Our Town Attracts Plenty of Local Characters

Workshops draw 231 hopefuls for HVSF production

by Alison Rooney

I n they come: why, there’s the man who used to deliver the mail — and, by gum, that young girl has grown nearly half a foot. A running commentary of this sort has gripped the readers and viewers of Thornton Wilder’s Our Town for seven decades but also could be the ruminations of someone sitting on a Main Street in this another town today. That’s precisely the point of both the play and of the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival’s (HVSF) production, inspired by the Public Theater’s Public Works initiative, that will come to life over the Labor Day weekend.

Community members from Beacon, Cold Spring, Garrison, Newburgh and Peekskill both are iterations of the people described in the iconic play and, by attending one of eight preliminary workshops conducted by the HVSF, demonstrated their hope to be included among the actors portraying those people or working behind the scenes.

The eight workshops drew a total of 231 participants, exceeding HVSF’s expectations. At a workshop held April 9 at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison, 42 intrepid potential thespians signed in for two hours of activities led by Our Town director John Plummer. He asked the group to form a circle and urged them not to look at him but rather to direct their gaze at each other.

“Really study them, take them in, one person at a time,” he instructed. “How far are their feet apart? As you’re studying these people allow yourself to write a narrative about them … Allow yourself to write their story. Try to see the complexity of them. In the way they stand you can divine something about their character. You’re the playwright, in your mind.”

Plummer next had participants alter their stance, got them walking, forming and re-forming circles, letting others look deeper into their eyes. He added drum beats and suspension/release reactive motion to the beats. This turned into light jogging, then jumping, in sync with each other, eventually doing the same without the cue of the drum.

These exercises, and those which followed, some of (Continued on Page 14)

Beacon Rec Pushes for Afterschool Programs

Department to ask council for $270K for launch

By Jeff Simms

B eacon city and school officials are considering an afterschool program that, if implemented, would provide a variety of daily activities at South Avenue, J.V. Forrestal and Sargent elementary schools.

Glenham, the fourth elementary school in the Beacon district, is located in Fishkill, so its students can already participate in afterschool programs offered by the Fishkill Recreation Department. In fact, Beacon Recreation Director Mark Price said that his son has taken part in programs at Glenham, which inspired Price to investigate what could be done in Beacon.

“I’d come to work and the three district schools within the city limits didn’t have programs,” he said.

Other parents noticed the void as well and expressed their concerns about a shortage of safe activities for younger children in Beacon.

“There has been a real need for working families to have steady afterschool care,” said Clarice Allee, president of the South Avenue Parent-Teacher Association. In addition, “parents who stay at home who would like the option of enrichment within a flexible schedule. The draw is for their kids to remain in their school building — in a place they feel safe and comfortable, surrounded by familiar faces, to engage in activities and social experiences that are a little different than what they participate in throughout the regular school day,” Price said he (Continued on Page 6)
Students at the Garrison School have a 185-acre forest at their disposal, a resource gifted to the district in 1956 by the Osborn, Gunther and Sloan families for environmental education. But other than an annual School Forest Day, to be held this year on Friday, May 6, students and teachers didn’t use it frequently in lesson plans or recreation. Last fall, the board of education asked the school’s new principal, John Griffiths, to see if there were ways to encourage more visits.

“I found there were a lot of things holding teachers back,” Griffiths says. “We went out of our way to remove logistics.”

To that end, the school launched Forest Fridays, a nine-week pilot program. Administrators arranged for a bus to transport classes to the forest; teachers could sign up to take their students. It was so effective that Forest Fridays resumed on April 1 and will continue until the end of the school year.

Griffiths also wanted teachers to realize they didn’t need a grand plan to get students into the forest. “There is value to just being in nature. I want them to see the school forest as a lab, to try small ideas,” he said. Whether it was a hike or spending time enjoying a view, Griffiths wanted to support teachers in experimenting to see how the students reacted and what impact it had.

“I’m a big fan of unstructured time in nature,” he said. “It’s vital for human development and a lot of studies say that just getting kids out in nature helps them be more productive and able to engage in learning.”

Griffiths said the district hasn’t incurred any extra cost running Forest Fridays. Teachers have been able to sign up but it has not been a mandate. After the fall term, teachers requested more resources to create curriculum, bathroom facilities (portable toilets are brought in for the annual School Forest Day) and storage for materials in the forest.

The request for more curriculum resources struck a chord with Jill Corson Lake, who has two children at the school and serves on its Environmental Education Committee. She created a website at gufssee.org with lesson plans and many other resources. It’s a comprehensive tool for anyone who wants to hike in the forest (which is open to the public; a trail map can be downloaded at gufs.org under “Our District”), get involved or learn about environmental education.

Gorgeous photography makes the site easy on the eyes, too. Corson Lake’s photos of the Hudson Valley and forest make the design and function aesthetically pleasing. She created it as a thesis project for her Master of Arts degree in Critical and Creative Thinking at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

“Jill’s efforts to consolidate resources and help that process has been invaluable,” said Griffiths. “[It helps to have] best practices, resources for introduction for students, and to professionally launch a brainstorm of ideas of what could be done.” Corson Lake developed the site with input from the administration, teachers and the environmental education committee. “I wanted it to be both useful and well used,” she said.

Corson Lake says the site remains a work in progress. A new vegetable garden at the school will be added on April 21 and 22; she hopes students and teachers will update the Forest Fridays blog, and she’d also like to see the forest being used for research with information that could be shared through the site. The site also has the potential to be used as a community board for educators.

Corson Lake’s interest in environmental education stems from her connection to the Hudson Valley. “It’s really important for all children to learn outdoors and be in nature and to learn about this place where we live; to find out about geology, the Hudson River ecosystem, the history of our area, Pete Seeger’s legacy,” she said. “Because we have a school forest, I think we can make public education here special and unique.”
Pruning is an art

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

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

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Police Activity in Cold Spring (from Page 1)

Compiled monthly, they include the number of “calls for service” and parking and moving violation tickets issued. Calls to the department covered a wide range of situations, from loud arguments or music, disabled vehicles and cars blocking driveways to more serious situations such as burglaries, assaults and fires.

Reports were not submitted to the board for five of the 24 months examined. Calls for service were omitted from two reports and the number of moving violations was missing from one. Two reports provided the total for two months rather than one. Despite the inconsistencies, the data provides a snapshot of police activity in the village. During the 19 months reported over the past two years, 1,311 calls were taken and 1,088 parking tickets and 748 summonses for moving violations were issued. That works out to a monthly average of 77 calls for service (2.5 calls per day), 57 parking tickets per month (about two per day) and 41.5 moving violations (about 1.5 per day). Moving violations were given consistently through the year, while parking tickets and calls for service rose in the spring and summer.

In the past, CSPD’s monthly reports included a detailed breakdown of calls for service, parking tickets and moving violations. That practice ended in January 2014. Current reports provide only monthly totals. It also is not apparent from the reports whether most of the activity takes place during the day or overnight.

Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy declined to comment on the CSPD reports but said policing would be discussed at the next meeting of the village board, which is scheduled for Tuesday, April 26.

Each week Cold Spring officers...

• Respond to 18 “calls for service”
• Write 14 parking tickets
• Write 11 tickets for moving violations

Averages based on 17 reports provided to the Village Board since July 2014.

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A Taste of the Valley

Spring Fundraiser at Glynwood Farm
A Food, Wine & Spirits Festival that Celebrates the Local Flavors of the Hudson Valley

Featuring the area’s top purveyors of food and drink, including Tuttlestown Spirits Distillery, Suhkothai Restaurant, Riverview Restaurant, Hudson Hill’s, Sala One Nine, Juanita’s Mexican Kitchen, Marbled Meats, Cameron Café, Tito Santana Taqueria, 2Faturs, Whistling Willie’s, Fresh Company, Red Pepper Diner, Lanza Farms, Angelina’s, Beacon Bread, Cakes by Meg and more!

Saturday April 30th / 6:30pm
Silent Auction Featuring Hudson Valley Provisions, Art, and Experiences

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Letters to the Editor

Heuer for school board

Without question, Meredith Heuer is one of the most qualified people to ever run for a position on the Beacon City School District (BCSD) Board of Education. She has consistently shown her dedication to our community through her role as chairperson of the Beacon Arts & Education Foundation (BAEF), her work as a photographer with her Beacon Portraits series, and her attendance at school board meetings. Meredith's dedication to the Beacon community stems from being the daughter of an educator as well as being a product of the Detroit public school system. She firmly believes in public education and wants to see it thrive in the city which she lives.

Her passion led her to become co-chair and eventually chair of the Beacon Arts & Education Foundation (BAEF), who since its inception in 2004, has supported more than $100,000 worth of programming in the BCSD that serves all grade levels. One of these programs is the Calico Ball, a tradition that has been part of the third-grade curriculum for more than 25 years. Funding for it was cut out of the BCSD budget in 2009, but under Meredith's stewardship, BAEF has been able to fund this cherished Beacon tradition.

Any parent who has witnessed or student who has participated in the Calico Ball and they will tell you how much it is a part of the fabric of Beacon. BAEF is also proud to have funded new sound equipment in the high school, more than $5,000 worth of musical instruments, teaching artists, Shakespeare in the high school, live performances for the middle school and more. Meredith's determination made all of that happen.

In addition to running BAEF, Meredith also makes certain to attend and actively participate in school board meetings. She is not a bystander by any stretch of the imagination. She believes in a rich, diverse and thriving school district. She is doer. A motivator. A parent. A role model. She not only wants what's best for her children, but for the children of Beacon as well. Meredith is a selfless advocate for the students, parents, stakeholders and taxpayers of Beacon. Please join me in voting for her on Tuesday, May 17. I proudly and enthusiastically endorse Meredith Heuer for BCSD Board of Education.

Terry Nelson, Beacon

School Boards Pass Budgets

No contest expected for trustee seats

The Haldane and Garrison district school boards have both passed their 2016-17 budgets, which will now be considered by voters on Tuesday, May 17.

Voters will also elect new trustees, although there will be no contest in either district. In Haldane, three incumbents — board president Jennifer Daly, Laura Scanga-Hammond (who was appointed earlier this year to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Peter Henderson) and Margaret Clements — filed petitions to fill three seats.

In Garrison, incumbent Derek Dubois filed a petition to retain his seat for a second term and newcomer Jill Corson Lake filed to fill the seat vacated by Charlotte Rowe, who is not running for a third term.

Haldane trustees voted unanimously at their April 19 meeting in favor of the proposed 2016-17 budget that includes spending of just over $23 million, an increase of 0.96 percent over last year, which keeps the district below the state-imposed tax cap.

The Garrison board approved a budget on April 6 of $10.2 million that was 0.79 percent higher than last year, with an estimated tax levy increase of 0.16 percent. The board also approved a proposition to purchase a new school bus.

Main Street Project Underway

Public meeting set for April 25

Main Street Project is underway in Cold Spring.

A public meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Monday, April 25 at the Cold Spring Fire House, 154 Main St., to share details about the project. Village officials will be joined by representatives from CHA, the project consultant, and Con-Tech Construction, the contractor, to describe the work and the project timeline. The information may be of particular interest to Main Street merchants, residents and landlords. Information is also being made available on the village website at coldspringsny.gov and its Facebook page at facebook.com/vs10516.

The project, which got underway on April 20 with work being made on the sidewalk, will include improvements to badly deteriorated sections of sidewalks and curbs along Main Street from High Street to Depot Square. Curb cuts compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) will be added. Sidewalk, curb and drainage improvements as well as paving will also be done on Furnace Street. The work is expected to take five to six months.

Deputy Mayor Marie Early (right) met with representatives of CHA Consulting and Con-Tech Construction earlier this week. Photo by M. Turton

Phils List

Free online local classifieds devoted to jobs, housing, tag sales, services, and more.

highlandscurrent.com click on “Free Ads”

Presidental Primary Results (Unofficial)

Tuesday, April 19

Putnam County

Democrat

Bernie Sanders 3,573 (51%)
Hillary Clinton 3,477 (49%)

Republican

Donald J. Trump 5,757 (70%)
John R. Kasich 1,509 (18%)
Ted Cruz 915 (11%)

Ben Carson 58 (1%)

Dutchess County

18th Congressional District

Democrat

Clint R. Sanders 6,684 (51%)
Sanders 6,698 (49%)

Republican

Trump 6,839 (65%)
Kasich 2,178 (21%)
Cruz 1,417 (13%)

Carson 105 (1%)

19th Congressional District

Democrat

Sanders 4,982 (65%)
Clinton 4,141 (45%)

Republican

Trump 5,608 (62%)
Kasich 2,018 (22%)
Cruz 1,264 (14%)

Carson 105 (1%)
Fire Company to Host Open House

CSFC hopes to attract new members

By Michael Turton

The Cold Spring Fire Company (CSFC) will open its doors to the public on Saturday, April 23, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. as part of Recruit NY, a statewide effort to increase membership in volunteer fire departments.

“We want to make people aware of who we are and what’s involved with being a firefighter,” said Chief Steve Smith, who has been a firefighter for 24 years. He said the department is hoping to recruit younger members, something that happened almost by default in Cold Spring in the past as family members joined generation after generation. That is less common now. With more people working away from the village, commuting into the city, re-embedding people in the community, and many people working away from the village, commuting into the city, recruitment becomes more of a challenge.

A job for everyone

“Whoever comes to work here will be a firefighter,” Smith said, but “it doesn’t matter what your career is — we can train you. We can help you to help your neighbors out.” The Cold Spring fire company’s members have included male and female teachers, military personnel, police, full-time firefighters, landscapers, electricians, self-employed business people and high school and college students, he said. Current members range in age from 16 to 75.

Three young CSFC firefighters epitomized the people Smith hopes will drop by the firehouse on Saturday.

Michael Etta’s involvement in the fire company is part of a family tradition. His father, grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great grandfather also served as CSFC firefighters, he said. The 22-year-old joined in 2011 and is now a first lieutenant and qualified both as a driver and interior firefighter. His reason for joining was simple, he said, “It’s always good to help people.”

In contrast, John Parr, 18, who joined in 2014, was the first in his family to become a volunteer firefighter. He has one more course to become qualified to go into burning structures. He joined CSFC at the urging of a friend, Stephen Junjulas, also a firefighter. “I enjoy every moment I’m at the firehouse … and being there when it counts,” he said, especially when being there includes a call to a fire. “And I like the guys here. It’s like one big family.” Parr said he also values the CPR, first aid and opiate-antidote training he’s received.

Jeff Phillips, 20, is a second lieutenant whose father and grandfather also served with the fire company. “It’s just something I’ve always wanted to do,” he said. “And I wanted to give something back to the community.” Phillips said he appreciates that he still has much to learn. “You learn something new on every call,” he said.

Junior Fire Academy

CSFC’s Junior Fire Academy, held each summer, has been an effective recruiting tool. Established in 2002, the weeklong day camp teaches students ages eight to 13 the basics of fire safety and firefighting. Phillips estimates that about 30 of the academy’s graduates have gone on to join local fire companies, including Etta, Phillips and Parr.

In addition to enjoying a hot dog or hamburger, Saturday’s open house will give prospective members and the community a chance to have a firsthand look at CSFC’s equipment and facilities, including a new 21-foot rescue boat.
Beacon Rec Pushes for Afterschool Programs (from Page 1)

is hopeful that the Beacon City Council will allocate a total of around $270,000 in funding for programming in this fiscal year and the next. He also believes they could be self-sustaining fairly quickly.

"If we have 10 percent participation [about 100 children between the three schools], we can build a program that's pretty affordable and can break even," he said.

As proposed, the programs would launch this September at the three schools and run weekdays from dismissal until 6 p.m. The daily schedule would include homework help, team play, a snack and a different specialized activity each day, ranging from yoga to music and movement to “classic” sports like kickball and soccer to a "kid's kitchen."

“We look at each day as a flavor, and those flavors can be as diverse as our community,” Price said. “Our goal is enrichment and to provide a safe, fun afterschool program.”

Ideally, the programs would be a partnership between the city and the school district. The city would provide staff and programming, while the schools would provide the space.

"I think any time the school district can work with the municipality to provide services to our facilities, it's a win-win for all," school board President Melissa Thompson commented.

Costs would be between $13 and $15 per day, Price said. (The Fishkill program is around $11 per day.) Parents would be able to sign their children up for single days or by the week. A survey Price posted at surveymonkey.com/r/BeaconAfterSchoolProgram has generated nearly 200 responses, with approximately 97 percent positive feedback.

“This is a great start,” said City Council member Omar Harper, who participated in similar programs while growing up. "I'm 150 percent behind this. I can almost guarantee that I'm in a better spot because of a program I went to from third to fifth grade. It built [positive] habits in me.”

Harper said his only concern is that the programs are affordable. “It’s hard for the lower-to-middle-class families to handle adding to their monthly expenses, and a lot of times those are the kids who are going to need this as much if not more [than others],” he said.

Price hopes to get a decision on the proposal from the City Council in May, which would give his department time to get the program up and running before the school year begins in September.
First Time Flippers

Beacon shop owners featured on cable show

The owners of Nixie Sparrow, a DIY workshop space in Beacon, will be featured at 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 23, in an episode of First Time Flippers on the DIY Network. The second-season episode, titled "DIY or DIE," first aired on April 16 and will be repeated several times over the next few weeks.

Megan Lawrence and Sarah Beinstein host curated DIY events throughout the Hudson Valley. The DIY Network pitches the episode this way: "Megan and Sarah run a DIY blog and workshop, but they’ve decided to take their projects to the next level: flipping a house! These girls may have an eye for design, but they have a lot to learn about construction. With the occasional injury and lack of focus, the girls struggle to complete their renovations on time and anywhere near budget."

Nixie Sparrow is located at 291 Main St. and at nixiesparrow.com.
Obituary

Evelyn Byrnes-Mast

Evelyn Mary “Evie” Byrnes, 81, of Atlanta and Highlands, N.C., passed peacefully on April 6, 2016, after a valiant battle with pancreatic cancer.

Evie was born in Manhattan and raised in Garrison. She graduated from Ladycliff College in 1956 as valedictorian, then started her career with AT&T in White Plains. She moved quickly from engineering to data processing, where she held numerous pioneering positions from programmer to division manager. After AT&T, she joined AMS, advancing to Southern Region vice president.

After her retirement in 2000, Evie volunteered at Atlanta’s Northside Hospital. In 2003, she and her husband established a home in Highlands, where she became a hospice volunteer. She served in local board leadership positions for Hospice and the International Friendship Center. She also served as a founder and vice president of the Hospice House Foundation of Western North Carolina.

Evie was instrumental in bringing Four Seasons hospice to Highlands and western North Carolina and served on its board. Prior to her illness, Evie worked tirelessly on a capital campaign to ensure that a hospice house is built to provide compassionate end-of-life care to the residents of western North Carolina. She was an active member of Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church, Bible Study and the Rotary Club of Highlands and a volunteer at the Bookworm and the Highlands Cashiers Hospital gift shop.

Evie is survived by her husband of 33 years, Kurt Mast, and stepchildren John (Donna) and David (Ashley) Mast and Jennifer (Michael) Dobbs, sister-in-law Debbie Mast, all of Atlanta. Known as the “matriarch” elder sister of the John and Evelyn Byrnes family, she leaves behind six of her 10 siblings: Gerald (Joan) Byrnes of Cape May, N.J., Lawrence (Kathleen) Byrnes of Somerset, N.J., Walter (Alice) Byrnes of The Villages, Florida, Sr. Ellen Byrnes of Lincoln Park, N.J.; Robert (Rosemary) Byrnes of Croton-on-Hudson and Paul Byrnes of The Villages. She also leaves her sister-in-law Gail Byrnes of Atlanta, brother-in-law James Brady of Charleston, S.C. as well as countless nieces and nephews who always sought her wise counsel. Her beloved siblings John, Charles and Garrett Byrnes and Margaret Brady, whom she now is reunited with, preceded her in death.

In addition she leaves behind scores of friends in Highlands, Cashiers and Franklin, N.C., St Simons, Atlanta and New York. Evie Byrnes was a beautiful woman who possessed elegance, style and grace. She was a fine listener who made an impact on all who met her. Her abiding faith, warm smile, wise guidance and gentle demeanor are gifts she leaves to all of us. She enjoyed the company of many dear friends and devoted her time to faith, family and service.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held April 11 at Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church in Highlands. A memorial mass will be celebrated in Cold Spring this summer.

Santos Home Finally In Place

A year after fire, family ready to return

by Alison Rooney

After months of site preparation and the laying of a new foundation, a new home for the Santos family arrived on Parrott Street on April 18. Constructed by Westchester Modular Homes, the home was put into place one floor at a time using a crane — a sight both surreal and spectacular.

The Santos’ lost their home to a fire in May 2015 and have been living in temporary quarters in the home or with neighbors. Family members and neighbors watched the installation of the home together, from across the street: a far happier occasion than the last time they were gathered in that spot.

The Santos family, who lost their Parrott Street home to a fire nearly a year ago, had their new, modular home crane-lifted onto the site this week.

Photo by A. Rooney

Poughkeepsie Day School

Kindergarten

Open House

May 2, 8:45 AM

Creating Community

Nurturing a Sense of Wonder

www.poughkeepsieday.org 845.462.7600 x201
Words Take Shape

Understanding the art of Dia:Beacon
by Alison Rooney

The description of a workshop held at the Howland Public Library in Beacon on April 19 promised a discussion and introduction to the history and sites of the Dia Art Foundation. But the art educators from Dia:Beacon, the foundation’s museum here, quickly made it clear their program would not be exactly that.

Instead, said Kirsten Mosher and Alexandra Vargo, participants would create their own art as a way to understand the themes explored in the collection and how the contemporary artists featured at the Beacon museum approach their work.

Mosher and Vargo first asked attendees to introduce themselves and explain why they had come. Some were Dia members and said they visited the Beacon collection often; one, a Beacon native, said simply, “I want to know more about what’s going on that place.” The library’s relatively new director, Amy Raff, also took part, noting she had just become a museum member.

Mosher discussed the language used by some modern artists such as Sol LeWitt, who creates graphite words that drafters can take and interpret, following his directions. Mosher rattled off a stream of his words and phrases: series, composite, grid, not straight, random, broken lines, points, arcs, uniform.

She continued by sharing a list of verbs that sculptor Richard Serra constructed in 1967 and 1968 that pushed his art in a new direction. These verbs became “the way he moved steel,” Mosher explained, rattling off wave, dilute, repair, bond, crumple, split, remove, encircle, hinge, splash, rotate, scatter, continue.

“What shape does that word make?” she asked. “Today we’re going to come up with words that describe things that are happening in this room, using language as directions to move things around the room. All will accumulate on our mat. We’ll be drawing in space, creating something that will surprise us.”

Participants took index cards and surveyed the room, including paintings on the wall, and listed words describing aspects of what they were viewing. They laid the cards on a mat covered with materials: ribbons, balls, fabric. Mosher asked everyone to choose a card, then choose a material, and then to use that material in the way the card instructed, on an empty, adjoining mat.

All the while, Vargo filmed the mat, documenting the creation as it happened. At the conclusion it had become a colorful explosion of the directives of the guiding words: crossing, weaving, smush, angle, radiate, etc., the cards themselves interacting with their embodiments.

That exercise complete, Mosher said the question at hand was: “How does this help us make sense of what we’re looking at?” She said that participants had just gone through a process that artists whose work is included in the Dia:Beacon collection use.

“What does my language mean? What does movement mean when walking through a piece?” she asked. “After you do an activity like this you can ask yourself ‘What does my language mean? What does movement mean when walking through a piece?’ It’s a physical action,” she said. “We’re having (Continued on Page 11)
Calendar Highlights
For upcoming events visit philipstown.info.
Send event listings to calendar@highlandscurrent.com

FRIDAY, APRIL 22
Earth Day
Paul Tschinkel Art Film: Laurie Anderson
5:30 p.m. Garrison Art Center | 23 Garrison’s Landing,
Garrison | 845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Community Pesach Seder 2016
6 p.m. Beacon Hebrew Alliance
331 Verplanck Ave., Beacon
845-631-2012 | beachebrewbnevanileance.com

International Film Night: War of the Buttons
(India)
7 p.m. Howland Public Library | 313 Main St., Beacon
845-631-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Yoga for Back Pain Workshop
7 p.m. Living Yoga Studios | 3182 Route 9, Cold Spring
845-809-5900 | livingyogastudios.com

Community Events
10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Cold Spring Firehouse | 154 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-9241 | coldspringfd.org

11 a.m. Noon – 3 p.m. The Falcon | 1348 Route 9W, Marlboro
845-786-2731 | nysparks.com/parks/13

55 Hessian Drive, Bear Mountain
172 Main St., Beacon
10 a.m. RiverWinds Gallery
Advanced iPhone Photo Class
Wow! for Kids: 5 Wild Animals of New York
Special Olympics Spring Games
St., Cold Spring | 845-265-9241 | coldspringfd.org

10 a.m. Philipstown Community Center | 107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Student/Faculty Basketball Game
6 p.m. Haldane School | 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Cold Spring Chamber Awards Dinner
6 p.m. Dutchess Manor | 263 Route 9D, Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Beacon Music Showcase: 100andzero / 8 Bit
7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café
379 Main St., Beacon
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

THURSDAY, APRIL 28
Zumba Gold for Seniors (First Session)
9:30 a.m. Continental Village Clubhouse
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com
Free to Philipstown residents age 62 and older.

Trustee Election and Budget Vote
Noon – 8 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-631-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Inclusive Playgroup (grades K-5) (First Session)
5 p.m. Philipstown Community Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Nicholas Conti: The Godmother Wore Prada
(Reading)
7:30 p.m. Howland Public Library | 313 Main St., Beacon
845-631-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

BeaconArts Meetup
6:30 p.m. Beacon High School
7 p.m. Beacon Hebrew Alliance
472 Route 403, Garrison | 845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival: Our Town
9:30 a.m. Continental Village Clubhouse
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com
Free to Philipstown residents age 62 and older.

Celebration of Newburgh Last Saturday
For upcoming events visit philipstown.info.
Send event listings to calendar@highlandscurrent.com
Lessons in Service  (from Page 9)

Members of Haldane’s senior class in front of one of the two homes they worked on during a trip to New Orleans  

Photo by Nancy Martinez

for donations of new or quality used clothing for infants and children up to age 4, especially girls’ clothing, as well as notebooks, paper, pens, pencil sharpeners, rulers, erasers, scissors, glue and picture books.

The boxes will be in place until May 6. The Philipstown Boy Scout Troop 437 has collected donations for Max and the North Highlands Fire Department Ladies’ Auxiliary donated cash for one of its members to purchase supplies. (For more information, email jjm@hadden.us.)

Max says he plans to pack everything in large duffel bags for the family to bring with them. The company that organized the family trip has provided the name of an orphanage in the capital city of Antananarivo, and the family also hopes to distribute the donations to other, more remote, locales along their route. “Learning this kind of stuff shows you how lucky you are,” Max says. His mother adds: “It’s now not just facts for a school paper; it has turned into something else entirely ... Ideally you want service to become a habit: to grow up and do service when nobody tells you to.”

Rebuilding a home

More than half of Haldane High School’s senior class traveled to New Orleans earlier this month for the third trip of what has become an annual excursion to rebuild homes lost in Hurricane Katrina nearly 11 years ago.

The seniors spent the first two days of their four-day visit on interior framing, painting, siding, window installation, carpentry, cementing and landscaping under the guidance of Habitat for Humanity, then spent time as tourists in the French quarter and on swamp boats. As in the past, the students organized fundraisers throughout the school year to help finance the trip.

“It was incredible to be in an environment where most of us had no idea what we were doing, and watching us all struggle and learn together outside of our usual horizons,” said Tobey Kane-­Seitz. “The experience left me with a new skillset, and a great sense of pride for our small school.”

Kane-­Seitz is also involved in another service project, this one much closer to home, in Newburgh. To earn her Gold Award, the highest honor given to a Girl Scout, she created an online registry that allows people to donate blue recycling bins and lids to residents of Newburgh. Contributions can be made through myregistry.com/organization/Tobey-Kane-­Deitz-­Cold-­Spring-­NY/977327.

Haldane seniors honored

Haldane seniors Marina Martin, Marissa DiPalo and Alex Gariepy were honored on April 15 by the Putnam County Youth Bureau for their volunteer work. The presentation took place at the Putnam County Golf Course in Mahopac.

Martin, as the student liaison for the board of directors of the Little Stony Point Citizen’s Association, organized student volunteers to help at events and clean ups. She also developed a plan for a concession stand at the park and worked with the association to create a business sponsorship program.

DiPalo, for her service project to earn a Gold Award as a Girl Scout, organized a shoe drive in which she collected 600 pairs of shoes to benefit, among other groups, the Walter Hoving Home in Garrison.

Gariepy, the senior class president, helped organize a student-­run 5K race to benefit autism research; stage managed many of the drama department productions, twice co-­ran the Fashion as Art event and organized the student-­faculty basketball game and many fundraisers for the class trip to New Orleans. “Not only was there a job for everyone to do, there was a collective sense of purpose,” she said. “We were not just building a house, we were restoring a family’s dignity.”

RIVERSIDE ART AUCTION
Benefitting Hudson Valley artists and arts education
Saturday, May 7, 2016

Viewing & refreshments 3:30
Live Auction 5:30
Silent Auction bidding 3:30 – 7:00 continues through May 15, 5:00
Auctioneer Nicholas D. Lowry
President, Swann Galleries NYC
Appraiser, Antiques Road Show

Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison, NY 10524
Galleries open Tuesday thru Sunday 10 to 5
garrisonartcenter.org 845.424.3960

Brian Nice
OFFSET: Seeing Beauty Through a Brain Injury
This award-­winning documentary produced by Erin Hall and directed by Adam Hall follows photographer Brian Nice on an inspiring road trip across America. The film will be screened at Philipstown Depot Theatre Friday, April 29, at 7:30. A selection of works from the trip will be featured at Garrison Art Center.

Exhibition April 23–May 1, 2016
April 23, 5:00-7:00 opening at Art Center
April 29, 6:30 reception at Art Center
7:30 film screening at Depot Theatre
8:30 reception at Art Center

See trailer at www.offsetthefilm.com
Purchase tickets for OFFSET the film at www.philipstowndepottheatre.com

Galleries open Tuesday thru Sunday 10 to 5
Garrison’s Landing, Garrison, NY 10524
garrisonartcenter.org 845.424.3960
The Buzz on Bees

Tips to keep the hive healthy

By Anita Peltonen

“Stinging is part of beekeeping,” concedes Rodney Dow, who has a bee hood ornament on his pick-up and “Bee Happy” painted on the tail gate, “but the venom keeps your joints fluid!”

A commodities trader by day, the Garrison resident has kept bees for more than 50 years and clearly loves the little hummers that drift out of his hives at Glynwood Farm in Cold Spring. He spoke there at a workshop on April 2 about how to help bees thrive.

So as not to startle his charges, Dow says he warns them he’ll be opening the hive to clean, collect honey or remove the Varroa mites that have, along with climate change, contributed to the colony collapse threatening the food chain. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, bee pollination is responsible for about $15 billion worth of crops each year.

The best time to go into the hives is midday, Dow says. Any other time and you’re likely to find the bees testy. But he quickly reassured his audience: “Raw honey has natural peroxides to heal wounds!”

To best learn to beekeep and make sure you can tolerate stings, Dow suggests newbies apprentice with experienced apiarists. The initial housing and starter hives will cost about $500. Dow, who in the 1970s taught agriculture at SUNY Farmingdale, also shared details of which plant and crop pollens make good honey: basswood and honey locust trees, legumes and buckwheat.

A crucial factor in keeping a hive healthy: keep it dry. Honey bees can survive at minus 30 degrees Fahrenheit unless moisture has taken hold.

To get rid of mites, which suck on honeybees, lay eggs in bee larvae and transmit deadly diseases to them, Dow recommends simple remedies. “Spray Pam [cooking spray] on the bottom board,” he says. “The mites will stick to it. Afterward, count the number of mites you catch. If it is more than 20, treat again.”

The highest tolerable ratio of mites to bees is 2 percent, he said. Oxalic and formic acid also put pressure on the mites. Eventually, says Dow, the genetics of the mites and bees should help turn the situation around.
Words Take Shape (from Page 9)
a chance to rethink the ideas of language and movement as opposed to thinking about what it might mean symbolically. LeWitt said, ‘It is what it is,’ and that was meaningful to this generation of artists who are now in their 70s.”
Mosher cited Robert Ryman, whose white paintings are a focal point at Dia:Beacon. “When he walks into his studio he’s asking ‘How can I talk about what is a painting in a new way?’” she said. “When you see his work, he’s making experiments, answering that question in many different ways.”
Vargo added: “That’s something we try to parallel: the artists educators are coming in with a question they investigate with the students. Here, the space informed us and you informed it.”
The program continued with a discussion of how perspective changes the view of what is seen, such as with Dan Flavin’s “barrier” light installation. “Being at Dia is a very active experience, and there are so many different ways to activate it,” said Mosher. “It’s a slow process and there’s a ritual of going back.” As the majority of exhibits are permanently installed, there is ample opportunity for this.
The women then provided a quick tour of Dia’s constellation of sites, including those in New York City, as well as elsewhere in the U.S. and at Kassel, Germany.
Dia:Beacon, which is located at 3 Beekman St., will hold its next Community Free Day from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, May 14, with free admission, a gallery talk at 2 p.m. (Rattanamol Johal will speak on Joseph Beuys), interactive family programs and live music. For more information, visit diaart.org.

Kate Rogovin
SUSPENSION
A mixed media installation
Suspension of objects
Suspension of rules
Suspension of disbelief
Suspension of media
Suspension of systems
Suspension of experience

Exhibition April 23–May 1, 2016
Receptions:
April 23, 5:00–7:00
April 29, 6:30–9:00

Galleries open Tuesday thru Sunday 10 to 5
Garrison’s Landing, Garrison, NY 10524
garrisonartcenter.org 845.424.3960

Building Bridges
Building Boats
2016 Summer River Workshop
Rowing on the River
for kids grades 6 through 12

3 Weekly Sessions ~ 9 am to 3 pm
June 27 - July 1
July 5 - 8
July 16 - 22

River Trip ~ 3 nights camping from Staatsburg to Cold Spring

Register or more info:
call 845.265.4290
e-mail
director@buildingboats.org
www.buildingboats.org

Our Town Attracts Local Characters  (from Page 1)

which involved the placement of hands on “stranger’s shoulders,” were all aimed at achieving the connectivity essential for a cast to cohere. “Tune in to invisible bonds, believe that you can do this,” he said. “It’s like theater: if the audience isn’t giving a lot to you, double down and give them more.”

The second part of the session focused on a long jump rope, turned by HVSF Associate Producer Emily Knapp and Sean McNall, HVSF’s associate artistic director and one of three professional cast members who will appear in the production. Explaining that each person needed to jump in and through, and being met with more than a few “oh no” visages, Plummer told them: “If you’re afraid, go sooner, leap forward and face your fears. When one is jumping, all of you are jumping. There’s no backstage, you’re all rooting for the actor, the jumper. If you believe in them, they’ll make it through.”

And sure enough they did, in fits and starts. Two of the youngest had the most difficulty, and Plummer had them face off, joining hands, telling them not to look at the rope. “You’re going to get each other through. Don’t wait: go!”

After a few more turns of the rope, they made it through, as Plummer championed the moment, “What you saw the two guys do: that’s drama. They fight through, they get killed — a tragedy! They get married — a comedy! We feel a sense of catharsis when we’re doing a play called Our Town. Let’s do a play about our town made by our town. A town where boundaries are porous. Boundaries between stage and audience get invaded just as, late in the play, boundaries between life and death get broken.”

Plummer invited the attendees to the next level of workshops, to be held on April 23 or 30, in which the actors will work with the text. Auditions will follow in May, and although not everyone will be cast because the number of people who have shown interest, there are a host of other ways people can participate backstage. There’ll be something for everyone to do, he said. Rehearsals will begin in July and will increase in frequency and duration as the summer moves along. Participants should expect a commitment of anywhere from three to six rehearsals a week in August, he said.

Plummer’s parting words to the group were that “we want this to be a great show, not just, ‘Oh, it’s a nice thing they did for the community.’”

Interviewed after the workshop, several participants concluded they were raring to go. Ron Sopyla of Beacon, a theater teacher at a New York City public school, said when he does things now it is largely “completely unrelated to anything I ever thought I’d do.” Mueller’s daughter, a former HVSF apprentice turned actress and, more recently, a nurse, told her about the workshop. “She said ‘Ma, you’ve got to do this.’ When you go to see plays, you’re always watching and you don’t know what actually goes on to get them there. HVSF has been amazing and I definitely want to be a part of this.”

There are two final workshops, and attending one is mandatory for anyone wishing to participate. The first will take place on Saturday, April 23, from 4 to 6 p.m. at St. Mary-in-the-Highlands Church, 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring and the second on Saturday, April 30, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Desmond-Fish Library, 472 Route 403, Garrison. For more information, visit hvshakespeare.org/whats-playing/our-town.html or email Emily Knapp at eknapp@hvshakespeare.org.

Hello, My Name is Doris  (R)
FRI & SAT 12:30  3:15  6:00  8:45
SUN 1:45  4:30  7:15
MON 7:15, TUES 1:15  4:15  7:15
WED & THU 7:15
The Jungle Book  (PG)
FRI & SAT 12:00  2:30  5:15  8:00
SUN 1:15  4:00  6:45
MON 7:00, TUE 1:00  4:00  7:00
WED & THU 7:00
The Huntsman: Winter’s War  (PG13)
FRI & SAT 11:45  3:00  5:15  9:30
SUN 1:00  4:15  7:30
MON 7:30, TUE 1:30  4:30  7:30
WED & THU 7:30

Linda Mueller of Cold Spring is perhaps exactly what HVSF had in mind when the notion of a community show was considered. A physician at NYU, she called this “completely unrelated to anything I ever did.” Mueller’s daughter, a former HVSF apprentice turned actress and, more recently, a nurse, told her about the workshop. “She said ‘Ma, you’ve got to do this.’ When you go to see plays, you’re always watching and you don’t know what actually goes on to get them there. HVSF has been amazing and I definitely want to be a part of this.”

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Desmond-Fish to Honor Salman Rushdie

Novelist will receive award at annual dinner

The Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison will honor the novelist Salman Rushdie at its annual Associates Awards Dinner, to be held on May 6 at the Roundhouse in Beacon. Conservationist Andy Chmar and young-adult author Kimberly Sabatini will also receive awards.

Rushdie, who speaks often at libraries, universities and bookstores about his books and the importance of free speech, is best known for his 1989 novel, The Satanic Verses, which prompted the ayatollah of Iran to issue a fatwa, or death threat, against him. He has written 11 other novels, including Midnight’s Children (which won the Booker Prize in 1981), Haroun and the Sea of Stories and, most recently, Two Years Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Nights, was published in English in 2013. His books have been translated into some 40 languages.

The novelist, who was knighted in 2007 by Queen Elizabeth, will receive the Hamilton Fish Award. Past honorees include Angela Lansbury, Calvin Trillin, Alice Waters, Frank McCourt, Toni Morrison, Arthur Miller, Tom Brokaw, Julie Taymor, Toshi and Pete Seeger, Ismail Merchant and James Ivory.

Chmar, who will retire this year as executive director of the Hudson Highlands Land Trust, will receive the Patricia Adams Award for community service. Chmar, a West Point graduate who spent 22 years in the Army, retired as a colonel and moved in 2000 with his wife Gayle Watkins, also an Army colonel, to their home outside of Cold Spring. During his tenure at the land trust, it has preserved more than 2,200 acres on both sides of the Hudson. Chmar also has served on the board of the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival since 2005.

Sabatini, who will receive the Alice Curtis Desmond Award, given each year to a notable local author, is a former special education teacher who grew up in Beacon and writes young adult fiction. Her debut novel is Touching the Surface (Simon Pulse – Simon & Schuster).

Tickets start at $275 each and can be purchased at desmondfishlibrary.org/dinner or by calling 845-424-3020. The Roundhouse is located 2 E. Main St.
A photo from Into the Arms of Strangers

Synagogue to Show Kindertransport Doc

Film recounts effort to save 10,000 Jewish children

Into the Arms of Strangers, which in 2000 won the Academy Award for best documentary, will be shown at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison at noon on Saturday, April 30, by the Philipstown Reform Synagogue. Narrated by Judy Dench, the film records the extraordinary effort that saved 10,000 Jewish children from the Nazi Holocaust during World War II. Called the kindertransport, the children were saved by the kindertransport, and a discussion will follow the film, including a service led by Rabbi Helaine Ettinger. A trolley to England.

A scene from The Anonymous People

Film Examines Long-Term Addiction Recovery

Downing will screen doc on April 25

The Downing Film Center in Newburgh, in collaboration with Friends of Recovery - Orange, will screen the 2013 documentary The Anonymous People at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, April 25, followed by a discussion.

The documentary, directed by Greg Williams, examines the lives of some of the millions of Americans who are in long-term recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs. The film center is located at 19 Front St. Admission is free on a first-come basis (the theater has 55 seats), although donations are welcome at the door. For more information, call 845-561-3686 or visit downingfilmcenter.com. For more about the film and its companion book, Many Faces One Voice, visit manyfacesonevoice.org.

Putnam County Posts History Online

Initiative will create historical archive

Putnam County has teamed with an initiative called Hudson River Valley Heritage to bring images and records that document the county’s history online. The new digital archive will be located at hrvh.org/putnamcountry. The initial contributions of business and architecture images were scanned by volunteers at the Patterson Historical Society. Recent additions from the historian’s Office and county archives include photographs of workers at the Borden Condensed Milk factory in Brewster, tourist shots from the late 1800s of Lake Mahopac hotels, photos of the “Old Put” New York railroad line, snapshots of the Oscawana Lake community

Vassar Looks to the Stars

Observatory open to public April 27

As part of a month-long series of events celebrating Earth Day, “Stargazing at the Vassar Observatory” will be held at 9 p.m. on Wednesday, April 27 (weather permitting) and the documentary A Sidewalk Astronomer will be screened at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 29 in Rockefeller Hall. The film profiles John Dobson, the inventor of the Dobsonian telescope mount, which made telescopes accessible to the public on every continent. That same day, the exhibition Touch the Sky: Art and Astronomy, opens at the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center.

Experts to Speak on Childhood Anxiety

Talk set for April 26 at Haldane

Two specialists in child psychology, Jarell Myers and Katie Thorpe Blaha, will speak at Haldane Elementary at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, on recognizing childhood anxiety at home, school and in the community. They will address questions such as, “What’s the difference between stress and anxiety?” and “What’s developmentally normal and what’s not?”

A Q&A and dessert and coffee will follow. Donations are welcome at oscawana.org/putnamcounty.

A Q&A and dessert and coffee will follow. Donations are welcome at oscawana.org/putnamcounty.
Pete Seeger Fest
Tompkins Corner to celebrate icon

On Sunday, May 1, from 1 to 6 p.m., the Tompkins Corners Cultural Center in Putnam Valley will present a Pete Seeger Festival to celebrate the musical and humanitarian legacy of a neighbor, mentor and friend — and his birthday on May 3.

Performers will include David and Jacob Bernz, Dan Einbender and Roy Diggitt, Pat Lamanna, Mel and Vinnie, Melissa Orquitz and Karen Brooks, Andy Revkin, RJ Storm and Old School

Melissa Ortquist and Karen Brooks, Diggit, Pat Lamanna, Mel and Vinnie, Jacob Bernz, Dan Einbender and Roy

work will be showcased at a farm dinner in which they will be the guests of honor.

The apprentices this year are Kyle Woehrle, a Boston University graduate with a degree in marine science; Lexi Berko, who attended Delaware Valley College for Conservation and Wildlife Management and spent four years working at a certified organic vegetable farm in Pennsylvania; Ali Mitchell, a graphic designer from Los Angeles who was most recently assistant farm manager at Living Roots EcoVillage in Indiana; Charles Cerrier, who is pursuing a degree in agroecology at Sterling College in Vermont; and Caitlin Keller, who has a bachelor’s degree in English from UCLA and a master’s in food systems from NYU.

Find Farmers for Your Land
Workshop will introduce network

Putnam County landowners are invited to learn about the Hudson Valley Farmlink Network at a workshop at a workshop at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 28, at 112 Old Route 6 in Carmel hosted by Glynwood Farm and the county.

The network is a partnership of 15 organizations coordinated by American Farm Land Trust that offers training, networking and one-on-one assistance for farmers and landowners. Attendees will learn how to work with the network and its Hudson Valley Farmland Finder site and assess the agricultural possibilities of their properties.

To attend, RSVP to Dave Llewellyn at dllewellyn@glynwood.org.

North Highlands Looking for Fire Commissioner
Need candidate to fill vacancy

The Philipstown North Highlands Fire District is looking to fill an upcoming vacancy on its Board of Fire Commissioners, continuing through Dec. 31 by appointment and then by election for the remaining year left on the vacancy.

Commissioners must be available on the first Friday and second Thursday of each month for meetings. Job duties include supervision of fire services provided and management of business policies, such as budgets and personnel. The commissioners are volunteers.

Candidates must reside within the North Highlands district throughout his or her term. To apply, call 845-265-7285, email nhfiredistrict@optonline.net or send a resume to Philipstown North Highlands Fire District, 504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring, NY 10516.

Beacon
Towne Crier to Host Screening, Concert
Film tells story of South African children’s choir

The Towne Crier Café in Beacon will screen When Voices Meet at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 24. The 2015 documentary tells the story of a 500-voice, multiracial South African children’s choir that traveled across the country during apartheid aboard The Peace Train. The children performed together (To next page)
for seven years, then reunited 20 years later.

After a dinner break, Sharon Katz & The Peace Train will perform at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $25 in advance and may be purchased at townecrier.com. For more information on the film, visit whenvoicesmeet.com.

Ree-Play Sale Opens April 29
Sale benefits kids’ programs in Beacon

The 12th annual Ree-Play children’s tag sale will take place from April 29 to May 1 at the University Settlement Park Theater in Beacon. The sale features hundreds of items, including gently used children's clothes, toys, books and games, along with maternity clothes and sports equipment. It runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day.

All proceeds fund children's programs in Beacon, including playground improvements and programs at the Howland Public Library and the Beacon Recreation Center.

On April 29 and 30, shoppers can fill their own bags with children's clothes for $15. Everything, including bags of clothes, will be 50 percent off on May 1.

Shanghai Quartet Returns to Howland
Group will perform on May 1

The Shanghai Quartet — Weigang Li and Yi-Wen Jiang on violin, Honggang Li on viola and Nicholas Tsavaras on cello — returns to the Howland Cultural Center for a performance at 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 1.

Formed at the Shanghai Conservatory in 1983, the quartet has been a regular performer at leading chamber music festivals.

At its concert in Beacon, the group will play the String Quartet No. 20 in D Major, K 499 by Mozart, the String Quartet No. 1 in A Minor by Bela Bartok and the String Quartet in G Minor by Edvard Grieg.

The performance will be followed by a reception. The Howland Center is located at 477 Main St. Tickets are $30 ($20 for students) and can be reserved by calling 845-765-3012 or visiting howlandmusic.org.

Art Auction to Benefit School
Randolph adding new building

To raise funds for a new building called The Studios, the Randolph School is hosting an art auction at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 30, at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon. The building will be the home for art and music studios and a library at the five-acre Wappingers Falls campus.

The live and silent auction will include work by more than three dozen artists, including Andrea Moreau, Ed Benavente, Jessica Wickham, Deborah Davidovits, Emil Alzamora, Melissa McGill, Ethan Harrison, Rick Price and Leonard Freed. To view a catalogue and purchase tickets, visit randolphschoolgiving.org/art-auction.

Can Fashion Save the Mob?
Novelist to discuss latest book

Screenwriter, actor and writer Nicholas Conti will discuss his latest novel, The Godmother Wore Prada, at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 28, at the Howland Public Library in Beacon. Can fashion help to not only clean up the mob, but revitalize it? Copies of the book and Conti's other titles will be available for sale and signing. The library is located at 313 Main St.
Haldane Track and Field

Haldane freshman Maura Kane-Seitz (right) on her way to winning the 3000 meters in 12:01.36 at the League Championships at Putnam Valley High School on April 19. The Haldane girls won the meet, followed by Putnam Valley.

Seniors to Host Faculty-Student Hoops Game
Fundraiser will reduce cost of prom

The second annual Haldane Students vs. Faculty basketball game will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 28, at the school. Admission is $6 for adults and students and $3 for seniors. Children ages 5 and younger are free. All proceeds will go toward reducing the cost for seniors who are attending prom. Each grade will be playing one quarter against a group of different teachers from the elementary, middle and high schools.

Haldane senior Corbett Francis competes in the 100m event in the League Championship at Putnam Valley High School on April 19. The Blue Devil boys finished second in the meet behind Pawling.

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Perfect Day for Little League Opener

Participation up after lengthy decline

By Michael Turton


It came together perfectly on Saturday, April 16, at North Highlands Field, as baseball season officially got underway in Philipstown.

This year 134 players are taking to the field, an increase of nearly 14 percent over last season, according league president Dave McCarthy. “That’s a lot of kids for a small town like Philipstown,” he said. “After 10 years of decline, this is the first year the league has grown.” McCarthy believes one major reason for the increase has been “keeping some sort of baseball happening all year, including Thursday night fun clinics and fall ball.”

Sponsors for the season are Angelina’s, Appalachian Market, Bailey Cosmetic and Family Dentistry, Harold Lyons & Sons, Head in the Right Direction Counseling, Flagler Landscaping, the Haldane Faculty Association, Industrial Arts Brewing, JVT Construction, Mid-Hudson Concrete, Moo Moo’s Creamery, North Highlands Engine Co. No. 1 and the Putnam County News & Recorder.

This year’s divisions are the Junior Minors (ages 5 to 7) with the As, Yankees, Mets and Rockies; the Minors (ages 8 to 10) with the Cubs, Giants, Mets and Yankees; the Majors (ages 11 to 12) and the age 16-and-under Junior League. The Minor and Major leagues play teams from Fishkill as well as hometown rivals. Playoffs will be the week of June 6, with championship Sunday and closing ceremonies on June 11.

Play ball!

2016 Little League officials
President: Dave McCarthy
Vice President: Tom Virgidamo
Safety Officer: Adam Hotaling
Treasurer: Kristin Van Tassel
Director of Umps: Mike Meeropol
Director of Fields: Lee Erickson
Player Agent: Amber Stickle

Photos by M. Turton