



Happy Easter!



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Rand Otten receives the Katie O'Donnell Award of Excellence.

Photo by K.E. Foley

Chamber Hosts Record Crowd for Annual Dinner

Rand Otten and Gordon Stewart receive top awards

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Nearly 100 members and friends of the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce saluted leaders of the local business and nonprofit sector March 21, taking time as well to recognize the talent in the next generation with awards to two students.

Gathering at Dutchess Manor, an elegant old mansion above the Hudson River just north of the Putnam-Dutchess county line for the annual awards dinner, the chamber honored Putnam activist Rand Bridget Otten with the Katie O'Donnell Award of Excellence.

Gordon Stewart, publisher of *Philipstown.info* and its print weekly, *The Paper*, received the Business Person of the Year Award.

In presenting the O'Donnell plaque to Otten, Chamber President Vinny Tamagna, the master of ceremonies, said "this is our top award. He described Otten as representing "the fabric of Cold Spring ... the heart and soul of it."

Chamber officials subsequently said that Stewart had "engaged the audience with humor and grace while sharing a message of the importance of putting aside differences to work together for a greater good."

Stewart himself said being tapped for the honor is "an act of reaching out" by the chamber that "I deeply appreciate."

In other dinner highlights, Haldane High School seniors Sarah Diebboll and Katie Robertson claimed the Philip and Esther Baumgarten Memorial Scholarship and the Young Professional of the Year Award, respectively.

Prominent guests included state Sen. Terry Gipson and Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, who gave each honoree a proclamation and citation, respectively, District 1 Putnam County Legislator Bar-

bara Succimarra, and Bill Nulk, president of the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce. Galef helped present the Realty Person of the Year award to Sylvia Wallin, branch manager of the Houlihan Lawrence firm, while Succimarra assisted in giving the one for Nonprofit Organization of the Year to Leslie Heanue, for the Therapeutic Equestrian Center, which Heanue founded and owns.

PARC and Living Room

Otten, a Newburgh resident who grew up in Garrison and formerly lived in Cold Spring, is director of development and outreach for PARC, which works with the developmentally disabled. Along with other initiatives to benefit both PARC and the community, she created the popular pre-Christmas Cold Spring by Candlelight tours of historic homes and buildings, which also highlights Main Street businesses, and the similar summer Secret Garden Tour. Otten also has long been active in the Chamber of Commerce and is a former secretary of the organization.

"This is a wonderful honor," she said on receiving her plaque. "I'm honored, I'm privileged, and I'm touched." She described herself as feeling a bit emotional: "It's a tough exterior and inside it's a wilting flower," she said of her demeanor. Otten in turn praised her staff and PARC supporters, friends and family. "I truly believe this award is shared with so many people who've helped me along the way," she said. She received a standing ovation.

In presenting Nathalie Jonas of The Living Room on Main Street with the Innovation Award, Tamagna pointed to a new vigor in the local business community. "Think outside the box, because a new Main

(Continued on page 16)

Butterfield Ball Appears to Start Rolling Forward

Cold Spring tax rate to increase within 2 percent cap

By Jeanne Tao

Although the Butterfield project was not on the agenda of the Cold Spring Village Board workshop on Tuesday, March 26, Village Attorney Stephen Gaba reported on the development's progress, as "correspondence."

In a teleconference with property developer Paul Guillaro and his associates — planning consultant Tim Miller and attorney Richard O'Rourke — Gaba presented the timeline for project approval, which the board saw at their last meeting on March 12. That timeline had es-

timated at least 10 months for Guillaro's project to be approved by the village and its boards, including a decision on a zoning change crucial to Guillaro's plan.

Single SEQR

After hearing from Gaba that a couple of months could be shaved off the approval process with just one State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) review at the outset, Guillaro and his team told Gaba they would start working on reports for the single coordinated review.

"It would mean that Mr. Guillaro would have to kind of bite the bullet and have some site-specific reports prepared, pay the cost of having this board have its consultants review them," Gaba said. Previously, the developer had seemed reluctant to spend money on studies before the zoning change was adopted.

Zoning law changes

Gaba discussed the zoning change, which would include intergovernmental and business offices as well as retail uses, referring to concerns the public and board members had about the local law not making the concept plan a requirement if the local law was passed.

The draft law now states that the creation of a B4A district "is conditional upon approval of a site plan that is in substantial conformity with the concept plan." Substantial (Continued on page 3)



Water and Wasterwater Superintendent Greg Phillips, left, and former Trustee Gordon Robertson at the March 26 Cold Spring Village Board meeting Photo by J. Tao

Cold Spring and South Highland Methodist Churches Focus on Mission

Parishes' primary goal is to help others

By Jeanne Tao

Two impressive historical buildings in Philipstown are the United Methodist Churches of Cold Spring (on Main Street/Route 301) and South Highland (on Snake Hill Road at Route 9 in Garrison). Though their parishes and buildings differ, they share the common faith of the United Methodist Church (UMC) as well as a common pastor, Rev. Margaret Laemmel (known by congregants as "Pastor Peg").

Many aspects of the two parishes reflect a history hinted at by their churches' venerable appearance. Laemmel, for instance, likens her services at two churches and her commute from her home in Croton-on-Hudson to the work of the "circuit riders," the Methodist ministers who journeyed on horseback from parish to parish in the early days of



The United Methodist Church of South Highland

Photo by J. Tao

the American church, when there was a shortage of ministers.

Starting with mission

Methodism began as a movement within the Church of England when brothers John and Charles Wesley held "Holy Club" meetings at the University of Oxford in the 1730s, trying to discover "how to methodically live as a disciple of Christ in the world," according to Laemmel. Because of this, they were derided by others as "Methodists," and the name stuck.

"What they decided was that the basic premise of Christianity was to do mission," explained Laemmel. In England's transformation from an agricultural to industrial society, people began moving to the city, where slums grew. "There were no churches connected with those slums. They would actually go into bars and preach." (Continued on page 3)



The United Methodist Church of Cold Spring Photo by J. Tao

Mouths to Feed

A Bit Wobbly

By Celia Barbour

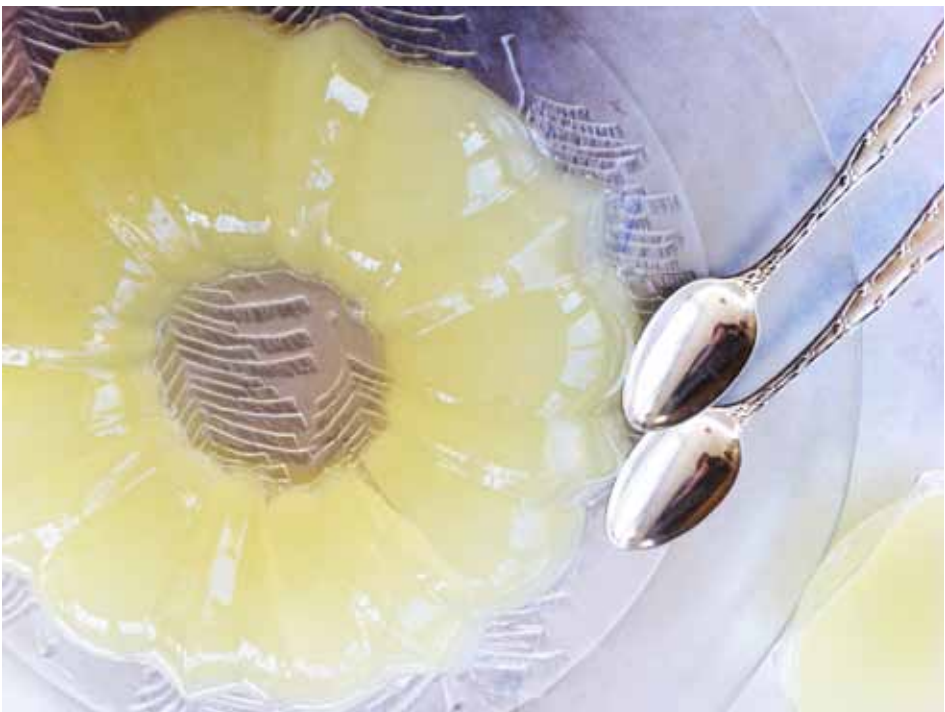
Breakfast on a tray delivered to your bed is a lovely indulgence, even when it doesn't quite live up to Downton Abbey standards. Among other things, it delays the moment when you must swing your drowsy legs out from under the covers, plant your feet on the floor, and face the implacable day.

In 1922, Emily Post wrote of the well-run country house, "Every bedroom has a set of breakfast china to match it." The dishes upon which my recent spate of breakfasts (and other meals) was brought to me were a far cry from the handpainted porcelain Post had in mind, but they did match my room in a sad kind of way. I was in a hospital — a setting that makes up for in medical utility what it lacks in aesthetic appeal — and anything on my tray that wasn't disposable was designed for easy sanitation.

And what of the food? Six times, I

emerged from opiate-colored dreams to find a meal that might actually have appealed to an ailing dowager: lime-flavored gelatin, clear broth, apple juice and lemon ice. This was the hospital's standard post-op liquid diet, identical no matter the time of day. It probably sounds awful, but, honestly, I didn't mind it. Not only was it easy on the stomach (apart from the lemon ice, which was dreadful), it also reminded me of something I don't often bother to remember, and that is how good Jell-O is — or, rather, how good Jell-O almost is, and how easy it is to make a homemade version that's nigh on perfect.

As a child, I loved Jell-O dearly. There was no reason not to! It tasted great and felt wonderful in your mouth — indeed, it is one of those rare foods (chocolate and ice cream are others) where the warmth of your tongue is instrumental in transforming its texture and releasing its flavor. And unlike my fellow Midwesterners, who have covered many a potluck table with scary Jell-O'd versions of familiar dishes — adding canned fruit, mini-marshmallows, cream cheese, salad dressing, and even lunch meats



Lemon-lime jelly Photo by C. Barbour

to the mix — I felt no need to adulterate it, apart from topping it with a little whipped cream now and again.

In my 20s, when I was a young editor at *Martha Stewart Living*, my best friend and temporary colleague, Anne, observed my birthday by asking the deli downstairs to make a giant pan of red Jell-O. The rest of the editorial staff gathered for the celebration expecting the usual Martha Stewart birthday fare: a selection of artisan tarts or exquisitely frosted delicacies. Instead, they were offered Jell-O. Most declined, leaving me to worry that I had just revealed something shameful about myself and my lowbrow background. I halfheartedly tried pretending the whole thing had been ironic, but no one bought it.

A hundred years earlier, my wobbly treat would have wowed even a gathering of the poshest aristocrats. Back then, extracting and purifying gelatin was such an arduous process that jellied

dishes were enjoyed by only the select few. In those days, too, sweet gelatin-set dishes were called "jellies," a word the British have wisely reserved for them to this day, rather than reassigning it to the stuff in jars that you spread on toast, which already has numerous other names (preserves, jam, conserves, curd, butter, marmalade). In America, we have no generic word for these treats.

Which meant that, when the Martha Stewart test kitchen announced that they were developing a story on homemade Jell-O less than a year after my birthday flop, the best name they could come up with was "Gel du Jour." The recipe below is adapted from that story. I used to make it often, substituting mint tea or even rosemary-infused water for the plain water. I made it for my kids when they were little and once served it as a palate-cleansing course in an elaborate meal.

These days, Jell-O may be most often encountered on plastic plates. But at my house, jelly will always be served on the good china.



Lemons and limes Photo by C. Barbour

Congratulations
Celia Barbour

for the national
James Beard Award
nomination for best
food-related column

Nominees

Celia Barbour	Adam Sachs	Jane & Michael Stern	Lettie Teague
Philipstown.info/The Paper	Bon Appetit	Saveur	The Wall Street Journal

from your colleagues at Philipstown.info
ThePaper

Lemon-lime jelly

- 1 cup fresh lemon-lime juice (from about 4 lemons and 4 limes)
- 2 packets gelatin
- 1¾ cups water
- ½ cup sugar

Place ½ cup of the fresh juice in a heatproof bowl. Sprinkle the gelatin over it and set aside to soften.

In a small saucepan over medium-high heat, combine the water and sugar, stirring until the sugar melts. Pour the hot sugar mixture over the gelatin mixture and stir until the gelatin is totally dissolved. Add the remaining juice and stir to combine.

Pour into a bowl, mold or small dessert dishes. Transfer to the refrigerator and allow to cool until set, about 4 hours or overnight.

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Cold Spring and South Highland Methodist Churches Focus on Mission *(from page 1)*

The Methodists, in their mission “to do no harm and do all the good that you can” — created many hospitals and schools for the poor.

Methodism in America

The end of the American Revolution sealed the fate of Methodism as a separate entity from the Anglican Church, which would not return priests to the former colonies. John Wesley therefore sent some Methodist leaders to America, and together with those who had stayed, they created the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1784.

The Methodist Church was, for a long time, “the church of America,” especially as it grew during the 19th century. The Methodist churches in South Highland (whose current building was built in 1887 on the site of the smaller 1829 sanctuary) and Cold Spring (built in 1868 to replace the smaller 1832 building at Church and Main) grew while the West Point Foundry was operating.

“Methodism grew up with America,” Laemmel said. “Our charter is very similar to the American Constitution.” The church also held up the idea of all people being created equal. “That is reflected in the idea of the church, even though we haven’t been very good at it at times, like America has not been very good at it at times,” she added, alluding to divisions within the church as well as in the nation.

One of those divisions occurred over whether blacks could take communion with whites, resulting in the creation of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1816 and the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in 1821. The question of slavery and the Civil War further created a rift, with the churches of the South splitting off in 1845 as the “Methodist Episco-



Rev. Margaret Laemmel of the United Methodist Church of Cold Spring
Photo by J. Tao

pal Church, South.” The two did not reunite until 1939 as the Methodist Church.

In 1968 the church joined with the Evangelical United Brethren to form the UMC, whose website (umc.org) states that at the time, the church “had approximately 11 million members, making it one of the largest Protestant churches in the world.”

Some of Cold Spring’s Methodists remember the days when the large church would fill with congregants. North Highland resident Ray Baker, who was superintendent of Cold Spring’s Methodist Sunday School in the ’60s and ’70s, recalled regularly having between 65 and 75 children enrolled.

Nowadays, the two churches, like many in the nation, seem to have returned to the idea of the circuit rider, with part-time pastors. Laemmel, who teaches English as a second language in Tarrytown during the week, explained: “People don’t come to church just to come to church

anymore. That’s a waste of your time.” She explained that people often shop for churches. The old adage that “you were born a Methodist, bred a Methodist, and when you die, you’re dead a Methodist” no longer exists. Instead, she said, people go church-shopping — “It’s the pastor, the people, and the programs: the three Ps.”

Still committed to mission

The programs of the two churches, which collaborate on projects and for special services, often reflect the focus on mission. In addition to hosting Girl Scouts and AA meetings, they participate in projects such as their ongoing collection of items for health kits that can be distributed by the UMC to victims of disasters.

Last year, the South Highland church ran “Teddy Bears in the Pews,” in which new stuffed animals were donated and hugged by parishioners before being given to the Garrison Fire Company for distribution to children during emergencies. The Cold Spring church worked with Exodus Transitional Community Inc. to collect and donate clothing, suitable for job interviews, to men and women re-entering society after incarceration.

Current South Highland Sunday School teacher Pat Harrington added that the churches conduct an annual coat drive. They also collected donations for Hurricane Sandy victims and contributed to “Nothing but Nets,” a campaign to end malaria. The Sunday School children often give to Heifer International, which provides livestock and training to communities to end hunger and poverty.

Harrington added a contribution made by her own daughter, Christine Harrington, who went to Mozambique on two short-term mission trips funded by the

church — a “wonderful opportunity for her in her 20s that really opened her eyes to how very fortunate we all are here.” Encouraged by her mother-in-law about 20 years ago to attend the South Highland church, Harrington said she had felt “so very welcomed” that she has been attending services there ever since. “This is the kind of a place to go to find some quiet time,” Harrington said. Many parishioners find the old church a refuge from present-day distractions, “a break from the craziness of the world today, to focus on whatever your faith is, to focus on something bigger than ourselves and how you can help others.”

Laemmel said, “We are *all* ministers in the Methodist Church,” which is sometimes called “the church of all ministers.” She continued: “All of us have ministry. You are out there to heal the world with your job.”

True to the Wesleyan spirit, the Methodist churches here continue to focus on helping others. They even continue the methodical study of how to be a disciple of Christ in a joint Bible study group, which this spring comes with a workbook, *A Disciple’s Path*. The group meets in the Cold Spring church from 1 to 4 p.m. on the second Sunday of the month.

Sunday services begin at 9:30 a.m. in South Highland (19 Snake Hill Road in Garrison) and at 11 a.m. in Cold Spring (216 Main St.), both followed by a coffee hour and refreshments. Laemmel’s sermons are posted weekly on pastorpeg.wordpress.com, and the parishes may be reached at 845-265-3365 or csshumc@aol.com.

The churches are currently seeking a pianist/organist to play at either or both Sunday services. Both churches house working 19th-century organs as well as pianos, so no organ experience is necessary.

Butterfield Ball Appears to Start Rolling Forward *(from page 1)*

conformity would mean no increase in the number of buildings; no increase over 10 percent in the size of the buildings; no shift in building location over 15 feet; no variation over 10 degrees in orientation; and no decrease over 10 percent in the open space as depicted in the concept plan.

The amendment also states that the uses on the property are not to deviate from those listed on the concept plan, which will be annotated to include descriptions of the uses for each building. In addition, the draft law limits the total amount of retail space on the property to 13,000 square feet and the total amount of business and professional office space to 32,500 square feet.

Path to approval

Gaba explained the next step would be for the Village Board to establish themselves as the lead agency for the application, which requires sending a letter to other interested agencies and a 30-day waiting period, and to send the expanded Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) that Guillaro submitted earlier to consultants for review, which would be paid for by the developer.

The SEQR process could take around 90 days, after which the applicant would

submit to the building inspector, Planning Board and Historic District Review Board (HDRB) for input.

\$14,000 lawyer bill

Outgoing Mayor Seth Gallagher reported that they received an invoice totaling \$14,000 from the attorney hired by the HDRB to help with the Dec. 5 public hearing on Guillaro’s application to demolish Butterfield Hospital, which was later approved by the HDRB on Dec. 19. At their Oct. 23 meeting, the board had voted to allow the HDRB to consult an outside lawyer, because the HDRB was not comfortable working with Gaba after disagreeing with his interpretation of the code. At that meeting, the Village Board had capped the fee at \$1,800.

Gallagher was the only one to vote against hiring the outside lawyer and supported Gaba’s opinion that the HDRB was overstepping its role as architecture review board. “We need to look at what kind of oversight there is on these, when you have a board basically spending money” that the village ends up paying. He suggested that the board go through the bill and see “if there’s a way they can reduce some of those costs.” He listed several examples of charges: “There is billing for two attorneys of the law firm

to talk to each other. There’s very little itemization. A teleconference with the chair for \$350.”

Trustee Chuck Hustis asked Gallagher if he was attempting to “berate this board for a decision that we made to hire this law firm.” Gallagher explained later: “I would say this money was spent extremely unwisely, and the bill is in our lap now, and we’ve got to figure out a way to deal with it. It’s a teachable moment, if you will.” Both Hustis and Trustee Ralph Falloon responded, “Thank you for teaching us.”

Tough budget year

Gallagher had started the meeting by presenting next year’s tentative budget, which sees rising expenditures and lowered revenues. For example, state aid for construction on the Main Street improve-

ment project — 15 percent of which the state was to pay — will not materialize, resulting in a loss of around \$120,000.

The Cold Spring Police have also requested an additional vehicle that is better suited for police work, especially in the winter. Other increases include rising costs in retirement and medical insurance, as well as a 3 percent raise for the trustees, who have not seen a raise in seven years, and increased funds for the mayor’s personal services.

A projected tax increase of 2.49 percent to balance the tentative budget was still within the state-mandated 2 percent cap.

In addition to the tax increase, sewer rates are proposed to rise to \$4 per quarter, or \$16 per year. Superintendent of Water and Wastewater Greg Phillips noted multiple projects that need immediate attention *(Continued on page 4)*



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Gordon Stewart

MANAGING EDITOR

Kevin E. Foley

ARTS/FEATURE EDITOR

Alison Rooney

SENIOR CORRESPONDENTS

Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Michael Turton

LAYOUT EDITOR

Kate Vikstrom

CALENDAR EDITOR

Chip Rowe

calendar@philipstown.info

COPY EDITOR

Jeanne Tao

REPORTERS

Mary Ann Ebner

Christine Simek

Pete Smith

PHOTOGRAPHER

Maggie Benmour

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

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Parents, Educators Rally for Preschool for Autistic Kids

Mahopac school to close after state funding cuts

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Parents and friends of a 59-year-old school for the developmentally disabled this week implored Albany to save the Mahopac-based institution, the only one of its type in Putnam County — even as the New York State Legislature rushed to complete a budget severely limiting funds for such programs.

The PARC Preschool announced March 20 that it would close on Aug. 9 because of New York state budget cuts and insufficient resources to fulfill its mission of assisting children with special needs.

Supporters of the school, which currently enrolls 53 youngsters ages 3 to 5, include a Garrison family whose son has thrived at the school to such an extent that he can soon enter a regular kindergarten. PARC Preschool advocates last week launched an online petition drive, urging the state Legislature and Gov. Andrew Cuomo to provide adequate funding. They want the state to re-base, or recalculate, the rate of reimbursement provided to the privately run but state-funded non-profit institution.

In a budget scheduled for completion April 1, Cuomo proposed a \$120 million reduction in funds for the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), which supplies agencies and voluntary programs. With cutbacks in federal allocations factored in, the total expected cutback reached \$240 million. However, last-minute budget revisions restored one-quarter of the state share of \$120 million. “It’s only \$30 million that has been able to be restored, of the \$120 million,” Assemblywoman Sandy Galef said Wednesday afternoon, March 27. Both houses of the state Legislature expected to have the budget wrapped up by Thursday night.

A difficult choice

Citing the ongoing budget problems, Susan Limongello, executive director of Putnam ARC/PARC, which sponsors the Mahopac school and other programs, termed the preschool shutdown “the hardest decision I have had to make” in more than a dozen years as PARC’s leader. The school provides an education to children free of charge to families, with the state funding, under a law on education of the handicapped.

Although the school could not provide the exact level of state funding, channeled through the Education Department, for the 2012-13 academic year, school and PARC officials said the reimbursement rate is 15 percent less than it was in 2005-06. Moreover, school officials said in announcing the closure, the

state reimbursement rates “do not even cover the costs of the children’s education. Over the past 12 years, PARC Preschool has generated a combined deficit of \$3,038,519.”

“The basic point is that as costs have risen and the need has risen — more children being diagnosed with autism — the funding from State Ed has gone down,” Rand Otten, PARC’s director of development and outreach, told *The Paper* on Tuesday. The day PARC announced the school’s demise, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention revealed that 1 of 50 school-age children has autism.

The PARC Preschool in Mahopac, serving developmentally disabled children, is scheduled to close in August due to insufficient state funding. Photo courtesy of PARC

Appearing before the Putnam County Legislature March 6 to accept a proclamation declaring March and April as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and Autism Awareness Month, respectively, Limongello warned the legislators of the cutbacks’ implications. The then-proposed \$120 million state cut represented a reduction of about \$1.2 million to PARC. “We’re at a point right now where we’ve been cut so many times in the last 2 to 3 years — well over a million dollars — that we have no fat to take from our budget,” Limongello said. “We have to go into services now. We have to cut our programs. We have to cut our staff.”

Altogether, according to Limongello, PARC assists about 650 children and adults with developmental disabilities, autism, brain injuries and special needs. The Mahopac school’s 47 employees not only educate pupils at the school but provide evaluation services externally.

A plea for help

In signing the petition to state officials, Jane Curtin, PARC’s preschool director, pointed to “the critical need for our program and services in this community, as well as the quality of services we provide. At present, the demand for admission to our program far exceeds the number of children/families we can serve annually. Closing this program will only exacerbate an already difficult situation.”

The father from Garrison attested to the quality of education offered and predicted that closing the school will only cost taxpayers more long-term. “My son attends PARC Preschool, and the school

has worked miracles with improving his social functioning, so much so that he will be attending a normal kindergarten this fall,” Peter Stevenson wrote on the petition March 24. “Keeping PARC open will save New York state millions over the years, since kindergartens will not be forced to create as many special ed classes.”

Another petition-signer, Garrison resident Bruce Capossela, commented that “it appears we are forgetting the most sensitive and vulnerable of our young population. I hate to think if I look down the road in the very near future what I will see because of our lack of better judgment.”

State Legislature members’ concerns

In a news release and messages responding to an inquiry from *The Paper* March 25, state Sen. Terry Gipson and his staff referred to strenuous efforts to restore funding in the state Legislature — a campaign that by Thursday seemed to have succeeded in getting \$30 million put back, but not the full amount.

Gipson, whose district includes part of Putnam County, said that March 23 he had attended a legislative

forum for families with developmentally disabled youngsters. “Listening to their stories only increased my concern about the proposed cuts in the state budget,” he said. “I’ve been outspoken in the fight to restore OPWDD funds and will continue to advocate better mental health services as well.”

When visiting the county Legislature earlier this month, Limongello observed that ultimate authority lies with Cuomo. “The governor still has single, line-item veto power,” she said.

For now, the state Legislature’s 25 percent restoration “is about it,” Galef acknowledged Wednesday. “At this point there just isn’t the opportunity to restore all of that money in the budget. I wish there were.” She explained that in part the situation involves Washington. “The federal government has said that our Medicaid reimbursement is inappropriate, and some of it comes back to issues dealing with the disabled community — not necessarily PARC, but just in general,” she said.

Nonetheless, she added, “there is some more federal money that’s come through, and it can be used for new programs. So it may be that there’s a way to reposition some of what they [PARC] are doing into a new program.” Moreover, she promised, “I’ll be working with the Education Department, as soon as this budget is over, about the re-basing, to find out why PARC has been having such a problem with this. I totally support their mission and what they’re doing and the people they work with, and the community.”

Butterfield Ball Appears to Start Rolling Forward *(from page 3)*

to be in compliance with Department of Environmental Conservation regulations and to avoid fines.

A public hearing on the sewer rate increase will take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 11, followed by a budget hearing at 7:15 p.m.

Docking for Bannerman tours

Executive Director Neil Caplan of Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc. (BCT) presented his application to reduce the docking fee of \$2 per foot for the Estuary Steward, a 40-foot boat that would bring tours to and help raise funds to preserve the castle. Tours currently run from Newburgh

and Beacon, and BCT already offers kayak tours from Cold Spring through Hudson Valley Outfitters. He said the current rate would be too prohibitive for the number of dates they wish to dock (Saturdays and Sundays June to October and every other Friday from mid-June to September). Caplan said the boats could bring over 30 passengers to the village per day, mainly from New York City via the train, which would boost tourism.

Because BCT is a nonprofit and because of the volume of visits, Gallagher motioned to reduce their rate to \$0.50 per foot. He was visibly frustrated with

the board’s silence, during which former Trustee Gordon Robertson defied Gallagher’s insistence on holding off public comment by saying, “You did promise the residents when they opened up the dock that if you were going to have any scheduled ferry service that you would have an open hearing.” Gallagher said, “By no definition is that a ferry service.”

The motion was seconded by Falloon when Gallagher reassured him that the village could change the agreement later. The reduced rate was approved by a vote of three, with Hustis abstaining and Trustee Matt Francisco absent.

Future of Former Guinan’s Pub Again Uncertain

Restaurant proposal withdrawn, new interest expressed in potential

By Michael Turton

Garrison Properties LLC has backed away from a proposal to develop the former Guinan’s Pub and Country Store, located at Garrison’s Landing, into a restaurant and two apartments, leaving the future of the building up in the air. Del Karlen, president of Garrison Station Plaza Inc. (GSP), owner of the building, said he was notified of the withdrawal of the proposal in early February. No reason was given for the change.

The building was home to Guinan’s Pub for 50 years and was renowned as a gathering place for local residents. Morning commuters bought their coffee and newspaper there, during the day the deli served up sandwiches and sold basic necessities, and in the evening, the pub was where locals met for a beer, conversation and the occasional game of darts. For decades it hosted Irish Nights on the first Thursday after each full moon, attracting musicians and visitors from well beyond the local area. To many, it was an unofficial community center. It closed in 2008.



Interior of the former Guinan's Pub Photo by M. Turton



The former Guinan's Pub property Photo by M. Turton

As GSP began looking at options for use of the building, there was an emotional outcry from many residents who wanted to see it again be a public meeting place — as a café or other similar enterprise. Such a use would have required an expensive retrofitting of the historic building to bring it up to code. The high cost of the sewage and wastewater treatment component in particular was an expense that GSP was not enthusiastic about absorbing. A fundraising campaign spearheaded by Mary Ellen Yanitelli, a resident at Garrison’s Landing, failed to generate enough money to assist with defraying that cost. In 2010, the building’s owners received approval from the Philipstown Planning Board to convert the main floor to offices and the upper floor to two apartments.

To the delight of many, Garrison Properties, which owns The Garrison and the Highlands Country Club,

then stepped in with its proposal to establish a restaurant and two apartments in the building. With Planning Board approval and detailed plans in hand, by late 2012 it seemed certain that construction of the restaurant would begin this year — until the proposal was withdrawn in February.

“We’ve tried really hard to accommodate what the community would like to see there,” Karlen said. “We’ve tried for five years. It’s just been hard to get someone (with the resources) to do it.”

Karlen said there is renewed interest in the property but declined to identify the proponents. He said two proposals have been discussed — one, a small inn and restaurant, and the other, a café.

GSP appeared before the Philipstown Planning Board on March 21 to discuss the potential new proposals and to determine if the previously approved use of the building as offices and apartments is still acceptable. The board asked that more detailed information be presented at a future meeting.

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31st of March
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THE GLOBAL REACH OF A MARKET LEADER.
THE PERSONAL TOUCH OF A FAMILY-OWNED COMPANY.

New Sharrows and Bicycle Racks in Beacon Encourage Bipedal Lifestyle

By Sommer Hixson

The uninitiated are often surprised to learn that Beacon, a bucolic Hudson Valley city nestled between the river and its own mountain, is not a particularly bike-friendly place. Even veteran road cyclists describe Main Street as an obstacle course. Its long corridor (about 1 mile from Route 9D/Wolcott Avenue to Beacon’s dummy light at Fishkill Creek) is unusually narrow, with parallel parking on both sides of the street. Despite city laws and fines, people ride their bikes on the sidewalks — safer for them, but not for pedestrians.

“It’s really a matter of cultural mindset. Outcome from the sharrows — more pedestrians and more cyclists using the streets in a shared way — would change people’s behavior over time.”

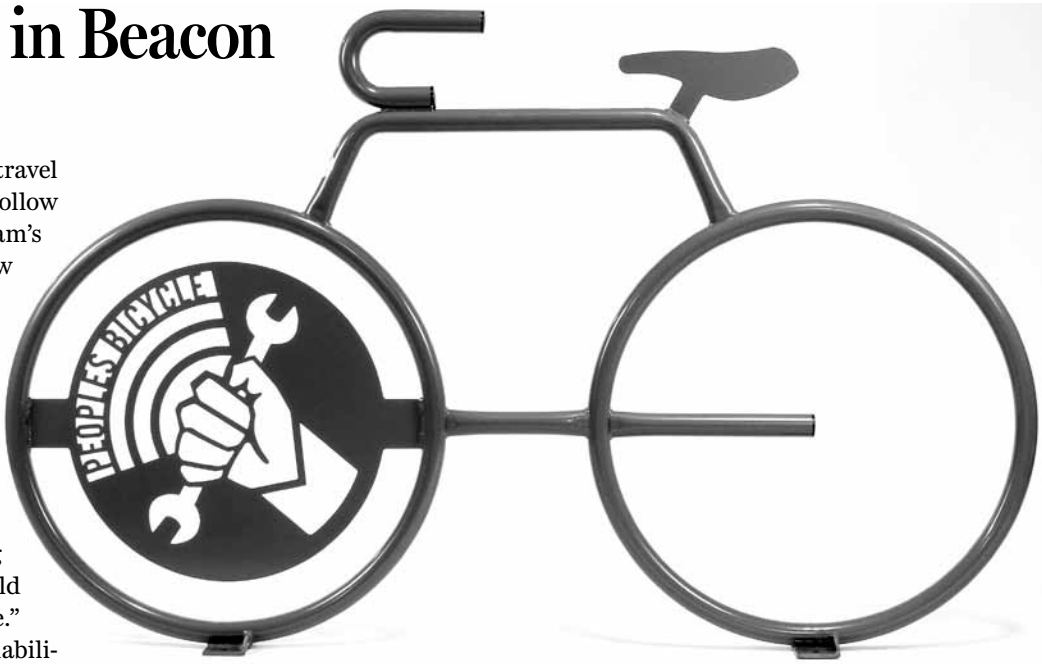
Stowe Boyd, a writer, public speaker and editor of the online publication *Beacon Streets*, said that’s all about to change. Last summer, Boyd collaborated with Bikeable Beacon’s Mark Roland and Scenic Hudson planner Mark Wildonger on a proposal to the state to underwrite the cost of painting “sharrows” (shared lane bicycle markings) on Beacon’s Main Street. These pavement markings, consisting of a bicycle symbol and two chevrons, remind motorists that bicyclists have the same rights to use the full lane

but they also encourage cyclists to travel on streets — not sidewalks — and follow the same traffic laws as cars. The team’s proposal was accepted by the New York State Greenway Commission, which granted the project \$2,600. “It’s about regulation and enforcement, but it’s really a matter of cultural mindset,” said Boyd, whose website advocates a “walkable Beacon.” “Outcome from the sharrows — more pedestrians and more cyclists using the streets in a shared way — would change people’s behavior over time.”

“Our project grew out of a sustainability report initiated by Hudson River Sloop Clearwater’s Climate Justice study for Poughkeepsie, Peekskill, Kingston and Beacon,” said Roland. “Beacon’s focus was on bikes, where it was determined that sharrows were the best solution. We adapted that initial presentation for approval by Beacon’s city council.”

According to Wildonger, the sharrows are part of a larger initiative for trails and bicycling and pedestrian activity called the Beacon Loop Trail. “Wherever you are on Main Street you can more easily get down to the train,” he said. “From there, through a grant just received by the city, the Klara Sauer riverfront trail will be connected to the Madam Brett Trail, looping back up to Main Street via Tioronda Avenue along Fishkill Creek.”

Funding from the state is merely seed money, so the team has partnered with BeaconArts.org to raise an additional \$2,000 through an Indiegogo campaign (a “crowdfunding” website) for installation costs. The rest of the project’s total



budget of \$10,800 is offset by in-kind services, such as bike awareness classes taught by Roland, and donated products or materials.

Tom Cerchiara, owner of Beacon Cycles, and Thomas Wright of local design and manufacturing firm Atlas Industries, will be working with Main Street merchants to install a number of bike racks made by Atlas. Peoples Bicycle will be installing six more along the perimeter of Key Food’s new tree-lined parking lot. Their bright green, bicycle-shaped racks were produced by Dero, which also supplied the David Byrne-designed racks outside the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

Jon Miles of Peoples Bicycle admits he was initially shy about taking a public stance on bicycle rights, preferring to work quietly on growing a bike culture in Beacon. He now advocates the sharrows project and its leadership as the most effective way to build consensus through education and visual symbols.

“This is about transportation equity,”

said Miles. “There’s an alienation and anxiety that comes with driving a car that projects itself onto everything else. It’s not sustainable if all of us who walk or ride bikes decided instead to get in a car.”

Beacon Cycles will soon expand its bike rental program with a new fleet from Giant. “Although this area of the Hudson Valley is renowned for its challenging mountain bike trails, commuter cycling is just starting to catch on here,” said Cercheria. Wright added, “We are creatures of habit, myself included. The steps we’re taking now are key elements to encouraging cycling as a choice.”

Completion of these projects is targeted for end of April, timed to National Bike Month in May, National Bike-to-Work Week (May 16-20), and Beacon’s Centennial Parade on May 18. Bikeable Beacon’s awareness classes will be held on April 18 and April 25 at 7 p.m. at Beacon’s Community Resource Center, 23 West Center St. in Beacon.

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The Calendar



Connor Filardo sculpture, above, *Tomato Still Life* by Cassandra Nicholas, above right, and a photograph by Skye Horgan, right, will be among the pieces by Haldane High School students on exhibit at 69 Main St. beginning April 12.

Photos courtesy of the artists



Authors Amber Dermont and James Hoch Open Sunset Reading Series

Fiction and poetry spotlighted on April 7 at the Chapel Restoration

By Alison Rooney

Early April may signify the first stirrings of excitement over the nascent baseball season to those in love with that game, but for those locals similarly besotted with the written word, it means that the Sunset Reading Series (SRS) is nigh.

The season opener for the SRS will be held a touch earlier than usual this year, as its home, the Chapel Restoration, is particularly busy with weddings and concerts throughout June, moving the series' usual May and June dates forward a month. The first will take place on Sunday, April 7, at 4 p.m. Novelist and short-story author Amber Dermont will share the stage with poet (and Garrison resident) James Hoch.

First Haldane High School Art Show Debuts at 69 Main

A student show, run by students; opening reception on April 12

By Alison Rooney

Although the work of Haldane's talented visual arts students has been displayed in the art classroom (check out the ceiling) and in a small cluster of cabinets nearby, there has never been a chance for these artists to participate in a true exhibition of their work. That will change on Friday, April 12, when the first Haldane High School Art Show opens at the *Philipstown.info/The Paper* space at 69 Main St. in Cold Spring.

Curated by two seniors, Connor Filardo, currently a student there, and Cassandra Nicholas, a former Haldane student who now studies advertising art and digital design at Putnam-Northern Westchester BOCES, the exhibition features works from 12 student artists in grades 10 through 12. The works shown cover a wide variety of media: painting, sculpture, photography, drawings and pen-and-ink studies.

Nicholas, who will be attending the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) in the fall, first conceived of the idea of starting a club for students interested in fine arts; this morphed into an end-of-the-year exhibit instead. Conferring with Haldane High School Principal Brian Alm, the school's art teacher Tom Locascio and independent art curator Amy Lipton, the exhibition space was obtained and the two students went about recruiting artists to

participate in the show.

Filardo, who has been accepted into Cooper Union, met with Locascio, who showed him the work of talented younger students, and a couple were found in that way. Others were simply part of the fabric of fine artists drawn to each other in the community. Flyers inviting anyone to submit work for consideration were posted in the school. As Filardo said, "We kept it open so that everyone who had the guts to submit their work will be displayed." Besides, added Nicholas, "there's beauty in everything." Ultimately, despite the assistance from adults, this is a student show run by students.

The work will be displayed "salon style" throughout the 69 Main space, and should an artist be willing to make his or her work available for sale, it can be. Some of the work stems from broadly themed classroom assignments, such as an instruction to make a geometric composition using any shapes and any number of dimensions. Personal work is also included in the show. "Usually your personal work explains you the best, and it's not something you've done for a grade," Nicholas said.

Filardo hopes the show will draw attention to the visual arts at Haldane, in a positive way. "Visual arts could use more support there," he said. "There are very limited resources. After the show, the community will be able to see what

Haldane produces, and hopefully Haldane will receive more support."

Nonetheless Filardo described his fellow students as very supportive of the visual arts overall, noting that he had lots of "sports friends" who are always interested in the things he is doing and producing, including a mural he made at the school last year. Nicholas said there are usually two or three students per graduation class who go on to art school and others who wind up minoring in art while majoring in something else at liberal arts colleges.

Nicholas plans on studying illustration at SCAD, but she's also looking forward to trying out new forms, such as printmaking and sculpture. She declared herself "really in love with painting right now — it's been a life-changing thing. I've always liked drawing — any kind of art, really."

Nicholas' mother is a fashion designer, but an internship cured Nicholas of any desire to enter that field, as it was "too stressful." She cited her "culturally oriented grandparents" as being "really supportive, through the years, paying for classes, everything." Nicholas recently completed the Garrison Art Center's mentorship program. Her mentor, Sheryl Levine, "had an idea for a really big ABC book of world cities. I grew obsessed with the project, and I'm hoping to either find a publisher or (Continued on page 11)



James Hoch, left, and Amber Dermont

Photos courtesy of the artists

Dermont's collection of short stories, *Damage Control*, has just been published by St. Martin's Press and was favorably reviewed in the *The New York Times Sunday Book Review* on March 24. Dermont received her bachelor's degree from Vassar, her Master of Fine arts in fiction from the Iowa Writers' Workshop, and a doctorate in literature and creative writing from the University of Houston.

Prior to the publication of this collection, Dermont's short stories appeared in *American Short Fiction*, *The Georgia Review*, *Open City*, *Tin House*, *TriQuarterly*, *Zoetrope: All-Story* and in the anthologies *Best New American Voices* and *Best American Nonrequired Reading*.

Dermont's first novel, *The Starboard Sea*, was published just over a year ago and received a front-page *Times Sunday Book Review* write-up, where it was called "captivating and inspired." Set in a not-quite-stellar New England boarding school and using the narrative voice of a 14-year-old boy, and addressing both literal and spiritual navigation, it was selected as an Editors' Choice by *The New York Times Book Review* and as a Best Summer Reading Selection from *O, The Oprah Magazine*.

Also reading will be poet and recent transplant to Garrison James Hoch, whose poems have appeared in *American Poetry Review*, (Continued on page 11)

SITTING on
the BENCH
❖ by Tara ❖



I am well aware of the privilege I enjoy in being able to pass on my thoughts to the world. That, together with my unassuming character, leads me to avoid mentioning the waves of admiration that wash over me. Even so, I feel compelled to describe my role as a therapy dog, one that might not be known except by those I have helped. Mais oui, on the battlefield sniffer dogs do impressive work and in prisons and hospitals therapy dogs bring comfort to the afflicted. At the Goose, I do my bit as well. I'll explain.

Sometimes children enter, see me and become frightened. They are scared of dogs. I chuckle to myself but I don't move and the boss springs into action. She tells the little ones that I am the sweetest of creatures who would never hurt them. Often they are skeptical. With great patience the boss persuades them to approach me. She encourages them to kneel and gently touch me. Even though they don't have a treat, for me I remain absolutely still. In a few moments they are stroking me, their fears banished. And they're smiling.

Last weekend, the boss was downstairs preparing gift baskets while upstairs I was guarding the store. Through the door came a young couple. Their reaction on seeing me was remarkable. The woman cringed in a corner while her escort stood in front of her to protect her. She was fearstruck. That was the frozen tableau the boss spied when she emerged from the basement. The boss explained that I was the gentlest of dogs who loved to be petted. It took a while but with considerable bravery the woman emerged from the corner and went on her knees to stroke me. Her eyes were shining. The man joined her and together they made a fuss over me. Another triumph.

The couple, from Brooklyn, said they were spending a couple of days in Cold Spring. The next day, they came back and told the boss that meeting me was one of the best things that ever happened. Of course, they had to pet me.

At the Goose, customers know that the boss can create any type of gift basket for all occasions. She has even won awards for her work. Maybe I should be given an award for my work.



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The Calendar

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ONGOING

Aspects

NOON - 6 P.M. THURSDAY TO SUNDAY
MARINA GALLERY
153 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2204 | themarinagallery.com
Through March 31

Elegy

11 A.M. - 6 P.M. FRIDAY TO SUNDAY
THEO GANZ STUDIO | 149 Main St., Beacon
917-318-2239 | theoganzstudio.com
Through April 7

Evening Light: Oil Paintings by Linda Puiatti

NOON - 6 P.M. WEDNESDAY TO MONDAY
RIVERWINDS GALLERY | 172 Main St., Beacon
845-838-2880 | riverwindsgallery.com
Through April 8

Figuratively Speaking

NOON - 6 P.M. THURSDAY TO SUNDAY
GALLERY 66 NY | 66 Main St., Cold Spring
845-809-5838 | gallery66ny.com
Through March 31

Laura Gurton: Recent Paintings

10 A.M. - 6 P.M. MONDAY TO SATURDAY
11 A.M. - 6 P.M. SUNDAY
HUDSON BEACH GALLERY | 162 Main St., Beacon
845-440-0068 | hudsonbeachglass.com
Through April 7

Marnie Hillsley and Simon Draper: Collage,

Collaboration and CoHabitatation

Jesse M. Kahn: Transformations

3 - 8 P.M. FRIDAY
NOON - 6 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
BEACON ARTIST UNION | 506 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7584 | baugallery.com | Through April 7

Peekskill Project V: The New Hudson River School

Through July 28
The Power of Place | Through April 28
11 A.M. - 5 P.M. FRIDAY

NOON - 6 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART
1701 Main St., Peekskill | 914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

The P Word With Rick Rogers & Catello Somma

NOON - 6 P.M. THURSDAY TO SUNDAY
X ON MAIN | 159 Main St., Beacon
845-239-5535 | xonmain.com | Through April 1

Robin Dana: Watershed

9 A.M. - 5 P.M. MONDAY TO THURSDAY
11 A.M. - 5 P.M. SATURDAY
NOON - 5 P.M. SUNDAY
BEACON INSTITUTE | 199 Main St., Beacon
845-838-1600 | bire.org/events | Through Oct. 6

Romanticism: Andrea Hanak and Frank Hutter

10 A.M. - 5 P.M. TUESDAY TO SUNDAY
GARRISON ART CENTER | 23 Garrison's Landing,
Garrison | 845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org
Through May 5

Studio Mali by François Deschamps

NOON - 6 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
FOVEA EXHIBITIONS | 143 Main St., Beacon
917-930-0034 | foveaexhibitions.org
Through April 7

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

Good Friday

Village Offices Closed

Kids & Community

Scenic Hudson River Center

9 A.M. - 5 P.M. OPEN HOUSE
10 A.M. MAKE A FIELD NOTEBOOK
2 P.M. A LANDSCAPE AS ART
Long Dock Road, Beacon
845-473-4440, ext. 273 | scenichudson.org

School Break Mini-Camp (K-3)

9 - 11:30 A.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845-534-7781 | hhnaturemuseum.org

Indoor Tot Park

NOON - 2 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Wine Tasting

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

Pizza Night and Ice Cream Social

4 - 8 P.M. NORTH HIGHLANDS FIRE DEPARTMENT
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring
845-265-9595. Call ahead for take-out.

Theater & Film

Oscar Shorts 2013

3:30 P.M. ANIMATED
8 P.M. LIVE ACTION
DOWNING FILM CENTER | 19 Front St., Newburgh
845-561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.com

Music

Lux Aeterna by Lauridsen

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

Thomas Wesley Stern and Jacob Bernz

7:30 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Live Music

8 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE'S
184 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

Derek Dempsey

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

Meetings & Lectures

Free Computer Help

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

Beginner AA Meeting

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

Religious Services

Graymoor Spiritual Life Center

8 A.M. TENEBRAE SERVICE (ST. FRANCIS CHAPEL)
3 P.M. CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION
(OUR LADY OF ATONEMENT CHAPEL)
8 P.M. STATIONS OF THE CROSS
1350 Route 9, Cold Spring
800-338-2620 | graymoorcenter.org

Our Lady of Loretto

8:15 A.M. TENEBRAE SERVICE
NOON. STATIONS OF THE CROSS
3 P.M. VENERATION OF THE CROSS
7 P.M. PROCESSION | 24 Fair St., Cold Spring
845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

NOON. ECUMENICAL SERVICE WITH RECEPTION
6 P.M. STATIONS OF THE CROSS
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

7 P.M. TENEBRAE SERVICE
65 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley
845-528-8858 | stlukesputnamvalley.org

Beacon Hebrew Alliance

7:30 P.M. 331 VERPLANCK AVE., BEACON
847-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

Reform Temple of Putnam Valley

8 P.M. 362 CHURCH, PUTNAM VALLEY
845-528-4774 | ny069.urj.net

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

Kids & Community

Cold Spring Farmers' Market

8:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN COMMUNITY
CENTER | 107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
csfarmmarket.org

Food Pantry

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

Funny Bunnies

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

Family Fun Community Day

NOON - 4:30 P.M. DUTCHESS PARK SHOPPING
CENTER | 1545 Route 52, Fishkill

Animal Adventures: Frog Frolic

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

Meet the Animals

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

Rabbits Don't Lay Eggs and Egg Hunt

2 P.M. BEACON YOGA CENTER
464 Main St., Beacon | beaconyogacenter.com

Wine Tasting

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

Dance Night With Cumbia, Cha-Cha and Fox Trot Instruction

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

Art & Design

Dia:Beacon Tour

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

Theater & Film

Oscar Shorts 2013

3:30 P.M. LIVE ACTION | 6 P.M. ANIMATED
DOWNING FILM CENTER | See details under Friday.

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Music

Saturday Soul Shakedown
7 P.M. BANK SQUARE COFFEEHOUSE
129 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7165 | banksquarecoffeehouse.com

Live Music
8 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE’S | Details under Friday

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

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

Meetings & Lectures

Overeaters Anonymous
8:30 A.M. GRAYMOOR SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER
1350 Route 9, Garrison | 917-716-2488 | oa.org

AA Meeting
10 A.M. - NOON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
216 Main St., Cold Spring | 845-265-3365

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

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

Religious Services

Graymoor Spiritual Life Center
8 A.M. TENEBRAE SERVICE (ST. FRANCIS CHAPEL)
8 P.M. EASTER VIGIL (OUR LADY OF ATONEMENT CHAPEL) | See details under Friday.

Our Lady of Loretto
8:15 A.M. TENEBRAE SERVICE
4:30 P.M. CONFESSION
8:15 P.M. EASTER VIGIL | Details under Friday

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church
7 P.M. EASTER VIGIL WITH OPEN BAPTISM
See details under Friday.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

Easter

Kids & Community

Easter Egg Hunt
NOON. ST. MARY’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

Easter Egg Hunt
NOON. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PHILIPSTOWN | 10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Easter Egg Hunt
NOON. ST. PHILIP’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1101 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

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



March 30, 7pm
Bank Square Coffeehouse
129 Main Street, Beacon
Beacon Music Factory’s MoTown/Soul/Blues workshop members will perform on Saturday at Bank Square in Beacon. *Image courtesy of BMF*

Health & Fitness

Pick-up Adult Soccer
8:45 A.M. BEACON MEMORIAL PARK ATHLETIC FIELD
meetup.com/hudsonvalleycoedsoccer

Art & Design

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

Theater & Film

Oscar Shorts 2013
5 P.M. LIVE ACTION
DOWNING FILM CENTER | Details under Friday

Meetings & Lectures

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

Book Club: Get a Life by Nadine Gordimer
2 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org
Call for location.

Intro to Energy Healing
2 P.M. BEACON YOGA CENTER | 464 Main St., Beacon | 347-489-8406 | beaconyogacenter.com

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

Religious Services

Our Lady of Loretto
7:30, 9 & 11:45 A.M. 24 FAIR ST., COLD SPRING
845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

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

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

Grace United Methodist Church
8:15 & 10 A.M. 337 PEEKSKILL HOLLOW ROAD, Putnam Valley | 845-526-3788

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MONDAY, APRIL 1

Kids & Community

Boscobel Opens for Season
9:30 - 5 P.M. 1601 ROUTE 9D, GARRISON
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

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

Stonecrop Gardens Open for Season
10 A.M. - 5 P.M. 81 STONECROP LANE, COLD SPRING | 845-265-2000 | stonecrop.org

Yoga for Toddlers
10 A.M. BEACON YOGA CENTER
464 Main St., Beacon
347-489-8406 | beaconyogacenter.com

Indoor Tot Park
NOON - 2 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
See details under Friday.

Parents Support Group
7 P.M. COLD SPRING HEALING ARTS
6 Marion Ave., Cold Spring | 914-522-9044.
Sponsored by Haldane and Garrison PTAs.

Health & Fitness

Youth Basketball Skills/Drills (grades 3-8)
6:15 - 7:15 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

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

Art & Design

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

(Continued on next page)

BROWN PAPER TICKETS

Comedy In The Afternoon

Matinees Only
Thursday thru Sunday - limited seating

May 2 - 25

Comedy in the Afternoon is a production of Comedy In the Afternoon, Inc.
M.D. Fidanque, Pres.

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Desmond-Fish Library
472 Rte 403, Garrison NY
Comedyintheafternoon.com • 845-424-3020

Adventurous Drawing for All Ages

Join the FUN at these Main Street locations in Cold Spring.
Marina Gallery
Gallery 66 NY
The Living Room

Drawings to be exhibited at OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, April 6, 12 - 3pm

free!

Hands on FUN for everyone!

Ages 8 to 98!
Children under 8 must be accompanied by adult

OPEN HOUSE at the ART CENTER Saturday, April 13

10:30 - 12:00
Clay creations, Silkscreen printing
12:30 - 2:00
Paper Marbling
Experimental drawing
Mono-type printing

23 Garrison's Landing
Garrison, NY 10524
845.424.3960
info@garrisonartcenter.org

Garrison Art Center

The Calendar (from page 9)

Theater & Film

Oscar Shorts 2013
2 P.M. ANIMATED
7:30 P.M. LIVE ACTION
DOWNING FILM CENTER | See details under Friday.

Music

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

Meetings & Lectures

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

Member Meeting
7 P.M. COLD SPRING BOAT CLUB
5 New St., Cold Spring
845-265-2465 | coldspringboatclub.com

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

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

Religious Services

Our Lady of Loretto
8:15 A.M. MASS | See details under Friday.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

Kids & Community

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

Farm Fun Together (ages 18 months to 5 years)
10 A.M. GLYNWOOD FARM
362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring
845-265-3338 | glynwood.org

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

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

Health & Fitness

Free Level 2 Yoga Class
9:30 A.M. LIVING YOGA STUDIOS
3182 Route 9, Cold Spring | 845-809-5900
livingyogastudios.com
Rescheduled from March 19

Art & Design

Of Time and Place: Celebrating Scenic Hudson's 50 Years
5:30 - 8 P.M. SCENIC HUDSON
Long Dock Road, Beacon
845-473-4440, ext. 273 | scenichudson.org

Theater & Film

Oscar Shorts 2013
5 P.M. ANIMATED
DOWNING FILM CENTER | See details under Friday.

Music

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

Meetings & Lectures

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

Book Club: The Rise of the Creative Class
1 P.M. PUTNAM HISTORY MUSEUM
63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-4010 | putnamhistorymuseum.org

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



Cassidy Ossenkopp collects Easter eggs at the Knights of Columbus hunt in Cold Spring on March 23.

Photo by Maggie Benmour

Naturalist Lecture Series: Native Pollinators of the Hudson Valley

6:30 P.M. SCENIC HUDSON'S RIVER CENTER
Long Dock Road, Beacon
845-473-4440, ext. 273 | scenichudson.org

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

QSY Society Amateur Radio Club
7 P.M. EAST FISHKILL COMMUNITY LIBRARY
348 Route 376, Hopewell Junction
914-582-3744 | qsysociety.org

Anatomy and Physiology for Energy Healers (First Session)
7 P.M. HEALING HOUSE
11 North Cedar St., Beacon
914-456-9349 | beaconyogacenter.com

Budget Info Session and Board Meeting
7 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Board of Trustees Workshop
7:30 P.M. VILLAGE HALL | 85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

Cold Spring Planning Board
7:30 P.M. VILLAGE HALL | 85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

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

Company Meeting
8 P.M. NORTH HIGHLANDS FIRE DEPARTMENT | 504 Fishkill, Cold Spring | nhfd21.org

Religious Services

Our Lady of Loretto
8:15 A.M. MASS
7 P.M. BIBLE STUDY | See details under Friday.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

Kids & Community

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

Chess Club With Moning Lin | 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.
HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

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

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

Music & Movement for Toddlers

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

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

move + play (ages 5-7)
4 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY | 313 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Health & Fitness

Breastfeeding Support Group
11 A.M. HUDSON VALLEY HOSPITAL CENTER
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-734-3896 | hvhc.org/events

Art & Design

Storm King Art Center Opens
10 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.
2 P.M. HIGHLIGHTS TOUR | 1 Museum Road, New Windsor | 845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Theater & Film

Oscar Shorts 2013
5 P.M. LIVE ACTION
DOWNING FILM CENTER | See details under Friday.

Westchester Jewish Film Festival
7 P.M. A.K.A. DOC POMUS PLUS Q&A
JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Meetings & Lectures

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

Haldane School Board
7 P.M. HALDANE SCHOOL
15 Craigsides Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

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

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First Haldane High School Art Show Debuts at 69 Main *(from page 7)*

self-publish it later this year.”

BOCES has been a better fit for her than Haldane was. “It’s been incredible. I would recommend going there to anyone; it’s the best decision I ever made. The teachers and the students are all so supportive of each other; we teach each other.”

Filardo participated in the mentor program a year ago, working under the

guidance of Coulter Young. He also took John Allen’s figure drawing classes last summer at the Art Center, which he described as very helpful to his college portfolio. He hopes to specialize in fine art and become an exhibiting artist after his time at Cooper Union. Currently he studies oil painting with Paul W. McCormack. “My hopes at Cooper Union are to

learn more and eventually exhibit. I’ve always been interested in mixed media, drawing and photography. I’d like to incorporate a lot of artistic skills and reach new people through my art.”

The other artists who will be exhibiting are Max Beachek; Henry Dul; Mina Elwell; Skye Horgan; Sam Kapsas; Lindy Labriola; Paige O’Toole; Quil Silverstein;

Jenna Vandermerwe and Sophia Vechnyak, all Haldane High School students.

The opening reception will be held on Friday, April 12, from 6 to 8 p.m., and the exhibit will run through April 28. Hours throughout are Fridays, 4 to 7 p.m, and Saturdays and Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m.

The Calendar *(from page 10)*

Town Board Workshop
7:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN TOWN HALL
238 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

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

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

Religious Services

First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown
7 A.M. CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Our Lady of Loretto
8:15 A.M. MASS | See details under Friday.

Beacon Hebrew Alliance
8:30 A.M. MORNING MINYAN
331 Verplanck Ave., Beacon
847-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

Graymoor Spiritual Life Center
9:30 A.M. BIBLE STUDY AND MASS
JOHN XXIII PARLOR, 5TH FLOOR
8 P.M. CENTERING PRAYER MEETING
ST. FRANCIS CHAPEL | 1350 Route 9, Garrison
800-338-2620 | graymoorcenter.org

Church on the Hill
7 P.M. BIBLE STUDY | 245 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2022 | coldspringchurchonthehill.org

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

Kids & Community

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

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

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

Pitch in for Parks: Madam Brett
5:30 P.M. SCENIC HUDSON
Long Dock Road, Beacon
845-473-4440, ext. 273 | scenichudson.org

Health & Fitness

Dance * Drum * Sing * Hum
7:30 P.M. BEACON YOGA CENTER
464 Main St., Beacon
347-489-8406 | beaconyogacenter.com

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

Art & Design

Highlights Tour
2 P.M. STORM KING ART CENTER
1 Museum Road, New Windsor
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Theater & Film

Oscar Shorts 2013
2 P.M. LIVE ACTION
5 P.M. ANIMATED
DOWNING FILM CENTER | See details under Friday.

Westchester Jewish Film Festival
2:30 P.M. CABARET-BERLIN: THE WILD SCENE
5 P.M. KOCH
7:30 P.M. JOE PAPP IN FIVE ACTS WITH Q&A
JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
See details under Wednesday.

Poetry Night
6 P.M. WRITING WORKSHOP
7 P.M. OPEN MIC
BEANRUNNER CAFÉ | 201 S. Division, Peekskill
914-737-1701 | beanrunnercafe.com

Music

Hudson Valley Comhaltas
6 P.M. CLASSES
8 P.M. SESSION
NORTH HIGHLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring
hudsonvalleycc@gmail.com

Old-Timey Fiddle/Mandolin Class
7:30 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison | harrybolick.com

Meetings & Lectures

AARP Tax Assistance
10 A.M. - 2 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
See details under Monday.

Budget and Trustee Vote
NOON - 8 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Book Club: The Rise of the Creative Class
6:30 P.M. PUTNAM HISTORY MUSEUM
See details under Tuesday.

Board Game Night
7 P.M. CUP AND SAUCER | 165 Main St., Beacon
meetup.com/Beacon-Board

Introductory Floral Design
7 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation

Chess Club
7 - 10 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Enneagram Meeting
7:30 P.M. BEAHIVE BEACON | 291 Main St., Beacon
meetup.com/Enneagram-Beacon-NY

Town Board Meeting
7:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN TOWN HALL
238 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

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

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

Religious Services

Our Lady of Loretto
8:15 A.M. MASS | See details under Friday.

Church on the Hill
6:30 P.M. HILL TOP VISIONARIES (YOUNG ADULTS)
245 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2022 | coldspringchurchonthehill.org

Graymoor Spiritual Life Center
7:30 P.M. ST. JOHN’S PRAYER GROUP
ST. PIUS X CHAPEL
1350 Route 9, Garrison
800-338-2620 | graymoorcenter.org

Authors Amber Dermont and James Hoch Open Sunset Reading Series *(from page 7)*

Virginia Quarterly Review, The Washington Post, Antioch, Slate, The Kenyon Review, The Gettysburg Review, Ninth Letter, The Virginia Quarterly Review, New England Review, Pleiades and others. The recipient of fellowships from Bread Loaf, Sewanee and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, he also received a literature fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. In 2008 he was poet-in-residence at The Frost Place. Hoch teaches at Ramapo College in New Jersey. He received a Master of Fine Arts in creative writing/poetry from the University of Maryland and reports that prior to teaching he worked as a “dish-washer, dockworker, cook, social worker and shepherd.” Hoch’s books include *Miscreants*, published by W.W. Norton, and *A Parade of Hands*, from the Silverfish Review Press.

Hoch is looking forward to reading at a place he knows well. “I love the chapel space, and I think the series is remarkable in both the quality of the authors as well as the quality of the audience’s attentiveness. I’ll probably read a selection of new poems about my brother deploying to Afghanistan as well as some longer meditations on the environment, and a few poems from either of my two books.”

Hoch and his wife “had been living near Nyack for a few years and usually made a once a month or so trip up to Cold Spring for the tot park. I spent more than a few Sundays reading the *Times* and drifting off on one of the benches, while my two boys took full advantage of the sandbox. We moved here in July of last year. My wife and I love it here. The community in and around Cold Spring and Garrison has been very friendly and welcoming. There’s a trove of very talented and interesting people, and we’ve felt an immediate connection to the landscape and the community.”

About the series

The two women behind SRS, Ivy Meeropol and Rebekah Tighe, are excited to begin a new season of readings. As in the previous four editions, there will be

four readings, two each in spring and fall.

A recent fundraiser, held at Cathryn’s Tuscan Grill in Cold Spring, raised enough money, when combined with a grant from the New York State Council on the Arts, to allow the organizers to break even on producing the series. The fundraiser “met our expectations,” said Tighe. “It was a lot of fun — a dance party with a DJ, great music, and an ‘erasures’ poetry (a form of ‘found’ poetry created by erasing words or phrases from an existing text in order to re-characterize it) contest, taken from the first page of T.C. Boyle’s *World’s End*.”

Fundraising will continue with the sale of a movie-poster-sized version of their fifth anniversary poster, which combines images of all of the prior SRS posters. Each costs \$50 and can be ordered at the reading or at sunsetreadings.org.

In seeking out authors to read, Tighe said she pursues a number of avenues, including “reading magazines that contain short stories and poetry. When I find someone interesting, I look them up to see where they live, and sometimes it’s Rhinebeck or somewhere like that or New York City, and it’s worth a try. I also look up bookstores all over the place to see who is doing reading tours, and then I check them out, not just for their work, but to see if they’re supposed to be good readers.”

Tighe and Meeropol also rely on recommendations from poet and Sarah Lawrence professor Jeff McDaniel, who is “hooked into lots of writers, because he himself reads his work all over the country,” said Tighe.

Meeropol also makes connections with writers at the many film festivals she attends through her work as a documentary filmmaker. It is through personal connections with Meeropol that May’s SRS author, famed novelist and essayist E.L. Doctorow, was invited. That reading will take place on Sunday, May 5.

All SRS readings are free and accompanied by a wine-and-cheese, meet-the-authors reception afterwards; donations are welcome. Free parking is available at the adjacent Metro-North station.



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Friday, March 29 - Thursday, April 4

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FRI 8:15, SAT 1:00 8:15, SUN 7:30
TUE 2:00 7:30, WEDS & THURS 7:30

Oscar Shorts 2013 ^(NR)

Animated (\$6; Members \$5)
FRI 3:30, SAT 5:45, MON 5:00
TUE 5:00, THU 5:00

Live Action (\$6; Members \$5)

FRI 5:45, SAT 3:30, SUN 5:00
MON 7:30 WEDS 5:00, THU 2:00

www.downingfilmcenter.com



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website: arttoweartoo.weebly.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Audubon Society Dinner, Bird Talk on April 6

The Putnam Highlands Audubon Society will hold its 12th annual dinner on Saturday, April 6, with a social hour beginning at 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m., and a presentation by Douglas Goodell at 7 p.m. Goodell, an award-winning wildlife photographer, will present on *The Beautiful Birds of Costa Rica*.

Tickets for the dinner and presentation are \$35 per person. RSVP to Paul Kuznia via email at swixblue@hotmail.com or phone at 845-265-3773, ext. 102. Payment via check should be sent to PHAS, P.O. Box 292, Cold Spring, NY 10516 by Saturday, March 30.

Library Presents Talk on Deer, Lyme, Environment

The latest news on Lyme and other tick-borne diseases, as well as the environmental impact of deer, will be presented by a special panel of experts from the Putnam County Health Department, Vassar College and a native plant expert.

Deer, Lyme and the Environment will take place on Saturday, April 6, from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Desmond-Fish Library, 472 Route 403 in Garrison. The event is free and open to the public and sponsored by the Philipstown Garden Club.

Putnam History Museum Annual Meeting April 6

The Putnam History Museum Annual Meeting will convene on Saturday, April 6, at 4 p.m. The meeting will begin with reports by the Board Chair William Hicks and Executive Director Mindy Krazmien. This will be followed by a presentation by Deputy Department Head of History at West Point Col. Ty Seidule on his latest research, *Black Power Cadets: How African American Students Changed West Point in the 1970s*.

Seidule outlines President Nixon's 1971 proposal to create a Confederate monument on the West Point campus and the activism of the black cadets that ultimately led to the proposal's dissolution. He will also talk about the cadets' activism to raise funds for sickle cell anemia research, including how the cadets organized the "Concert for the Blood," which featured Stevie Wonder and the Supremes, and how it changed race rela-

tions at West Point. Following the lecture, wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served. RSVP by calling 845-265-4010 or by emailing info@putnamhistorymuseum.org. This event is free for all attendees.

St. Mary's Offers Open Baptism at Easter Vigil

St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Cold Spring invites all those interested in being baptized — or having children baptized — as Christians to do so at the church's candlelight Easter Vigil, on Saturday, March 30, at 7 p.m. According to the rector, Rev. Shane Scott-Hamblen, St. Mary's open baptism with "no questions asked" accommodates not only parents of young children or adults who "forgot or never quite got around to it," but anyone turned away from another congregation in the past. Over the last 10 years, dozens of families and individuals have accepted the invitation.

To participate, interested parties should contact Scott-Hamblen, in advance if possible, by phone at 845-265-2539 or email, frshane@optonline.net, or at least arrive at the church 30 minutes early and speak with the parish verger, Thom Harrington. The service begins at 7 p.m., on the church lawn, with the lighting of the Easter bonfire.

Held the night before Easter, the vigil ushers in Easter, considered the greatest day in the Christian calendar. St. Mary's suggests that attendees "bring a bell to ring in Easter with sounds of joy." A champagne reception in the Parish Hall follows



Rev. Shane Scott-Hamblen baptizes a baby at St. Mary's.

Photo courtesy of St. Mary's

the service. Easter Sunday Masses will be at the usual 8 and 10:30 a.m. Absolutely everyone is welcome to attend Holy Week services and Easter Masses. St. Mary's is located on Chestnut Street, at the intersection of Routes 301 and 9D in Cold Spring. For more information, visit the website, stmaryscoldspring.org.

Steven Miller Appointed Boscobel's New Director

Following an extensive national search, the board of directors of Boscobel House and Garden has selected Steven Miller of Morristown, N.J., to be the historic site's new executive director.

Miller has 42 years of museum experience with institutions throughout



Steven Miller (Photo courtesy of Boscobel)

the northeast. He has been a museum consultant, writer, trustee and educator. Most recently, he was executive director of the Morris Museum and the Bickford Theatre in Morristown, N.J. (2001 – 2011). Prior positions include the Bennington Museum, Bennington, Vt., and the Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, Ohio. Miller is a member of the boards of trustees of ArtPride New Jersey and Historic Deerfield, Inc. He also serves on the American Alliance of Museums' accreditation visiting committee and is a regular contributor to its *Museum* magazine.

Speaking of his new appointment, Miller said, "I am delighted to be joining the dedicated and enthusiastic team of staff, volunteers and directors who have made Boscobel a renowned cultural landmark."

Completed in 1808 by the States Dyckman family, Boscobel is an example of Federal architecture. Boscobel is open April through December every day except Tuesdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas. For more information, call 845-265-3638 or visit Boscobel.org.

Two Exhibits Open at Gallery 66 NY April 5

Gallery 66 NY announces two exhibits opening on Friday, April 5, with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m.

In *Cuts and Assemblages*, an exhibition featuring the collage artistry of Polly King, Anita Jacobson and Betty McGeehan, the artists begin with familiar objects and images and transform them into surreal works of fantasy and whimsy.

Jacobson fabricates exotic creatures and bizarre portraits from everyday objects in nature. King places linear renderings within a context of colors and patterns that appear at once familiar yet strange. McGeehan gives new life to found objects — antique tools, musical instruments, children's games — by uniting them into her works. *Cuts and Assemblages* will run through April 28.



Artwork by Tjokorda Gde Arsa Artha (Photo courtesy of Gallery 66 NY)

The Sacred Garden is an exhibit that will be featured in both Gallery 66 NY's middle gallery and outdoor sculpture garden. The works of many artists will comprise the "garden."

The creations of Tjokorda Gde Arsa Artha are inspired by mythology, nature and the folktales of his native Bali. Joe Pimentel created his vibrant mandalas after an art residency in Bali. For her part, Janine Lambers used a combination of painting, carving and gilding to give her large Buddha creation the feeling of safety and tranquility that permeates the exhibit. Diana M. Carulli is a sculptor with a special interest in participatory public art and is creating a labyrinth for the garden. James Murray's large metal sculpture and stone bench invites sitting meditation, while the female clay figures of Ada Cruz reflect a deep serenity.

The indoor exhibition of *The Sacred Garden* will run through April 28 and the outdoor exhibition will end June 16. Gallery 66 NY is located at 66 Main St. in Cold Spring. For more information, call 845-809-5838 or go to gallery66ny.com.

Adult Spelling Bee to Benefit Mental Health

Putnam Family and Community Services' Adult Team Spelling Bee is back for its fourth year. On Thursday, April 18, the nonprofit agency will once again bring together teams of adults to show off their spelling skills and compete for the title of Putnam County Spelling Champions.

The bee, to be held at the Starr Ridge banquet facility located within the Sheet Metal Workers Local Union 38 in Brewster, is a fundraiser to support PFCS's mental health and chemical dependency treatment programs, which reach 1 in 14 Putnam residents. For \$25 a person, spelling teams of four, cheerleaders and spectators can enjoy food, beverages and a healthy dose of friendly competition.

Last year, the team from Putnam Hospital Center took home the championship title — and a giant trophy — after correctly spelling the word "diphtheria." Those interested in taking on the defending champs and supporting the services of PFCS can register for the spelling bee at PFCSinc.org/Events.html or by calling Cheryl McKeever at 845-225-1700, ext. 136. Potential event sponsors can also contact McKeever.

Garrison School Art Shows Are Result of Student's Grant

On Thursday, March 14, the Garrison School held an art show of art created by K-3 students the same night as a music and (continued on next page)



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS



The Putnam Hospital Center's team won last year's spelling bee. Photo courtesy of PFCS

(from previous page) movement concert performed by students from the same grades. The art show was coordinated by Garrison fifth grader Solana McKee with help from Garrison School art teacher Coulter Young.

The first of two art shows this year, this event was the result of Solana's award-winning grant application in the Garrison Children's Education Fund's (GCEF) 2012 grant-writing contest. This time last year, Solana submitted a grant to the school's foundation requesting funds to support two art fairs at the Garrison School in 2013. Her grant summary stated the purpose of the request as giving Garrison students the opportunity to "express themselves through their art."

Solana's grant requested funds for

lian Moser of the Cold Spring Fire Company and Kristin VanTassel of the North Highlands Fire Department talked to the girls about the courage and strength needed to be in a dangerous profession such as firefighting, as well as the difficulties of being one of few women in the typically male field. The girls recited the Girl Scout Promise and sang "America the Beautiful" for their guests.

The girls, all kindergartners, began meeting in October and have completed the Sunny, Zinni and Tula Petals, plus the Count It Up and Talk It Up Leaves, which are earned when learning about the cookie business. The girls sold a total of 965 boxes of cookies during their recent cookie sale.



Solana McKee, left, and Art Teacher Coulter Young (Photo courtesy of Garrison School)

mats and a mat cutter that would help create a professional display for each student's artwork. After winning the contest, Young mentored Solana as they set up a timeline for the shows and got to work planning the first event including selecting the work of famous artists for students to study as part of their art history curriculum.

The next show will take place in May and feature artwork created by Garrison students in grades 4-8.

The Garrison School announced that students' artwork will be displayed on artsonia.com, an online art museum for children. Fans of Garrison School's student artists can view the school gallery online at artsonia.com/schools/Garrison16. Family members may purchase keepsakes imprinted with a student's artwork such as canvas prints, mugs and T-shirts with 20 percent of the purchase price going back to the Garrison School's art program.

Daisy Troop Learns About Courage From Female Firefighters

Two special visitors came to the Daisy Troop 1405 meeting on Tuesday, March 19, to talk about being courageous and strong. Local firefighters Lil-



Pictured left to right, front row: Scotia Hartford, Sophie Tomlins, Crystal Timmons; second row: Helen Hutchison, Sophie Koch, Amelia Alayon, Judine Cox; back row: Lillian Moser and Kristin VanTassel (Photo courtesy of Daisy Scouts)

Beacon

Beacon Flea Market Opens for the Season

The Beacon Flea Market will open for its third season on Sunday, April 7, from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Every Sunday during the season, both regular and one-time vendors sell a variety of items. Highlights include colorful glassware, trunks and furniture, antiques, estate sales and house clean-out, vintage designer bags, vinyl, books, cookware, handmade jewelry and local crafts.

In support of Main Street, Beacon Flea Market does not vend food or new items in bulk. Beacon schools are invited to vend for free for fundraising events, and discounts are offered to Beacon residents who wish to hold yard sales. Vendors can submit photos of their choice items for publication on the website so customers can take a sneak peak before shopping.

The Beacon Flea Market is located in the Henry Street parking lot behind the Main

Street Post Office. Admission and street parking is free. The Beacon Flea Market will be open every fair-weather Sunday from April 7 through Oct. 27. For more information visit the Flea Market website, beacon-flea.blogspot.com, or call 845-202-0094.

Till Fellner Closes Howland's Piano Festival

The Howland Chamber Music Circle's winter piano series will end with the return of Austrian pianist Till Fellner.

Fellner studied at the Konservatorium der Stadt Wien before going on to study privately with Alfred Brendel and other leading pianists. He first gained international recognition by winning first prize



Till Fellner Photo courtesy of HCMC

at the prestigious Clara Haskil International Competition in 1993. He was also awarded the Mozart Interpretation Prize by the Mozartgemeinde Wien in 1998. He performs regularly with many orchestras and as solo recitalist and chamber musician at major music centers of Europe, the United States and Japan.

Fellner's upcoming solo programs will focus on the repertoire of four composers: Bach, Haydn, Mozart and Schumann. For his recital at the Howland Center, he has chosen to play the Piano Sonata No. 47 in B minor, Hob.XVI:32 by Haydn, the Piano Sonata No. 15 in F Major by Mozart, Prelude and Fugue Nos. 1-4 by J.S. Bach, and the Symphonic Etudes, Op. 13 by Robert Schumann.

The concert will take place on Sunday, April 7, at 4 p.m., at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St. in Beacon, and will be followed by a reception to meet the artist. Tickets are \$30 (\$10 for students). Reservations are highly recommended and can be made by calling 845-297-9243 or on the Chamber Music Circle's website howlandmusic.org.

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

Skateboard Shop and Art Gallery Opens in Beacon

Tastes Like Chicken Skateboard Shop (TLC Skate Shop) announces the opening of its first location at 380 Main St. in Beacon on March 30. TLC Skate Shop is the only skateboard shop in Beacon and will carry the latest in skate decks, clothing and footwear from brands like Powell Peralta, 5Boro, Alien Workshop, Blind, Girl, Chocolate, Vans and Spitfire to name a few.

TLC Skate Shop will also exhibit artwork by local and nationally recognized street artists and designers. Their first exhibition features work by street artist Jesse Hazelip. A selection of Hazelip's depictions of artillery-laden animals seen on the streets of Oakland and Venice, Calif., will be on view from March 30 through April 19. Co-owner Matt Held said, "We're excited to offer the Beacon community a place to check out the latest in skate and street wear and check out some of the latest in street art and design."

The grand opening will be on Second Saturday, April 13, with a barbecue and swag giveaway. TLC Skate Shop will be offering learn-to-skate clinics and skating events as well as planning for the construction of a private indoor skate park at a later date. For more information, visit their Facebook page at facebook.com/tasteslikechickenskates or contact Joelle Held at tlcskateshop@gmail.com or 845-464-3230.

Sloop Club Offers Eight-Session Sailing Class

The Beacon Sloop Club sail class will begin on April 10 and run for eight weeks with the opportunity to sail on the Woody Guthrie on June 5. The class meets one evening a week and is taught by the Woody Captains. The cost for the eight sessions is \$50 per person. This fee is collected at the first class and includes an instruction book. Contact Jim Birmingham at 845-497-3658 or jbbirmingham@hvc.rr.com to register.



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You Can Go Home Again: Anita Merando

After living away, 'it felt right' for singer to return

By Alison Rooney

If you tell people you're living in the house you grew up in, the assumption is that you've never left. That's not the case with Anita Merando, who grew up on Parsonage Street and lives there now, but who took a long detour out of town, spending decades on the West Coast before resettling here, near her family, seven years ago.

Merando teaches literacy and project-based learning to a multi-age group of students ages from 5 to 7 at the Randolph School as well as Child Development at Westchester Community College. She also sings jazz standards at Whistling Willie's on the first Sunday of each month.

Merando's Cold Spring memories include hanging out at the old Dockside Restaurant as a teenager. Her grandfather had a shoe shop on Main Street. She fondly recalls the other Main Street businesses of the day: the barbershop, butcher shop and Palen's Drugs, where she was known to frequent the soda fountain. As for her house, her mother was born in it, her father just up the street; they had a "street romance." There are still many people living on Parsonage Street who lived there when she was a child — the kind of people who made her realize, upon her return, that she'd have to get up by 6 a.m. to shovel her snow, or they'd be out there doing it for her, as neighbors here often do.

Merando was schooled in Cold Spring. She went to the four-room Catholic school and graduated from Haldane. Despite it being "the kind of town people imagine growing up in ... where the neighborhood streets were our backyard, and you were summoned by 'Come in, your mom's call-

ing you,'" it "grew a little small when you reached a certain point in your teenage years." Plus, Merando was terribly shy. "I knew everyone's shoes and not their faces — I was always looking down."

Despite what she calls poor grades at Haldane due to dyslexia, she "somehow managed to turn a poor average into acceptance to [SUNY] Brockport. It was kind of a disaster, but I met people there who were moving from Brooklyn to Tucson." Merando took off with them, "checking out Arizona, then San Francisco, and, finally San Luis Obispo," where she fell in with a group of people working on a defense of nonviolent activists who had organized against the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's nuclear power plant near Diablo Canyon.

Throughout all of these peripatetic activities, there was singing: singing on her childhood porch to the strains of her grandfather's mandolin, entertaining the neighbors; singing during her travels. "I was such a quiet person that no one would have thought I would do these things. It was defining to see there were other possibilities. Luckily, when you're 20 years old, you're bold."

Merando's wandering ways continued as she met a folksinger who sang sea shanties and music connected to the writings of John Steinbeck. He needed somebody to manage his touring itineraries. Together they traveled up and down the West Coast, from San Diego to Seattle. And she kept on singing: "I started throwing harmonies in, and that led to developing my own program for schools."

Despite no formal musical training (dyslexia proves particularly vexing for reading musical notations), Merando persisted. She thinks working on these school presentations "opened the doors for wanting to teach. It was so easy for me to be in a classroom if I was not being

the student, but being a mentor," she said.

Eventually, she settled in Seattle, where she raised her son, Jesse, and opened a music-based preschool in her house partly in order to stay home with him. She gave up doing outside music engagements but remained part of the Seattle Song Circle, where every week people gathered in someone's home to sing for four or five hours.

When Jesse started kindergarten, someone suggested she apply for a position as an aide in his school's resource room, and she wound up staying for 15 years, during which time the "incredibly generous PTA" helped put her through school, where she obtained her teaching credential. While teaching in the Seattle school system, she took a teachers' summer intensive workshop called the National Writing Project, in which participants spent six hours a day, four days a week simply writing.

"They handed us a journal and a pen. For a month we wrote. This shifted everything. I decided to take the stories I was writing and combine them with music — the titles of songs my mom used to sing, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald. I began putting together sets and looking for musicians to back me up, while still continuing to write stories."

This combination of story and song, of family tradition, informs her singing today. "What drives me to sing the stories is my mom, and the stories follow," she explained. "You hear your own voice and you hear the voices of your childhood. It's a way of putting all the pieces of life together." She cited "dreaming about my son before he was born and then seeing that he was the dream," matching up with the standard *You Stepped out of a Dream*.

Merando has been working with her pi-



Anita Merando

Photo by A. Rooney

anist, Steve Raleigh, in what she calls "a fortunate partnership." Raleigh has a recording studio in New Paltz, and Merando's next step is to try recording her songs and stories. Meanwhile, she will be back to her once-a-month gig at Whistling Willie's, with her next show on April 7.

She had to do some convincing before she first appeared there, explaining that by defining it as "jazz" it wouldn't be scatting, but more "song styling, some improv, playing with melody and rhythm." One aspect of performing there she particularly enjoys is inviting young singers to join her. "Seeing kids step into themselves and show what they can do is wonderful. If you have the spotlight and you can share it, you should," she said.

Merando is simply very happy to be home. "It's amazing to come back here after being away. I was away longer than I lived here. I had a nice career track going with the Seattle Public Schools; it was a hard decision to make to return. But with my son grown, things changed with my marriage, and the rest of my family is here. Now I wish I'd done it sooner."

Musical Mystery Tour: Ensemble Theater for Kids

Choosing material that suits each child

By Alison Rooney

Depot Theatre Youth Coordinator Lisa Sabin has been honing a very specific type of collaborative musical theater experience for Philipstown's kids. No cutthroat competition is allowed; divas (in terms of temperament) are not welcome. Instead, Sabin, who writes and directs, and Christine Brooks Bokhour, who choreographs, collaborate with the kids, tailoring songs and other skills into a loosely themed romp showcasing everyone's talents and personalities.

Philipstown Recreation Center described this spring's edition of the *Musical Mystery Tour* (MMT) as "an ensemble show, where every effort will be put into making each child comfortable and feeling successful, while being challenged along the way."

Sabin is excited about this production. "What's cool (and challenging) about these types of shows I do is that I write the show for the particular kids that are in it. This means that I see who signs up and then start compiling songs that I know they will sound great in. I also write the script with their particular personalities in mind. I want each child to feel confident, so I choose material that suits him or her and that they will shine in. I also ask the kids what their favorite songs and artists are, and also about their dreams and wishes. I put as many of their ideas as I can into the shows. I find that if kids are doing something that has come from them and inspires them,



Some of the younger group checking things out at rehearsal

Photo by A. Rooney

they express themselves in wonderfully joyous ways. Wait until you see these performances! I'm so proud."

Choreographer Bokhour said: "Lisa has gathered all of these great songs with the kids' help, some I hadn't heard before. Lisa and I both have a tendency to dream huge and then scale it to however much rehearsal time we can grab. These kids really jump in with their hearts and souls. They are so enthusiastic and have so many wonderful ideas and interjections. They put their hearts in their hands and hold them out to you with such amazing honesty. Singing and dancing can do that to you. I'm blown away by it."

From the looks of a recent rehearsal, the kids were having a great time. To read what the kids thought of starring in the show, visit philipstown.info.

MMT will be performed at the Depot Theatre on Friday, April 5, at 7 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, April 6 and 7, at 2 and 4:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 and can be purchased at brownpapertickets.com or by phoning the Depot Theatre at 845-424-3900.

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Roots and Shoots

Playing ‘I Spy’ in the backyard

By Pamela Doan

The second week of spring and we dodged another Winter Storm Watch. As the cold weather lingers, I’ve missed those fresh, hopeful signs of spring that I’ve tracked much earlier in previous years. Most obviously, the frogs haven’t reappeared yet. For the past two years, they’ve showed up to party for St. Patrick’s Day, making a racket in our pool that lasts until June. No matter what we do, the pool cover comes loose every winter and the frogs move in before we get out there. It becomes a nursery until the tadpoles are big enough to be scooped into buckets and moved to a better home in the pond, at least all the ones that Black Francis, our resident black rat snake (named for the lead singer of the punk rock band, the Pixies), hasn’t made into dinner.

I spoke with Dianne Olsen, the senior extension educator with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County, about it. Since it seems like the warm weather is coming so late, will this delay our growing season? Dianne said: “Nothing is wrong at this point; it’s all just a little slow. Buds are forming on the shrubs. The lilacs and forsythia are powering up for their burst of color. Any crocuses that were blooming before the most recent storm were probably damaged, though. Their tissue is too delicate to hold up, but the plants won’t die. They’ll be back next year.”

Dianne and I chatted about what im-



Create spring inside by forcing your forsythia to bloom now. Photo by P. Doan

patient gardeners could be doing now to prep for the growing season. Dianne offered a few suggestions: “It’s not too late to prune some shrubs and plants. You can cut butterfly bushes back to 9 inches from the ground and ornamental grasses to 6 inches. This is a good time to prune and shape boxwoods, too. Cut out any dead branches now before they start their growing season. Leave the roses alone, though. Resist the temptation and wait until the leaves form.” By carefully pruning certain trees and plants, you can rejuvenate them for new growth.

If you’ve been tracking the signs of spring as I have and want to put your powers of observation in the service of the greater good, check out BudBurst.org. It’s a national network that tracks the life cycles of plants, including flowering, leafing and fruiting. The organization collects data about certain plants, and scientists use the information as a

record of changes on our planet. The National Phenology Network tracks plant and tree growth cycles, and bird migrations, insect life cycles and wildlife habits, as well. You can sign up to add your observations to Nature’s Notebook on the site, usanpn.org, and also search their database. If you like spreadsheets and databases, just make sure you don’t have anything else to do before you get started. You can fall into this Internet sinkhole for hours, and I might know that from experience.

This kind of data demonstrates the impact of our changing climate on ecosystems. We can see if the habits and patterns in the world around us are changing and what that triggers. An interesting example I found is the bloom time for apples in New York, a significant part of our state’s agriculture. Our


apples are blooming eight days earlier on average than 30 years ago. That doesn’t sound like a terrible problem, as long as the bees arrive at the same time. Everything in our landscape has a purpose and a rhythm that keeps nature in balance. It doesn’t take more than a careful reading of the daily news to realize there are many indicators that things are out of balance right now.

How great would it be if we had a network of citizen phenologists across Philipstown? We could be writing the history of the ecosystems we live in and sharing it, noting changes year by year. I love the awareness I get from observing nature and feeling connected to the change of seasons. Send an email if you’re interested. This could be a great project.

Garden questions? Send them here: askrootsandshoots@gmail.com.

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Maryjane Nagel, owner of Reigning Dogs and Cats Too, won the Retailer of the Year award. Photo by L.S. Armstrong



Katie Robertson, of Katie's Cold Spring Honey, won a chamber award as Young Professional of the Year. Photo by L.S. Armstrong



Nathalie Jonas, recipient of the Innovation Award Photo by K.E. Foley



Sarah Diebboll, above, receives a \$1,000 Chamber of Commerce scholarship, with Haldane School Board President Michael Junjulas, left, and Nat Prentice, scholarship program overseer. Photos by L.S. Armstrong



Chamber President Vinny Tamagna presenting Gordon Stewart with the Business Person of the Year award Photo by K.E. Foley

Chamber Hosts Record Crowd for Annual Dinner

(from page 1)

Street is coming and it's because of places like The Living Room," he said. Since opening in 2011 in the old Palen's Drug Store building on Main Street in Cold Spring, The Living Room has offered space for wedding receptions, fundraisers, concerts, classes, performances and other events.

"One of our focuses is to collaborate with other businesses, and I look forward to that," Jonas said in accepting the award.

Outstanding teens

With a record in athletics as well as academics, Diebboll, who won the memorial youth scholarship, is vice president of the Haldane International Club, school art design editor, varsity soccer captain and president of the Haldane Leo Club, a service organization. Among other pursuits, she also works on Main Street in Gallery 66 — whose founder, artist Barbara Galazzo, also was honored, receiving the chamber's Cultural Achievement of the Year award.

Robertson, proprietor of Katie's Cold Spring Honey, produced by hives she tends, uses the income from her small business to support her passion for aviation and flying lessons. A student pilot, she hopes to earn her private license this spring. She helped found the Haldane girls tennis team; is a member of an alpine ski racing team (and won a gold medal in competition in February); holds certifications for scuba, advanced deep-water diving, and sailing; fences; and drives a restored Vespa scooter.

Common purpose

Stewart established *Philipstown.info*, an online daily news medium, in July 2010, and in June 2012 started *The Paper*, its adjunct print weekly.

At the dinner, he lauded the chamber for rising above any local animosities, factionalization, and narrow-mindedness to promote a wider vision. "You guys have a lot of guts," he said.

He pointed to the chamber's recent resurgence, declaring that when he first arrived in Philipstown several years ago the group "didn't seem all that active. But I'm impressed at the effort being made now to create a common purpose, a broad-based organization reaching out to everyone. And the sense of common purpose is essential to the prosperity of this community." Common purpose "is the essential soul and core of a Chamber

of Commerce. And I'm also delighted to see that being revived here tonight."

He highlighted Tamagna's role in numerous events over the years and said he recently came to understand the depth of Tamagna's involvement. "I don't know anybody more committed, more genuinely and honestly dedicated, to the well-being and progress of everyone in this community," Stewart said.

Just as he received his own plaque, he presented Tamagna with a "Member's Claim Check," a large certificate suggesting that, like cars or coats, all ill-feeling be parked outside chamber events. The document said it is "good for all competitive hostilities, personal animosities, and political proclivities" and expresses the hope "that they might be at least somewhat diminished by pursuit of our common purpose to the benefit of all and the detriment of none."

Stewart likewise noted the talent pool in the room and community beyond. "If you look at the enormous range and breadth of people who have done things here in a small community, it's absolutely astonishing," he said.

In a post-event news release, Chamber leaders linked the 2013 awards to a new approach. "This year, the CSACC broke from tradition, creating nine new award categories, in order to better reflect the growing, diverse business community in the area," the group declared. "The CSACC board is creating structure and has established awards criteria, now published on the website. And for the 2014 Annual Awards, the Chamber will seek nominations through its membership." They said this year's dinner had allowed attendees "to celebrate the awards given to recognize outstanding business and community-related successes and followed the general mission of the chamber to unite and promote all that the community has to offer."

Honorees in different fields

In addition to Otten, Jonas, Diebboll, Robertson, Galazzo of Gallery 66, Wallin, Heanue and Stewart, the chamber 2013 honorees are:

- Small Business of the Year: Moo Moo's Creamery
- Medium Business of the Year: Tightrope Interactive
- Retailer of the Year: Reigning Dogs and Cats Too
- Sustainable Business of the Year: Glynwood Farm



Sylvia Wallin, left, sharing the podium with Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, won the Realty Business Person of the Year award. Photo by L.S. Armstrong



Leslie Heanue owns the Therapeutic Equestrian Center, which won the Non-Profit Organization of the Year award. Photo by L.S. Armstrong



Barbara Galazzo founded Gallery 66 NY, which won the Cultural Achievement of the Year award. Photo by L.S. Armstrong



David McCarthy, left, shown with Vinny Tamagna, co-founded Tightrope Interactive Inc., which won the Medium Business of the Year award. Photo by L.S. Armstrong

Likewise, the chamber honored three of its own former officers with service awards: Marshall Mermell, president and owner of MKT Works Inc., past vice president; Christina McCoy, M&T Bank branch manager, past board member; and Bill Nugent, owner of Pagent Distributing, past board member.