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Upgrades to Sewer Plant May Be in Village Plans Soon

Cold Spring to separate from Farmers Market due to liability issues

By Jeanne Tao

A project to upgrade Cold Spring's wastewater treatment plant may get a green light soon in order to correct code violations and to address safety and energy efficiency issues.

The Board of Trustees heard a presentation given by engineering consultants from Fuss & O'Neill and Oakwood Environmental, as well as Cold Spring's Water and Wastewater Superintendent Greg Phillips, on Tuesday night (April 16). This led the board to consider undertaking the project in one phase rather than in two or three separate phases, as had been suggested previously to help with financing of the project.

The project was originally conceived in order to upgrade the plant's aeration system, replacing the existing coarse-bubble diffusers and centrifugal blowers with high-efficiency fine-bubble diffusers and turbo blowers, which would save energy as well as utility costs for the village. Following flooding during storms, however, the village discovered life-safety issues that needed to be addressed as well. The electrical switches and generators, for instance, must be moved outside and above ground where they will not be susceptible to flooding, along with a new standby generator that could provide power to the entire plant. These would be placed in a new building, about the size of a small garage, elsewhere on the site.



Sue Peehl holds up a section of fencing she proposes to go around the tree beds on Main Street, which could cost \$500-1,000, depending on the number of beds to be fenced.

Photo by J. Tao

Because of the high cost estimated for the project, around \$1.45 million, the previous board had thought to separate it into two phases, with the life-safety issues addressed first and the aeration system later, so that they could be financed separately. After discussion, however, the board realized that they might not save much money, (Continued on page 5)



A sure sign of spring: children enjoy their Go-GO Pops on Main Street in Cold Spring on April 16.

Photo by Jeanne Tao

Little Enthusiasm Locally for School Consolidation

Cost savings, educational benefits, busing questioned

By Michael Turton

Conventional lore holds that a school consolidation debate involves a lot of heat and not much light. But in western Putnam County, there has been little heat or light, much less debate, over the concept of possibly merging the Haldane Central, Putnam Valley Central, and Garrison Union Free School Districts. Even the notion of a potential study, mostly state-funded, goes largely undiscussed.

"Other than in the press or in small pockets of our communities, there just does not seem (to be) a big push to undertake a (consolidation) study," said Mark Villanti, superintendent of schools at Haldane Central School District.

There is certainly no lack of precedent for consolidation elsewhere in New York state and in the past. In the early 1900s there were more than 10,000 school districts in what was then a very rural state. Today there are fewer than 700; however

the pace of consolidations has slowed dramatically. Fifty-six school districts reorganized between 1983 and 1998. Four have consolidated since 2000, and four upstate districts are currently merging to become two.

Pros and cons

The New York State Education Depart-

ment (NYSED) website lists numerous reasons why mergers may be beneficial — reduced costs; greater variety of courses offered; larger, more diversely qualified teaching staff; and upgraded facilities among them. While state aid has been significantly reduced to local districts for each of the past five years, NYSED offers hefty incentives to districts that merge, at least in the short term. Consolidating districts can receive up to a 40 percent increase in operating aid for five years, followed by declining increases for another nine years. They can also receive a 30 percent increase in aid for capital projects undertaken within 10 years of consolidation. While that is enticing, a number of studies, organizations and experts, not to mention local education officials, don't see consolidation as a "slam dunk."

A 2005 report from the National Rural Education Association found that educational and financial results of school district consolidations "do not meet legislated

(Continued on page 3)

Highway Supt. Target of Scrutiny

Sheriff said to be investigating possible misuse of personnel and resources

By Kevin E. Foley

The Philipstown Town Highway Department is under investigation for several possible violations of law, including misuse of employees for nongovernmental work, use of the town garage for storage and repair of non-town vehicles and questionable use of town funds for purchases of equipment not related to providing town services.

No findings of any wrongdoing have been made, nor is there even public acknowledgement of the investigation.

Two sources familiar with the situation, who did not want to publicly acknowledge their involvement, told *The Paper* that the Putnam County Sheriff's Department has been conducting the investigation for the last few weeks and that it has focused on the activities of the department head, Highway Superintendent Roger Chirico, an elected Republican officeholder.

Capt. William McNamara, spokesman for the Sheriff's Department, in an email response wrote, "I can neither confirm or deny the pendency of any investigation by the Sheriff's Office."

Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea would also not comment on the matter.

Chirico, 79, did not return a phone call seeking comment. He has held the job for the past 12 years and as of this year earns \$92,250, an increase of \$1,250 from his 2012 salary.

Among the matters the Sheriff's Department is said to be examining is the alleged use by Chirico of Highway Department personnel and facilities for work on vehicles for use in purposes other than the repair and maintenance of town roads. Complaints by both former and present employees over a long period of time are said to have caused the investigation, according to the sources.

(Continued on page 3)



Haldane Central School District, with student enrollment of slightly more than 900, would consider being part of a feasibility study to determine if consolidation with other school districts is warranted.

Photo by M. Turton

Mouths to Feed

Loaf Story

By Celia Barbour

A loaf of olive bread caught my eye at the farmer’s market last week. It was a beauty, plump and golden, and I quickly came to feel that it was something I couldn’t live without. So I bought it.

But like many things that come into our lives borne on such wings, it soon turned into a responsibility: What was I going to do with it? It was quite large.

My usual solution, when I come home with too many loaves of fresh-baked bread, is to slice some of them up right away, arrange them neatly in waxed pa-

per, put them in freezer bags, and stash them in the freezer. That way, I don’t need to thaw out a whole loaf before we can eat it; we can pull out a couple of slices at a time and toast them — light or dark, depending on their intended use — and they are nearly as good as if we’d eaten them that first day.

Sometimes I even make my kids’ lunch sandwiches right on frozen bread, figuring (wrongly, I’m sure) that the chill of the bread will help keep the meats and mayonnaise fresh a bit longer in that overheated school.

I went through various phases of bread storage before arriving at this one. For a while, after a smart chef friend told me that the only way to keep bread fresh was by wrapping it in foil, I did that religiously until I realized that aluminum foil is appallingly bad for human health and even more toxic for the environment. I’ve also been told that the *only ONLY* way to store bread is unwrapped, out on the counter — but the source of that tip was an obsessive-absolutist bread baker, so his advice had no relevance to my life.

Still, I thought of him last weekend as I left the olive loaf sitting naked on the counter, reluctant to put it away or even slice into its beautiful crown. Instead, I began puzzling over what to serve it with, hoping to come up with something delicious so that we’d devour the whole thing quickly, obviating the need for storage.

There was a problem, however. We didn’t have many groceries in the house: not peppers (roasted or otherwise) or goat cheese or rosemary or parsley or leftover lamb or roast chicken or eggplant or bitter greens or even capers or eggs. We did have canned tuna, but I was not in the mood for canned tuna. So my precious loaf of bread would require a trip to the store. Sigh. Off I went.

Back in the kitchen, I mixed up a red-pepper paste. It looked fairly awful, like baby vomit, but when I spread it on little squares of the olive bread, added some goat cheese and topped it with arugula, the combination tasted so good that George said, “Wow, Mommy, this is the most delicious appetizer in the whole universe,” (immediately prompting Peter and me to speculate that he was gunning to get quoted in this column; evidently it worked). Henry concurred in a less hyperbolic way: He came and stood by the cutting board so that he could eat every subsequent sample the moment I made it. Dosi, meanwhile, did not so much as



Olive bread, goat cheese and red-pepper paste sandwich Photo by C. Barbour

raise her eyes from her book. She dislikes any baked goods whatsoever with *things* in them unless those things are nuts or chocolate chips.

I didn’t force it. The boys are getting so big now that between the two of them and Peter they can polish off an awful lot of bread in a few hours, saving me the trouble of finding space in my freezer to store it, and leaving me free to go fall for another loaf.

Olive bread, goat cheese, and red-pepper paste sandwich

This tastes good enough to serve open-face as a canapé to company, but it’s not very pretty, so I think it’s best reserved for a family lunch or light supper.

For the red pepper paste:

- 2 red bell peppers or 1 small jar roasted peppers, drained
- ¼ cup blanched almonds
- 1-3 anchovy filets
- 1 tablespoon capers, drained
- 1 clove garlic, smashed

If you’re starting with fresh peppers, place them directly over the flame of a gas stove or grill and cook until the skin is completely black, turning with tongs. Place blackened peppers in a bowl covered with a well-fitting plate, and allow to “sweat” about 10 minutes.

With your hands, rub the blackened skin from the peppers; do not rinse. Cut the pepper into strips, remove the seeds and ribs.

Place the almonds in a blender and pulverize. Add the remaining ingredients and the roasted pepper pieces and blend until smooth. Transfer to a jar and store up to 4 days in the refrigerator.

For each sandwich:

- 2 slices olive bread
- 2-3 tablespoons red-pepper paste
- ½ ounce fresh goat cheese
- handful arugula, frisee, or other green
- grilled or roasted eggplant slices, optional

Lay the bread on a cutting board. Spread each slice with red-pepper paste. Layer with goat cheese, arugula and eggplant, if using. Close sandwich and serve. Or eat!



Photo by C. Barbour

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Limit: three photos weekly per person. Please title photo file with your name and photo location. Send your photos to photofest@philipstown.info.



Little Enthusiasm Locally for School Consolidation *(from page 1)*

expectations,” and a task force from that organization concluded, “smaller districts produce higher student achievement.” Similarly, a 2004 report produced by the Phoenix-based Goldwater Institute stated that consolidation actually increases administrative costs and class size while reducing student achievement.

Districts and evidence vary

Because each school district is unique, and because there are so many factors involved — from differences in enrollment, tax rates and teachers’ salaries to community pride in smaller schools, local economic differences and transportation needs — there is simply no universal answer when it comes to consolidation.

John Yinger and William Duncombe are professors at Syracuse University’s Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, and experts on the economics of school district size. In a May 2010 article in *The School Administrator*, they underlined the uncertain nature of consolidation, stating: “Overall, the net impact of consolidation on education costs per pupil is not clear. Some factors indicate (it) is likely to tap into economies of size and thereby lower these costs, but other factors suggest (it) might actually cause costs per pupil to rise.”

No mergers on local horizon

Villanti’s observation that there is little local interest in consolidation is echoed by Gillian Thorpe, vice president of the Haldane School Board. “When I first came on the board, I thought consolidation made sense. In the end I do not believe we would save money.” For Thorpe, it’s not just about finances. “I wanted my kids to go to Haldane. I’ve spent time in other schools, even teaching in a few. None even came close to the uniqueness Haldane offers. It’s more than a school; it’s part of our community.”

Some research indicates that consolidation is most appropriate for school districts of 300 or fewer students. But at Garrison Union Free School (GUFS), a district with fewer than 200 K-8 students, there is no enthusiasm for merger. “There is nothing wrong with the idea of consolidation *in principle*. The challenge is to identify opportunities that present clear and compelling benefits for both



Putnam Valley Central School District’s combined enrollment in its elementary, middle and high school is more than 1,800 students. *Photo by M. Turton*

the students *and* the taxpayers of each of the potentially consolidated districts,” said Garrison School Board President Ray O’Rourke. “As to the idea of some combination of Garrison, Haldane and/or Putnam Valley, it is not at all clear from a Garrison perspective that this threshold test can be met.”

GUFS Superintendent Gloria Colucci said that in the 1980s the idea of a regional high school was discussed but was not found to be economically feasible. She also said that GUFS looked at consolidation with Haldane in the 1990s but determined it was not advantageous financially. She said that mutual cooperation and sharing of services offers more. “We talk to Haldane all the time about things such as special education and transportation,” she said. Haldane and GUFS recently created a joint special education program, a move that saved both districts money.

Many experts believe that consolidation is not effective for districts having more than 1,500 students. Putnam Valley Central School District has more than 1,800 K-12 students, and Superintendent Barbaba Nuzzi sees other issues as the priority. “The tax cap is one large concern; the other is unfunded and underfunded (state) mandates. These mandates total approximately \$10 million dollars or 25 percent of our budget.” She said that her district considered consolidation several years ago. “Prior to the building of our high school, a neighboring district was approached by Putnam Valley with the concept of merging. That district did not respond favorably.”

Putnam Valley Board of Education President Valerie Fitzgerald said that a local meeting a number of years ago at which NYSED officials discussed consolidation, the data reinforced that merger is most beneficial in small, rural school districts upstate. She also expressed concern

that consolidation would lead to higher salaries. “You don’t lower salaries and benefits,” she said, explaining that when salaries differ between merging school districts, the higher wages are adopted.

Local officials agree that a three-way merger would result in increased busing costs — and longer bus rides. While the three districts lie within 15 miles of each other, routes from Haldane or Garrison to Putnam Valley are anything but direct. “Do parents and students want 40- to 50-minute bus rides?” Villanti asked.

Residents must approve consolidation

The New York State Department of State pays 90 percent of the cost of a feasibility study when districts want to consider consolidation. Studies generally cost from \$25,000 to \$50,000. In some areas, preliminary studies have been done at a fraction of that cost to determine if a full study is warranted.

When school boards do decide to merge, a public referendum must be held to approve or reject the reorganization.

Fitzgerald said that any discussion of consolidation should start at the administrative level. “I don’t think anyone would object to (the three local districts) sitting down and talking about it.”

State legislators weigh in

NYSED plays a huge role in both the content and cost of education. State Assemblywoman Sandy Galef and state Sen. Terry Gipson both acknowledge the need for alternative ways of reducing costs while still providing top-rate learning opportunities.

“We should look at all options, whether it’s cooperative agreements, shared services or consolidation,” Galef said. “We want to be sure we give our children a good education, but at the same time we need to find savings wherever we can, to lower the cost and to assist property tax payers.”

Local School Districts at a Glance

Haldane Central School District

2012-13 Budget: \$21,927,476*
K-12 enrollment: 922
Cost per student per year: \$23,437**
Tax levy rate per \$1,000 assessed value: \$33

Garrison Union Free School District

2012-13 budget: \$9,475,913*
K-8 student enrollment: 223
(Garrison also currently budgets for 97 students who attend Haldane or O’Neill High School or special education classes, a cost that is reflected below.)
Cost per student per year: \$25,452**
Tax levy rate per \$1,000 assessment: Philipstown property owners: \$19.00
Putnam Valley property owners: \$9.33

Putnam Valley Central School District

2012-13 budget: \$45,270,917*
K-12 student enrollment: 1,812
Cost per student per year: \$24,689**
Tax levy rate per \$1,000 assessed value: Putnam Valley property owners: \$25.17
Carmel property owners: \$41.79
Cortlandt property owners: \$1,282.34***

Notes:

** Excludes capital projects
** Source: NYSED 2010-11 Report Card
***In Cortlandt, properties are assessed at less than 2 percent of market value, thus the high tax levy rate. By contrast, property is assessed at about 96 percent of market value in Putnam Valley.

Gipson, who has advocated consideration of an income-based tax to support education rather than the current property-based tax, said, “Consolidation should be decided on a local level. On the state level, we must change the way we fund our school systems to ease the burden of high property taxes, while still upholding the highest level of education.”

When any school district ponders consolidation, increased learning opportunities are an obvious factor, but in the end, cost remains the single biggest issue. “Frankly, yes, the major point of consolidating districts is to save money. If any district does not believe that the end result will mean savings to the taxpayer, I just cannot imagine any interest to move ahead,” Villanti said.

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Dutchess Man Charged With Burglary

Putnam County Sheriff Donald B. Smith reported the recent arrest of a Dutchess County man on a charge of burglary.

On March 24, the Putnam County Sheriff’s Department received a complaint of a burglary from a resident of the Town of Philipstown. An investigation determined that the victim’s ex-boyfriend had entered a bedroom window of the residence while the victim was sleeping, removed several items of property and fled the area. The suspect was identified as Robert A. Huzar, 27, of 250 Route 52, Fishkill. On April 10, Huzar was located, arrested and charged with burglary in the second degree, a felony. The defendant was arraigned by Town of Philipstown Justice Stephen Tomann and committed to the Putnam County Correctional Facility in lieu of \$50,000 cash bail or \$100,000 bond pending a May 12 appearance in the Town of Philipstown Justice Court to answer the charge.

If found guilty of the felony charge, the defendant could face up to 15 years in a New York State Correctional Facility and a fine of up to \$15,000.

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Town Highway Superintendent Target of Scrutiny *(from page 1)*

As the independently elected head of the department, Chirico has broad authority on hiring and other personnel decisions.

Motor vehicles, truck chassis and other equipment not used for town functions are said to have been stored and worked on during business hours at the town garage on Fishkill Road in Nelsonville.

Questions have also been raised about the possible conduct of outside business unrelated to the town but possibly using equipment stored at the garage as well as personnel.

Of late Chirico has been embroiled in controversy over his advocacy of paving town dirt roads to avoid what he argues is the expense of repairing and maintaining them. Many residents on those roads dispute his arguments.

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Civility in America

Dear Editor:

In *Democracy in America*, Alexis de Tocqueville recognized the impact of our freedoms on the individual and community. He writes: “You are free not to think as I do; your goods, your life, everything remains to you; but from this day on, you remain a stranger among us. You shall keep your privileges in the city, but they become useless to you. If you demand ... esteem, [your fellow citizens] will still pretend to refuse it to you. You shall remain among men, but you shall lose your rights of humanity.”

Therein lies the rub of free choice and free speech: In the court of public opinion, others may not agree with you, and the lack of agreement may have social consequences, decreasing the population of like-minded folks willing to support your enterprise.

De Tocqueville also recognized the impact of our ever-increasing equality on civility in manners — softening them. As social standards have progressed over the years, decades and centuries, we have become increasingly tolerant of the free choices each one of us may make, as well as those matters about which life gives us no choice.

At the heart of our freedoms, set forth by our founding fathers in the Declaration of Independence and our Bill of Rights, christened by the blood of our ancestors and loved ones, rendering us more socially equal, lies the civility in manners seen long ago by de Tocqueville. Mutual civility is what makes it enjoyable to walk the streets of Cold Spring, to patronize our businesses, to support our churches, schools and charities, and to participate in the many organizations that make up our community.

Civility has been such a basic assumption in our community that its breach is the ready subject of comic behavior. Famously, years ago, on *Saturday Night Live*, in a skit called “Point-Counterpoint,” Jane Curtain would give an uptight exaggerated editorial presentation, to which Roseanna-anna-danna would reply, week in and week out, “Jane, you ignorant slut.” We thought it was hilarious.

Little did we know, that, as media grew beyond the original three broadcast networks to include a multitude of cable channels, the Internet and other outlets, the success of *Saturday Night Live* would foster the Roseanna-anna-danna School of Journalism, where exaggerated opinion presented for comic effect now displaces responsible reporting of interesting, useful news. And so, as incivility has become the craze of politics and popular culture, our supposed “news” media have rendered themselves inherently less valuable, failing to justify the burdens they would impose on our time and money.

De Tocqueville’s observations over 180 years ago continue to be valid today. While we are more socially tolerant than ever, restraint from attacking the dignity of one’s neighbors and fellow business people remains necessary to participate in our community. When a business chooses to pursue incivility for competitive advantage, it removes itself from community. The folks running that business should not be surprised when the community chooses to stop supporting it.

Joseph Mahon

Devolution of local papers

Dear Editor:

I have become extremely disheartened with the diatribes featured in full and front-page articles in our local papers.

The issue seems to be of personal nature to the publishers/owners of the respective papers. It concerns events that happened over 30 years ago. I do not understand the relevance this debate has to our community, Philipstown, Putnam County or even New York state. Are you papers really the platform with which to conduct this debate?

It is unfortunate that your personal agendas are taking center stage. In the 10 years I have lived in Putnam County the PCNR has devolved from a small-town paper covering local news, school graduations, and the general goings-on of the community to a paper featuring articles that seem to incite hostility, cast blame and support certain personal agendas.

For the past few years I have been perplexed by the prominent Easter coverage one local church seems to receive from one of the papers. I have never seen prominent coverage by either paper of Easter celebrations at other local churches, much less Passover or Ramadan. While I know there are many Catholics in Philipstown, they by no means comprise the only active religion in the area. One year we were treated to an Easter morning view from one of the publisher’s multimillion-dollar home. The photo featured a spectacular Hudson River view shortly after sunrise. While it was a nice photo, it seemed odd to me to see this knowing that the grounds of the home prominently feature signs indicating video surveillance of anyone passing by, as well as high fences, walls and gates protecting access to the home.

Are these local papers or the personal screed of two wealthy individuals?

I am sending this letter to the editors of both the *Putnam County News and Recorder* and *The Paper*.

Charles K. Burleigh

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Fire Companies to Open Doors April 27-28 for Statewide Recruitment Day

Tours, information available to public

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

By inviting the public in, Philipstown fire departments hope to send new recruits out when they open firehouse doors the weekend of April 27-28 for Recruit NY Statewide Open House 2013, an annual effort to encourage New Yorkers to become volunteer firefighters.

As of noon on April 17, 480 fire departments, including three in Philipstown, had either signed up on the statewide list or declared their intent to join in NY Recruit, sponsored by the Firemen’s Association of the State of New York. “Let’s work together to reverse the recent decline in volunteers by educating and drawing in more members, and show the public just what it means to be a volunteer,” FAS urged in promoting this year’s Recruit NY. “The alarm has sounded.”

The Garrison Volunteer Fire Company (GVFC), North Highlands Engine Co. 1 (also known as the North Highlands Fire Department) in the North Highlands Fire District, and Cold Spring Fire Company No. 1 announced they would take part. Meanwhile, the Continental Village Fire Department was looking at various recruitment options.

The North Highlands Engine Company will kick off the local weekend of activities on Saturday, April 27. Members intend to greet visitors, provide tours, and host a general open house at their station, 504 Fishkill Road, near the in-



The Cold Spring Fire Company will open its doors and showcase its activities April 28.

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

tersection of Fishkill Road and Route 9, Chief Joseph Hyatt told *The Paper*.

The GVFC invited other community groups to “join us and bring information about your organization,” to its event, Sunday, April 28, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the main firehouse (station 2), 1616 Route 9, in Garrison.

On Sunday, April 28, the Cold Spring Fire Company will be staffed and will welcome the public and answer questions at the firehouse, located at Main and Church Streets, in the village of Cold Spring. “Our members are here on any weekend with the truck doors open and a welcoming attitude towards the public,” but the recruit day provides an opportunity to reach out on a more formal basis as part of a statewide program,

Chief Matthew Steltz explained. The chief said he also will stop by the GVFC in a show of support for its activities that day.

The FAS said the annual initiative “coincides with National Volunteer Week and unites departments from every corner of the state with the sole mission of bringing in new recruits.”

At their April 4 monthly meeting, Philipstown Town Board members backed the idea. “This will show what your firehouses are about,” board member Nancy Montgomery said when GVFC President Betsy Calhoun described Recruit NY. Montgomery expressed optimism the weekend would help local fire companies “get some new members. We’re going to reach a critical state here if we don’t get some.”

Breaking Bread Together

Philipstown seniors share meals and camaraderie

By Lois Powers

An enclave of seniors forms daily behind the Philipstown Town Hall to have lunch, play cards or pool, or perhaps even sign up for line-dancing or exercise classes, all as part of what is commonly known as the Nutrition Center housed in the American Legion Hall on Cedar Street in Cold Spring.

Originally migrating in the 1980s from St. Mary's Episcopal Church to the Methodist Church to the VFW Hall on Kemble Avenue, the center's current location provides a gathering place where any Philipstown resident aged 60 and older can enjoy a nutritious meal, good company and varied activities (even Wii bowling!) five days a week.



Left, Rhonda Haussmann, site manager; center, Maria Covelli, transportation driver; right, Lorie Etta, food services

Photo by L. Powers

Karen Mahon, coordinator of Nutritional Services for the Putnam County Office for the Aging in Carmel, estimates 25-45 seniors drive, walk or are driven daily by county van to spend their lunchtime together. "I was the site manager at the Nutrition Center in Cold Spring for 10 years, so the place and the people hold a special place in my heart," she said in a recent phone interview.

"Everything is wonderful here!" stated Maria Covelli, the enthusiastic van driver who shuttles Philipstown's older resi-

dents to and from the center. "Most of the people who come here live alone; here they make friends and socialize."

Former Nelsonville Mayor Ed Cleary is an outreach worker for the Office for the Aging and visits the center regularly to advise seniors on government-funded resources, like HEAP, for help with winter heating costs. Cleary also drives those needing rides to doctor appointments and can be reached at his office at the VFW Hall on Kemble Avenue or by calling 845-265-3359. The Office for the Aging also provides an adult daycare program that is offered at the Putnam Valley Senior Center off of Route 301. (For more information, call Frances Kennedy at 845-808-1730.)

"We have great programs for seniors in the county," said Michele DiMarco, Putnam Valley Nutrition Center's building manager. "We help those in need get food stamps, help fill out important paperwork, and have a retired seniors volunteer program helping others in our communities. We help keep people socially active — we would like people to know we're not just meals!"

While all the lunch-goers this reporter spoke with shared a common feeling of goodwill and appreciation for the staff and services provided by the Office for the Aging at the Nutrition Center, the oft-publicized, long-standing thorny issue that stirs a chorus of agitation is the limited, aged, one-room space the American Legion Hall provides. The eight small windows there are close to the ceiling, preventing anyone from seeing outside; the dining tables serve as the activities tables and share a crowded space with the pool table, with moving cue-sticks and lunch-goers heads vying for space.

"We have no privacy, no quiet place here," reported Tina Gilsenan, having



Seniors at the Nutrition Center in Cold Spring

Photo by L. Powers

lunch at the center with her husband, John. "People are playing cards or music or pool while others try to talk or knit. We need a bigger space."

Ten-year Office for the Aging veteran and Nutrition Center Site Manager Rhonda Haussmann concurred on the need for a new senior center location but looks on the bright side: "We are here to make people happy and do our best with what we have. We call this the 'Friendship Center,' and that's what our staff strives to create."

Apparently, over the years a few romances have blossomed, with several couples actually marrying. And Lorie Etta, 47, manager of food services at the center, explained how she found a second family working there, since her mother passed away when Lorie was a child. "This is a great place; people should come and give us a chance," she said.

While the limited space may foster closer ties, it also creates an unfortunate problem during holiday events when the center becomes packed, forcing some seniors to be turned away. Over the years, alternate sites for the Cold Spring Nutri-

tion Center have been considered, such as the old ruler factory or the closed upholstery plant, the defunct Nycrest Corp. building off of Route 9, and of course, the elusive near mythical Butterfield property — frustratingly for longtime seniors, to no avail.

On any given day at the Cold Spring Nutrition/Friendship Center, any number of notables can be found: Sayoko Tomicawa, a former employee of the British Embassy in Japan and whose husband was a three-time Emmy-winning news reporter and documentary film writer; Cleary, Nelsonville's mayor for 18 years; Marlene Bowman, Philipstown's court clerk for 25 years and mother of Cold Spring Fire Company President Michael Bowman; Don MacDonald, historian for the Village of Cold Spring and Town of Philipstown; or Sara Sevastano, now 90 years old, an assistant teacher in Philipstown until she retired last year at the age of 89 — to highlight a few.

All are welcome to the good food and good company. For more information on the Nutrition Center or senior transportation, call Haussmann at 845-265-3952.

Upgrades to Sewer Plant May Be in Village Plans Soon *(from page 1)*

since the two phases would not be separated by much time, and because the savings from a high-efficiency aeration system could offset any costs they were hoping to avoid by splitting the project up.

Farmers Market to be dropped

A village discussion with the New York Conference of Mayors (NYCOM) yielded some bad news for the Cold Spring Farmers Market, for whom the village holds an account. NYCOM advised that the village stop administering the account for the Farmers Market, because there are no controls in place for handling the cash.

Mayor Ralph Falloon said, "It is NYCOM's belief that that is considered a gift of services, and we have no controls over the way they do business and their money and cash." Because the village is not present when the Farmers Market collects money, "it's a huge liability issue."

Trustee Stephanie Hawkins asked whether anything could be done to keep the market operating with the village. Falloon explained: "First problem is, they're not even in the village, so that doesn't make it easier. The village would have to be running the Farmers Market, with village employees. NYCOM's recommendation was for them to start their own 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization and handle their own business."

The process of becoming a nonprofit would likely take too long to be feasible

as an immediate solution, especially since the village is inclined to end the arrangement as soon as possible. Barney Molloy, recently appointed member of the Zoning Board of Appeals and slated to move to the Planning Board, commented that the market might be able to get help from Boscobel, where the market will soon move for its outdoor season.

Falloon expressed willingness to work with the market. "We'll gladly assist them in getting on their own feet, whatever that entails."

On Thursday, Hawkins reiterated the Village Board's support of the market "to ensure their continued operation" and their desire to help them "find the next step in their growth and development." Both the village and the Farmers Market promised to issue statements on the state of affairs.

Search for new lawyer

The board revisited the issue of searching for a new lawyer to replace current Village Attorney Stephen Gaba of the firm Drake, Loeb, Heller, Kennedy, Gogerty, Gaba and Rodd. Last fall, the previous board had voted to search for a new lawyer due to controversy over Gaba's and former Mayor Seth Gallagher's interpretation of the Historic District chapter of the Village Code.

Hawkins has spearheaded the effort to search for a replacement at recent meet-

ings, and the board concluded Tuesday that she will work with Trustees Chuck Hustis and Matt Francisco to gather a list of law firms to research and interview. They are slated to present that list at their next meeting (April 23), but since the agendas of upcoming meetings are long, they may not be able to get to it then.

Falloon expressed reluctance to conduct the search right away, since Gaba has been representing the village in two major engagements — the Butterfield development and a conflict over the shed at 14 Stone St. "I don't know that it's in our best interest to switch," he said. "I don't have a problem with Drake Loeb continuing till we get those done."

Francisco agreed that it would not be beneficial to the village to change lawyers midstream for those two major projects, but Hawkins stressed that another attorney could be engaged for all other business. "There are other projects that we're going to be starting," she said. "If we're going to start new stuff, then that will become the new Butterfield or the new shed."

Molloy commented that the village would not need to continue engaging Gaba for the Butterfield project beyond passage of the zoning change. "You're about to adopt the formula business regulations, so that's one thing in the hop-

per, and then this B4A zoning — if you get those two components in place, with that revised Butterfield timeline that you were talking about, then you're back to square 1," he said. "Then you could probably go through the board review process with a new attorney once you get those projects done."

Sue Peehl, who is involved with the contested shed, added her own comment about Gaba: "From the shed perspective, it's the lawyer who got the village into this mess."

Bikers' fundraiser

Trustee Bruce Campbell reported that Officer-in-Charge George Kane was more amenable to a motorcycle fundraising event for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital held at Mayor's Park rather than at Dockside Park in Cold Spring, because it would require fewer police officers to direct traffic when the estimated 40-65 bikers enter the village and to patrol during the event.

Kane expressed interest in engaging two additional officers for a first shift and two for a later shift, in addition to the regular officer on duty for each shift. The board voted to approve the application for the public event, set to take place 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. on June 29.

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

Graymoor’s Franciscan Friars and Sisters Strive for Healing and Unity

By Jeanne Tao

Drivers on Route 9 through Garrison are familiar with at least one part of Graymoor — at its entrance south of that road’s intersection with Route 403 stands a life-sized crucifixion scene. The buildings behind the crucifix are part of the convent of the Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement, and up the hill is a monastery for the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement. The two constitute the Roman Catholic religious community known as the Society of the Atonement and share what their founders called the “Holy Mountain” of Graymoor. They dedicate themselves to the Franciscan life of poverty, and their work focuses on ecumenism and serving the needy — exemplified by St. Christopher’s Inn, a temporary homeless shelter and rehabilitation clinic for men.



Father John Keane in his office in the Graymoor Spiritual Life Center

Photo by J. Tao

Episcopalian beginnings

In 1897, Lurana White, a novice Episcopal nun (later called Mother Lurana), first contacted the Episcopal priest Lewis Wattson (later known as Father Paul), trying to find a Franciscan community within the Episcopal Church. Not knowing of any, Wattson discussed with her his idea of starting a religious community devoted to reuniting the Anglican and Catholic churches.

Wattson and White finally met the following year at her family’s home in Warwick, N.Y., where they decided to found the Society of the Atonement. According to Father John Keane, associate director of the Graymoor Spiritual Life Center, Wattson had been struck by the word “atonement” in St. Paul’s letter to the Romans, on receiving atonement through Christ. Seeing the word as “at-one-ment,” he concluded that the society should work toward Christian unity.

In December 1898, White traveled to Graymoor to live in a farmhouse near the abandoned chapel of St. John’s-in-the-Wilderness. Wattson arrived the following spring, taking up residence in an old shack.

Disappointed by the direction that the Episcopal Church was taking, Wattson and White decided to leave the church. In 1909, the Vatican received the Society of the Atonement into the Catholic Church.

Healing addictions

As the area became more populated, with the building of the railroad along the Hudson River in the early 1900s,

poor men began seeking shelter at Graymoor. This was the beginning of St. Christopher’s Inn, named as such because the founders took to calling the men Brothers Christopher, or Christ-bearers.

Today, St. Christopher’s Inn harbors around 140 men who come to stay for up to three months to receive health care. They are seen as guests, not clients, and often help around the grounds.

The Spiritual Life Center also hosts regular meetings and retreats for Alcoholics Anonymous, Overeaters Anonymous and other recovery groups. Keane emphasized the work of Graymoor as part of “at-one-ment” in the sense of correcting an addiction to drugs. The other part of “making one” is correcting what Keane called “our addiction to disunity.”

Ecumenism & interfaith dialogue

In 1908 Wattson started the Octave (now Week) of Prayer for Christian Unity, which takes place January 18-25. This year, several area church leaders participated in the Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute’s Week of Prayer, including Rev. Leslie Mott of the First Presbyterian Church of Cold Spring and Rev. Margaret Laemmel of the United Methodist Church of Cold Spring and South Highland.

The Spiritual Life Center also hosts interreligious activities, such as the Saturday Buddhism classes taught by Maeve Eng-Wong and an interfaith New Year’s prayer service at the Chuang Yen Buddhist Monastery in Carmel.

It makes sense that Keane is a director of the center; he lived in Japan for 18 years, ministering to parishes in Kawasaki, Yokohama and Tajimi, and is currently finishing up a forthcoming book based on his research, *The Japanese Quest for Divinity: Cultural and Theological Implications*.

Discussing the differences between Japanese and Judeo-Christian views, Keane said that appreciating others’ quests for divinity allows one’s faith to grow deeper, leading to tolerance and dialogue instead of conflict. He described culture as an “envelope that encloses a group of people” and that shapes their worldview, and they “all have something to add to understanding the human person.”

“There’s nothing wrong with differences,” he said, and often a particular tradition simply “fits the personality” of a person.

Help & advocacy

The sisters as well as the friars are involved in hospital and prison ministries, and there are now Franciscan Friars and Sisters of the Atonement in other locations in the U.S., Canada, Italy, Brazil and Japan.

On a tour of the sisters’ original building, Sister Eilish Sweeney pointed out artifacts demonstrating their work throughout the years. Some of the photos, for in-



The pieta at Father Paul Wattson’s tomb on Graymoor

Photo by J. Tao

stance, showed sisters who had accompanied Japanese Americans into internment camps during World War II. (Tours of the Heritage House, where a small museum is now housed, can be arranged with the sisters.)

“It’s a wonderful place to get involved in — holy, secure and calm.”

About 20 years ago, the sisters founded the Mother Lurana Senior Day Center at the Mother Lurana House. With the Putnam County Office for the Aging, the center provides lunch to seniors on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Many of the seniors there are in the Hotsy Totsy Follies, a song-and-dance group that performs at Graymoor and elsewhere in the area, including senior centers.

The sisters also engage in advocacy, especially on social justice issues such as poverty, homelessness and human trafficking. Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Coordinator Sister Margaret Sikora said some of the sisters recently participated in a 40-hour fast for raising the minimum wage. In March, she and a few others attended a vigil at Indian Point, which was a stop on the Peace Walk for a Nuclear-Free Future to Washington, D.C.

Sikora noted fracking as another safety and environmental concern, commending the Putnam County Legislature for banning the use of fracking wastewater on county roads but urging Philipstown to follow suit to protect town roads as well.

Services & programs

Though the friars have parishes elsewhere in the U.S. and Canada, Graymoor itself is not a parish. It does, however, boast regular services and programs that are open to the public. Friars celebrate Mass daily in the sisters’ chapel: Monday-Friday at 11:15 a.m., Saturday at 4:30 p.m., and Sunday at 9 a.m. A large Sunday Mass is celebrated at the friars’ Pilgrim Hall at 11 a.m. as well as a smaller one in the sisters’ St. John’s Church, at 10 a.m.

Graymoor provides spaces for contemplation on its grounds, too. Our Lady of Loretto parishioner Diana Roda called the friars’ St. Francis Chapel a particularly holy place, with its altar from the spot in Italy where St. Francis received the stigmata.

Frances Galati, of Continental Village, said of Graymoor, “It’s a wonderful place to get involved in — holy, secure and calm.” She has been going to Mass at Graymoor for 30 years and helps the sisters with their shopping and transportation. Galati urges people to help with the work that they do by making monetary donations or simply by donating items to their thrift shop.

Upcoming events include a benefit concert for the sisters, featuring Irish musician John Wheland and his band at Peekskill’s Paramount Center on May 26, and the Sunday before the feast of St. Anthony (June 13), when a large number of Haitian pilgrims arrive at Graymoor’s Shrine of St. Anthony.

For more information on events and programs, visit the Graymoor website at graymoor.org or call the sisters at 845-424-3625 or the friars at 845-424-3671.



Graymoor’s St. Francis Chapel

Photo by J. Tao

The Calendar



Boscobel House

Photo by M.A. Ebner

Boscobel House and Gardens Refines Mission

Historic house museum plans Weir exhibit

By Mary Ann Ebner

Pat Griffin never tires of escorting guests through the stately neoclassical mansion at Boscobel House and Gardens. In his 16th season as a docent at the historic property in Garrison, Griffin embellishes his tours with fine details of Boscobel’s origins, from its earliest days when the home was the concept of its original owner, States Dyckman, to ornate furnishings including Wedgwood lamps that Dyckman purchased in England, to Boscobel’s triple-hung windows designed for the function and formality of light-filled living and elegant entertaining.

“States Dyckman was going to try to do his best to live as a country squire,” Griffin said as he guided a group of international visitors through the grand entry hall. “The intent was certainly to impress, and entertaining was part of the original intent of the home.”

Boscobel’s legacy of entertaining thrives through programs and events hosted on the grounds of the 68-acre estate. While the organization continues to rely on experienced docents to elaborate on its history, Federal-period furniture collection, decorative arts and striking Hudson River views, Boscobel opened its 2013 season by unveiling the Boscobel Audio Tour to further its mission to enrich visitors through an experience of history, culture and the

Hudson River Valley environment.

Carolyn Serino, deputy executive director at the 501(c)(3) organization, said that the audio tour was produced with help from many voices to enhance the storytelling of Boscobel, the Hudson River, Storm King Mountain and the nation’s independence.

“We our so excited to release our audio tour,” Serino said. “This is the brain child of Robert Cutler, who has been on our board for about five years. He thought what a wonderful property we had with stories of rescue. It shares the story of saving Boscobel (from demolition), saving the Hudson River and the environment, and saving American independence. Nance Williamson and Kurt Rhoads, kind of the king and queen of Shakespeare (Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival) for many, many years, are our narrators.”

The audio tour is included with paid admissions and can be accessed through a handset or downloaded onto a personal smartphone. Visitors won’t want to miss the 50-minute docent-guided house tours, but guests should plan to reserve time for the self-guided audio tour. Using a color-coded system, visitors can listen to an abbreviated version, or stroll and listen up to three hours to learn not only about the superb example of Federal architecture that Boscobel preserves, but also about additional treasures, including Constitution Marsh and the local legacy of Revolutionary history.

The curious will find that the full audio tour delivers passionate commentary. Barney McHenry, president of Boscobel and renowned counsel to the Wallace family and Boscobel benefactor Lila Acheson Wallace, adds his own words of how Boscobel was born and almost lost. McHenry elaborates on the significant location of Boscobel as well, and his appreciation for the preservation of the house and environment is echoed in his words, “The site of West Point looking down the river is spectacular.” The audio tour includes contributions from Pete Seeger to provide detail on environmental battles and victories of the 20th century, while noted historians, curator Peter Kenny and a host of dedicated friends of Boscobel share a rich history through compassionate storytelling.

Steven Miller, Boscobel’s new executive director, is confident that the audio tour will advance the mission of the organization.

“Boscobel is a fascinating cultural resource, and I define it as a museum,” Miller said. “I think what the audio tour does is that it makes the grounds an exhibition. It’s a gallery tour of the exterior of the property which brings it to life. Our audio tour is very unique for historic properties, and I think it will be a model for historic sites in the future.”

Miller arrives with many ambitious projects in the works at Boscobel, and he’s honored to be among a dedicated staff, active

(Continued on page 11)

Wake up and Smell the Cold Spring Coffee Pantry

By Alison Rooney

Has Route 9 suddenly become more aromatic — in a good sort of way? The cars headed north making a sharp left at Vera’s Philipstown market seem to be heeding some kind of olfactory lure as they, and their counterparts heading south along that same stretch, turn in to the very new Cold Spring Coffee Pantry (CSCP), which now occupies what used to be Vera’s “left-hand side” of the premises. Soon after the opening, declaratory Facebook posts were appearing, saying, “This is the real thing!” in the tones of those who never expected such a caffeinated miracle to appear in this neck of the woods.

All this has been greeted with equal excitement by Sam Lutzer and her husband Andy, the establishment’s owners. Sam, mere minutes into a recent conversation, spelled out their relationship clearly: “Ever since he met me, he knew I wanted to have a coffee shop. I love coffee.” Careers as a lawyer (Sam) and a corporate real-estate analyst (Andy) notwithstanding, the pair almost serendipitously co-owned a coffee shop in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, before heading up north.

“I was at a charity event, and I met someone there who was opening a coffee shop, and he asked if I could do the lease,” Sam explained. “I ended up going into business with him; he has a solid business plan and he had done his research well in terms of having the population to support his product.” Then living on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, the Lutzers collaborated in different ways, with Sam “being on the pulse of craft specialty products” and Andy, having just graduated from business school and beginning that career, “providing a shuttle service: Home Depot runs, heavy lifting, pastry tasting,” that sort of thing.

The couple got married in Garrison in 2010, spending the better part of a year before the wedding in Philipstown. Feeling that need for more space and sensing that this area was “a magical place for us,” they relocated here, selling their former business

(Continued on page 15)



Latte art

Photo by A. Rooney

SITTING on
the BENCH
❖ by Tara ❖



The official title is Bear Mountain but I, with my busy imagination, like to call it Magic Mountain. Here's why. On their last day in America before returning home, the London branch of the boss's family decided to visit the top of the mountain. Naturally they took me with them. In two cars, we all drove across the Hudson and on to the Palisades Parkway, exiting at the Perkins Memorial Drive. This road with its wonderful views goes all the way up to the summit of Bear Mountain. When I say up, I mean up and up and up. The peak is more than a thousand feet above sea level with a 40-foot viewing tower on top.

When parked I jumped out of the car which is unusual for me because in my increasing maturity, normally I need some help. The day was sunny and clear and warm. As I went exploring, I found myself rejuvenated. Perhaps it was the pure air, perhaps it was something in the rocky ground beneath my feet. Whatever, I was running around like a puppy. Magical. Also, it was interesting. There were dozens of motor cyclists in their studs and leathers and not one of them was beating up anybody, at least while we were there, which was nice.

❖ ❖ ❖

To the east I could see Peekskill and down the Hudson to Croton. Somebody said they could see the skyscrapers of Manhattan, 50 miles away, but nobody lifted me up for a look. People can be so thoughtless. The steps in the tower were too much for me, even in my reinvigorated state.

That state lasted for a couple of days even after I returned home and now I'm back to normal which isn't so bad if the treats keep coming. But on the trip home on pretty Rte 9D, I noticed that the cyclists were out in force and that was a dangerous problem. The fact is that some motorists drive much too fast on 9D, even overtaking on curves with double yellow lines, mais oui. And after the winter weather, some sections of the cycling lanes are crumbling which forces cyclists into the path of cars. Accidents ahead.

At the Goose, in preparation for Spring, Foxgloves are back in stock in all sizes and colors. Perfect for the avid gardener.



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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 19

Kids & Community

Preschool on the Farm (ages 2-4):

Greenhouses Alive!

10 A.M. & 1:30 P.M. COMMON GROUND FARM
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
845-231-4424 | commongroundfarm.org

Indoor Tot Park

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

Children Read to Dogs (ages 7-10)

3:30 - 5 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Wine Tasting

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

Pizza Night and Ice Cream Social

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

Wine & Cheese

5 - 8 P.M. ANTIPODEAN BOOKS
29 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3867 | antipodean.com

The Brain Show (grades 5-8)

7 P.M. HALDANE SCHOOL
15 Craigside Dr., Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldanepta.org

Art & Design

Haldane High School Art Show

4 - 7 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN.INFO
69 Main St., Cold Spring
845-809-5584 | philipstown.info

Beacon Open Studios Kickoff Party

6 - 9 P.M. HUDSON BEACH GLASS
162 Main St., Beacon | beaconopenstudios.org

Theater & Film

The Wiz

7 P.M. BEACON HIGH SCHOOL
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon
845-838-6900, ext. 430 | beaconplayers.com

The Canterbury Tales

8 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 Route 52, Lake Carmel
845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

Music

Bar Spies

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

Talking Machine

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

An Evening of Swing, Stride & Boogie

Woogie Piano

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

Death & Dying, Life & Living (Opening)

3 P.M. GARRISON INSTITUTE
14 Mary's Way, Garrison
845-424-4800 | garrisoninstitute.org

Winter Lecture Series: Hudson Valley Revolutionaries

7 P.M. BEACON SLOOP CLUB
2 Flynn Drive, Beacon
845-463-4660 | beaconsloopclub.org

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Kids & Community

Cold Spring Farmers' Market

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

Food Pantry

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

Dog Walk and Adoption Day

9 - 11 A.M. DOG WALK
11 A.M. - 4 P.M. ADOPTION EVENT
WALKWAY OVER THE HUDSON
61 Parker Ave., Poughkeepsie
845-834-2867 | walkway.org

Eat Your Weeds

9 - 11 A.M. OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 | hnnaturemuseum.org
Registration required.

Nature Play Area (ages 2-10)

9 A.M. - 4 P.M. OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 | hnnaturemuseum.org
Guided activities at 10:30 am, 12:30 & 2:30 pm

Volunteer Landscape Day

9 A.M. - 2 P.M. MANITOGA/RUSSEL WRIGHT DESIGN CENTER | 584 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3812 | russelwrightcenter.org

South Highland Methodist Church Bake Sale

9:30 A.M. - NOON. FOODTOWN
49 Chestnut St., Cold Spring | 845-265-3365

Brigade of the American Revolution Encampment

10 A.M. - 4 P.M. CANTONMENT STATE HISTORIC SITE
2 P.M. MILITARY DRILLS
374 Temple Hill Road, New Windsor
845-561-1765 | nysparks.com

Bluebirds Program

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

Garden-to-Table Workshop

10 A.M. CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAMS | 1 Geneva Road, Brewster
845-278-6738 | counties.cce.cornell.edu/Putnam
Registration required.

Into the Woods Earth Day Celebration

10 A.M. - 3 P.M. CLEARPOOL OUTDOOR EDUCATION
33 Clearpool Road, Carmel
845-225-8226 | clearpool.org

Lions Club Shredder Day

10 A.M. - 1 P.M. THE NEST
44 Chestnut St., Cold Spring | coldspringlions.com

Earth Day Celebration

10:30 A.M. - 3 P.M. TRAILSIDE MUSEUMS AND ZOO
Bear Mountain State Park, Seven Lakes Drive off Route 9W
845-786-2701, ext. 265 | trailsidezoo.org

Family Yoga & Meditation (ages 6 and up)

10:30 A.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134, ext. 103 | beaconlibrary.org

Brindlestick Bill: The Traveling Troubadour


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

4-H Puppeteer Players




11:30 A.M. PUTNAM VALLEY LIBRARY
30 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley
845-278-6738 | counties.cce.cornell.edu/putnam

Earth Day Shoreline Cleanup


1 - 3 P.M. SCENIC HUDSON
Long Dock Road, Beacon
845-473-4440, ext. 273 | scenichudson.org



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www.whistlingwillies.com

Meet the Animals 2:30 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER 25 Boulevard, Cornwall 845-534-7781 hhnaturemuseum.org
Wine Tasting 3 - 6 P.M. ARTISAN WINE SHOP See details under Friday.
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 5 - 9 P.M. HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB 955 Route 9D, Garrison gcef.garrison@gmail.com gcef.net
A Taste of the Valley: A Sample of Local Cuisine and Wine 7 - 10 P.M. GLYNWOOD FARM 362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring 914-325-9445 haldaneschoolfoundation.org
Benefit Dance for Centennial Events 8 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER 477 Main St., Beacon 845-831-4988 howlandculturalcenter.org
Health & Fitness
Marika Blossfeldt, Essential Nourishment (Signing) 2 - 4 P.M. RIVERWINDS GALLERY 172 Main St., Beacon 845-838-2880 riverwindsgallery.com
Art & Design
Free Grounds Admission to Boscobel 9:30 A.M. - 5 P.M. 1601 ROUTE 9D, GARRISON 845-265-3638 boscobel.org
Of Time and Place: Celebrating Scenic Hudson's 50 Years 11 A.M. - 3 P.M. SCENIC HUDSON Long Dock Road, Beacon 845-473-4440, ext. 273 scenichudson.org
Dia:Beacon 11 A.M. - 6 P.M. FREE FOR BEACON RESIDENTS 1 P.M. TOUR 2 P.M. MOLLEEN THEODORE ON WALTER DE MARIA 3 Beekman St., Beacon 845-440-0100 diabeacon.org
Beacon Open Studios NOON - 6 P.M. VARIOUS STUDIOS beaconopenstudios.org
Tunisian Crochet: Exploring a Hybrid Technique 1 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY 313 Main St., Beacon 845-831-1134 beaconlibrary.org
Haldane High School Art Show 1 - 4 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN.INFO See details under Friday.
Artistic Nude Photography Workshop 1 - 5 P.M. BEAHIVE BEACON 291 Main St., Beacon 845-765-1890 beahivebzzz.com
CAbi Fashion Show 6 - 8 P.M. GALLERY 66 NY 66 Main St., Cold Spring 845-809-5838 gallery66ny.com Rescheduled from March 8

Theater & Film
Othello (Abridged) by HVSF 2 & 7 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE 10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison 845-424-3900 philipstowndepottheatre.org
Poetry Reading: Philip Levine 2 P.M. STORM KING ART CENTER 1 Museum Road, New Windsor 845-534-3115 stormking.org
StinkyKids, The Musical 3 & 7 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE 445 Main St., Beacon 845-453-2978 thebeacontheatre.org
Silent Film Series: Au Bonheur des Dames 7 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-3040 butterfieldlibrary.org
The Wiz 7 P.M. BEACON HIGH SCHOOL Details under Friday
The Canterbury Tales 8 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE Details under Friday
Music
Acme Trio 8 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE'S Details under Friday

The Judith Tulloch Band 9 P.M. CHILL WINE BAR 173 Main St., Beacon 845-765-0885
Backbeat With Rudy 9 P.M. MAX'S ON MAIN See details under Friday
Pink Floyd Tribute with Beyond The Wall 9:30 P.M. 12 GRAPES 12 N. Division St., Peekskill 914-737-6624 12grapes.com
HVNY Artist Limelight 10 P.M. BRASS RAIL LOUNGE 542 Route 9, Fishkill pealwaysmusic.com

Meetings & Lectures
Overeaters Anonymous 8:30 A.M. GRAYMOOR SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER 1350 Route 9, Garrison 917-716-2488 oa.org
Alternate Energy Part 2: Hands-on Solar Workshop NOON. BEACON SLOOP CLUB 2 Flynn Drive, Beacon 845-463-4660 beaconsloopclub.org
Free Computer Help 2 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY See details under Friday.

Christopher Ruhe, Soldiering: Pioneering in Honduras, 1968-1973 (Lecture) 2 P.M. BEACON READS BOOKSTORE 309 Main St., Beacon 845-831-1134 beaconlibrary.org

Religious Services
Shabbat With Rabbi Claire Ginsburg Goldstein 9:30 A.M. TORAH STUDY 10:30 A.M. SERVICE ST. MARY'S PARISH HALL 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring 845-265-8011 philipstownreformsynagogue.org

Jazz Vespers 5:30 P.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PHILIPSTOWN 10 Academy St., Cold Spring 845-265-3220 presbychurchcoldspring.org
SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Kids & Community
Beacon Flea Market 8 A.M. - 3 P.M. HENRY STREET PARKING LOT Behind Main Street Post Office, Beacon 845-202-0094 beaconflea.blogspot.com
Nature Play Area (ages 2-10) 9 A.M. - 4 P.M. OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER See details under Saturday.
Philipstown Girl Scouts Bake Sale 9 A.M. - 1 P.M. FOODTOWN 49 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
Fahnestock Loop Hike (Family Friendly) 9:30 A.M. CANOPUS LAKE PARKING AREA ON RTE. 301 tamisson@aol.com midhudsonadk.org

Brigade of the American Revolution Encampment 10 A.M. - 4 P.M. CANTONMENT STATE HISTORIC SITE See details under Saturday.
Raccoons Program 10 A.M. OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER 100 Muser Drive, Cornwall 845-534-5506 hhnaturemuseum.org
Beacon Farmers' Market 11 A.M. - 3 P.M. SCENIC HUDSON'S RIVER CENTER Long Dock Drive, Beacon 845-234-9325 thebeaconfarmersmarket.com

Spring Splatt Mudder & Mini Mudder NOON. 5K MUDDER 1:30 P.M. KIDS' MUDDER PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER 107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison 845-424-4618 philipstownrecreation.com Register at active.com
--

Earth Day Family Fun 1 - 3 P.M. PUTNAM VALLEY GRANGE HALL 128 Mill St., Putnam Valley email PutnamValleyGrange@gmail.com
--

Earth Day Party 2 P.M. NEWBURGH BREWING COMPANY 88 South Colden St., Newburgh 845-231-4424 commongroundfarm.org
Family Day Workshop: Sculpting Yourself 2 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART 1701 Main St., Peekskill 914-788-0100 hvcca.org

Meet the Animals 2:30 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER See details under Saturday.
Downton Abbey Royal Birthday Tea 3:30 P.M. CUP AND SAUCER TEA ROOM 165 Main St., Beacon RSVP to 845-831-6287

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

Art & Design
Drop-In Art Sessions 9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. DRAWING AND PAINTING FROM LIFE (LONG POSE) 10 A.M. - 1 P.M. BASIC ETCHING 1:30 - 3:30 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. - 6 P.M. DIA:BEACON See details under Saturday.
--

Beacon Open Studios NOON - 6 P.M. VARIOUS STUDIOS beaconopenstudios.org
--

Haldane High School Art Show 1 - 4 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN.INFO See details under Friday.

Theater & Film
The Wiz 2 P.M. BEACON HIGH SCHOOL See details under Friday.

(Continued on next page)

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The Calendar (from page 9)

StinkyKids, The Musical
3 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE
See details under Saturday.

The Canterbury Tales
3 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
See details under Friday.

The Lorax
4 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Music

Concert Band: Young Artist Concert
3 P.M. EISENHOWER HALL THEATRE
655 Ruger Road, West Point
845-938-2617 | westpointband.com

Alexander String Quartet
4 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-297-9243 | howlandmusic.org
Sponsored by Howland Chamber Music Circle

Sunday Music Series: Arias and Songs from Broadway
4 P.M. CHAPEL OF OUR LADY RESTORATION
45 Market St., Cold Spring | 845-265-5537
chapelrestoration.org | With Christina Fontanelli

Open Session with Members of the Shanagolden Band
5 P.M. MARY KELLY’S | 37 Lamplight St., Beacon
845-765-8874 | marykellysny.com

Swing Band Sunday
5:30 P.M. 12 GRAPES | 12 N. Division St., Peekskill | 914-737-6624 | 12grapes.com

Meetings & Lectures

The State of Hudson River Science
8 A.M. - 5 P.M. STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
Student Union, 1 Hawk Drive, New Paltz
hudsonriverenvironmental@gmail.com | hres.org

Brave New Gita
4 P.M. BEACON YOGA CENTER
464 Main St., Beacon
347-489-8406 | beaonyogacenter.com

Tasting Class: Greece, Vibrant Wine Culture
6:30 P.M. ARTISAN WINE SHOP
180 Main St., Beacon
845-440-6923 | artisanwineshop.com

Religious Services

See philipstown.info/churches for Sunday listings

MONDAY, APRIL 22

Earth Day

Kids & Community

Putnam County Youth Forum (grades 9-12)
7:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. CLEARPOOL EDUCATION CENTER | 33 Clearpool Road, Carmel
845-278-6738 | counties.sce.cornell.edu/putnam

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

Recipes for Easy Entertaining (Workshop)
9:30 A.M. PHILIPSTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

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

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

Health & Fitness

Philipstown Recreation Center Basketball
6:15 P.M. YOUTH BASKETBALL SKILLS/DRILLS (GRADES 3-8)
7:30 P.M. MEN’S BASKETBALL
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Art & Design

Drop-In Drawing & Painting from Life (Short Pose) | 9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.
GARRISON ART CENTER | Details under Sunday



Frank Hutter, left, and Sean Scully discussing Hutter and Andrea Hanak’s show at the Garrison Art Institute. Scully, a world-renowned artist curated the show. Photo by K.E. Foley

Theater & Film

The Lorax
3 P.M HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Music

Alexander String Quartet, Plus Dinner
6:30 P.M. PRIVATE HOME
845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org
Phone for registration and directions.
Sponsored by Friends of Classical Music

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

Meetings & Lectures

Cold Spring Lions Club
6:30 P.M. SILVER SPOON | 124 Main St., Cold Spring | 914-456-9698 | coldspringlions.com

Constellation Circle
6:30 P.M. BEACON YOGA CENTER
464 Main St., Beacon
347-489-8406 | beaonyogacenter.com

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

Kids & Community

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

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

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

An Evening in Tuscany
5 - 7 P.M. ALL SPORT HEALTH AND FITNESS
17 Old Main St., Fishkill
845-896-5678 | allsportfishkill.com

Music

Open Mic Night
6:30 P.M. SIGN-UP
7:30 P.M. PERFORMANCES
BANK SQUARE COFFEEHOUSE
129 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7165 | banksquarecoffeehouse.com

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

Meetings & Lectures

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

Highland Knitters
NOON. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

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

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

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

Tioronda Working Group: Mount Gulian Estate
7:30 P.M. BEACON YOGA | 464 Main St., Beacon
tiorondaworkinggroup.com

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BROWN PAPER TICKETS

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1:45pm - Matinees Only

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May 2 - 25

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Comedy In The Afternoon, Inc. M.D. Fidanque, President

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

Lawn and Leaf Pickup - Cold Spring

Kids & Community

Indoor Tot Park

9 - 11 A.M. & NOON - 2 P.M.

PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER

See details under Friday.

Oakwood Friends School Information Session

9:30 A.M. - NOON. TURNER MATH AND SCIENCE BUILDING | 22 Spackenkill Road, Poughkeepsie
845-462-4200, ext. 245 | oakwoodfriends.org

Chess Club With Moning Lin

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

Mah Jongg Open Play

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

Music & Movement for Toddlers

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

Preschool Story Hour

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

move + play (ages 5-7)

4 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Music

Open Mic Night

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

Open Mic Night

9 P.M. DOGWOOD | 47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com

Meetings & Lectures

Public Symbols, Hidden Meanings: NYS Municipal Seals (Lecture)

2 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY | 313 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Social Media Strategies for Socially Conscious Businesses (Workshop)

6 P.M. BEAHIVE BEACON | 291 Main St., Beacon
845-765-1890 | beahivebzzz.com

Men’s Group

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

Beacon Better Book Club: Pompeii, A Novel

7 P.M. NEKO SUSHI & HIBACHI
1817 South Road, Wappingers Falls
meetup.com/Beacon-Better-Book-Club

Life Support Group

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

Kids & Community

Indoor Tot Park

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

Brain Games for Adults

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

Nature Strollers

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

Bouncing Babies

10:30 A.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Health & Fitness

Dance * Drum * Sing * Hum

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

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball

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

Theater & Film

Open Hive: Film

7 P.M. BEAHIVE BEACON | 291 Main St., Beacon
845-765-1890 | beahivebzzz.com

Music

Beginning Fiddle, Cello & Mandolin

7:30 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Meetings & Lectures

Get Ready For College (Workshop)

6:30 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134, ext. 103 | beaconlibrary.org

Chess Club

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

Special Board for a Comprehensive Plan/LWRP

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

ONGOING

Art & Design

Visit philipstown.info/galleries for listings.

Religious Services

Visit philipstown.info/services for listings.

Meetings & Lectures

Alcoholics Anonymous

Visit philipstown.info/aa for listings.

Boscobel House and Gardens Refines Mission (from page 7)

board and supportive community.

“My wife (Jane Pelson Miller) and I love the Hudson Valley,” Miller said. “I went to Bard and my wife went to Vassar. I just rented a place here, and we’ll still keep another home so that my wife will be close to work, but I think it’s important to live in the community and be immersed.”

Along with Miller’s arrival and the new audio tour (produced by Narrowcasters and written and coproduced by Antonia Bryan), Boscobel is dedicating energies to a rebirth of sorts and will present an unprecedented collection of the works of American artist, historical painter and professor of drawing at the U.S. Military Academy from 1833 to 1876, Robert Weir, opening in August.

Serino, who has had the privilege of serving in many capacities at Boscobel for 17 years, is eager to open the exhibit in Boscobel’s lower-level space.

“It has been the dream of (board president) Mr. McHenry to have a Weir exhibit,” Serino said. “Some of the pieces have not been seen by the public, and we’re working closely with Gary Hood, the curator of art at the West Point Museum.”

Miller, who trained initially as a sculptor at Bard under the tutelage of Harvey Fite, creator of *Opus 40* in Saugerties, shares enthusiasm for the meaningful opportunity to showcase a Weir exhibit at Boscobel.

“This is a first,” Miller said. “There’s a legacy of Weir’s family as artists, and Weir himself having taught right across the river at West Point is significant.”

Beyond the Weir exhibit, which is scheduled to run into November, Boscobel hopes to generate funds for the historic property as well as the local community when it blankets the grounds with thousands of twinkling lights and presents Nights of 1,000 Lights, to be held over a series of weekends. Marketing and Events Manager Donna Sharp Blaney said that Boscobel wanted to bring something back in place of its candlelight tours, which enjoyed a 32-year run before the event closed several years ago.

“It’s been our vision to bring something back that would invoke the same feelings as the candlelight tours,” Blaney said. “I think it was certainly missed, and 1,000 Lights is still in the planning stages, but it will be family-oriented and will include a musical element and ice sculptures.”

Serino said that early response to the event has been positive. Several sponsors have already signed on for the event, and volunteers are expressing interest to help behind the scenes.

Boscobel House and Gardens

Address: 1601 Route 9D, Garrison, NY 10524

Website: boscobel.org

Phone: 845-265-3638

E-mail: info@boscobel.org

Executive Director: Steven Miller

President: Barnabas McHenry

Number of employees: Staff of 45 (includes 16 docents)

Total Revenue for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31, 2012: \$1,518,903

Expenses for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31, 2012: \$1,629,340

Total Revenue for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31, 2011: \$1,379,944

Expenses for Fiscal Year ending Dec. 31, 2011: \$1,631,980

Acreage: 68 acres

“The event will bring people out and together on the first three Fridays and Saturdays in December,” Serino said. “We hope that Nights of 1,000 Lights will have a positive impact on the local economy.”

Boscobel looks forward to a new season of collaboration with the Cold Spring Farmers’ Market, which opens outdoors May 11, and the return of the highly acclaimed Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, which opens June 11. Taste of Boscobel returns May 19 after a grand debut in 2012, and Yoga With a View continues in its eighth season. Event income, admission fees, grounds rentals and the gift shop generate sizable portions of Boscobel’s revenues. Membership fees and charitable donations also fund educational programs, restoration projects and new initiatives including upgrades to the grounds. The Frances Stevens Reese Woodland Trail represents one of Boscobel’s future enhancements.

“We developed the Woodland Trail in 1997,” Serino said. “We are reinterpreting the trail to make it more of an educational experience, and it also ties in with our audio tour. Woodland Trail signage will speak to some of those points on the tour. Our target for completion is October, and what better place to be than on our Maple Lane. The year of 2013 is the new Boscobel experience.”

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

PHILIPSTOWN
DEPOT THEATRE

Depot Docs presents:

Ai Wei Wei: Never Sorry
Q&A with director Alison Klayman and reception following Friday, April 19, 7:30 p.m.
Tickets \$20

Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival presents:

Othello
Saturday, April 20, 2 p.m. and 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.)




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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Desmond-Fish Gives Away Books on World Book Night

Computer migration means catalog will be down all day

Tuesday, April 23, is both World Book Night and a day when the local libraries’ computer software will be migrating to a new platform. The library catalog will be down all day, both online and in the library. The Desmond-Fish Library is asking patrons to bring their library cards with them if they can and to limit the number of items they check out to three per person on that day. The Overdrive online resource for ebooks and downloadable audiobooks, however, should still be working. Patrons will still be able to access the Internet on the library’s computers, just not the library catalog. Patrons may wish to request and renew books online on April 21 and 22, before the catalog goes down. All should be back to normal on April 24.

To compensate, the Desmond-Fish Library will be giving away 20 free copies of *Girl With a Pearl Earring* by Tracy Chevalier. These books were donated to the library as part of World Book Night. World Book Night in the U.S. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to spreading the love of reading and community-based literacy outreach. April 23 is Shakespeare’s birthday (as well as Cervantes’) and will be the date for this national campaign every year. That evening, volunteers with blue and white stickers saying “I am a book giver” will give away books in public places.

World Book Night is especially intended to introduce the joy of reading to people who don’t ordinarily read for pleasure. The Desmond-Fish Library, 472 Route 403 in Garrison, would especially like to invite people who seldom read to stop by and pick up their free copy of *Girl With a Pearl Earring*.

Bouzouki, Hoop Dances, Covers: Haldane High School Talent Show

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 this year takes place on Friday, April 26, at 7 p.m. From bouzouki and sitar-playing to a pirate duel, from a Native American traditional hoop dance to a Bob Fosse number, and even a yo-yo demonstration alongside the more usual music and vocals, the talent show gets those kids up from their desks and should provide the audience with surprise after surprise. In addition,



Haldane student Chris Bohl rehearses his Native American hoop dance for the talent show. Photo courtesy of Debbie Contini

tion, there will be the highly anticipated dance by a local crew, better known as members of the Haldane teaching staff, trying to outdo their showstoppers of previous years. To further whet the appetite, there is the enticement of “other special guests never before seen on stage or screen.”

Scheduled to appear are Elisa Phillips; McKenzie Flagler; Elizabeth Hynes; Collin Harrington; Corydon Zouzias; Melissa Biavati; Dante Nastasi; Patricia Johanna Iniguez; Cameron Henderson; Ben Langer; Gareth Gore; Tom Geithner; Marina Martin; Sara Labriola; Lucy Austin; Chris Bohl; Kady Neill; Bella Convertino; Matt Marino; Riley Bissinger; Lindy Labriola; James Rubino; Matt Chason; Kit Daponte; Jackson Lisotta; Richard Vallejos; and Michael Halpin.

Tickets will be available at the door and cost \$5 for children, students and senior citizens; \$10 for adults. All proceeds support the Haldane Music Department. The whole community is invited — not just parents — and the evening is suitable for all ages.

Oakwood Friends Hosts New Spring Info Session

Oakwood Friends School will host a newly designed information session on Wednesday, April 24, at 9:30 a.m. Visitors should meet at the Turner Math and Science Building on the Oakwood Friends School campus, 22 Spackenkill Road, Poughkeepsie.

The 2.5-hour program will begin with an informal meet-and-greet with Head of School Peter F. Baily, Assistant Head for Academics and Student Life Anna Bertucci, and various faculty. After the introduction, visitors and current students will participate in two abbreviated classes, which for the April event will draw from art history, science and English.

Student guides will then take families on a tour to see the school in session. At

the conclusion of the program, admissions staff will be available to informally discuss the admission and financial aid process.

The April 24 event will be the sole spring session. The new information sessions will only be offered three times a year.

Oakwood Friends School, founded in 1796, is an independent, coeducational, college preparatory day and boarding school serving grades 6-12. Guided by Quaker values, Oak-

wood Friends educates and strengthens young people for lives of conscience, compassion and accomplishment. It fosters a community of students and staff in an atmosphere of mutual respect and enrichment, sensitive to the world and its needs.

Those interested in attending are asked to register in advance. For further information, call 845-462-4200, ext. 245.

Little Stony Point Spring Cleanup Targets Beach

Little Stony Point Citizens Association is hosting its annual Spring Cleanup this Saturday, April 20. Volunteers will meet at the Caretaker’s House, 3011 Route 9D in Cold Spring, at 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. for two-hour shifts. Thick-soled shoes and gloves are recommended, and those with chainsaws are especially welcome. Bags, hard rakes and wheelbarrows will be provided.

This event is open to all ages and is a great way to teach about the impacts of litter and styrofoam. Much of the work, however, is clearing the North Beach of organic matter that has washed ashore with the flotsam and jetsam. Giant driftwood trees, millions of devilheads and a dense carpet of twigs from Sandy’s aftermath await. For more information, visit littlestonypoint.org.

Order Plants for Mother’s Day From Haldane PTA

Mother’s Day will be here before we know it, and children will want to surprise Mom with a special gift. This year, the Haldane PTA is once again taking orders ahead of time, and children can pick up their plants the Friday before Mother’s Day.

Marigold, basil and parsley plants are \$3.25 each, and geranium and begonia



Debris on North Beach

Photo courtesy of Little Stony Point

plants are \$5 each. The form includes the choice to make an additional donation toward the construction of a new green education shed for the Haldane Garden. The order form is available at haldaneppta.org and is due Friday, April 26, via backpack.

Chamber of Commerce Hosts Pedal Into Spring

The Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce announces that it will host Pedal Into Spring, a two-day spring festival, sponsored by Putnam County Tourism and *Philipstown.info/The Paper*, held throughout the historic village of Cold Spring.

The event, which is set for Saturday, May 4, and Sunday, May 5, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., will celebrate the arrival of spring with a flower festival, numerous local vendors, entertainers and live music. The entire event is free and open to the public and specials will be offered village-wide at shops, restaurants and cafes.

Sunday, May 5, marks the “pedal” part of the two-day festival with the Ridge Hill Putnam Cycling Classic (putnam-cycling.com), sponsored by the *Putnam County News and Recorder*, which begins and ends in Cold Spring. Activities and events include a bicycle-decorating contest and parade for children, and an antique bicycle display by Go-Go Pops.

“It has been the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce’s mission in 2013 to bring our community together. We again will showcase all that makes our village an incredible place to visit and live,” said Vincent Tamagna, president of the Chamber of Commerce.


Main Street will be buzzing for two days with activities including a petting zoo, sun salutations by SkyBaby Yoga, visits from the Mad Hatter, featuring renowned storyteller Jonathan Kruk, and face painting. A Taste of the Secret Garden is set for Saturday, May 4, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will feature a self-guided walking tour to cottage gardens in the village. There will be a diverse group of musicians both days from noon until 5 p.m. and educational seminars provided by Stonecrop Gardens, Glynwood, Therapeutic Equestrian Center, and the Cornell Cooperative Extension on Saturday.

Additional activities, including vendors, entertainers and events are still being finalized and will be updated on the website, www.pedalintospring.com.

Downing Film Center Screens *Girl Rising*

The Downing Film Center in Newburgh announces two screenings of *Girl Rising*, a unique documentary directed by Academy Award-nominee

(continued on next page)

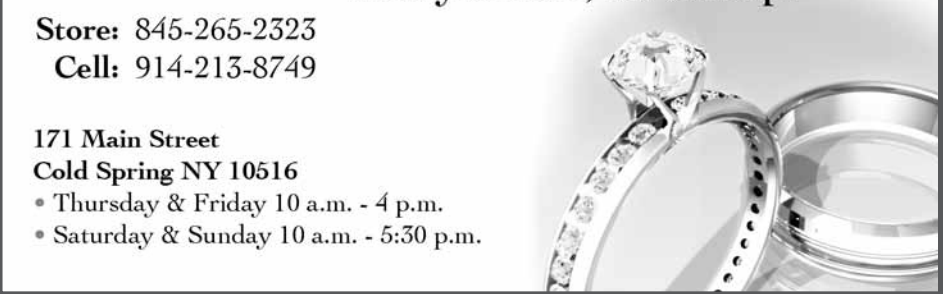


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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

(from previous page) Richard E. Robbins, which spotlights the stories of nine girls born into unforgiving circumstances in nine different countries and captures their dreams, their voices and their remarkable lives. Narrated by Cate Blanchett, Meryl Streep, Selena Gomez, Salma Hayek, Alicia Keys, Liam Neeson and others, the movie is at the center of 10x10, a global campaign to educate and empower girls.

“By bringing *Girl Rising* to Newburgh, we are showing our community a beautiful, unique documentary film that demonstrates the impact education can have on girls’ lives around the globe,” said Brian Burke, director of the Downing Film Center.

Girl Rising premiered on March 7, the eve of International Women’s Day, and has since been screened at hundreds of theaters around the country.

The Downing will show the film on May 4 at noon and May 6 at 7 p.m. Tickets may only be ordered at the following websites: gathr.us/screening/2977 (May 4) and gathr.us/screening/2979 (May 6).

A portion of *Girl Rising* ticket sales goes to support girls’ programs around the world through the 10x10 Fund for Girls’ Education (10x10act.org). The fund is distributed to 10x10’s network of nonprofit partners who are working on the ground: A New Day Cambodia, CARE, Girl Up/United Nations Foundation, Partners in Health, Plan International USA, Room to Read, UNICEF and World Vision.

Maternity Fair Comes to Hudson Valley Hospital

Having a happy, healthy baby and a good birth experience is something that takes planning. “People spend months and years planning for their wedding,” said Sabrina Nitkowski-Keever, director of Maternal/Child Health at Hudson Valley Hospital Center. “It’s important that couples understand that the decisions they make leading up to the birth of their child can make all the difference, not only for the health of their baby, but for the quality of their birth experience.”

To help educate aspiring parents, Hudson Valley Hospital Center holds its annual “Art of Having a Baby” Maternity Fair, which will be held this year on Sunday, May 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the hospital lobby. This year’s theme, “Planning, Pregnancy and Parenting,” will give couples practical advice on the road to parenthood even if they are not yet expecting.

Nitkowski-Keever said that couples should do research on the type of birth they want and develop a birthing plan beforehand. When developing a plan they should consider birthing methods, midwives vs. obstetricians, pain management and the benefits of breastfeeding, among other questions.

The day will feature financial planning advisers, workshops on pregnancy and parenting, and tours of the Maternity Department, as well as a “Speed Dating” session with obstetricians and pediatricians. WHUD’s Kacey Morabito Grean will host a maternity fashion show, sponsored by Kohl’s Department store, and there will be a demonstration of the latest baby gadgets. More than a dozen vendors will offer everything from educational information to baby-related products and services. There will be a light lunch, raffle and giveaways.

For more information, call 914-734-3557 or visit hvhc.org under “Maternity.”

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

Beacon

Beacon Barks Parade Celebrates Rescue Work

On Saturday, April 27, the seventh annual Beacon Barks Parade will celebrate the recent opening of Beacon’s first dog park. Last year the parade helped raise over \$5,000 for the park’s construction, and with the park’s recent opening on March 30, the nearly three-year project reached its conclusion.

Beacon Barks is a co-sponsored event between the Friends of Beacon Dog Park and Beacon’s own Beacon Barkery, a local pet store. From its inception, the parade’s purpose is to celebrate the work of the regional animal charities. The parade makes it possible for all the area dog rescues, shelters and animal welfare organizations to raise money and awareness and schedule adoptions. A large amount of food, treats and dog items are donated by local businesses for the benefit of the shelters and rescues.

This year’s intention is to make the event a special day for everyone in the community and celebrate all that Beacon has to offer in culture, art, music and business. There will be food, special performances by local musicians, a world-champion dog/frisbee performance, and floats constructed by local sculptors.

The event will take place April 27 from 10:30 a.m. till 3 p.m. on Beacon’s Main Street. The rain date will be Sunday, April 28. For more information on the event, visit beaconbarks.org. To find out more about Friends of Beacon Dog Park, a 501(c)(3) organization, visit beacondogpark.org.

Beacon Sloop Club to Host Earth Day Concert

On April 27, at 7 p.m., the Beacon Sloop Club will host an Earth Day concert featuring Hudson Valley musicians and artists uniting in a celebration of the Earth.



Motherlode Trio
Photo courtesy of Beacon Sloop Club

Michele Rubin and Rick Gedney are a songwriting duo known as Open Book. Their original compositions feature their distinctive male-female harmonies, and they have shared the stage with many musicians such as Lucy Kaplansky, Ellis Paul, Buddy and Julie Miller, Stacy Earle, Freedy Johnston, Modern Man, and Richard Shindell.

Sloop Club favorites David Bernz and son Jacob will perform as 17 Strings and Counting. Bernz has performed with some of the nation’s top folk artists, including Richie Havens, Peter Yarrow, Jean Ritchie, Arlo Guthrie, Josh White Jr., Tom Chapin, Christine Lavin and Pete Seeger. In 2008, Jacob cofounded the Something to Say Café, a monthly café and open mic held at the Beacon Sloop Club.

The EarthTones are a women’s capella group singing for causes that promote caring for the environment, the elderly and those in need. With the



Open Book
Photo by Kristin Gedney

country-folk group Barned Out, the EarthTones will present *We Belong to the Earth*, a multimedia performance including music, poetry and slide show.

A suggested donation of \$15 (cash or check) will be collected at the door of the Beacon Sloop Club, 2 Flynn Drive in Beacon. The Beacon Sloop Club, Inc. is a nonprofit, volunteer environmental education/action and sailing organization dedicated to cleaning up the Hudson River. This benefit raises funds for restoration of the Sloop Woody. For more information, call 914-907-4928 or visit beaconsloopclub.org.

Blossfeldt’s Essential Nourishment Book Signing

RiverWinds welcomes back Marika Blossfeldt on Saturday, April 20, from 2 to 4 p.m. to talk about her book *Essential Nourishment, Recipes From My Estonian Farm*.

Essential Nourishment won third place at the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards 2011 in the healthy cookbook category. In 2012 it won the Gourmand World Cookbook Award in Paris, the gold medal in the Living Now Book Awards



Marika Blossfeldt
Photo courtesy of RiverWinds

(U.S.) and was a finalist for the Book of the Year Awards (U.S.). It is an integrated cookbook and nutrition guide fusing an appreciation for the sensual pleasures of natural foods with a sensible approach to nourishment.

Drawing from her knowledge of natural foods and her experience in conducting private and group health-coaching programs and wellness retreats, Blossfeldt has put together a concise and useful nutrition guide, weaving together food, art and the joy of living a healthy and fulfilling life with gentle, easy-to-implement suggestions for balanced eating, abundant energy and genuine well-being.

RiverWinds Gallery, 172 Main St. in Beacon, is open Wednesday-Monday noon-6 p.m. (noon-9 p.m. on Second Saturdays). For more in-

formation, visit riverwindsgallery.com or call 845-838-2880.

Saxophonist and Drummer Play Howland

On Friday, April 26 at 8 p.m., the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon will present the next concert in the monthly series *Change of the Century — New Jazz for the 21st*, featuring the wife-and-husband duo of saxophonist Ingrid Laubrock and drummer Tom Rainey.

Originally from Germany, Laubrock lived in the U.K. and is now residing in Brooklyn. She has performed and recorded with Anthony Braxton, Dave Douglas, Kenny Wheeler, Tim Berne, Mark Helias, Michael Formanek, Mary Halvorson, Tyshawn Sorey, Evan Parker, Steve Beresford, John Edwards, Veryan Weston, Luc Ex, Django Bates’ Human Chain, Evan Parker, The Continuum Ensemble and others.

Since moving to New York City in 1979, Percussionist Rainey has performed with a wide range of artists, including John Abercrombie, Ray Anderson, Tim Berne, Jane Ira Bloom, Ted Curson, Marc Ducret, George Gruntz, David Torn, Mark Helias, Fred Hersch, Andy Laster, Joe Lovano, Carmen McRae, Mike Nock, Simon Nabatov, New and Used, Matthias Schubert, Tom Varner, WDR Big Band, Ken Werner and Denny Zeitlin. Rainey recorded his debut album as a leader, *Pool School*, for Cleanfeed Records in May 2010. The CD also features Mary Halvorson on guitar and Laubrock on saxophone. The trio’s follow-up CD, *Camino Cielo Echo*, was just released on Intakt Records.

Admission for each concert in the series is \$15, or \$10 for students and seniors. Tickets will be available at the door each concert evening only. A Facebook group for the concert series has been created and can be viewed at facebook.com/groups/changeofthecentury. The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St. in Beacon and can be reached at 845-831-4988.



Ingrid Laubrock and Tom Rainey
Photo courtesy of Change of the Century

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Alien Invaders Threaten Local Natural Resources

Non-native plants and animals can be destructive

By Michael Turton

More than 80 local residents got together last Saturday, April 13, to discuss alien invaders. The invaders are not bug-eyed creatures from outer space, but rather non-native plants and animals that can destroy biodiversity, damage the economy and pose threats to human health. The Community Forum on Invasive Species was hosted by the Hudson Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) at the Highlands Country Club in Garrison. It featured a panel of 10 experts from several organizations, including Cornwall's Black Rock Forest Consortium, Open Space Institute (OSI), Audubon's Constitution Marsh, New York State Parks, New York Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM), and Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Exotic, or non-native, species pose problems locally and around the world. In a natural ecosystem such as a marsh, woodland or lake, plants and animals are sustained as part of a complex, interdependent network. When exotic species are introduced, it can seriously damage that network. A high profile example of that was the infestation of zebra mussels in all five of the Great lakes in the late 1980s. A Russian freighter released the mussels into the lakes and, with no natural predators, they thrived, consuming so much of the food relied upon by other species that native wildlife began to decline. It is a problem that costs Great Lakes states, provinces and communities billions of dollars. Zebra mussels have since spread to the Mississippi, Tennessee, Ohio and Hudson River basins.

Invasive species that are causing con-



Giant hogweed can grow up to 14 feet in height and its sap can cause serious injury to people.

Photo courtesy of HHLT

cern locally include black swallow-wort, bittersweet, multi-floral rose, giant hogweed, phragmites, bamboo and others. "A lot of invasive species start in people's gardens as ornamentals," said Matt Decker, HHLT's stewardship coordinator and a forum panelist. "Bittersweet is pretty, but very aggressive."

Panelist Paul Elconin, OSI stewardship coordinator, highlighted a program that organization is initiating in partnership with Scenic Hudson to control black swallow-wort, a toxic plant of no known benefit to local wildlife. The project will also educate landowners about the plant's drawbacks, including its ability to crowd out native species and to harm bird and butterfly populations. In Garrison, black swallow-wort is found in fields along Route 9D from Route 403 south

to Old Manitou Road. Populations are patchy but, if left unmanaged, control will be difficult and ultimately will also negatively impact aesthetics, agriculture and recreation.

Elconin also singled out bamboo. "It is becoming a problem in Garrison," he said, adding that many people plant it as a screen. It can get out of control quickly. "You have to cut it back, cut it back and cut it back some more," he said. Unchecked, it can become a monoculture and "nothing will grow underneath it."

Decker and HHLT colleague Kathy Hamel put giant hogweed near the top of their list of unwanted invasive species taking root in Philipstown. "It's worse than poison ivy. It makes people photosensitive," Hamel said. This plant, a perennial herb in the carrot family, can do serious harm to people. The New York Department of Environmental Conservation website states, "Its sap can cause severe skin and eye irritation, painful blistering, permanent scarring and

blindness." Giant hogweed is hard to miss. It can grow to more than 14 feet tall and has stems up to 4 inches in diameter, leaves up to 5 feet wide and a flower that is up to 2½ feet in diameter.

Constitution Marsh Director Eric Lind described efforts to control phragmites, an exotic reed, and put the problem of invasive species in context. "We often develop a negative, gut reaction to exotic species, assume they are 'bad' and that something needs to be done. On the other hand, mute swans and brown trout are often perceived positively, but both are introduced species." Lind said they focused on phragmite control at the marsh, because "we had good evidence it could impact specific marsh birds, and it was in an early enough stage of growth that we could do something about it."

Lind also pointed to an exotic species found in the Hudson River in 2007 — the Chinese mitten crab. "Their impacts are unknown, but if their populations expand they may increase predation on native organisms, compete with blue crabs, and cause extensive erosion." Lind said the crab, like the zebra mussel, was likely brought to North America in ballast water or by someone releasing captive animals, "underscoring the need for regulations that prohibit the distribution of potentially damaging exotic species."

Hamel and Decker said there are a number of ways that residents can help reduce the impact of invasive species — initially by making themselves aware of the offending plants and not buying them. "They can also learn how to properly remove and dispose of plants," Hamel said. PRISM offers training in its iMapInvasives program, an online mapping project that enables volunteers to use GPS coordinates to pinpoint the location of exotic species in the lower Hudson Valley. An iMap workshop will be held at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison on May 29. For more information on invasive species, visit HHLT's website, www.hhlt.org, and click on "After-Forum Resource Page."

Wake up and Smell the Cold Spring Coffee Pantry (from page 7)

to their partner. Feeling a bit like empty-nesters, they pined for another coffee shop to call their own and decided to take the French-press plunge again.

cups — we couldn't have done it without them." Reciprocity is truly at work: customers have asked whether they can purchase the famous "Vera's donuts" and bring them

next door to consume along with a CSCP coffee (there is counter seating at the window), and the answer is "of course."

But the beans are the meat of this story. Sam described the CSCP as follows: "We're offering a specialty coffee program, rotating the coffees in our tap, using Irving Farm, out of Millerton, in our espresso and our coffee hoppers. On Saturday, we have 'Tap Takeover' where we take Irving Farm out and put three others in. We play around with the settings on the grinders in order to ultimately deliver what everybody in the chain has tried to achieve. We 'dial in' four times a day — it depends on the temperature and how old the beans are. Not everybody wants a black coffee, so dialing in gives us other ways to suit tastes as well. It is a 'single origin' program. Over the next few weeks we will have different roasters."

The store they ran in Brooklyn used one roaster exclusively, and Sam said they had a lot of roasters try to convince them to do the same here, but they have resisted, as this way they can control the flavors more effectively. "Every roaster has a different perspective," (Continued on next page)



Andy and Sam Lutzer

Photo by A. Rooney

Knowing that "to be sustainable, location is everything," they began scouting last October for that optimal spot, where they could reach commuters. Feeling that "it's not always realistic to go into the village," they focused on Route 9, off which they live, seeing a number of spaces that "didn't exactly fit our needs," said Sam. One day they spotted a "commercial space available" sign at Vera's. "It was perfect timing," noted Andy.

Both agreed that Vera, Dominic and Joanne Giordano have "just embraced us. They have been so accommodating, just micromanaging every stage to avoid hic-

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(from previous page) she said, “and you lose the ability to make it your own.”

On a typical day they will have a selection of three or more single origins from which to choose, usually entailing about a three-minute wait time, plus a house blend ready-to-go, which has been brewed in a French press. They have a full range of lattes, macchiatos, cortados, café au lait, etc., and, after hearing requests from some Australians living locally, they can make a “flat white” if asked to, described as a “shorter shot with a velvety foam — it tastes more like an espresso drink than a milk drink,” according to Sam.

In addition to the selection of coffees (and the sale of the beans, whole and ground), they sell a range of Harney teas, hot chocolate and “cold brews” — which Sam is quick to mention do not consist of “dumping coffee or tea over ice,” but rather “creating a concentrate, over 18 to 24 hours, which we then use ice to dilute.” To go with the coffee they feature Five Acre Farms milk, Bread Alone pastries and cookies, along with “grab-and-go” items such as granola bags and yogurt, and, coming soon, organic oatmeal.

“It’s a very different market here from Brooklyn,” said Andy. “Everyone here is a little less uptight. There’s less hustle



The Coffee Pantry Photo by Michele Rubin


and bustle, but there’s the same expectation of quality. They’re so excited that we’re here.”

“We knew the interest was here,” said Sam. “Even though we took a leap of faith, we knew that The Hop had opened, Newburgh Brewing, and hearing people gush over craft beer, we knew.” She also praised her staff, not-

ing, “Other places don’t invest enough in really good people. We want our team to be happy; they are all tapped into the culinary world. Getting people trained in specialty coffee is intensive and it’s hard work, so there has to be a true love of it in order to do it.”


The CSPC is located at 3091 Route 9.

They are open Mondays through Fridays from 6:30 a.m.; closing hours vary from 6 to 7 p.m. There will be outdoor seating in the warmer months, with live outdoor music planned for Sundays in July and August. Call 845-265-2840 or visit coldspringcoffeeandpantry.com or their Facebook page for more details.



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Roots and Shoots

Eco-Friendly Tips for Gardeners

By Pamela Doan

We do our part, right? Recycling, check. Take the train into Manhattan instead of driving. Buy organic produce most of the time; shop at the farmers market and join a CSA to support local growers. Participate in Meatless Monday. Take reusable bags for shopping. Replace old light bulbs with CFLs or LEDs. Switch to wind power for electricity. Turn the thermostat down in winter and up in summer, and add insulation to the house. Check, check, check. If we're really committed (and/or possibly wealthy), there's a high-mileage hybrid car in the driveway and solar panels on the roof. What else could we possibly do to be more eco-friendly and reduce our carbon footprint? With Earth Day approaching on April 22 and the news full of "green" tips, it's easy to get overwhelmed by all the demands of conscience.

Gardening, by virtue, seems green enough. Since most supermarket produce travels 1,500 miles, eating as locally as your backyard certainly reduces the carbon emissions — that's true. If you do care about your carbon footprint, though, examining your habits and approach to the landscape can yield room for improvement.

Eco-friendly gardening practices start

with creating sustainable landscapes that reuse and conserve natural resources, sustain wildlife and reduce the use of pesticides. It may or may not be organic, meaning that no pesticides or herbicides or synthetic fertilizers are employed, but it definitely follows the principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as a way of handling nuisance wildlife and insect damage. IPM starts with identifying the specific problem, then using the least harmful and systemic means to control it, recognizing that some level of damage is tolerable. IPM escalates the control method as needed with the most organic methods used initially.

Practically, your carbon footprint in the garden can be measured by the amount of carbon you produce and release in the course of planting and maintaining the landscape, but reusing and conserving natural resources should be considered, too. Gas-powered machines like a lawn mower, leaf blower and rototiller obviously stand out as major carbon producers. One hour of mowing is the equivalent of driving your car 20 miles in terms of emissions. Setting the cutting level at 3 inches on the mower makes for a healthier lawn and mowing every two weeks instead of weekly should be sufficient for a great-looking yard. Fertilize grass only after testing the soil to make sure that any fertilizer that's applied



doesn't douse the grass with unneeded nutrients that will only run off and leach into water sources.

Conserving natural resources in the landscape means capturing rainfall and composting leaves, grass clippings and plant material. Rain barrels attach to the downspouts on the gutters of a house and collect rainwater that can be used as needed for flowers and non-edible plants. Since rainwater runs off the shingles on the roof, it shouldn't be used to water vegetables.

Also make sure that watering is done frugally. The landscape needs one inch of water a week. Dianne Olsen, senior extension educator with the Cornell Coop-

erative Extension in Putnam County, has an easy solution. "Use a tuna fish can to measure how much you're watering your garden. Stick it in the ground, turn on the sprinkler, and when the can is full, your watering is done for the week." She also advises watering deeply, rather than daily. Plants grown in containers have different watering needs, of course, and may need daily watering. Mulching helps soil hold water and protects the roots of plants, too, reducing the need for watering.

Composting reduces the waste that goes into a landfill. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, yard trimmings and food waste account for as much as 30 percent of our solid waste in landfills. In a landfill, those maple leaves and apple cores become methane, a gas that is 21 times more potent than carbon in terms of warming the atmosphere. A nice mix of veggie and fruit scraps, eggshells, coffee grounds, shredded leaves and garden waste makes a wonderful layer of organic matter for your flowerbeds and garden, though.

Last but not least, here's another reason to leave the rototiller in the shed. Soil contains twice as much carbon as the atmosphere, and one third of the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere comes from releasing carbon in soil due to agriculture and clearing forests, among other things. Tilling isn't necessary, and the harm isn't worth it. Low impact is the key. For the 50th anniversary of Earth Day in 2020, it would be nice to look back at some progress, instead of more damage.

Philipstown Garden Club: Rolling up the Sleeves

By Alison Rooney

Back in the days when ladies wore gloves to all occasions, when tea was poured at meetings and one wouldn't dream of toting a baby along to a social engagement, the women of the Philipstown Garden Club (PGC) had a code of behavior along those very lines, but gentility and civility didn't preclude the raison d'être of their organization: taking the gloves off and getting their hands dirty, literally, from the soil.



Ladies of the PGC: Grazia Girod, left, Libby Healy, Beverly Leardi and Margaret O'Sullivan

Photo by A. Rooney

Right from the start, though — the PGC will celebrate its 100th anniversary next year — these graces masked an activism in service of the natural world. The original constitution, from 1914, stated in part: "The object of this club is to further interest in gardens, their design and management ... to aid in the protection of trees, wildflowers and birds on a community level." Throughout its history, whether it was the between-the-wars landscaping of Butterfield Memorial Hospital or fighting the installation of billboards on the new highways cutting through once-pristine fields; the 1930s lobbying to get a quarry on 9D closed down; the World War II encouragement of "Victory" gardens, to the much more recent organized protests against Con Edison's intentions to build a power plant on Storm King mountain, "the ladies of the club" have not only hosted flower shows and learned the art of flower arranging but looked beyond their own backyards, so to speak, in helping to

conserve this part of the Hudson Valley.

On May 3, the PCG will be hosting a cocktail party and silent auction (with goodies like boat rides around Manhattan and a week at Whiteface Mountain at Lake Placid) at Boscobel, where they designed and now maintain the herb garden. This will be followed by their always well-attended plant sale on May 18 (rain date May 19) at North Highlands Fire House. The plant sale is unique because the plants are from the members' gardens and thus have been proven to do well in this area's soils and climate. The expert gardeners are also on hand to give advice to novices.

Five longstanding members — Libby Healy, who took the longevity honors, having joined in "1949 or '50;" Grazia Girod, a relative newbie, having joined in 1969; Felicia Saunders, whose mother designed Boscobel's herb garden; and Beverly Leardi, current president and a member for a mere 20 years; and Margaret O'Sullivan, also a two-decade veteran — recently gathered to talk about past and present-day activities. Healy, whose mother was an early member, recalled the meetings of her youth as "much more formal — by invitation — the potential member was not to know she was being considered." O'Sullivan said the practice was still in place when she joined. "I had no idea if I would be approved."

Healy continued: "It was much smaller then, and nearly all the meetings were at people's homes. Tea was served; they dressed. Gradually this changed as more people did their own housekeeping. They did serious things, but in an old-fashioned way. It's interesting how change occurs; we used to have an annual picnic, a big production. Everyone had to get a table together: one hostess and eight people — it didn't work."

O'Sullivan piped in, "If you weren't invited to a table, there was no place to sit!" Healy's eventual solution was a potluck, "but that idea needed to mature."

Leardi described today's socializing

as quite different. "Now we want to invite new members in, and allow them to meet other members in a relaxed manner." Girod added, "We want the public to know that it's a serene group that takes you out of the hustle and bustle of everyday life."

Serene though it may be, it is a very active group as well. Today their activities range from presenting horticultural, conservation and environmental programs and workshops for the community and organizing road cleanups along Route 9D to maintaining Boscobel's herb garden and flower boxes in various public spaces. Older members work frequently with newer, younger members, simply teaching them the basics of gardening.

Recently some of the "provisional" (newest) PGC members re-did the greenhouse at Haldane. Using a gift of 400 daffodils from the Garden Conservancy, the PGC planted them at the school and naturalized them. Another group helps out at the Garrison School Forest. Their internship program funds the placement of five local high school students each summer with area nonprofits, including Stonecrop Gardens, Manitoga, Glynwood, Constitution Marsh and the Garrison Institute. The PGC also maintains a website and sends out a bi-monthly newsletter.

The club operates with a board, a president and committees. They field a lot of requests for help, sometimes from beyond the local area. They are affiliated with the Garden Club of America (GCA), which O'Sullivan calls "the driving force, who are active in lobbying the government on things like anti-fracking and cracking down on billboards."

Saunders said the club "always sends delegates to the annual meeting of the GCA. It's inspiring to meet members who are accomplished both horticulturally and politically." Girod concurred, "It charges all of us up."



Philipstown Garden Club members working in the Boscobel herb garden on a Tuesday morning.

Photo courtesy of Philipstown Garden Club

The GCA is divided nationally into zones, and within New York state there are 22 individual clubs in operation. Sometimes the GCA requests that clubs take on a particular project; for example, they were asked to do something with trees, and this year on Arbor Day a number of American Chestnut trees will be planted at The Nest, Stonecrop and Bannerman's Island. Next year the PCG will hold a flower show at the Putnam History Museum at the end of May and will celebrate their centennial with an "As Time Goes By" cocktail party.

Anyone interested is welcome to come to the open meetings. Members do still have to be sponsored; once accepted they become "provisional" members for a year because, according to Leardi, "this is really a working club. Some people join thinking it's just fun and find it's not for them."

With the changing times, the club is figuring out how to accommodate the diversity within the community, down to choosing the best times for meetings, which have drifted to later in the day to reflect a working population still interested in the pursuit of gardening. Still, if members stay dedicated to the club for decades, rewards do come in time.

"Finally, you get to be a sustaining member," said Healy. "You can go to the parties but not do the work." That's handy, added Girod, as "the ground gets farther and farther away."

For more information on the PGC, visit pgcinc.org