Cold Spring Election Signals Changes
Referendum is Official
By Michael Turton
After a count of 88 absentee ballots, the Putnam County Board of Elections confirmed on March 22 the passage of a referendum by Cold Spring voters a week earlier that will move the village election from March to November in 2018. The final tally was 372 in favor and 317 opposed.

The absentee ballots added 32 “yes” votes and 26 “no” votes.

Absentee ballots also had no impact on the election of Steve Voloto and Lynn Miller as village trustees. They yielded 36 votes for Miller, 30 votes for Voloto and 33 for Barney Molloy.

The BOE also tallied 53 write-in votes for Frank Haggerty and 28 for Charles Hustis III after last-minute campaigns.

State Prepares to Battle Zika
Will test mosquitoes and distribute larvicide
By Kevin E. Foley
Hoping to prevent the spread in New York of the Zika virus, which is thought to contribute to microcephaly and other birth defects, Gov. Andrew Cuomo has initiated an “action plan” led by the state health department to increase mosquito eradication, coordinate reporting and treatment, provide emergency response when the mosquito-borne virus is discovered and educate the public about prevention.

The World Health Organization has declared the virus to be an international public health emergency and expects some four million people to be infected by the end of the year.

The Putnam County Health Department reported an infection in February in a patient who traveled to an outbreak country, one of what is now 49 known cases across the state. Dutchess and Westchester counties have not had infections reported.

State officials said they would deploy traps in 1,000

Beacon Superintendent Search A Work in Progress
Teachers call for board to extend interim’s tenure
By Jeff Simms
The Beacon City School District hopes to take another step toward finding a new superintendent on Monday, March 28, by giving the district’s attorney, Michael Lambert, the go-ahead to find a professional search firm to identify candidates for the job.

The district has moved deliberately since Superintendent Barbara Walkley resigned in January — in part because interim chief Ann Marie Quaritoni has filled the post competently — but school board President Melissa Thompson said Wednesday that she hopes the search will pick up steam soon.

“We have so many invested stakeholders right now, and we’ve spent so many years trying to improve,” she said. “But we’re not where we want to be. We need to get this search underway quickly.”

The past 18 months have, in many ways, been the climax of a decade of tumult within the Beacon district. Eight superintendents — five “permanent” and three interim — have presided over the district since the retirement in 2006 of Vito DiCesare. Since late 2014, the district has been rocked by accusations of impropriety, so much so that one parent petitioned the state Education Department to have Walkley and Lambert removed, while Walkley and former teachers’ union head Kimberly Pilla have a lawsuit pending against Pilla’s ex-husband for defamation and the “shredding” of their careers.

Thompson, a nine-year board member, has been on hand for many of those post-DiCesare searches, and she characterized this one as perhaps the district’s most “critical.”

On Monday, the board is expected to give Lambert the feedback he needs to issue a request for proposals (RFP) to find a search firm. At their most recent meeting, board members were asked to review a handful of sample RFPs that had been used by districts in New York, Massachusetts and New Jersey to help Lambert craft one for Beacon.

Thompson said this week that she expects the search to go “far and wide,” and she hopes it will attract candidates with experience and the initiative to work in the small but diverse urban school district. “It’s important that we find someone who understands and appreciates the melting pot that Beacon is,” she said.

It’s impossible to predict how long that search will take, but current teachers’ association President John Burns said he thinks the board (Continued on Page 4)
A Garden with a View

By Pamela Doan

Philipstown has a lot of treasures when it comes to gardening. Public gardens like Stonecrop, Manitoga and Boscobel; growing fresh vegetables in school with students; organizations devoted to education and information sharing like the Master Gardeners and the Philipstown Garden Club, and many committed and passionate gardeners. Recently, I learned about another treasure that I didn’t expect to find in our mixture of rural, suburban and small town living — a local community garden in Cold Spring.

What if you had a little plot where you could raise vegetables and flowers this summer that came with good soil, compost, water and ample sunshine for a very reasonable and affordable cost? All you have to do is clear off some of last season’s leftovers, plant it and tend it for the summer. In addition, you get a fantastic view of the Highlands and the community of a lovely group of people.

There is such an opportunity. Up on Lane Gate Road, Elizabeth Healy, a longtime Cold Spring progressive and resident, has set aside an acre of her property for 30 garden plots. Miriam Wagner and her husband Eric were part of the original garden founders and have raised vegetables and flowers there since 2009.

The Wagners and Healy were friends from the Philipstown Garden Club. Healy was a past president, and Miriam has been involved for many years. It all came about from a conversation between Miriam and Healy when Miriam mentioned her disappointment at not having enough sunlight among all the trees in her Garrison yard for a vegetable garden. Healy suggested they start a community garden in her yard using the site of her family home’s original garden plot dating back to the late 19th century.

Along with JoAnn and Kirby Brown, the Wagners and Healy mapped out the plots and started inviting gardeners to participate, and it’s still going strong seven years later. The plots are 10’ x 10’ or 10’ x 20’ and cost $30 and $50 respectively for the season. There’s a hose for watering, ample sunlight, composted horse manure and the crucial fence to keep out deer, rabbits and groundhogs.

During a tour, Miriam Wagner had a story and warm words for the efforts of the gardener in every plot. One grows “beautiful onions and peas.” She admired the zinnias and broccoli of another; the fabulous tomatoes and hollyhocks adjacent.

After describing the sunset cosmos flowers in one plot, she filled my hand with dried seeds from the remaining stalk and gave me instructions for how to plant them.

Her enjoyment in tending her own plot and the entire project is inspiring. Personally, she likes to plant flowers along with vegetables. “Eric didn’t approve of it so we separated our plots,” she said. “He only grows vegetables. I love California poppies and Shirley poppies. They look like little fairy wings.”

She also grows dahlias in another corner of the garden and already has her tubers bought and in pots at home, ready to be transplanted when it gets warmer. She sowed sugar peas and sweet pea seeds recently, thrilled that the pace of spring let her get an early start. I remarked that flowers were a good mix to attract pollinators. She said, “Everyone’s big into pollinators. The world’s falling apart; we have to do what we can.”

Although only a couple of the plots showed activity yet, it was easy to see how many different approaches to gardening were in play. Each plot showed evidence of a personality, a style and approach. One plot had an elaborate wood structure built as support for tomatoes. Another was covered with wood chip mulch. Bits of newspaper poking through the soil represented another way of mulching and one plot was completely covered by black landscape fabric with circles cut out for plants. Stalks of rosemary, sage, chives and oregano poked through.

Twelve plots are available for the season. There are a few rules, Miriam Wagner explained: “Organic methods for bug control; no woody purchased mulch; no animals (pet dogs or cats); locking garden gate securely to prevent unwelcome wild creatures; turn off garden hose securely so as not to waste water from Mrs. Healy’s well. I recommend bringing your own hoe, cultivator and spading fork. Also, people need to maintain their garden plot. Cultivation of the soil, weed removal as necessary and happy vigilance will make a garden grow ‘inch by inch and row by row.’”

Children are welcome. Anyone interested in space at the community garden can contact Miriam Wagner at wagner@highlands.com. And that view? One of the best I’ve seen in the area. From the ridge you can see the village laid out below, the river, and the mountains across the way. Just for that, it’s worth tending some vegetables for the summer.

Hudson Beach Glass

New bead class schedule online

162 Main St, Beacon, NY 12508 (845) 440-0068
Open daily 10AM – 6PM, Sunday 11AM – 6PM
www.hudsonbeachglass.com

Pruning is an art

If you are looking for a “natural finish” and do not want to see your ornamentals cut back severely to dead wood, choose Artful Pruning. Artful Pruning allows your ornamentals to keep looking good. Artful Pruning gracefully brings your ornamentals back to a more appropriate smaller size.

For an artful, natural finish, call the artful pruner.

Call Gregory, with over 10 years as a career gardener specializing in natural and restorative gardening. 845.446.7465

artisan wine shop

Where food meets its match

180 Main Street / Beacon, NY 12508
845.440.6823 / Monday-Saturday 10-7 / Sunday 12-5
www.artisantwineshop.com

3-Time Winner: Best of Hudson Valley Magazine
Cold Spring Has Tentative Budget

Parking questions remain unresolved

By Michael Turton

Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy has presented tentative budget for 2016-17, reporting that it complies with the tax cap imposed by the State of New York, “with about $400 to spare.” The budget summary was presented at the Tues. March 22 meeting of the village board. A date for the public hearing was not scheduled but the budget must be finalized by the end of April.

The village was required to limit any increase in the tax levy to 0.12 percent for the coming year. In 2015-16 the tax levy was $1,569,561. If approved, the tentative budget will see a total of $1,571,444 raised through village taxes, a increase of just $1,883. The summary distributed at the meeting estimates that the general fund balance as of the end of the current fiscal year will be $316,201 — including $157,806 that is earmarked for the Main Street improvement project. Two of the larger budget increases for next year include $26,000 in the cost of employee benefits and $30,000 for paving to be completed on Bank and Wall streets. The latter will be offset by CHIP funding, a New York State program that assists municipalities with street improvements. Recreation Commission spending will actually decrease by $6,000 next year largely because a number of projects were able to be completed this year.

Parking questions remain

As they did last week, a delegation from Spring Brook condominiums appeared at the meeting, which continued the public hearing on the proposed addition of a pay station in the municipal parking lot on Fair Street. A small number of Spring Brook residents use the municipal lot, which until now has not charged for parking.

In a letter to the board, village resident Alison Anthoine urged trustees to not initiate metered parking in the municipal lot until meters are also added on Main Street, a strategy she said she favors. “I respectfully suggest that the parking committee go back to the drawing board and consider a long term strategic plan for the use of parking meters in the village,” she wrote. Trustee Michael Bowman supported a similar approach, commenting that the residential parking permit system now being planned should be completely in place before the municipal lot is metered.

The lengthy discussion produced little information not brought forward last week. Residents repeated their request to have approximately 10 parking spaces restored on Fair Street. There was also a suggestion that Fair Street be permanently converted to one-way traffic, increasing the amount of street parking available.

Currently, Fair

(Continued on Page 5)

Spring Brook residents again voiced concerns over parking.

Photo by M. Turton

Cold Spring Election Signals Changes

(From Page 1)

number of other write-ins, as well, including votes for Cathryn Fadde, Ralph Falloon, Anthony Phillips and Bill Mazzuca.

A different kind of election

The referendum was one of a number of elements that made the 2016 election noteworthy. The last referendum, held in 2005, dealt with a service award program for the village’s volunteer firefighters — a topic that generated much less of a buzz than moving the elections, which had passionate supporters on both sides of the issue.

The move to fall elections also confirms that like all villages and towns, Cold Spring is not a static, inanimate location on a map but a dynamic, living community that has evolved throughout its history and continues to change.

Women in village politics

Part of that evolution is the increased role played by women. Barbara Impellitteri was the first woman elected to the village board, serving as mayor from 1973 to 1976. A decade later Barbara Murphy was also elected mayor and served for two terms beginning in 1983. Antonia Garufi was Cold Spring’s third female mayor in 1989-90. In 2006 Karen Dunn became the first woman elected as a trustee and in 2009 Miller was the first woman appointed to the board, filling a vacant seat.

When Marie Early and Fran Murphy were elected as trustees in 2015 they joined Cathryn Fadde as part of the first board in Cold Spring history to include more than one woman. Fadde did not seek re-election but Miller’s win kept the female majority on the five-member board intact.

Changing tactics

The 2016 village campaign included the usual barrage of letters to the editor submitted in support of the candidates. As is often the case, a number were from residents who have been prominent in local politics, including former Town of Philipstown Supervisor Bill Mazzuca, who wrote in support of Barney Molloy and former village board candidate and planning board chair Donald MacDonald, who endorsed Voloto and Miller.

This year’s election included a twist, however, with current board members weighing in, such as as outgoing trustee Michael Bowman’s letter urging voters to throw their support behind Molloy. The bigger surprise, and a tactic that may be unprecedented in Cold Spring, came when the three returning members of the village board openly campaigned for their two preferred candidates. A half-page advertisement in the March 11 edition of The Paper paid for by Mayor Dave Merandy and trustees Early and Murphy endorsed Miller and Voloto.

News media

Cold Spring’s two weekly newspapers again played a role in the election that went beyond interviews, advertising and reader endorsements. As they have done in the past, The Paper and the Putnam County News and Recorder both hosted candidate forums. On Feb. 29 The Paper posed questions to Molloy, Miller and Voloto at a session at Haldane.

The PCNR hosted a similar event at the Cold Spring firehouse a week later, but Miller chose not to attend. Last year, candidates Merandy and Early declined to participate. It did not appear to hurt any of the candidates at the polls: Miller, like Merandy and Early, won by decisive margins.

Cold Spring voters will next go to the polls on March 14, 2017, when the mayor’s chair and the trustee seats held by Early and Murphy will be contested. The following year the village election will move to November as part of the general election. Miller and Voloto will serve an additional seven months before their seats are considered.

Gergely Pediatrics

Dedicated to keeping your child healthy & thriving

• Collaborative practice for children & adolescents
• Board Certified Pediatricians & Licensed Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
• Welcomes patients with developmental or behavior issues

Meet us for a FREE first time consultation

34 Route 403, Garrison, N.Y.10524
tel: (845) 424-4444 fax: (845) 424-4664
gergelypediatrics.com
Metro-North Changes for Commuters, Hikers

Metro-North has announced schedule changes certain to please commuters and weekend hikers alike — taking effect on April 3 on its East of Hudson lines.

Certain morning and evening rush hour trains on the Hudson, Harlem and New Haven lines will be adjusted by between 1 and 4 minutes. According to Metro-North, the adjustments will decrease train dwell time at stations, relieve congestion, increase train speed, help prevent the cascading impact of minor delays and improve on-time performance.

In addition, beginning on April 4, two quiet cars will be available on every weekday train for both rush hour and non-rush hour service.

Quiet Cars:
On all weekday inbound trains, the last two cars will be designated quiet cars, and on all weekday outbound trains, the first two cars will be designated quiet cars.

Schedule changes will be as follows:

Hudson Line:
The 5:35 a.m. train from Poughkeepsie to Grand Central Terminal will depart 2 minutes earlier at 5:33 a.m.
Arrival time of the 4:54 p.m. train from Grand Central Terminal to Croton-Harmon will be adjusted 1-2 minutes later from Morris Heights to Croton-Harmon.

Due to the high volume of customers traveling to the Manitou and Breakneck Ridge stations in good weather to hike, three additional round trips will make these stops on weekends.

Harlem Line:
Eight morning rush hour trains will be adjusted by 2-4 minutes. minutes.

Beacon Superintendent Search A Work in Progress (From Page 1)

owes it to the community to hold off on making a hire until at least after the board elections in May, when three of the nine seats will be contested. In addition to the seat held by Thompson, who has said she doesn’t plan to run for re-election, those held by Christine Galbo and Tracy Everett will also be on the ballot.

As of March 23, three candidates have filed: Michael Rutkoske, the husband of Melissa Rutkoske, the parent whose petition sought Walkley and Lambert’s dismissal; Antony Tseng, a Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps EMT; and Meredith Heuer, the chairperson of the Beacon Arts & Education Foundation.

Burns has also urged the board to extend Quar-tironi’s tenure at least through the 2016-17 school year because of the sta-bility she has brought to the position.

“The Board of Education needs to appreciate the job that Ann Marie Qua-rtironi has done,” Burns said. “She’s held it together, and she needs to stay on for an additional year to get us through this.”

While the public has traditionally had a chance to offer its input into the process, the present search represents perhaps the first time that advocate groups have taken the initiative to proactively bring feed-back to school system officials.

The Advocate for Beacon Schools (ABS) formed in August of last year as allegations surrounding Walkley began to surface, although organizer Kristan Flynn says the group’s vision is focused on the long term.

“The stakeholder muscle is pretty atro-phied right now,” Flynn said, “but once it’s up and running, we want to become a resource [for parents and community members], because nothing like that ex-ists here.”

In February, ABS unveiled the Vision Bus, a cardboard model school bus that members have tothe to the Beacon St.

State Prepares to Battle Zika (From Page 1)

locations per month to collect 60,000 mosquitoes per month to be tested for Zika at an Albany lab. Although the Aedes aegypti mosquitoes that spread the virus in South America are not found in New York, a related species called Aedes albopictus is active downstream and could potentially carry Zika, health officials said.

According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the virus spreads primarily through the bite of an infected Aedes aegypti mosquito. The most common symptoms are fever, rash, joint pain and conjunctivitis (red eyes). The illness is usually mild, with symp-toms lasting for several days to a week, so many people do not realize they have been infected. For that reason, the CDC estimates 80 percent of cases will go un-reported.

The most recent outbreak occurred in South America, particularly in Brazil, although Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands have had cases. People traveling to those areas, as well as Mexico and the Caribbean, are urged to take precautions against mosquito bites.

Pregnant women are advised not to travel to countries where Zika has spread and to avoid having unprotected sex with male partners who have traveled or live in those areas. The state provides free Zika testing for pregnant women and also is sending 20,000 protection kits to health-care providers to distribute to pregnant women with educational materials, insect repellent, condoms and larvicide tablets to treat standing water where mosquitoes breed, such as in flower pots.

The state hopes to reduce the mosquito population by encouraging residents and business owners to eliminate standing water in places such as discarded tires and clogged gutters, especially after it rains. To treat standing water that can’t be eliminated, it is distributing 100,000 free larvicide tablets, which can be re-quested by calling the state’s Zika information line at 1-888-364-4723 weekdays between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. A tablet lasts two to three months. The state also has launched a website at ny.gov/zika.
Cold Spring Tentative Budget

(From Page 3)

Street is one-way on Sundays only, head-

ing north from Main Street to Northern Avenue to accommodate those attend-

ing Our Lady of Loretto church. Trustee Fran Murphy pointed out making all of Fair Street permanently one-way would require traffic entering Cold Spring from the north on Route 9D to make a long de-

tour via Morris Avenue.

Residents also complained that three parking spaces had been lost on North-

ern Avenue when a new stop sign was installed at Church Street a few years ago. They advocated removing the sign and restoring the parking spaces. The Fjord Trail was also discussed, with wide agreement that its completion will only increase parking problems in that part of the village.

Other possibilities were again posed, including reconsideration of the hours during which parking will be free after the pay station is installed. Other ideas included issuing a limited number of monthly parking passes or having dis-

counted rates for Spring Brook residents.

Trustee Cathryn Fadde, a member of the parking committee, urged residents to attend the committee’s meetings on the first Monday of each month in order to make their views known. Board members sympathized with the residents’ plight but pointed out that the municipal lot has to be managed in a way that considers the needs of the entire village.

The public hearing closed but not before Merandy pledged to work on solutions to the problems raised by residents. “We will work this out before we put meters in,” he said. “I’ll do my best to make it work.”

Positive Notes

Toward the end of the meeting Trustee Fran Murphy commented that, contrary to some local media reports, members of the village board have not constantly been “at each other’s throats” during the past year. To back up her claim, Murphy analyzed the board’s voting record and found that in dealing with 144 motions the board had experienced only 10 nega-

tive votes. “Ninety-three percent of the time we agreed and got things done,” she said. Murphy said she wanted to set the record straight before trustees Michael Bowman and Cathryn Fadde ended their terms. The last meeting for the two outgo-

ing trustees will be March 29.

Bowman acknowledged that he and Deputy Mayor Marie Early haven’t always agreed politically but said that he was leaving the board “as a friend and neighbor.” Newly elected Steve Voloto and Lynn Miller will join the board in April. Dur-

ing the municipal parking lot discussion, Fadde offered to remain on the parking committee after her term expires.

Mountains and mole hills?

During the public comment period Mi-

chael Armstrong expressed concern over a fence that has been constructed in front of a residence on Market Street, just north of the Chapel Restoration. Armstrong, who chairs the Chapel Restoration board, said the fence sits on village property, limiting the ability to complete a walkway called for in the village Comprehensive Plan. He also said that a retaining wall above the fence is collapsing and he called for the village to have the fence removed as soon as possible.

Mayor Merandy responded that Build-

ing Inspector Bill Bujarski is dealing with the situation, but that “as with everything, it’s going slowly.” He commented that the retaining wall is a “minimal problem” and that a new sidewalk in that location was unlikely at this time given numerous other priorities and sidewalk needs in the village. The two went back and forth in a testy exchange with Armstrong saying that the mayor’s tone suggested he was “indif-
ferent” to fixing the problem. Merandy said he didn’t dispute that dealing with the fence and sidewalk was a good idea but that Armstrong was “making a mountain out of a molehill.”

In other business...

Trustees approved the Cold Spring Film Society’s use of Dockside Park again this summer. The annual outdoor movie series will begin on June 25 with films offered on alternate Saturdays throughout the summer.

The Nelsenville Fish and Fur Club will hold its 28th Annual Kids Fishing Day on Sunday, May 1 at the Village of Cold Spring lower reservoir on Fishkill Road.

Children Collect 1,800 Eggs

Knights event a big draw

More than 100 children collected some 1,800 candy-filled eggs at the 13th annual Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the Knights of Columbus, Loretto Council No. 536, on March 19 at McCo-

nsville Park. The Knights also distributed 65 prizes to children who found “special” eggs, including gift certificates, dollar bills, stuffed bunnies and chocolate bunn-

ies. Along with the Knights, prizes were provided by the Cold Spring Candy Co., Cold Spring Pizza, Cup-o-

cino Café, The Garden Café, Go-Go Pops and Carnival Ice Cream in Fishkill.

Dan Dillon, who co-

chaired the event with Bob Flaherty, thanked not only the merchants but also Catherine Carr, who played the role of the Easter Bun-

ny; the Our Lady of Lo-

retto Teen Group, God Squad, who filled the eggs with candy; DJ Fred Clarke, who pro-

vided the music and all those who made mon-

etary donations at the event.

Clara O’Neill won a gift certificate from the Cold Spring Candy Co. for having the closest guess to the number of jellybeans in a jar, while Meghan Tomann won the second-place prize of a gift certificate from the Garden Cafe and Chris Ward took the third-place prize of a gift certifi-

cate from Cold Spring Pizza. The Knights also provided participants with free hot dogs, coffee and hot chocolate.

The Paper March 25, 2016

Knights event a big draw

More than 100 children collected some 1,800 candy-filled eggs at the 13th annual Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the Knights of Columbus, Loretto Council No. 536, on March 19 at McCo-

nsville Park. The Knights also distributed 65 prizes to children who found “special” eggs, including gift certificates, dollar bills, stuffed bunnies and chocolate bunn-

ies. Along with the Knights, prizes were provided by the Cold Spring Candy Co., Cold Spring Pizza, Cup-o-

cino Café, The Garden Café, Go-Go Pops and Carnival Ice Cream in Fishkill.

Dan Dillon, who co-

chaired the event with Bob Flaherty, thanked not only the merchants but also Catherine Parr, who played the role of the Easter Bun-

ny; the Our Lady of Lo-

retto Teen Group, God Squad, who filled the eggs with candy; DJ Fred Clarke, who pro-

vided the music and all those who made mon-

etary donations at the event.

Clara O’Neill won a gift certificate from the Cold Spring Candy Co. for having the closest guess to the number of jellybeans in a jar, while Meghan Tomann won the second-place prize of a gift certificate from the Garden Cafe and Chris Ward took the third-place prize of a gift certifi-

cate from Cold Spring Pizza. The Knights also provided participants with free hot dogs, coffee and hot chocolate.

Children Collect 1,800 Eggs

Knights event a big draw

More than 100 children collected some 1,800 candy-filled eggs at the 13th annual Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the Knights of Columbus, Loretto Council No. 536, on March 19 at McCo-

nsville Park. The Knights also distributed 65 prizes to children who found “special” eggs, including gift certificates, dollar bills, stuffed bunnies and chocolate bunn-

ies. Along with the Knights, prizes were provided by the Cold Spring Candy Co., Cold Spring Pizza, Cup-o-

cino Café, The Garden Café, Go-Go Pops and Carnival Ice Cream in Fishkill.

Dan Dillon, who co-

chaired the event with Bob Flaherty, thanked not only the merchants but also Catherine Parr, who played the role of the Easter Bun-

ny; the Our Lady of Lo-

retto Teen Group, God Squad, who filled the eggs with candy; DJ Fred Clarke, who pro-

vided the music and all those who made mon-

etary donations at the event.

Clara O’Neill won a gift certificate from the Cold Spring Candy Co. for having the closest guess to the number of jellybeans in a jar, while Meghan Tomann won the second-place prize of a gift certificate from the Garden Cafe and Chris Ward took the third-place prize of a gift certifi-

cate from Cold Spring Pizza. The Knights also provided participants with free hot dogs, coffee and hot chocolate.
Benvenuto to Grano Focacceria

Flat bread is staple at new Cold Spring restaurant

by Alison Rooney

It’s not just Cold Spring which has its first authentic focaccia, it’s the United States. So thinks Eduardo “Eddie” Lauria, who, with John Paul Scanga has opened Grano Focacceria, which features the flat, oven-baked bread that is a staple in Italy. Located at 3182 Route 9 in Philipstown Square, the restaurant, with it’s soothing décor and wood-topped tables, has been busy since opening a few weeks ago.

Focaccia is thought to be an early prototype for pizza, with some food scholars tracing it to the Etruscans. Early versions were cooked on the hearth or on a heated tile or earthenware disk.

Lauria and Scanga also happen to own the shopping plaza and so had planned on opening their own place for quite some time. “We saved ourselves a little spot,” Laura said. “The project took a little while; we wanted to take our time and do it right.” Lauria has much experience in the restaurant business (he owns Fishkill’s Il Barilotto Enoteca, previously owned Aroma Osteria in Wappingers Falls and was a founder of the delivery service Eddie’s Gourmet Pizza on the Run) and had taken note of a lack of dining establishments between Fishkill and northern Westchester County.

Lauria calls himself an innovator, and introducing focaccia as the central component of a restaurant is part of it. “It’s puffy and airy, like an artisanal thin crust pan pizza,” he explained. “You can do a simple version of it, with olive oil, sea salt and rosemary, delicious, and take it from there.” Sold by the slice or whole (eight pieces in a 12” by 18” rectangle) and served on wooden slabs, the focaccia comes in eight varieties. One known as polpetta has ricotta, meatballs and fresh basil, while ortolana is topped with caramelized onions, roasted peppers and eggplant. The whole focaccia range from $18 to $25.

A range of appetizers, or assaggi, get the meal started, including everything from a burrata (an Italian cheese) with arugula and grape tomatoes to salumi, with prosciutto di Parma, capicello, mortadella and a warm focaccia. Four salads, including the lacinato, with baby Tuscan kale, dried cranberries, almonds and creamy gorgonzola, can be added to with grilled chicken or shrimp. The farcite (stuffed) offerings are an array of doughs filled with ingredients such as fennel sausage or broccoli rabe. Each is $6.

Focaccine ($9.50), which are warm, pressed sandwiches served with mixed greens, are popular at lunch.

There are a small number of “piatti,” or entrées, as well, including a paillard of grilled chicken or shrimp. The focacce (stuffed) offerings are an array of doughs filled with ingredients such as fennel sausage or broccoli rabe. Each is $6.

Focaccine ($9.50), which are warm, pressed sandwiches served with mixed greens, are popular at lunch.

There are a small number of “piatti,” or entrées, as well, including a paillard of grilled chicken or shrimp. The focacce (stuffed) offerings are an array of doughs filled with ingredients such as fennel sausage or broccoli rabe. Each is $6.

As much as possible, Grano’s tries to use organic ingredients sourced from the Hudson Valley, Lauria said. The Kingston-based Jane’s Ice Cream provides the base for a number of desserts, including an Italian float with a shot of espresso. The wine list includes four whites and four reds and the restaurant has eight beers, including Brooklyn Lager and others from New York state, to Peroni.

Lauria supposedly retired a year ago. He sold Aroma Osteria, and that was that. But then came this. “You know, this is a fun project,” he says with a shrug. Notably, it’s his first in Philipstown, where both he and Scanga live. He calls the support of community members “unbelievable, in their response. We’ve had positive feedback on Facebook and in social media — it’s been amazing. It’s a new concept and you don’t know how people are going to take to it. But they have.”

Grano Focacceria is open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. For more information visit its Facebook page or call 845-666-7007.

Grano Focacceria’s co-owners, Eduardo “Eddie” Lauria (left) and John Paul Scanga. Photo by A. Rooney

The interior of Grano Focacceria

Photo provided
Mi America Returns to Its Roots

Film shot in Newburgh will now play there

by Alison Rooney

The New York Times review of Mi America (2015), which will have six screenings at the Downing Film Center in Newburgh beginning this Friday, March 25, described its fictional town of Braxton as a place with “decades of wounds … (where) Divided communities share a history and deal with one another, sometimes hopefully, always warily.”

In fact, a divided community plays the role of Braxton in Mi America — some would say more divided now than ever: Newburgh. The Downing screenings mark the first time the film has been shown commercially where it was shot during the summer of 2014. The location is described in a Los Angeles Times review as having a “palpable small-town-in-transition feel … with its timelessly coffee shops and crumbling warehouses, that makes for an intriguing setting.”

“We are so happy and proud to screen Mi America,” says Brian Burke, who runs the Downing Film Center. “It is so wonderful seeing many local venues in the film. In addition, it is great to see appearances by local citizens of the city. The film is well done, professionally made and very enjoyable.”

The film will be shown at 5 p.m. on March 25, 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 27, 2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 29, and 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 30 and Thursday, March 31. The film’s writer, director and executive producer, Robert Fontaine, Jr., who also stars, will appear at a sold-out premiere screening at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 26.

In the film, five migrant laborers are beaten, shot dead and ditched near an abandoned industrial riverfront complex, where their bodies are discovered months later. It’s an obvious hate crime, an apparently not uncommon occurrence in Braxton, a gritty, waterfront city. Rolando Ramirez, a Mexican-American detective and longtime resident of the community, is assigned to

(Continued on Page 10)

Depot Docs: Actress

Brandy Burre gives the performance of her life

by James O’Barr

Actress, docu-iconoclast Robert Greene’s genre-bending film about his Beacon neighbor Brandy Burre’s upstate mid-life crisis, will be next up for Depot Docs at Garrison’s Landing on Friday, April 1.

Burre, whose main claim to acting fame was a recurring role on HBO’s The Wire, was living the good life with her partner, restaurateur Tim Reinke, five floors up in a sublet, rent-controlled midtown Manhattan apartment, when unexpectedly, she was expecting. Not long after the baby was born, the sublet suddenly ended, whereupon Burre and Reinke decided to leave the city for the country, far from the maddening traffic.

Finding a Beacon fixer-upper, they settled in and settled down, with Reinke opening the soon-popular Birdsall House bar-restaurant in Peekskill, and Burre, with the arrival of a second child, sharpening her chops as a stay-at-home mom. By the time Greene approached her with the idea of starring in a documentary playing herself, the idyll had long-since ended, and Burre was feeling trapped by domesticity and aching to go back to the future.

Greene, who’d made pretty much the same move at the same time as our star-crossed couple, happened to be their next-door neighbor. A multi-threat filmmaker — producer, director, editor, writer, critic and, since 2014, assistant professor and filmmaker-in-chief at the Murray Center for Documentary Journalism of the University of Missouri — he’s also an important critical voice in debates about “performance” in documentary or non-fiction cinema.

In Greene’s view, all filmmaking is performative, and cinematic non-fiction, which “favors cinema over reportage, cross-pollination of fictional and non-fictional modes, and pushes the boundaries of form,” is one of the most exciting things happening in documentary filmmaking. His previous film, Fake It So Real, is about professional wrestling as performance art, and the collaboration with the actor next door in Actress has allowed him to take his theoretical preoccupation to another level.

“It’s about using the camera so people can go about the business of being themselves, including the performance of playing themselves,” Greene says. “This is my particular obsession.”

Come to think of it, it was also Shakespeare’s. In any case, Burre was only too happy to oblige. The filming took place over 18 months, during which time the relationship with Reinke had gone from bad to worse, as had Burre’s identity crisis. As she moves to resolve both her need to work and confirm her crosses of form,” is one of the most exciting things happening in documentary filmmaking. His previous film, Fake It So Real, is about professional wrestling as performance art, and the collaboration with the actor next door in Actress has allowed him to take his theoretical preoccupation to another level.

“It’s about using the camera so people can go about the business of being themselves, including the performance of playing themselves,” Greene says. “This is my particular obsession.”

Come to think of it, it was also Shakespeare’s. In any case, Burre was only too happy to oblige. The filming took place over 18 months, during which time the relationship with Reinke had gone from bad to worse, as had Burre’s identity crisis. As she moves to resolve both her need to work and confirm her professional cred as an actor, and her longing for love and romance, there was something of Emma Bovary meets Norma Desmond (of Sunset Boulevard) apparently not uncommon occurrence in Braxton, a gritty, waterfront city. Rolando Ramirez, a Mexican-American detective and longtime resident of the community, is assigned to

(Continued on Page 9)
The Newburgh Sting (Documentary, 2014)
7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
50 Liberty St., Beacon
moviesatthefactory.org

St. Philip’s Choir: Mozart’s Requiem
7:30 p.m. St. Philip’s Church
1101 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3571 | stphiliphighlands.org

The Glorious Death of Comrade What’s-His-Name
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

SUNDAY, MARCH 27
Local libraries closed

Easter Services
First Presbyterian Church
7 & 10 a.m. 50 Liberty St., Beacon
845-831-6322 | beaconpresbychurch.com

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church
8 a.m. & noon, 24 Fair St., Cold Spring
845-265-3718 | ladyofloretto.org

Our Lady of Loretto
8:30 a.m. & Noon, 24 Fair St., Cold Spring
845-265-3718 | ladyofloretto.org

Graymoor (St. Francis Chapel)
9 a.m. 40 Francisan Way, Garrison
845-424-3625 | graymoor.org

South Highland Methodist
9:30 a.m. 19 Snake Hill Road, Garrison
845-424-3096

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

St. Philip’s Episcopal Church
10:30 a.m. 110 Route 90, Garrison
845-424-3571 | stphiliphighlands.org

Easter egg hunt after second service

MONDAY, MARCH 28
Red Cross Babysitter Training
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Philipstown Community Center
107 Glyncliff Drive, Garrison
845-424-4018 | philipstownrecreation.com

U.S. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney Office Hours (Staff Member)
 Noon – 2 p.m. Village Hall
85 Main St., Cold Spring
seanmaloney.house.gov

TUESDAY, MARCH 29
Ceramics (First Sessions)
9 a.m. Adults | 3:45 p.m. Grades K-3
Philipstown Community Center
107 Glyncliff Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

New Moms & Infants Group
11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Desmon-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
Email whiteside.k@gmail.com

Haldane vs. Croton (Lacrosse)
4:30 p.m. Haldane School
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

What is the Garrison Institute?
6:30 p.m. Desmon-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30
Mexican Cooking Workshop
10 a.m. Philipstown Community Center
107 Glyncliff Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Senior Bus Trip to Fishkill
10 a.m. Chestnut Ridge, Cold Spring
845-424-4618 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Dutchess Tourism Lunch & Learn
Noon. Hyatt House, Route 9, Fishkill
845-463-5447 | dutchestourism.org

Ceramics (First Sessions)
12:30 p.m. Ages 3-5 | 3:45 p.m. Grades K-3
Philipstown Community Center
See details under Tuesday.

Introductory Meeting for HVSF Our Town
6 – 8 p.m. Safe Harbors of the Hudson
845-808-5748 x20 | hvsf@hudsonvalleyparks.org

THURSDAY, MARCH 31
Haldane PTA Coffee Talk
9 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldanepta.org

Bouncing Babies
10:30 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Ceramics (grades 4-6) (First Session)
3:45 p.m. Philipstown Community Center
See details under Wednesday.

Haldane vs. Lakeland (Softball)
4:30 p.m. Haldane School
See details under Tuesday.

Author Talk: Shadid Wael
6:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-853-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Lifeguard Training (Pre-test)
6 p.m. All Sport Health & Fitness
17 Old Main St., Fishkill
845-896-5678 | allsportfishkill.com

Food Forum: Asian Dumplings
6:30 p.m. Desmon-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Zero to Go: Think Global, Act Local (Talk)
7 p.m. Beacon Stoop Club
2 Red Flynn Drive, Beacon
845-463-4660 | beaconloopclub.org

FRIDAY, APRIL 1
Boscobel Opens for Season
9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. 1601 Route 90, Cold Spring
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Card Games/Dungeons & Dragons Club
3 – 5 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-633-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Studio Hip Hop with Katie Bissinger (ages 7-10) (First Session)
4:30 p.m. Ballet Arts Studio
107 Teller Ave., Beacon
845-831-1870 | balletartsstudio.com

Abstract into Figurative Abstract (Opening)
6 – 9 p.m. Gallery 66 NY
2 Red Flynn Drive, Beacon
845-463-5789 | gallery66ny.com

Group Show: Geometry/Gesture (Opening)
6 – 8 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery
121 Main St., Cold Spring
845-809-5145 | busterlevigallery.com

(Continued on Page 9)
Depot Docs: Actress
(from Page 7)

fame) in her "performance."

To this viewer, these resonances were
no less true because they were fictive.
"Documentaries are hybrid monsters by
their very nature," Greene says. "Wild
combinations of realities and fictions
have indubitably yielded some of
the most inspired cinematic moments in
movie history." Indeed, Actress has its
inspired moments, with power and
pathos to spare.

The film will be shown at the Philip-
stown Depot Theatre at 7:30 p.m., after
which Burre will be present for a Q&A
and reception. Tickets are $20 and can
be purchased at brownpapertickets.com/
event/2512690.
**Mi America Returns to Its Roots** *(from Page 7)*

the case. Was it chance or fate? His investigation forces him to question his own identity, and what it means to be a North American.

Fontaine makes a point of saying he is not a political writer. “Nor do I believe that being politically oriented in your story telling or direction will have any kind of lasting impact on your audience, especially with a subject matter that is so sensitive and timely,” he says. “Through the interactions of the main characters, and the lives that are affected by their actions, we understand their struggle for identity, and their fight for survival. Anyone can identify with this.”

At the same time, he says, “Mi America does not point fingers at any one particular group.” Instead, it “attempts to identify where the problems lie for us, here and now. Or, at the very least, to prompt a conversation, with the intent to look for answers through self-awareness, if not collectively.”

As an actor, Fontaine has worked with a number of notable directors, including Wes Anderson, Abel Ferrara, and Eric Schaeffer. He made his directorial debut with the short film entitled Rebels (1993). That led to the financing of the full-length feature Crispy Crackers and Beans (1997), which he co-wrote, co-produced, directed and starred in.

Tickets for Mi America can be purchased at downingfilmcenter.com or at the box office at 19 Front St. For more information, call 845-561-3686.

---

**Somers to Mark 50th Anniversary of Circus Stamp Day**

On April 1, 1966, the village of Somers held a Circus Stamp Day parade to celebrate a commemorative U.S. Postal Service circus stamp and special cancellation. The 50th anniversary of the parade and stamp will be celebrated on Saturday, April 2, with a noon dedication of a historical display at the post office, followed by a procession to the library for a 1 p.m. reception organized by the Somers Historical Society.

After the USPS announced in early 1966 that it would issue a five-cent stamp to honor Delavan, Wisconsin, a wintering spot in the late 19th century for more than 20 circuses, Somers town historian Otto Koegel appealed for the agency to recognize Somers, where the traveling menagerie flourished in the early to mid-19th century. The town was not given a stamp but was granted its own cancellation for six months. The USPS also unveiled the stamp in Somers on April 1, 1966, a month before Delavan’s unveiling.

Three thousand people — roughly half of Somers’ 1966 population — attended the parade. The circus clown stamp that started all the fuss is now only worth about a buck, but Somers has become known far and wide as the “Cradle of the American Circus.” For more information, call Jo Pitkin of the Somers Historical Society at 914-277-4977.
Butcher to Table
Marbled Meats owners open Beacon eatery

by Alison Rooney

Chris and Lisa Pascarella, the proprietors of Marbled Meats in Cold Spring, had always planned to expand, but unlike most new businesses, they are doing so only a few months into their second year in operation.

“We needed kitchen space, first of all,” says Lisa, and “so many people were asking for prepared food and more options.” Because Marbled’s location on Route 9 next to Vera’s Marketplace would have required too much modification, the couple decided to look elsewhere. Their new establishment, Stock Up, opened on March 8 in Beacon, down from the George Washington statue on Teller Avenue, in what was formerly the Copper Roof deli.

Stock Up isn’t Marbled 2.0, though it does share some traits. While Marbled’s mainstay is raw meat, Stock Up focuses on the prepared version. “We know, as busy parents [their son will be three in June], that there are few healthy food options nearby,” Lisa says. “So, the idea here is to provide the meats and also add salads, soups and a bone broth of the day.

The name Stock Up comes from what it implies: “It’s the same vision that we’ve had with Marbled, so not only can you stock up but for us it’s stocking the shelves with products so that we can serve the community all year-round,” Lisa explains.

There’s seating inside and outside, in the back, with room for about 22 diners in each section and small tables graced with bud vase flowers from Beacon’s Flora and artwork on the walls from Caitlyn Clifford, who has a studio in Brooklyn. Beer and wine are offered, standing room, at a gin carrying Go-Go Pops fruit popsicles, along with homemade granola, yogurts and parfaits. Each day there are specials, in the form of unique soups, sandwiches and a bone broth of the day.

The Community of the Hudson Valley wants for each other to succeed,” Lisa continues. “Coming here to Beacon, we have carefully considered choosing things which complement the existing businesses here, like Barb’s Butchery. We wanted not to repeat, but to complement each other. And we refer a lot. We get many people staying in Beacon through Airbnb [vacation home rentals] and, for example, they’re looking for a place for breakfast. Although we do a 9 a.m. coffee service, while we’re setting up for the day, we send them to Harry’s Hot Sandwiches, which does breakfasts, or to Beacon Bread.

“We’re also working with others in the area, like Beacon Bread, More Good. We’re also working with Zero To Go to compost; we generated over 400 pounds of compost in our first weekly pick up. We’re existing together in a community, supporting each other. Chris and I are from Long Island and it was like this — there was a neighborhood deli where you could catch up with everyone. It’s not like that there anymore. It feels nice to be part of a supportive community of residents and business owners in both towns.”

Stock Up, located at 29 Teller Avenue, is open seven days a week, although Lisa says it may close one day a week in the near future, probably Wednesdays. For more information, call 845-202-7400 or visit stockupbeacon.com.

75 Main Street
Cold Spring, NY 10516

MONDAY
8:45 - 9:15 AM MEDITATION Brains Buslovich
9:30 - 10:45 AM VINYASA Tara Gilman
9:30 - 10:30 AM PILATES Semi-Private* Melia Marzollo
10:30 - 11:30 AM PILATES Semi-Private* Melia Marzollo
12:00 - 1:00 PM YOGALATES Melia Marzollo
1:00 - 3:00 PM MEDITATION Josh Geller

TUESDAY
8:45 - 9:15 AM MEDITATION Brains Buslovich
8:45 - 9:45 AM PILATES Semi-Private* Bettina Utz
9:30 - 10:45 AM ALIGNMENT Flow All Level Julian Paik
9:45 - 10:45 AM PILATES TOWER Bettina Utz
11:00 - 12:00 PM PRENATAL YOGA Claire Koepke
12:00 - 1:15 PM MOMMY & ME YOGA Claire Koepke
3:00 - 5:00 PM Kid’s Yoga & Creative Play Melia Marzollo (4/12-5/17)
7:15 - 8:15 PM PILATES TOWER Kristin & Melia

WEDNESDAY
7:30 - 8:30 AM MEDITATION Brains Buslovich
8:45 - 9:15 AM PILATES Semi-Private* Kristin Hateleberg
9:30 - 10:30 AM PILATES Semi-Private* Brains Buslovich & Michelle Clifton
8:30 - 9:30 AM PILATES TOWER Kristin Hateleberg
9:30 - 10:30 AM PILATES MAT Clare Donovan
9:30 - 10:30 AM PILATES Semi-Private* Melia Marzollo
10:30 - 11:30 AM PILATES PRIVATe Melia Marzollo

THURSDAY
8:45 - 9:45 AM EXPRESS FLOW Claire Koepke
9:30 - 10:30 AM PILATES Semi-Private* Melia Marzollo
10:00 - 10:30 AM PILATES TOWER Kristin Hateleberg
10:00 - 11:00 AM PILATES TOWER Kristin Hateleberg
9:30 - 10:30 AM PILATES TOWER Kristin Hateleberg
10:30 - 11:30 AM PILATES PRIVATe Melia Marzollo
11:30 - 12:30 PM PILATES PRIVATe Melia Marzollo

FRIDAY
8:00 - 9:15 AM KUNDALINI Alison Jolicoeur
9:30 - 1:15 AM VINYASA Julian Paik
9:30 - 10:30 AM PILATES Semi-Private* Vanessa Alfano
10:00 - 11:00 AM PILATES Semi-Private* Marilena O’Hara
10:00 - 11:00 AM PILATES Semi-Private* Marilena O’Hara
10:00 - 11:00 AM PILATES Semi-Private* Marilena O’Hara
10:00 - 11:00 AM PILATES Semi-Private* Marilena O’Hara
6:00 - 8:30 PM PILATES Private Workshop One On One Lisa Bennett Matkin

SATURDAY
9:00 AM - 10:05 AM PILATES Semi-Private* Jen Daly
9:30 - 10:30 AM PILATES Semi-Private* Martina Enschede
10:30 - 11:45 AM VINYASA Vanesa Alfano
10:30 - 11:30 AM PILATES Semi-Private Martina Enschede
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PILATES Private Martina Enschede

SUNDAY
10:30 AM - NOON ALIGNMENT Flow All Level Julian Paik
12:30 - 1:30 PM PILATES PRIVATE Melia Marzollo

SkyBaby Studio yoga and Pilates
118 Main Street
Cold Spring, NY 10516
845-265-4444
skybabyyoga.com

Photo by A. Rooney
GCEF Holds Spring Thaw
17th annual event set for April 2

The Garrison Children's Education Fund will hold its 17th annual Spring Thaw at the Highlands Country Club from 7 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, April 2. The fundraiser supports educational, artistic and athletic programming at the Garrison School.

More than 100 items will be auctioned, including a day at the documentary series Years of Living Dangerously, a wine tasting at Artisan Wine Shop, learning to make jam with Eleanor's Best, blowing your own ornament at Hudson Beach Glass, learning to play a new instrument with Beacon Music Factory or attending an Army football game as a VIP.

Other auction items include handmade jewelry, private soccer training sessions, a garden party at Kismet, tickets to Arthur Ashe Kids' Day at the U.S. Open and a behind-the-scenes tour of the Trailside Zoo at Bear Mountain and a student/teacher hind-the-scenes tour of the Trailside Zoo.

In addition to the auction, the event will feature a "Principal for the Day" raffle, craft beer from The Hop, sweet treats from Hudson Hill's and specialty herb and fruit-infused cocktails donated by Trisha Mulligan. Sara Labriola and Corydon Zouzag will provide live music.

Tickets are $80 and available at gcef.net or at the door. The Highlands Country Club is located at 955 Route 9D.

Shakespeare Season
Tickets on Sale
Previews begin June 7

Tickets are on sale for the 2016 season of the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival at Boscobel in Garrison. Previews begin June 7. The festival this year includes performances of As You Like It, Measure for Measure, Macbeth, as well as So Please You, a romp starring the HVSF Conservatory Company and based on the servant Dennis, who speaks one line in As You Like It.

Tickets range from $33 to $84, or $30 for restricted view. Tickets for So Please You on Aug. 15 and 29 are $25, and free tickets are available for matinees on Aug. 16 and 23. Visit hvsshakespeare.org to order. (The box office does not accept phone orders until May 16.)

Tickets are 25 percent off for residents of Putnam and Dutchess counties for preview performances on June 7, 15 and 16, and 15 percent off until June 1 for performances before July 4. Seniors and students receive 15 percent off and children ages 5 to 12 are 30 percent off, excluding Saturday performances. The festival offers a taxi service to and from the Cold Spring train station, with 48 hours notice.

The festival will also present staged readings at the Philipstown Depot Theatre in August and free performances of Thornton Wilder's Our Town featuring members of the community beginning Sept. 2, with tickets available on Aug. 11.

Football for Girls
Program includes drills, scrimmages

The six-week Pigskin Princess flag football program begins in Fishkill Park on Friday, April 3. The first session, for 3 to 5 year olds, starts at 11 a.m. and the second, for 6 to 8 year olds, at noon.

Found by social worker Laura Bagnarol, the program includes drills, agility activities, obstacle courses and scrimmages, as well as a "strong girl" discussion each week that will focus on a woman currently in the news. The project also will be taking part as a team in the Krazy Kids Inflatable Fun Run on May 21 at Barton Orchards in Poughquag (krazykidsinflatablefunrun.com).

The cost for Pigskin Princess is $100; to register, pigskinprincessproject.com or call 845-803-4749. The project also offers a $150 morning summer camp from June 27 to July 1 at Fishkill Recreation for girls ages 7 to 9.

USA Baseball to Hold Tryouts
Open to players ages 11 to 17

USA Baseball will hold tryouts in Newburgh and Fishkill over the next two weekends for players aged 11 to 17. Teams formed from players in the North Atlantic region (Delaware, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey) will compete against those from 15 other regions in the fall at the USA Baseball National Training Complex in Cary, N.C. USA Baseball will then invite at least 58 players to the national team trials, from which Team USA will be formed in 2017.

On Saturday, April 2, coaches will evaluate 13 and under (13U) and 14 and under (14U) players at Mount Saint Mary's College in Newburgh. On Sunday, April 3, they will look at 11U players and 12U players at Phillip's Field in Fishkill.

On Saturday, April 9, 13U and 14U players can try out at Geering Park in Fishkill and on Sunday, April 10, 11U and 12U players will be evaluated at Phillip's Field. Tryouts for 16U and 17U players will be held in June at Mount Saint Mary's.

The fee is $150 per player. For specific tryout times and to register, visit collegebaseballcamps.com/noatl.

Visit www.philipstown.info for news updates and latest information.
Learn to Give Heroin Overdose Antidote

Free training and rescue kits offered

The next monthly training session on the use of Narcan, an antidote that can save the life of a person who has overdosed on heroin or other opiates, will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 3 at St. Christopher’s Inn at Graymoor. The training and overdose rescue kits are free, but registration is required (no walk-ins are permitted). To register, call Rob Casasanta, who will lead the session, at 845-335-1035, or email rcasasanta@atonementfriars.org.

Additional sessions are scheduled for the first Sunday of the month through Dec. 4. St. Christopher’s Inn is located at 1035, or email rcasasanta@atonementfriars.org.

West Point Foundry Tour Set for April 2

Chapel Restoration also open for public visits

Local historians will lead a walking tour at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 2, of the West Point Foundry Preserve, which manufactured cannons — known as Parrott guns — credited with helping to win the Civil War, as well as some of the nation’s first steam engines, iron ships and pipes for New York City’s water system.

Tours will also be offered on May 14 and June 4. The preserve is located at 80 Kemble Avenue in Cold Spring.

Following the tour, the nearby chapel restoration will be open to the public from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. (It will also be open after the May 14 and June 4 tours.) The chapel is located on a promontory overlooking the Hudson just west of the Cold Spring train station. It is about a 10 minute walk from the foundry.

Lou Reed Doc to Play Putnam Valley

Screening and Q&A set for April 2

The filmmaker Timothy Greenfield-Sanders will screen his 1998 documentary, Lou Reed: Rock and Roll Heart and answer questions at the Tompkins Corners Cultural Center in Putnam Valley at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 2.

The documentary, which won a Grammy for Best Long Form Music Video, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and later aired on PBS as part of the network’s American Masters series.

Greenfield-Sanders, a longtime resident of Putnam Valley, is a well-known portrait photographer who has made numerous documentaries. His later films include The Women’s List (2015) and The Boomer List (2014), both of which aired on American Masters, About Face: Supermodels Then and Now (2012) and Thinking XXX (2004).

Tompkins Corners Cultural Center is located at 729 Peekskill Hollow Road. Tickets are $30 ($7 for students and seniors) and may be purchased at brownpapertickets.com/event/2524257, or leave a message at 845-528-7280 to reserve seats and pay at the door. The screening will be the first of five events at Tompkins Corners funded by the ArtsLink grant program of the Putnam Arts Council, which is supported by New York State Council on the Arts.

Orchestra to Premiere Walkway Symphony

Inspired by former railroad bridge

The Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra will premiere Walkway Over the Hudson, an original three-movement work commissioned by the NDSO and written by 24-year-old composer Ben Kutner.

The orchestra will perform the work under the direction of Kathleen Beckmann at 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 2, at The Culinary Institute of America’s Marriott Pavilion in Hyde Park.

Each movement of Walkway corresponds loosely with a chapter in the bridge’s history: (Continued on Page 14)
(From page 13) a vital rail link, a fire-
damaged structure lying in disuse, and
the footbridge that exists today. “I wanted
the audience to hear the same bridge at
every moment of the piece,” Kutner said.

In recognition of the 100th anniversary
of the National Park Service, the orches-
tra also will perform Ferde Grofé’s Grand
Canyon Suite. Both works will be accom-
panied by photographs of the Grand Can-
yon and the Walkway, a former railroad
bridge, projected on a screen behind the
orchestra. Photos of the bridge have been
selected from thousands taken over the
past 23 years by Fred Schaefeer.

Tickets are $20 ($5 for students and
$15 for seniors) and can be purchased at
ndsochestra.org. For more information,
call 845-635-0877. The Caterina de’ Medi-
ci restaurant at CIA will offer a $39 pre-
performance pasta meal (excluding bever-
age and tip). Reservations are available
from 5 to 6:15 p.m. To book a table, call
845-905-4533 or email ciarestaurant-
group@culinary.edu. For directions, see
halfmoontheatre.org/visit-us.

What Books Bring
Library friends distribute store
proceeds

Beacon Reads, the bookstore operated
by the Friends of the Howland Public
Library, will not be accepting donations
until the second week of April. Proceeds
from the store, which is staffed by volun-
teers and located adjacent to the library
on Main Street, fund a variety of activi-
ties. It has donated $400 to the Teen Club,
$200 for a bus to Albany for Library Advo-
cacy Day, $500 for passes to the Mid-Hud-
son Children’s Museum, $500 for Ameri-
can Museum of Natural History passes,
$500 to expand the Tech Club, $1,200 for
Battle of the Books transportation and t-
shirts and $1,000 to provide Freegal mu-
sic service to patrons.

To join the Friends, visit friendsofhpl.
wordpress.com or email friends@beacon-
library.org.

March on Memorial Day
Beacon invites groups to register

Groups who would like to march in
the Memorial Day parade in Beacon
on Monday, May 30, are asked to contact
Chico Humphries at 845-527-4000. The
parade will begin at 10 a.m. at City Hall
and travel along Main Street to the Memo-
rail Building at 413 Main St.
Around the World in a Day

Haldane student recounts French, Spanish “immersion”

By Mary-Margaret Dwyer

Simply learning to speak the language of a certain group does not allow a person to fully delve into its culture and customs. But experiencing other cultures is something that is synchronous with learning a new language.

On Friday, March 4, an assortment of French and Spanish students from Haldane High School had the opportunity to experience different cultures and cuisines from various parts of the globe. Hosted at the beloved Taconic Outdoor Education Center, the school’s annual Immersion was once again a success.

The day started off with a few unforeseen setbacks. Due to an unexpected two-hour delay, some tweaks in the schedule were necessary. Luckily, the teachers were able to shorten a few activities to make sure that nothing was left out.

Upon arrival, the students were served a pancake breakfast, providing much-needed energy for events to come. Stomachs were full and content, unaware that in only a couple of minutes, they would be kicking and dancing around the room.

Haldane students prepare for a presentation during Immersion Day on March 4. Photo provided

The popular French can-can dance was mastered by the students and teachers alike, courtesy of the Fred Astaire Dance Studio. Starting with the well-known kick line, the moves got increasingly complicated. After countless attempts, most were already aware of their inability to keep up with the professionals. Even so, it was a nice change of pace, giving students a glimpse into French customs.

Getting a chance to catch their breath, the French and Spanish students split up into two groups. The French students participated in a storytelling workshop with Elizabeth Rowe. They listened to a story in French and then picked one of their own to present. Many chose to act it out, adding to the authenticity of the tales.

The Spanish students listened to a fascinating presentation about Peru and Machu Picchu by children’s book author Olga Salazar. This also included an amusing mini puppet show; acting out various parts of Ms. Salazar’s book, Mayta Visits the Inca City.

By this time, lunch was on the horizon, and once again the Taconic staff gave it their all. In order to keep in touch with the theme of the day, the chefs prepared a buffet of international foods. Mouths watering, each student listened intently to the description of each dish.

After an array of foods including ratatouille and paella, the groups split for a second time. Giovanni Leveratto talked to the Spanish students about living in Peru and moving to the U.S. He also shared an exciting episode of House Hunters International, in which he was featured as a potential buyer.

The French students listened to a cultural presentation on Haiti by Haitian radio DJ Macceau Medozile. Medozile explained the culture and history of Haiti and also discussed the importance of preserving Haitian culture.

Gathering once more, everyone witnessed breathtaking dances from both Peru and Ecuador. The Peruvian scissors dance, a sacred tradition in Peru, wowed the room with daring moves. It seemed as if no one could take their eyes off of the colorful dancers, performing flips with 25-centimeter shears in hand. Following this was a group of Ecuadorian folklore dancers. The flowing skirts and fast-paced moves added to the true cultural experience as they danced.

As the day wound down, a handful of students went on to participate in the “Coffee House,” a small talent show where many choose to recite poems or perform in different languages. One group even presented the fable they had written for a project in Spanish class.

Dwyer is a junior at Haldane High School.

Haldane students perform during Immersion Day on March 4. Photo provided
The HIGHLANDS Current

A New Name
Same Great Newspaper

Coming April 1