



Haldane Talent Show April 24
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Butterfield Library Finances

‘Yes’ or ‘no’ vote on additional funding May 19

By Michael Turton

This year’s Haldane Central School District budget vote on May 19 will include an item unrelated to the school — a referendum asking taxpayers if they will approve annual spending of \$73,150 in support of Cold Spring’s Julia Butterfield Library. The library referendum is completely separate and will not affect school taxes or related rebates. The Desmond-Fish Library used such a referendum to receive approval for additional annual funding as part of last year’s Garrison Union Free School District budget vote. Libraries can use the annual May vote to request funding because they come under the jurisdiction of the New York State Department of Education. In last year’s Garrison vote, only residents within the GUFS District were subject to the additional tax. Likewise, only Haldane School District taxpayers will be assessed if Butterfield Library’s request earns a “yes” vote.

In order to make an informed decision on the Butterfield Library proposition, residents within the Haldane Central School District may want to brush up on their knowledge of how the library is funded — and how it spends its money.



Butterfield Library Director Gillian Thorpe

Photo by M. Turton

Revenues, expenditures

The cost of staffing the library is by far the biggest expense. Payroll and related costs, including payroll tax, total \$246,519 — close to 70 percent of the \$354,419 in spending budgeted for 2015. Gillian Thorpe, the library’s only full-time employee and its director for 15 years, earns \$70,000 a year. She receives no benefits or pension plan. The other 11 employees are part-time, with no benefits, and are paid between \$9.50 and \$16.50 an hour. “And they are people with master’s degrees,” Thorpe said. She also said that she is the only library director in Putnam County not to receive benefits or a pension.

Other major expenditures this year will include library operations, \$37,950; building operations \$30,650; books and materials \$20,000; technology, \$14,300; and programs, \$5,000.

The annual audit is ongoing, however unofficial totals (Continued on page 3)



Tire tracks on Mount Beacon in early April

Photo by Joe Allen

Tracking Danger but Trailing Behind

Illegal vehicle use continues on Mount Beacon and Fishkill Ridge

By Brian PJ Cronin

Beacon resident Joe Allen had gotten so used to seeing tire tracks on the trails that run along Mount Beacon and Fishkill Ridge that he didn’t think anything of it. “I had seen ATV tracks and trucks so much that I just assumed it was allowed,” he said. “It wasn’t until I started emailing Scenic Hudson that I found out that it’s illegal.”

That may also come as news to the scores of drivers of all-terrain vehicles, which can often be seen and heard on the trails. But Geoff Carter, the parks and stewardship manager for Scenic Hudson, was happy to clear the air: “It’s against the park rules and it’s against New York state laws.” He said the main concern with illegal vehicle use is that it endangers the safety of hikers and threatens the habitats of the wildlife who call the mountain home.

Scenic Hudson currently maintains the majority of the trails on Mount Beacon and Fishkill Ridge. Allen had contacted the group over concerns that many of the trails, particularly the one that leads from the casino ruins to the fire tower, were being irreparably damaged by traffic.

“That trail is such a delicate little path,” said Allen. “But now it’s a gashed out mess of tire tracks. It’s sad that we have so many tourists who come here to hike Mount Beacon, and that’s what they see.”

It’s a common complaint echoed by hikers who have seen ATVs and Jeeps tearing up the trails and wondered why someone isn’t doing something about it. But the issue of enforcement up on the ridge is a complicated one, and the roots of the problem run deep.

People have been driving up on Mount Beacon essentially since the invention of four-wheel drive. Long before the forma-

tion of Scenic Hudson, Beaconites would run trap lines on the mountain, camp overnight and even haul up building materials to construct their own makeshift cabins. In the ’60s, local gearheads would strip down Volkswagen Beetles, convert them to dune buggies and roll around on the mountain to their hearts’ content. “You’re talking about behavior that’s been going on for decades,” said Douglas Solomon, Beacon’s chief of police. “It’s kind of a tradition.”

But the amount of illegal vehicular traffic has been increasing, and many of the drivers aren’t exactly being covert about it.

“Now you’ve got Jeep clubs going up there,” said Solomon incredulously. “Actual established clubs!”

Indeed, a quick scroll through the most recent months’ worth of photos on Instagram with a #MtBeacon hashtag reveals several shots of Jeeps majestically perched on the casino ruins and even parked under the fire tower. While out hiking, Charlotte Guernsey, who has lived on the mountain for 10 years and knows its trails as well as anyone, has come across Jeeps making the fire tower climb while out hiking. She said that the trail’s difficulty is the secret to its clandestine appeal.

“That trail is basically a Jeep commercial,” she said. “They have to crawl straight up the rock face to get there. Meanwhile I’m just cringing while I’m watching them because they all look like they’re about to fall over backwards.”

In order to combat the growing problem, Solomon and Beacon Mayor Randy Casale recently met with Carter and law enforcement officials from Fishkill and the New York State Parks Department to discuss options. One of the main obstacles to enforcing the law is that the trails pass through lands controlled by several different parties.

(Continued on page 4)

State Testing a Divisive Issue in Local Schools

More parents ‘opt out’ while consequences are unclear

By Pamela Doan

Some New York children in grades three through eight took state tests this week on English language arts, but many did not. News reports from all over the state have varying numbers with more than 50 percent staying out in some districts. Locally, 15 percent of students in both the Haldane and Garrison elementary and middle schools sat out the tests. That is a large increase over last year.

At Haldane, Elementary and Middle School Principal Brent Harrington said that 59 students in those grades were not tested. Last year, Haldane reported to *The Paper* that only 17 students had opted out, leaving test takers well within the 95 percent range.

In an open letter posted on the district’s website and emailed to parents, Haldane Superintendent Diana Bowers warned that if fewer than 95 percent of students were tested, the school could be at risk of losing funding. The superintendent at the Garrison Union Free School District and a state assembly representative, however, were less clear about the consequences. No one seems completely certain what will happen, but now both districts have failed to test at the 95 percent range.

GUFS Superintendent Laura Mitchell said that this year 22 families refused testing of their children. Last year, GUFS reported to *The Paper* that 2 percent of the students weren’t tested. Regarding the consequences of falling below the 95 percent range, she said: “It isn’t clear. We aren’t sure what will happen, and I think the state will look at the numbers and determine the impact.”



Haldane Superintendent Diana Bowers

File photo

A notice from the New York State Council of School Superintendents emailed to members this week in response to inquiries detailed all of the previously mentioned scenarios as possibilities, but none of the consequences involves punitive measures only from testing less than 95 percent of (Continued on page 3)

Cook On: 1 part chaos, 2 parts calm

Tool Stash

By Mary Ann Ebner

We may think we know our neighbors, closest confidants and even ourselves, but a more complete picture may be stashed on kitchen shelves and counters. It's not the pantry — blushing with expired preserves or neglected boxes of dated pasta — that gives us away, but a cabinet or tool drawer, where we store, stuff and tuck kitchenware. Some kitchens bulge with too much, while others suffer the consequences of meager attention.



Sweet and sour chicken with vegetables

Photo by M.A. Ebner

Last summer my family stayed in a home away from home for a few days during a gathering in Florida. Located in close proximity to the beach as well as the grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles, the cottage exceeded our needs. It was one of those property agreements brokered through a third party. The owner secures personal items in a locked storage room and guests rent the rest of the space — kitchen utensils included.

The lush herb garden spilling over the back patio hinted that the owner invested real time cooking in the home's kitchen. But it was the complete set of razor-sharp kitchen knives, cutting boards worn with use and a selection of pans of a certain quality that revealed details about the owner who stepped out for the week to generate a little income from the property.

The homeowner, subliminally, shared a philosophy: Stocking the right utensils helps hands in the kitchen. Some of us are wishful when it comes to essential tools designed for food preparation and table service. An ambitious friend has accumulated a colossal collection of the latest cooking and baking products but doesn't cook much. The desire is there, but the pasta maker serves more as a decoration than a workhorse in the kitchen. It's easy to fall for the latest gadgets on the market, but limiting acquisitions to items that justify their keep with frequent use can control kitchen clutter. My go-to cooking tools include the basics — a santoku knife, cast-iron skillet and a collection of assorted spoons — and occasionally the day arrives to retire tools that time and technology have improved.

One of my most reliable tools was purchased thanks to a neighbor who dropped by during dinner prep one evening. Artemis, born and raised in Asia, knows her rice and probably prepares it six days a week. She insisted that I surrender my old rice cooker. It was smallish, with two settings, but did the job. Politely, my friend questioned how it could possibly suffice, and most importantly, she mentioned the products she had avoided and suggested a few models to research. A rice cooker equipped with Fuzzy Logic technology — essentially a computer chip that adjusts time and temperature for precise and consistent cooking — soon replaced the old small appliance. The rice cooker has paid for itself in producing pillowy rice for the last few years, and it also turns out perfectly steamed vegetables.

Another practical tool is the mandoline slicer. Interchangeable blades offer a choice in creating everything from julienne slices to curly cuts to course grating and fine zesting. But do note: Absolute attention is required for those who want to keep all of their fingers intact. The blades are super sharp. Distracted slicing is not recommended.

Not everyone needs a lava mortar and pestle, but the three-legged bowl often used in my kitchen rocks. Also known as a *molcajete*, it's an age-old cooking tool. The *molcajete* helps in the crushing of herbs and spices, and inspires the smashing of just-ripened avocados into a proper paste for guacamole. And when making guacamole, the lemon and lime squeezer is a must. Home-away-from-home guests peering around my kitchen might be fooled by a small display of odd kitchen gadgets on a shelf. Among the items is a vintage aluminum citrus squeezer. Put it to work and it still fully extracts the juice and separates it from the seeds and pulp, but it's no match for a contemporary hinged squeezer (kept at close reach in a drawer) that makes easy work of juice extraction.

A medley of knives, slicers, spoons and pans recently served as instruments to help prepare sweet and sour chicken with vegetables. Naturally, the task could have been handled with fewer gadgets, but when a kitchen functions well, even a slender slotted spoon deserves some of the credit. Modest tools — put into practice — minimize prep time, food waste and cleanup. The best utensils in an everyday kitchen may not necessarily be the most sophisticated, but they're the tools that see the most use.

Sweet and Sour Chicken With Vegetables

Serves 6

Chicken

- 6 to 8 boneless, skinless chicken thighs
- 3 tablespoons soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 1 teaspoon sesame seeds
- 1 teaspoon grated ginger
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- Twist of freshly ground pepper

Sauce

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 cup stock or chicken broth
- 1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
- 1/2 cup lemon juice, freshly squeezed
- 1 tablespoon lemon zest
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch

Vegetables

- 6 to 8 medium carrots, thinly sliced (If you have a mandoline food slicer, use it.)
- 1 large green pepper, thinly sliced
- 1 bunch scallions, finely chopped

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Rinse chicken thighs and place in sealable bag or container. Mix soy sauce, canola, sesame seeds, ginger, salt and pepper. Pour mixture over chicken, seal container and toss to evenly coat chicken. Place container contents in baking dish. Bake uncovered 45 minutes.
2. During the baking process, slice carrots and green peppers and chop scallions. Set aside.
3. In medium saucepan, combine sugar, stock, vinegars, lemon juice and zest. Bring to a low boil and whisk in cornstarch. Remove from heat and stir in carrots, green peppers and scallions. Stir to warm through.
4. Place chicken thighs on platter or serving dish and smother with sweet and sour vegetable sauce. Serve immediately with fresh garden greens and steamed rice.



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Butterfield (from page 1)

provided by the library for 2014 reflect what has been a consistent revenue pattern in recent years. Last year, as in several preceding years, \$276,000 was channeled through the Town of Philipstown — 75 percent of library income. Putnam County added \$34,625 — the two levels of government accounting for about 84 percent of the library revenue. Fundraising and donations, including from the library’s “Friends” group, totaled \$28,737 or 8 percent of revenue. The library also received a \$20,000 annuity which earns \$1,500 a year. An endowment valued at \$430,000 is used primarily to maintain the building but cannot be used to offset operating costs.

Spending the new funds

Thorpe said that if approved, the request for \$73,150 would “put us on the path we were on nine years ago,” restoring what has been cut in recent years. The infusion of cash would be spread over a number of areas with the biggest winner being “books and materials,” which would see an increase of \$20,000 — some 27 percent of the new funding. Another \$15,000 would go to building operations, an area that Thorpe said needs attention due to previous cuts that were made despite increased library usage. Programs for children, adults and seniors would benefit from a \$10,000 increase. Software subscriptions paid to the Mid Hudson Library System would account for \$6,500. Another \$5,000 would go to such expenses as staff development and improved Wi-Fi service. A contingency fund of \$6,650 would also be established to cover unforeseen expenses.

Of the referendum funding, \$10,000 would go to staff salaries, including small pay raises that Thorpe said are long overdue. “It’s hard to staff our library starting at \$9.50 an hour when Kent [Library] starts at \$13 an hour,” she said. “We’ve fallen behind in what we offer our staff.” An additional staff person would be added on weekends; currently only one person works upstairs and one downstairs, a scheme that raises security concerns for Thorpe, who pointed out that Butterfield has experienced two break-ins in recent years.



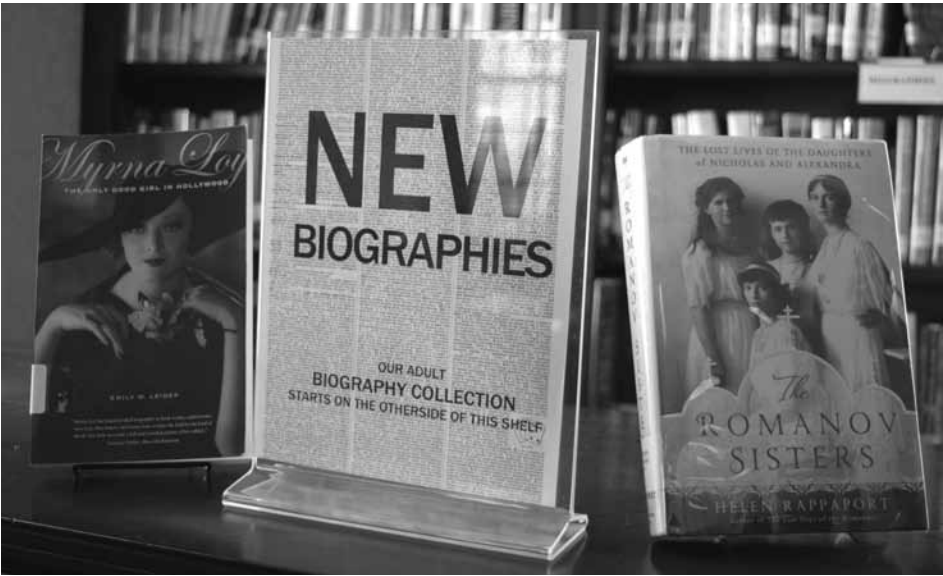
A funding increase approved by voters in 2006 enabled the library to open seven days a week.

Photo by M. Turton

The library also recently began requiring patrons to check out computers from the main desk. Previously, laptops were left out on tables. That system was dropped because, as Thorpe put it, “things like power cords started to disappear.” She said that especially on weekends with minimal staffing, “someone could have just walked out with a \$1,200 Apple computer.”

2006 referendum

The Town of Philipstown has been the primary funder of the library for years, and originally the amount of that support was determined as part of the town’s annual budget process. Thorpe said that in 2000, the town contributed just \$16,000, but that by 2006 that had increased to \$125,000. The shift came after the library board had indicated it could not survive without a substantial increase and was



A significant portion of the funds being requested would go to the purchase of books, e-books and DVDs.

Photo by M. Turton

considering a public referendum. Thorpe said that when a tentative increase to \$150,000 didn’t materialize due to the town’s own budget constraints, the library board decided it needed funding that was more secure and called the referendum.

There were at least some complaints after the “yes” vote in the 2006 referendum that the library had not been totally up front about the \$276,000 requested, that it would become an automatic, annual contribution with the Philipstown Town Board no longer having a say as to the amount. The town went to court over the issue, but the New York State Supreme Court ruled in the library’s favor. Some may still have doubts. One Cold Spring resident who did not want to be named told *The Paper* that while he has been supportive of the library and donated to it in the past, he would have difficulty voting “yes” on May 19 due to his concern over how the 2006 vote was conducted.

Diligent about transparency

Thorpe feels that such concerns are unjustified. “It’s frustrating,” she said. “I feel I did everything I could” in 2006 to inform the public, including taking out a full-page ad in the *Putnam County News and Recorder*. She also said the library retains an Albany lawyer specializing in library law to advise Butterfield’s board. “We’ve been diligent about being transparent, and about doing things right,” she said. To those who have doubts she said, “Educate yourself; look at what other libraries are spending.” Thorpe again expressed frustration that “when people don’t do that ... they are not aware of what it takes to run a library. We do a lot with a little.” She said the 2006 referendum “was always about secure funding to sustain library services.”

The public will have a number of opportunities to become familiar with the May 19 referendum, including public meetings on Wednesday, April 22, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 26, at 3 p.m. in the library. The library website, butterfieldlibrary.org, also contains relevant information, including how the funds that voters are being asked to approve would be spent; the 2015 library budget; past audit reports; and trends in library usage. Board meetings are also open to the public, held on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the library.

The ‘original search engines’

Residents who have not visited Butterfield Library in a while may be surprised at what they see, Thorpe said. “They may think it’s a dead place ... but there are days when it’s crazy in here — it’s too busy!” She also said that the library’s increased patronage is proof that even with laptop computers, Google, iPhones and tablets, libraries are still relevant. “We’re busier than ever, as is every library in our area. People need help finding the right material,” she said. “Librarians are the original search engines.”

State Testing (from page 1)

students. There would have to be other factors in play at the same time, as well as other criteria for determining whether a school is low-performing. Losing state aid from low testing rates would only happen if the school administrator were actively promoting non-participation in the state tests, and that is not the case at either Haldane or GUFS.

The divide between administrators and parents is clear even over the language that is used to describe their actions. Parents encourage each other to “opt out,” but administrators are quick to mention that testing isn’t optional.

In refusing to allow their children to be tested, however, parents are taking a stand against a whole range of issues that represent the current state of education.

There is the common debate that is at least as old as standardized tests about whether they are effective measures of a student’s learning. The debate has escalated this year with measures that Gov. Andrew Cuomo fought for with the state legislature during budget talks.

Claiming that the teacher evaluation system couldn’t be stringent enough if 96 percent of teachers were given ratings of “highly effective” or “effective” last year, the governor pressed for standardized test scores to be counted as 50 percent of a teacher’s evaluation score. State Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, who represents the districts in Philipstown, said: “We brought it down to 20 percent and we’ve asked the Regents the best way to do teacher evaluations. It will include test scores, but not just test scores. This isn’t what the governor proposed. The Regents have until the end of June. I think this is best. It isn’t appropriate for the legislature to decide.”

Galef said that refusing testing was not the best way to protest. Since the Regents will be deciding how to proceed, she encourages parents to write to them and voice their opinion and ideas. She

also couldn’t say definitively what the impact of the high rate of refusals will be. “If the federal government puts their foot down, we don’t know what the consequences will be. Federal aid could be impacted,” she said.

Three parents at Haldane were representative of many parents struggling to do the right thing for their children regarding testing. Going against the trend, Caryn Cannova, the parent of a fourth-grade student at Haldane, refused to let her son be tested last year but is letting him take the test this year. Last year, her concern over the anxiety her son was experiencing with the curriculum changes and the pressure to do well on the test as well as her issues with the implementation of the Common Core standards influenced her decision. This year, she said, “His teacher hasn’t put any pressure on them and he feels fine with taking it. I also know he’s going to do well and I want his good scores to help his teacher. She’s doing a great job and I’m doing it for her sake, too.”

Sandy McKelvey, another Haldane parent, refused to let her fifth-grade child be tested as a protest against the new measures and in support of teachers. Last year, her child took the state tests. She said: “There’s nothing wrong with the process of taking a test. It’s about the test itself. I think it’s wrong and misguided and not a fair assessment of a teacher’s performance.” In McKelvey’s opinion, the Common Core as a set of standards is rigorous but not the problem. She feels that Haldane is held back by state regulations that are hindering innovative education.

Tony Speziale’s son is in eighth grade at Haldane, and he refused to allow him to be tested last year and again this year. As a former teacher, he feels that the tests aren’t useful and don’t generate helpful information to benefit a student or teacher. He said: “These tests have nothing to do with education and everything to do with eliminating public schools by making the teachers look bad. Teachers cannot see the tests, control the grading or even know which questions the students got right or wrong. There is no way they can use the results to adjust their teaching.”

The New York State United Teachers, the federation of local teachers’ unions, took a bold stand when the legislation linking teacher evaluations and student’s test scores was passed. NYSUT President Karen Magee issued a statement encouraging parents to opt out in protest. It could be a surefire way to directly spoil the results and make the legislature rethink their proposal. Locally, Leah Horn, president of the Haldane Faculty Association, commented that while they respect parents’ decisions, they agree with the sentiment. The HFA has not taken a public stand on the tests.

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Tracking Danger but Trailing Behind (from page 1)

Mount Beacon, for example, isn't entirely in Beacon. Much of it, including the reservoir and most of the access roads, is technically in Fishkill. "The City of Beacon gets the brunt of the complaints when something goes on up there because everyone associates Mount Beacon with Beacon," said Solomon. "Which seems obvious. But once you go a hundred feet up Monument Road, you're out of our jurisdiction. And once it's on Scenic Hudson lands, it's technically their problem."

That doesn't help matters, considering that Scenic Hudson doesn't have the authority or capacity to apprehend lawbreakers. "We don't do a lot of high-speed chases," said Carter.

This summer, however, Scenic Hudson will be turning over both the lands and the trails that it currently owns on Mount Beacon and Fishkill Ridge to the state. That means that the land will be under the stewardship of New York State park rangers — who know the trails intimately and have both the capacity and the jurisdiction to enforce the laws banning unauthorized vehicles.

There is also the issue of road access. While ATVs are completely prohibited, the service road that begins as Monument Road is open to car and Jeep traffic for those who live on the mountain, technicians who service the communications towers at the summit, Beacon city workers and Central Hudson. Solomon estimated that approximately 30 legal trips a day are made on that service road. "It's a difficult road to shut down access to," he said.

An open gate remains in place at the base of Monument Road. In the past a padlock had been put on it, and only those with legal access to the roads were given a key. But the lock was often intentionally broken by vandals, trapping people up on the mountain and preventing others from opening the gate. This proved particularly problematic one day when Guernsey encountered someone on the mountain in a life-threatening emergency. "In instances like that, police need to be able to get up here quickly," she said. "That day they couldn't because the gate was broken."

Despite the difficulties, Solomon said

Tire tracks on Mount Beacon in late March

Photo by Joe Allen

that his department was committed to heading up the mountain this spring to actively try and tamp down the problem in a way that hasn't been done in years. They may not have to do much to make an impact. Guernsey remembers the last

time the law was actively enforced, about 10 years ago. Justice was swift and harsh. "They started taking people's quads away," she said. "Things got real quiet after that. Word travels fast in those circles."

Maloney Holds Bullying Prevention Summit April 25

Teachers, parents and students invited to event

Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney (NY-18) has invited Hudson Valley schools, teachers, parents and students to take part in his Second Annual Hudson Valley Bullying Prevention Summit on Saturday, April 25, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The summit will focus on eliminating and preventing all areas of bullying including verbal, physical, social alienation and cyber bullying.

"As the father of two young girls, I want to make sure parents, teachers and

students across the Hudson Valley can have a conversation about bullying in our classrooms, playgrounds, and in our communities," said Maloney. "There is no place in school for bullying and intolerance. Empowering teachers and students to reduce bullying will help our children, families and communities grow stronger, and safer."

The program will include panel discussions, after which students will brainstorm and share ideas for combating bullying in schools. The summit will take place at the Newburgh Free Academy North Campus Auditorium, located at 301 Robinson Ave. in Newburgh. Those interested in attending should RSVP by calling 845-561-1259 or emailing Lizette Hernandez at Lizette.Hernandez@mail.house.gov.

After hosting the First Annual Hudson Valley Bullying Prevention Summit, which more than 100 local students and teachers attended, Maloney released his 2014 Bullying Prevention Report (available at seanmaloney.house.gov), which highlights findings, best practices and prevention resources formulated by students and teachers to combat bullying in the Hudson Valley. A copy of this report was also sent to every middle and high school across the Hudson Valley.

The scale model of the mixed-use development planned for the site of the former Butterfield Hospital will be on display as part of a Cold Spring Historic District Review Board public hearing, Wednesday, April 22, 8 p.m. at the firehouse on Main Street. The hearing will receive comments regarding the development as it relates to village character. The model can also be viewed at the Village Hall, 85 Main Street from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. from Monday April 20 through Wednesday, April 22.

Photo by M. Turton

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Battle to Remove PCBs Heads Down River to Beacon

Newly formed coalition group Campaign for a Cleaner Hudson vows to take on General Electric

By Brian PJ Cronin

This fall, General Electric is scheduled to complete its court-ordered cleanup of the upper Hudson River, two years ahead of schedule. By then, GE will have removed more than 2.65 million cubic yards of sediment contaminated with toxic polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs. Over a 30-year period, at GE's two plants in Hudson Falls and Fort Edward, the Environmental Protection Agency has estimated that over 1,300,000 pounds of PCBs were dumped into the Hudson River.

But while the cleanup will satisfy the demands of the EPA's 2009 Superfund ruling, many local environmental groups and elected officials have said that it's not enough. They've estimated that the court-ordered cleanup will only remove about 65 percent of the PCBs in the river. They've pointed out that contaminated sediment buildup has rendered the Champlain Canal unusable for commercial navigation. They've claimed that the remaining PCBs will continue to require severe restrictions on subsistence fishing — as of now, the New York State Department of Health recommends that only healthy adult males should eat what they catch in the Hudson, and even then only once a month — for generations to come. And with GE expected to dismantle its sophisticated dredging equipment and cleanup infrastructure in the fall, their voices are growing louder.

With time running out, many of these groups — including Scenic Hudson, Riverkeeper, Clearwater and the Natural Resources Defense Council — have formed a coalition called Campaign for a Cleaner Hudson. At an April 15 press conference on the shores of the river at Beacon's Long Dock Park, they stated their case as to why GE should continue dredging the river and what the benefits of the additional work would be.

Beacon Mayor Randy Casale recalled when the very site where the conference was taking place was a contaminated industrial site before Scenic Hudson cleaned it up and transformed it into a park.

"I've lived in this city since it was an



Beacon Mayor Randy Casale speaks at the Campaign for a Cleaner Hudson press conference at Long Dock Park on April 15. Photo by B. Cronin

industrial community, and that was our economic engine," he said. "Today, our economic engine is tourism. And with a cleaner river, and a better river, we'll be able to fully use the natural resources that we have in this community and keep our economic engines running."

At question is an additional 136 acres of contaminated river sediment, including the buildup at the bottom of the Champlain Canal. The canal buildup is so significant that heavy commercial boats are forbidden from navigating the canal for fear of disturbing contaminated sediment. Because no other company or government agency has the capacity or expertise to clean up the river as well as GE can, the coalition fears that once GE dismantles its infrastructure and leaves the river, an opportunity to improve the long-term health of the river will be lost.

"GE can do in one summer what the [New York State] Canal Corp. said it would take them eight to 10 years to do," said Althea Mullarkey, a public policy analyst for Scenic Hudson.

Gil Hawkins, president of the Hudson River Fishermen's Association, argued that although GE may be on the verge of satisfying its federal responsibilities, it

still needs to consider its corporate responsibilities.

"The river's not clean," he said. "It's cleaner. But it's not clean. So what does GE want to be remembered for? I think GE would probably want to be remembered as the company that cleaned up the river. Not the one that left it half clean. We all know where it came from. So what is GE's legacy? The Hudson River is a national river. If GE does not finish the job, it will open the door for all the polluters across this country to say, 'We only have to do this much, and that's all.'"

Ironically, GE may not have a choice in the matter. While it completes its EPA-mandated cleanup, they'll also have to compensate the public for damages and losses of service as a result of the decades of pollution through a program known as the Natural Resource Damage Assessment. The final tally for the NRD is still being calculated, but as Mullarkey told *The Paper*, the only NRD assessment larger in scope than the current one being undertaken in the Hudson was the one to assess BP's Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

The price tag for that payout? \$25 billion. The coalition argues that any addi-

tional work that GE does now will be a cost-effective way to reduce the price tag of the NRD later.

One way or another, GE will have to pay. "This isn't something they should do just to be nice people," said Paul Gallay, president of Riverkeeper. "We don't care if they're nice people. This is something they need to do in order to satisfy the law."

But if the amount of NRD is astronomical, GE could choose to fight it. And no one wants to drag them back to court for another lengthy legal battle, like the one that held up the beginning of the cleanup for decades.

"I think similar to what has happened in the past, GE doesn't respond to anything unless their credibility is being questioned," Mullarkey told *The Paper* after the press conference. "They do respond to criticism if it's widespread. They do respond to public pressure and political pressure. That can't happen unless we shine the light on this."

The coalition is planning a series of events to draw the public's attention to the river cleanup all summer long. Judging by the synergy emanating from Long Dock that morning with so many local environmental leaders in the same place at the same time, they shouldn't have any problem coming up with ideas.

Mullarkey called to Peter Gross, executive director of Clearwater, as he wandered by: "When is the Sloop Clearwater going to come sailing up the river with a big sign that says 'GE: Do the Right Thing?' Because that's what we need next."

"That's a good idea," said Gross with a smile. "Let me work on that."

The Paper reached out to GE for their comment on this story. As of press time, they had not responded.



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The Calendar

Arts on the Lake

‘An old firehouse becomes a cultural center’

By Alison Rooney

It’s not that far away. If you’ve heard of Arts on the Lake (AOTL) and thought about attending one of its many events and classes, but weren’t quite sure where it is, the answer is simple: just a few minutes immediately north of the center of Carmel, on Route 52, in Kent Lakes. When you see an old firehouse and the lake behind it, you’re there, as AOTL took over of the former Lake Carmel firehouse when a new one was built, about 10 years ago. When the building became available, it was returned to the Park Department, and the community voted for it to become an arts center.

With the energy that the decisive vote provided, members of the Lake Carmel Park District Advisory Committee and residents of all areas of the Town of Kent formed AOTL in spring 2006 to develop programs, even though the space wasn’t yet ready for them. The programs were initiated in private homes, and the first events that actually took place in the space were a violin concert and a poetry reading.

Determining what types of programming to provide was initially perceived to be complicated, according to James Shearwood, former AOTL Executive director and current theater group

coordinating director and Interim Executive Director Ed Durkee, who described the split personality of the area. Developed largely in the ’30s and ’40s after the (earlier) creation of the lake through the damming of the Middle Branch of the Croton River, the shoreline was subdivided into small lots dotted with bungalows and cottages marketed to the middle class as weekend or summer homes for city dwellers. Later, many people from city boroughs such as Queens and the Bronx relocated to these homes and remain there today, the community still categorized as “middle class.” West Kent, on the other hand, the center’s other main constituency, is more affluent.

It was important to the founders of AOTL, right from the start, to “bridge the sensibilities of both segments of the community,” according to Shearwood,



De Novo actors Camilio Almonacid, left, Emily Joy Weiner and Rudy De La Cruz

Photo courtesy of Arts on the Lake

“because Lake Carmel wanted us to be here as much as West Kent did.” And that is what happened. “People have been pulled out from everywhere,” said Durkee. “Before, there wasn’t a cohesive point where people could meet. ... It’s interesting because to learn about your community you can do various things: become a volunteer firefighter, join a service club, things like that. Well, the Art Center serves that ‘I want to join a community’ need as well. (To page 11)

Serenade Quartet Concert to Benefit St. Mary’s

Public performance features strings

Chamber music returns to St. Mary’s Episcopal Church at 4 p.m. May 17, in the second of three concerts posthumously sponsored by Gordon Stewart, Philipston.info founder, to assist the Cold Spring parish.

The program features the Serenade Quartet: Krista Bennion Feeney and Keats Dieffenbach, violins; David Cerutti, viola; and John Feeney, bass; with special guest Rachel Evans, viola. All four musicians of the Serenade Quartet are leading artists in New York City and abroad in both historical and contemporary music. They perform together in the Orchestra of St. Luke’s, the American Classical Orchestra and numerous other ensembles.

The program includes Mozart’s *Salzburg* Divertimento in D major, K. 136; Haydn’s String Quartet No. 4 for two violins, viola and bass in D minor, Op. 9, and the Adagio from the Divertimento for Nine Instruments; Schubert’s *Galopp* and his rarely played Overture in C minor, D. 8A, for two violins, viola and bass; Brahms’ Hungarian Dance No. 1 in G minor; and Lanner’s *Die Romanziker Waltzes*.

The third program on June 14 will feature solo string music by Johann Sebastian Bach performed by Bennion

Feeney on violin and Evans on viola, with Feeney on bass joining in for a trio.

General admission tickets are \$20 and are available at brownpapertickets.com. Student tickets are \$5, while children under 18 are welcome free of charge. Supporter tickets at \$100 and sponsor tickets at \$250 include preferred seating and acknowledgement in the program, and can be purchased by mailing a check to St. Mary’s, 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.



The Serenade Quartet

Photo courtesy of Serenade Quartet

For more information, call 845-265-2539 or visit stmaryscoldspring.org.



Cows enjoy lunch, with art on the side, at a previous Saunders Farm exhibition.

Photo by MJ Wyatt Ross

Art for Cows and Other Creatures

Call for art to be part of Saunders Farm show

By MJ Wyatt Ross

The cows, frankly, will have the best view of the amazing art that’s going to come to the Saunder’s Farm Project 2015 in Garrison. But that’s not to say that you can’t enjoy it, too. You just need to be careful where you step. Because first and foremost, this is cow country.

The exhibition is put together each year through Collaborative Concepts (collaborativeconcepts.org) and is supported by the New York State Council on the Arts. Although the actual show goes from Sept. 5 through Nov. 1, the deadline for submitting your outdoor art project proposal is April 22. So now’s the time to get into this creative, freewheeling, open-air art adventure. Whether you are an artist planning to exhibit or an observer, the rewards can be significant.

Throughout 140 acres of rolling hills, glens and open pastures, visitors have a chance to view about 50 installations ranging from (if past exhibitions are an indication of the future) giant faces made of steel, vine-covered ropes stretched high over a pond (I think the pond doubles as the cows’ bathtub and watering hole), structures that light up with different colors at night, poignant words scrawled on wood, sculptures of angels and aliens and (To 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 17

Kids & Community

Wine & Cheese Plus Book Signing:
Connecting by Christine Ashburn
5 - 8 p.m. Antipodean Books and Maps
29 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3867 | antipodean.com

Kids' Night Out (ages 5+)
6:30 - 9:30 p.m. All Sport Health & Fitness
17 Old Main St., Fishkill
845-896-5678 | allsportfishkill.com

The Brain Show (grades 5–8)
7 p.m. Haldane High School
15 Craigsides Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldanepta.org

Theater & Film

Indian Point (Documentary, 2015)
5:30 p.m. SVA Theatre
333 W. 23rd St., New York
tribecafilm.com/filmguide/indian-point-2015

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From Here to Eternity (Musical on Film)
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

Music

Michelle Le Blanc (Jazz)
7 p.m. Division Street Grill
26 N. Division St., Peekskill
914-739-6380 | divisionstreetgrill.com

Chemistry Set
8 p.m. The Catalyst Gallery
137 Main St., Beacon
845-204-3844 | catalystgallery.com

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

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

Rock Band Boot Camp: Pixies
8:30 p.m. Southern Dutchess Bowl
629 Route 52, Beacon
845-765-0472 | beaconmusicfactory.com

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

Neil Alexander
9 p.m. Quinn's
330 Main St., Beacon
845-831-8065 | quinnxbeacon.com

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

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

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

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

Kids & Community

Little League Opening Day
North Highland Fire Department
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring
philipstownlittleleague.com

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

Earth Day Cleanup
9 - 11 a.m. Little Stony Point
3011 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-786-2521 | nysparks.com

Garage and Rummage Sale
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Church of St. Joachim (Gym)
51 Leonard St., Beacon
845-838-0915 | stjochim-stjohn.org

Philipstown Recreation (First Sessions)
9 a.m. Girls' Soccer (grades 1–2)
9 a.m. Little Sluggers (age 3)
10:30 a.m. Girls' Soccer (grades 3–6)
11:30 a.m. T-Ball (ages 4–5)
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Record Store Day
9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sound Shack Beacon
190 Main St., Beacon
recordstoreday.com

Controlling Invasives in Your Garden
9 a.m. Manitoga
584 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3812 | visitmanitoga.org

Lions Club Shredder Day
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The Nest
44 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
coldspringlions.org

Beginner Vegetable Gardening
10 a.m. Tilly Foster Farm
100 Route 312, Brewster
845-278-6738 | putnam.cce.cornell.edu

Common Ground Farm
10 a.m. Home Organic Vegetable Gardening Workshop
12:30 - 2 p.m. Children's Garden Work Party
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
845-231-4424 | commongroundfarm.org

Disney's Choo-Choo Soul
11 a.m. & 2 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

Earth Day Concert: Bindlestick Bill
11 a.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Pop Warner Football & Cheer Registration
2 p.m. Pop Warner Fieldhouse
Memorial Park, Beacon
beaconbears.org

Poetry Reading: Li-Young Lee
2 p.m. Storm King Art Center
1 Museum Road, New Windsor
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Free Admission
5 - 8 p.m. Mid-Hudson Children's Museum
75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie
845-471-0589 | mhcm.org

Garrison Children's Education Fund Spring Thaw
6:30 - 10:30 p.m. Glynwood Farm
362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring
gcef.org

Health & Fitness

Dads-Only Parenting Workshop
10 a.m. Putnam Hospital Center
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
845-808-1400, ext. 44122 | putnamcountyny.gov

Art & Design

Marcy Freedman: True or False - Nature Refreshes the Spirit
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Peekskill Coffee House
101 S. Division St., Peekskill
914-271-5891 | marcybfreedman.com

50th Annual Artists of Northern Westchester (Opening)
4 - 6 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation
2021 Albany Post Road, Croton
914-271-4283 | uuacroton.org

Drip & Sip Paint Party
7 p.m. The Pantry
3091 Route 9, Cold Spring
845-265-2840 | thepantrys.com

Film & Theater

Voices in the Attic (Documentary, 1989)
1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-265-3652 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Silent Film: Bardelys the Magnificent (1926)
7 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Music

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

Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 in D Minor Op. 125
7:30 p.m. Newburgh Free Academy
201 Fullerton Ave., Newburgh
845-913-7157 | newburghsymphony.org

1800s Chamber Concert
8 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

C'mon Beacon, Let's Dance
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

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The Calendar *(from page 9)*

Black Marble (Violin Duo)
4 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St., Cold Spring
845-265-5537 | chapelrestoration.org

Tribes Hill
4:30 p.m. Embark
See details under Saturday.

Kazi Oliver and Friends
5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Wolf Critton
5 - 9 p.m. Virgo's Sip N Soul Café
469 Fishkill Ave., Beacon
845-831-1543 | virgosipnsoul.com

Pick 'n' Grin Acoustic Session
6 - 9:30 p.m. Dogwood
47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com

Dan Bern
7:30 p.m. BeanRunner Café
See details under Friday.

Martha Davis and the Motels
7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe
See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures

The History of the Hudson River Valley
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-265-3652 | desmondfishlibrary.org

MONDAY, APRIL 20

*Haldane and Garrison School Board Candidate
Petitions Due*

Kids & Community

Developmental Check-up (ages 2–4)
2 - 4 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Cooking With the Mediterranean Diet
4 p.m. Dempsey House
1992 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-734-3780 | hvhc.org/events

Intro to French for Kids (First Session) (ages 5–12)
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
917-523-1073 | globalkidslanguagecenter.com

Health & Fitness

Supporting Your New Grandchild
4 p.m. Hudson Valley Hospital
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-666-4228 | hvhc.org/events

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

Sports

Haldane vs. Tuxedo (Baseball)

4:30 p.m. Haldane High School
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Meetings & Lectures

Book Club: A Slant of Light: Contemporary Women Writers of the Hudson Valley
7 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Nelsonville Village Board
7:30 p.m. Village Hall
258 Main St., Nelsonville
845-265-2500 | villageofnelsonville.org

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

Kids & Community

Butterfield Library
9 a.m. Beginning Computer Class
12:30 p.m. Kids in the Kitchen (ages 3–5)
3:30 p.m. Crazy 8s Math Club (grades 3–5)
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Howland Public Library
10 a.m. Knitting Club
10:30 a.m. Baby & Me (ages 0–2)
4 p.m. Crazy 8s Math Club (grades 3–4)
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Desmond-Fish Library
Noon. Highland Needle Workers
4 p.m. Kids' Craft Hour
7 p.m. Fireside Poetry Reading
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Middle School Social Skills Training (First Session)
4 p.m. St. Philip's Church
1101 Route 9D, Garrison
845-260-0765

Third Tuesday Beacon Queer Night
6:30 - 9 p.m. Dogwood
47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com



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Health & Fitness

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group
9 a.m. The Pantry
3091 Route 9, Cold Spring
415-420-4358

Caregiver Support Group for Grandparents, Aunts & Uncles
6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
908-230-8131 | pampetkanas.com

Sports

Haldane vs. Pawling (Baseball)
Haldane vs. Pawling (Softball)
4:30 p.m. Haldane High School
See details under Monday.

Meetings & Lectures

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

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

Earth Day

Kids & Community

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

Desmond-Fish Library
10:15 a.m. Music & Motion for Toddlers
1:30 p.m. Preschool Story Hour
3:30 p.m. Lego Builders Club
See details under Tuesday.

Farm Skill Workshop: Intro to Botany
2:30 p.m. Glynwood Farm
362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring
845-265-3338 | glynwood.org

Cooking Class: Simply Seafood
5 p.m. Dempsey House
See details under Monday.

April Showers
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Jazz Vespers with
GUITARIST JOHN STOWELL and
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Saturday, April 18, 5:30 PM

First Presbyterian Church
10 Academy Street, Cold Spring
(up Main Street, turn right at first street past light)

Wine and Cheese Reception to Follow
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The Gift Hut

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86 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516
Hours: Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Helen Savoit Literary Advocacy Award
5:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe
379 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134, ext. 101 | beaconlibrary.org

Art & Design

Visual Art & Sound (First Session)
6 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Film & Theater

Indian Point (Documentary, 2015)
3:30 p.m. Bow Tie Cinemas
260 W. 23rd St., New York
tribecafilm.com/filmguide/indian-point-2015

Meetings & Lectures

Love and Lust, Sin and Virtue in Native American Culture
6 p.m. Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art
1701 Main St., Peekskill
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

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

Power on the Hudson (Talk and Signing)
7 p.m. Fort Montgomery Historic Site
690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery
845-446-2134 | nysparks.com

Historic District Review Board (Public Hearing on Butterfield)
8 p.m. Village Hall
85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

Kids & Community

Hands-on for Homeschoolers (ages 3–12)
9:30 a.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

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

Bouncing Babies
10:30 a.m. Butterfield Library
See details under Tuesday.

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

Children Read to Dogs
3:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Tuesday.

High School Social Skills Training (First Session)
4 p.m. 80 Triangle Shopping Center, Yorktown Heights
914-400-6999

Cold Spring Area Chamber Awards Dinner
6:30 - 9 p.m. Dutchess Manor
263 Route 9D, Beacon
845-265-3200 | coldspringareachamber.org

Health & Fitness

Feldenkrais With Tara Varmos
7 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Music

Kathy Mattea With Bill Cooley

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

The Stacks
8 p.m. Dogwood
47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com

Duke McVinnie Band
9 p.m. Quinn's
See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures

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

Historic District Review Board (Public Hearing)
8 p.m. Village Hall
85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

Arbor Day

Kids & Community

Preschool on the Farm: Earthworms (ages 2–4)
10 a.m. Common Ground Farm
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
845-231-4424 | commongroundfarm.org

Free Residential Shredding Event
2 - 5 p.m. Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union
324 Main St., Beacon
845-463-3011 | hvfcu.org

Creating a Character for Graphic Novels (grades 3–5)
3:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
See details under Tuesday.

Introduction to Youth Theatre (grades K–6) (First Session)
4 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
See details under Saturday.

Fellowship Supper
6 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

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

Health & Fitness

Blood Drive
3:30 - 8 p.m. J.V. Forrestal Elementary
125 Liberty St., Beacon
800-933-2566 | nybloodcenter.org

Film & Theater

Indian Point (Documentary, 2015)
6:15 p.m. Bow Tie Cinemas
260 W. 23rd St., New York
tribecafilm.com/filmguide/indian-point-2015

Dazzled to Death (Comedy Dinner Theater)
7 p.m. Bear Mountain Inn
55 Hessian Drive, Highland Falls
845-786-2731 | visitbearmountain.com

International Film Night: El Anafabeto (Mexico, 1962)
7 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Hall & Oates – Live in Dublin (Concert Film)
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

The Fantasticks
8 p.m. Culinary Institute of America (Marriott Pavilion)
1946 Campus Drive, Hyde Park
845-235-9885 | halfmoontheatre.org

Arts on the Lake (from page 7)

We have actual memberships, but you don’t have to be a member to attend.”
The divisions of AOTL, with advisory boards providing guidance to the executive director about their own offerings, are specific to art, theater, music and education, all of them in equal measure. “There’s an overall level of quality here that underlines things, and that’s crucial,” said Durkee.

The many interest groups, most grown organically from people wanting to meet others with similar interests and skills, include photography, writing and even a big-band jazz group. Shearwood said a ukulele group “embodies the spirit of what happens here. It started with a workshop, and now we’re hosting a Ukulele Invitational Extravaganza [on April 24], which is pulling people from all over the place, who are playing at high level.”

For the public, this translates into an array of possibilities. Teens are served not just with classes but with once-a-month rock concerts. This month’s is a CD release party for local group Take One Car, on April 18 at 5:30 p.m. Singer-songwriters are well represented too.

Other areas of interest, involve art exhibits and the Friends of Classical Music, which has become “a real mainstay for us in terms of the community,” Durkee noted.

Current and upcoming classes and events include Narratives in Art, in which children explore how narratives can be told visually, and — for adults — Intensive Painting, offered in a six-hour stretch on Tuesdays, and a Life Drawing class. Puppets in Peril: From Persia to the Pole, running May 1–3, features extravagant life-sized puppets, currently under construction at the center, in a performance of four ancient and classic poems “reimagined for both sophisticated kids and grown-ups.”

There are also play readings, stand-up comedy nights, outdoor summer concerts and even an evening

Music

Ukulele Invitational Extravaganza
7 p.m. Lake Carmel Arts Center
640 Route 52, Kent Lakes
845 228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

Booksmr t
8 p.m. Chill Wine Bar
173 Main St, Beacon
845-765-0885 | facebook.com/chillwinebar

James Keepnews / Joe McPhee / Dave Berger
8 p.m. The Catalyst Gallery
See details under April 17.

The Levins, and the Lords of Liechtenstein
8 p.m. BeanRunner Café
See details under April 17.

Robben Ford Band
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe
See details under April 17.

Tiger Flowers
9 p.m. Quinn's
See details under April 17.

Boomkat
9 p.m. Whistling Willie's
See details under April 17.

Live Music
9 p.m. Max’s on Main
See details under April 17.

devoted to The Mystical Sounds of Tibetan Bowls (May 6). Physical activity, in the form of Zumba and tai chi classes, round things out.

The center consists of two down-stairs rooms, the larger of which affords constant views of the lake with floor-to-ceiling windows. For now, the vast upstairs area, which has those same windows, is approved for storage only, with a lack of money (quite a bit of money, alas) thwarting the dream of those affiliated with AOTL to renovate the space and create more room for performances and classes.

Previous grants have allowed for roof repair, window installation and work on the exterior, but the interior work is on hold for now. Durkee said that “fundraising is continual process.” Shearwood added: “We don’t get any federal monies except some from Putnam Arts Council. Our support comes from some private foundations and, occasionally, something out of the blue from a community member.”

To generate wider audiences as well as share costs, AOTL often partners with other organizations. Currently, these include the Latino community in Brewster through a collaboration with Studio Around the Corner and the Houses on the Moon Theater Company (whose goal is to “make unknown voices heard”) to present *De Novo*, a documentary play derived from immigration transcripts, about the legal struggle of a teenage boy to stay in the U.S. It will be presented April 25 at 8 p.m.

In the warmer months, AOTL will again host a summer band camp, as well as a strings camp, both run by Carmel Middle School. Last year, 50 kids enrolled, and some had to be turned away.

Visit artsonthelake.org or phone 845-228-2685 for more information. AOTL is located at 640 Route 52 in Kent Lakes.

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

Adam Falcon

9:30 p.m. 12 Grapes
See details under April 17.

The Big Takeover
10 p.m. The Hudson Room
See details under April 17.

Meetings & Lectures

John Paul Huguley: The Art of Building
6 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

ONGOING

Art & Design

Visit philipstown.info/galleries

Religious Services

Visit philipstown.info/services

Meetings & Lectures

Alcoholics Anonymous
Visit philipstown.info/aa
Support Groups
Visit philipstown.info/sg



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

That’s Entertainment:
Haldane Talent Show

High schoolers and teachers perform
April 24

Once again, the talented teens of Haldane High School will take to the stage for the enjoyment of all in the annual talent show, which takes place on Friday, April 24, at 7 p.m.

Entries include a gypsy jazz trio; the Haldane debut of rock band Dragon Attack; an interpretive dance to the hit song “Radioactive”; a Bob Fosse *Damn Yankees* dance number; and family acts in the form of a father-daughter vocal duo and a three-sister singing act. Returning favorites include a yo-yo master and a performance of a traditional Native American hoop dance. As always, there will be quite a few vocal performances, in styles ranging from singer-songwriter to Broadway. In addition, there will be a swing-dance piece choreographed by Katie Bissinger, and the always highly anticipated dance by a local crew, better known as members of the Haldane teaching staff, trying to out-do their showstoppers of previous years.

The whole community is invited to the talent show. Elementary and middle school students are welcome to cheer on their babysitters, kids they saw in the school musical or on school teams. This year’s show, called *That’s Entertainment*, is put together by Haldane music teacher Deb Contini, who is retiring this year, with the assistance of Stacy Labriola, who just produced the recent parent version of the show, *Haldane’s Got Talent*, at the Towne Crier.

Tickets will be available at the door and cost \$5 for children, students and senior citizens; \$10 for adults.

Fjord Trail Master Plan
Final Meeting April 29

Plan to be released for public review
and comment

A community meeting on Wednesday, April 29, will mark the official release of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Master Plan for public review and comment before it moves forward into environmental review and municipal approvals. Completion of the master plan is a major milestone in this collaborative, community-driven initiative to create a 7-mile, multi-use recreational trail connecting Cold Spring to Beacon.

The meeting will take place from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Chalet on the Hudson at 3250 Route 9D, just north of Cold Spring.

At the event, attendees also will learn the results of the online community sur-



Haldane students Jose Altucher, left, and Amanda Erickson rehearse their “Radioactive” dance routine, which they will perform at the talent show on April 24.

Photo courtesy of Deb Contini

vey released after the last public workshop in October 2014 to gather input on the preferred route presented at that meeting. In addition to discussing how the survey results relate to and informed the Master Plan, the project team will provide updates on various trail construction projects currently underway or being planned.

The goal of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail is to provide a safe connection between the train stations and downtowns in Cold Spring and Beacon with popular hiking trails in Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve. To date the project has received over \$1 million in state funding as well as significant private funding, enabling commencement of work on several key aspects of the trail.

The Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Master Plan also will be available at hudsonfjordtrail.org.

Arbor Day Kickoff for
Tree Advisory Board

Plant trees in Cold Spring April 25

The Cold Spring Village Board of Trustees and the newly formed Tree Advisory Board (TAB) invite village residents to come out to the corner of Main Street and Church Street at noon on Saturday, April 25, to join in the celebration of what they hope will become an annual Cold Spring tradition: planting trees on Arbor Day.

Donations of two London plane trees and mulch by village residents and local landscaping business Habitat Revival will be planted with the help of the village highway department in Main Street tree pits located in front of the Sunoco station and C&E Hardware. As part of the ceremony, a proclamation signed by new Mayor Dave Merandy officially decreeing April 25 as Village Arbor Day will be read, fun local tree facts will be

shared and useful pamphlets for home tree care will be available for the taking. Tree Advisory Board members Tony Bardes, Charles Day, Kory Riesterer, Gordon Robertson and Jennifer Zwarich will also be on hand to field ideas and answer questions about future tree project planning in the village.

This official marking of Arbor Day is a chance for the community to come together and take pride in the beautification of village streets. Holding an annual Arbor Day ceremony will also help the village qualify for Tree City USA status, a designation that will aid in grant applications to fund village tree work and, of course, future Arbor Day plantings.

Those wishing to donate funds to plant trees on village streets or to be added to the list of volunteers should contact the village clerk at 845-265-3611 or vsclerk@bestweb.net.

Historic Church to
Become Cultural Center

Building to be run by nonprofit

The historic Methodist Church on Peekskill Hollow Road in Putnam Valley has been purchased by the Tompkins Corners Cultural Center Inc., a not-for-profit organization that plans to open it to the public for music, arts, performances and community events, including a seasonal farmers market.

Built in 1891 and on the Federal Reg-



The historic Methodist church in Putnam Valley

Photo courtesy of the Tompkins Corners Cultural Center

ister of Historic Sites, the Tompkins Corners Cultural Center at 729 Peekskill Hollow Road will also be available to individuals and community groups for meetings, weddings and events of all kinds.

The Methodist Church served the local congregation from its inception until it closed in 2011.

Tompkins Corners Cultural Center was formed by local residents dedicated to preserving the historic building and insuring its continued use by all members of the community. Maaiké Hoekstra, president of the center, remembers growing up across from the church. “It used to be the center of our community,” she said. “There were church fairs, tag sales, hamburger roasts, concerts and plays,

and we hope to bring all that back, with the help of our neighbors and friends in Putnam Valley. We want to partner with the schools and give students an opportunity to share their talents. There are music and theatre teachers and yoga and tai chi instructors who have talked with us about giving classes at the center. As soon as we can get things going, it will be a wonderful resource for the people of Putnam Valley and beyond.”

Volunteers will be needed to run all aspects of the new center: events, communication and publicity, historic preservation of the building, farmers market, festivals, fundraising and more. For further information, call Judy Allen at 845-528-6643 and check the Facebook page.

Parachute Team Meet at
West Point April 24-26

Inter-service meet open to the public

The U.S. Military Academy will host its Second Annual Inter-Service Academy Parachute Team meet April 24-26 on the Plain, which is open to the public.

Teams from the U.S. Naval Academy and U.S. Air Force Academy will compete against cadets from West Point in open accuracy and speed events. The goal of the inter-service academy parachute meet is to build cooperation and unity among the different service academies.

Jump operations for the freefall and accuracy competitions begin at 1:30 p.m., on April 24, and from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., on April 25. On April 26 at 7:30 a.m., the teams will jump in a big way formation. Computers and projectors will display the freefall events. Accuracy will occur in front of the reviewing stand on the Plain.

The West Point Parachute Team is both a competition and a demonstration team. The team, with a history that extends all the way to 1958, aims to teach cadets about leadership in extreme situations in order to prepare them for their future as Army officers.

Attendees should enter through Thayer or Stony Lonesome gates. Proper identification is required upon entering academy grounds and all vehicles are subject to search. Parking will be available in Clinton Lot near the parade ground.

Cold Spring Seeks
Committee Members

For new grants, research and
Independence Day committees

The Village of Cold Spring Board of Trustees is seeking village residents to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals and on three newly formed committees. These new committees are the Grants Committee, the Information and Research Committee and the Independence Day Committee.

The Grants Committee will handle identification of grant opportunities and the investigation, research and drafting of grant applications.

The Information and Research Committee will gather information and conduct research on relevant topics of interest to the village.

The Independence Day Committee will be responsible for the planning and execution of the Independence Day Celebration.

Please forward letters of interest accompanied by a brief résumé to the village clerk at 85 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. All submissions must be received by May 1.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Vassar Hosts Creation of Sand Mandala

Religious ceremony by Tibetan lamas opens exhibition

Vassar College will host the creation of a Tibetan sand mandala April 21-26, as part of the opening of *Embodying Compassion in Buddhist Art: Image, Pilgrimage, Practice*, an exhibition at the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, which begins April 23.

Tibetan Buddhist lamas of the Drikung lineage will construct the mandala in honor of the figure Avalokiteshvara, or Chenrezig (as the bodhisattva is known in Tibet), the embodiment of compassion in Buddhism and the focus of the exhibition.

The mandala-makers will travel from different locations to participate, including Ven. Khenpo Choephel, spiritual director of the Three Rivers Dharma Center in Pittsburgh, and originally from Drigung-til Monastery, Tibet; Lama Konchok Sonam Karushar, spiritual director of Drikung Meditation Center in Boston, and originally from Katsel Monastery, Tibet; and Dr. Hun Yeow Lye, founder and spiritual director of Urban Dharma North Carolina in Asheville.

The mandala-making will be available for daily viewing Tuesday through Sunday, April 21-26, from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. daily in the Villard Room of Main Building. Dr. Lye will give an informal illustrated talk, *Mandalas — Circles of Awakening: The Meaning, Uses, and History of Mandalas in Buddhism*, on Tuesday, April 21, 5 p.m.

A dissolution ceremony will take place on April 26 at 1 p.m. After working on the mandalas for days, the lamas brush them away upon completion. Carried in a colorful procession, the dismantled materials of the mandala are then poured into a body of water that flows to the sea.

For more information about accessibility at and directions to Vassar College, visit vassar.edu.

Putnam Hospital Center Needs Volunteer Visitors

Volunteers and elderly patients benefit from friendly visits

Volunteer Services at Putnam Hospital Center is looking for volunteers to provide a friendly visit to elderly patients. A hospital stay can be a stressful time for elderly patients. They may experience loneliness or sadness due to the loss of a loved one or the lack of family support in the area. The best way to relieve that stress is through support, companionship and caring.

Volunteers are needed for the friendly visitor program to bring some comfort to the elderly by reading to them, watching TV together, sharing a meal or sitting down to chat.

“Visiting can be a source of satisfaction, enjoyment and fun for the volunteer



Tibetan lamas of the Drikung Kagyu lineage creating a sand mandala at Asia Society, New York in 2014.

Photo by Karen Lucic/courtesy of Vassar

and the patient,” said Michelle Piazza, director of Volunteer Services. “Sharing their life experiences and histories with you can make a visit fly by, enriching your life and adding value to theirs.”

Both adult and junior volunteers are needed for the program. To become a friendly visitor and/or request visits for a family member, contact Piazza at 845-230-4752 and/or mpiazza@health-quest.org.

GCEF’S Spring Thaw Fundraiser on April 18

Silent Auction items include summer camp, art, and unique experiences

The Garrison Children’s Education Fund (GCEF) will hold its 16th Annual Spring Thaw at Glynwood’s Main House on Saturday, April 18 from 6:30 p.m.–10:30 p.m. GCEF invites all members of the community to come dine, bid and dance at Spring Thaw, with money raised at this event supporting educational, artistic and athletic programming at GUFs.

Over 100 items will be auctioned off to raise funds to enrich the educational experience at GUFs. Spring Thaw Silent Auction items include:

A chance to win a week of summer camp at Beacon Music Factory’s Rock Band Boot Camp, along with returning favorites such as The Therapeutic Equestrian Center at Stonecrop, Gymnastics City and Manitoga.

For the Yankees fan, an autographed copy of Derek Jeter’s book *Unfiltered*.

Unique experiences such as a parent/student internship to help produce Years of *Living Dangerously*, a cruise on the Hudson with dinner on the dock, customizing your own Moo Moo’s Creamery flavor, or watching an Army football game as a VIP.

Beautiful handmade jewelry from local designers such as Gabrielle Sanchez, Gems de Mer, Adler Grier and “Vitreaux” by Alejandra.

Dinner at Longhaul Farm’s Cottage Supper Club, dining out in NYC at Sala One Nine, or enjoying dinner parties catered by the Little Cottage Kitchen or Lindsey Meyer.

Tickets are on sale now for \$75 per person, and \$90 at the door. To purchase tickets and see the full list of Thaw Silent Auction items, go online at <http://www.gcef.net/>. You may also mail a check for Spring Thaw tickets to GCEF, P.O. Box 262, Garrison, NY 10524.

In addition to the Spring Thaw Silent Auction, this year’s event will feature a “Principal for the Day” Raffle where the winning students will have an opportunity to learn what it’s like to be GUFs principal. Come enjoy craft beer donated by The Hop, desserts donated by Hudson Hil’s, specialty herb and fruit-infused cocktails donated by Trisha Mulligan and food by Fresh Company. The event

will include live music performed by Sara Labriola and James Rubino, GUFs Jazz Percussion Ensemble students with Eric Starr, and Rebecca Del Monte with Tonight’s Band.

GCEF is a community-based, nonprofit foundation that seeks to support a dynamic program of academics, the arts and athletics for kindergarten through 12th grade children in the Garrison Union Free School District. Established in 1998, GCEF has distributed over \$600,000 in grants to benefit children of the Garrison School district. Visit gcef.net.

HVCCA’s Lust Is Part of Seven Deadly Sins Shows

Opens with reception April 19, from 5 to 7 p.m.

The Seven Deadly Sins, a series of exhibitions on view from April through October, will be presented by seven arts institutions, all members of the Fairfield/Westchester Museum Alliance (FWMA), located in Fairfield County, Connecticut, Westchester County and the Bronx: Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art; the Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum; Bruce Museum; Hudson River Museum; Katonah Museum of Art; Neuberger Museum of Art; and Wave Hill.

Each of the FWMA institutions explores one of the Seven Deadly Sins: wrath, envy, gluttony, greed, lust, pride and sloth. The seven exhibitions aim to spark discourse on the nature of sin, penitence and virtue.

Peekskill’s HVCCA is participating with *Seven Deadly Sins: LUST*. The artists in *Lust* create artworks that visually

explore raw eroticism in many forms of its expression. Artists include Amy Bennett, Giles Berquet, Ashley Bickerton, Larry Clark, George Condo, Beatrice Cussol, Tony Matelli, Bruce Nauman, Catherine Opie, Cindy Sherman, Betty Tompkins, Emily Wardill and Entang Wiharso.

The opening reception takes place Sunday, April 19, from 5 to 7 p.m. at HVCCA, 1701 Main St. in Peekskill. For more information, visit hvcca.org or call 914-788-0100.

Beacon Family Earth Day Concert at Howland Center

Bindlestick Bill brings songs, stories to Beacon April 18

Saturday, April 18, at 11 a.m., Bindlestick Bill (also known as Bill Fiore) returns to the Howland Cultural Center for his annual Earth Day program for children and their families. Bindlestick Bill, the traveling troubadour, will bring his knowledgeable history of the Hudson River and the Hudson Valley. He will present a program of sing-alongs, storytelling, juggling, magic and a talking sock-monkey.

Fiore has traveled throughout the Hudson Valley region for many years sharing his music, songs and stories with children and their families, especially spreading the message about the beauty of the earth and one’s responsibility in taking care of it.

All children are admitted free but must be accompanied by an adult with a ticket. An adult may bring as many children as she/he wishes. Tickets are \$8 at the door.

The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St. in Beacon. For further information and/or directions, call 845-831-4988.




PHC volunteer Marianne Blume of Somers, right, visits a patient.

Photo

courtesy of Marcela Rojas/Putnam Hospital Center

Voices from the Attic



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Voices from the Attic

Saturday, April 18th at 1pm

Free to all - Discussion and Refreshments to follow

At the
Desmond-Fish Library
472 Rte 403, Garrison NY 10524 ♦ 845-424-3020

This moving film is a personal document of Holocaust remembrance from a second-generation American perspective. Filmmaker Debbie Goodstein travelled to Poland to explore the ordeal of survival of her mother and fifteen family members who hid in the attic of a peasant’s home during the Second World War.

philipstownreformsynagogue@gmail.com

Art for Cows and Other Creatures *(from page 7)*

some art that simply defies description. The show has been attracting attendees from near and far for the last nine years. It's a way to spend a few hours roaming the fields, getting some exercise and enjoying the works that



peek out of the woods or pop up just over the next hill. The art glints in the sun, tips in the wind and challenges the imagination. There's also live performance art.

Sometimes you'll bump into an artist who's there in person adjusting his exhibit or mending damage done by rain or wind.

When I was there for a show the

cows were enjoying a large and colorful work with slow-moving parts that the cows could push as they walked by. It wasn't clear whether they were enjoying the art or their grassy brunch better. They moved perfectly in step in a single line — a lot like the Rockettes, only beefier. They snort, they chew, they moo. Just don't stand too close to the moms and their calves.

One of the smartest aspects of this particular exhibition is that all the art is cow-friendly. There are no holes or cables that could trip or confine; no sharp or pointy edges at cow level. It's people friendly, too, in that there's something for almost everyone, whether you're 5 or 85.

As you head toward higher ground on Saunders land, some of the hills will offer dreamlike 360 views of the Hudson Highlands. Some of the Saunders' trees, stone walls and other features of the farm have been worked into the art

pieces. It's as if the art has fused with the farm and fields, not just plopped on top of the ground.

The artists are responsible for removing their creations after the show ends. (If they don't, they'll get to pick up the tab for removal ... and will never be invited to subsequent exhibits again. Ever. And Collaborative Concepts gets to keep the abandoned art. So there.)

There's a run-down of all the artists, their works and a site map in a mailbox (it masquerades as one of the works of art) near the start of the exhibit. And you can get a catalog of the entire collection from Collaborative Concepts. If one of the sculptures

catches your eye or strikes your fancy, there's a distinct possibility you can even buy it for your own. As an homage to the cows, there's usually a large black silhouette of a cow or cows walking or bathing, which could make a perfect lawn or field ornament for you or a deserving friend.

Over the years we've found a great deal of activities to enjoy in the Hudson







A horse of sorts at a prior show. *Photos by MJ Wyatt Ross*

Highlands — kayaking, biking, antiquing, hiking, listening to music from classical to rock, visiting the Stormville flea market, dining, watching movies for the whole town shown on giant outdoor screens at twilight when the lightning bugs come out. I never tire of this part of the world.

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Roots and Shoots:

Climate Change and the Garden

By Pamela Doan

Earth Day is coming up on April 22. It's the 45th anniversary of this annual, global day of environmental activism and will be marked with events, protests and cultural commemorations. For people who get their hands down in the soil, it can feel especially urgent this year with all the bad news about our planet. In the U.S., California's drought dominates reports and has many people thinking about water use and conservation at home. Last year, 2014, was the new "warmest year on record" globally, a designation that seems to get updated annually, and it's hard not to notice the impact somewhere in your daily life.

There are many ways to address the global issue of climate change, and some argue that the only real and lasting impact will come from carbon tax credits and world leaders agreeing on emission cuts. Other people respond by changing their habits. Making their homes more energy efficient, switching to renewable sources of power like solar or wind, consciously consuming less, buying organic produce at the farmers market, taking public transportation instead of driving — these are some of the biggest lifestyle changes most people can make without a huge amount of effort.

Gardeners are adapting, too. Our local weather patterns bring more severe storms, longer periods of drought, heavier downpours in shorter periods, and hotter summers, and what we do in the landscape needs to adjust accordingly.

Here's what I learned from a few master gardeners here in Putnam County about what they're doing differently to



The Hoover Dam created Lake Mead on the Colorado River in the 1930s; Lake Mead is now at its lowest level ever.

Photo by P. Doan

adapt to climate change.

Jennifer Stengle: Water saving. When I wash lettuce or soak vegetables, I save the rinse water to water my perennials and shrubs rather than using potable water. I keep a five-gallon bucket by the door, and when it's full I go for a walk.

Leah Kennell: I grow mostly natives and keep a light leaf duff in place to require less watering and provide a perfect pH for acid-loving, woodland shade plants. Not to mention hopes of encouraging more lightning bugs that depend on the leaves.

Rich Franco: In my years of gardening, things haven't changed enough to cause any changes in what I do. Being more sustainable is an easier topic to discuss, even though the definition is still evolving. Growing crops using ecological principles, having little or no negative impact on the environment and using renewable

resources is one way to define it. Generating and using compost is an easy way to avoid using synthetic fertilizers that might wash out into our watershed and pollute our waterways. It also sequesters carbon in the soil.

I am using ground leaf mulch to keep weeds down, which will end up as compost next year. I will try using cover crops at the end of the season that will prevent the soil from washing out over the winter; it will include nitrogen-fixing plants to enhance soil nutrients; it will reduce the tillage needed for planting; and will provide for weed suppression next year.

I currently don't use any toxic pesticides, only Frank's Hot Sauce for tomato hornworms. I have eliminated certain crops that were problematic for pests (cabbage) even though there are ways to safely prevent infestations (cover with a light fabric). I rotate crops to prevent nutrient depletion and avoid rein-

festation with any pests from last year. And of course, just having a garden and reducing consumption of big agriculture produce that is clearly not sustainable and has a large carbon footprint is the best all of us can do.

Nancy Teague: Each year I'm changing more of the front plants of my perennial beds to sedums. There's quite a variety out there, and they're quite attractive, while being fine with hot, dry conditions.

Janis Butler: I'm slowly turning my garden into an all-native garden. Native plants are better able to withstand our increasingly hot and humid summers and are generally heartier and more resilient than non-natives.

What are you doing?

Conserving water, choosing native plants or plants that are suited for changing conditions, minimizing or eliminating pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers and gardening practices that maximize natural resources are all part of the solution when it comes to reducing our carbon footprint in the garden. Send your stories and techniques to rootsandshoots@philipstown.info, and I'll do another column on it if there's enough of a response.

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Sports

Philipstown Soccer Club Opens Season

Two ties and a win as teams start out strong

By Andrea Maasik

Philipstown Daggers Outplay Kingston United

The Philipstown Boys U16 Daggers challenged Kingston United in their season opener, kicking off the 2015 spring season with a decisive 5-2 win. The Daggers welcomed Liam Macnamara to tend the Philipstown goal, where he showed poise and skill stopping a number of quality shots from the Kingston team. Eight minutes in, Ethan Penner found forward Seth Warren, who put the Daggers on the board. The Kingston offense quickly went on a tear, placing their only two goals of the match at 20 and 25 minutes. Before the half, the Daggers answered with a keen shot from Michael Harmancin, who followed with a score off a corner and another out front, rounding out a hat trick for the day. With minutes left, Philip DiSarro found the United defense asleep as he stole a cleared ball from their defense and placed it in the United net. The Daggers take on the Raptors at East Fishkill Sunday, April 19.

Warriors Hold Off Mavericks to Tie in Season Opener

On a beautiful spring day, the Philipstown Boys U11 Warriors matched up against the Carmel Mavericks, a team who had spoiled the Warriors' opening



Philipstown Daggers defender Teresa Figueres denies a Kingston United player in a 5-2 Dagger victory on Sunday, April 12.

Photo by Scott Warren

day last year. Play was tight until the Warriors broke through with a goal just before the first half expired. The second half saw the Warriors add two more goals to their lead before heat and fatigue set in. The Mavericks scored three quick goals to even the match. Carmel had the momentum and it appeared they were on their way to a win. Fortunately the Warriors rallied and were able to hold on to the tie, with a final 3-3 score. The Warriors are away next week in Greenwood Lakes.

Philipstown Eagles Draw with New Paltz Strikers

The Philipstown Girls U14 Eagles enjoyed a sunny and warm spring morning for their season opener against the New Paltz Strikers and finished with a 1-1 tie. The Philipstown "ladies in purple" owned the day, playing with purpose and poise, and controlled the pitch through the majority of the match. The Eagles

played as a team with fluidity as they tested each sideline using forward surges combined with timely crosses into the middle. The midfield and back field kept a solid foundation of trailing support to redirect the attack with crisp ball movement, and solid team play and ball control helped the Eagles test the opposing goalie with at least 10 shots on goal. The scoring goal for the Eagles was assisted by a well-placed kick by Kate Dwyer into two Eagles players who were ready to convert the cross when the ball bounced off the opposing team into the net for an "own goal." The Eagles defense and goalies denied the Strikers in both halves of play with just one goal scored off a fast break that barely slipped by the right goal post.

It was a great opening day of exciting soccer at Haldane High School, and expectations are high for a very competitive season for the Philipstown Eagles.

Blue Devil Booster Club Night April 24

John Merante to be honored for service

The Blue Devil Booster Club will award and honor John "Jiggum" Merante for his many years of service to the athletes of the Haldane Central School District at Blue Devil Booster Club Night, at the Taconic Outdoor Education Center on Friday, April 24, from 8 to 11 p.m.

The cost is \$40 per person. Light fare, wine and beer will be served. Adults only. RSVP by April 17 to bluedevilboosterclub1@gmail.com. Pay by cash or check to "Blue Devil Booster Club" at the door.



Haldane pitcher Brian Haines pitches the Blue Devils to a 12-9 win over the visiting Poughkeepsie Pioneers on Saturday, April 11, at Mayor's Park in Cold Spring.

Photo by Peter Farrell

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