison
845-831-9488 | howlandculturalcenter.org

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

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

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

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

Music 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 | See details under Connection.
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 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 ROUTE 52, KENT LAKES
845-831-2655 | artsontulake.org

Religious Services

AA Big Book Meeting
8 P.M. ST. PHILIP’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1101 ROUTE 90, GARRISON
845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

Questions & Answers
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Hudson Valley Shakespeare tickets on sale

Kids & Community

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

Block Party (0-3) & Lego Club (+1)
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

Music

The Dream Choir
7 P.M. YOGASGRO STUDIO
23 Trails Combers Road, Garrison
845-424-4340 | yogasgrosso.com

Meetings & Lectures

AA Big Book Meeting
8 P.M. ST. PHILIP’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1101 ROUTE 90, GARRISON
845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

WINTER CLASSSES BEGIN IN JANUARY
Carr White is extremely concerned with early, slowly-escalating dementia, which has already seen productions in Germany and Australia as well as in San Francisco, where he has found it interesting “how much experience evaporates. I really want to work with a drastic shift in perspective, bringing the audience in and keeping structural transformations going throughout the play.”

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 her eye over the past couple of years, as Carr White has applied it and her energy 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 Hal-dane’s already-considered budget. Such organizational and fiscal skills are not newfound — she helped find 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 Hal-dane is facing this year and in the near future. “I’m the product of public education,” she says, “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 very hefty fee 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’ process break, no ‘creativity time’ at all.” 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.
Woodpeckers the Subject of Nature Museum Program

Environmental Educator Pan Golbenkewill 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 Discovery Center on Muser Drive, across from I-17 and I-87. Admission is $8 for adults and $5 for children (members: $5 and $3). For more information, visit the museum’s website, hhnaturemuseum.org, or call 845-534-5006, ext. 204.

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 lived 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 men to stay on duty 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, blacksmith demonstrations and other aspects of daily life.

Musket 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 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 NY 17. For more information, call 845-561-7765, 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)

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 $50 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 football, 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.

For more information, visit the Garrison School PTA’s website at gcef.net or for more information, visit www.palisadesparkscconservancy.org.

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 its 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 2012. Previously, she held positions in public service in the City of New York as the director of Health, Human Services and director of Policy/Budget for former Bronx Borough President Fernan- do Ferrer.

In her new 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 state department to manage legislative priorities and strategic policy goals and enhance GuildNet’s visibility with elected leaders and community organizations across New York state.

Farrell received her master of public policy administration and from Columbia’s University 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, manager 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 Duchess County,” features local railroad historian Bernard Rudberg discussing the history of the railroad in Duchess county including the complete rebuilding of the Beacon waterfront before World War I, features rare photographs from the Beacon Historical Society Collection.

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, Millwood, and Poughkeepsie to Millerton, based on the original railroad record books from the N&D 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 was 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 Maybrook line.

This free event will be held on Friday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m. at the Beacon Sloop Club, 2 Flynn Drive in Beacon (across from the harbor). In the event of inclement weather, check the website at beaconloopsloop.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 within the 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 12:

• A letter stating a desire to be con- sidered, financial need and plans for further education, including infor- mation about siblings

• A transcript

• Two letters of recommendation and a letter from a guidance councelor

• A financial planning college costs, money available, anticipated loans, scholarships, gifts and projected earnings

• A FASA report

Although financial need will be a prior- ity, additional criteria for selection will be based on personal merit and 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, viola; Hy- eyung Julie Yoon, violins; Jo- nah Sirota, viola; and Gregory Beaver, cello) will perform the string quartet’s 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 Sun- day, 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, with- out using printed sheet music. An un- usual concert, it allows the performers to be fully present in the moment. The Chiara Quartet recently recorded a forthcoming album of the complete string quartets of Brahms, entirely from memory, with Grammy Award-winning producer Judith Sher- man.

In 2012-2013 the group celebrated 13 seasons of playing together. Members hon- ors include the nomination of its record- ing of Jefferson Friedman’s String Quart- et 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)
The Chiarra Quartet

(from previous page) the United States. In 2012 the Chiarra appeared with the University Musical Society in Ann Arbor, Mich., performing in unusual venues including a vacant store-front and a Toyota factory. In 2011, the Chiarra 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 Chiarra 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 Chiarra Quartet can be found online at chiarra-quartet.net and on Facebook at facebook.com/chiarastringquartet. 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 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 social activists to decimate the modern 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. - 9 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 hire.org.

Peekskill BID Calls for Zoning Reform

Residencies 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 new 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 “property-housing” model the BID introduced would allow building owners to divide their residential units proportionally between those restricted to artist live/work uses and those open to residents from all professions.

While the current proposal 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.

“Peekskill currently restricts the majority of residential use downtown to certified artists only. The “property-housing” model the BID introduced would allow building owners to divide their residential units proportionally between those restricted to艺术家 live/work uses and those open to residents from all professions.”

Yoga, Chocolate and Wine at SkyBaby Yoga Feb. 15

Kathy Torres Rowes leads ‘heart-opening’ yoga practice

Yoga instructor Kathy Torres Rowes will lead a “Heart Opening” 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.

The workshop costs $45 for those registering online at skybabyyoga.com or $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 Abstracts: 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.

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. Abstracts: 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 Cyrielle Al- lama, Vivian Altman, Sedar Atar, Sarah Bednarzek, Karlos Carcamo, Rosalyn Driscoll, Susan English, Catherine Evans, Kathryn Gabriel, Victoria Manning, San- ford Mang, Kirsten Nash, Barbara Smith Gioia, Dina White and Jake Winiski.

The exhibition is on view through 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 3 a.m. - 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. For more information, contact Walsh at 845-784-1426 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 such as 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 translate 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 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 not told 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 painful 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. Lessons 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 like this, they’re thinking about the 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 other people’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 other half covered in the town’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, “It’s the ‘what’s new’ to a small town, 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.
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 Janácek’s In the Mists, Schuman’s Davidsbündlertänze 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 Prunia 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 Pulfricht, Gina Bachauer, Seiler, Steinway, Ettlin 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, 377 Main St. in Beacon. Tickets are $30 (student tickets are $20). For more information, visit their website, howlandmusic.org, email info@howlandmusic.org or call 845-397-9943.

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