

The HIGHLANDS Current



Secret Garden Tour Preview
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FRIDAY, MAY 27, 2016

161 MAIN ST., COLD SPRING, N.Y. | highlandscurrent.com



Tuesday's suicide was the second this month.

Photo by M. Turton

Another Suicide at Bear Mountain Bridge

Second incident this month

By Michael Turton

A woman committed suicide by jumping off the Bear Mountain Bridge on Tuesday, May 24. The victim has been identified as 63-year-old Nancy Higgons of Hastings-on-Hudson.

Westchester County Police (WCP) received a call just before 4:30 p.m. Tuesday from a witness who reported seeing someone jump from the bridge. WCP Public Information Officer Kieran O'Leary told *The Current* that the department's Marine Unit responded and found a woman's body in the river just south of the bridge at 5:43 p.m. Officers administered CPR but were unable to revive the woman. Higgons' body
(Continued on Page 3)



Marchers in Cold Spring

Photo by Ross Corsair

Farmworkers March for Equity

A long walk goes through Philipstown and Beacon

By Kevin E. Foley

When most of us shop for vegetables or dairy products, we think availability, freshness and price,

especially price. What we don't think about is the labor, the back-bending, often back-breaking work it takes to bring in a harvest of onions, tomatoes, eggplant, potatoes, blueberries or strawberries, not to mention caring for and feeding a herd of hundreds of cows.

And we don't ponder much what doing such work should be worth — imagine for

a moment what you would expect to receive for a 12-hour day in the fields. Would you expect a day off in the week? Maybe access to healthcare or housing with proper sanitary facilities? How about the right to bargain pay and benefits including raises for years of productive service? Wait, might such actions raise the price of my head of lettuce?

Last Tuesday night a group of farm-
(Continued on Page 4)

New Towers Could Improve EMS and Cell Service in Putnam County

Sites would be added in Philipstown and Cold Spring

By Holly Toal

The number of 911 calls placed by people using wireless phones has significantly increased in recent years, with an estimated 70 percent of calls received by emergency dispatch centers coming from cell phones, according to data from local law enforcement.

With this in mind, Putnam County has begun working on a plan that includes a private-public partnership to improve emergency responder radio coverage throughout the county — which may also benefit cell phone users aggravated by dead zones.

Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra, who represents Philipstown, said she is excited about the potential of the project. "Cold Spring is notorious for having blackout spots," she said.

During the county legislature's May 18 Physical Services Committee meeting in Carmel, Deputy County Executive Bruce Walker brought legislators up to speed on a plan to place cell towers on county-owned properties to reduce or eliminate recurring costs, decrease microwave backhaul (wiring) redundancy and increase commercial wireless network coverage.

Walker explained that a committee, including Thomas Lannon, Sr., director of information technology and geographic information systems for Putnam County; Frank Christian, (Continued on Page 4)

Small, Good Things

Mothers and Daughters

By Joe Dizney

Food writer and chef Michael Ruhlman is a very careful man, especially when it comes to the formal traditions and processes of cooking. He's not quite the chemist-geek Harold McGee can be, but both authorities agree on one thing: the pure and simple magic and majesty that is this thing we call *vinaigrette*.

In McGee's science-based outlook, vinaigrette is a "water-in-oil emulsion" (as opposed to mayonnaise, an "oil-in-water emulsion"), and an unstable one at that (meaning that the components can't mix evenly and will eventually separate into their original forms).

The classic *sauce vinaigrette* is composed of an aqueous (water-based) acid (vinegar or citrus juice) and a culinary oil [usually olive, but canola and nut oils (walnut, almond, hazelnut) or seed oils (pumpkin seed and others) also have a place here].

The generally accepted proportion, according to Ruhlman's *Ratio: The Simple Codes Behind the Craft of Everyday Cooking*, is 3 parts oil to 1 part "aqueous acid." (That aqueous acid — particularly the vinegar family — is also large and hoary and worth exploring.) In classical French cuisine, salt and pepper are the only necessary additions, although various spices, herbs, onions, mustard or sweeteners (sugar or honey) are common modern elaborations.

Generally thought of and relegated to use as a salad dressing or a cold sauce (to accompany cold artichokes, asparagus, or leeks), Ruhlman, in his excellent cookbook/treatise, *Twenty*, plays agent provocateur by cheekily naming vinaigrette, "The Fifth Mother."

A little history is required: The French *cuisine classique* taxonomy of sauces divides them into distinct "matriarchal" categories—Sauces *Espagnole*, *Béchamel*,



Lemon, smoked paprika and green onion-tarragon vinaigrettes: Seasonally appropriate dressing for cold or grilled vegetables, seafood and meat Photo by J. Dizney

Velouté and either *Allemande* or *Tomate* (depending on whether you side with Chef Marie-Antoine Carême or the august Chef Escoffier). These hot and heavy "mothers' sauces" are responsible for countless overweight offspring (daughters) resulting from augmentation with additional ingredients. (Examples: Sauce Espagnole + mustard = Sauce Robert; Sauce Béchamel + cheese = Sauce Mornay.)

There is precedent for Ruhlman's bid: a cold Sauce Ravigoté is your basic vinaigrette "reinvigorated" or "freshened up" with shallots and capers. It is a common dressing for chilled poached fish, poul-

try, eggs and other, shall we say, idiosyncratic French *viandes* — *tête de veau*, jellied hare, head cheese or calves' brains — and a decidedly lighter and brighter finishing sauce than those other mothers.

By now you're probably saying, "Why should I care?" Here's why: It's Memorial Day weekend and grilling season is on.

A vinaigrette is if nothing quick and easy — you probably have the basic ingredients in your pantry now. With very little equipment or practice (and NO heat) the most insecure kitchen klutz can whip one up in less than five minutes. With some very minor adjustments and additions you've got in your repertoire one of the most useful sauces imaginable, capable of giving everything from grilled vegetables, meats and seafood to steamed vegetables or raw greens a finishing blast of intense, fresh flavor. (Keep in mind that any vinaigrette will also make an excellent marinade for foods before grilling or roasting.)

The three sauces given here are merely a beginning. I've prepared them in a blender as it delivers a fully emulsified sauce, but you could just as easily whisk them by hand or even shake the ingredients together in a jar. Also, as noted, they will keep refrigerated for two weeks or so and are great to have on hand to dress up any cold leftovers. Should the sauce separate, a healthy shake should re-emulsify it.

Just now I prepared had a satisfactory salad of some baby arugula, cold lentils and avocado, with a healthy splash of the smoked paprika vinaigrette. I also suggest it on grilled shrimp, chicken or cannellini beans. The green onion-tarragon sauce pairs well with poached or grilled salmon or grilled asparagus; the lemon brightens up grilled chicken or fennel.

Just use your imagination and let taste guide you.

A good mother will never let you down.

Three Vinaigrettes

Lemon Vinaigrette (Basic Ingredients)

Zest and juice of 1 large lemon
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
1 to 2 teaspoons honey

Smoked Paprika Vinaigrette (Basic Ingredients)

1 large shallot, diced small
2 to 3 cloves garlic chopped roughly
3 tablespoons Sherry vinegar
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
1½ tablespoon smoked Spanish-style paprika
1 to 2 teaspoons dark molasses

Green Onion-Tarragon Vinaigrette (Basic Ingredients)

1 cup sliced green onions, green part only
1 tablespoon chopped fresh tarragon
3 tablespoons white wine vinegar (or Japanese rice vinegar)
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
1 to 2 teaspoons honey

For all three recipes:

¾ cup olive oil
Salt and freshly ground pepper

Puree basic ingredients in a blender. With the motor running, slowly drizzle in the olive oil until emulsified. Add salt and pepper to taste and pulse a couple more times to incorporate. Yields 1 cup and will keep up to two weeks covered and refrigerated. Use as finishing sauce (or marinade) for grilled or poached seafood, grilled or roasted meats and vegetables or as a dressing for cold, composed salads.

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Haldane's New 'Buddy Bench' Is More Than a Place to Rest

by Alison Rooney

A new bench graces Haldane's blacktop, but its purpose goes beyond just being any old place to sit. Dubbed "The Buddy Bench," it is the result of a class project organized by Mrs. Hartford's fourth-grade students, who painted and decorated it, to make it welcoming. The white bench is decorated with hearts, smiling faces and a sun, and "If You Can Be Anything, Be Kind" written across the top.

More than utilitarian, this bench has a mission: anyone who doesn't have someone to play with on the playground and is feeling a little shy, or who may want to join in activities yet may not be confident enough to enter a game, know the rules of a game, or, may simply be seeking one other person to talk to can sit on it and, spotting this, another child will come over and be their buddy.

The idea for the bench began a couple of months ago, when Hartford made a post on her class blog about a boy who developed an idea to solve recess loneliness. As she recalls: "My students responded so well to it that as a class we thought it would be beneficial to Haldane. So, we had reached out to a few local communities earlier in the year for donation of materials to our compost bin. We talked to some of those companies and Scanga Woodworking decided to donate the whole bench to us. They built it according to what my students researched would be a good size for our playground. My students painted it with Melissa Scanga and presented it at Discovery Night. From here, we still have a lot of work to do to get the message to the other grades about the Buddy Bench. We are in brainstorming mode to see what would work best for everyone to understand the usage of the bench. Short movie, skit, children's book, etc. are just some ideas floating around."



"The Buddy Bench" at Haldane

Photo by A. Rooney

Another Suicide at Bear Mountain Bridge *(from Page 1)*

was taken to Peekskill's Riverfront Green Park where she was pronounced dead by Cortlandt-Peekskill Regional Paramedics.

O'Leary said that the cause of death was confirmed as suicide based on witness accounts and surveillance video. New York State Police and New York State Parks Police also responded to the call.

Tuesday's suicide is the second at Bear Mountain Bridge in recent weeks. A man believed to be from Rockland County was seen jumping from the bridge on May 9. An officer from the Cortlandt barracks of the New York State Police told *The Current* on Wednesday that the victim's body

has yet to be found.

One suicide every 13 minutes

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) consider suicide to be a serious national public health problem. It is the 10th leading cause of death in the U.S. In 2014 there were 42,773 deaths by suicide — one about every 13 minutes. AFSP estimates that for every suicide there are another 25 attempts. Males commit suicide at a rate almost four times that of females according to the CDC.

There is no single cause for suicide.

AFSP states that most suicides occur when someone suffering from a mental health condition experiences stressors that exceed their ability to cope at that particular time. Depression is commonly associated with suicide, as is anxiety and drug or alcohol abuse. A family history of suicide or violence can also be factor, as can physical illness.

Telltale signs

Frequently, someone who commits suicide or attempts to exhibits warning signs. Often what they talk about can be indicative of their intent — such as saying that

they are a burden to others, feel alone or trapped, or actually say they see no reason to live. Changes in behavior or entirely new kinds of behavior, especially when it occurs after a painful event, a significant loss or change can also be a warning sign. Some suicide victims give away prized possessions before killing themselves.

Both the CDC and AFSP stress that if someone is having thoughts of suicide, or if someone close to them fears that suicide is a possibility, they should call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) to speak to a counselor.

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Farmworkers March for Equity (from Page 1)

workers and their supporters walked into Philipstown all the way from Smithtown, Long Island after 10 days, on their way to Albany. Their goal is to bring attention to and ultimately a vote on state legislation, the Farmworkers Fair Labor Practices Act, that would provide farmworkers with new benefits and rights supporters assert would bring farmworkers to the minimum levels of other workers.

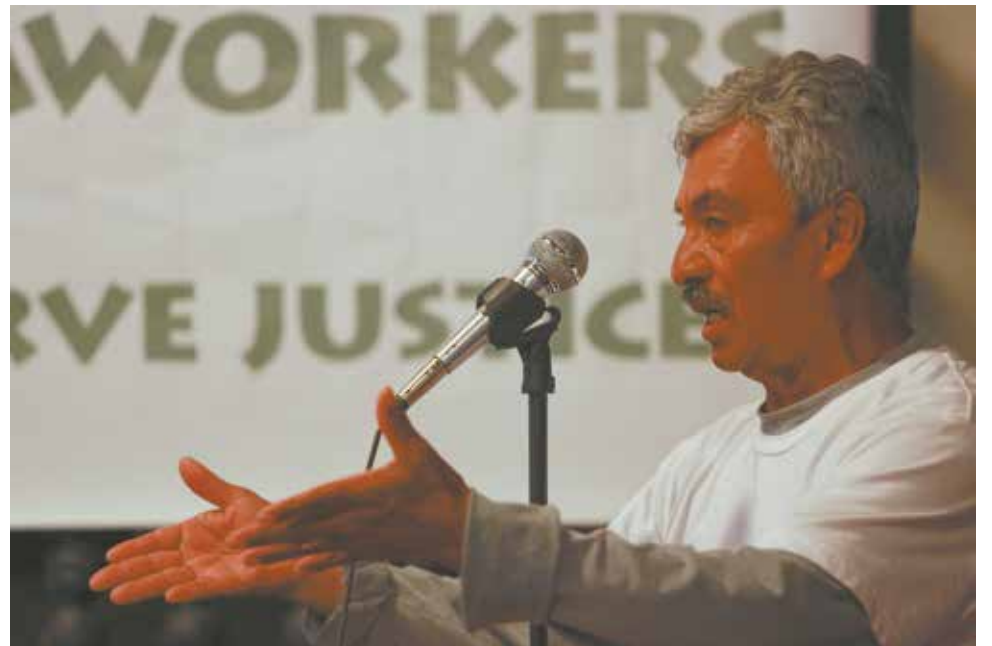
The bill, according to one of its main sponsors, State Sen. Adriano Espaillat (D-Bronx), would grant collective bargaining rights to farm laborers, require they are provided at least 24 hours of consecutive rest each week, and also extend overtime provisions to this industry. The legislation also contains provisions to include farm workers in a variety of unemployment and sanitary laws. The co-sponsor is State Assembly Member Catherine Nolan (D-Queens). The bill has passed the Assembly several times in the last few years but the Senate has not brought it to the floor for a vote, although it has passed with some Republican votes in committee, suggesting passage is possible.

The marchers stopped for the evening at St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Garrison where church members, led by member Jim Bopp, greeted them with a hot meal and assigned places to stay for the night. Before retiring, some from the group spoke to an audience from the church, the local community and an ecumenical group of local clergy.

"The people on this march are those who are bearing witness to a situation that is really wrong," said the Rev. Richard Witt, executive director of the Poughkeepsie-based Rural and Migrant Ministry, under whose banner the march was organized. "They are planting and harvesting the food we all eat. They are second-class citizens. For some reason they don't deserve a day of rest."

Of the march itself Witt said jokingly they had done a good job of holding up traffic in some places. "We have caused people to be jolted out of their dailiness," he said. "I believe we are having an impact." He urged his listeners to use social media to get the word out and have people contact their state representatives.

The group has 10 core members who are walking every step of the journey to the capitol accompanied by a floating pool of



Pablo Cruz addressing meeting at St. Philip's

Photo by Ross Corsair

supporters and support staff.

Two other speakers, Roberto Gonzalez and Pablo Cruz, shared their own hardships with long hours, little or no rest, no overtime for as much as an 80-hour week and sub-standard housing situations. At one point in his nine years in the fields, Gonzalez said: "I moved with nine people into a trailer built for six. It was infested with bed bugs, making it very hard to get any rest." He said he worked 18-month stretch without a day off, often 75 to 80 hours a week.

Cruz, his weathered face reflecting 20 years in vegetable fields and 10 days walking many miles, said he had taken time off from this year's work to join the march and the effort to convince the legislature to pass the law. He told of running into his farm boss at the market in Union Square, Manhattan as they were walking through. They didn't speak. Cruz wondered aloud about getting his hours back when he returns.

Opposition

Witt told *The Current* that the bill faced stiff resistance from the Farm Bureau, the state's largest farmers' organization. In a statement on the bill, the bureau said in part: "This bill would dramatically increase the cost of farming in New York State at a time when most residents are experiencing the same financial crisis as our farming families and worrying about how to afford food on their tables. This

bill would have a tremendous impact on New York's smaller farmers, while also putting tremendous pressure on the larger family farms that provide the bulk of the fresh New York-grown products we enjoy eating."

Nevertheless, Witt said the Senate appeared only two votes shy of a majority for passage. He said he thought Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who has made positive comments, could do more to wrangle votes as he did with the Marriage Equality Act and his gun control legislation.

"We're not saying farmers are bad," Witt said. "This about getting farmworkers to the table on matters that affect their lives." Witt also stressed that the majority of farm labor is year-round and not just seasonal, as is often claimed to argue against the purpose of the bill.

Asked about his and St. Philip's involvement, Bopp, as he scrolled his cell phone making sure every visitor had a home to go to, said: "I think the treatment of the farmworkers is part of the stain of slavery. Here we are 150 years after the Civil War and still we have unequal treatment of people."

Wednesday morning the group assembled at St. Mary's of the Highlands Episcopal Church in Cold Spring and were joined by some locals as it began the trek up Route 9D toward a lunch rendezvous in Beacon.

New Towers Could Improve EMS and Cell Service in Putnam County (from Page 1)

operations captain at the sheriff's office; Anthony Sutton, commissioner of the Bureau of Emergency Services; and Mike Cunningham, asset manager for the county, have led the charge in seeking out funding opportunities to make upgrades.

After being turned down for a \$6 million grant in 2013, the committee reworked its proposal and was successful last year in securing \$3.5 million through the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services to study the interoperability of cell towers in the county.

"The tenacity of these guys is really

what got us the \$3.5 million to upgrade our microwave system," said Walker.

The county has teamed up with Homeland Towers, which recently erected three structures in the town of Kent. Under the proposed arrangement, the county would enter into ground leases with Homeland Towers, which will provide that Homeland will construct the towers and pay rent to the county. Homeland will also allow the county to place communications equipment on the towers for free.

Homeland will then rent out space on the towers to cellular providers. According to Walker, the rent that Homeland

Towers would pay the county would be the greater of either a fixed amount or a percentage of rents from cellular providers to be located on the towers.

"We're talking about roughly four to six county properties," as well as two private properties in Philipstown and Cold Spring, explained Robert Gaudio, an attorney with Snyder and Snyder LLP, which represents Homeland Towers.

Potential locations for cell towers include the intersection of Route 9 and Route 301 in Philipstown, another site to be determined in Cold Spring, as well as locations in Putnam (Continued on next page)

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Wetlands Report

Scenic Hudson sounds alarm on biodiversity

By Jeff Simms

A report issued this week by the Scenic Hudson land trust warns that Hudson River tidal wetlands — the grassy, marshy areas near the river's shore — could be shrinking, as climate change accelerates sea level rise and, consequently, the height of the river.

In its report, the Poughkeepsie-based land trust recommends a multi-pronged strategy for increasing the wetlands' resistance to rising waters.

The group's plan maps the pathways — lands identified as conservation priorities — that wetlands will require in order to expand inland. It also prioritizes undeveloped areas best suited for protection and identifies others that can be targeted for management and restoration. As it turns out, a relatively small number of areas and properties hold the keys to the future of the estuary's wetlands.

Out of thousands of parcels analyzed, as few as 125 were identified as critical parcels for wetland health. If most or all of those are protected, a significant percentage of wetland pathways could be secured, said Nava Tabak, a Scenic Hudson conservation scientist.

There are more than 7,000 acres of intertidal wetlands within the Hudson River Estuary ecosystem. Found in the areas between low and high tides, wetlands support fish, wildlife and plant habitats, help regulate water quality and facilitate



Marshy wetlands at Constitution Marsh in Putnam County

Photo by J. Simms

essential functions such as carbon sequestration and storm buffering. According to Scenic Hudson, about 80 percent of the river's tidal wetlands lie beyond the ocean's saltwater reach — giving the region one of the largest concentrations of freshwater tidal wetlands along the Atlantic Seaboard.

Around Cold Spring and Beacon, however, the wetlands are "weakly" brackish — freshwaters mixed with some salt — but ecologically rich. Scenic Hudson calls the wetlands from Battery Park in Manhattan to Troy "the most productive and protective habitats in the region."

The protection of these wetlands is one component of a comprehensive plan for preserving biodiversity in the Hudson

River Valley, the organization's scientists say. Later this year, Scenic Hudson plans to release a detailed conservation blueprint and action plan for combatting climate change in the region.

"Tidal wetlands are some of the most productive ecosystems on the planet and have successfully adapted to changes in sea levels for thousands of years," said Sacha Spector, Scenic Hudson's director of conservation science. "But now the Hudson is experiencing sea level rise rates of approximately twice the global average, and with sea level rise rates projected to accelerate through the coming century, the long-term survival of the Hudson's tidal wetlands is dependent on swift and strategic action."

The report issued this week, titled "Protecting the Pathways: A Climate Change Adaptation Framework for Hudson River Estuary Tidal Wetlands," suggests that the wetlands' future health will rely largely on whether they continue to adapt to changing conditions, as they have naturally for centuries. That's particularly important locally.

"Your stretch of the river has relatively few tidal wetland areas," Tabak said on Tuesday. "What that means is that they're even more important. You can't afford to lose (these places), especially when we think about connectivity for migratory wildlife."

Local pathways

Tabak cited Constitution Marsh, the 270-acre Putnam County wildlife sanctuary that is a stopover point for thousands of migrating birds, including a number of rare and endangered species, as one of the lower Hudson Valley's most important places.

For generations, the Hudson's wetlands have "migrated" — moving vertically or horizontally as they've adapted to gradual sea level changes. However, the river is expected to rise three to six feet more by the end of the century — a much faster rate than ever before. Because there are so many steep slopes, often directly adjacent to the river, at lower Hudson Valley sites like Constitution Marsh, the wetlands here have limited space left to move.

"Constitution Marsh is very susceptible to sea level rise because there's not a lot of room for the marsh to move upland. The wetlands can move, but you still don't gain a lot of real estate," Tabak said. "So, are there activities we can undertake that will help the wetlands keep up?"

There are, the report states.

More active management, including an initiative to accelerate the transfer of the pathway connecting "underwater lands" to New York state conservation agencies is warranted, the organization says. In addition, the future of tidal wetlands in the Hudson River Estuary will depend on decisions made by thousands of private landowners, multiple state and federal agencies, and dozens of municipalities whose boundaries encompass wetland, shoreline and floodplain zones along the river, the report states.

Policy and planning approaches will be particularly important for wetland adaptation in the places that are not large enough, suitable or attainable for protection through conservation or other formal means, but which are key contributors to tidal wetland adaptation.

"We need to effectively manage the lands that are protected, and [then] what we can't do by acquiring land, we can do by informing people about how important wetland habitat is," Tabak said. "That's going to be many, many people making important decisions."

New Towers Could Improve EMS and Cell Service in Putnam County

(from previous page)

Valley, Mahopac, Carmel and Patterson. The county also has been in with WHUD-FM to contract to use its tower on Sky Lane in Garrison.

"We didn't just randomly pick the sites," said Lannon, explaining that altitude, geography, topography, and frequency and microwave range all factor into the mix.

Each tower site would include space for all Federal Communications Commission-licensed carriers within a fenced

compound, space for county base station equipment, and space reserved for the county on the tower.

According to Walker, the committee plans to go before the legislature next month with a more solid plan.

In the meantime, the 254 square miles of Putnam County continues to have holes in its coverage. "We do not have 254 square miles of coverage," said Walker. "What this is trying to do is overcome that issue."

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD BY THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

of the Town of Philipstown on Monday, June 13, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Philipstown Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York, to hear the following appeal:

Stephen C. Flavin, 51 Indian Brook Road, Garrison, New York, TM# 49-1-17. Appeal # 894. The applicant is seeking a special use permit under section 175-63A of the Town Code for the construction of a conforming accessory structure with an accessory apartment on a legally non-conforming lot under section 175-12C of the Town Code.

Dated: May 17, 2016

Robert Dee, Chairman, Town of Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals.

TOWN BOARD MEETING CHANGE

The monthly Philipstown Town Board Meeting
has been rescheduled
from June 2, 2016 to June 9, 2016.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Village of Cold Spring is seeking residents to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals or the Parking Committee.

Interested parties should send a letter of interest and resume to Mayor Dave Merandy, 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY or via email to vcsclerk@bestweb.net.

Cold Spring Mayor Seeks Second Legal Opinion

Dispute over Butterfield development application

By Michael Turton

Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy will seek a second legal opinion regarding an application that would change the location of the senior citizen center at the redevelopment of the former Butterfield Hospital site. Merandy made the comment at the May 24 meeting of the Village Board.

At a meeting of the Cold Spring Planning Board on May 12, chair Matt Francis-

co said that, based on advice from village attorney John Furst and building inspector Bill Bujarski, the change proposed by developer Paul Guillaro is "obviously an amendment to the site plan and (as a result) the parking table (must) be updated."

The proposed change would move the senior citizen center from Building No. 2 to the Lahey Pavilion, where plans call for 35 parking spaces. Steven Barshov, Guillaro's attorney, said at the May 12 meeting that Furst's advice was in error and that the village code indicates no additional parking is required, making an updated parking table unnecessary. Revising the



Construction continues at Butterfield Building No. 2. Lahey Pavilion is visible on the far left.



Butterfield's Building No. 2, under construction, was originally slated to house the senior citizen center.


Photos by M. Turton

parking table would undoubtedly delay construction of the center.

Merandy said that while he has confidence in the village attorney and the planning board, he does not want to put the village in legal jeopardy. "I would feel more confident" having a second legal opinion, he said. Trustees approved having the Rhinebeck-based firm of Rodenhausen Chale, which specializes in municipal and land-use law, review the case and provide their opinion. The approved motion limited the cost of hiring the firm to \$1,000.

In other business ...


- The parking committee is considering a change that would reserve a number of parking spaces on Church Street near where it intersects with Main Street for use by the Cold Spring Fire Company.
- The pay station to be installed in the municipal parking lot on Fair Street is expected to be delivered on June 1. Police and village staff must be trained in its operation before it is activated.
- Trustees approved spending \$1,000 to remove a number of dead trees from Mayor's Park. "The trees are a huge liability," Merandy said.
- The board also approved contracting with Michael Mell and Greg Gunder to have them videotape meetings of the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and the Historic District Review Board.
- Aaron Wolfe addressed the board, asking them to have the Cold Spring Police Department step up enforcement at Main Street crosswalks to improve pedestrian safety.
- Michelle Ascolillo, newly hired as village accountant, began her part-time duties on May 25.



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Walking the Ward: A Conversation with Beacon City Council Member George Mansfield

Envisioning a connected and 'complete' Beacon

By Jeff Simms

In the weeks to come, *The Highlands Current* plans to do a lot of walking. One by one, we're going to "walk the ward" with each of the six members of the Beacon City Council. There's no set agenda; instead, the series is designed to familiarize readers with what's happening in Beacon by speaking with the city's elected officials in their home neighborhoods.

For the two at-large members of the council, we'll just take a stroll — with no particular destination in mind.

This week *The Current* spoke with at-large council member George Mansfield on a walk along South Avenue, one of the borders of Beacon's linkage zone — an area that has been in the news lately as residents there have petitioned the city to limit development in the zone, which was created in 2013 to extend and support Main Street and its businesses.

Historically, Mansfield said Wednesday afternoon, Main Street in Beacon continued further to the west — beyond where City Hall is now. That's why there's a West Main Street today that's disconnected from the rest of Main.

"That was a whole other community down there, prior to urban renewal and the building of City Hall," Mansfield said. "It basically divorced the riverfront from Main Street. At that time (in the 1960s and '70s), it was ripe, unfortunately, for urban renewal, but they decimated a whole community [in the process] and cut off the heart of Beacon from its riverfront."

Now, he says, the goal of the linkage zone — an area that encompasses Beekman Street, West Main and a portion of Wolcott Avenue/Route 9D as it runs in front of City Hall to just beyond the Reformed Church of Beacon — is to reintegrate the river with the rest of the city, in a healthy and sustainable way.

So what does that look like?

Several years ago, Mansfield said, there was talk of creating a TOD (transit-oriented development) at Beacon's riverfront. Driven more by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) than the community itself, he said the proposal gained momentum for a time but ultimately might have had a negative effect on the city's economy.

"Instead of developing down there and integrating it into the community, it would have sucked whatever economic vitality



George Mansfield

Photo by J. Simms

was happening on Main Street down to the river. All the people who had committed so much time to bringing Main Street back were worried that it would undermine everything there," he said.

"We realized," Mansfield said, "that for any development by the riverfront to work and benefit the city as a whole, we would have to zone this area to incentivize some development, so it creates a more pedestrian-friendly (community)."

By creating the linkage zone, the city hopes to establish a more natural extension of Main Street — one that encourages walking down to a busy riverfront area — rather than one or the other with little in between.

The city is now seeing the results of the linkage zone, which allows for the most dense residential development in Beacon. The View, a proposal currently seeking planning board approval, would site 50 units along Beekman Street, just behind City Hall. A second development, the approximately 70-unit River Highlands, could be in limbo if the city council accepts the residents' petition to downzone seven properties within the linkage zone.

And, across Route 9D, residents say they fear "Main Street-style" buildings will be erected on lots currently owned by the Episcopal Diocese of New York and used by St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. (Church leaders say they plan to eventually develop the two lots, but in a way that fits with the existing neighborhood.)

Mansfield said Wednesday that he anticipates "tweaking" the linkage zoning to achieve the desired effect without overrunning Beacon's existing neighborhoods.

"I believe Main Street should be going toward the river," he said, noting that he could one day envision townhomes on South Avenue, but not "big block" buildings.

As the city grows — attracting both added

tourists and new residents — a vibrant linkage zone would create a "streetscape" effect, softening the uphill walk from Dia:Beacon to Main Street's shops and restaurants.

"We don't want peoples' experience of Beacon to be limited. Right now we have a geographic impediment to getting up here," Mansfield said. "It's a hike. That experience might discourage people. We want to make that experience good for everyone and ultimately have this be a complete city."

And what could a "complete" city look like in five or six years, with potentially thousands of new residents?

That's a challenge. Beacon officials must carefully consider the impact of so much added development, Mansfield said.

"Does all this end up as a net profit, tax-wise," he said, "or does it just make it more crowded and more expensive to live here? It's hard, because more development does not necessarily mean a healthier environment to live in."

"The easiest thing to do is to build residential condos," Mansfield continued. "But I want to encourage, down at the riverfront, less residential and more commercial. More office space, where people might do a reverse commute from Westchester or (New York City) and come up here."

The value of added office space in Beacon, particularly along the waterfront with easy access to the Metro-North train station, he said, would be significant. Schools, police and emergency responders wouldn't see a substantial uptick in the need for their services, but the city's economy would get a much-needed boost of diversity. No longer a bedroom community for hundreds of New York City commuters, in time the entire face of the city could be changed.

Can it happen? Perhaps that's a topic for another walk on another day.

"I think Beacon is unique in a lot of ways," Mansfield said, sitting in the Main Street mini-park once known as Bank Square, across the street from the Bank Square coffee shop, "and we have to play our cards smartly. We do have a great community. A lot of people want to be here, and I think a lot of offices, ultimately, will want to be here too."

Obituary

Deborah Radich

(1958-2016)



Deborah Page Radich, 57, passed away on April 20, 2016, after a four-month battle with stage IV lung cancer. She was living on Tancook Island, Nova Scotia, Canada. A former Cold Spring resident, Deborah fell in love with Tancook Island and was granted permanent residency. She worked very hard on her home and loved to relax on her back porch and watch the beautiful sunsets.

Deborah was born on May 16, 1958, in Westchester County. While living in Cold Spring, Deborah loved to take her dog, Penny Lane, on walks around town. They would always stop at The Country Goose, where she sold her assorted handmade crochet projects and maple syrup. She was always very active and incredibly handy.

Deborah is survived by her mother, Alice Page, siblings, Susan Hovevar and William Page (Nancy), niece, Kristin Hovevar, and her daughters Stephanie, Stacy and, of course, the favorite Penny Lane. She is preceded in death by her father, Rossiter Page. A small get-together was held at her home in Canada where family and friends came together to tell cherished memories and spread her ashes around her favorite place. The family wishes to thank everyone who was there for her when she needed them the most.



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Haldane to Offer Before and After Childcare

A new Philipstown recreation program

By Michael Turton

Childcare for school-age children is about to get easier for parents in the Haldane Central School District. Beginning in September, Philipstown Recreation will offer on-campus childcare for young Haldane students.

Before school, parents will be able to drop off their school-age children at 7:15 a.m. After the final bell, the program will run until 6:15 p.m. Children can be enrolled for one to five days per week for before care, after care, or both. The cost varies depending on which option parents choose. For a child enrolled in both before and after care for all five school days the cost is \$400. Before and after care for one day per week costs \$115. Reduced rates are available for children registered in the recreation department's Afternoon Adventure Program. A per-diem rate of \$10 an hour without having to commit to long-term registration will also be offered but will be dependent on availability.

Superintendent of Education Diana Bowers said the impetus for the new program, which she said is common in other school districts, came from the community. The program will cost the school dis-

trict nothing; in fact Bowers said it will be a revenue producer since the Recreation Department will pay rent of \$500 per month. "This is a Philipstown Recreation Department program," Bowers said, including responsibility for meeting all licensing requirements.

The district considered contracting with a private company that provides a similar service in other districts, Bowers said, "but we wanted to keep it local and Philipstown Rec seemed like a natural choice." She said that in the first year, the cafeteria and one kindergarten classroom will be used to house the program.

"Our program is exceptionally well priced. It's a really good deal." Said Amber Stickle, Philipstown's director of recreation and parks. "We're not a profit-making organization. All our programs look to cover our costs." Stickle said she will also work with the Haldane PTA enrichment programs to transition those children into after care for parents who require that service.



The new childcare program is aimed at students K-6.

Photo by M. Turton

Stickle said that registration will be capped at 21 children "until we get our bearings," but that the number could increase later on. The program, which is geared to K-6 students, is licensed through the New York State Office of Children and Family Services.

The program will not offer childcare in the case of early dismissals, delayed openings and school closures. Children registered for before care can take part in the

school breakfast program.

Program registration has already begun. Parents can either drop into the Philipstown Community Center at 107 Glenclyffe Drive in Garrison or call 845-424-4618 to enroll.

"This is a great example of how our community organizations can work together to meet the needs of our local families," Stickle said.

New Principal for Haldane High School

By Michael Turton

Haldane High School has a new principal. At their May 17 meeting, Haldane School Board trustees appointed Peter Carucci to the position, effective July 1. He replaces Brian Alm, who will leave on June 30 to become director of secondary teaching and learning with the Ossining Union Free School District. Alm has been principal at Haldane for nine years.

Carucci holds a Master of Science Degree in Educational Leadership from the City College of New York, a Master of Arts Degree in Italian from Binghamton University and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English General Literature and Italian, also from Binghamton. He is certified by the state in school district administration, as school administrator/supervisor and in English language arts and Italian for

grades seven through 12. He will be paid \$138,000 in the new position.

Carucci is currently assistant principal at Tuckahoe Middle School and High School in Eastchester. He previously served as assistant principal and director of curriculum and instruction at the Anne Hutchinson Academy for Engineering, Herbert Lehman High School in the Bronx. He also served at that school for five years as assistant principal in the Department of Foreign Languages/ESL & Director of the Performing and Visual Arts Small Learning Community.

"Throughout the interview process, Mr. Carucci quickly surfaced as our match," Superintendent of Education Diana Bowers said in a letter to the community on May 18. "His child-centered approach to learning and breadth of experience will serve our students well."

Carucci was one of three finalists from



Peter Carucci has been hired as the new principal at Haldane High School

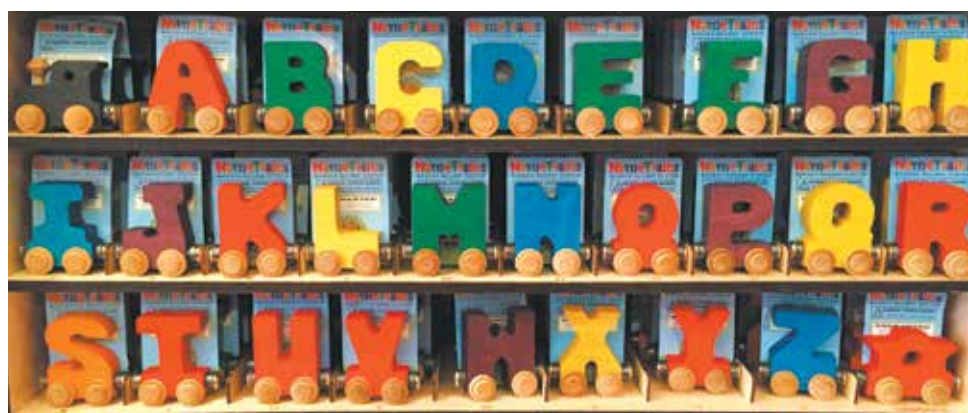
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among more than 50 candidates who applied to lead the education team at Haldane High School.

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The Calendar

Grammy-winning Producer Leo Sacks

"I keep my heart open by listening"

by Alison Rooney

You clasp a Grammy Award in your hands, for a few fleeting seconds imagining your name etched on the gold-plated gramophone trophy. For Cold Spring's Leo Sacks, that's no flight of fantasy. His name can be found on the Grammy he brought along to Haldane last Friday, when he taught a class called "Musical Trees." A group of awe-struck fifth graders was able to hold the award individually, something Sacks allowed them to do, hoping that tactile, tangible moment would touch that "this can really happen" nerve. Sacks' "Best Historical Album" Grammy was awarded to him in 2014 for producing the 9-CD "Bill Withers: The Complete Sussex & Columbia Albums." He currently works as an A&R consultant and producer for Sony Music Masterworks.

Discovering new talent

In over two decades as a music producer, Sacks has produced boxed sets

of such artists as The Isley Brothers, Earth, Wind and Fire, Aretha Franklin, and other giants of soul and R&B. He's done a lot of other things, too, spending much of the 1990s as an editor, writer and producer at NBC News. Earlier he wrote and reported for newspapers and music trade papers. Having helped some of America's most influential artists "preserve their life's work as a living language," as he describes it, Sacks calls it "a privilege and also a tremendous responsibility" to discover new artists. Sony doesn't need me to help them find the latest beats. Somewhere there's a singular voice, or a boundary-busting band that's utterly fearless, or a writer with a passionate point of view, and they're not on TV. So I keep my heart open by listening and wondering whether anyone else will feel what I'm feeling. Scouting, signing and recording an artist may have satisfied the old business paradigm," he adds, "but in today's business of music, the real A&R job begins once the artist leaves the studio. It's about formulating a plan that clearly communicates the story of any new project. And I love a good story."

Newser turned producer

Those good stories harken back to the years Sacks spent as a newsmen. "I always wanted to know how many slugs did the perp fire? Why did she lead a double life?" he exclaims. His news reporting slid into music business scribing. As he himself bylines, "I've wanted to make records ever since that magical, mysterious Sunday night in the winter of 1964 when the Beatles unleashed all those pent-up feelings on the Ed Sullivan Show. By that time I was tall enough to turn on the radio and was forever touched — and haunted by the voice of Levi Stubbs and the street lamp harmonies of the Four Tops singing *Reach Out, I'll Be There*. I didn't know he was singing to his buddies in the foxholes of Vietnam. But it made me want to become an artist's advocate and write about the music that was touching me, and it kindled my appreciation for music journalism. In that respect, I was following in the tradition of music journalists who became record producers: John Hammond wrote jazz reviews before he discovered Benny Goodman,



Leo Sacks poses with Bill Withers outside Carnegie Hall, on the evening of a Sacks-co-produced tribute to Withers in Oct. 2015.

Photo by Shlomo Lipetz

Count Basie and Billie Holiday. Jerry Wexler coined the term 'rhythm and blues' as a writer for Billboard before he joined Atlantic (Continued on Page 13)

Jonas Petkus: I Like Drawing Things That I Haven't Seen People Draw Before

"I always have a loose plan, but it takes another turn as I follow what my hand does."

by Alison Rooney

Score two in a row for Haldane High School, as, for the second year running, a Haldane student has walked away with top honors from the Putnam Arts Council's annual student showcase, which is the culmination of the county-wide Emerging Artists exhibit.

This year's winner is sophomore Jonas Petkus, whose

piece "Zenith," actually a 'book' of his work in painting and pencil, developed partially at a three-week pre-college workshop at NYC's School of Visual Arts last summer, lived up to its name, being chosen from about 100 entries as best in show.

An artist since early childhood

Petkus has felt the urge to draw "from the time I could hold a pencil." Even in elementary school, Petkus knew that "I liked to do it and kind of knew I was better at it than a lot of kids my age — it was my thing." The skills he had and has are innate, as that summer class was his first experience in an art school. "I didn't want anyone messing with my style, so I was completely self taught until then." However, the class proved valuable to him in many ways, exposing him and pushing him to try different media, pulling him away from the colored pencils he favors, and to complete a form of narrative, guided by prompts (color, animal — he chose a mountain goat, transformation). It also served to validate his talents by putting them in a broader context than a small town's, as it was an international program, attracting students from China, France



Jonas Petkus

Photo by A. Rooney

and from across the country, all of them older than Petkus. He fared well in an end-of-session critique from his peers, which gave him confidence, "It felt good to hear, outside of a small population," he notes.

"Zenith's" images

The images in "Zenith" (Continued on Page 12)



Self Portrait and block print, artwork by Jonas Petkus

Image courtesy of the artist

ONGOING

Gallery Shows

highlandscurrent.com/galleries

FRIDAY, MAY 27

Mayfest NY: Music / Art / Yoga

3 – 11 p.m. Surprise Lake Camp
Lake Surprise Road, Cold Spring
mayfestny.com

International Film Night: *The Cuckoo*
(Russia, 2002)

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

Gilbert and Sullivan's *H.M.S. Pinafore*

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

The Power of Song / Clearwater, the Maiden Voyage (Documentaries)

7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
50 Liberty St., Beacon
moviesthatmatterbeacon.org

Don Felder: An Evening at the Hotel California

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

Marye Lobb

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

Today, Yesterday, Tomorrow (TYT)

10 p.m. The Vault
446 Main St., Beacon
845-202-7735 | thevaultbeacon.com

SATURDAY, MAY 28

Newburgh's Last Saturday

facebook.com/NewburghLastSaturdays

Antiques Show & Flea Market

8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Stormville Airport
428 Route 216, Stormville
845-221-6561 | stormvilleairportfleamarket.com

Mayfest NY: Music / Art / Yoga

8 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. Surprise Lake Camp
See details under Friday.

Mt. Beacon Eight Memorial Ceremony

Noon. 793 Route 52, Fishkill

StoryWalk Opening Day

Noon – 4 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 | hhnaturemuseum.org

Calendar Highlights

For upcoming events visit highlandscurrent.com

Send event listings to calendar@highlandscurrent.com

Gilbert and Sullivan's *H.M.S. Pinafore*

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
See details under Friday.

SUNDAY, MAY 29

Antiques Show & Flea Market

8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Stormville Airport
See details under Saturday.

Mayfest NY: Music / Art / Yoga

8 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. Surprise Lake Camp
See details under Friday.

Memorial Service for Sailors

10:45 a.m. Parrott Gun | Cold Spring Waterfront

Founder's Day

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Fishkill Farms
9 Fishkill Farm Road, Hopewell Junction
845-897-4377 | fishkillfarms.com

Gilbert and Sullivan's *H.M.S. Pinafore*

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

Kids' Open Mic

6 – 8 p.m. 12 Grapes | 12 N. Division St., Peekskill
914-737-6624 | 12grapes.com

MONDAY, MAY 30

Memorial Day

Local libraries closed

Government offices closed

Memorial Day Parade

9 a.m. Main St., Cold Spring
Followed by ceremony at Cold Spring Cemetery
Refreshments at American Legion Post 275

Memorial Day Parade

10 a.m. Main St., Beacon | Starts at City Hall
Organized by American Legion Post 203



75 Main Street, Cold Spring NY 10516
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www.skybabyyoga.com

Memorial Day Service

11:45 a.m. Trophy Point, West Point

TUESDAY, MAY 31

Ceramics (First Sessions)

9 a.m. Adult | 3:45 p.m. Grades K-3
Philipstown Community Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Zen and the Art of Coloring for Adults

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

Annual Putnam County Senior Citizen Picnic

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Veteran Memorial Park
201 Gypsy Trail Road, Carmel
845-265-3952 | putnamcountyny.com

Ceramics (First Sessions)

12:30 p.m. Ages 3-5
3:45 p.m. Grades K-3
Philipstown Community Center
See details under Tuesday.

Introduction to Mindfulness Meditation

1:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Tuesday.

Estate Planning Workshop

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

Garrison School Board

7:30 p.m. Garrison School
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3689 | gufs.org

THURSDAY, JUNE 2

Ceramics (First Sessions)

3:45 p.m. Grades 4-6
Philipstown Community Center
See details under Tuesday.

Poetry Project

6 – 9 p.m. BeanRunner Café
201 S. Division, Peekskill
914-737-1701 | beanrunnercafe.com

Dr. John & the Nite Trippers

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

Cali Gorevic and Jane Soodalter: *Envisioning Dutchess* (Opening)

4 – 7 p.m. Barrett Art Center
55 Noxon St., Poughkeepsie
845-471-2550 | barrettartcenter.com

Reductive Woodblock Printing (First Session)

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

Group Show: *Improvisation* (Opening)

6 – 9 p.m. Gallery 66 NY
66 Main St., Cold Spring
845-809-5838 | gallery66ny.com

Group Show: *Works on Paper* (Opening)

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

Dragonfly Story Hour For Adults

7 – 9 p.m. Butterfield Library
See details under Wednesday.

Calling All Poets

8 – 10 p.m. Center for Creative Education
464 Main St., Beacon
914-474-7758 | callingallpoets.net

Gilbert and Sullivan's *H.M.S. Pinafore*

8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
See details under May 27.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

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For a full list of area support groups, visit:
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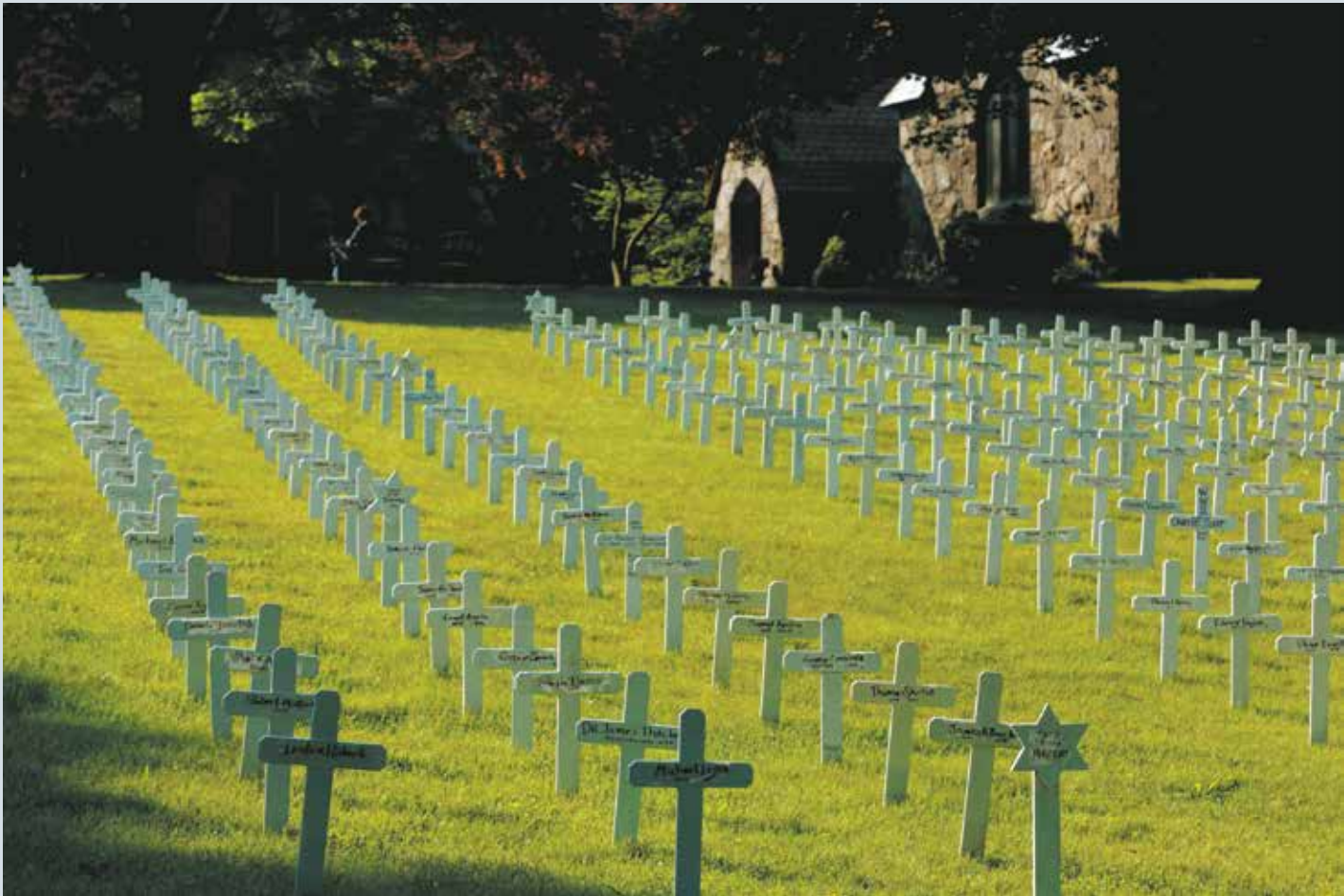
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Bob LaLonde

Memorial Day, 2016



Crosses marking the remembrance of Memorial Day on the lawn of St. Mary's in the Highlands in Cold Spring Photo by Ross Corsair

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Jonas Petkus: I Like Drawing Things That I Haven't Seen People Draw Before (from Page 9)

range from a self-portrait — the first Petkus has ever done, and completed as a directive of the class — which he situated on a page adjacent to a repeated block print. Another, “Bones Machine” shows a collage of actual skeleton bones reassembled to portray a machine which serves as legs of a sort, propelled by the wind. “I cut out each bone, numbered them all and then put them where I wanted them.” Petkus worked for a long time on the final “Goatman” image; the fine lines he painstakingly drew on the horns “took forever but were necessary to give it shape.” A spiral on the creature’s forehead echoes one Petkus has placed on his own forehead, along with Maori-esque face tattoos in the self portrait. All in all, he notes, “We were encouraged to have some kind of a narrative; mine’s pretty loose!”

Petkus has always been prolific: “I draw so much I have suitcases filled with old drawings.” His subject matter, while not radically different from what it had been earlier, has progressed. “It’s always been crazy stuff out of my own head, but now it’s more rooted in real things because I’ve found that’s what makes a better picture: something people can recognize,” he explains. Citing film as his top ‘other art form’ inspiration, Petkus says seeing interesting ones “helps develop aesthetics you respond to, but most of it is just getting out and seeing things, so you can have a bank of images. I like drawing things that I



Zenith, a folding 'book' containing individual works by Jonas Petkus

Image courtesy of the School of Visual Arts

haven't seen people draw before. There's no formula to what it is." With an affinity to certain things in particular, deer skulls, snakes and other elements found in nature in particular, Petkus is certain that growing up in this area, in a house surrounded by woods, has given him the most inspiration: “Being outside, looking at the world has helped.” Nature isn't his only inspiration, however. He's also very taken with the propaganda poster design of the first half of the 20th century. In work called “Propaganda” not only has he created his own imagery, but also a new language, replete with original symbols.

Schools and art

Although Haldane is a small, generalist public school, Petkus feels that in many ways it is more beneficial to him than attending a visual arts specialist

high school would be. “In some ways it helps, because it essentially makes people work on their own — it forces them to. I haven't been molded as heavily by people instructing me in specific ways. There's a period to develop you on your own that there wouldn't be otherwise.” He feels that as art is a required subject at Haldane, it's tough to “have to cater to kids who are not naturally inclined to be artistic. I think it might work better in school if they could identify those kids who are looking to do it as a profession, and make it more rigorous.”

Although he has two years left of high school, Petkus is already setting his sights on the years beyond, and, shifting gears for college he does want to attend an arts-focused school. Next year he intends to take a trip to the U.K., looking particularly at a couple of art schools in Glasgow

and Edinburgh. “Life is short and you may as well be adventurous,” he says.

Before then, he is looking to expand the art he is making, moving into sculpture, among other things. “I want to up the scale I work in. In the past my work has been pretty small because I really enjoy doing fine details, but I want to start thinking in different ways and working on a bigger scale.”

One bigger scale effort has been the long-in-the-making Foodtown mural, finally set to be displayed in a month or so. Petkus and fellow Putnam Arts Council best-in-show winner (in 2015) Wylie Thornquist have been working on this for quite some time. The fantastical elements common to both artists will be on hand, or so it seems, from Petkus' description of part of it as “a vulture rising out of the ashes in a surreal desert scene — an orange sky.”

Petkus doesn't plan out his work in advance, because “even when there's not a narrative in mind, a narrative happens. I always have a loose plan, but it takes another turn as I follow what my hand does.” Asked if he considered what reactions to his work might be, factoring those in to what he creates, he stated, “This year mainly I've started to think about how other people see the work. But really, at the end of the day I just want people to think that it's cool. There's not necessarily a deeper meaning to it — I just want to create something people want to look at.”

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SUN 1:15 4:15 7:15
MON & TUE 1:15 4:15 7:15
WED & THU 7:15

Grammy-winning Producer Leo Sacks (from Page 9)

Records and produced Ray Charles and Aretha Franklin."

More recently, Sacks has fused parts of his past together, teaching a class this spring on "Writing For Media" at Rutgers University's School of Communication. Despite having to depart his home at 4-something a.m. to make it there, Sacks felt honored to teach it, considering it a way of "paying it forward. What I found there with the students was a really impassioned group that couldn't write. I thought 'I can't teach them how to write, but I can teach them how to think critically.' I taught them how to look at front page and recognize political agendas, to notice what was put in there for a visceral feel, what was titillating."

A legacy of teaching and music

Sacks loved teaching the class, considering it a legacy passed down from his father, a teacher and child psychologist. "My parents were both working class children of immigrant grocers. They wanted me to excel in school, and also nurtured my love of music," he recalls, remembering clearly that "when I was seven, I was handed *Meet the Beatles* and Herb Alpert's *A Taste of Honey*." Now Sacks has a son nearly that age, and feels "a profound gratitude for the gifts that I've been given, starting with my parents. If I can gently encourage young people, that's where it's at." He has enjoyed sharing his knowledge and experience at Haldane, too,

first in a Pathways to Success talk with ninth graders. "Living in Cold Spring, among so many dedicated people who share the same goals and aspirations for our children, has been an incredible blessing. The teachers at Haldane are an incredible group of nurturing souls who have strengthened my own desire to pay it forward," Sacks enthuses.

In his Musical Trees class Sacks wanted, first and foremost, to see the direct links between some of the artists Haldane students listen to today, with those in the near and distant past. "Your favorite artists have their own favorite artists. Who were their inspirations?" the class description read. Connecting Beethoven to the Beatles, Big Mama Thornton to Elvis Presley, etc., Sacks made stops along the highway of rock 'n roll history, showing the students footage of artists like Jerry Lee Lewis while handing them some background: "He caused pandemonium — he played with his feet, his elbows! He was writing about what he knew: things like chickens!" Sacks also addressed the importance of learning sentence structure, as a prelude to writing more 'conversational' lyrics: "Once you learn the rules, you can break the rules" he explained. And, perhaps surprisingly, a lot of the students knew who Bill Withers was, being most familiar with *Lean On Me*, adding to the Grammy-handling excitement.

Along with teaching and his A&R



Leo Sacks, using new technology to bring home some old footage to fifth grade Haldane students at Arts Alive!

Photo by A. Rooney

work, Sacks has, for the past few years, been trying to finish a documentary film he has been making about Raymond Myles, a New Orleans-based gospel singer whose CD Sacks financed, produced and independently released in 1995, only to be met with refusals to play it from the evangelical radio stations, based on the perception that Myles was gay. Tragically, Myles was carjacked and murdered in 1998. Years later, Sacks says, "When the levees breached in New Orleans in 2005, I felt powerless to help the city that I loved. So I formed the New Orleans Social Club and co-produced a benefit CD in Austin called *Sing Me Back Home*. This was literally six weeks after the storm and some of the artists weren't

sure they still had a home. All the musicians there knew Raymond. He should have been there, and yet he was, in spirit and in memory. That's when I decided to make a documentary about his complicated life and legacy." In fits and starts ever since, the documentary, *A Taste of Heaven: The Heartbreak Life of Raymond Myles, Gospel Genius of New Orleans*, until now self-financed (Sacks has recently received enthusiastic support from the Southern Documentary Fund, which will allow him to film more interviews), has come together, and Sacks continues to persevere with it.

There are always new artists to discover as well. As Sacks notes, "It's great to be a tastemaker at 60."

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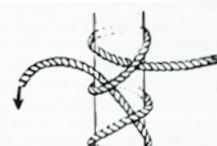
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Grade 5 Arts Alive! Returns

From architecture to jazz dance, workshops expose a grade to the breadth of the arts

by Alison Rooney

Now in its third year, Haldane's Grade 5 Arts Alive! Day afforded the entire grade an opportunity to sample multiple art forms while navigating the hallways and switching classrooms in a preview of what awaits them in middle school next year. Once again this community, well-stocked in artists of different stripes, was tapped into, as artist/parent hybrids introduced students to new ways of perceiving and creating.

Students were asked to list their choices in order of preference, and most got a lot of what they wanted and a little of something perhaps less familiar to them. The three rotations included many returning artists: Dani Locastro teaching textile design; Laura Danilov using group exercises to work on singing technique; Ivy Meeropol, along with Rudy van Dommele filming a home-grown cinema-verité documentary behind the scenes at the Haldane cafeteria; Steve and Mary Bates working on figure sculpture in clay; Lisa Sabin and the kids improving up a storm and Haldane Arts Booster Club president Katie Bissinger teaching them the rudiments of tap dancing. Former Haldane librarian Juli Hoffman returned to the school to once again demonstrate aerial circus arts.

First-time participants included Alvin Ailey-trained Connie Rotardier, who exposed the students to jazz dance; artist Tyson Tinsley, who got his group drawing quickly using action/gesture techniques and architect Pam Gunther, who helped students devise their dream playground. Leo Sacks connected contemporary musical artists to their earlier-era inspirations in "Musical Trees"

(see other article).

Creative writing was the focus of two workshops. In one, writer and professor Kathy Curto assisted the kids in "telling their stories" via the SMITH Magazine Six-Word Memoir approach. In the other, literary agent Heather Schroder, who works with authors from many genres — adult literary fiction to children's books — helping them shape their manuscripts, jumped in earlier here, before the works were even created. Her workshop invited participants to "explore your world and create new worlds, time periods, peoples and creatures ... if you can imagine it, you can write it."

After asking students what their favorite book was and receiving different answers, Schroder pointed out that each "started in someone's imagination. As different as all of you are, you all have imagination, and writing fiction is about putting imagination into words. We're going to explore how imagination can inspire us to work." Providing a verbal prompt, she followed that up by distributing four cards to each student, two relating to character

and two to the world in which that character lives. Urging the kids to "resist the urge to write something 'nice'" Schroder suggested instead to "draw them in your mind and then use your words. Think about what they ate for breakfast. Do they like to eat vegetables — or people? Do they live on this planet, or another? Whatever you're imagining, go with it."

Pens met paper for a stretch, as these new universes emerged. Breaking from the writing briefly, some described their creations: "It's a world of cannibals, on another planet, but it looks just like this one," and "My characters are chickens, who talk." Suggestions were then given to first introduce another



Student work done in Dani Locastro's textile design class. This will be made into a wall hanging for the maker's space room.

Photo courtesy of Dani Locastro



Two students sculpt figures from clay, during Arts Alive!

Photo by Katie Bissinger



Connie Rotardier, teaches a jazz dance workshop at Haldane's Arts Alive!

Photo by Katie Bissinger

character into your world and to consider the biggest challenge your character faces. "He has to go back into his lunchbox, alone" was one of these, from one student, who later added, "It's more about the lunchbox than the actual person." All ideas and plot developments were encouraged.

After a few more suggested prompts, writing was done for the time being; writers could either bring their stories home to continue, or hand them in, to be bound together in a book. "What's great is," Schroder told the class, "before you sat down, these characters did not exist, and now they are real to you. Listen to how you talk about them." Finishing the session off by reading a couple of pages from what was her favorite book at their age, Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle In Time*, Schroder concluded by asking the writers what they were able to deduce from just a short passage. "It's stormy; She has a lot of self pity; Her father disappeared ..." the replies came tumbling out. "Look all at you know, from just that," Schroder noted, before the bell rang and they all headed out for more arts action.

In reflection, afterward, Schroder described it from her perspective: "The kids were great. After 10 minutes of writing with a prompt they could each describe their character, and after another 10 they could tell me what their character wanted. They could build a world. By the end, almost all of them felt they could do it."

Any parent or community member interested in conducting a workshop next year should get in touch with the Haldane Arts Booster Committee over the winter.



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Lady slippers at Manitoga Photo provided

Wildflowers at Manitoga

Plant ecologist to lead tour on June 5

Ted Elliman, author of *Wildflowers of New England*, will lead a tour to view Manitoga's woodland wildflowers at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 5. A book signing and reception will follow.

Elliman is a plant ecologist for the New England Wild Flower Society in Framingham, Mass. Tour tickets are \$35 at brownpapertickets.com/event/2511178.

Village Seeks Volunteers

Openings for zoning and parking

The Village of Cold Spring is seeking residents to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals and/or the Parking Committee. Send a letter of interest and resume to Mayor Dave Merandy, 85 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516 or by email to vcslcrk@bestweb.net.



Jay Ungar and Molly Mason Photo provided

Jay Ungar and Molly Mason to Perform

Will play Putnam Valley center on June 4

Jay Ungar and Molly Mason will perform at 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 4, at the Tompkins Corners Cultural Center in Putnam Valley. Ungar is best known for his haunting "Ashokan Farewell," which

became the theme of Ken Burns' PBS miniseries, *The Civil War*.

For their June 4 performance, Jay and Molly will mix it up on guitar, fiddle, bass and keyboard and play a mix of Cajun, Old Time, Swing, Jazz, Bluegrass, Celtic and some surprises. Tickets are \$20 at brownpapertickets.com/event/2544771. The cultural center is located at 729 Peekskill Hollow Road.

Snapping Turtles at Boscobel

Annual walk scheduled for June 4

Boscobel will host its 22nd annual Snapping Turtle Walk at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 4, to watch female turtles climb the steep hill to the lawns to lay their eggs. Guides from the National Audubon Society's Constitution Marsh Sanctuary will share the habits and history of these amazing, living fossils and live specimens to observe. Afterward, visitors may walk the grounds in search of nesting female turtles.

Advance registration is recommended at boscobel.org. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children (those 6 and younger are free.) Coffee, juice and donuts will be provided. The event takes place rain or shine.

Later in the day, at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon, Boscobel will host Starlab, an inflatable planetarium designed for ages 4 and up. Tickets for each show, which has a limit of 22 children, are \$8 and registration is recommended.



Stand back! Photo provided

Vassar Group to Meet on Refugees

Will discuss settlement in Dutchess

Vassar Temple in Poughkeepsie will host a meeting at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 5, for faith-based and other community groups on refugee settlement in Dutchess County. Maria Höhn, a professor of history at Vassar, founded the campus initiative, Refugee Solidarity, to address the worldwide crisis.

The temple is located at 140 Hooker Ave. in Poughkeepsie. For information call 845-454-2570. For more information on Refugee Solidarity, visit pages.vassar.edu/vcsolodarity.



Reaching, by Cali Gorevic Photo provided

Barrett to Show Local Photographers

Arboreal Conversations opens June 3

The Barrett Art Center in Poughkeepsie will host a reception from 4 to 7 p.m. on Friday, June 3, to open *Arboreal Conversations*, an exhibit of abstract photographs by Jane Soodalter and macro-lens shots by Cali Gorevic.

Gorevic has served on the board of directors at the Garrison Art Center, while Soodalter's work has been shown at Gallery 66 NY and in the Garrison Art Center's PHOTOcentric show. The Barrett exhibition, which will be held at Crenson Gallery, continues through July 2. The gallery is located at 55 Noxon St. For more information, visit barrettartcenter.org.

Land Trust to Hold Open House

Will say farewell to Andy Chmar

The Hudson Highlands Land Trust will host an open house from 4 to 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 5, to say farewell to Executive Director Andy Chmar, who is retiring. The free program, to be held at Winter Hill, 20 Nazareth Way, Garrison, will include live music and refreshments. RSVP to info@hhlt.org or 845/424-3358 x6.

Gallery 66 NY Opens Two Exhibits

Opening reception set for June 3

Gallery 66 NY in Cold Spring will open two exhibits with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday, June 3. *Improvisa-*

tion features photographs by Ellen Crane and paintings by Jennifer Woolcock Schwartz. *Bimorphic Close Ups* includes paintings by Michael Mueller and sculpture by Sarah Haviland.

Crane, a former professional dancer, is passionate about photographing choreography and movement. Schwartz is showing a series of paintings and drawings inspired by her love of jazz. The theme of her collection is the color blue. Mueller's works are inspired by nature, in particular the close-up view of plant and animal life. Haviland's human-bird personae sculptures incorporate a range of materials including wire mesh, resin, steel and bronze.

The exhibits will be on view through June 26 at the gallery, located at 66 Main St. Hours are noon to 6 p.m. Friday to Sunday. For more information call 845-809-5838 or visit gallery66ny.com.



Jamming, by Jennifer Woolcock Schwartz Image provided

Shakespeare Fest to Hold Annual Gala

Celebrating 30 years of performances

The Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival will host its annual gala at 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 4, at its theater tent on the grounds of Boscobel House & Gardens in Garrison. Celebrating 30 years of Shakespeare in the Hudson Highlands, the gala will feature cocktails on the great lawn; performance highlights from the past 30 seasons; a tribute given by Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney; a live auction with Nicholas Lowry of Swann Galleries; an elegant dinner; and dancing under the stars with the Alex Donner Orchestra.

The event co-chairs are HVSF Board Chair Robin Ardit and Ralph Ardit; Steven L. Holley and John W. Hamilton IV; Dan Kramer and Judy Mogul; Chip Lowenson and Susan Brune; and Frederic C. Rich. For information, and to reserve tickets, which start at \$350 each, contact Catherine Taylor-Williams at ctwilliams@hvshakespeare.com. (Continued on next page)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Cocktails on the lawn at the 2015 HVSF Gala

Photo by T. Charles Erickson

org or 845-809-5750 x12. Tickets also can be purchased at hvshakespeare.org. The season opens Tuesday, June 7, and includes performances of *As You Like It*, *Macbeth* and *Measure for Measure*.

Founder's Day at Fishkill Farms

Celebrating Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

Fishkill Farms in Hopewell Junction will host a Founder's Day Celebration from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, May 29, to honor Henry Morgenthau, Jr., who opened the farm in 1914. Two decades later, in 1934, he was named Secretary of the Treasury by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The day will include an exhibit of historic memorabilia including war bonds posters, letters between FDR and Morgenthau (who mercilessly teased each other) and photographs of the two owned by the Morgenthau family and the FDR Library



Henry Morgenthau, Jr. trimming a bush at Fishkill Farms in 1938

Photo: FDR Library

Archives.

The farm also will screen home videos shot between 1933 and 1942, including footage of a crucial wartime meeting at Fishkill Farms between Winston Churchill, FDR and Morgenthau.

From noon to 4 p.m. Seth Kessel and the Two Cent Band will perform swinging jazz, and there will be complimentary tastings of wine, spirits, cheeses and other artisan products throughout the day. There will also be a pig roast, house jerk chicken, hotdogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers and corn, horse-drawn wagon rides and arts and crafts for the kids.

Tickets are \$6 per person in advance or \$9 at the door. (The pig roast and wagon rides have additional fees.) Visit fishkillfarms.com. The rain date is Sunday, June 5.

Garbage into Gold

Museum to host composting workshop

The Hudson Highlands Nature Museum in Cornwall will host a two-hour workshop on composting at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 4, at its Outdoor Discovery Center, on Muser Drive across from 174 Angola Road. The introductory program, called "Turn Garbage into Gold and Rot into Riches," will be led by a Master Gardener from the Cornell Cooperative Extension and is designed for adults and children ages 10 and up. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children (\$7/\$5 for museum members). For more information visit hhn.org or call 845-534-5506, x204.



Composting bins

Photo provided

Cider & Cheese Mart Set for June 4

Part of Cider Week Hudson Valley

As part of Cider Week Hudson Valley, the inaugural Cider & Cheese Tasting and Market will take place from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 4, at Basilica Hudson. Co-sponsored by Glynwood Farm in Cold Spring, the event will feature more than 20 craft cider and 10 cheese makers available for sampling and purchase. Tickets, which are \$35 for ages 21 and older and \$15 for ages 10 to 20 (children under 10 are free) are available at ciderweekhv.com/events. Basilica Hudson is located at 110 S. Front St. in Hudson.

Later in the week, from 4 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, June 8, Nine Pin Cider will host a cookout at The Hop, 554 Main St. in Beacon. No tickets or reservations are needed. For a schedule of Cider Week events, visit ciderweekhv.com.



A selection of cheeses to taste with your cider

Photo provided



An example of container gardening

Photo provided

Garden on Your Deck

Master Gardeners offer class

The Master Gardeners of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County will offer a workshop at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 4 at 1 Geneva Road in Brewster on how to grow vegetables and herbs on a deck, patio or other areas with "container gardening."

This program will provide the basics of what to plant, maintain-

nance and choosing the correct container. The cost is \$15. To register, visit putnam.cce.cornell.edu/events. For more information, call 845-278-6738.

Outrun Autism 5K

Haldane students raise funds

On Saturday, June 11 at 9 a.m., students from Haldane High School are holding their second annual "Outrun Autism 5k" Run/Walk, with all proceeds going to the Putnam County Autism Resource Organization (PARC). Last year, the 5k was held on Haldane's campus, but this year it will loop around town, starting and ending at the gazebo with a route similar to the Turkey Trot.

The race this year is being organized by Alexandria Gariepy (senior) and Ruby McEwen (junior). They chose to have the race again this year because they want to give back to the community. Gariepy's

brother has autism and she says this project really hits home for her.

Beacon

Get Your Treasures Fixed

Repair Café at Howland Center on May 28

Bring your beloved but broken items to the Repair Café to be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 28, at the Howland Cultural Center and volunteers will fix them for free. Please only bring items that you can carry in and carry out; the volunteers will ask you to stay with your item and perhaps tell them something about it.

The purpose, say organizers, is to build awareness around reducing waste and creatively re-using stuff; preserving know-how and celebrating curiosity; and building community and having fun with neighbors.

Items that will be considered include mechanical and electrical, things made of wood, clothing and textiles, jewelry, tool sharpening and repair, digital device configuration and dolls and stuffed animals. If you are interested in becoming a repair coach, contact Antony Tseng at 845-224-5146 or beaconrepaircafe@gmail.com.

Show Focuses on Solitary

Letters from a prisoner to a friend

The Beacon Hebrew Alliance and the New York Campaign for Alternatives to Isolated Confinement will present a performance at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 8, of *Mariposa & The Saint: From Solitary Confinement, A Play Through Letters*. (Continued on next page)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS (From previous page)

Show Focuses on Solitary (from previous page)

Julia Steele Allen in a performance of *Mariposa & the Saint*

Photo by Noelle Ghoussaini

In 2012, Sara (Mariposa) Fonseca was sentenced to 15 months in isolated confinement. Years later, she is still there. Through letters written to a longtime friend and collaborator, Julia Steele Allen, *Mariposa* brings her experiences to the stage. The performance, which stars Allen and Ray Huth, is directed by Noelle Ghoussaini and stage managed by Michi Osato.

The show is touring eight states, in-

cluding New York, that have legislation or campaigns to limit or end long-term solitary confinement.

A discussion of solitary confinement will follow the 45-minute performance, which takes place at the Beacon Hebrew Alliance, 331 Verplanck Ave., at the corner of Fishkill Ave. Tickets are \$10 to \$15 at the door, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds, and formerly incarcerated

ed people are admitted free. (The show is not recommended for children under 14). For more information, visit juliasteeleallen.com/portfolio/mariposa.

Interfaith Council to Lead Walk

Hope to show support for Muslims

Members of the Dutchess County Interfaith Council and local churches and synagogues will lead a solidarity walk to show support for followers of the Muslim faith at Walkway on the Hudson on Sunday, June 5. Walkers are asked to park on Washington Street or Parker Avenue and assemble at the east gate of the walkway at 5:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian, St. Joachim, St. Luke's and Christ United Methodist churches in Beacon are members of the interfaith council.

The walk will be followed at 7:15 p.m. by a Community Vegetarian Potluck Iftar (the traditional meal-breaking fast during Ramadan, which begins June 6) at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 325 Mill St., Poughkeepsie. Enter on Catharine Street. For more information, visit dutchesscountyinterfaith.org or call 845-471-7333.

Beacon Bees Recruiting Readers

Students entering grades 6-9 invited to participate

The Howland Public Library in Beacon and 24 other libraries from the Mid-Hudson Library System are recruiting students entering grades 6 to 9 to participate in the 12th annual Battle of the Books, a contest in which participants answer trivia questions about specific books read over the summer.

Team members will participate in coaching activities and practice battles at the Howland library from 5 to 7 p.m. each Thursday from June 30 to Sept. 1. The library will supply the books, T-shirts and pizza. An all-star team will be chosen to compete on Sept. 17 in the Regional Battle of the Books at Columbia Greene Community College in Hudson. The Beacon Bees were the champions in 2010, 2013 and 2015. The team is sponsored by the Friends of the Howland Public Library.

To register or for more information, contact Ginny Figlia, head of Youth Services, at youth@beaconlibrary.org or 845-831-1135, ext. 103.



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Avery Danziger Exhibit at Howland



An exhibit of photos by Avery Danziger of the abandoned Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center in Wingdale, which closed in 1994, will open at the Howland Cultural Center with a reception from 3 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 4. It continues through July 17. The center is located at 477 Main St. in Beacon.

Photo provided

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Preview of Secret PARC Garden Tour

By Anita Peltonen

On Saturday, June 4, the closed gates to private gardens in Garrison, Cold Spring, Kent, Carmel, Putnam Valley, and Brewster swing open for a cause. The Putnam County Secret Garden Tour, now celebrating its 10th anniversary, sells tickets for entry to nine gardens total — admission to the public Boscobel and Stonecrop are included — to raise funds for county children and adults with developmental disabilities who are served by Partners with PARC. (Tickets are \$30 in advance at PutnamSecretGardenTour.com; same day, \$40; 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.; rain or shine.)

The gardens include vast shady green ‘vignettes’ amid forest terrain, cottage gardens, herb and flower-cutting tracts, and vistas of field and water. (According to Horticulture Magazine: “When you look at a large garden, your eyes dart about, looking for a place to rest. Successful gardens incorporate vignettes—mini-gardens that make up a unified, cohesive garden plan. Possible focal points of a garden vignette include: A specimen tree or shrub, bench, urn, statue, small water feature, birdbath or birdhouse.”)

Arthur and Carolyn Ross have embraced many Japanese concepts into their naturalistic gardens across five of their ten acres of land. An open lawn near the Ross home — once a small cabin, it is still a modest, low-lying structure but with a large deck — leads your eye to views of the Hudson. Otherwise, the landscaped acreage is interlaced with abundant native evergreens and deciduous trees as well as azaleas and other mature species that have grown nearly to tree size.

Before he shows a guest his garden, Arthur sits down and quietly tells the tale of how he built it — and also how it has sustained him through personal struggle and loss. Today it gives him great peace, he says.

Arthur does a tremendous amount of hands-on gardening. His favorite flower is the light blue forget-me-not, which you will see interlaced amid the beefy leaves of hostas and wild ginger, under shrubs and trees, and tucked alongside the many stepping stone paths that lead from one garden area to the next.

Arthur and his wife Carolyn bought their land rough in 1975. His first year, he planted 300 tulips but deer ate them all. He knows a lot better now, having competed with a friend who creates cottage gardens. At one point, his friend Frank Cabot (of Stonecrop Gardens) told him what his property needed: water, which the Rosses excavated for and which now falls in a slim curtain over a rock cliff into a stream.

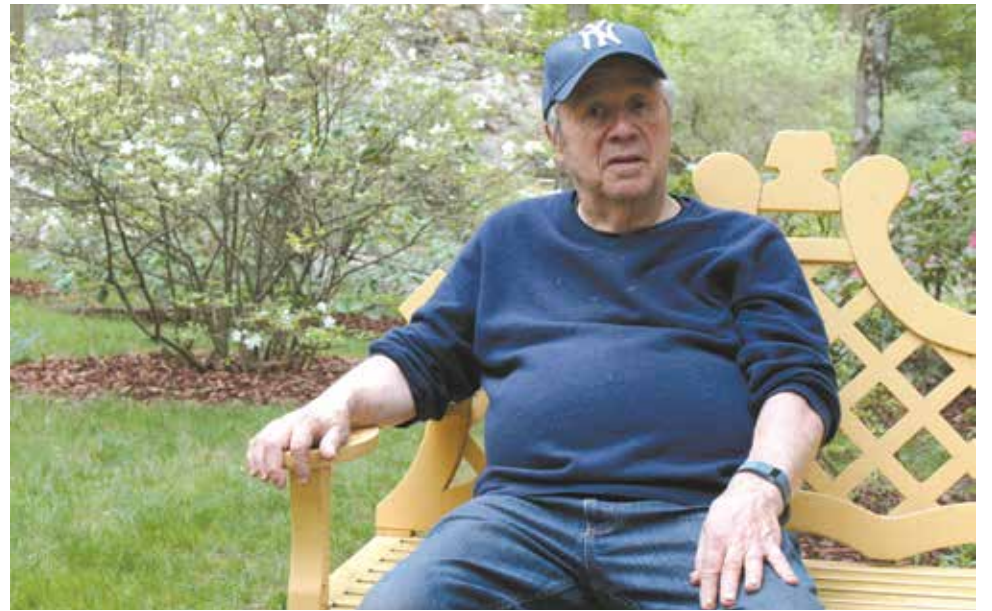
Arthur designs his stone walls and beds and Mario Gregorio builds them. A hanging glass mobile by Carolyn hangs above a koi pond. Metal and clay sculptures repose elsewhere.

The Willis property, also in Garrison, is in the style of a large cottage garden, but with local variations including some stunning mature evergreen trees. Borders are filled with hostas and ferns, but the irises and peonies are busting open now and should be in perfect form for June 4.

Set around a handsome 1890 brick carriage house that was an outbuilding of the estate of a famous Sing Sing jail chief, Lewis Lawes, there are open spaces in full shade and full sun, a slate-decked pool surrounded by shrubs, flowers, and vines,



Willis property sunken garden: A new contemplative area was recently built on the foundation of a stable.



Arthur Ross tells the story of how he built his gardens amid 10 acres of thick forest.

Photos by A. Peltonen

and a newer sunken garden built inside the foundation of an old stable.

Lawes abhorred the death penalty and tried to have it abolished, although his position forced him to oversee scores of executions, which reportedly made him ill. Although little is written about Lawes' wife Catherine, she was also reputed to have strong compassion for prisoners.

Lewis Lawes wrote prolifically about prison reform, including the book *20,000 Years at Sing Sing*, which he helped turn into a movie starring Spencer Tracy and Bette Davis [see IMDB for more].

Today, it's Herb the outdoor-loving black standard poodle who reigns over

the grounds here. Suzanne Willis and her husband Ed Drake have placed rounded stones under their shade plants that are engraved with the names of deceased family pets.

The Putnam County Secret Garden Tour is self-guiding driving tour from one destination to the next.

To buy same-day tickets on June 4, you can find them at either end of the county for \$40 each from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.: in western Putnam at Julia L. Butterfield Library at 10 Morris Ave (on Route 9D just north of Main St./Route 301) in Cold Spring; and in eastern Putnam at PARC, 31 International Blvd., Brewster.

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Sports

Mets Edge Yankees in Wild Game

Little League playoffs begin June 6

By Mike Meeropol and Brian McElroy

It was the top of the sixth inning. The Philipstown Mets and Yankees were facing each other for the second time. Each had identical records and were tied for second place in the Philipstown majors division. The score was 7-5 in favor of the Mets. With one out and a runner on first, the Yankees' Tommy Tucker clouted a mammoth triple over the head of left fielder Alex Klybas, whose long strong throw prevented an inside-the-park home run. This set the stage for the final drama of an incredibly exciting game.

There had been three lead changes on the way to the sixth-inning climax.

The third inning featured a home run by the Yankees' Jonathan Bradley, capping a three-run rally that put the Yankees up by two, to be followed by a two-out RBI by the Mets' Alex Klybas to bring the Mets

to within one. The fourth inning saw the third lead change, featuring two triples to put the Mets up 7-5. Things might have been worse for the Yankees had William Bradley at short not snared a solid line drive off the bat of Roy Smith.

The sixth inning began just as in the previous nail-biter (reported in these pages on April 29) which had been decided by one run. With one out, Evan Tighe worked a walk, setting the stage for Tommy's heroics. Standing at third after hitting that triple, he represented the tying run. Robert Viggiano moved to the mound and closed out the game leaving Tommy stranded at third. Final score: Mets 7, Yankees 6.

All coaches and players agreed that both games could have gone either way. This thrilling series between these two teams is destined for a final rematch in the first round of the playoffs on June 6 at 5:30 p.m.



Top left, left to right, Hughie McElroy, Daniel McElroy and Blake Bolte; above, Mets pitcher Julian Ambrose; at left, William Bradley (number one) speaking with first baseman Robert Viggiano

Little League photos by Linda Bolte



Above, Abbey Stowell racing in the Pentathlon at the Northern Counties Track & Field Championship held at Arlington High School in Poughkeepsie on May 21. Stowell, a sophomore, won the event with 2595 points. Below, Hudson Lovell catches air for a 14-2.5 long jump at the same event.

Photos by Peter Farrell



Philipstown's Stefano Hammond fights for control of the ball as teammates (l. to r.) Chase Mayer, Patrick DiNardo, Tomas Struck and Aidan Sullivan-Hoch protect the Arsenal goal in Sunday's 5-1 win against the Cortlandt Pythons.

Photo provided

