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.

The board realized that they might not save the entire plant. These would be placed in a new building, about the size of a small garage, elsewhere on the site.

Sue Peeth 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.

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.

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 acknowledgment 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 nor 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)
Loaf Story

By Celia Barbour

A loaf of olive bread caught my eye at the farmer’s market last week. I went through various phases of stepping away, arranging them neatly in waxed paper, putting them in freezer bags, and stashing 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 really make my kids’ lunch sandwiches right on frozen bread, figuring (wrongly, I’m sure) that the chill of the bread will keep the meats and mayonnaise fresh a bit longer in that overheated school.

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 slide it 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 gummy 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. Domi, meanwhile, did not so much as raise her eyes from her book. She dislikes any baked goods whatsoever with things in them unless those things are nuts or chocolate chips.

For the red pepper paste:

- 2 red bell peppers or 1 small jar roasted peppers, drained
- ½ cup blanched almonds
- 1-3 anchovy filets
- ¼ cup capers, drained
- 1 clove garlic, smashed
- 1 tablespoon olive oil

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 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

Layer 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!

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.

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Local School Districts at a Glance

Haldane Central School District
2012-13 Budget: $21,927,476*
K-12 student enrollment: 902
Cost per student per year: $23,447**
Tax levy rate per $1,000 assessed value: 533

Garrison Union Free School District
2012-13 budget: $59,475,913*
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: $25,462**
Tax levy rate per $1,000 assessed value: 533

Putnam Valley Central School District
2012-13 budget: $54,270,917*
K-12 student enrollment: 1,812
Cost per student per year: $24,589**
Putnam Valley property owners: $25.17
Putnam Valley property owners: $147.19
Contland property owners: $1,282.34***

Notes:
** Excludes capital projects
*** Includes state capital projects
** State budget is 2010-11
*** Property assessed at 90 percent of market value

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, it may consider the following opportunities and the opportunities are an obvious factor, but in the end, state aid remains the single biggest issue. "Frankly, yes, the major portion of consolidation districts is to save money. If any district does not believe that this end result will mean savings to the taxpayers, they may have no interest to move ahead," Villanti said.
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, disenfranchising 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 upright exaggerated editorial presentation, to which Roseanna-anna-danna School of Journalism, where exaggerated opinion presented for comic effect now displaces responsible reporting of interesting, useful news. And so, as civility has become the cradle of politics and pop culture, our support “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

Revolution of local papers

Dear Editor:

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

The issue seems to be of personal nature to the publisher/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打着form 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 scores 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

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

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

B y inviting the public in, Philipstown fire departments hope to send new recruits out when they open firehouses over 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 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 District, and Cold Spring Fire Company No. 1 announced that 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 open firehouses, provide tours, and host a general open house at their station, 504 Fishkill Road, near the intersection 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 firehouse (station 2), M60 Route 9, in Garrison.

On Sunday, April 28, the Cold Spring Fire Company will be staffed and will provide public information sessions, 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 chief said, “The GVFC is over 144 years old and the volunteers are going to offer you all the information you need, but don’t forget to ask questions. We want to make sure you are well-informed.”
Breaking Bread Together
Philipsburg seniors share meals and camaraderie
By Lois Powers

A n enclave of seniors forms daily behind the Philipsburg 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, and then to 7 South Avenue, the center’s current location provides a gathering place where any Philipsburg resident aged 60 and older can enjoy a nutritious meal, good company and varied activities (even Wii bowling!) five days a week.

Karen Mahon, coordinator of Nutritional Services for the Putnam County Office of Aging, explained that the center, located at 25-45 drive, walk or are driven daily by county van to spend their lunchtime together. “I was the site manager at the Nutritional 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; right, Lorie Etta, food services director; right, Lorie Etta, food services driver; right, Lorie Etta, food services driver; right, Lorie Etta, food services driver.

“People are coming from all over to see what we have,” said Michele DiMarco, Putnam Valley Nutrition Center’s building manager. “We help those who need food stamps, help fill out important paperwork, and have a retired nurse 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 of Aging at the Nutrition Center, the oft-publicized, long-standing thorny issue is lack of space. In that spirit of suspension is the limited, 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 Gilbisen, having 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 veterinarian 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 Nutrition 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, Nelssvile’s mayor for 18 years; Marlene Bowman, Philipsburg’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 Philipsburg; or Sara Sevastano, now 90 years old, an assistant teacher in Philipsburg 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

Since the two phases would not be separated by much time, and because the savings from a high-efficiency aeration system would 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 alternate sites for the Cold Spring Farmers Market operating with the village. NYCOM advised that the village stop administering the account for the Farmers Market, because there are no alternate sites for the Cold Spring Farmers Market operating with the village.

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 Mayor, 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 revised 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 Roedl. Last fall, the previous board hired a law firm to conduct a 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 meetings, and the board concluded Tuesday that she will work with Trustees Chuck Husits 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 16 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 will become the new Butterfield or the new shed.”

Molly 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 formulation business regulations, so that’s one thing in the hopper, 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 Diner 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 more updates and latest information.
Graymoor’s Franciscan Friars and Sisters Strive for Healing and Unity

By Jeanne Tao

Driving 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 eumeneism and serving the needy — exemplified by St. Christopher’s Inn, a temporary homeless shelter and rehabilitation clinic for men.

In 1898, 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 Galatians. Wattson and White participated in the Graymoor Eumeneical 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 Maeyei Wong and an interfaith New Year’s prayer service at the Chuaung Yen Buddhist Monastery in Carmel.

The sisters as well as the friars are involved in hospital and prison ministry, including Rev. Leslie Mott of the First Presbyterian Church of Cold Spring and South Highland. 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, commenting on the Putnam County Legislature’s ban on 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 Loreto 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.

Francis 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 39 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

Episcopal 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 Galatians. Wattson and White participated in the Graymoor Eumeneical 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 Maeyei Wong and an interfaith New Year’s prayer service at the Chuaung Yen Buddhist Monastery in Carmel.

The sisters as well as the friars are involved in hospital and prison ministry, including Rev. Leslie Mott of the First Presbyterian Church of Cold Spring and South Highland. 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, commenting on the Putnam County Legislature’s ban on 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 Loreto 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.

Francis 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 39 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

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The Paper April 19, 2013

Wake up and Smell the Cold Spring Coffee Pantry

By Alison Rooney

Has Route 9 suddenly become more aromatic — is 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, beginning that career, “providing a shuttle service: Home Depot runs, heavy lifting, pastry taster,” that sort of thing.

The couple got married in Garrison in 2010, spending the better part of a year in the Lower East Side. 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)

The Calendar

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The Calendar
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FRIDAY, APRIL 19

Kids & Community
Preschool on the Farm (ages 2-4)
Greenhouses Alive!
10 A.M. & 1:30 P.M. 845-809-5984 | philipstown.info

Indoor Tot Park
Children Read to Dogs (ages 7-10)
3:30 - 5 P.M. 845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Wine Tasting
7 - 9 P.M. ARTISAN WINE SHOp 180 Main St, Beacon 845-440-6923 | artisankwineshop.com

Pizza Night and Ice Cream Social
4 - 8 P.M. NORTH HIGHLANDS FIRE DEPARTMENT 504 Frink Road, Cold Spring 845-265-9599 | call ahead for take-out.

Wine & Cheese
5 - 7 P.M. ANTIPODian BOOKs 29 Garrison’s Landing Rd, Garrison 845-424-3867 | antipodiana.com

The Brain Show (grades 5-8)
7 P.M. HALDIANE SCHOOL 15 Crispole Dr, Cold Spring 845-265-9254 | halldiannet.org

Art & Design
Haldane High School Art Show
4 - 7 P.M. PHILIPPSTOWN INFO 69 Main St, Cold Spring 845-424-4618 | philippstowncreation.com

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

Theater & Film
The Wu
7 P.M. BEACON HIGH SCHOOL 101 Main Street, Beacon 845-838-6900, ext. 430 | beacomplayr.com

The Canterbury Tales
8 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE 640 Route 52, Lake Carmel 845-228-2685 | artselakehak.com

Music
Bar Spies
8 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE’S 113 Main St, Cold Spring 845-265-2012 | whistlingwilleys.com

Talking Machine
9 P.M. MAX’S ON MAIN 246 Main St, Beacon 845-838-6207 | maxsonmainal.com

An Evening of String, Stride & Boogie Whistle Piano
9:30 P.M. 12 GRAPES 12 N Division St, Peekskill 914-737-6604 | 12gapes.com

Meetings & Lectures
Free Computer Help
2 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY 472 Route 403, Garrison 845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Offering Safe Ride: Use us for any event where you get together with family and friends. Be smart; don’t drink and drive. Safe Ride offers you a safe way to get home after a great night out.

OFFERING SAFE RIDE
184 MAIN STREET COLD SPRING NY 10516 845-265-1201

WW Whistling Willies

- Offering live music Wednesday, Friday and Saturday
- Weekly dinner specials and freshly seasoned popcorn

Death & Dying, Life & Living (Opening)
3 P.M. GARRISON INSTITUTE 14 Mary’s Way, Garrison 845-424-4600 | garrisoninstitute.org

Winter Lecture Series: Hudson Valley Revolutionaries
7 P.M. BEACON SLOP Club 2 Flynn Drive, Beacon 845-463-4660 | beaconslopcub.org

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Kids & Community
Cold Spring Farmers’ Market 9 - 11 A.M. 845-534-5506 | htotfr.org

Dog Walk and Adoption Day 9 - 11 A.M. 845-534-5506 | htotfr.org

Eat Your Weeds 10 - 11 A.M. OUTDOOR CENTER 100 Muser Drive, Cornwall 845-534-5506 | htotfr.org

Volunteer Landscape Day 9 A.M. - 2 P.M. ANNUAL FLEXIBLE DESIGN CENTER 317 Geneva Road, Brewster 845-666-1672 | rcslandscape.org

Yellow Mountainist Methodist Church Bake Sale 9:30 A.M. NOON, FOOTHOT 49 Chestnut St, Cold Spring 845-265-3365

Brigade of the American Revolution Encampment 10 A.M. - 4 P.M. ESTATE OF MARSHALL STATE HISTORIC SITE 648 Military Drive, Poughkeepsie 845-485-0668 | plymouthncs.org

Bluebird Program 10 A.M. OUTDOOR CENTER 100 Muser Drive, Cornwall 845-534-5506 | htotfr.org

Garden-to-Table Workshop 10 A.M. CONNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAMS 1 Greenway Road, Brewster 845-587-6738 | counties.cce.cornell.edu/Putnam

Into the Woods Earth Day Celebration 10 A.M. - 3 P.M. CLEAR POOL OUTDOOR CENTER 30 Oscawana Lake Road, Beacon 845-225-6226 | clearpool.org

Lions Club Shredder Day 10 A.M. - 1 P.M. THE NEST 209 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 5W 845-778-2705, ext. 265 | trailsidek zoo.org

Family Yoga & Meditation (ages 6 and up)
10:30 A.M. HOLLAND LIBRARY 313 Main St, Beacon 845-531-1134, ext. 103 | beaconlibrary.org

Brindabella Bill: The Travelling Troubadour 11 A.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER 117 Main St, Beacon 845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

4-H Puppeteer Players 11 A.M. CONNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAMS 1 Greenway Road, Brewster 845-587-6738 | counties.cce.cornell.edu/Putnam

Earth Day Shoreline Cleanup
1 - 3 P.M. STEINEN HULL 2003 4th Street, Beacon 845-473-4440, ext. 273 | scarohudson.org

The Calendar
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The Paper

April 19, 2013

Meet the Animals
3:30 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
25 Boulevard, Cornwall | 845-534-7781
hhtreasuremuseum.org

Wine Tasting
3 - 5 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
845-471-0545 | nhcm.org

Garrison Children’s Education Fund Spring Thru
5 - 8 P.M. HIGHLANDS COUNTRY CLUB
955 Route 96, Garrison
845-832-6989 | howlandcultercenter.org

A Taste of the Valley: A Sample of Local Cuisine and Wine
7 - 10 P.M. GYMWOOD FARM
362 Gymwood Road, Cold Spring
914-325-0445 | haldanecountryschool.org

Benefit Dance for Centennial Events
8 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-632-4989 | howlandcultercenter.org

Health & Fitness
Marika Blosfeld, Essential Nourishment (Signig)
2 - 4 P.M. RIVERWINDS GALLERY
172 Main St., Beacon
845-638-2880 | newwindgallery.com

Art & Design
Free Grounds Admission to Boscobel
9:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M. 1601 ROUTE 9D, GARRISON 1:30 P.M. GREAT MUSEUMS OF THE WORLD: A TRIP TO THE UNITED NATIONS, 1945-1955
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Earth Day Family Fun
1:30 P.M. KIDS’ MUDER & MINI MUDER
11 A.M. - 3 P.M. DOWNTOWN BEACON
845-534-5506 | hhnaturemuseum.org

Kids & Community
Beacon Flea Market
8 A.M. - 3 P.M. HENRY STREET PARKING LOT
Behind Main Street Post Office, Beacon
845-202-0094 | beaconfleamarket.org

Nature Play Area (ages 2-10)
9 A.M. - 4 P.M. OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER
See details under Saturday.

Earth Day Party
2 P.M. NEWBURGH BREWING COMPANY
88 South Colden St, Newburgh
845-231-4424 | commongroundfarm.org

Free Admission for Beacon Residents
11 A.M. - 6 P.M. DOWNTOWN BEACON
See details under Saturday.

Haldane High School Art Show
2 & 7 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE
1359 Route 9 South, Garrison | phillipstowndepottheatre.org
Theater & Film
Othello (Abridged) by HSVF
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

SilkyKids, The Musical
3 & 7 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE
445 Main St., Beacon
845-453-2078 | thebeacontheatre.org

Silent Film Series: Au Bonheur des Dames
7 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-205-3000 | butterfieldlibrary.org

The Wiz
7 P.M. BEACON HIGH SCHOOL
See details under Friday.

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

Music
Acme Trio
7 P.M. WHISTLING WILLY’S
See details under Friday.

The Judith Tullich Band
9 P.M. OWL FLIGHT
173 Main St., Beacon | 845-765-0885

Backbeat With Rudy
9 P.M. MA’S ON MAIN
See details under Friday.

Pink Floyd Tribute with Beyond The Wall
9:30 P.M. 12 GRAPES
12 Division St., Poughkeepsie
914-737-6624 | 12grapes.com

HVNY Artist Lunight
10 P.M. BRASS RAIL LOUNG
542 Route 9, Fishkill | peakwaymusic.com

Meetings & Lectures
Overeaters Anonymous
8:30 A.M. GYMWOOD SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER
1359 Route 9, Garrison | 917-737-6624 | online.org

Alternative Energy Part 2: Hands-on Solar Workshop
NOON, BEACON SLOOP CLUB
2 Flynn Drive, Beacon
845-463-4660 | beaconsloopleadership.org

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

Christopher Ruhe, Soldiering: Pioneering in Honduras, 1968-1972 (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
7:30 P.M. FAMILY DISCUSSION
5:30 P.M. FIRST PRESbyterIAN ChURCH OF PHILIPSTOWN
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3260 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

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. PHILIPSTOWN CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART
1701 Main St, Poughkeepsie
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

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

Downtown Abbey Royal Birthday Tea
3:30 P.M. CUP AND SAUCER TEA ROOM
165 Main St., Beacon | RSVP to 845-833-6287

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
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | garrisonartcenter.org

Free Admission for Beacon Residents
11 A.M. - 6 P.M. DOWNTOWN BEACON
See details under Saturday.

Haldane High School Art Show
6 - NOON, VARIOUS STUDIOS
See details under Saturday.

Haldane High School Art Show
2 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)
The Calendar  
(continued from page 9)

DinkyKids, The Musical  
3 P.M. The Beacon Theatre  
See details under Thursday.

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

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. EDENHOWER HALL THEATRE  
45 Market St., Cold Spring  
845-831-5285 | edenhowerhall.org

Alexander String Quartet  
4 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER  
477 Main St., Beacon  
845-893-2988 | howlandculturalcenter.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  
chapelrestore.org | With Christina Fontanelle

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 GRAPE JUICE | 12 N. Division St., Beacon  
845-737-6624 | 12grapes.com

The State of Hudson River Science  
8 A.M. - 9 P.M. STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
Student Union 1, Hawk Drive, New Paltz  
hudsonriverenvironmental.org | hres.org

Brave New Gita  
4 P.M. BEACON YOGA CENTER  
464 Main St., Beacon  
845-849-8406 | beaconyogacenter.com

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

Religious Services  
See philipstown.info/churches for  
Sunday listings

MARCH 23, 2013

Earth Day  
Kids & Community  
Putnam County Youth Forum (grades 9-12)  
4 P.M. CLEARPOOL EDUCATION CENTER | 33 Clearpool, Carmel  
845-278-0738 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Recipes for Easy Entertaining (Workshop)  
9:30 A.M. PHILIPSTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER  
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison  
845-831-4618 | beaconyogacenter.com  
Sponsored by Philipstown Chamber of Commerce

Phlipstown Nails  
Manicure  
$10 off any service  
Expires May 31, 2013

Pedicure  
$10 off any service  
Expires May 31, 2013

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

A Conversation with  
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

Philipstown Nails  
Manicure  
$10 off any service  
Expires May 31, 2013

Pedicure  
$10 off any service  
Expires May 31, 2013

Body Work  
Waxing  
$10 off any service  
Expires May 31, 2013

Facial  
$10 off any service  
Expires May 31, 2013

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

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

Black 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. ARTS ON THE LAKE  
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  
845-809-7165 | banksquarecoffeehouse.com

The Dream Choir  
7 P.M. YOGADOG STUDIO  
27 Travis Corners Road, Garrison  
845-424-3340 | yogadogstudio.com

Meetings & Lectures  
Knitting Club  
10 A.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER  
477 Main St., Beacon  
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Meetings & Lectures  
Cold Spring Lions Club  
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  
Garrison Art Institute. Scully, a world-renowned artist curated the show.  
Photo by K.E. Foley

THE CALENDAR (from page 9)
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24**

**Lawn and Leaf Pickup - Cold Spring**

**Kids & Community**

**Indoor Tot Park**
9 - 11 A.M., 2 - 2 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
See details under Friday.

 Odyssey Friends School Information Session
9:30 A.M., NOON, TURNER MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE BUILDING | 22 Stockenkerk Road, Poughkeepsie
845-462-4200, ext. 245 | odysseyfriends.org

 Chess Club With Monae Lin
10 A.M. - 1 P.M., HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconculturalarts.org

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

**Music & Movement for Toddlers**
10:15 A.M. DESMOND-FISHER LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3200 | desmondfishlibrary.org

 Preached Story Hour
1:30 P.M. DESMOND-FISHER LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3200 | desmondfishlibrary.org

**movie + plays (ages 5-7)**
4 - 5 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconculturalarts.org

**Music**

 Open Mic Night
8 P.M. WHISTLING WILLY’S
154 Main St., Cold Spring
845-426-2012 | whistlingwillys.com

 Open Mic Night
9 P.M. DOOGWOOD
47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | dogwoodcafe.com

 Meetings & Lectures

 Public Symbols, Hidden Meanings: NYS Municipal Seals (Lecture)
2 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY | 313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconculturalarts.org

 Social Media Strategies for Socially Conscious Businesses (Workshop)
6 P.M. BEAUMONT BEACON | 291 Main St., Beacon
845-765-1890 | beahivebzzz.com

 Men’s Group
6:30 P.M. FIRST PRESIDENTIAN CHURCH
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | prebyhutchinsoncoldspring.org

 Beacon Better Book Club: Pompal, A Novel
7 P.M. NEKO SUSHI & HIBACHI
1517 South Road, Wappingers Falls
meetup.com/BeaconBetterBookClub

 Life Support Group
7:30 P.M. St. PHILIP’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1103 Route 9G, Garrison
845-424-3571 | uphighlands.org

**THURSDAY, APRIL 25**

**Kids & Community**

 Indoor Tot Park
9 A.M. - 11 A.M., 2 - 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 | beaconculturalarts.org

 Nature Strutters
10 A.M. OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER
100 Music Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 | fathomnaturecenter.org

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

 Health & Fitness

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

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

**Theater & Film**

 Open Mic: Film
7 P.M. BEAUMONT 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
845-424-9900 | garrisonartscenter.org

 Meetings & Lectures

 Get Ready For College (Workshop)
6:30 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134, ext. 103 | beaconculturalarts.org

 Special Board for a Comprehensive Plan/LWRP
7:30 A.M. VILLAGE HALL | 85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

**Ongoing**

**Art & Design**

 Visit philipstown.info/gallerys 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 Peterson Miller) and I love the Hudson Valley,” Miller said. “I went to Bard and my wife went to Vassar. I just rented a place there, 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 Narrowwaters 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 1883 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 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. Markets 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 10924
Website: boscobel.org
Phone: 845-265-3638
E-mail: info@boscobel.org
Executive Director: Steven Miller
President: Bamabas McNerly
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: 69 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 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, grants 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 reiterating the trail making 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.

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**Wednesday, April 19, 2013**

**April 19, 2013**

**The Place Beyond the Pines**

With Bradley Cooper, Eva Mendes, Ryan Gosling

"An instant American classic!"

**April 20, 2013**

**Cold Spring Press, May 11, 2013**

*Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival proudly 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
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 e-books 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 to the library as part of World Book Night. World Book Night in the U.S. is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to spreading the love of reading and community-based literacy outreach. April 23 is Shakespeare's birthday (as well as World Book Night) 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 Talent

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, 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 seen on stage or screen.”

Scheduled to appear are Elisa Philipps, McKenzie Flager, Elizabeth Hynes, Colin Harrington, Corydon Zouzias, Melissa Biavati, Dante Nastasi, Patricia Johanna Incaprera, Cameron Henderson, Ben Langer; Gareth Gore; Tom Gethein; Marina Marin; Sara Labriola; Lacy Austin; Chris Bohl; Kady Neill; Bella Converse; Matt Marin; Riley Bissinger; Lindy Labriola; James Rubino; Matt Chason; Kit Dupont; Jackson Liotta; 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 Beruccio, and various faculty. After the introduction, visitors and current students will participate in two abbreviated class sessions, 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, Oakwood 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 Cleanup Targets Beach

Little Stony Point Citizens Association is hosting its annual Spring Cleanup this Saturday, April 20. Volunteers will meet at the Carretaker's House, 3011 Route 9D in Cold Spring, at 9 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 after math 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 the PTA 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 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 haldanepta.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 PhelpsTown.info/ThePage. The event will take place 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 event is 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 (putnamcycling.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 ask that all those who make our village an incredible place to visit and live,” said Vincent Tamagana, 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 5 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)
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 own 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 shelters, rescues 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 the arts and animal 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 beaconvandogpark.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 celebration of the birth of their child, baby, but for the quality of their birth experience.

It is important that couples understand that the decisions they make leading up to the birth of their child can make all the difference in the world for the health of their baby, and not just for the quality of their birth experience.

To help educate aspiring parents, Hudson Valley Hospitals’ Women’s Center hosts 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.

Nikotis-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, including music, poetry and slide show. 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 concert featuring Hudson Valley musicians and artists uniting in celebration of the birth of their child.

Blossfeldt’s Essential Nourishment Book Signing

RiverWinds welcomes back Marika Blossfeldt on Saturday, April 27, 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 New Book Awards category. BlooBlossfeldt reached its conclusion.
Alien Invaders Threaten Local Natural Resources

Non-native plants and animals can be destructive

By Michael Turton

More than 40 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 (HHHLT) at the Highlands Country Club in Garrison. It featured a panel of 10 experts from several organizations, including Cornell’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, it has now spread to the Mississippi, Tennessee, Ohio and Hudson river basins.

Invasive species that are causing concern 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 ornaments,” said Matt Decker, HHHLT’s stewardship coordinator and a forum panelist. “Bittersweet is pretty, but very aggressive.”

Panelist Paul Eiconis, 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 local to 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 463 south to Old Manito Road. Populations are patchy but, if left unmanaged, control will be difficult and ultimately will also negatively impact aesthetics, agriculture and recreation.

Eiconis 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 HHHLT 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 blisters, 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 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—in part by making themselves aware of the offending plants and reporting 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 HHILT’s website, www.hhlt.org, and click on “After-Forum Resource Page.”

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

Andy and Sam Lutzer knew they could improve on 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. The couple 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. You dial in four times a day—it depends on the temperature and how 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 so 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 roast has a different perspective.” (Continued on next page)
“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 3001 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 coldspringcoffeepantry.com or their Facebook page for more details.
We do our part, right? Recycling, check. Take the train into work instead of driving. Buy organic produce most of the time; shop at the farmers market and join local community supported agriculture. 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 do to make our carbon footprint smaller 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 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, but figuring that native species or synthetic fertilizers are employed, but it definitely follows the principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as a way of handling natural wildlife and pest damage. IPM starts with identifying the specific pest, then using the least toxic method of controlling it, recognizing that some level of damage is tolerable. IPM escalates the control method as needed with the most organic methods used.

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 using your car for about one mile in terms of emissions. Setting the cutting level at 3 inches on the mower makes for a healthier lawn and mowing every two weeks rather than weekly obviously is sufficient for a great-looking yard. Fertilize grass only after testing the soil to make sure that any fertilizer that’s applied doesn’t dress 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. Rainwater can be collected through roof gutters and downspouts on the gutters of a house and collected in rain barrels that can be used as a source of irrigation or for cleaning and edible plants. Since rainwater runs off the shingles on the roof, it shouldn’t be used to water vegetables.

Also take note that watering is done frugally. The landscape needs one inch of water a week. Dianne Olsen, senior extension educator with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of 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 sprinklers, 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 50 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, eggs, soil, coffee grounds, shredded leaves and garden waste makes a wonderful layer of organic matter for your flower beds 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 emissions from re-leasing carbon in soil due to agriculture and clearing forests, among other things. Tillin’ isn’t necessary, and the harm isn’t necessary. By the end of 2020, the 50th anniversary of Earth Day in 2020, it would be nice to look back at some progress, instead of more damage.