

# The Philipstown info The Paper



69 MAIN ST., COLD SPRING, N.Y. | www.philipstown.info FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2014



# County Legislators Discuss Case of Watery Fuel at **Cold Spring Gas Station**

Problem involved diesel tank; DEC called in

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

he Putnam County Legislature Tuesday night shed light on a mystery that this past winter left Philipstown drivers worried about allegations of watered fuel at a Cold Spring gasoline station.

At their formal monthly meeting April 1 at the old courthouse in Carmel, legislators expressed appreciation to county Consumer Affairs Director Jean Noel and her staff for launching an investigation that determined that diesel fuel at the relevant station contained water. The Consumer Affairs department then brought in the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Although the legislators did not identify the business in question, Noel later told Philipstown.info/The Paper that it was the service station at the Foodtown shopping plaza in Cold Spring. Currently selling Gulf products, the station proprietors also have developed plans to convert the auto repair garage on the premises to a Dunkin' Donuts franchise.

District 6 Legislator Roger Gross mentioned the wateredfuel puzzle as the legislature's meeting wound down. "There was a gas station putting water in the gasoline," he said. Typically, he said, watery fuel is a sum-

mertime phenomenon. In this instance, he added, it occurred in wintertime and featured "a high percentage" of dilution. "A fellow's truck seized up — with \$4,000damages," Gross explained. "Jean and her assistant went over to the station and did a test and confirmed it was about 30 to 40 percent water. This is a good example of government acting. They put the squeeze on them" - the gas station - which then paid for the repairs to the truck, Gross informed his colleagues. He



Gulf station on Chestnut Street Photo by Mary Ann Ebner

said the incident took place in District 1 - Philipstown. He commended Noel and her agency's response. "It shows the public that Consumer Affairs ... act and get the job done."

District 1 Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra and other legislators joined in the praise. "By the time I got some calls from residents and people on the Village Board" about the allegations related to the gas station, "Jean had already been there," Scuccimarra commented. "It was a done deal." (Continued on page 4)

# **Summer Camp:** Ready, Set, Register

Spring ushers in registration ritual

By Mary Ann Ebner

pring may be slow to show herself this year, but it won't be long before school's out. And with that ring of the bell comes the summer camp season. With band camp, sports camp, drama camp, religion camp, art camp and traditionally on the list of options — nature camp - families face an abundance of choices for children.

Susan Richardson, camp director and recreation supervisor with the Philipstown Recreation Department, has coordinated youth summer camp in Philipstown for the past seven years.

"Our primary mission is to give the community a place where their children can come and be safe and have fun," Richardson said. Campers swim, hike, explore science and nature, and work with a variety of arts and crafts projects. Programs range from preschool day camp to youth sports camp, Mad Science, theatre camp (in collaboration with Philipstown Depot Theatre) and even teen travel camp. Registration, now in progress, is open to residents and nonresidents.

"The preschool camp fills, sports camps fill, teen travel fills, we even coordinate the Junior Fire Academy," Richardson said. "We recommend that families register as early as possible as certain things are space limited. And if you come for all eight weeks, there is a discount. We have a lot of kids who come all summer, every summer, and we watch some of these kids grow up."

Maria Stein-Marrison, director of the Manitou School, coordinates summer programs at the Manitou Learning Center in Garrison.

"Speaking as a parent, what happened with my own kids was calling too late for popular camps like Manitoga," Stein-Marrison said. "A lot of places have waiting lists. It pays to be on waiting lists. I tell people to keep calling back. Waiting list spots (Continued on page 4)

# **Butterfield Hearing Delayed Again**

 $Conditions\ removed\ from$ NYSERDA grant requirements

By Michael Turton

The public hearing for the zoning amendment that must be adopted before redevelopment of the former Butterfield hospital site can proceed has been delayed for a second time — this time until April 29 due to a number of scheduling issues that surfaced at the Tuesday (April 1) meeting of the Cold Spring Village Board.

Discussion did continue however regarding comments submitted by the Planning Board on the proposed B4A zoning for Butterfield. Ann Cutignola, a planner with Tim Miller Associates, hired by developer Paul Guillaro, reviewed the tax implications of the proposed project in detail. The developer has estimated that gross annual tax revenue to the village would be almost \$116,000. While trustees would no doubt relish adding that level of funding to the annual village budget, Trustees Matt Francisco and Stephanie Hawkins have both expressed concern that if revenue projections prove to be overstated, the developer could file a grievance, requesting a reduction in taxes. When asked at Tuesday's meeting if he would formally agree not to file such a grievance, Guillaro responded, "I can do that."

In an email to The Paper, Falloon seemed pleased with the outcome of Tuesday's meeting. "The tax implications are much clearer (Continued on page 3)



File photo

**Small, Good Things** 

# Culinary Quidnunc

By Joe Dizney

wonder what the cool kids are eating now?

▲ It's been nearly two years now since a dinner conversation, at the home of my friends Jane and Pete, jokingly revolved around the question, "Who *DOES* kale's P.R.?"

The unquestionably nutritious and historically unglamorous green was in its mid-to-late flush of trendiness with seriously overpriced kale chips appearing in the "hipper" (i.e., overpriced) markets and recipes for kale salads and kale pesto abounding in niche-to-mainstream food media worldwide.

This crunchy "It Girl" of the *brassica* family had come a long way from writer Jane Grigson's estimation of it as sheep's fodder to its loving adoption by bleeding-edge gastronauts worldwide. Kale seemed as omnipresent as balsamic vinegar or truffle oil did in the '80s and '90s or as bacon has been since the Oughties. The appearance of red and black varieties with exotic names (*lacinato*, dinosaur, *cavalo nero*) and pedigrees, and its three-season appeal to farmers and general availability ensured both its fashionable foodie embrace and democratic spread.

Cue the pop-cultural shark jumping: last year *The New York Times Magazine* featured a serio-comic cover story attempting to fan the flames of a broc-

coli vs. kale marketing throwdown—"Broccoli: 43 percent less pretentious than kale," or, "What came first: kale or the bandwagon?" Just last week I saw a recent recipe offering

dismissed with the comment, "Blistered carrots are this year's kale." (Does that make orange the new green?)

Such chatter is truly meaningless, especially after acquainting myself recently with a surprising pairing of kale with smoked paprika. Suggested by food writer Deborah Madison as a vegetarian alternative to a natural carnivorous pairing with bacon, a simple sauté of blanched kale with onions and garlic becomes something quite different seasoned with the oaky sweetness of the spice.

Also known as pimentón and not nearly as alien or exotic as it sounds, my favorite blend is Penzey's Spanish-style smoked paprika, available locally at the Penzey's store in the Palisades Mall (or online at penzeys.com). The supermarket-friendly McCormick's brand has a widely marketed version in their "gourmet" line.

As good as the kale is by itself, a latewinter purge of my pantry uncovered a stash of Flour City's artisanal sweet potato papardelle (purchased last fall at the Beacon Farmers Market but also available online from flourcitypasta.com), which made a delicious bed for the greens. The maple-like sweetness of the pasta deliciously offset and complimented the greens, ultimately suggesting the recipe offered this week.

Diced and roasted separately at high heat and incorporated at the end of cooking, the lightly caramelized sweet



Kale and sweet potato hash with smoked paprika

Photo by J. Dizney

potatoes marry the natural bitterness of the kale to the onions and spices for an exceptional and very flexible side dish which itself suggests further refinements and variations. This hash could easily become a hearty breakfast or brunch dish topped with a poached or fried egg, a pasta toss with the addition of a bit more liquid and a grating of pecorino, or a luscious baked casserole dotted with goat cheese.

What next, indeed!

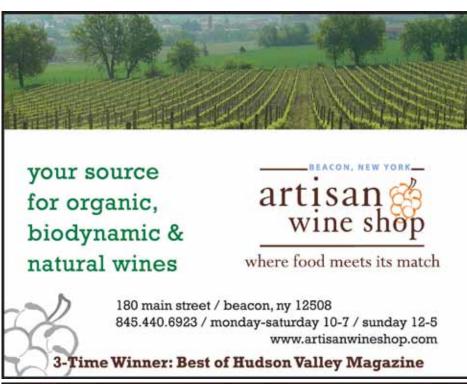
# Kale and Sweet Potato Hash with Smoked Paprika

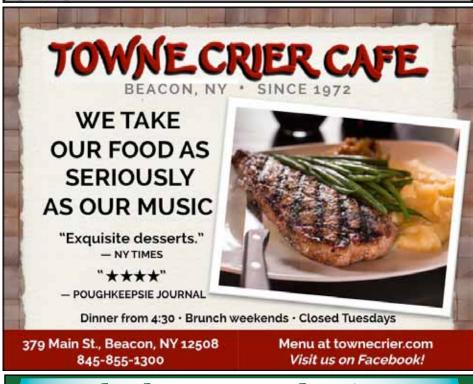
2 large sweet potatoes, peeled and diced into ½ inch cubes
Large bunch kale, curly or otherwise

Large bunch kale, curly or otherwise 2 large onions, peeled quartered and sliced 2-4 cloves garlic, minced 1 teaspoon Spanish style smoked

paprika ½ cup water or stock

- 1. Sweet potatoes: Preheat oven to 450° (425° convection). Toss sweet potato cubes with 2-3 tablespoons olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Spread in one layer on a baking sheet. (Line the sheet with parchment paper if you've got it: this makes for crispier sweet potatoes.) Bake in top third of the oven for 20 minutes. Flip cubes with a spatula and continue roasting for another 10-20 minutes checking occasionally to make sure they don't burn. You want a bit of a caramelized crust but not too much. When done, remove from oven and set aside.
- 2. Kale: While the sweet potatoes roast, put a large pot of water on to boil and salt liberally. Wash and drain kale and remove the heaviest of stalks. Chop into a rough *chiffonade* (large ribbons). When water is boiling, submerge kale and cook for 7-8 minutes. Drain and refresh with cold water to stop cooking. When thoroughly drained squeeze out excess water and set aside.
- **3. The hash:** Heat 2-3 tablespoons of oil in a large skillet, medium-high. When hot add onions and stir as they cook until they begin to color (about 5-6 min.). Add garlic and cook another 1-2 minutes. Add smoked paprika and cook another minute; add kale and stir to distribute onion mixture. Cook uncovered, stirring, 3-4 minutes. Add water or stock; lower heat to medium-low and cover, allowing vegetables to cook for another 4-5 minutes until kale is well wilted.
- 4. Remove cover and raise heat to medium-high to boil off any remaining liquid, stirring vegetables constantly. Add a splash of olive oil and when hot add sweet potato cubes stirring gently to combine and long enough to just heat them through. Remove from heat, adjust salt and pepper and serve hot.





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# Butterfield Hearing Delayed Again (from page 1)

to me now ... I do believe it (Butterfield) would bring some tax relief to the village," he said. "The applicant (Guillaro) expressed his willingness to sign a separate agreement to a freeze on filing a tax case against the village. The ... tax implications were examined by the Planning Board, the planning and engineering firm hired to assist the planning board, the tax assessor and by the Village Board last evening."

Hawkins was also pleased with the discussion. In an email to The Paper she said that by agreeing to enter into a "no tax grievance" agreement, Guillaro had answered one of the village assessor's cautions. "He (Guillaro) was responsive to concerns that his project's tax revenue projections might be overstated. It means a lot that he's willing to meet us on the question of grieving assessments in the future. I believe we all want the property to have a fair assessment that provides strong and stable tax income."

The Paper asked Francisco to comment on tax benefits of the Butterfield project. "The Village Board needs to fully understand the valuation method of condominiums to understand how the tax receipts could change - especially in our small village (where) condominiums (are) a significant percentage of the taxable parcels."

He also commented on Putnam County's preference for owning its own space, should it decide to locate offices at Butterfield. "It would be unwise ... to proceed without understanding the impact on taxes if part or all of the municipal building were to be owned by a tax exempt municipality in the future."

Falloon said that Chuck Voss, a consultant working with the village on Butterfield, is preparing a memo that will help guide trustees as they address numerous issues raised in the Planning Board's comments on the zoning amendment at meetings scheduled for April 8 and 10.

# Grove proposal inches forward

Trustees continue to chip away at obstacles standing in the way of a local resident's quest to convert The Grove into a family home. Steven Marino of Nelsonville submitted the only proposal to acquire and restore the building after the village twice issued a Request for Proposals.

Issues still to be resolved include an old oil tank buried on the site, the status of a number of easements, and the implications of a request by Marino for tax relief. Falloon reported that the village can use its own workers to remove the old tank with Downey Oil disposing of it at a cost of \$1,500. Soil testing could cost up to \$625. Additional costs would be substantial if tests reveal significant soil contamination. Falloon said he feels that costs associated with the tank's removal are the responsibility of the village. "It

should have been removed when the village acquired the property," he said. Village Attorney Michael Liguori said that Milano has requested that a pedestrian easement across the property be removed and that two other easements for utilities and parking don't pose a problem.

The most complicated issue is Milano's request for a tax abatement plan, requiring enactment of a new local law affecting Cold Spring's entire Historic District. The scenario would see Marino pay taxes only on the assessed value of the property in its current rundown state for the first five years - but not on the value of renovations. His taxes would then increase every five years until they reflect the full value of improvements. It was initially believed that the village would pass the new law, however Liguori reported that the Town of Philipstown has that responsibility, supported by the Village of Cold Spring and Haldane Central School District. Haldane's Interim Superintendent of Schools, John Chambers, supports the law. Falloon will now ask Town officials if they are willing to enact the law. Milano had suggested an April 15 deadline for resolving all outstanding issues but Liguori indicated that the date is negotiable.

The Grove, located atop the embankment behind The Nest childcare center on Chestnut Street, was designed by noted architect Richard Upjohn and constructed in the 1850s. It is listed on the New York State and National Register of Historic Places and was acquired by the Village of Cold Spring in 2003. It has sat empty for years and is in a poor state of repair.

## Tight timeframe for new budget

The timeline for adopting the 2014-15 village budget is tight to say the least. Trustees received the tentative budget at Tuesday's meeting and will review it in detail on April 8. The public hearing on the new budget will be held one week later on April 15 - a deadline imposed by New York State. Total spending from the General Fund next year is estimated at \$2,700,140 with \$1,507,168 to be raised by taxes — an increase of 2.89 percent over last year. Falloon said that after the close of the public hearing, funds can be transferred within the budget but total spending cannot increase. The draft budget includes a salary increase for village employees while the stipend paid to trustees and the mayor remains the same, Falloon said. The mayor's rather concise summary of the draft budget was that it includes "nothing crazy."

# Call for zoning update volunteers

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSER-DA) has removed all conditions from a \$75,000 grant to update Cold Spring's zoning code. The project will bring vil-





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Cold Spring, NY

**❸ Guided Garden Walk - Spring Bulbs** Wednesday, April 16, 5 - 6pm, \$10/Members no charge

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Vendors include Wrightman Alpines, Broken Arrow Nursery, Garden Vision Epimediums, Pope's Pots and more. Refreshments available for purchase.

> For more information please call (845) 265-2000 or visit www.stonecrop.org



Planner Ann Cutignola, left, reviewed tax implications of the Butterfield project at Tuesday's meeting.

lage zoning into compliance with the 2012 Comprehensive Plan. Village Attorney Liguori said that NYSERDA recognized that the conditions it had initially required were not appropriate. The grant application had included stringent environmental components such as preferred parking for hybrid vehicles. Trustees insisted throughout the application process that they would not accept the funding with such strings attached. "They've been very flexible," Trustee Hawkins said of NYSERDA. Cold Spring's current zoning was originally adopted in the 1960s and copied directly from a suburban New York community rather than drafted to reflect village conditions, a move which has caused problems for decades.

A notice will now be issued by the village, seeking residents interested in serving on a committee to assist with the zoning update.

# **Boat club deadline questioned**

During the public comment period, Alison Anthoine, a resident in the area of the Cold Spring Boat Club, inquired about rumors that the New York State Department of Environmental protection (DEC) had asked that the club building be vacated by August 29, rather than by Sept. 30, as originally agreed. Falloon said that DEC had made the request but that the village had responded that it was not a reasonable requirement since boating would still be in season through August. The building is to be razed as part of the DEC cleanup of toxic coal tar deposits on site, a byproduct of a manufactured gas plant that went out of business in the early 1900s.

#### Mark your calendars

Scheduling a number of significant meetings posed a logistical challenge for trustees as they juggled dates, issues, deadlines, travel, conflicting meetings and venues. The short-term schedule was resolved as follows:

Monthly meeting: Tuesday, April 8, 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall. To include discussion of Butterfield B4A zoning.

Workshop: Thursday, April 10, 7:30 p.m. at the Cold Spring Fire Hall. Discussion to continue on Butterfield B4A zoning.

Workshop: Tuesday, April 15, 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall. Includes Public Hearing on proposed 2014-15 budget.

Public hearing: Tuesday, April 29, 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall. Butterfield B4A Zoning Amendment.

Tuesday's meeting was the last for outgoing Trustees Matt Francisco and Charles Hustis. Newly elected Michael Bowman and Cathryn Fadde begin their terms at the meeting on April 8.

# Modern Earth Day

Join us for a talk & a convivial dinner Thursday, April 24, 7PM @ the Garrison Institute / 14 Mary's Way, Route 9D, Garrison, NY

A Modern Earth Day Meal with a menu--high & low tech, local & global--prepared by Fresh Company

And a talk by veteran environmental journalist Andy Revkin An Earth Day for the Age of Us

MENU

Tilapia brandade / sourdough toast Shiitake chip with parsnip mousse / radish shoots & lemon oil Florida Gulf shrimp cakes / green garlic Gougère / housemade "American" cheese

> Roast pork / Local tofu Haiga rice & pistachios Tomato compote / coconut, chive & basil Spring onions, red Russian kale & bok choy

Caramel custard / maple ice cream crisps

Peekskill Brewery beer / Whitecliff Winery wine Coffee & tea

Reservations required: www.garrisoninstitute.org/modernearthday or 845 424 4800

\$40 per person by credit card prior to the event / \$45 cash or check at the door if space is available









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# County Legislators Discuss Case of Watery Fuel at Gas Station (from page 1)

# Testing reveals water presence

Noel told *Philipstown.info* that at the service station "there was four inches of water in their underground storage tank." When she arrived on the scene, she said, the fuel line was frozen. "There was obviously water in there," Noel said. Further testing of diesel revealed the presence of water, she continued. "We filed a complaint with the DEC," which is following up to try to determine how the water got into the tank, she added.

The station operators initially denied responsibility but later agreed to fix the customer's damaged truck, she said. "I think it sends a strong message" that Putnam County demands accountability "and that you have to take responsibility" as a business owner.

Cold Spring resident Tony Bardes, who runs the landscaping business Habitat Revival, said April 2 that he was the gas station customer who raised the issue. He elaborated during a phone interview and in a letter he wrote to the county legislature and passed along to *Philipstown.info*.

In the letter, Bardes stated that in January after his truck was filled at the station — it was his snow-plow truck, a mainstay of his work in winter — "I had driven less than a half mile and my truck died." After efforts to re-start it failed, he had it hauled off for repairs by his mechanics and "I was informed I had frozen fuel lines" and "that I had 20 gallons of water that had frozen in the lines, tank and fuel system, causing extensive damage to my truck, to the tune of approximately \$4,800."

In both the letter and phone conversation, he said that he promptly contacted the service station to report the problem, but got nowhere. "Needless to say, I was shocked at this response," he stated.

Bardes, too, said that the service sta-

tion fuel pump had frozen and that he took photographs of it when it was being fixed by an outside company. "How the water got into the tank I can only guess," Bardes told *Philipstown.info*.

Under the circumstances, "I was pretty frustrated" and notified Consumer Affairs, Bardes added. He said Noel and her staff "were amazingly quick. These guys really, really helped me out. If there's an egregious problem, they're right on it," he said.

"As a licensed contractor, it's nice to know that our county legislature is funding things like this and looking out for our county's well-being," he wrote to the legislators.

Through Consumer Affairs' intervention, he got reimbursement from the gas station for truck repairs. However, his total costs were higher than the bill, due to his lost time and inability to use the truck for business, he said in the phone call. "It was a two-month affair in the middle of winter."

# Summer Camp: Ready, Set, Register (from page 1)

open up as people's plans change."

The Manitou programs are designed for children to explore creative ideas, in addition to learning Spanish, and to enhance learning in a natural environment.

At outdoor camps in the area, children learn and grow under a canopy of trees and blue skies. At Hudson Highlands Nature Museum in Cornwall, children ages 4 to 15 may attend half and full-day camp.

"Kids don't get outside enough," Marian Goldin, the nature museum's marketing manager said. "We offer the wonders of the natural world. It's a science and nature camp."

Camp counselors want kids to get their hands dirty, and Common Ground Farm located in the Town of Wappingers Falls, builds their program of fun and learning all around dirt. Sember Weinman, education director at Common Ground Farm, encourages kids to dig in the dirt and explore.

"Fundamentally, our camp is about exposing kids to the outdoors but also about growing and consuming their own food," Weinman said. "We are trying to enable kids to see the cycle of food and help them eat healthier. Kids will get to be outside which is sometimes a missing piece from the classroom."

And the outdoor experience around town extends from land to water. For rising sixth graders and older children, parents may want to research learning more about the Hudson River as their summer classroom. The workshops offered through Building Bridges Building Boats function much like summer camp, where kids learn from beginner through advanced levels. The organization's director, David Hardy, explained that at the minimum, kids learn the basics of a river trip.

"By the end of the workshop," Hardy said, "kids can steer, row and land a boat on the beach. We live on the Hudson River. Send the kids. We're supposed to be about the river and this is a river town. They should give it a try. The kids get to learn their local waters from a boat."

If not on the water, children can also learn near the water. The Garrison Art Center offers a summer program, Summer Arts on the Hudson, Pre-K through



Susan Richardson, camp director and recreation supervisor with the Philipstown Recreation Department, has coordinated summer camp in Philipstown for the last seven years.

Photo by M.A. Ebner

eighth grade, and Summer Art Institute for teenagers entering ninth through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Barbara Smith Gioia, the Garrison Art Center's education coordinator, said any child who loves to explore creativity is welcome.

"There's a little unstructured time where the kids run through the sprinklers and play on the landing," Smith Gioia said, "but it's mostly about art. Our younger programs fill up, and we generally cut off at 50. There's also a discount when signing up now before April 15 for Summer Arts, and before May 1 for Summer Art Institute."

New this year for teens, the art center is also offering a special workshop for portfolio development and how to document work including photographing and organizing the presentation of images.

In the effort to let kids be kids, to unplug and be a little carefree, Manitoga's Summer Nature & Design Camp at the Russel Wright Design Center provides the setting to soak up knowledge and learn about the natural world in a fun environment. Lori Moss, Manitoga's assistant director and camp coordinator, says even children who haven't spent a great deal of time with nature, come away from Manitoga with a new appreciation for reading trails and identifying wildlife.

"A lot of kids come and they're a little timid about nature," Moss said. "After a short time, you see them engaging and handling salamanders and it's incredible."

For parents who aren't certain nature camp is a good fit for their child, Moss invites families to Open Camp Day from 2 to 4 p.m. on May 3 (rain date May 4) to meet the staff and experience the natural setting of Manitoga.

"I tell people to come to Open Camp Day," Moss said. "Our counselors are great, they can talk to them and it's a good way to see if their kids would fit in here."

If children want to polish lacrosse shots or Shakespeare, hike a trail or paint on canvas, camp registration is now open. Local coordinators recommend visiting their websites and calling with questions. Some registrations are available online, others may be made by phone or mail. Scholarships are also offered for many programs. Richardson said that the most important part of the mission at the Philipstown Recreation Department is to serve families. Prices are affordable, and sibling discounts apply. Moss also

noted that Manitoga has received funds from benefactors to help support their scholarships for summer camp.

Information for these and many more camps are posted at organizational websites, which include dates, fees and program details.

# Summer Program Contacts

Building Bridges Building Boats, buildingboats.org, 845-265-4290

Common Ground Farm, commongroundfarm.org 845-231-4424

Garrison Art Center, garrisonartcenter.org, 845-424-3960

Hudson Highlands Nature Museum, hhnaturemuseum.org 845-534-5506, ext. 211

Manitoga/The Russel Wright Design Center, russelwrightcenter.org 845-424-3812

The Manitou School, manitouschool.org, 914-227-6461

Philipstown Recreation Department, philipstownrecreation.com 845-424-4618

# Food Pantry Welcomes Needed Check

December Messiah bears fruit at Easter

By Kevin E. Foley

The Philipstown Food Pantry received a \$1,900 boost this week when Fr. Shane Scott-Hamblin and Gordon Stewart, publisher of The Paper, presented the pantry's volunteer coordinator Andrea Bach with a check. The funds arose from part of the ticket sales of the Dec. 22 performance of The Messiah at St. Mary's Episcopal Church where Scott-Hamblin is pastor. Stewart organized and conducted the George Frideric Handel work, which had two performances.

Bach expressed her appreciation for the funds on behalf of the food pantry's clients and underscored that the funds were especially welcome given the coming Easter season when the pantry makes a special effort to provide a little something extra to families to help mark the occasion. She mentioned the possibility of purchasing trays of fruits and vegetables to augment donated hams for an Easter meal.

"It's important that for the big holidays the family can sit down and enjoy a wonderful meal together," said Bach. The food pantry is operated under the auspices of the First Presbyterian Church in Cold Spring.

The food pantry only serves citizens of Philipstown who are required to demonstrate residency. On occasion someone will show up from another jurisdiction. Bach said she never turns anyone away if it is their first time, but she is obligated under state rules to direct them to the services in their home area.

Bach said the pantry currently assists approximately 25 to 30 households involving well over 100 people. She said there were eight to 10 households when she started a few years ago. The pantry supplies three days worth of food for the week including breakfast, lunch and dinner.

The numbers are going up both in terms of households and people particularly over the last year or two according to Bach. She attributed this to both the state of the overall economy as well as the fraying of the social safety net wherein support payments such as food stamps and social security don't keep pace with the needs of some people. She said senior citizens account for the latest increase in clients. "Its particularly hard for them to come to the food pantry because they have

been working hard all their lives, they've put into Social Security and now they don't get enough to get through the month and buy food."

The food pantry is in part funded by a state grant that accounts for about half a year's needs. "It's a very important thing to get private money donations or food donations," said Bach. But she stressed that monetary donations can go much further because of the pantry's eligibility to purchase foodstuffs at even less than wholesale prices. "While you may buy a can of beans for 98 cents, I can buy four cans of beans for 98 cents," she said.

"All the churches contribute to this," said Scott-Hamblin, commenting on the donation, which he attributed to Stewart's work. "It's a joint outreach rather than each of us having our own pantry.

"And it's not just donations, we also have volunteers from all the communities of faith here," added Bach.



Fr. Shane Scott-Hamblin, Andrea Bach and Gordon Stewart Photo by K.E. Foley

Monetary contributions to the Philipstown Food Pantry can be mailed to the First Presbyterian Church, 10 Academy St., Cold Spring.

# Haldane Still Struggling with Budget Gap

Garrison budget approved

By Pamela Doan

espite a small bump in state aid from the New York State Legislature, the Haldane Board of Education still faces a deficit as their scheduled April 8 deadline to pass a budget for the 2014-15 school year hits next week. In an update from the March 25 budget presentation, Interim Superintendent John Chambers noted that Haldane's deficit increased by \$34,000 due to tuition loss from another student. Haldane's total deficit is \$694,000 and the district will receive \$82,000 in state aid as determined by the state budget passed this week. Chambers noted that he had heard from several state legislators that the outpouring of support from many district parents and faculty about the budget had influenced their allocations.

With all the numbers in place, the board is getting down to serious discussion about the possibilities that they have been reviewing over the past month. Chambers and Business Manager Anne Dinio have recommended three strategies to balance the budget that have been presented previously. The dis"bubble class" for the fourth grade, reducing a position, and most significantly, opting into the Teacher's Retirement System stable contribution option, which will save \$301,000 in the following year alone. Essentially, the TRS smoothing option allows the district to pay the interest rate on the pension over an extended period of time rather than all at once. Given that projections for the 2015-16 budget look more positive, this will give the district the breathing room that it needs. The school's website has a fact sheet on the system posted in the Annual Budget section.

At their April 8 meeting, the board will consider options to close the remaining gap of \$176,000. In broad strokes, the administration is looking at equipment and supplies, renegotiating contracts with outside vendors, staff development expenses, extracurricular activities like clubs, class trips and athletic teams, and non-mandated classes and programs like electives. The board may extend the budget deadline past April 8. They have to present a budget by April 22, but expressed their desire to have public input, depending on the reductions that are proposed. There may be another meeting April 10 to finalize the budget.

The board is committed to staying

cent. A community member spoke out during the public comment section about his frustration that taxpayers don't know the full increase in their property taxes at the time they are asked to approve the district's budget. Another parent, Peter Sanders, addressed the board and asked that they consider the possibility of the loan and research what other districts do to balance their budgets. Trustee Evan Schwartz said, "If you look at the survey of Westchester and Putnam districts, Haldane is in the bottom 10 percent of all districts with our increase. This is the lowest tax rate increase we've passed since I've been on the board."

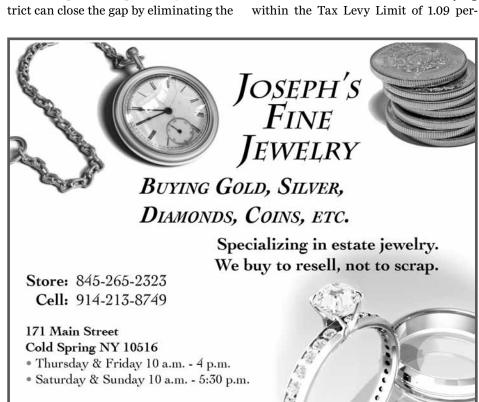
Seniors who participated in the service-learning trip to New Orleans showed a video they had produced about their trip to the board. Student Mary Callaghan said, "We had such a great time and I really hope this trip continues going on and on and on because everyone got something out of it in different ways. It brought our class together." In a handout, they shared responses from students about the experience. All of them mentioned that being exposed to a different culture gave them a new perspective and described being able to help people in need as a rewarding experience.

## Garrison budget approved by board

At their meeting on Wednesday, April 2, the Board of Education of the Garrison Union Free School District passed the 2014-15 budget with little fanfare or comment. Interim Superintendent Brian Monahan said, "The feedback we've received has been positive and complimentary. People seem to feel we've struck a good balance."

Garrison voters will be asked to approve a budget that is within the Tax Levy Limit at the rate of 1.92 percent on May 20. Although Garrison received a small increase in state aid, as did Haldane, the board is still dipping into the district's reserve fund to meet the school's needs. At a previous meeting when this was discussed, board members expressed confidence that this could be paid back, if not in full, but at least partially.

The meeting was the last for Monahan, among nearly 700 board meetings that he estimates he has attended in his career. The new superintendent, Laura Mitchell, starts at her post on April 21. Monahan will spend some time with Mitchell before she begins and then be available to help with her transition. The board expressed their appreciation to him for stepping in to help the district through the past few months while they hired a permanent replacement for Gloria Colucci.





# Order Up: New Owners, New Ideas at Garrison Café

Garrison residents Lydia and Matt McMahon keep hospitality pledge

**By Alison Rooney** 

his has always been our little idea. We always had a plan for this place."

These sentences, spoken by Lydia Mc-Mahon, the new co-owner of the Garrison Café, by default hub of the hamlet of Garrison, are true, but the plan she referred to took a few twists and turns along the way in coming to fruition.

The McMahons, who have lived here for 15 years, originally desired to start an online wine business. Licensing regulations required a storefront of some kind to go along with it. After scoping out nearby spots, they started talking to Pascal Graff, the café's then-owner about partnering in a European-style "eno-



Above, Lydia McMahon, new co-owner of Garrison Café; below left, café exterior

Photos by A. Rooney

teca" model, in which they would take over the shop across the road, and their wines would complement his food. After back-and-forthing the "will you be our food component?" for months, they were ready to make the jump and told Graff, "You're a part of our marketing plan."

"You're killing me," Graff responded. "I think you really want this — and if you do, I'll sell the café to you." Despite having no background in the hospitality industry (Matt works with his family's medical publishing business in New York City. Lydia, who met Matt when she went to work for his father's firm — "I graduated from Sarah Lawrence and wound up working for this quirky family, and ended up marrying into it." — has a background in advertising sales.), they decided that the time was right to dive in, and they did — quickly.

"The fact that Pascal had put so much work into it, resurrected it and made it a viable business gave us the confidence to do this," Lydia says.

As of now, the café looks much as it did previously. For those worried that the wood-fired pizza oven would become history, it will not - in fact a Nutella pizza is a future food rumor Lydia has started herself. For those with a croissant passion, rest assured, the baked goods will remain. In fact, "Pascal left us his people," says Lydia, so there is continuity to the already-popular foods offered. Patrons will still find breakfast specialties like French toast and eggs Benedict and, for lunch, a variety of paninis, including a grilled portobello and a Cubano chicken, along with an assortment of ready-made sandwiches, which can be both heated and customized. "Just ask," says Lydia.

Someone requested a kale Caesar salad, now featured on the menu. Egg white omelettes? Easily done. If something runs out, "I live two minutes away," says Lydia, "and I can, and do, run home to get it." An amuse-bouche is offered each morning and new, homemade, homegrown items in stock include cupcakes by Garrison's Andrea Rouxel, and glutenfree baked goods by Karen Thompson of



Barista window at the Garrison Café

the Desmond-Fish Library. There is also a new staff member, café manager Antonio Avellaneda, who formerly worked at the Highlands Country Club.

Eventually, the McMahons, who are currently obtaining a liquor license for wine and beer, hope to expand. She is eyeing the notion of serving "pop-up dinners" which she is calling the 'Hudson Highlands Tasting Table,' with guest chefs, a theme, and a set price with "no bill at the end of the night." In keeping with their lives as a couple with young children (they have an 11-year-old and four-year-old twins and are very active in many family activities, Matt serving as a Pop Warner football coach and Lydia winding down a two-year term as the Garrison School PTA vice president), they are planning to add a play space behind the café, and have already added highchairs and a published kids' menu.

"It will slowly take time to revamp things, but we're already on our way, less than two weeks in," Lydia says. They want to mix it up a bit, offering both gourmet burgers and 'regular' burgers. "If you know us as a family, that's us: Budweiser and fine wine," Lydia says with a broad smile.

With just a short time at the helm behind her, Lydia says she has already "learned a lot. My God — we go through a lot of food! The volume is unbelievable. We keep placing orders for more. We get the commuters, the hikers, everyone — and we keep hearing that the summer is just insane." What Lydia is finding most of all is that "Everyone wants this place to succeed. We get a lot of advice, but all of it is positive — there's such good energy."

Right now the Garrison Café, located at 1135 Route 9D, is open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays, and until 8 p.m. on weekends, though hours may change seasonally. For more information visit garrisoncafe.com, or the Facebook page or phone 845-424-8300.



# PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE

# Fourth Annual Ariane Original One-Act Play Festival

Friday, April 4, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 5, 8 p.m. Sunday, April 6, 4 p.m. Tickets \$15 / \$12

**Depot Docs presents:** 

# Semper Fi

Friday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.

Q&A and reception with director Rachel Libert
Tickets \$20

Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival presents:

Much Ado About Nothing Saturday, April 12, 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Tickets \$20

Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com or 845.424.3900 www.philipstowndepottheatre.org

Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station.)



# The Calendar

# Women Artists, **Old Friends Reunite** in Mad Dooley's The L Café Show

# Opening reception April 12

**By Sommer Hixson** 

reative types were flocking to the neighborhood for large spaces, cheap rent and like-minded souls. A young artist scrapes enough money together to open a café in an old lawyer's office on a burned out, boarded up city block. The funky DIY decor, heavily influenced by a staff of bohemian cohorts, immediately attracts a clientele of fellow artists, musicians and writers looking for a hangout.

The year was 1992. The location? About 60 miles south of Beacon, in a place known as Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

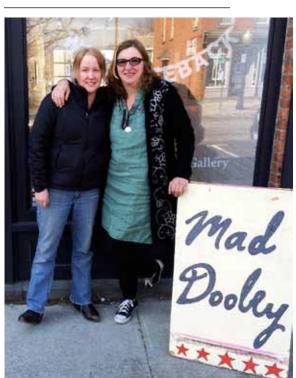
"I look back and I think I was nuts," said Kit Demirdelen (née Shapiro), who was 27 years old when she opened the L Café, named after the subway stop one block away. "We started to build without permits. I didn't have a contractor. My friend's husband was an architect. It was like a clubhouse."

Catherine Welshman, Kit Keith, Alexandra Lakin and Olivia Pintos-Lopez worked at the café in those early days. Like Demirdelen, they (To page 15)



Statuette collage by Alexandra Lakin

Image courtesy of the artist



Catherine Welshman, left, and Kit Shapiro Demirdelen grace the Mad Dooley entrance in Beacon. Photo by S. Hixson



Water Way: The Paintings of Fredericka Foster

Artist talk, accompanied by music, anchors exhibit at Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries

By Alison Rooney

most appropriate venue, the gallery at the Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries (BIRE), is home, through October 5, to Water Way, a solo exhibition of Fredericka Foster's oil paintings of water.

Foster, widely exhibited and collected, has had five recent solo

exhibitions - with many of these paintings included - at New York City's Fischbach Gallery. In Water Way, Foster, as explained in program notes, "explores waters from the powerful, dramatic fjords of Norway to the urban, industrialized Hudson River, to discover the complex interaction of color, light and energy intrinsic to earth's most essential element. Always moving water, using oils, she applies layers of complex colors to canvas, creating a visual vibrancy that embodies her deep connection with water, evoking its urgent challenges." On Saturday, April 12, Foster will share thoughts on the creative process behind her exhibition in a 5 p.m. talk, accompanied by musical guests MotherLode Trio and Red, in

a "celebration of inspiration."

Speaking with *Philipstown*. info on the day her exhibit was being hung, Foster spoke of her work, her process and the meaning behind the statement: "By nurturing our relationship with water through her art, Foster seeks to be part of the movement to protect it." Following are excerpts from that talk.

# On how she came to her subject matter:

"I had been working on a series of paintings on religious symbols. Each one took a tremendously long time because of the learning I had to do — which was tremendously interesting but such a personal inquiry and very, very slow. I discovered that every single religion has water as part of its metaphor. Whether it embodies purity, or renewal, or was used for baptism, Mikvah, or the fountains used [in] Muslim [tradition] - I didn't find a faith that didn't use water.

Growing up in the Pacific Northwest, Puget Sound, I was surrounded by water. When I lived in Seattle I spent summers on lakes. When I started painting water, it was amazing. I've always loved abstract art but think abstraction and realism are not in conflict — that idea never made any sense. I like working without a recognizable object. Earlier, the paintings of religious symbols fell into that category - all 'not quite realistic."

# A quote from Foster's website:

"Painting water returned me to my Norwegian heritage, as my great



Close-up of a Fredericka Foster painting of the waters of the Hudson. Photo by A. Rooney

grandmother was a "fishing Sami" living North of the Arctic Circle. The family legend is that she could catch a fish, embroider it on her apron and make a feast for a dozen in an afternoon. Besides inspiring me with memories from living on the lakes and rivers, water, constantly moving and completely abstract, satisfies my desire to paint formally as well as a need to be challenged."

> "When I work I literally dart from one form to the other; I keep interrupting and looking at it anew."

"With the water paintings I begin with a photo but I'm not enslaved to it, I change color, composition. I take thousands and wait for one which opens a vision for me. When I work I literally dart from one form to the other; I keep interrupting and looking at it anew. I even change the direction, making the horizontal vertical. At times I get a sudden feeling of wonderful upward movement and the painting shifts. The rhythm gives my (Continued on page 14)

# The Calendar

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

# FRIDAY, APRIL 4

## **Kids & Community**

#### **Indoor Tot Lot**

9-11 a.m. & Noon - 2 p.m. Philipstown Rec Center 107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison 845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

#### **Howland Public Library**

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Free Tax Assistance for Seniors and Low Income

3 p.m. Young Adult Connections 313 Main St., Beacon

845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

## Stamp, Coin, and Paper Money Show

Noon - 6 p.m. Westchester County Center 198 Central Ave., White Plains 914-995-4050 | countycenter.biz

## 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 For take-out orders, call 845-265-9595

#### Family Bingo and Pasta Night

6:30 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center 107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison 845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

#### **Support Connection Spring Benefit**

7 p.m. Hollow Brook Golf Club 1060 Oregon Road, Cortlandt Manor 914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

# The Brain Show (Trivia) (grades 6-8)

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

## **Art & Design**

#### **Highlights Tour**

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

## Gallery 66 NY Openings

Tarryl Gabel and Gregory Martin: The Picturesque, the Pastoral, and the Sublime
Judith Kepner Rose and Deborah Lecce: Frolic
Group Show: Influences from Nature
Eric David Laxman: Sculpture in the Garden
6-9 p.m. 66 Main St., Cold Spring

#### Film & Theater

# 4th Annual Ariane One-Act Play Festival

845-809-5838 | gallery66ny.com

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

## Calling All Poets

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

## Music

#### **Mike Gordon of Phish**

8 p.m. Tarrytown Music Hall 13 Main St., Tarrytown 914-631-3390 x100 | tarrytownmusichall.org

## UNI (Reggae)

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

# The Nomads

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

#### Live Music

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

#### Terrance Simien & The Zydeco Experience

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café 379 Main St., Beacon

845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

#### Mike N Ed's Acoustic Adventure

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

#### The Jeremy Baum JB3 Trio

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

# **Meetings & Lectures**

#### **Free Computer Help**

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

# **Potluck and Meeting**

6:30 p.m. Beacon Sloop Club 2 Red Flynn Drive, Beacon 914-907-4928 | beaconsloopclub.org

#### **Stations of the Cross**

6:30 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring 845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org 7:30 p.m. Our Lady of Loretto 24 Fair St, Cold Spring 845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

# SATURDAY, APRIL 5

# **Kids & Community**

# St. Philip's Nursery School Annual Tag Sale

8:30 a.m. Early Bird Opening (\$5) 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Free entrance St. Philip's (Parish Hall) | 1101 Route 9D, Garrison 845-424-3571 | stphilipsnursery.org

# Cold Spring Farmers' Market

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Open St. Mary's Parish Hall

1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring | csfarmmarket.org

#### Food Pantry

9 - 10 a.m. First Presbyterian Church 10 Academy St., Cold Spring 845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

#### **Recycling Center Open**

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 59 Lane Gate Road, Cold Spring coldspringny.gov

#### Passover Workshop (ages 2-7)

9:45 a.m. Reform Temple of Putnam Valley 362 Church Road, Putnam Valley 845-528-4774 | rtpv.org

#### **Green Workshop**

10 a.m. School of Jellyfish | 183 Main St., Beacon 845-440-8017 | schoolofjellyfish.com

## Stamp, Coin, and Paper Money Show

10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Westchester County Center See details under Friday.

# Beginner Wheel Throwing (grades 2-5) (First Session)

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

# Garrison School Forest Cleanup and Picnic

10 a.m. Snake Hill Road opposite 135 mailbox terrafloratrish@gmail.com

## Sustainable Butterfly Gardening

10 a.m. Outdoor Discovery Center 100 Muser Drive, Cornwall 845-534-5506 | hhnaturemuseum.org

#### **Try Your Hand Art Open House**

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

#### **Open Barn**

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Stony Kill Farm 79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls 845-831-1617 | stonykill.org

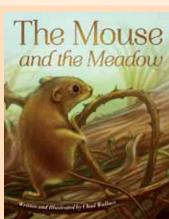
#### Shine a Light on Our Dis/Abilities Expo

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Walter Panas High School 300 Croton Ave., Cortlandt Manor | 914-739-2306 x505 | msmith@lakelandschools.org

# Soup Kitchen

11 a.m. Presbyterian Church 50 Liberty St., Beacon 845-831-5322 | beaconpresbychurch.com

# The Gift Hut presents: Author & Illustrator Chad Wallace Book Signing, April 26 86 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York



A curious young mouse boldly ventures into the meadow for the first time. There he is given a crash course on life — from creatures both friendly and not so friendly. He witnesses a caterpillar becoming a chrysalis. He marvels that fireflies can glow. Thoughtful encounters with a turtle and a rabbit help prepare him for danger.

The state of the s

Science and story blend seamlessly in this entertaining coming of age tale. But do animals talk and help each other? Thoughtful back matter explores the phenomenon of animal altruism and what we are learning of animal communication, and delves deeper into the lives of meadow mice and the wonders of a meadow.

The Mouse and the Meadow, written and illustrated by Chad Wallace, a rising young star from the Hudson River Valley, New York

Chad will be signing his book at The Gift Hut, 86 Main Street Cold Spring, NY 10516 Saturday, April 26, 1 - 3 p.m.

Pre-order your copy early. Retail price: Paperback • \$8.95 Hardback • \$16.95





**New!** A free *Pop-Up Mouse and the Meadow* app lets children view this book in Pop-Up mode (details on back cover). Free educator activities at www.chadwallace.com.



# Spend the Season. Savor the Memories.

The Highlands Country Club in Garrison offers everything you and your family need for a fun, relaxing, and memorable summer. You can choose a membership that works for you – 2014 Club Family or Individual, and Pool Family or Individual memberships are available now! Members also have full-signing privileges at our nearby sister property, The Garrison.

GOLI

Our 9-hole course with Hudson Highlands views

SWIM Our 61-footlong heated pool

Tennis on our hard-surface court (open in March) and Har-Tru courts (open in May)



Join the fun at the Highlands Country Club

• Nighlands Country Club

• Nighlands Country Club.net

#### **Beginner Contemporary Dance**

11:15 a.m. Beacon Yoga Center | 464 Main St., Beacon | 347-489-8406 | beaconyogacenter.com

#### **Trout Weekend**

1 & 2:30 p.m. Meet the Fish 1:30 & 3 p.m. Feeding time for Brook Trout Wildlife Education Center 25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson 845-534-7781 | hhnaturemuseum.org

#### **Minecraft for Parents**

Noon to 4 p.m. Open hours

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

# Poet Matthew Spireng (Reading)

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

#### Wine Tasting

3 - 6 p.m. Artisan Wine Shop See details under Friday.

## Project Code Spring (ages 5-14)

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

#### Pasta Dinner Fundraiser for Girls' Softball

4:30 - 8:30 p.m. Lewis Tompkins Firehouse 13 South Ave., Beacon | cityofbeacon.org

#### 2014 CVPOA Spring Fling

7 p.m. Cortlandt Colonial Restaurant 714 Old Albany Post Road, Cortlandt Manor continentalvillage.org

# **Health & Fitness**

# **American Red Cross Babysitter Training**

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center 107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison 845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

#### Tai Chai

9 a.m. St. Philip's Parish House 1101 Route 9D, Garrison 845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

## Tai-Chi Chuan

9:30 a.m. Arts on the Lake 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes 845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

## **Caregiver Support Group**

9:30 a.m. Hudson Valley Hospital 1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor 914-734-3896 | hvhc.org/events

#### **Art & Design**

#### Dia:Beacon Events

11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free admission for Beacon residents 1 p.m. Public tour | 3 Beekman St., Beacon 845-440-0100 | diabeacon.org

#### **Group Show: Reflectionist**

1 - 4 p.m. Arts on the Lake | 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes | 845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

#### Highlights Tour

2 p.m. Storm King Art Center See details under Friday.

#### Annual Artist Members' Exhibition (Opening)

3 - 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St., Beacon

# 845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org Group Show: From the Heart (Opening)

3-7 p.m. Spire Studios | 45 Beekman St., Beacon 845-797-5210 | spirestudios.org

# Group Show: New Space, New Work (Opening)

6-8 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery 121 Main St., Cold Spring | 845-809-5145

#### **Theater & Film**

## **Open Auditions for Gasping**

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre 10 Garrison Landing, Garrison 845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

# Putnam Valley International Jewish Film Festival: *Crossfire*

7:30 p.m. Reform Temple of Putnam Valley 362 Church Road, Putnam Valley 845-528-4774 | rtpv.org

# 4th Annual Ariane One-Act Play Festival

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

# Chekhov's *The Bear /* Mrozek's *Out at Sea* (Readings)

8 p.m. *Philipstown.info* | 69 Main St., Cold Spring Presented by World's End Theater



Knife and tool sharpener Harper Keehn will be at the Cold Spring Farmers' Market Saturday, April 12. Photo by K.E. Foley

## Music

## **Daisy Jopling**

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

#### Alfio, The Voice From Oz

8 p.m. Tarrytown Music Hall | 13 Main St., Tarrytown | 914-631-3390 x100

## **Benefit Concert for the Sloop Woody Guthrie**

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St., Beacon

845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

# Brit Floyd: The World's Greatest Pink Floyd Show

8 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center 14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie 845-454-5800 | midhudsonciviccenter.org

# Hudson Valley Philharmonic: Mahler's 2nd - Resurrection

8 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie 845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

# Jack Grace Band / Knock Yourself Out / Platoon

8 p.m. Southern Dutchess Bowl 629 Route 52, Beacon | local845.com

#### **Alva Nelson Trio**

8 p.m. Bean Runner Café | Details under Friday

#### John Praino

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

#### **Lennon Re-Imagined with The Nutopians**

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

#### **Billy Joel Tribute with David Clark**

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

#### **Beki Brindle and The Hot Heads**

9:30 p.m. Max's on Main | Details under Friday

# DJ Tee-Why?

10 p.m. Virgo's Sip N Soul Café | 469 Fishkill Ave., Beacon | 845-831-1543 | virgossipnsoul.com

# **Meetings & Lectures**

#### **Overeaters Anonymous**

8:30 a.m. Graymoor | 1350 Route 9, Garrison 917-716-2488 | oa.org

#### Black Barbers and Barber Shops (Lecture)

9 a.m. Mid-Hudson Heritage Center 317 Main St., Poughkeepsie

# 845-214-1113 | midhudsonheritage.org Beacon Human Relations Commission

10 a.m. Beacon Community Resource Center 23 West Center St., Beacon 845-838-5000 | cityofbeacon.org

# **Discover Your Writing Voice Workshop**

Noon - 3 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St., Beacon 845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

### The Beekman Arms (Talk & Signing)

12:30 p.m. Beekman Arms | 6387 Mill St., Rhinebeck | 845-471-1630 dutchesscountyhistoricalsociety.org

# Putnam Young Democrats Interest Meeting

2 p.m. Olympic Diner

195 Route 6, Mahopac | 914-374-3960



This Open House is made possible, in part, through the Putnam Arts Council's Arts Link Grant Program with funds from Putnam County. *Stamping, Printing, Rolling* is a cooperative public art project which is in partnership with The Aldrich Museum's **Draw On** event.

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

Garrison Art Center



Dinner nightly from 4:30pm · No show ticket needed

Closed Tuesdays

# The Calendar (from page 9)

# **SUNDAY, APRIL 6**

# **Kids & Community**

#### **Beacon Flea Market**

8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Henry Street Lot, Beacon 845-202-0094 | beaconflea.blogspot.com

#### **Northgate Volunteer Clean-Up**

9 a.m. Little Stony Point Parking Area | Route 9D, Cold Spring | RSVP to thomjohnson1@verizon.net

#### **New York Metro Reptile Show**

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Westchester County Center 198 Central Ave., White Plains 914-995-4050 | countycenter.biz

#### Stamp, Coin, and Paper Money Show

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Westchester County Center See details under Friday.

#### Chinese Language Class (ages 6-18) (First Session)

10 a.m. - Noon. Chuang-Yen Monastery (Library) 2020 Route 301, Carmel | 845-248-0696 | baus.org

#### **Bazaar-on-Hudson Indoor Market**

10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The Living Room 103 Main St., Cold Spring | bazaaronhudson.com

#### **Beacon Farmers' Market**

11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Scenic Hudson River Center Long Dock Drive, Beacon

845-234-9325 | thebeaconfarmersmarket.com

#### Green Workshop (ages 8-14)

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. School of Jellyfish See details under Saturday.

#### **Open Barn**

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Stony Kill Farm See details under Saturday.

**Trout Weekend** Noon to 4 p.m. Open hours

1 & 2:30 p.m. Meet the Fish 1:30 & 3 p.m. Feeding time for Brook Trout Wildlife Education Center | Details under Saturday

## Pioneer Living (ages 5-12): General Store

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

#### The General Lady: Honoring Martha **Washington's Legacy**

2 p.m. Ritz Theater | 107 Broadway, Newburgh 845-562-1195 | nysparks.com

# Children's Film Screening: Dumbo

3 p.m. SkyBaby Yoga

75 Main St., Cold Spring | coldspringfilm.org

HALDANE SCHOOL FOUNDATION



Fish, by Neela Pushparaj, is on view at Beacon's Spire Studio beginning April 5. See details on page 12. Image courtesy of Spire Studios

#### **Sunset Reading Series: Max Watman**

4 p.m. Chapel Restoration | 45 Market St., Cold Spring | 845-265-5537 | sunsetreadings.org

# **Art & Design**

#### **Drop-In Art Sessions**

9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Life Drawing and Painting (Long Pose) | 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Printmaking Club Garrison Art Center | 23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison | 845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

#### **Free Admission for Beacon Residents**

11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Dia:Beacon | Details under Saturday

#### **Group Show: Reflectionist**

1 - 4 p.m. Arts on the Lake | Details under Saturday

#### **Highlights Tour**

2 p.m. Storm King Art Center | Details under Friday

# **Cocktails and Canvas**

7 p.m. Benmarl Winery

156 Highland Ave., Marlboro | eat-paint-love.com

# **Theater & Film**

# **Great Expectations (2012)**

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

# **Putnam Valley International Jewish Film** Festival: The Prince of Egypt

3 p.m. Reform Temple of Putnam Valley See details under Saturday.

# 4th Annual Ariane One-Act Play Festival

See details under Friday.

#### Music

#### **Ukulele Group**

Lakes | 845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

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

#### Anita Merando

5:30 p.m. Whistling Willie's | Details under Friday

6 p.m. 12 Grapes | See details under Friday.

6-9 p.m. Virgo's Sip N Soul Café | 469 Fishkill Ave., Beacon | 845-831-1543 | virgossipnsoul.com

914-631-3390 x100

7 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie 845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

# Joan Osborne

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

# **Meetings & Lectures**

# **Qinming Ceremony**

10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Chuang-Yen Monastery 2020 Route 301, Carmel | 845-225-1819 | baus.org

# **Dharma Sunday School**

12:30 p.m. SkyBaby Yoga | 75 Main St., Cold Spring | 845-265-4444 | skybabyyoga.com

# Free Computer Help

2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library | Details under Friday

## Steamboats on the Hudson (Lecture) 2 p.m. Beacon Institute | 199 Main St., Beacon

845-838-1600 | bire.org

# **Pre-Pesach Women's Seder**

3 p.m. Beacon Hebrew Alliance 331 Verplanck, Beacon 847-831-2012 | beaconhebrew

4 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre

3 p.m. Arts on the Lake | 640 Route 52, Kent

**An Afternoon of Grand Opera** 

## Anne Carpenter & J.T.

# **Sunday Sounds**

7 p.m. Tarrytown Music Hall | 13 Main St., Tarrytown

# **Johnny Clegg Band**

# 8 p.m. Quinn's

330 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-8065

# **Meetings & Lectures**

**First Monday Jam Session** 

**Religious Services** 

MONDAY, APRIL 7

**Kids & Community** 

477 Main St., Beacon

See details under Friday.

**Bridge Club** 

Low-Income

**Indoor Tot Lot** 

The Joys of Hiking

**Board Game Night** 

**Health & Fitness** 

**Art & Design** 

Music

**Garrison Art Center** 

**Community Chorus** 

477 Main St., Beacon

**Open-Mic Night** 

**Sunday listings** 

See philipstown.info/churches for

9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center

845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org Free Tax Assistance for Seniors and

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Howland Public Library

Noon - 2 p.m. Philipstown Rec Center

845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

6:30 p.m. East Fishkill Community Library

7 p.m. Cup and Saucer | 165 Main St., Beacon

348 New York 376, Hopewell Junction

meetup.com/Beacon-Board-not-Bored

6:15 p.m. Youth Skills/Drills (grades 3-8)

845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Drop-In Life Drawing &

Painting (Short Pose) | 5 - 7 p.m. Open Studio

845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

7 p.m. Towne Crier Café | Details under Friday

Drawing | See details under Sunday.

7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center

**Basketball at Philipstown Rec** 

7:30 p.m. Adult Men's Pickup

107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison

845-457-4552 | midhusonADK.org

107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison

**Project Code Spring for Girls** 

3:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403, Garrison

# **Vet2Vet Support Group**

6:30 p.m. Field Library

4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill | 914-872-5269 | fsw.org

# **Justice Court**

6:30 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St., Cold Spring 845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

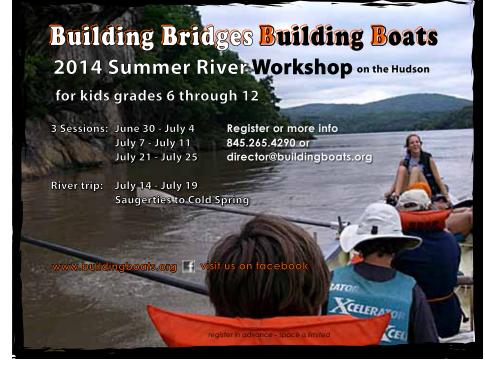
# **Beacon City Council (Scheduled)**

7 p.m. 1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon 845-838-5000 | cityofbeacon.org

# **Beacon School Board**

7 p.m. Beacon High School 101 Matteawan Road, Beacon 845-838-6900 | beaconcityK12.org





# The Calendar (from page 10)

#### **Monthly Meeting**

7 p.m. Putnam Valley Grange 128 Mill St., Putnam Valley 845-528-2565 | putnamvalleygrange.org

#### **PTA Parent Support Group**

7 p.m. 35B Garrison's Landing, Garrison 914-522-9044 | facebook.com/ptalearndiff

#### **Friends of the Butterfield Library**

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

#### **Haldane Booster Club**

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

#### **Tree Advisory Committee**

7:30 p.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave... Cold Spring | 845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov Rescheduled from March 31

# TUESDAY, APRIL 8

# **Kids & Community**

#### **Philipstown Recreation Center**

9-11 a.m. & Noon-2 p.m. Indoor Tot Lot 6:30 p.m. Foot in Mouth Players (ages 12-19) See details under Monday.

### Oakwood Friends School Info Session

9:30 a.m. - Noon. 22 Spackenkill Road, Poughkeepsie 845-462-4200 x245 | oakwoodfriends.org

### Pioneer Living (ages 5-12): General Store

9:30 a.m. Common Ground Farm See details under Sunday.

#### **Senior Day Center**

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mother Lurana House 166 Old West Point Road East, Garrison 845-424-3184 | graymoorcenter.org

## Baby & Me (ages 0-2)

10:30 a.m. Howland Public Library See details under Friday.

## **Children Read to Dogs**

4-5:30 p.m. Howland Public Library See details under Friday.

# Craft Hour for Kids

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

# **Culinary Workshop: Tough Cuts**

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

# **Teen Employment Workshop (ages 14-18)**

6 p.m. Go-Go Pops | 64 Main St., Cold Spring 845-809-5600 | lynn@go-gopops.com

# **Health & Fitness**

# **Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group**

10:15 a.m. East Fishkill Community Library 348 New York 376, Hopewell Junction 800-532-4290 | support connection.org

# **Art & Design**

# **Boscobel Open to Artists**

9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. 1601 Route 9D, Garrison 845-265-3638 | boscobel.org No public admission

# **Being Web Present for Artists and Designers**

6:30 p.m. Center for Digital Arts 27 N. Division St., Peekskill 914-606-7300 | sunywcc.edu/p

# Music

# **Old-Timey Southern Fiddle Jam Session**

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

# Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo

8 p.m. Tarrytown Music Hall 13 Main St., Tarrytown

914-631-3390 x100 | tarrytownmusichall.org

# **Meetings & Lectures**

# **Knitting Club**

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

# Modeling NY/NJ Harbor Storm-Surge Flooding (Seminar)

10:30 a.m. Hudson River Foundation 17 Battery Place, Suite 915, New York 212-483-7667 | hudsonriver.org

# **Highland Knitters**

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

# **Book Club: Gone Girl**

1:30 p.m. Howland Public Library | 313 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

# **Should New York Endorse Aid in Dying?**

Call for NYC location

845-424-4040 x202 | thehastingscenter.org

# Beacon Recreation Committee (Scheduled)

6:30 p.m. Beacon High School 101 Matteawan Road, Beacon

# 845-838-5000 | cityofbeacon.org **Beacon Planning Board (Scheduled)**

7 p.m. 1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon 845-838-5002 | cityofbeacon.org

# **Haldane Fine Arts Committee**

7 p.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

# **Haldane School Foundation**

7 p.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring haldaneschoolfoundation.org

#### **Board of Trustees**

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

# WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

## **Kids & Community**

#### **Howland Public Library**

9:45 a.m. Come & Play (ages 0-3) 10:30 a.m. Toddler Tales (ages 2-3) See details under Friday.

## **Mahjong Open Play** 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. VFW Hall

34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring 845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

# **Desmond-Fish Library**

10:15 a.m. Music and Movement for Toddlers 1:30 p.m. Pre-School Story Hour (ages 3-5) See details under Tuesday.

## **Indoor Tot Lot**

Noon - 2 p.m. Philipstown Community Center See details under Monday.

# Rivertown Kids Chorus (ages 9-13)

4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St., Beacon 845-264-3393 | rivertownkids.org

# **Health & Fitness**

# **Breastfeeding Support Group**

10 a.m. Cornerstone Park Building 1 Fair St., Carmel 845-808-1390 x43150 | putnamcountyny.gov

# **Breastfeeding Support Group**

11 a.m. Hudson Valley Hospital 1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor 914-734-3896 | hvhc.org/events

# Young Women's Breast Cancer Support Group

7 p.m. Support Connection 40 Triangle Center, Suite 100, Yorktown Heights 914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

# **Theater & Film**

# In the Heights (Musical) (Preview)

7 p.m. Beacon High School 101 Matteawan Road, Beacon | beaconplayers.com

# The People's Choir with Cat Guthrie

7 p.m. Beacon Music Factory 12 Hanna Lane, Beacon 845-202-3555 | beaconmusicfactory.com

## **Open Mic Night** 7 - 10 p.m. Towne Crier Café

See details under Friday.

# **Open Mic Night**

7:30 p.m. Dogwood | 47 E. Main St., Beacon 845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com

# **Meetings & Lectures**

# **Middle School Improvement Team**

7:40 a.m. Haldane Elementary (Library) 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring 845-265-9254 | haldanepta.org

# **Justice Court**

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

# **NYS Land Conservation Summit (Opens)**

5 p.m. Thayer Hotel, West Point nyslandsummit.org

# **Tioronda Garden Club**

7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center | 477 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-4300 | howlandculturalcenter.org

#### **Zoning Board of Appeals**

7 p.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring | 845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

#### **Life Support Group**

7:30 p.m. St. Philip's Church | 1101 Route 9D, Garrison | 845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

#### **Historic District Review Board**

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

# THURSDAY, APRIL 10

## **Kids & Community**

# **Indoor Tot Lot**

9-11 a.m. & Noon-2 p.m. | Philipstown Community Center | See details under Monday.

# **Howland Public Library**

10 a.m. Brain Games for Adults 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Free Tax Assistance for Seniors and Low Income | 10:30 a.m. Pre-K Story Time (ages 3-5) | 3:45 - 5 p.m. Lego Club and Block Party | See details under Tuesday.

# **Senior Day Center**

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mother Lurana House See details under Tuesday.

#### **Butterfield Library**

10:30 a.m. Bouncing Babies (ages 0-2) 12:30 p.m. Little Bookworms (Preschool) 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

## Meat & Egg Store Open

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

## Children Read to Dogs (ages 7-10)

3:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403, Garrison 845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

#### **Annual Magnolia Party**

9 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie 845-486-4571 | cunneen-hackett.org **Farm Dinner** 

5:30 p.m. Cunneen-Hackett Art Center

#### 362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring 845-265-3338 | glynwood.org

**Disney Live Pirate and Princess Adventure** 7 p.m. Westchester County Center | 198 Central Ave., White Plains | 914-995-4050

# **Health & Fitness**

6:30 p.m. Glynwood

Qi Gong/Tai Chi 8:30 a.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring | 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

# **Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group**

10 a.m. Support Connection 40 Triangle Center, Suite 100, Yorktown Heights

# 914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org Women's Prenatal/Postpartum

# **Discussion Group**

7 p.m. Hudson Valley Hospital Center 1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor 914-736-7700 | northeastdoulas.com

# **Adult Co-Ed Volleyball**

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center See details under Monday

# DOWNING film center 19 Front St., Newburgh, NY 845-561-3686 A 501 (c) 3 Not-For-Profit Arts Organization Held Over — → Now Showing The Grand Budapest Hotel FRI 3:00 5:30 8:00 SAT 12:30 3:00 5:30 8:00 SUN 1:00 3:30 6:00 TUE & WED 7:30 THUR 2:00 7:30 For more information phone the box office, or check our website:

www.downingfilmcenter.com

# **Art & Design**

# **Highlights Tour**

2 p.m. Storm King Art Center | Details under Friday

# **The Country Jamboree**

2 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie 845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

#### **Piano Bar Night**

7 - 11 p.m. Bear Mountain Inn 55 Hessian Drive, Highland Falls 845-786-2731 | visitbearmountain.com

#### Feist Solo - The Mettle Tour

8 p.m. Tarrytown Music Hall | 13 Main St., Tarrytown | 914-631-3390 x100

#### The Beach Boys

8 p.m. Ulster Performing Arts Center 601 Broadway, Kingston 845-339-6088 | upac.org

# **Meetings & Lectures**

# **Haldane PTA**

3:30 p.m. Haldane School (Band Room) 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring 845-265-9254 | haldanepta.org

#### Philipstown Planning Board

7:30 p.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-5200 | philipstown.com Rescheduled from March 27

# **Historic District Review Board (Public Hearing)**

8 p.m. Village Hall | See details under Wednesday.

# FRIDAY, APRIL 11

# **Kids & Community**

**Indoor Tot Lot** 9 - 11 a.m. & Noon - 2 p.m. Philipstown Rec Center See details under April 4.

# **Free Admission for Grandparents**

9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mid-Hudson Children's Museum 75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie 845-471-0589 | mhcm.org

## 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Free Tax Assistance for Seniors and Low Income | 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Navigating

Healthcare Options | See details under April 4. Fridays at the Farm (ages 2-4): Greenhouses 10 a.m. Common Ground Farm 79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls

# 845-231-4424 | commongroundfarm.org

**Howland Public Library** 

**Spring Fling Vendor Fair** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Putnam Hospital Center 670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel 845-279-5711 x6263 | health-quest.org

# **ONGOING**

# **Art & Design**

Visit philipstown.info/galleries

# Visit philipstown.info/services **Meetings & Lectures**

**Religious Services** 

**Alcoholics Anonymous** Visit philipstown.info/aa



#### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

# World's End Theater Presents Series April 5

This Saturday, April 5, at 8 p.m., at *Philipstown.info's* home at 69 Main St., World's End Theater continues its reading series with a pair of one-act gems directed by Greg Miller.

First up is Slawomir Mrozek's *Out at Sea*, a scathing social, economic and political critique veiled under absurdity. Mrozek wrote the play in 1961 under the watchful censors of Soviet-era Poland. *Out at Sea* features local actors Malachy Cleary, Donald Kimmel, Sterling Swann, George Kimmel and Matt Marino.

Next up is Anton Chekhov's vaudeville *The Bear*, a ferocious farce of love and money, set in a Chekhovian drawing room. *The Bear* features Christine Brooks Bokhour, George Kimmel and Miller.

World's End Theater readings are free to the public though donations are gratefully accepted. Beverages are available prior to the performance and during intermission. Due to limited seating, early arrival is encouraged.

Questions? Call Greg Miller at 914-629-7411.

# Auditions for *Gasping* at Depot Theatre April 5

The Philipstown Depot Theatre and The Drones Theater Company announce auditions for *Gasping*, the hilarious first play from Ben Elton, writer of *The Young Ones* and *Blackadder*. The show will run Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays May 9 through June 1, in Garrison. Auditions will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 5, at the Depot Theatre. Bring headshot and resume.

Actors may prepare a three- to four-minute comedic monologue or may read from provided sides. British dialects and comedic timing a must. Equity and Non-Equity actors welcome. Contact director Joe Dunn at josephdunn9@gmail.com.

# Troop 437 Boy Scouts Earn Railroading Badge

Boy Scouts in Philipstown Troop 437 recently traveled to Strasburg, Pa., for an overnight trip. The Scouts spent a day earning the Railroading merit badge at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, and had the chance to ride an old-fashioned steam train to Paradise, Pa. By earning the badge, Scouts learn about the history of railroading, its place in modern society, hobbies and careers related to railroading.

The trip to the Lancaster area also gave the Scouts a glimpse into Amish culture, where kids their age ride scoot-



Philipstown Boy Scouts

Photo courtesy of Troop 437

ers instead of bicycles (because bicycles move too far, too fast), and definitely don't play video games after school.

# Bonnets and Bunnies Campaign: Your Own Easter Rabbit!

Nothing says Easter like a bunny ... and every bunny deserves a home. Shepherd's View Animal Sanctuary, in conjunction with the Animal Hospital of Cold Spring, is looking for caring, qualified homes for nine rescue bunnies. With a suggested donation of \$50, receive a real Easter bunny along with a cage, water bottle, litter box, bunny hut and rabbit care directions.

All participants in the Bonnets and Bunnies Campaign are eligible to win an Easter basket — chock-full of goodies donated by The Country Goose, Go-Go Pops and Kismet at Caryn's. Bunnies can be viewed (by appointment) at Shepherd's View Animal Sanctuary and Animal Hospital of Cold Spring at 55 Chestnut St., Cold Spring and on Facebook at: facebook.com/shepherdsview-animalsanctuary.

Inquiries may be made via the sanctuary's Facebook page, which may be used to make donations. Checks made payable to Shepherd's View Animal Sanctuary can

be mailed to SVAS at 61 Torchia Road, Cold Spring, NY 10516. All funds raised help with sanctuary operating costs. Tax receipts provided. The sanctuary was established in 2011 to aid domestic, farm and exotic animals in need of a home.

# Momenta Quartet Returns to Chapel Restoration April 13

Program includes contemporary and classic pieces

The 4 p.m. concert features Emilie-Anne Gendron and Adda Kridler, violin, Stephanie Griffin, viola, and Michael Haas, cello. They will play music of acclaimed 20th-century French composer Henri Dutilleux, recent Pulitzer Prize finalist Augusta Reade Thomas, 16th-century Tomás Luis de Victoria, and Claude Debussy.

The Chapel Restoration is located at 45 Market St., Cold Spring. The concert is also free to the public.

This series is made possible, in part, through the Putnam Arts Council's Arts Link Grant Program, with funds from New York State Council on the Arts, the support of Gov. Andrew Cuomo and the state Legislature, and funds from Putnam County.



One of nine rabbits in need of a home

Photo courtesy of Shepherd's View Animal Sanctuary.

# Cold Spring Chamber Hosts Awards Dinner April 24

Special awards to honor Jim Lovell, Betty Budney

The Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce will host its Awards Dinner on Thursday, April 24. The chamber

has added two awards for community leaders: the James G. Lovell Memorial Award, to be given to David Lilburne, and the Humanitarian Award, to be given to Betty Budney.

The event will be held at 6:30 p.m. at Dutchess Manor, 263 Route 9D, Beacon. Cost is \$65 per person or \$600 for a table of 10.

"The Cold Spring Area is fortunate to have some of the finest businesses and leaders in the region and the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to honor several of them at our annual Awards Dinner," said Debbi Milner, chamber president.

# Additional awards include:

- John Procario, Young Entrepreneur of the Year
- Hudson Valley Seed, Sustainable Business of the Year
- Linda Hoffmann, Realty Business Person of the Year

- Riverview Restaurant, Restaurant/ Hospitality Business of the Year
- Garrison Art Center, Cultural Achievement of the Year
- Archipelago at Home, Retailer of the Year
- Vera's Marketplace & Garden Center, Small Business of the Year
- Harold Lyons & Sons, Medium Business of the Year
- Cold Spring Apothecary, Innovation in Business Award
- Hudson Highlands Land Trust, Notfor Profit Organization of the Year
- for-Profit Organization of the Year
   Mark Villanti, Katie O'Donnell
- Award of Excellence
   Terence O'Brien, Outstanding Busi-

ness Person of the Year

The chamber will honor the memory of Philip and Esther Baumgarten with the annual Baumgarten Scholarship,

awarded to a local high school senior.

Past board members will be recognized including Buddy Traina, Laura Anne Shay-Hupe, Teri Barr, Lynn Miller, and Vincent Tamagna.

Make reservations by April 18. Call 845-265-3200 or visit coldspringareachamber. org. To place an ad in the dinner program, email info@coldspringareachamber.org.

# **Knights of Columbus to Hold Easter Egg Hunt**

The Knights of Columbus, Loretto Council No. 536, will be holding their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 12 (rain date April 19) at McConville Park at 11 a.m. Boys and girls ages 8 and under are eligible to participate. Parents should bring their own baskets. Any questions, please contact Bob Flaherty, Youth Director, at 845-265-3191 or Dan Dillon, Past Grand Knight at 845-265-3802.

# Stonecrop Gardens Offers Vegetable Gardening Workshop

Ctonecrop Gardens in Cold Spring will Offer Art & Practice of Vegetable Gardening, a workshop that promises something for everyone, from the novice to the experienced gardener. Participants will learn how to use seed to develop an aesthetically pleasing vegetable garden that yields a wealth of crops from mid-spring to late fall. Discussion and fieldwork will give participants insight to planning, soil preparation, essential tools and resources, and practical techniques. The workshop includes sowing seed both indoors and out, drawing drills and making supports — just a few of the ways to keep moving. Plan to leave armed with a plethora of ideas (as well as some seedlings) to use in your own vegetable garden this season. (Continued on next page)



Photo courtesy of Stonecrop Gardens

# 

April 13, 2-5: Shoulder and Neck Comfort

Relieve stress and discomfort, improve flexibility

**April 27, 2-5: Walking Tall** Get full benefit from your walks by engaging the whole body dynamically.

THE FELDENKRAIS METHOD is a body/ mind approach using movement with awareness to reduce pain, stiffness, and tension, increase flexibility, coordination and balance, and improve skills in sports and creative expression.

Private sessions are also available.

(845) 424-6056 <flexible-comfort.weebly.com>

#### COMMUNITY BRIEFS



The Garrison School's "Move It! 3" concert showcased a culture of compassion and cooperation. See story at Philipstown.info. Photo courtesy of Garrison School

(From previous page) Part Saturdav. April 12, 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Rain date: Sunday, April 13) Part II: Saturday, June 7, 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Rain date: Sunday, June 8)

Participation in both Parts I and II is essential. Cost is \$80/\$60 Stonecrop members. Registration required. Visit stonecrop.org.

# **HHLT Marks 25th Year Protecting 135 Acres**

The Hudson Highlands Land Trust (HHLT), incorporated in 1989, began 2014 by completing a multifaceted land conservation project, resulting in the permanent protection of 135 acres, and includes a public access component. The January project closing caps off a 12-month period during which HHLT partnered with private landowners and conservation organizations to protect 476 acres.

To protect the final 135 acres, located in southern Philipstown, HHLT purchased the three-lot Mountain Trace subdivision, an environmentally sensitive area, from Westchester Land Development Group, and then sold it to neighboring property owners who put a conservation agreement on the property, as well as a portion of their own land. The owners included a public access easement, and have started designing a hiking trail.

Stephanie and Steve Axinn, who donated a conservation agreement last August, understand that the permanent protection of their 15-acre property, which borders Lake Oscawana in Putnam Valley, is important for the integrity of that local natural resource. Because of their commitment to land protection, they requested boundary markers. These markers will be ready in the spring for any of HHLT's partnering private landowners to use in identifying conserved land.

In early December 2013, HHLT finalized two conservation agreements with the Sidamon-Eristoff family in the Town of Highlands. HHLT is pleased to work with them to bring about HHLT's first two conservation agreements on the Hudson River's west bank, protecting over 17 acres in the Village of Highland

At the end of the year, Susan Coleman donated a conservation agreement to HHLT that protected over 37 acres in Garrison, which have at least two seasonally-vibrant woodland pools and are home to river otters.

Beacon



Visiting Saint Augustine, by Basha Maryanska

Image courtesy of Spire Studios

# From The HeART Opens at Spire Studios

Spire Studios presents during the month of April, From the HeART, an international group art show curated by Basha Maryanska. The wide range of contemporary painting includes work by artists from Germany, France, and Poland as well as local artists. Artists in the show are: Virginia Donovan, Mary Ann Glass, Galina Krasskova, Kellee Wynne Conrad, Kathryn Hart, Basha Maryanska, Cynthia McCusker, Dorato Michaluk, Neela Pushparaj and Elaine Weiner-Reed. The opening reception will be from 3 to 7 p.m. April 5. The show continues through April 28.

Maryanska is an international artist who lives in Beacon, and has her studio at Spire Studios, 45 Beekman St., Beacon. She encourages interaction among international and national groups of artists and invites them to show in various venues including Beacon and The New Century Gallery in Chelsea.

Spire Studios will be open during the reception, from 1-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, or by appointment.

# Medieval Dance Band at **Howland Center**

The Howland Chamber Music Circle ▲ will present the ensemble ISTANPIT-TA, a Medieval Dance Band, in a concert of music from the 10th to 14th centuries including many traditional Middle Eastern dance tunes.

The ensemble, members of Early Music New York, Frederick Renz, music director, will perform on an array of original instruments. The six musicians, Wayne Hankin, Lisle Kulbach, Dan Meyers, Christa Patton, Shane Shanahan, and Charles Weaver are all versatile artists performing on period instruments such as oud, lute, early percussion, shawms, recorders, krumhorns, vielles, medieval harp, bagpipes and voice. Their performances present the music in a manner that medieval musicians (who were somewhat low on the social scale) might have used when performing for their next meal as they traveled from place to place across Europe. This includes incorporating many Arabic styles that were possibly familiar to the medieval ear due to the occupation of southern Spain by the Moors and the interaction with Middle Eastern culture during the crusades. These musicians would not have limited themselves to the written or learned ver-

> sion of a tune but would have modified it in ways to make it their own. ISTANPITTA means to interpret these songs and dances to represent not the static literary version but the dynamic historical reality of the musicians in the field.

> The concert will take place on Sunday, April 13, at 4 p.m. at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., Beacon and will be followed by a reception to meet the artists.

Tickets at \$30 (\$10 for students) may be reserved by calling 845-297-9243 or on the Howland Chamber Music Circles website www.howlandmusic.org

# Learn to Sail in Beacon

earn the basics of sail-Ling in a classroom situation and potentially become a member of the crew on the Woody Guthrie, historic wooden replica of a gaff-rigged Hudson River sloop, to get hands-on experience.

Class meets once a week on Wednesday evenings, beginning April 16, and finishing June 4. Classes run from 7 to 9 p.m. and the cost is \$50. A textbook to keep is furnished.

Location: Classes will be held at the Beacon Sloop Club, a wooden shingled building at the river's edge across from the Beacon train station.

For more information and to reserve a space, contact Jim Birmingham at 845-497-3658 or email jbirmingham@hvc. rr.com. Visit beaconsloopclub.org.

# **Opera and Musical Theater Concert Set for April 6 at Howland Center**

n April 6, at 4 p.m., Russell Cusick will be joined by soprano Theresa Cincione and pianist Craig Ketter for a concert of vocal selections from grand opera and American musical theater at the Howland Cultural Center, located at 477 Main St., Beacon.

For ticket information, call 845-831-4988. Tickets are \$20 for general admission and \$15 for students with valid identification.

# Beacon Yoga Studio to Exhibit *Live? Die? Kill?:* 4 Corners

On Beacon Second Saturday, the Beacon Yoga Studio presents *Live? Die?* Kill?: 4 Corners, a photo exhibition and documentary performance of artist Karen Michel.

On Sept. 11, 2001, Michel woke up in her Brooklyn apartment to the sound of the first plane hitting the Twin Towers. In the weeks that followed, the country began the long and difficult process of healing, seeking answers to questions. These are the questions that came to Michel, in what she refers to as an aural vision: What do you live for? What would you die for? What would you kill for?

For the following decade, Michel traveled, asking strangers these three questions. In 2010, Michel visited Navajo, Hopi and Ute reservations in the Four Corners region. Her performance will speak of how place and family ties affect a community. These form the basis of her April 25, 26 and 27 performances at Beacon Yoga Studio, 464 Main St., Beacon.

An exhibition and fundraiser will take place April 12, Second Saturday, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Performances begin at 8 p.m. April 25 and 26, and at 3 p.m. April 27. Suggested donation (\$15) includes a glass of wine or seltzer. Visit livediekill.org.

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Dr. Wellin is a graduate of Barnard College and Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She completed her residency at Jacobi Hospital, Department of Psychiatry. She has also served on the faculty of Lenox Hill Hospital and Albert Einstein College of

Dr. Wellin maintains a private practice in New York City but is excited to begin working with adults and adolescents in the Cold Spring, Garrison and surrounding areas.

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Peak Performance: The Downstate Juniors VBC Aspire 13 Blue team won their first Garden Empire Volleyball Association (GEVA) tournament on Sunday, March 30, at Center Moriches High School. After placing first in pool play with a record of 6-1, 13 Blue played an exciting finals match, scoring 25-14, 14-25, and took the championship in a final set 18-16. Haldane seventh grader Morgan Etta is pictured at left in the first row. Photo courtesy of Dawn Etta

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# Water Way: The Paintings of Fredericka Foster (from page 7)

paintings their strength and the rhythm comes from seeing the canvas in every direction. Sometimes it leads me to soften things. The way the light intersects at a certain time of day when it's so bright you can hardly see.

The main thing about the photo is to help establish a believable composition. When I make it up it takes so long to get the water to flow. There's a geometry in order to flow - water has rules. Rather than taking the time to learn the rules, I use photography.

Because the digital camera captures speed at low light, I'm convinced that, at an unconscious level, artists have absorbed shapes not easily seen. The Haida Indians in the Pacific Northwest use specific, ovoid shapes. I'm working on a painting of Elliott Bay on Puget Sound and there were those forms they're there. When they paint, unconsciously these shapes appear. I think water communicates with us. People say they find my work very meditative.

Because my work is very layered, the colors appear as the layers build up; they often start out orange. When you use complementary colors it adds dimension. Because it's oil, when time goes by it comes more visible."

#### On this exhibit:

"These paintings come from different shows, different bodies of work, and different music is behind each one. This show covers over a decade's worth of work. Seeing them all together looks fantastic to me. When I paint I'm not trying to express myself, I'm trying to express water in paint. So what I see when I see them all together is my own

hand, over time. I see how important the rhythm and color is to me and that a certain kind of drawing grows out of my awkwardness with drawing. For a long time I thought drawing was a defect, then realized that what made my vision what it is are these mistakes. Then I became much freer. It's that awkwardness that keeps the work alive."

## On the connection between her subject and this gallery:

"After getting the invitation to exhibit, I looked up BIRE and realized their mission was so perfect for me. It gave me an opportunity again to speak to water issues. I'm thrilled with what BIRE does with water monitoring. I'm extremely happy to be here. My work is not didactic — it's purely aesthetic, so there is rarely a context where I can advocate for clean water."

## About the gallery talk:

"I will talk about the paintings and what I think are important issues facing water — the importance of having chemical free water to the greatest point we can imagine. Taking care of water is taking care of us. Amniotic fluid is salty — it reproduces our source, coming from the sea, and adults are more than 60 percent water. Our brains are encased by water. We're water filters and we're totally interdependent with water. You realize that to take care of water is to take care of your own health. For me when I started painting water I found something that engaged every part of my being: emotional, spiritual, intellectual and physical.

Learn more about Fredericka Foster and her work at Thinkaboutwater.com.



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# **Roots and Shoots**

# Native Plants for Beauty and Balance

By Pamela Doan

Tow that the glacial mounds of snow have melted and I can see the ground again in most of the yard, I'm daydreaming about new landscaping projects. Moving a plant here, adding some color over there, and wouldn't it look amazing to have a new flowerbed as the view through the office window? It would be lovely to add new landscaping on the path in the woods as well. There's about a dozen plants that I picked up at end-of-season nursery sales to accommodate, too.

Chances are that when fall comes, only bits and pieces of these projects will be complete unless I whittle down the list into something more realistic. I've decided to rein in my impulse buying at plant sales — I mean, with 10 acres, I can always find a place for something, right? — and focus instead on cultivating areas with high impact plants that provide both aesthetic appeal and ecosystem benefits.

Native plants are my starting point because they are generally more suited to the climate and can be the least fussy in terms of maintenance and care. That's definitely a guideline for my approach — low maintenance. I want plants that take care of themselves without a lot of watering, pruning/trimming or heavy feeding. Landscape designs and gardening practices that minimize weeding and other care requirements are important to me, too.

Here are a few of the selections I recommend, everything listed here is categorized as deer-resistant, too, which only means there is less of a chance of it being eaten, not that it's actually safe. It all depends on the area.

# Sunny spots with decent soil and average drainage

Liatris spicata or dense blazing star — this drought-tolerant perennial attracts hummingbirds, butterflies, and birds. It will get to be 3 to 4 feet tall and shoot up stalks with feathery, purple flowers among grassy leaves. It's in the aster family of plants, which includes sunflowers. This plant can tolerate some shade, too. It will bloom in mid-summer.

Asclepias tuberosa or butterfly weed, also known as pleurisy root because its roots were chewed as relief for lung ailments — this milkweed perennial is easy to grow from seed and butterfly larva will feed on its leaves while adult butterflies will love its nectar. It stands 1 to 2 ½ feet

tall and has brilliant orange flowers. It will self-seed once it's established and I'd love to have a cluster that's several feet in area. Butterfly weed has a nice, long bloom time in the summer.

Lonicera sempervirens or trumpet honeysuckle vine — this native vine is a better alternative to Japanese honeysuckle, which aggressively spreads. Although it isn't fragrant, it has lovely clusters of trumpet-shaped blooms that are coral outside and yellow inside from late spring through summer followed by red berries that birds love. It can be a climber or a ground cover. Plant it and wait for the hummingbirds to show up.

Lobelia cardinalis or cardinal flower — this perennial has showy, scarlet, multilobed flowers that cascade gracefully from stalks. Ranging from 3 to 6 feet in height, it has serious impact in the landscape. While it prefers sun, it's listed for shady spots, too. Hummingbirds will flock to it. I can't confirm that this plant is deer-resistant, though, ask before purchasing it if that's a concern.

# Shade and part-shade plants

Tiarella cordifolia or Foamflower — this variety is a clumping plant; another variety is a spreading groundcover. Semi-glossy heart-shaped leaves frame a stalk that rises with white and pink flowers. I've had this in a shady flowerbed for two years and it sends out runners to spread so give it space in the beginning. The leaves will turn burgundy

The cardinal flower, a native plant, will attract hummingbirds.

Photo: Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

in the fall. Can grow to 12 to 18 inches high. Solidago caesia or blue-stem goldenrod — this perennial has clusters of bright yellow flowers that really pop in a shady spot. It has a purplish stem and grows 1 to 3 feet high.

Jeffersonia diphylla or twinleaf — will complement the foamflower with dark green leaves and white flowers. Each plant only has a single bloom, but it has a longer life than a similar plant, bloodroot. The flowers have eight petals and later it bears fruit. This is an early bloomer in March-April and May.

Wildflower.org, the website for the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, has a comprehensive database for native plants.

# Women Artists Reunite in Mad Dooley's *The L Café Show* (from page 7)

were young artists who lived in the area. "We were pioneering at a time when there was actual danger where we lived," she continued. "The old people in the neighborhood had never seen anything like it."

# Relocation, distance and the passage of time

All five women now have families of their own. They are all still artists. In spite of relocation, distance and the passage of time, the bond they formed 20 years ago is still strong. Next week, in Beacon, their work will be shown together for the first time.

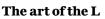
Welshman, who moved to Beacon in 2001 and opened her gallery, Mad Dooley, two years ago, has curated an exhibition of new works simply titled *The L Café Show*. The opening reception is from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, April 12.

As friends, these women are celebrating a reunion. That they share a similar approach to their work makes Welshman's job as curator all the more poignant and rewarding.

"When I wanted to do a new group show, I thought 'who are some of my favorite artists?' and these women kept coming to mind," she said. "We all grew up at the same time. We're all a little different. Our art is a little different but there are commonalities. It's wonderful that I can be with them again, but in a totally different way."

Welshman describes her own character-driven paintings as "small treasures," layered with cutouts and scraps, including human hair. Lakin, who lives in Los

Angeles, has recently evolved her work from video and animation to printmaking and sculptural pieces. A self-proclaimed "indie character," Keith, who is based in St. Louis, includes trapeze artist, punk rocker and golfer on her curriculum vitae. The use of lost and found objects, such as old worn-out dolls and discarded mattresses, gives her work an outsider or "hobo" quality that reflects the diversity of her personal history.



Demirdelen, who lives in Hastings, N.Y.,

says she is as much influenced by midcentury modern furniture and her mother's 1970s Marimekko dresses as she is by Diebenkorn and Matisse. "I studied painting and printmaking in college but when I brought my son home to our two-bedroom apartment, and I didn't have a studio for the first time, I wanted to try materials that were more portable and didn't smell." She now works predominantly with hand-

dyed wool felt.

Pintos-Lopez (née Griffith) is the farthest from New York. She lives in Melbourne, Australia, where she is pursuing a Ph.D. in architecture and design. For decades, she has been making three-dimensional figures that are specific to the location where she finds her materials.

"It was a wonderful, intense experience, although definitely of the time and place," said Pintos-Lopez. "Everyone who worked at the L became friends as we were all committed to making music or art or dance or theater. Working with fabric and finding the significance in discarded

materials were ideas Cath introduced to me. We connected over this type of smallscale figurative work, however, for me, it was the first time I had really thought of it as art. I think it was the beginning of the kind of work I make now."

Formally, *The L Café Show* explores the participating artists' love of color, shapes, found objects, tangible materials, and real or imagined stories. A little of that old DIY attitude prevails to this day.

In an article in *The New York Times* from 2005 titled "The Day When Back in the Day Ended," Freddy Jakubowski reminisced about the L, which was across Bedford Avenue from the Greenpoint Tavern, where he worked as a bartender:

"Some girl opened it. She was a good girl. I'm not much of an architect or a decorator, but she did it something like Greenwich Village. The artists mostly talked among themselves. I talked to a couple of them if I could understand them."

Demirdelen sold the café in 1998 to one of her waiters, who kept it open for a few more years. It is now a pizza parlor. "We were kids. The idea of living with our art all of the time was very important," she said. "In a way, the L was an expression of this. It was the root ball of our friendship. Now here we are, back together again, after many years of continuing to make art."

Mad Dooley is located at 197 Main St., Beacon. Gallery hours are Mondays, from noon to 5 p.m., and Friday through Sunday, from noon to 5 p.m. *The L Café Show* will be on exhibition through May 31.



Untitled Avatar by Olivia Pintos-Lopez Photo by Jeremy Dillon, image courtesy of the artist

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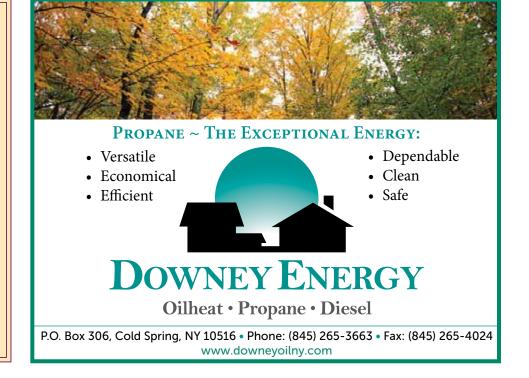




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# Depot Docs: Semper Fi — Always Faithful

No thanks for your service

By James O'Barr

erry Ensminger still has the look and the bark of the Marine Corps drill instructor (DI) he was when he retired after almost 25 years of service in 1994. As a DI, Master Sgt. Ensminger recited a pledge before taking charge of each new platoon of recruits, in which he promised, "to demand of them, and demonstrate by my own example, the highest standards of personal conduct, morality, and professional skill."

Little did he know that within a decade of his retirement, he'd be testifying before Congress in a relentlessly waged campaign to get the Marine Corps to live up to its own endlessly professed high standards in its dedication and loyalty to the "Marine Corps family." Nor did he ever imagine that he'd be the central figure in an award-winning documentary film about that campaign.

Semper Fi — Always Faithful, next up for Depot Docs at the Depot Theatre on Friday, April 11, with co-director Rachel Libert as special guest, was premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2011, winning the award for Best Editing, and then being short-listed for Best Documentary for the 2012 Academy Awards.

# **Industrial toxins**

The film, made with co-director and cinematographer Tony Hardmon, follows Ensminger as he attempts to find the truth behind his beloved 9-year-old daughter Janey's harrowing death of acute lymphocytic leukemia in 1985. Ensminger was devastated. How could this have happened? There was no history of childhood cancers in either his wife's or his family. Then, in 1997, he heard a news report that the water supply at Camp Lejeune, near Jacksonville, N.C., where the Ensminger family lived and where Janey was born, was contaminated with industrial toxins, some of them known carcinogens.

These toxins had been leaking into the water system, used by tens of thousands of people, both military and civilians, for bathing, cooking, and drinking, for at least 30 years. And while the contamination had been known to the Corps since the early 1980s, no effort had been made to publicize the health risks to those who had used and consumed the water, containing industrial solvents, engine fuels, benzene, and other toxins, with up to 3,400 times the levels permitted by safety standards, until 1999. Those health risks included various types of cancers, leukemia, miscarriages, birth defects, and many more. Finally, in 2008,



Detail from Semper Fi poster

the Corps began a Congressionally-mandated notification campaign; an online health registry now contains more than 130,000 names.

Most of this all-too-familiar story of human and institutional hubris, incompetence, and denial is told by and through Ensminger, who is a

clear, impassioned, and compelling narrative voice. But there are other featured players, most prominently Mike Partain, born at Lejeune, now in his 40s, and suffering from a rare form of male breast cancer. Searching for his own answers to this unexplainable diagnosis, he sees Ensminger on CNN, testifying before Congress on the toxic water supply at Camp Lejeune. He begins working closely with Ensminger, and sets out to locate other men with male breast cancer. He finds 78 of them, and they have only one other thing in common — Camp Lejeune; only four are in the Lejeune registry. We also meet Denita McCall, a former Marine who was stationed at Camp Lejeune in the early 1980s. She was diagnosed with parathyroid cancer, and became actively engaged in the effort to challenge the stonewalling and obfuscation and failure to be accountable and take responsibility at all levels, from the Marine Corps, to the Pentagon, to the Capitol.

Rachel Libert

This is perhaps the sorriest and yet most predictable moral of *Semper Fi*; that the default institutional and organizational reflex in American culture is what was called during my own time in the military 'CYA — Cover Your Ass.' As



Janey Ensminger Family

Photo courtesy of Depot Docs



Jerry Ensminger Photo by Hope Hall

noted in the film, taking responsibility for the failure to ensure the safety of the water supply at Camp Lejeune,

per the Navy's own regulations, would have meant exposure to liability that would have certainly cost a great deal of money in court and health care costs, and could have ended or short-circuited a

Photo by Heidi Gutman

lot of careers. Watching spokespeople for the Corps dodge and weave and play rope-a-dope to the efforts of anyone, whether it's Ensminger and his fellow sufferers or the few interested members of Congress, attempting to get information or to get them to commit to doing something, one is left to wonder at the results of the annual Gallup poll asking people to rank their confidence in 16 American institutions. While Congress is predictably at the bottom, this past year with a 10 percent rating, the military is consistently at the top, with a 76 percent rating in 2012.

The triumph of hope over experience, one can only suppose. The year 2012 was

when President Obama signed the Janey Ensminger Act into law, authorizing medical care to military and family members who resided at Camp Lejeune from 1957 to 1987; the measure applies to about 750,000 people. That triumph is not recorded in the film, but when the bill passed the House, Jerry Ensminger was there to savor the moment. "Through her short life and her death," he said, "she's probably caused more change than most people in their entire lives. It's a great tribute to her." Janey Ensminger would have been 36 years old.

Semper Fi - AlwaysFaithful will be shown at the

Philipstown Depot Theatre, Garrison's Landing, at 7:30 p.m. Rachel Libert, co-producer and co-director, will be present for a post-screening Q-and-A and a Depot Docs reception. For more information call 845-424-3900 or go to philipstowndepottheatre.org. For tickets (recommended) go to brownpapertickets.com/event/576284.



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