*New York Press Association, 2013

The Philipstown info



Home to Roost **See page 6**

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Fran Murphy Ready to Tackle Village Issues

Running for Cold Spring trustee By Michael Turton

Fran Murphy is one of three candidates running for two trustee seats on the Cold Spring Village Board as part of the March 18 election.

Asked why she is running, Murphy told *The Paper*, "I've been thinking about politics for a long time." Her first concrete step was to volunteer at the Village Hall, taking on such tasks as assessing current telephone service providers, dealing with insurance coverage for Main Street businesses and creating a database of volunteer applicants. "I wanted background, to get to know about the business of the village," she said.



Fran Murphy

Photo by M. Turton

What tipped the scales toward seeking election was her attendance at a few village meetings. While she said the sample was not extensive, what she saw impressed her — though not favorably. "I thought the bickering that I saw, the 'zingers' can't go on. I found it uncomfortable — and embarrassing." Murphy said at that point she had a choice to make. "I decided that rather than sitting on the outside *(Continued on page 3)*



A coyote, left, and a bald eagle, above, were photographed near the Taconic Outdoor Education

Center. Photos courtesy of New York State Department of Parks

Camera Catches Carrion Carried Off

Scientists study local animal behavior

By Pete Salmansohn

hat do a bobcat, a barred owl and a red-bellied woodpecker have in common? They were all seen recently feeding on the carcass of a deer leg strung 20 feet up in a hemlock tree and photographed by a motion-detecting trail camera wired onto the trunk.

This unlikely trio of animals was not all present at the same time, of course, but discoveries like this, which defy the predictable in terms of just what local animals may show up for a free meal, are becoming more common as wildlife biologists collect images from well-placed

trail cameras where a small mountain of free food is hard to resist.

Motion-detecting cameras were first used by scientists to study truly rare animals like snow leopards, but inexpensive models are now being used much more commonly by naturalists and backyard amateurs as well, and this winter at least three teams of local New York State Park biologists are collecting a fascinating array of images from their cameras' isolated locations in area parklands.

Max Garfinkel, Haldane alum and a field biologist, said his team from Bear Mountain has been trying to get photos of an elusive tree-climbing weasel named a fisher, so they tied a large deer leg they had cut from a carcass up onto the trunk of a tree in Sterling Forest. "So far we haven't seen any fishers, unfortunately, but we did get photos of

a bobcat up there in the daytime, which is pretty unusual, and a whole bunch of other creatures too, including a blue jay, a chickadee, a junco, a red-bellied woodpecker and a squirrel."

Over on Duck Pond in Fahnestock State Park, naturalists from Taconic Outdoor Education Center have placed road-killed deer carcasses on the thick ice for the third winter in a row and have mounted a trail camera nearby to capture a parade of both daytime and nocturnal visitors. Said Program Director John Stowell, "This year, we got photos of two red-tailed hawks fighting each other off to get to the carcass ... pretty cool!" Ravens and crows are usually the first animals to respond to the meat, and then eagles, hawks and vultures show up, and finally the more wary ones like bobcats, foxes and coyotes.

Zoologist Ed McGowan, supervisor of the Bear (Continued on page 15)

Downsized Fire Station Proposed

 $Funding\ remains\ the$ $biggest\ question$

By Michael Turton

bout 25 residents braved frigid temperatures on Monday night (Feb. 16) to attend a meeting at the Cold Spring Firehouse, part of an ongoing discussion regarding plans to replace the aging home base of the Cold Spring Fire Company (CSFC) at 154 Main St. The public Q-and-A session, postponed one week due to a winter storm, was led by CSFC President John Landolfi and Assistant Chief Steve Smith. The audience included the five candidates running in the March 18 election for three seats on the Village Board. Landolfi and

Smith answered questions submitted by email and also addressed comments from the audience.

During a break in the question period, Smith reviewed modifications to the proposal presented late last fall that called for a three-story, 19,458-square-foot building that came with a price tag in excess of \$6 million. Plans have since been scaled back to a two-story, 14,193-square-foot building that would cost approximately \$4.6 million to build. Additional costs such as engineering, demolition of the old building and storage required during construction could add another \$800,000 to the bill.

Costly comparisons

Smith detailed facilities planned for each level of the proposed building. The



The existing firehouse has deteriorated and has several structural flaws.

File photo by M. Turton

basement would house utilities such as a furnace, compressors and generators. The main floor would include truck bays, a radio room, a laundry, decontamination and fitness rooms, showers and bathrooms. A mezzanine made (Continued on page 3)

Cook On: 1 part chaos, 2 parts calm

Egg Drop Soother

By Mary Ann Ebner

ll along the genealogical trail, my ancestors professed their devotion to soup as a home remedy to calm life and any number of ailments. By second nature, it seems instinctive to echo that tradition.

A cup of soup quiets the soul affordably. And when it's cold and unforgiving outside, as in bitterly cold around the Hudson Valley, a filling of soup may thaw a disposition and whatever else may be ailing. Soup can sustain us without adding excessive calories, while many soups can be tailored for dietary restrictions.

Cold Spring's Karen Shea concurs that savory soup helps push us on through chilly winter weather and into warmer surroundings despite frigid temperatures. And she continuously tries new recipes to expand her repertoire of soups.

"I make a lot of different soups," Shea said. "I just made a roasted cauliflower and mushroom soup." Shea confided that she also added a good amount of garlic to the broth, which most likely boosted its healthfulness.

Her family appreciated roasted vegetables as the soup's foundation, but the Shea household favors a substantial creation served as a main course. "I make a chicken meatball soup that my family loves," she said. "Flavoring with leeks is a favorite and soup makes a filling meal."

As a meal or a dose of folk medicine, a steamy soup not only warms us up but pick us up. According to the National

Institutes of Health, brothy soup, particularly chicken soup, boasts healing properties, explaining its place in many home remedies. Since the 12th century, caretakers have served up soups to help fight the common cold and a range of infections.

A few years ago, crutches kept me propped up for weeks. Preparing and cooking, let alone shopping for food, posed a few challenges and taught me a lesson in appreciating wellness. During that stretch of immobility, many hands though not mine – kept our family's kitchen in full operation. Healthy nutrition played a role in promoting healing and family harmony during that recovery chapter. A long list of home-cooked meals helped carry me back to throwing my own weight around in grocery aisles, but the meal most remembered was an egg drop soup that served to nurture the appetite and spirit.

The soup represented a gift of warmth created by my cousin. It didn't matter that the Texas temperature in Austin that day called more for a cold soup on a sunny afternoon. My cousin, Kathie, decided that the steamy broth and its powerful liquid deserved a place in the meal rotation. She prepared a family-sized pot of egg drop soup, embellished with a host of sources of nutritional properties from eggs and spinach to mushrooms and shrimp. The ancestors were right. The soup commanded its own sort of restorative power, and healing was off and running (or at least moving at a fairly



Egg drop soup

Photos by M.A. Ebner

good clip).

Life eventually leveled out around our home but the egg drop soup remained a preferred choice for a warm, nutritious meal. When a neighbor needed a healthy lift for a wicked virus, she agreed to try the egg drop soup. Chicken soup may have been more appropriate, but a bowl of steaming egg drop served her well. She finished every sip of the broth, slowly, as soup should be eaten to let it work its best.

This egg drop soup stands as one of our primary family meals, not just in winter, but all year through. We eat it as a main course with generous portions. Occasionally, it takes on different qualities and characteristics, deepened in flavor with additional ginger or filled out with cooked, shredded chicken or fish. For an even lighter version, we eliminate the vegetables and let the egg please on its own. Discover its many possibilities and compose your own. Rustic or refined, soup settles — slurped or sipped.

Egg Drop Soup

Serves 8

- 1 teaspoon rice vinegar
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon sesame oil
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 2 teaspoons freshly grated ginger root
- 3 cups water (reserve ½ cup)
- 6 cups vegetable stock
- 1 teaspoon fish sauce
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 4 cups fresh spinach leaves
- 6 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 teaspoon cornstarch
- 4 cups fresh mushrooms, sliced
- 2 cups scallions, chopped

Combine rice vinegar, soy sauce, sesame oil and sugar in large stock pot. Add grated ginger root and cook over medium heat 2 minutes, stirring constantly. Add water, vegetable stock, fish sauce, salt and cayenne, and mix. Cook over medium heat 3 to 5 minutes. Stir in spinach. Gradually add egg and gently stir the egg into the soup with a fork 2 to 3 minutes. Whip cornstarch into the ½ cup of reserved water. Pour cornstarch mixture into soup and stir thoroughly. Reduce heat. Add mushrooms, cover and cook 10 minutes over low heat. Ladle soup into serving bowls. Smother with chopped scallions and serve immediately.



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Fran Murphy Ready to Tackle Village Issues (from page 1)

complaining, now would be a good time to get involved." She decided to run for

Unlike the four other candidates, Murphy is running independently rather than as part of a team. "I believe running as a team creates a possible division for the future board," she said. "The team needs to be formed with the full board once the election is over."

The 66-year-old Murphy recently retired as director of graduate school admissions at the Zicklin School of Business, part of Baruch College and the City University of New York, a position she held for 18 years. She thinks that experience makes her a strong candidate. "I learned to manage a staff and deal with people," Murphy said. "I dealt with three different deans and four directors, and was comfortable doing it. I learned to sit with them, talk to them, listen to them — and to get things done." She also had to deal with conflict, especially between departments within the school. "I know

when to push my agenda, and when to stand back and say, 'It's your call."

MBA programs are very competitive, especially between schools, and that has a downside according to Murphy. "Some schools tend to exaggerate their numbers," regarding test scores, enrollment, recruiting success rates and the like. "It was more important to me to be accurate," she said.

If elected, Murphy said one of the first things she wants to see is for the new board to come together as a unit. "It will be largely a new team," she said, since no matter who is elected, three of the five trustees (which includes the mayor) will be new. "We need to get to know each other and decide how we'll work together." The first-time candidate said that in other situations she would suggest a board retreat, an approach that can't be used because of the Open Meetings Law, which requires that all business meetings of a quorum of the Village Board be open to the public. "But I think we can

find a way to do it," she said, "perhaps meetings on two Saturday or Sunday afternoons."

Murphy mentioned a number of key priorities ahead for the village, starting with selecting a new village attorney as well as a long list of issues that she said include the Main Street project, water and sewer initiatives, a new firehouse, the post office location, the future of Dockside Park and removal of coal tar from the area of the Cold Spring Boat Club. She also sees a need that goes beyond the projects themselves. "We need to keep villages better informed, using reports on a regular basis" to include project schedules and financial updates.

Murphy said that at times, small vocal minorities can wield too much influence within the village. She said that residents need to realize that "sometimes you win, sometimes you lose — and sometimes the greater good of the whole village is more important." She said that trustees always have to listen to what everyone has to say, "but we have to make decisions based on what is good for the majority.

There can't be any 'sacred cows' anymore — we have to look at everything."

One area where Murphy feels she can have a positive impact is in seeking grants. "There hasn't been a specific person working on grants, and we need new revenue sources," she said. "I'll work hard at learning to write grant applications, but I can't do it alone." She used grants for a new firehouse as an example. "I need to work with the fire company. And they need to contribute information."

Murphy, a Boston native, and her husband Ed have been married for 38 years. They moved to High Street in Cold Spring 15 years ago. She currently serves on the Cold Spring Recreation Commission and is one of several candidates who have applied to serve on the yet-to-be-named Ethics Committee. Ed is a vet-eran with more than 40 years of service between the reserves and regular army. A command sergeant major, he served in the first Gulf War and is now Veterans of Foreign Wars commander of the James Harvey Hustis Post in Cold Spring.

Downsized Fire Station Proposed (from page 1)

possible by the high ceilings required for the truck bays would be used for offices, storage and the board of governors' meeting area. The second floor would include a meeting room accommodating up to 80 people, ready room, kitchen and bathrooms. A divider separating the two largest spaces would nearly double the capacity of the meeting room.

Any scenario to replace the existing structure will be costly. Smith said that North Highlands' 17,000-square-foot fire hall cost approximately \$4.7 million, an expenditure that was reduced somewhat because parts of the original building's skeleton were kept intact. Mahopac's completely new 34,000-square-foot fire station was initially estimated to cost \$5.7 million but in the end came in at \$8.7 million.

Alternate design suggested

Resident Mike Armstrong questioned why a design for a Cold Spring firehouse put forward in 2012 was estimated at only \$3 million. Smith said one reason was that the proposal did not take Wicks Law into account, a factor he said would add about 25 percent to the cost. Wicks Law requires municipalities to seek separate competitive bids from plumbing, electrical and HVAC as well as general contractors. Landolfi also pointed out that the design was based on prefabricated components rather than a design created specifically for the lot that the current fire station occupies. Armstrong commented that the trapezoidal design currently being considered is inherently more costly than a rectangular building. He suggested that contractors be asked to bid on that type of design.

${\bf Repairs\,impractical}$

Early on, a question that may have been on the minds of many was addressed — why not simply repair the existing building? Smith said that previous engineering studies determined that is not feasible due to a number of serious structural flaws; for example, the piers that support the building are deteriorating; the west wall of the building is bulging outward; the floor of the meeting room is sinking; and the floor in the truck bay had to be reinforced several years ago. Cracks and settling are also evident in other parts of the building.

"The building cannot hold the weight [of the trucks]," Smith said. "We can't remodel; it's just not worth it ... it would probably cost more" than building a new structure.

Fire district again discussed

As in the past, the possibility of creat-

ing a new fire district was discussed, perhaps to include Cold Spring, the Village of Nelsonville, and parts of Philipstown now served by CSFC. That approach would make it possible to build the new fire station in Nelsonville, moving it away from the very cramped quarters on Main Street. In a fire district, residents elect commissioners who administer the fire company within its area of jurisdiction. A fire district operates independent of local municipalities and has the authority to tax residents directly for fire protection.

North Highlands currently operates as a fire district. When a new fire station was built there several years ago, spending had to be approved by voter referendum. Residents voted "no" the first time. Plans and costs were then scaled back, and a second vote approved construction of the new facility. Fire companies in Cold Spring and Garrison do not operate as part of a fire district and as such come under the jurisdiction of the municipality.

Another possibility is establishing a single, expanded town-wide fire district with all residents within its boundaries taxed at the same rate for fire protection. That is not the case now. Landolfi did not have exact figures available but said that local taxation for fire protection differs considerably. He estimated that tax rates per thousand dollars of assessed property value vary from 83 cents in Cold Spring and \$1.19 in Philipstown to \$2 in Garrison and \$2.50 in North Highlands. While economies of scale may be possible by forming a large, merged fire district, it would require agreement among the villages of Cold Spring and Nelsonville, the Town of Philipstown and the North Highlands Fire District. The CSFC itself has twice voted against creating a fire district for Cold Spring, Nelsonville and adjacent parts of Philipstown, in recent years. One obstacle Landolfi pointed to are the "service awards" that provide a form of pension to firefighters, paid for by Cold Spring taxpayers. He said it's possible that if a new fire district were formed, Cold Spring taxpayers may be required to fund the existing service awards as well as the pensions required by the new district. He also hinted at a loss of local autonomy, suggesting that while the CSFC has always had an "open-door policy" regarding use of its meeting room by community groups, in a fire district such decisions might not be made locally.

To date, the lack of success in streamlining local government and related services does not bode well for a dovetailing of fire protection services. A report commissioned by the Town of Philipstown in 2011 that supported consolidation of fire departments town-wide was strongly criticized by local fire companies. Last year the three municipalities abandoned attempts to merge building departments. The desirability of combining three local justice courts has also been discussed but with no action taken. Talk of merging local school districts has also gone nowhere.

Funding

No one in attendance questioned the

need for a new fire station; in fact Landolfi and Smith received a round of applause at the end of the meeting for having provided updated information on the proposed project. The big question that remains is how the new facility will be funded in a village with fewer than 900 taxed properties. "The Village of Cold Spring has to go after grants," Landolfi said. "We [CSFC] can't apply for grants." Trustee Stephanie Hawkins, however, encouraged the fire company to be a part of the grant-seeking process. Landolfi responded in part by saying, "It's a no-brainer; you have to hire a grant writer now."

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Planning Board Schedules Public Hearing on Butterfield Plans for March 4

County legislators talk of moving forward - into 6,000 square feet of space

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Cold Spring Planning Board voted on Wednesday (Feb. 18) to hold a public hearing on March 4 on the Butterfield redevelopment project, a decision representing a milestone in more than three years of often intense - and contentious - review of plans (revised over time) by Butterfield Realty LLC to repurpose the old hospital site.

The Planning Board action occurred a day after a Putnam County Legislature committee discussed proposed county occupancy of 5,000 to 6,000 square feet, including a new county-run senior citizen center, in a multi-government facility on a redeveloped Butterfield parcel that totals 5.7 acres.

Led by owner-developer Paul Guillaro, Butterfield LLC intends to retain the existing Lahev Pavilion medical clinic but demolish the abandoned hospital building, and build not only the intergovernmental structure but 55 market-rate condominiums for older residents; a "square" of retail/commercial shops or offices; and three single-family homes on the 5.7-acre property, which anchors the southern entrance to the village of Cold Spring.

Parking spaces

Wednesday's hearing date-setting came on a 4-1 vote, with Planning Board Member Arne Saari the lone "no" after he strenuously objected that the site plan provided insufficient parking, particularly for residents of the two-bedroom condominiums.

The public hearing will focus on the site plan — or layout and other details and, on a preliminary basis, on the land subdivision integral to the redevelopment. A second hearing on the subdivision would follow at an undetermined date, a pro forma requirement.

If the owners of each condominium bring two cars, "where are these people going to park?" Saari questioned. "I think we're pushing the envelope on parking."



He argued that "it sounds like we're pushing the place toward Foodtown inadequate parking." At the Foodtown plaza, home to the village's grocery store, he often cannot find a parking space and must leave his car on the street behind, he said. He foresees similar problems at Butterfield: "I think we're going to create a parking nightmare down here."

Chuck Voss, the board's planning consultant, and Anna Georgiou, its attorney for the review, answered that the parking spaces will meet both needs and obligations under the Village Code. Voss noted that the code is likely to change anyway, reducing the requirements for providing parking from the "suburban"-style mandate now on the books.

The Butterfield redevelopment "was designed as a shared-parking environment," a flexible-use site, in which residents could park elsewhere on the property and in which not all residents owning cars or others driving to Butterfield would bring vehicles in at once, Voss said. Thus, as he elaborated, some condominium owners would leave during the day, freeing spaces for cars of those patronizing the government facility or offices and shops, while customers, employees and others using the latter buildings would not need parking overnight, and might not drive to the site in any case. "I don't think you guys want to apply a suburban standard" - in essence, the drive-constantly-and-park model - to a new village development, he said.

Barney Molloy, Planning Board chair (and a candidate for Cold Spring mayor) said that at Butterfield the village wants as much unpaved land as possible. "You can make the argument that parking might, at some time in the day, be a little bit difficult," he told Saari, "but the village has been clear from Day One that the priority is maintenance of green space at the expense of additional parking." He also questioned the assumption that Butterfield condominium residents would have two vehicles per apartment, "which is a leap I don't think we can make.

The Village Board rezoned the site to accommodate the Butterfield plans, and Steven Barshov, Guillaro's attorney, suggested that Saari's complaint is not with the developer's plans but with the pertinent village laws. The developer, too, may dislike some rules but "everybody has to comply with the code, whether we like its logic or not," he said.

A county discussion

Participants at the Feb. 17 meeting of the Putnam County Legislature's Physical Services Committee, which deals with buildings and infrastructure, spoke of efforts to date and acting expeditiously to bring to Butterfield a strong county presence, including a senior center vastly upgraded above the current lunch venue at the American Legion.

Legislator Carl Albano, who chairs both the Physical Services Committee and the full legislature, called on his colleagues to join in finalizing Putnam's plans. The legislature allocated \$64,000 in contingency funds for 2015 for taking space at Butterfield.

"Conceptually, we're on the same page with this, although we didn't have a formal vote or anything," after allocating the \$64,000, Albano said. At this juncture, he proposed, "the next thing we have to do is try to put together some agreement with the developer so we know we're really committed to this and decide which space we want."

He outlined two spaces at Butterfield as options. One, on a second-floor level allowing someone to walk outdoors, would provide notable light. The other, perhaps more directly accessible, would be on the ground floor of a different building. Putnam County would take between 5,000 and 6,000 square feet overall, he said. He emphasized the need to finalize details soon, "make some kind of commitment," and "move forward so we can start solidifying this whole direction we're moving in."

Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra, who represents Philipstown, said the office of County Executive MaryEllen Odell is negotiating arrangements, (To next page)

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Budget and Measles Outbreak Dominate Garrison Board Discussion

By Pamela Doan

he good news is that the 2015-16 budget process looks as if it will roll out fairly uneventfully in the hands of a seasoned group of Board of Education members at the Garrison Union Free School district. The district also hasn't had any measles reports, but the board discussion at their Feb. 18 meeting looked ahead while evaluating the current state of affairs.

Superintendent Laura Mitchell and Business Manager Susan Huetter presented the board with estimated figures for the 2015-16 district budget. Mitchell reviewed the school's mission as context for the budget and recognized the challenges they face in delivering quality programs within the bounds of the tax levy limit and low expectations for a larger portion of state aid.

Spending is up slightly due to increas-

es in salaries and benefit commitments. The increase is projected at nearly \$150,000, which is just under Huetter's estimate for the tax levy limit. "Without having the governor's aid figures, we can only estimate the budget now," said Huetter. GUFS relies on state aid for 7 to 8 percent of their budget. Most of their funding comes from district taxpayers.

Board members expressed concern about the amount of the district's reserve funds that will be necessary to fund the 2015-16 school year. Although Huetter described it as minimal, Board member Derek DuBois said: "We decreased the fund balance by \$83,000; what that really means is that we planned to spend \$300,000 from the reserves and we are on course to spend close to \$400,000 out of our reserves this year. It's 1/8 to 1/10 of our reserves. We've gone from saving for a rainy day to spending \$300,00 to \$400,000, which by definition is a path we can't be on for more than eight years without ugly consequences." The board decided to review a five-year tally of the fund balances to get a clearer picture of the trends and look at net changes.

Board member Charlotte Rowe said: "Because we've had such large reserves, we've basically preserved our situation a good 10 years out. Most school systems have reached this point in three to five years, but we've maintained our independence and low taxes because of the reserves. Other districts face raising taxes, consolidating to lower costs or looking at completely new scenarios."

The minutes from the Safety and Health Committee sparked another discussion about the district's policy on vaccinations. Board members continue to be concerned that 16 of the 220 students are not vaccinated, and that puts the school below what is considered to be the herd immunity threshold of 95 percent. Although New York state law requires vaccinations, parents can refuse to vaccinate their children for personal, religious reasons and be granted an exemption.

The board requested that their legal counsel review the district's policy and advise them if there are options to strengthen, refine or change the policy. The school health nurse interviews families who request the exemption about their beliefs. Board President Raymond O'Rourke said: "We want to be sure that we are not being unduly lax in granting exemptions. We have a high number, higher than any of our neighboring districts, but the question is if the policy is as restrictive as it can or should be. It may not be as rigorous as it could be if that's the direction we choose to go."

The Center for Disease Control reports 141 cases of measles in 17 states currently, including New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Measles is highly contagious. The district recently included information about the measles in packets that are distributed to parents.

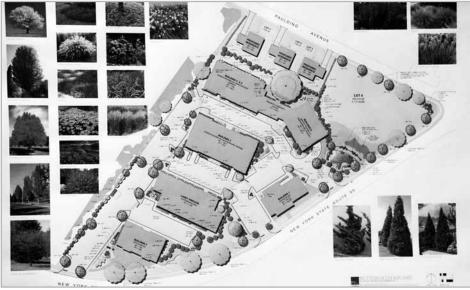
Planning Board Schedules Public Hearing (from page 4)

including a possible option-to-buy, with Guillaro. Likewise, she and Fred Pena, commissioner of highways and facilities, have gone over rudimentary designs for county space. Pena similarly has conferred with Pat Sheehy, director of the county Office for Senior Resources on the senior center.

"All of her [Sheehy's] functions could be properly addressed" at Butterfield, "and significantly improve the conditions for the seniors at this new location," Pena informed the committee. "It would be a tremendous improvement." The existing site "really does not provide all the functions" necessary for a proper senior citizen center, he said.

"We're not even close" to what the county offers elsewhere, Scuccimarra

Albano observed that "15 to 16 percent of our real estate taxes come from that [western] side of the county. So the general thought is ... we should have some presence there." He mentioned his own idea for Butterfield, that "there will be room that's able to be shared by probably other people in the county in the future. You'd want some of that space to be where you could go different directions with it - multipurpose." Moreover, he continued, "it's interesting: I think 4 percent of the seniors in that area," in Philipstown, "utilize the current facility" at the American Legion, "which kind of gives you an indication that it's way under what most other facilities are utilized at."



A drawing maps the landscape concept for the Butterfield redevelopment.

Dave Merandy for Mayor · Marie Early for Trustee A Tradition of Commitment to our Community



Dave Merandy has over 40 years of professional construction and management experience building our community, and over 20 years of volunteer and elected service to his neighbors. As a Coach, Board of Education President, Town Councilman and proud father of 5, Dave has repeatedly demonstrated that long term commitment to community and the best interests of our kids and neighbors are what matter most.

Marie Early has over 35 years of professional experience in software engineering, market data and personnel management, and a decade of volunteerism in our Village. She is a dedicated civic leader who has been appointed to multiple standing boards. Marie has a proven record of problem solving, project management, critical thinking, and commitment to the best interests of our community.

VOTE! Wednesday, March 18th Dave Merandy for Mayor · Marie Early for Trustee

Thinking of Raising Chickens in Your Backyard?

Lydia Langley's 'Home to Roost'service offers humane advice and fresh egg deliveries

By Alison Rooney

Langydia loves birds her all 30-plus of them. She loves her crested frizzles and leghorn Polishes, her Marans and Ameraucanas. As partial to the "starters" sold at Blue Seal as the

rare, heirloom breeds, Langley is quite simply crazy for chickens.

Photo by Lydia Langley

As a city-to-Cold-Spring-weekender-tofull-time-Garrison transplant, living on a historic farm property there, she had no experience with chickens but took the plunge with an initial six back in 2008. That number quickly grew, and Langley, brought up in the New Jersey suburbs, found herself with 30 pet chickens, most of whom did what they do best, especially under the right conditions: lay eggs. Shifting away from her former, New York City-based life as an interior designer, she began selling what they were laying, dubbing her farm a "yolkette" and delivering the freshest of eggs to Philipstown and beyond, all the while absorbing and researching the world of chickens.

Now a font of knowledge of all things poultry or, as she puts it, an "eggspert," she is embarking on a related course, becoming a consultant on raising backyard chickens. "I am hanging out a shingle to help newcomers enter the fascinating world of pullets, cockerels, hens and roosters ... Whether you would like to discuss coordinating your fledging project from start to finish or want to maximize your current flock, I love what I do and I'd be happy to be your 'everything chickens' resource."

> Why chickens? It all began in Turkey ... the country of Turkey, that is. About 20 years ago, Langley took a trip there and spent a night with a family in the countryside. "The matriarch went out and gathered eggs, which she then cooked — and they



The naturally varied hues of Chickie Whiskers' eggs reflect the different breeds of hens laying them.

Photo by Lydia Langley

were spectacular, and it made me realize what eggs can actually taste like."

After a later sojourn in North Carolina, where she sampled many fresh eggs, Langley and her husband decided, despite their lack of experience (hers, none whatsoever; his, a couple of chickens growing up), they wanted to put the 19th-century-built barns on their property, which had been in disuse except as storage, back in action — chicken action.

"We had preexisting space conducive to housing chickens, so we thought we'd try it," she said. Plus, Langley felt an affinity for the chickens themselves, not just their eggs. "They're sociable, they come over to you, respond to you they're full of personality," she enthused.

Langley emphasized that she and her husband consider their chickens as pets. "We have a personal relationship with our hens," she noted. Though egg production dwindles during the typical chicken's life span (of around five years, only the first two of which are egg-producing), her farm is "no kill — they spend their entire lives with us, and their safety and well-being is most important."

On average each of the 30 hens on hand lays about four to five eggs a week, although a few lay every day, and "Rocket" (all of the birds are named) whom Langley calls "temperamental," produces a mere two or three. Egg production depends on the weather. "Since we can't free-range this time of the year, there aren't as many, but they're kept in an enclosed yard with raptor nettings, so they can sit in the sun, but they can't forage right now," Langley explained, adding that they come in at sunset through an automatic door. Although they've never experienced a ground predator, they have had some issues from time to time with hawks and falcons.

Each dozen-egg carton (recyclable and returnable to Langley each time new eggs are delivered) of "Chickie Whiskers" eggs (the name reflects her equal love of cats) contains ovals of varying hues, from speckled brown to a washed green, ivory, near-red and more, but "within the flock there should be no difference between taste and nutrition," no matter what the shell color, Langley said. "In warmer months, when they have access to grass and bugs, the eggs taste their best."

It was originally only the Langleys' friends who got to sample the eggs, as the distribution began via word of mouth. Although they have occasionally delivered in bulk to New York City, their usual clientele has weekly standing orders, or simply on an as-needed basis, or as she describes her clientele, "weekly, bi-weekly and those I annoy," as well as some local businesses.

Langley delivers the eggs — sometimes still warm, to her neighbor, 100 feet away, and on her near daily rounds all over Philipstown. In addition to everything else, a great byproduct of this oldfashioned delivery system (replete with handwritten names on ribbon-fastened carton tags) has been meeting new peo- Langley said,



ple. "It's been a wonderful social thing, too," Langley said. "Our goal is to be the local resource for people. We don't want to sell commercially. We love having pet chickens - it's great for insect control and they amuse us."

Interest growing

Asked why raising backyard chickens appears to be such a trend right now, Langley thinks it's "having that aspect of being in control of your food supply, and also just that bit of life in your backyard." But, for healthy, thriving chickens, much must be learned, and that's where "Home to Roost", as Langley has dubbed her new consulting services, comes in.

Although "small backyards can still keep fat, happy chickens," potential backyarders need advice on which variety of birds are most suitable to their specific situation, how to set up and maintain coops and all the nitty-gritty on the care and feeding of the flock, including medical issues that might arise and are most often avoided through prevention techniques. Langlev can work with those still in the planning stages, and also those who wish to maximize the output of an existing flock. She is also able to foster chicks until they are out of the "danger zone." "The most important aspect is housing," (Continued on page 14)



spinning • barre • personal training battlerope suspension training • apparel

Weekly Class Schedule

*Must pre-register at www.ontheflycyclingstudio.com please consult online schedule for real time information

Monday

9:00am Strength Lengthen Tone (Dawn) 12:00pm \$10 Community Day Class - Intro to Spin 6:15pm Battlerope Suspension Training (Jose) 6:45pm Spin Stretch (Ashley) 7:30pm Battlerope Suspension Training (Jose)

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

Wednesday

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

Thursday

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

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

Saturday 8:00am Barre 60 (Deanna)

9:15am Spin 45 (Ashley) 9:30am Battlerope Suspension Training (Jose) 11:30am Intro to Battlerope Suspension Training (Jose)

Sunday

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

1:1 Personal Training available with Dawn or Jose 1:1 Personal Barre Training available with Deanna

Our instructors: Samantha Lutzer, Deanna Muraszewski, Dawn

Scanga, Jose Matos, Ashley Holmes, Leslie Bazile, Alessandra Scanga Inquire at onthefly3091@gmail.com

*First time visitors mention this ad to receive a discounted drop in price of \$10 on your first visit!









3021 Rt. 9 Cold Spring, NY 10516

845-265-2833(general inquiries) 845-264-2840 (for last minute reservations



Calendar



Beacon Just Got 'More Good'



More Good's Jason Schuler

Large new space offers soda syrups, herbs and spices, loose-leaf teas and hopes to become a community hangout

By Alison Rooney

ike connective tissue, a whole string of new Beacon businesses, prompted perhaps

by the opening of the Towne Crier Café a year and a half ago, have opened up not on the east end of Main, nor the west, but at points between. The latest, opening its doors on a frosty Valentine's Day, is More Good, which, along with its selection of hand-crafted, healthy soda syrup concentrates, bitters, cocktail ingredients, bar accouterments, herbs, spices and teas, is also a meeting place of sorts. A communal table, intended to serve as a community resource for

meetings, or just a stop-in for a pot of tea, is open to all, whether purchases are made or not. The large storefront also holds a commercial kitchen prep area, used not only by More Good

but other food startups.

There's a newly built bar with seating on the premises, too, though no alcoholic beverages are served. That bar hearkens back to More Good's beginnings, as the germination of this and More Good's line of syrups, which it has been wholesaling for a couple of years, began with owner Jason Schuler's stint behind the bar at Gleason's in Peekskill not so long ago.

A 20-year veteran of the bar and restaurant business — his first job was as a busboy, Schuler, who grew up in Hopewell Junction, said he "worked in bars and restaurants my whole life, trying to figure out what I would do with my life; meanwhile I was in training and didn't know it — I get enjoyment seeing other people enjoying themselves."

Schuler cut his teeth in the cocktail industry during a stretch living in L.A. where he said he "learned the history and culture of mixology, and how to make great cocktails with (To page 11)

Foodshed Talk Stresses Importance of Farming in Hudson Valley

Demand for local produce means protecting land for farming

By Brian PJ Cronin

he evening began with bad news. "I know you all probably thought we'd be drinking beer here tonight," joked Steve Rosenberg, Scenic Hudson's senior vice president, as he stood in the red barn known as the River Center on the shores of the Hudson River at

Beacon's Long Dock Park on Feb. 17. Alas, even though the event was titled "Local Beer via the Hudson Valley Foodshed," Rosenberg sadly explained that there would be no tastings tonight, and that the intrepid souls who had arrived bearing fresh growlers from Beacon's 2 Way Brewing Company with the intent of sharing them with the ample crowd would have to refrain.

It was the only sour note on a night filled with optimism as Rosenberg and



Farmland conserved by Scenic Hudson on Kerley Corners Road, Red Hook Photo by Robert Rodriguez Jr.

Emily Watson of Plan Bee Farm Brewery in Fishkill spoke about the Foodshed Conservation Plan, its many benefits to the Hudson Valley and how the foodshed

is supporting the emerging craft beer revolution overtaking the area. Their lecture was the first in a series of Tuesday evening lectures (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 philipstown.info. Send event listings to calendar@philipstown.info. See you around town!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Kids & Community

Pizza Night and Ice Cream Social

4-8 p.m. North Highlands Firehouse 504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring Call 845-265-9595 for takeout.

Frozen Sing-Along

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

Film & Theater

Tournées French Film Festival: *Blue Is the Warmest Color* (2013)

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

Through a Lens Darkly (Documentary, 2014)

7 p.m. Bardavon

35 Market St., Poughkeepsie 845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Almost Maine: A Romantic Comedy

8 p.m. The Beacon Theatre 445 Main St., Beacon 845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

Goblin Market (Musical)

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

Boeing-Boeing

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

Music

Open-Mic Night

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St., Beacon 845-831-4988 | Sign-up begins at 7:30 p.m.

Herbcraft

8 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St., Beacon 845-831-8065 | quinnsbeacon.com

Two Dollar Goat (Bluegrass)

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

Leo Kottke

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

Thrown Together

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

Jason Gisser

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

Sailing Stone

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

Jonny Rosch and Friends

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Kids & Community

Cold Spring Farmers' Market

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

Rooted FOREST PORTRAITS EXHIBITION RECEPTION

EXHIBITION Feb 21 thru Mar 15, 2015 RECEPTION Saturday, Feb 21, 5-7



GABE BROWN

Ladder to the SUN

paintings

Galleries open: Tues thru Sun 10 to 5

Garrison Art Center

23 Garrison's Landing Garrison, NY 10524

THE RIVERSIDE GALLERIES 845-424-3960 garrisonartcenter.org

17th Annual Polar Plunge

9 a.m. Registration opens | Noon. Plunge Sharpe Reservation | 436 Van Wyck Lake Road, Fishkill | polarplungeny.org/fishkill To benefit Special Olympics NY

Apprentice Beekeeping

10 a.m. Common Ground Farm 79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls 845-231-4424 | commongroundfarm.org

Learn & Serve Open House

10 a.m. - Noon. Scenic Hudson 8 Long Dock Road, Beacon 845-473-4440, ext. 273 | scenichudson.org

Secret Lives of Venomous Snakes

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

Free Admission

5 - 8 p.m. Mid-Hudson Children's Museum 75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie | mhcm.org

Minecraft Mania (grades 3-5)

5:30 - 7 p.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Sports

Army vs. American (Men's Basketball)

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

Art & Design

Cabin Fever Workshop: Introduction to Watercolor

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

Photo Apps Class

10 a.m. RiverWinds Gallery 172 Main St., Beacon 845-838-2880 | riverwindsgallery.com

Members Winter Walk

2 p.m. Storm King Art Center | 1 Museum Road, New Windsor | 845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Linda Puiatti: Paintings

3 - 6 p.m. RiverWinds Gallery 172 Main St., Beacon 845-838-2880 riverwindsgallery.com | Rescheduled from Feb. 14.

Garrison Art Center OpeningsGabe Brown: *Ladder to the Sun*

Julie Anne Mann: Rooted / Forest Portraits
5 - 7 p.m. 23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Howland Library Openings

Lynn Sweeney: Obstructed Memories

Markie Baylash: My Heroes Have Always Been

Strong Women | 5-7 p.m. 313 Main St., Beacon

845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Rescheduled from Feb. 14.

Film & Theater

Almost Maine: A Romantic Comedy

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

Boeing-Boeing

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

Goblin Market (Musical)

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

Music

Jazz Vespers

5:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church 10 Academy St., Cold Spring 845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Buckwheat Zydeco

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley 1008 Brown St., Peekskill 914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

Decoda (Chamber Ensemble)

8 p.m. Vassar College (Skinner Hall) 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie 845-437-5799 | vassar.edu

Valentine's Dance

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

Live Music

8 p.m. The Depot Restaurant
1 Depot Square, Cold Spring
845-265-5000 | coldspringdepot.com

Richie Goods and Nuclear Fusion

8 p.m. BeanRunner Café | Details under Friday

Luther 'Guitar Jr.' Johnson & The Magic Rockers

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

The Differents

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

Mike N Ed's Acoustic Adventure

9:30 p.m. Max's on Main See details under Friday.

Electric Beef

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

Joy on Fire

10 p.m. Division Street Guitars 36 N. Division St., Peekskill 914-737-2630 | divisionstreetguitars.com

Jonny Rosch and Friends

10 p.m. The Hudson Room See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures

Intro to Life Insurance Basics (Talk)

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







Architecture | Urban Planning | Passive House Sustainable Design | Historic Restoration | Interiors

8 Marion Ave, Suite 3, Cold Spring, NY 10516 845.265.2254 riverarchitects.com

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Kids & Community

Hudson Valley Renegades Job Fair

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Dutchess County Stadium 1500 Route 9D, Wappingers Falls 845-838-0094 | hvrenegades.com

Beacon Farmers Market

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

Fareground Community Pop-Up Cafe

Noon - 3 p.m. Beacon Community Resource Center 23 W. Center St., Beacon facebook.com/fareground

Teen Focus Group

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

Health & Fitness

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group

5 p.m. Cold Spring Healing Arts 6 Marion Ave., Cold Spring | 415-420-4358

Art & Design

Hudson Valley Modern Quilting Guild

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

Film & Theater

Sleeping Beauty Opera/Ballet (Film)

2 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley 1008 Brown St., Peekskill 914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

Goblin Market (Musical)

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

Almost Maine: A Romantic Comedy

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

Cabin Fever Film Series: Alice Neel and Eric Fischl

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

Music

Piano Festival: Inon Barnatan

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

Traditional Irish Session

6 - 8 p.m. Silver Spoon Cafe 124 Main St., Cold Spring 845-265-2525 | silverspooncs.com

Socks in the Frying Pan

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

Meetings & Lectures

Peekskill's Unknown African American Heroes (Talk)

2 p.m. Peekskill Museum 124 Union Ave., Peekskill 914-736-0473 | peekskillmuseum.org

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Kids & Community

Free Tax Assistance for Seniors & Low-Income

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St., Beacon 845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Books and Babies Early Literacy Program

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

Not Your Ordinary Meatloaf (Class)

11:30 a.m. & 7:15 p.m. St. Mary's Church 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring | chefstefny.com

Developmental Check-up (ages 2-4)

2 - 4 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St., Beacon 845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Health & Fitness

Supporting Your New Grandchild (Class)

4 p.m. Hudson Valley Hospital 1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor 914-734-3257 | hvhc.org/events

Meetings & Lectures

Book Club: Orphan Train

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

Zoning Board of Appeals

7:30 p.m. Town Hall | 238 Main St., Cold Spring 845-265-3329 | philipstown.com Rescheduled from Feb. 9

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Kids & Community

Howland Public Library

10:30 a.m. Baby & Me (ages 0-2)

4 p.m. Crazy 8s Math Club (grades 3-5) 313 Main St., Beacon 845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Paint Like the Masters (ages 7–10) (First Session)

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

Kids' Craft Hour (grades 2+)

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

Meetings & Lectures

Knitting Club

10 a.m. Howland Public Library | 313 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Highland Garden Club

Noon. Butterfield Library

10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Highland Knitters

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

Food + Social Enterprise (Panel)

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

Native Pollen Bees: The Unstung Heroes (Talk)

6 p.m. Scenic Hudson 8 Long Dock Road, Beacon

8 Long Dock Road, Beacon 845-473-4440, ext. 238 | scenichudson.org

Haldane School Board

7 p.m. Haldane School 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring 845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Board of Trustees

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

The Ice Harvesting Industry (Talk)

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Kids & Community

Howland Public Library

9:45 a.m. Come and Play (ages 0-3) 3 p.m. Toddler Tales (ages 2-3) See details under Tuesday.

(To page 10)



Frances (Fran) Murphy



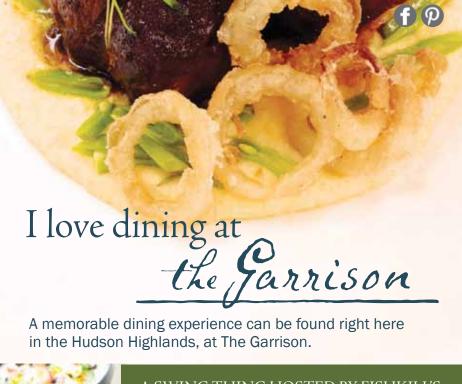
for Cold Spring Village Trustee

LET'S GET BACK TO BASICS

Get to know me. I want to know what's on your mind.

Join me for one of two "Meet & Greet" events:

- Complimentary breakfast buffet Wednesday, February 25,10 a.m.
 Silver Spoon Restaurant, 124 Main St.
- Complimentary hors d'oeuvres Sunday, March 8, 3 p.m.
 The Foundry, 55 Main St.





A SWING THING HOSTED BY FISHKILL'S VP ACADEMY LUIS PEREZ

Friday, February 27, 2015 • 7:00 pm

\$29+ per person: 1 Hour Class with 2 Course Menu \$9 per person: class only

VERITY WINE DINNER

Friday, March 6, 2015 • 7:00 pm \$79+ per person

Call for reservations

Dine. Stay. Celebrate. Discover 845-424-3604 · thegarrison.com



The Calendar (from page 9)

Desmond-Fish Library

10:30 a.m. Music & Motion for Toddlers 1:30 p.m. Preschool Story Hour 3:30 p.m. Lego Builders Club See details under Tuesday.

Battle of the Books Informational Meeting (grades 5-8)

3:30 p.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Passed Hors d'oeuvres: Swedish Meatballs

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

Health & Fitness

Diabetes and Nutrition (Talk)

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

Army vs. Boston University (Women's Basketball)

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

Meetings & Lectures

Dutchess County State of the County Address

5 p.m. Culinary Institute of America 1946 Campus Drive, Hyde Park dutchessny.gov/rsvp

BeaconArts Annual Meeting

6:30 p.m. 2 Way Brewing Company 18 West Main St., Beacon beaconarts.org | Rescheduled from Jan. 28

Budget Workshop

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

Recreation Commission

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

Support Groups

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

Historic District Review Board

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Kids & Community

Howland Public Library

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

Free Tax Assistance for Seniors & Low-Income

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Howland Public Library See details under Monday.

Butterfield Library

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

Winter Meat and Vegetable Store

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

Putnam County Chambers Trailblazers Awards

5:30 p.m. Villa Barone Hill Top Manor 466 Route 6, Mahopac 845-228-8595 | putnamchamberny.org

Cold Spring Area Chamber Mixer

6 p.m. Doug's Pretty Good Pub 54 Main St., Cold Spring 845-265-3200 | coldspringareachamber.org

Community Reads: The Misfits

6:45 p.m. Haldane Middle School 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring 845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Art & Design

Artist's Talk: Jaanika Peerna

7 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403, Garrison 845-265-3652 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Film & Theater

The London Stage: Macbeth

8 p.m. Vassar College (Martel Theater) 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie 845-437-5599 | vassar.edu

Music

Margaret McDuffie

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

Meetings & Lectures

Code Update Committee

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Kids & Community

Free Tax Assistance for Seniors & Low-Income

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Howland Public Library See details under Monday.

Navigating Healthcare Options

10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St., Beacon | 800-453-4666 misn-ny.org. Appointment required.

4-H Family Fun Over-Night 6 p.m. The Maritime Aquarium

845-278-6738 | counties.cce.cornell.edu/putnam

Swing Dance Class and Dinner

10 North Water St., Norwalk

7 p.m. The Garrison 2015 Route 9, Garrison 845-424-3604 | thegarrison.com

Art & Design

Group Show: The Big Draw (Opening)

6-9 p.m. The Catalyst Gallery 137 Main St., Beacon 845-204-3844 | catalystgallery.com

Film & Theater

International Film Night: O'Horten (Norway)

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

The London Stage: Macbeth

8 p.m. Vassar College (Martel Theater) See details under Thursday.

Music

Alexis Cole Ensemble

8 p.m. BeanRunner Café | Details under Feb. 20

Duke Robillard Band

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe See details under Feb. 20.

Live Music

9 p.m. Max's on Main | See details under Feb. 20.

Last-Minute Soul Mates

9 p.m. Whistling Willie's | Details under Feb. 20

Drew Bordeaux & the Cavalry

9:30 p.m. 12 Grapes | Details under Saturday

Showtime Dance Band 10 p.m. The Hudson Room | Details under Feb. 20

Meetings & Lectures

Garrison Institute

3 p.m. Enlightened Leadership: Becoming a Force for Positive Change (Opens)

3 p.m. Oppression in the Soma Retreat (Opens) 14 Mary's Way, Garrison

845-424-4800 | garrisoninstitute.org

Norma and Peter Stanford: A Dream of Tall Ships (Talk and Signing)

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

ONGOING

Art & Design

Visit philipstown.info/galleries

Religious Services

Visit philipstown.info/services

Meetings & Lectures

Alcoholics Anonymous

Visit philipstown.info/aa

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Beacon Just Got 'More Good' (from page 7)

real ingredients — the art form of what cocktails used to be."

On returning to this area, he wound up at Gleason's, which he enjoyed because "it was far enough away from New York City that I was able to educate people. They'd ask questions and engage in dialogue about how things were made; there was a genuine interest."

While at Gleasons, Schuler fine-tuned his syrup making, and in December 2012 he was asked by a regular if he could make 12 bottles of his syrup for purchase as Christmas gifts for friends and family. "I said yes. It was a lightbulb moment. That night, I pitched my idea to a friend, and with a \$2,000 investment I started my business, taking orders from behind the bar, and it took off from there."

The core of the business is the soda syrups, which can be used as a cocktail ingredient, seltzer flavoring or as a healthy soda-like substitute. All of the spices used are crushed by mortar and pestle and are organic. There are currently three flavors, Cassia Kream, Ginger Ale and Root Beer, with two "testers" — lemon/lime and orange — likely to appear soon.

Schuler's concept of the business has included one stipulation from the start: "The company has to have a huge philanthropic component. The bottom line is that we want to help take care of the community and the planet."

Determining that a charity focused on water would fit in best with what More Good was creating, Schuler started researching and found generosity.org, a nonprofit dedicated to ending the clean water crisis in developing countries, one community at a time.

"Over a billion people don't have access to clean water," Schuler said. "We

reached out to them and made a promise to donate at least \$4,000 a year to them plus 10 percent of our net profit. In our first year we raised over \$6,000, and then last year we decided on a one-day fundraising event, where we raised \$17,000 in 24 hours through the community; we provided a platform for people to do inherently what they want to do."

Whole Foods

Lately the business has escalated after Whole Foods decided to stock More Good products. "We started with Whole Foods last June, with just one store, in Albany. Then we got their flagship store in Brooklyn in July, all seven Manhattan stores in November, and we'll be supplying the whole Northeast from March onwards. So in less than a year we've gone from one to 32 Whole Foods stores," Schuler explained.

During More Good's first year, they opened up a "tester" 200-square-foot retail store across from Homespun further west along Main Street. Initially a spice station, they added in bar supplies and quickly outgrew that space. The larger space was needed for more production room, of which they have an ample supply now, with a large portion of the new space devoted to the kitchen and dry storage area, which is open to view on one side.

The kitchen serves not only More Good, but other local food businesses, including Cold Spring retailer/wholesaler Go-Go Pops. Schuler, who said there is a "need for a community commercial kitchen," envisions it as a "full incubation services kitchen, a place for getting ideas to market. We will offer really reasonable hourly rates, which will make it accessible to very small food businesses just starting out or expanding."



Shelves, soon to be filled with books, overlook a community table at More Good.

Photo by A. Rooney

Schuler said he chose Beacon as his base of operations after initially considering Brooklyn. He's glad that he did: "It's a cool, vibrant community, and we're happy to be here."

The new space was empty, and More Good was able to design it to their own specifications and construct much of their furnishings with reclaimed, donated wood and other materials, examples being the bar, which is made from old doors that were once used by a friary near Peekskill, and the checkout table, which in its earlier life performed that same duty at the now-closed Nichols Hardware. That one of the More Good business partners is an industrial designer is evident through the stylish, warm, wood-filled interior.

The demands of attention to the wholesaling end of things has meant a delayed opening of this new space, for which a lease was signed in October 2013 with an earlier opening anticipated. "Wholesaling has taken so much time, and we had to sacrifice an earlier

opening to continue growing at the pace we've been at," Schuler explained.

Aside from their own line of soda syrups, all of the other products are retail. Among these are over 50 varieties of bitters, which Schuler described as being "what salt and pepper are to a chef, bitters are to a drink — they accentuate." Other cocktail-associated products like mixers, boxed water, stuffed olives and maraschino cherries line the shelves in one corner, while a wide sampling of organic, fair-trade herbs and spices — "all of the highest grade possible" — are adjacent, along with an assortment of tea leaves. A line of More Good-blended teas is planned for the future. There are also bar- and food-related books available for sale.

More Good is located at 383 Main St. in Beacon and is open seven days a week, Wednesday through Monday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, visit drinkmoregood.com or their Facebook page.

Foodshed Talk Stresses Importance of Farming (from page 7)

on local produce that Scenic Hudson will be presenting for the next month at the River Center. Future lectures will focus on native pollen bees (Feb. 24), soil regeneration (March 3), gardening with kids (March 10) and conservation easements (March 24). All lectures run from 6 to 7 p.m. and are open to the public.

While the idea of a watershed is a familiar one, the idea of defining a regional "foodshed" is less well known, even though the concept is over 85 years old. W.P. Hedden, an economist who worked for the N.Y. and N.J. Port Authority, first coined the term in his 1929 book How Great Cities Are Fed. Whereas a watershed is primarily tangible - the dikes, dams, slopes and creeks that allow water to converge at a single point - a foodshed is defined not only by the landscape, but by the economic structures and relationships that allow food to travel from the place it's produced to the cities and towns in which it's consumed.

The Hudson Valley foodshed is made up of over 5,000 farms that feed the valley itself and New York City. Although the amount of food that the valley supplies to the five boroughs is significant — over 85 percent of the foods featured at New York City Greenmarkets come from the Hudson Valley — it's nowhere near enough to meet the city's ravenous demand. According to Rosenberg, recent studies estimate that the monetary value in unmet demand for fresh, local food in New York City is in the neighborhood of \$1 billion. "That's a big number, and it means a lot to local farmers," he explained. "If you know there's this unlimited demand for what you're producing, that means that

as long as you can produce it economically, hold onto your land and manage the competition, that you can make it because the market is there."

Farms need farmers

Tourism and agriculture remain the Hudson Valley's top two economic engines, so protecting and expanding the amount of farmland available is a critical part of sustaining the foodshed. Through conservation easements, over 80,000 acres of farmland have currently been preserved. With an easement in place, these parcels of land have become permanently restricted to agricultural and associated uses, protecting wildlife and aquifers in the process. But approximately 650,000 acres of farmland in the foodshed remain unprotected. Scenic



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The 125th Street Fresh Connect Market, which is the Bronx CSA of the New York
City Coalition Against Hunger

Photo by Terence Duvall

Hudson has identified 163,673 acres of that land within nine clusters as the highest priority going forward in terms of determining what to protect.

It won't be cheap. Scenic Hudson estimates that it $\,$ (Continued on page 14)

Philipstown Depot Theatre presents:

PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE

Goblin Market

Feb. 20 & 21, 8 p.m. • Feb. 22, 2 p.m. • Tickets \$25

Cabaret in the Country presents:

Aspects of Andrew Lloyd Webber hosted by Phil Geoffrey Bond Feb. 28, 8 p.m. • Tickets: \$30

Depot Docs presents:

1971 including reception and Q & A with the director after the film March 6, 7:30 p.m. • Tickets: \$20

Classical Music Weekend: Four Classics

- Michael Musgrave in Concert March 13, 8 p.m.
- Michael Musgrave Master Class with students from Vassar, New Paltz and Bard • March 14, 2 p.m.
- Young Artists Evening of Opera, Lieder and More hosted by Bente Strong March 14, 7 p.m.
- Trio Jardin: Rachel Evans on viola, Joy Plaisted on harp, and Anthony Bolotowsky on flute play selections from the classics
 March 15, 4 p.m.

www.brownpapertickets.com

845.424.3900 • www.philipstowndepottheatre.org Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station.)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



HVSF's new managing director Kate Liberman Photo courtesy of HVSF

HVSF Hires New Managing Director Kate Liberman

Experienced theater administrator joins in March

The Hudson Valley Shakespeare Fes-The Hudson vaney change the aptival (HVSF) announces the appointment of Kate Liberman as its new managing director. Reporting to HVSF's Board of Directors, and working in partnership with Artistic Director Davis Mc-Callum, Liberman will be responsible for all administrative and operational aspects of HVSF's activities.

With an MFA in theater management from the Yale School of Drama and an MBA from the Yale School of Management, Liberman has devoted her career to theater administration, serving Yale Repertory Theatre as associate managing director, Berkeley Repertory Theatre as a managing director fellow, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts as assistant manager in development. She is currently general manager of the Laguna Playhouse, a \$4.5 million regional theater in Laguna Beach, California, which is entering its 95th season. Liberman will join HVSF in March.

Robin Arditi, president of the HVSF Board, said: "We are delighted to welcome Kate as our new managing director. She is an exciting new leader in the

administration, with great energy, intelligence, and commitment mission HVSF's and the power of theater to enrich our lives and build community. Her experience, training and consistently high record achievement convinced us that she will be a superb partner to Davis in leading

field of theater

HVSF in its next phase of development."

On accepting the position, Liberman said: "This is a remarkable organization that engages the community, young artists, and students through its dynamic productions and impactful theater education programs. I look forward to contributing to and continuing the wonderful work that has defined HVSF for the last 28 years."

Liberman succeeds Maggie Whitlum, who left HVSF in the fall to return to England with her husband, who took up a post at Oxford University. Since then, the HVSF administrative staff has been led by Jared Goldstein as interim managing director and Mona Smith as deputy interim managing director. Arditi said, "The Board is deeply appreciative of the staff's exemplary teamwork during

this transition period, as they executed our sold-out 'second stage' productions during the fall, planned for our diverse and innovative in-school education programs, and set the stage for what promises to be a terrific 2015 summer season."

HVSF's 2015 summer season opens June 9 and continues through Sept. 1. Online ordering for the 2015 season begins March 1, and the box office opens May 19. For more information about tickets and shows, visit hvshakespeare.org.

Tennessee Williams at **Depot Theatre March 28**

Blue Horse Repertory in three plays by Williams and Durang

"natching the eternal out of the des-Operately fleeting, is the great magic trick of human existence," wrote Tennessee Williams, in just one of his many musings about life, art and the nature of the creative spirit that will be illuminated in Tennessee Williams, Straight Up With a Twist of Durang, at the Philipstown Depot Theatre at 8 p.m. on March 28. The Blue Horse Repertory Company will three short works by the two playwrights; actors will include Judy Allen, Elizabeth Breslin, Lora Lee Ecobelli, Andrew Joffe, James Occhino and Nancy Rothman.

The Blue Horse Repertory Company is a professional theatre company dedi-



The Blue Horse Repertory performs Tennessee Williams, Straight Up With a Twist of Durang. Photo courtesy of Blue Horse Repertory

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cated to providing an inclusive and collaborative environment where professional actors, writers and musicians can rediscover the classics, develop new work and apply themselves to creating a richer cultural experience for the whole community. In addition to providing quality performances, the company offers diverse educational opportunities and outreach programs through the Blue Horse Repertory's Acting School.

Tickets for the performance are \$20 for adults and \$15 for seniors and students. For reservations and more information, call the Depot Theatre at 845-424-3900. The Depot Theatre is at 10 Garrison's Landing in Garrison.

The Blue Horse Repertory will also present Three by Tennessee, a staged reading of three Tennessee Williams short plays, at 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 7, at Arts on the Lake, Lake Carmel Arts Center, 640 Route 52 in Kent Lakes. Tickets are \$15 and \$12 for members. For reservations, call 845-228-AOTL (2685).

Visit bluehorserepertory.com.

Marty Elkins to Perform at Jazz Vespers Feb. 21

Village Vanguard waitress turned music therapist to sing

Marty Elkins, a highly regarded jazz singer, will perform at the Jazz Vespers at 5:30 p.m. this Saturday, Feb. 21, at the First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown, 10 Academy St. in Cold Spring.

Elkins was featured in JazzTimes in an October 2014 interview on her growth as a musician, from the early influence of Billie Holliday to her job waitressing at the Village Vanguard in New York City. She honed her singing skills by absorbing the musical styles of major jazz artists while working three nights a week at the Vanguard and singing whenever possible on her off nights. She confessed that at times she was so engrossed in the music that her customers left without paying their bills. As the jazz scene began to wane she returned to school to put her skills to use in musical therapy, serving first at St. Vincent's Hospital and later in private practice.

Admission is free but donations are welcomed.

Lion Cubs Visit M&T Bank to Learn About Finance

Piggy banks help cubs save money for themselves and others

The Lion Cubs of Pack 137 have been lacksquare busy during these winter months focusing on responsibility and finance. The Lion Cubs had fun creating and decorating piggy banks, with a lesson about saving money for themselves, as well as saving money to donate to charitable organizations within their community. The Lion Cubs would like to thank M&T Bank of Cold Spring for setting up a tour of the bank and activities for them to do. This was an excellent opportunity for them to learn about what a bank does and how it helps people with their money.

The Alternet Card Catalog at Two Libraries

Carla Rae Johnson's piece in Desmond-Fish, Butterfield

The *Alternet*, a collaborative project con-**L** ceived and organized by artist/sculptor Carla Rae Johnson, will be on exhibit at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison from Feb. 17 through March 27 and at the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring from March 31 through May 23. An opening reception will take place Saturday, April 3, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Butterfield Library.

In 2010, Johnson purchased an old wooden card catalog with 50 drawers. The catalog sat dormant in her studio for a year and a half while she contemplated how to use it. Finally, the idea emerged to honor its original function: fill the drawers with cards, hundreds of individual cards. That was when she invited every creative individual she knew to collaborate with her on the project. More than 70 artists, writers and creative thinkers are participating in the Alternet. The 50-drawer cabinet is now home to more than 15.000 works of art.

With two other card-catalog projects (works by Barbara Page and Joanne Wilcox), the Alternet has been exhibited in 10 venues since it was completed in 2012. Under the banner "Artists in the Archives," the card catalogs were installed in libraries in New York and New Jersey as well as at BookWorks in Asheville. North Carolina. In June of 2015, the Alternet will travel to Galesburg, Illinois, where it will be installed over the summer in the Blick Contemporary Art Gallery at the Galesburg Civic Arts Center.

This exhibit is free and open to the public during regular library hours. For more information, contact the Desmond-Fish Library at 845-424-3020 and the Butterfield Library at 845-265-3040, or visit desmondfishlibrary.org and butterfieldlibrary.org.

Gallery 66 NY Presents **Designer Challenge**

Opening reception on First Friday, March 6

his March, Gallery 66 NY will be do-**▲** ing something a little different. Three interior designers will create vignettes in each of the gallery's rooms. The challenge is for designers to use artwork and create a room or vignette around it, in a fusion of work and play, life and leisure, interior design and fine art.

Interior designers participating in

the challenge are Nicole Ashey of Burlock Home in Beacon; Lisa Mc-Ternan of Lifestyles and Interiors by Lisa in Crotonon-Hudson; and Maryann Syrek of M Studio Gallery in Garrison.

An advocate for sustainability and the local economy, Ashey has designed a playful and contemporary space enti-(To next page)



Lion Cubs at M&T Bank in Cold Spring

Photo provided

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

(From previous page) tled "Humans for Breakfast." The emphasis is on the human connection as illustrated through its most prominent feature — a collaborative wall covering using the work of Rebecca Darlington and Donald Alter. Ashey has won two awards from Houzz and has been featured in Poughkeepsie Journal, Hudson Valley Life and Chronogram.

McTernan has been shown in the pages of *Good Housekeeping*, *Woman's Day* and on HGTV. As a designer and teacher she mixes custom pieces sprinkled with unusual antique and vintage finds, as witnessed in her retail shop in Croton. McTernan brings her chic, cool and casual style to Gallery 66 with a room entitled "Elements of Nature."

Syrek creates "The Garden of Sumptuous Silence." This design vignette beckons one to the place of silent, meditative relaxation that only a garden delivers. The elements of this design utilize close-up photographs of insects and small animals by Jane Marcy. Syrek has published award-winning designs showcased in Westchester Home magazine and has been a featured designer in showhouses throughout New York and New Jersey.

The opening reception is Friday, March 6, from 6 to 9 p.m. The exhibit is on view March 6 through 29. Regular winter hours are Thursday through Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. For more information call 845-809-5838 or visit gallery66ny.com.

Diabetes Program at Butterfield Library

Self-management sessions in March and April

he Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library, in Partnership with the Westchester Independent Living Center Health and Wellness Series, presents a Diabetes Self Management Program. This six-week workshop series is for adults age 18 and older who have been diagnosed with diabetes or caregivers for those with diabetes. This workshop is geared for Type 2 diabetes, but persons diagnosed with Type 1 are welcome. Topics to be covered, but not limited to, include: making an action plan, nutrition and healthy eating, stress management, monitoring blood sugar, and working with a health care professional.

This six-week program will take place Tuesday mornings, March 3, 10, 24 and 31 (no class March 17) and April 7 and 14, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the main reading room of the Butterfield Library. Registration is required; this is not a drop-in program. Information presented each week will build on the previous week's class. To register, access the Butterfield Library's online calendar at butterfieldlibrary.org and register on the calendar on the homepage, or call 845-265-3040 and ask to speak with Luanne Morse.

Actors From the London Stage Perform *Macbeth*

Vassar offers free performances Feb. 26–28

Actors From the London Stage is one of the oldest touring Shakespeare theater companies in the world, and they will be performing *Macbeth* at Vassar College Feb. 26–28.

The company has an innovative approach: Five actors perform all the parts in the play, each handling multiple roles. The group tours approximately 16 to 20 colleges and universities each year with the goal of making Shakespeare exciting and accessible to new audiences.

The performances at Vassar are free

and open the public. Each show begins at 8 p.m. in the Martel Theater of the Vogelstein Center for Drama and Film. Reservations are required. Contact boxoffice@vassar.edu or 845-437-5599 to reserve.

Actors From the London Stage performers hail from such stages as the Royal Shakespeare Company and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre.

For information about accessibility at and directions to Vassar's campus, visit vassar.edu.

Scenic Hudson Presents Events in March, April

Gardening for kids, eel monitoring training and lectures

Scenic Hudson will present several events to the community this spring.

Tuesday, March 10, 6 to 7 p.m. – Engaging Kids Through Gardening (lecture), Scenic Hudson's River Center, Beacon: After offering basic tips for starting a garden with children, educators from Hudson Valley Seed will demonstrate handson projects for garden-based learning and inspiration. Participants will receive a seed starter kit and ideas for beginning a window box or backyard garden.

Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m. to noon – Eel Monitoring Training Day, Black Creek Preserve, Esopus: The Hudson River Estuary Program and Scenic Hudson seek volunteers to monitor eels in Black Creek from March 21 to June 1. Volunteers will learn how to catch, count, weigh and release unharmed these important fish whose populations are declining. Your data may help biologists discover why.

Tuesday, March 24, 6 to 7 p.m. – Conservation Easments: What, Why & How? (lecture), Scenic Hudson's River Center, Beacon: Scenic Hudson Assistant Land Conservation Director Cari Watkins-Bates and Alex Reese of Obercreek Farm LLC in Wappingers Falls will lead a discussion on conservation easements — what they are, why they're important for protecting farms and our local foodshed, and who benefits when land is protected through an easement (hint: we all do).

Saturday, April 4, 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Free Guided History Tours, West Point Foundry Preserve, Cold Spring: Tours will focus on the foundry's 100-year history, its operations and diverse workforce, and Scenic Hudson's efforts to protect and interpret the remains of this industrial powerhouse while preserving the land's natural beauty.

For information on these programs, contact Anthony Coneski at 845-473-4440, ext. 273, or visit scenichudson.org

Beacon

Clearwater Starts Online Songwriting Project

Month-long contest to write verses to climate change song

Hudson River Sloop Clearwater has launched a unique "Build-a-Song" online project that aims to engage any-and-all comers in helping write a new anthem about climate change.

The organization that folksinger Pete Seeger founded some 46 years ago will employ modern technology to enable old-timey collaboration among musicians and songwriters from — potentially, at least — every corner of the globe.

Clearwater's music director, Linda Richards, says Build-a-Song provides a new means for musical collaboration, allowing participants to upload their work on one of three easily accessible songsharing sites. The songwriting process



Clearwater's Power of Song apprentices

Photo courtesy of Clearwater

starts with a month-long contest to create four verses for an original chorus.

"It is easy, anyone can participate, and we are going to walk you through it," said Richards, who wrote the chorus for the tune, called "Don't Walk Away." Directions for the song writing process and a recording of the chorus done by Clearwater's Power of Song group is available on clearwater.org, under the banner "Music."

Participants can pick an online site to record their own original verses and submit them by email before March 20. Richards said 20 finalists will be selected by a jury that includes the Power of Song youth apprentices. "Then, anyone can go online and vote for their favorites, and the winners will become the song," said Richards, who founded the Power of Song program in collaboration with Seeger, who died last year at 93.

Power of Song will perform the final version of the song at this year's Great Hudson River Revival festival in Croton-on-Hudson on June 20 and 21.

For more information, contact Linda Richards at linda@clearwater.org.

Howland Center Presents Women's Exhibit in March

Artists honored again this women's history month

The month of March is officially designated National Women's History Month, when the nation honors and recognizes women as an important force in American history: in transforming culture, history, politics, as leaders, writers, scientists, educators, historians, artists and much more.

The Howland Cultural Center proudly joins once again in this annual celebration with an exhibition of 34 artists: Gabrielle Bell,

Jennifer Blakeslee, Alissa Corrado, Deb Davidovits, Carolyn De Michel, Virginia Donovan, Regina Dueno, Ronnie Farley, Stephanie Fogarty, Carol Flaitz, Tarryl Gabel, Karen Gersch, MaryAnn Glass, Erica Hauser, Linda Hubbard, Insun Kim, Galina Krasskova, Pat Lane, Helen Lang, Carol Loizides, Basha Maryanska, Bibiana Huong-Matheis, Cynthia Mc-Cusker, Jackie Merritt, Susanne Moss, Angelika Rinnhofer, Janet Ruhe-Schoen, Chris Sanders, Teresa Schmittroth, Eleni Smolen, Caitlin Strom, Robyn Tauss, Kate Vikstrom and Catherine Welshman. The artists offer a variety of work featuring paintings, sculpture and photography. This exhibit is another representation of the quality of artistic expression that contributes significantly to the spiraling reputation of Beacon as a mecca for the arts in the Hudson Valley.

The exhibition opens on Saturday, March 7, with a reception from 3 to 5 p.m., to which the public is invited to meet the artists. It will show from March 7 through 29 with gallery hours every Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, from 1 to 5 p.m. Exceptions to this schedule take place on Sunday, March 8 and 29 for concerts presented by the Howland Chamber Music Circle.

For further information call 845-831-4988 or visit howlandculturalcenter.org. The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St. in Beacon.



007@72 by Insun Kim Photo courtesy of Howland Cultural Center

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Thinking of Raising Chickens in Your Backyard? (from page 6)

"and I can work with preexisting space or set up something new."

She arrived in Philipstown almost accidentally - a magazine left in Langley's New York City mailroom opened to a page displaying an ad from McCaffrey Realty got her attention, and soon thereafter she found herself owning a small weekend house in Cold Spring; Sept. 11 prompted her departure from year-round residency there, and circumstances (including meeting her husband

Robert) led the former Mount Holyoke art history major and Parsons School of Design interior design graduate to country roads and a life with chickens.

She's happy about it. "Discovering new information is endless and that's the fun of it. They're such nice creatures, you want to do everything for them, and then they will make good eggs. We grow our eggs with love and want to share that passion with others."

Langley will be presenting at the Cold

Spring Farmers Market on March 7, from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. She'll be available to answer any questions and to talk to anyone interested in her consulting services. For information on both her

egg deliveries and her consulting services, contact her at 845-705-0259 or hometoroost.bccs@gmail.com, or visit the chickiewhiskers.eggs Facebook page.

Foodshed Talk Stresses Importance of Farming (from page 11)

will cost around \$720 million to protect those clusters of farmland in perpetuity. And all that protected farmland is going to need someone to farm it. Local farmers are retiring faster than they can be succeeded by new blood. Rosenberg grimly noted that the average age for a farmer in the Hudson Valley is currently 58.

Fortunately there are some young farmers in the Valley, such as Emily and Evan Watson. They're the young couple who run Plan Bee Farm Brewery at their farm in Fishkill, although they've recently announced an ambitious plan to expand to a 25-acre farm in Poughkeepsie with enough space to increase their current production eight times over.

Plan Bee's beers are unique in that they are entirely dependent on the local foodshed to be produced. "Everyone knows where their local brewery is," Emily explained. "But those locations are where they make the beer, and not necessarily where the ingredients come from." At Plan Bee, 100 percent of the ingredients come from within New York state, with many of them being grown on the farm itself. This includes honey from the farm's hives that are used in the brewing process. While this would seem to safely qualify the farm's beers as "local," for the Watsons it's not quite local enough. And their goals going forward illustrate the dedication that the next generation of Hudson Valley farmers will need to have in order to act not just as farmers, but stewards of the land.

"Our goal is to reduce the radius of where our ingredients come from over the next few years until I can finally say that I personally planted and processed everything that goes into our beer," said Emily.

That's a goal that's worth raising a glass to — even if that glass can't be raised at the River Center itself.

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Roots and Shoots

A Horoscope for Your Garden, So to Speak

By Pamela Doan

he Farmers' Almanac has always been a little indecipherable to me. Its instructions leave no room for error. It's been continually in print since 1818 and I find its pages of planting wisdom intimidating — what if I'm busy on April 14–15 and plant my vine crops on April 17 instead? Are they doomed?

I do enjoy the sections with household management tips, though, like an easy method to pit an avocado and a homemade solution for weed control (dish soap). In the past 20 years, the *Almanac* is no longer just an annual publication. There is a website, eBooks, a TV show, an email newsletter and social media presence on Pinterest and Facebook.

If you've ever looked at the *Almanac*, it's very specific. Their Gardening Calendar lists the best days for everything from planting to pest control and pruning. For example, it says for Feb. 20–21, "Seeds planted now will grow poorly and yield little." (Agreed, since my garden is underneath 3 feet of snow.) On Feb. 22–23, the *Almanac's* calendar says it is "fine for planting beans, peppers, cucumbers, melons, and other aboveground crops where climate is suitable."

When I interviewed Sandi Duncan, the managing editor, who is the first woman to edit the Almanac, I asked her how the calendar is developed and why it is so

absolute about the results of performing various garden duties on particular days. Duncan said: "It's been the *Almanac* tradition forever. What a lot of people believe is that the moon has a pull on the earth, think of the tides, and depending on what phase the moon is in, it pulls the water up to the surface, making the ground more fertile. There's a little folklore in it, but people have followed it and get the best results." While the *Almanac* doesn't guarantee their predictions, they do stand by their time-tested formula.

While they couched their responses to my questions to protect their secret formula, I did learn more about this approach.

Is everything on the Gardening Calendar based on moon phases?

"It's not only based on the phase of the moon, but where the moon is located astrologically speaking. Formulas for various activities are either based on the zodiac signs or moon phases or both. Each zodiac sign supposedly has a specific nature/character. They are fruitful (productive) or barren; dry or moist; masculine or feminine; fixed or movable/ flexible, earthy, airy, fiery or watery. All of which can enhance, complement, hinder or retard an activity. Same with the moon phases. The various phases can enhance, complement or hinder or have no impact at all on activities. All of which our formula takes into consideration."

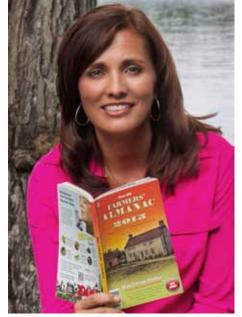
What is the difference between planting grains and hay on a certain day and aboveground crops at a different time?

"Based on age-old formulas and beliefs, certain zodiac signs are associated with various gardening chores/planting. For example, if the moon is in Sagittarius it's believed to be a bad time to plant, but a good time to kill plants. So this is how and why certain days suggest aboveground crops and others below."

What does pest control have to do with moon phases? What makes a barren period?

"When looking at planting dates our formulas will take into consideration those signs that are best or good and those that are specific to the item being planted (such as hay) and then throw in the proper moon phases and there you see differences in dates when looking at aboveground crops versus hay/grain crops. Same with killing pests. You would follow the fiery, barren signs (Aries is a fiery, barren sign) to ensure the hindrance of future growth or development."

Lunar gardening is described as an ancient tradition, and while I couldn't find anyone I know who uses this method, there are websites devoted to it, and they share similar statements about waxing and waning cycles. The general idea is to plant when the moon is waxing and has the strongest gravitational pull on the



Sandi Duncan, *Farmers' Almanac* editor, with the 2015 annual edition

Photo by Angimarie Photography

Earth, and to leave plants alone when the moon has waned. That's the time to kill weeds.

I asked Jennifer Stengle, community educator in the Horticulture Program at the Cornell Cooperative Extension in Putnam County, if she knew of any scientific evidence for this method. Stengle said: "None whatsoever, though the lunar calendar did provide a framework of time. The moon has no gravitational effect on something as small as a human, much less as small as a plant." Once again, it all comes down to the soil.

Camera Catches Carrion Carried Off (from page 1)

Mountain Zoo as well as scientific research in Harriman and Bear Mountain State Parks, has reflected upon the advent of trail cameras and what we're learning from the often-surprising images we collect off their convenient SD cards. "We all know a lot about African animals, like lions and other predators, from growing up watching all those nature TV programs. But here in the thickly wooded eastern forest, we really don't know what happens," he said. "One thing that's being revealed," he continued, "is that cryptic animals like bobcats are more common than we thought. We've also seen that multiple

species will feed in close proximity to each other, which is certainly not typical. I've seen photos of a fox feeding on one end of a deer and a raccoon on the other. Or eagles and ravens and vultures all within a few yards of each other. The images also give us a sense of how important deer meat is to them, especially during a winter

as cold as this one."

Stowell said that his educators are learning something about the personalities of the animals that come to the carcasses. "Coyotes are shy and careful. They're so smart. They sense that something is weird or different about the setup of the carcasses, so they're not the first to come in to feed. But then they see the crows and the ravens and probably figure it's OK."

Traditional questions and assumptions about dominance and hierarchy are also being pondered. "We put a dead deer in a big open field," said Ed McGowan,





A coyote and raven near the Taconic Outdoor Education Center

Photos courtesy of New York State Department of Parks

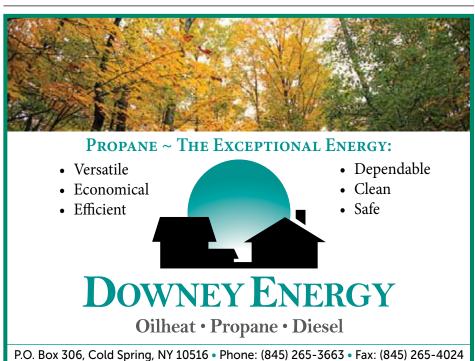
"that we thought would appeal to eagles, and we were thrilled to see a rare golden eagle show up. Then the bald eagles came in, but the golden defended the carcass. Goldens, it turns out, are usually the boss."

McGowan went on to describe a scene

captured on another camera setup that showed an opossum walking straight into a carcass that had already been discovered by a bobcat and a coyote, who were standing just yards away. "He just walked in, impervious, right between them. How about that?!"



A bobcat was photographed at Sterling Forest in Rockland County.



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Sports

By Peter Farrell

Philipstown Soccer Club to Host Referee Training Course

he Philipstown Soccer Club (PSC) will host a youth soccer referee course for adults and children age 14 or older, on an upcoming Saturday this spring.

The one-day course is for a Level 8 Certification that allows recipients to referee youth soccer travel games, earning anywhere from \$25 to \$80 per game, depending on the age level of the team. Fourteen-year-olds receive a Level 9 Certification. The PSC has arranged for the Hudson Valley Referee Association to commit on-field mentors for all new referees at games beginning this spring.

With the popularity and growth of soccer in the Hudson Valley, the numbers of games have outpaced the number

of qualified referees, so there is a great need for new referees. The PSC plays upwards of 100 home games per year, and neighboring towns add to that number. A qualified referee is almost assured game assignments, based upon their availability on any given Sunday, spring and fall.

The PSC is currently asking interested people to email interest (name and age) to Craig Roffman at info@philipstown-soccerclub.org.

The cost of the program is \$225 and includes certification, referee uniforms, cards and flags. In the case that not enough applicants reply, interested applicants will be directed to a nearby class in an adjoining town.

Share Your Sports News With Our Readers

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Include the name of the photographer, and caption information for photos.





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Devyn Kelly, left, Alex Kubik, Madison Chiera and Taylor Farrell advance to the Knights of Columbus regional free-throw competitions.

Photo by Peter Farrell

Free-Throw Winners Advance to Regional Competition

By Dan Dillon, Free-Throw Coordinator, Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus Loretto Council No. 536 sent eight boys and girls to the District 54 Free-Throw Competition, which was held on Feb. 14 at St. Mary's School Gym in Fishkill, and four of them came home winners.

Moving on to the regional competition on Saturday, March 15, at the St. Columba School Gym in Hopewell Junction will be Devyn Kelly, who shot 6 for 25 in the 9-year-old girls' bracket; Madison Chiera, who took the 10-year-old girls' bracket by shooting 15 for 25; Taylor Farrell, who shot 14 for 25 in the 12-year-old girls' bracket; and Alex Kubik, who shot 16 for 25 in the 12-year-old boys' bracket. Each winner in the district competition was presented a medal by the district deputy Nick Longo.

The winners of the regional competition will advance to the Downstate Regional Tournament to be held in late March.

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