

The HIGHLANDS Current



A Yawner in Beacon
See Page 6

FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2016

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



Top, left Kismet: Break-in was attempted through a rear window. Top right, Go Go Pops; bottom, from left, Le Bouchon and Moo Moo's Creamery, which also had cash stolen.

Photos by M. Turton

Lawyering Up Over Butterfield

Second opinions fail to settle argument

By Michael Turton

A pair of second legal opinions may actually increase the chance of a courtroom showdown over a change of plans proposed by the developer of the former Butterfield Hospital site in Cold Spring. At the June 7 meeting of the village board, Mayor Dave Merandy announced that based on a second legal opinion received recently, the planning board will continue to process the Butterfield application as a “change of use.” Considering comments made by the developer two weeks ago that decision could ultimately result in a court battle.

In late April, developer Paul Guillaro submitted an application to the Cold Spring Planning Board that included a swap in uses between two buildings as part of the multi-use redevelopment. The revised plan places the senior citizen center and post office in the Lahey Pavilion, a building not included in the site plan approved in November 2015. The new plan will see the medical offices currently located in Lahey move to Building No. 2, now under construction. That building was originally designated to house both the senior citizen center and post office.

At the May 12 meeting of the planning board, Guillaro's attorney Steven Barshov argued that the change was minor and that the zoning for Butterfield made it clear that the 35 parking spaces identified for Lahey would not have to be altered. “The code is not ambiguous,” he said at the time. “It says no additional parking shall be required.” Guillaro reiterated the same argument at a meeting two weeks later.

John Furst, the village's attorney, saw the application very differently, arguing that the proposed swap is a change in use that necessitates a revised table that would increase the number of parking spaces at Lahey to 56.

New legal opinions reinforce original positions

Guillaro put his stake in the ground at the May 26 planning board meeting, commenting that he had sought a second legal opinion and believed that if the difference in legal interpretations were to go to court “there is no way” the village could win.

Faced with (Continued on Page 3)

Shops Hit With Break-ins and Broken Glass

Putnam County Sheriff investigating

By Michael Turton

It isn't only sidewalk reconstruction that is disrupting life for shopkeepers on Cold Spring's Main Street. A rash of burglaries, or at least attempted break-ins, took place on the night of Monday, June 6 and the early morning hours of June 7. Three of the incidents took place on Main Street, one on the riverfront.

Go Go Pops, located at 64 Main St., was one of the victims. Co-owner Greg Miller told *The Current* that he checked the shop on Monday evening “and everything was fine” but that by the time his wife Lynn, a member of the village board, came to work in the morning, “Everything was not fine.” The glass of the entrance door had been broken and cash stolen from the register. It was not a great deal of money, Miller said, describing it as “the bank” for the start up of busi-

ness the next morning. “The cost of the glass will be more than what they took,” he said.

He was not impressed by the thieves' modus operandi. “There's no more stupid time to rob a shop in Cold Spring than on a Monday night,” he commented, adding that stores are no longer lucrative for would-be thieves since most transactions are done via credit and debit cards.

Miller said that Cold Spring Police re-

sponded quickly to his call. The investigation was then turned over to the Putnam County Sheriff's Office.

Moo Moo's Creamery at 32 West St. on Cold Spring's riverfront was also burglarized. Owner Alexi Katsetos confirmed that his ice cream parlor was broken into and cash stolen from the register. He declined to state an amount. Katsetos said that the Putnam County Sheriff's office is examining the shop's surveillance video.

The burglar or burglars also attempted unsuccessfully to break into Kismet and Le Bouchon, both located on Main Street. Kismet owner Caryn Cannova said that it was the first time during her 16 years on Main Street that she had experienced an attempted break-in. The culprits broke a window at the back of her shop but failed to actually enter the store.

At Le Bouchon the break-in was also attempted via the rear of the building, where a small window-pane was broken. A restaurant employee said the incident had to have happened after 11 p.m. — the time at which manager Michael Vierra

(Continued on Page 3)



Lynn Miller: hoping bad things don't come in fours.

Cook On: 1 part chaos, 2 parts calm

Fresh from Bulgaria

By Mary Ann Ebner

A savory aroma met me at my front door and led the way to our kitchen as a spicy blend of sweet and sour promised the evening's menu included no regular fare. But before any tasting, a cross-cultural lesson was in order. My personal chef-for-a-day, working away, wanted to adjust the temperature on an oven that looked completely foreign to her. She opened the oven to reveal a stout clay pot filled with a hearty mix of ingredients smothered in paprika. Sound more like fiction than fact?

Far from illusion — a Bulgarian houseguest, Elena — surprised my family with Bulgarian home cooking. She traveled to New York, her first trip across an ocean, to see her son receive his undergraduate degree in computer science. Elena's family called our place home for a week while they toured the region and attended graduation activities. We encourage guests to make themselves at home, and visitors who take over the cooking receive an open invitation to return.

As for the Bulgarians, a group of five, they thanked us with the evening meal prepared by Elena, who hails from the southern part of the country. We learned that any self-respecting Bulgarian begins a proper dinner with the hard stuff — shots — and they procured a bottle of kicky Bulgarian plum brandy from who knows where ... the airport, Manhattan, their luggage? Sometimes, it's best not to ask. It was an "our house is your house" kind of week.



Similar to feta, Bulgarian white cheese tastes creamy and tangy.

Once we polished off the shots — not quite the full bottle — eating commenced with a tossing-at-the-table of the classic Bulgarian starter, the shopska salad. Elena had gathered the freshest tomatoes, cucumbers and red peppers in the Hudson Valley, and she must have smuggled in a few pounds of Bulgarian white cheese, a briny feta-type that arguably makes the salad. Dressed with a little sunflower oil, this Eastern European mix of fresh raw vegetables and cheese may be a starter back in Bulgaria, but it could have easily headlined here as a satiable dinner on its own.

Along with the shopska salad, the large clay pot, the guvch, doing real work in the oven throughout the afternoon, made its way to the table. This slow-roasting casserole of sorts contained a dish called kapama, a traditional meal of meats, rice and sauerkraut prepared in layers. As if that



A national dish, the Bulgarian "shopska" salad

Photos by M.A. Ebner

weren't enough to experience the flavors of the Balkans, we sampled a puffy serving of phyllo dough stuffed with more Bulgarian cheese. Elena's family calls the dish banica (ba-neet-za), a typical Bulgarian pastry, cut in squares, triangles, or shaped in a spiral. Again, Bulgarian white cheese was the cornerstone ingredient.

Beacon Pantry, a purveyor of specialty foods and fine cheese as well as a resource in helping the community learn about cheese through its classes and events, classifies Bulgarian white cheese in the fresh category. These cheeses, including chevre, mozzarella, paneer, feta and ricotta are fresh milk cheeses to be enjoyed soon after purchase and once opened.

"Feta is a fresh cheese," Beacon Pantry owner Stacey Penlon said. "The milk is cooked but it's not then aged and pressed and the cheeses have a shorter shelf life."

With Greek and Bulgarian feta made with sheep's or goat's milk, it tends to be quite expensive. Sheep's milk is the fattiest of the common milk types but its cheeses are rich and luscious and it goes a long way."

The creamy texture of feta makes a lush addition to mealtime. If you're up for an Eastern European change of pace with cheese, ask an expert to help track it down.

"We buy cheese shipped from cheesemakers all the time," Penlon said. "As long as it's a reputable cheese store, they should handle it properly."

For those who want to try making their own cheese, Beacon Pantry (beaconpantry.com) will offer a class in making fresh cheese (mozzarella and ricotta) in August. Finding tangy, salty Bulgarian white cheese (also called *sirene* cheese), tastes worth the trouble of searching. Similar brined white cheese made with sheep's, goat's or cow's milk will work in the recipes shared here as fine substitutions.

Banica

Serves 8

15 sheets phyllo dough
3 cups Bulgarian white cheese or feta, grated or crumbled
¾ cups butter

1 cup carbonated water
(optional: beaten egg, spinach, green onions to stack in cheese layer)

1. Butter bottom and sides of 9x13-inch baking dish. Melt butter.
2. Layer 3 dough sheets in dish. Drizzle with butter. Repeat layering and drizzling twice. Cover top layer with cheese. Add 3 more dough sheets and drizzle with butter. Repeat layering and drizzling. Pour carbonated water evenly over top layer.
3. Bake at 375 degrees for 20 minutes or until golden.

Shopska Salad

Serves 8

4 to 5 medium tomatoes, largely diced
2 cucumbers, peeled, and diced
2 sweet red peppers, chopped
1 medium red onion, diced
1 bunch green onions, diced

¼ cup fresh parsley, chopped
½ cup sunflower or olive oil
2 cups Bulgarian white cheese or feta, grated
(optional: green peppers, roasted red peppers, kalamata olives)

1. Mix prepared vegetables in large bowl. Add sunflower or olive oil and coat thoroughly. Fold in parsley. Layer salad mixture onto platter or serving bowl.
2. Before serving, pile a mound of grated white cheese over vegetables. Mix at the table.



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Shops Hit with Break-ins and Broken Glass *(from Page 1)*



Hugh Moss replaces the broken window in the entrance door at Go Go Pops.

closed the restaurant.

There have been a number of break-ins in the village in recent years and it seems some Main Street merchants are getting the message. Vierra told *The Current* that after the last time the restaurant was burglarized a safe was added in order to secure cash overnight. A deadbolt that requires a key was also added to the back door. That change in the locking system was what prevented entry into the restaurant on Monday night. Although by breaking a small window in the door the would-be thief or thieves were able to reach the deadbolt — they were not able to open it.

Lynn Miller said that when she arrived at Go Go Pops Tuesday morning and saw the broken door window she initially assumed that a rock had probably flown up

as a result of Main Street project construction taking place out front. “But when I realized the door was open and saw the cash register ... I knew we’d been robbed.”

Asked how she felt when she realized she was the latest victim of a burglary, she said, “It takes a while to sink in. It kind of felt like ‘OK, it’s our turn.’ Others have had the same misfortune and it tends to go round.” Miller said she was grateful the cash register wasn’t broken and that an iPad left in plain sight wasn’t stolen.

She expressed some empathy for the thief, saying that the person must have been desperate. “To break into a little shop like this? They must be really badly off in some way. Maybe they need some help.”

Miller even managed to laugh despite the unpleasant circumstance. “People say that bad things happen in threes — I’m hoping they don’t happen in fours,”



Greg Miller: “There’s no more stupid time to rob a shop in Cold Spring than on a Monday night.”

Photos by M. Turton

explaining that her father had recently passed away, followed by a flood that had damaged their shop, and now a break-in. “I hope this is the last of it,” she said.

Lawyering Up Over Butterfield *(from Page 1)*

disparate legal views and possible court action, Merandy sought a second opinion as well from Rodenhausen Chale, a Rhinebeck firm specializing in municipal and land use law.

At Tuesday’s village board meeting Merandy said that he and Planning Board Chair Matt Francisco recently spoke with a lawyer from the firm confirmed Furst’s interpretation of the code as valid. “We are encouraged and feel comfortable in moving ahead in asking for the application,” the mayor said. “Basically we feel comfortable [that] this is a change of use ... and we’ll be

applying our code to that change.”

The mayor added that Francisco “understands the need to have this done as quickly as possible” and that the planning board will deal with Guillaro’s application at its next meeting, scheduled for 6 p.m. on Friday, June 10. That meeting had originally been scheduled for the previous evening.

Merandy said the planning board is waiting for information from the Deputy Putnam County Executive Bruce Walker regarding the amount of seating proposed for the senior citizen center, a factor that



Construction continues at Butterfield, as does legal wrangling.

Photo by M. Turton

could affect the parking table.

In other business ...

- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has pushed back the date for “substantial completion” of the remediation of toxic coal tar at the site of Cold Spring Boat Club from July 1 to July 10. Merandy said a DEC official told him via email that the facility where the contamination is being disposed of has reached its monthly quota and disposal is now being determined on a day-to-day basis. DEC estimates that excavation at the boat club will be complete within a few days.
- The restrooms located near the pedestrian tunnel have been vandalized again. Trustee Fran Murphy reported that they were “trashed” last weekend. A toilet seat was broken and paper strewn about the restroom. Murphy said there has been no firm policy about locking the restroom doors overnight and that Cold Spring Police Department will now do so. “This is my opinion, not the full board’s opinion,” Murphy said. “But if this continues; if the bathrooms are totally wrecked on a regular basis we should lock them up and say ‘sorry we don’t have public bathrooms,’ which is a shame.” Mayor Merandy said he will speak to CSPD Officer in Charge George Kane about instituting a consistent schedule for locking the restrooms, which have been damaged a number of times in recent years.

- The Main Street Project remains on schedule. Deputy Mayor Marie Early reported that concrete will be poured from Depot Square to Fair Street by the end of the week. Saw cuts as far east as Garden Street could also be completed by then, she said.

- Cold Spring has its first parking meter. Early said the pay station in the municipal lot on Fair Street will be activated on Thursday, June 9. Hourly parking

fees are \$1 per hour, payable by cash or credit card. The meter will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days per week, except from Nov. 15 to April 15 between the hours of 9 p.m. and 8 a.m.

- The village board continues to consider a request from the Cold Spring Fire Company to have a number of parking spaces on Church Street reserved for CSFC use. Trustee Steve Voloto reported that he met with parking committee chair Anthony Phillips who said the committee has no objection to the request. CSFC prefers that the reserved spaces be located on the west side of Church, against the firehouse. The village board has favored locating them on the east side of the street.
- The board is also considering a request from Nelsonville residents Greg McElhattan and Tania Dirks, owners of Greg’s Good Eats, to provide food and refreshments during the Sunday Sunset Music Series on the Cold Spring riverfront this summer. The series, sponsored by the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, begins July 10. The request would have the food truck set up on West Street near the bandstand.
- The Cold Spring Merchants Association will hold a sidewalk sale on the weekend of Oct 22-23. No outside vendors will take part. The Association’s Leonora Burton said that the sale “will be a celebration of the new sidewalks.”

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Firearm storage law needed in Philipstown

A group of residents have started a petition asking the Philipstown Town Board to pass a firearm safe storage law. The law already exists in Westchester County, New York City and towns throughout the state. This step is the least that we can do to make our kids and community safer. As we dug into the data in Putnam County, it became apparent that suicide by gun is a real issue. If guns are locked up when not in use, they'll be less likely to be used during a suicide attempt and will also be inaccessible to our most precious assets, our kids.

Our plan is to ask the board to pass this law at an upcoming meeting. We are hoping to drum up as much support for this law as possible via a petition at petitions.moveon.org/sign/philipstown-board-pass. We already have more than 325 signatures. If the board hears from the major-

ity of their constituents, it will be more compelled to act.

Alex Dubroff, *Philipstown*

A happy place for a granddaughter

In March 2015 my granddaughter's parents were seeking a change to their daughter's pre-school experience. They reached out to the Philipstown community through chats and social media for information that led them to Community Nursery School at the Presbyterian Church in Cold Spring.

In addition to many personal and very positive recommendations, people directed them to an article that described the school as the "happiest place in town." So each morning this school year, her grandfather and I bring our granddaughter to the Happiest Place in Town, where she is met with smiles and greetings from the staff (Mrs. Rodino, Mrs. Pidala, Miss Jess, Mrs. Dwyer and this spring's intern, Miss

Claire). Then she is off to a variety of self-directed activities with her classmates before the teacher-directed social and academic activities infused with stories and songs begin.

The director, Mrs. Rodino, communicates frequently about the activities the students participate in and each month provides a calendar of events. As needed, she and Mrs. Pidala communicate with the family regarding our granddaughter and they have a sharp eye for her strengths and challenges.

As both a grandparent and a lifelong educator (teacher, principal and college professor), I can say that the decision my son and his wife made was the right one for our granddaughter. We know that we watched her grow and develop in the Happiest Place in Town and look forward to another year there in the fall.

Ruthanne Cullinan Barr, *Cold Spring*

Current Politics

Muhammad Hopes to Challenge Skartados

*September primary if
signatures gathered*

By Kevin E. Foley

Beacon City Council Member Ali T. Muhammad announced this week that he intends to challenge incumbent state Assemblyman Frank Skartados in a primary race for the Democratic Party nomination for the 104th Assembly District, which includes Beacon and parts of Poughkeepsie on this side of the Hudson and Newburgh and towns north on the west side.

Muhammad, 35, in his second term on the Beacon council, stood with about a dozen supporters at the base of Mt. Beacon on Route 9D on June 7 to declare his candidacy.

"I am a Bernie Sanders Democrat; I am an independent Democrat; and I am a public servant that does just that, serves the public," he said in a statement. "I am not seeking the party establishment endorsement because the

people's voice is where my priorities are. I am running for the New York State Assembly to be the people's voice, not the party bosses'. Today we kick off the petition process and my committed group of supporters will start gathering signatures to put my name on the ballot."

To qualify for the September primary, Muhammad will need a minimum of 500 signatures of registered Democrats who live in the district.

Skartados, a Greek immigrant businessman with interests in Poughkeepsie, is in the last year of his second term in the Assembly. He won his two elections in the district with at least 60 percent of the vote. He resides on a small farm in Milton on the west side of the river.

In running against a Democratic incumbent, Muhammad will no doubt add to his strained relationship with the Dutchess County Democratic organization, which has taken him to task for past support of candidates of other parties.

Muhammad told *The Current* he wanted to work toward reforming the way the

"I am not seeking the party establishment endorsement because the people's voice is where my priorities are. I am running for the New York State Assembly to be the people's voice, not the party bosses'."



Ali T. Muhammad at event to declare his candidacy
Photo by K.E. Foley

state government in Albany operates, citing the wide range of investigations and corruption charges against officials. He listed women's equal pay and rights, campaign finance reform and prison reform as key issues on his agenda.

Few Responses from Search Firms for Beacon Schools

*Board considers reissuing
request for bids*

By Jeff Simms

A month after issuing more than two dozen Requests for Proposals (RFPs) to employment firms as part of its search for a new superinten-

dent, the Beacon City School District has only received two responses.

School system officials issued the RFPs — 25 in all — on May 12. The request, a five-page document detailing the various services the district is seeking, was posted in newspapers and sent to search firms with the intent of reaching candidates in New York and beyond.

The RFP requires that agencies must have managed at least five successful superintendent searches in the past five years, with at least three of them in New York state. In addition to detailing a number of ways that the firm would assist the school board in identifying, interviewing and screening candidates, it includes a four- to six-month timeline,
(Continued on next page)

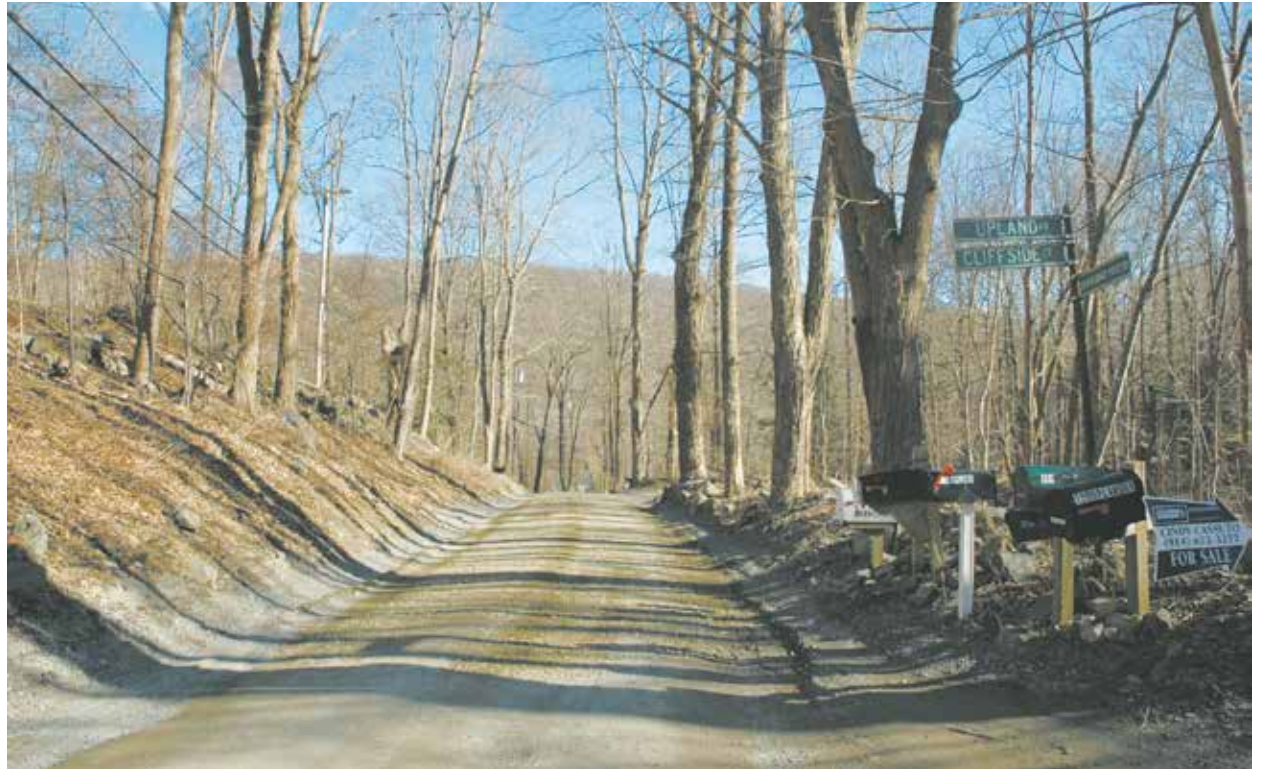
Expert to Address Town Board on Dirt Roads

Observed road work and took samples in March

Ken Skorseth, author of the Federal Highway Administration's Gravel Roads Construction and Maintenance Guide, will address the Philipstown Town Board at a workshop on dirt roads at Town Hall at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 15. In March, Skorseth examined many of Philipstown's dirt roads, met with Highway Superintendent Carl Frisenda and observed road work. He also collected more than 200 pounds of dirt and gravel samples from 10 locations for testing in his South Dakota lab.

The workshop will include a presentation of his findings about Philipstown's dirt roads as well as recommendations and suggestions for cost-effective maintenance. The Old Road Society of Philipstown said it secured Skorseth's services to help Philipstown preserve its heritage roads while being mindful of the town's fiscal considerations.

This workshop is open to the public. Skorseth's guide can be downloaded at: www2.ku.edu.



Old Albany Post Road, looking south from Upland Drive

File photo

Few Responses from Search Firms for Beacon Schools *(from previous page)*

with the hope that a new superintendent would be named by Jan. 1.

The deadline for proposals is June 15. To date, the only responses have come from the Dutchess County Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), which conducted the district's superintendent search in 2011, and McPherson & Jacobson, LLC in Omaha, Nebraska, which, despite the requirements of the RFP, has not worked in New York state. In 2011, after the Dutchess BOCES-led search, the Beacon school board hired former Fort Lee, N.J., superintendent Raymond Bandlow, who lasted just nine months before resigning in July 2012.

The current vacancy was created when Barbara Walkley resigned in January. By doing so, she became the sixth superintendent, not counting interims, to leave the position since Vito DiCesare retired in 2006.

Ann Marie Quartironi, the district's finance chief, was named interim superintendent and has filled that position as well as her original duties in the five months since. Quartironi has said she does not

plan to apply for the permanent position.

During their meeting on June 6, school board members discussed whether to re-issue a modified RFP or attempt to work with one of the two respondents. Vice President Bill Zopf asked his colleagues if the respondents are "so far below our criteria that we don't want to consider them at all, or do we want to explore further with either one of those?" While noting that he liked the proposal from McPherson & Jacobson, he expressed concern that the firm has not worked in New York.

"I don't want to discount them yet, but I also don't want to say that they're my choice," Zopf said.

Board member Christine Galbo questioned whether the timeline and New York requirement led to the poor response rate.

"If you put so many filters in that you get nothing, maybe you need to take some of them out and maybe you'll get more of a response," she said. "We should modify the RFP and send out another RFP, because I don't like either one of them. We should make it as open as possible, so we

have some more to consider."

Others suggested the district could seek feedback from some of the firms that didn't respond. The board agreed to go that route and will discuss at its June 20 meeting whether to reissue the RFP.

Legal counsel

Board member Anthony White has asked twice in recent weeks for the board to also consider putting its legal contract out to bid. On Monday, his motion to initiate that process was defeated, 6-3.

Several board members stated prior to voting on June 6 that the move might be more appropriate after the new board is seated in July. The board's annual re-organizational meeting is scheduled for July 1.

Newly elected members Meredith Heuer, Antony Tseng and Michael Rutkoske will join the board then, replacing Galbo, board President Melissa Thompson and Tracy Antalek Everett.

The board's legal counsel, the firm of Shaw, Perelson, May & Lambert, has been

in place for at least nine years, Thompson said. After a number of contentious meetings prior to Walkley's resignation, some district residents asked the board to consider replacing the firm.

Michael McKee, PhD

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Dated: June 6, 2016
Mary Saari, Village Clerk



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Sculpture Vandalized on Beacon's Main Street

Artwork intentionally broken as Beacon 3D begins

By Brian PJ Cronin

Sometime after 1:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 5, a wooden sculpture of a yawning man created by artist Jon Reichert was knocked over at its site next to the Beacon Bread Company at 193

Main St., breaking into three pieces. The sculpture was installed in advance of the 4th annual Beacon 3D exhibit of public sculpture works. Although that night was marked by a series of particularly strong wind storms, Beacon's Chief of Police Doug Solomon confirmed to *The Highlands Current* that the act was intentional.

"I was surprised by the vandalism but always realized that this type of thing

"I was surprised by the vandalism but always realized that this type of thing comes with the territory when you present art in a public venue."

comes with the territory when you present art in a public venue," said Eleni Smolen, the curator of Beacon 3D. "The artists realize this as well. Fortunately it has been the exception and not the rule and I know the community is, by and large, very supportive of this project."

Created over the course of four months, Reichert's sculpture *The Yawner* consists of more than 100 pieces of wood stacked and clamped together in 12-inch sections before carving. When the work was installed two weeks ago, Reichert used a series of threaded, foot-long, quarter-inch-thick metal spikes to secure it into the ground. The vandals bent the spikes and left handprints on the statue's chest.

As to why someone would be driven to put such an enormous amount of effort into destroying something so whimsical, Reichert is stumped.

"Yawning is something we all do, and I wanted to see if I could make a sculpture that would make people yawn," he said. "Most sculptures of people are pretty heroic, and of course usually you don't want someone's reaction to your artwork to be a yawn. But that was my intention with this."

Reichert said he has been surprised by



Reichert with *The Yawner* after installation.

Photo by Eleni Smolen.

other interpretations of the piece. While many of the reactions were positive, with scores of visitors photographing themselves yawning next to the piece or hugging it, some suggested it was a cynical comment on the perception that Beacon's status as one of the Hudson Valley's hippest towns is over, and that the city is now passé. "That says a lot more about the people who are making that inter-

(Continued on Page 13)



Sculptor Jon Reichert examines the remains of *The Yawner*.

Photo by B. Cronin.



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Cambodian Food Cart Debuts On Route 9

Recipe: a grill, spices, marinated veggies and a personal history

By Alison Rooney

Sokhara Kim misses the restaurant she ran for eight years. Her friends and former customers miss it as well. Sambata Cuisine, as it was known, brought the seldom-highlighted food of her native Cambodia to the Hudson Valley. "A lot of my friends keep asking me when I can do it again, and I can't, but I realized I can do a food cart," Kim explained last Sunday, as a steady flow of customers pulled over on Route 9 to the complex just north of the entrance to East Mountain Road South, which includes Kim's other businesses, Nice 'N Neat Dry Cleaning, Apsara's Nail & Spa and an art gallery devoted to works by her husband, Chakra Oeur.

A mention on the Philipstown Locals Facebook page elicited a long stream of eager replies, and Kim served up lots of steak sandwiches filled with the grilled meat marinated in Cambodian spices, including lemongrass accompanied by carrots, coriander and cucumber pickled in rice vinegar, served inside a choice of whole wheat or white rolls, or platter style, for the easy to swallow cost of \$6 each. This marked the beginning of what Kim plans as a regular weekend endeavor, with the menu changing constantly. "Everyone wants the dumplings," Kim confided, with distinct promise in her words. "I love to make this food; seeing people enjoy it makes me very happy." (The dumplings made an appearance during the second go-round last weekend.)

The meals can be consumed right there, in the pleasant garden which Oeur has created as an oasis from the Route 9 traffic whizzing by. Many sculptures adorn the garden, which also extends out the back, where Oeur's sculpture restoration studio can be seen. Some tropical plants, including a palm, give the gardens a balmy feel, while the sculptures, including one of Jayawaman 7, his name loosely translated into "winner of war" and another, of Kram Ngoy, whom Oeur calls "the Cambodian Mark Twain" as well as others echoing the Apsara figures found at Cambodia's Angkor Wat and the Bayon, all made by Oeur, invite curiosity about the culture they represent. "My idea is not to buy anything fancy and to make it look like natural," Oeur said of the place he created from tilling the land around the property and taking the rocks out, building a garden from them and the bent wood which forms gates and trestles, adding, "They take me away from my country, but they can't take the beauty of my country away."

Oeur expanded on this, explaining how, after

very difficult years spent in Cambodia during the time of strife which afflicted that land for so long, he arrived in the United States as a sponsored immigrant, settling in the Washington, D.C. area. "I asked them to take me somewhere there are museums and galleries" he says. It was through a critical illness that he re-connected with Kim, 10 years ago. They had met previously. "I was a freedom fighter, she was a refugee," Oeur relates, but went on to their own, separate lives. Diagnosed with kidney failure, Oeur was placed on a waiting list for a kidney donation, and his immediate family and good friends weren't good matches. "My doctor told me to check with all the Cambodians I knew, and I contacted Sokhara; they tested her blood and she cried, happily, because it matched."

After the transplant, Oeur moved north, soon after the fire which destroyed the original incarnation of Nice 'n Neat. Together they have re-built and expanded into the other businesses. In addition to working from his studio, doing restoration work for cathedrals and other repositories of statuary, Oeur does his own work, some of which is displayed in his gallery, which he calls The Killing Field Gallery, reflecting the name by which the mass graves of thousands of Cambodians killed in that country's genocide is commonly known. Much of Oeur's own art reflects this past, and he speaks impassioned about these ravages. "That's why I created this gallery, I wanted to tell the truth."

Whether one's aims are simply to pick up a light and refreshing Asian-flavored meal to eat there or at home, or to learn more about the history and culture of Cambodia, which Oeur is eager to impart to anyone interested, come by 3154 Route 9 on a Saturday,



Sokhara Kim, tends to the grill at the Cambodian Food Cart on Route 9.

Photo by A. Rooney

from 3 to 6 p.m. or a Sunday, from 11 a.m. until sunset. "We come from an outdoor culture," Oeur notes, "We're here all day."



Sculptor, former "freedom fighter" Chakra Oeur has both a studio and gallery on the premises.



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Andrew Chmar, Land Trust Director, Retires

By Pamela Doan

The one thing that Andrew Chmar sees as a thread throughout his working life is his commitment to working for the greater good. As a child of a military officer and then as an Army officer himself, leading missions all over the world, he said, "I learned from my father the idea of selfless service, helping achieve something greater than making more money. You can serve many things, but serving a constituency, like the community that this land trust exists for, it's a tremendous satisfaction. (It comes from) seeing that people are being helped, making the community better," he said.

Not surprisingly, when asked about his plans for the future, his answer involves a connection to land, in this case, a family homestead. When Chmar retires from the Hudson Highlands Land Trust this week, he'll be going back to the place he's called home since childhood after a lifetime of moving around the world, even though he's been settled in Philipstown for 16 years. The mountains of North Carolina have always been the center for his extended family, and he and his wife are moving to land that has been in his family for 85 years — 300 acres purchased by his grandfather to create a place that has been home to three generations and will be home to many more, Chmar anticipates.



Andrew Chmar

Photo by P. Doan

During his 12 years as executive director and one year as a board member prior to that, he built HHLT into a nationally accredited land trust that has conserved nearly 2,300 acres in its coverage area, which includes Philipstown, Putnam Valley, Highlands and Cornwall. This land covered by conservation easements is set aside from development in perpetuity, a lasting legacy for future generations to enjoy the natural beauty, vistas and open spaces.

Chmar, who called this his third career, brought extensive management experience to the position, even though his exposure to conservation began when he was approached as a property owner with a proposal for a conservation easement. He was working in the private sector for a compensation consulting firm when the HHLT position was open. That four-year stint had followed more than 23 years in the Army as an officer, leading missions. "I really wanted to do something completely different each time," he said. "When this opportunity presented itself, it was another challenge."

During Chmar's time leading HHLT, climate change has become a growing threat. "Our focus is on our core mission of land conservation," he said. "We know if we do that, then it will benefit these other aspects." One of the resources that HHLT also provides is support to land-

owners dealing with invasive species on their land. In the future, Chmar thinks HHLT will partner more with organizations like Scenic Hudson that have conservation scientists on staff to help mitigate the impact of climate change on the communities they serve.

He cited the Hudson Fjord Trail as an example of a project HHLT has been involved in that can be a model for climate resiliency. The trail can be a living flood management system for railroad tracks. "This is the thinking that needs to be part of the trail both from an environmental and engineering perspective," he said. "It has to be designed to flood as an important part of their design."

Even though Chmar and his staff tripled the acreage that has been conserved in their coverage area, he's confident that his successor, Michelle Smith, and the team won't run out of work. He said that there is the potential for another 1,000 parcels to be protected. "One hundred years from now, the land trust will still be here," he said.

Of the accomplishments he is most proud of, he said that his staff, the organization's growth and HHLT's recognition as an asset to the community were his most memorable. "That we're perceived as a community partner, here to help, is a change in paradigm from what people thought of the land trust 12 years ago, and I'm most proud of

Obituary

Nena (Merando) Stellefson

(1925-2016)

Nena (Merando) Stellefson, 90, of Nelsonville, died on May 26, 2016, at NewYork-Presbyterian/Hudson Valley Hospital in Cortlandt Manor.

Born August 23, 1925 in Cold Spring, she was the daughter of the late Charles and Rose (Giamillari) Merando.

A lifelong area resident, Nena was first and foremost a devoted wife and mother who dedicated her life to caring for her loved ones. She was a parishioner of Our Lady of Loretto Church and has lived her life true to her core beliefs of love and forgiveness. Nothing gave Nena more pleasure than being with her family and wonderful friends.


She was predeceased by her husband, Herbert Leland Stellefson, in 2008.

She is survived by a son and daughter, Wayne (and Christine) Stellefson of Mechanicsburg, Penn., and Eileen (and Gary) Myers of Nashville, Tenn., a stepson Herbert (and Margaret) Stellefson, Jr., of White Haven, Penn., one sister, Mary Merando, two grandsons, Michael (and Becky) and Jonathon (and Geni) Stellefson, two step-grandsons, Robb (and Kimberly) Myers and Richard (and Holly) Myers, and three great-grandchildren, Landry Stellefson, Aeri Burns and Abbott Myers, along with many nieces and nephews. Five brothers, Philip, Joseph, Anthony, John and Salvatore Merando and two sisters, Nancy Tompkins and Concetta Miller predeceased her.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on June 1 at Our Lady of Loretto.

that," he said. He described the transition process with the incoming executive director as seamless and that to move to new leadership without any trauma was a huge success for him. That the organization continues without any setbacks was his key objective as he planned his exit. "We're ready for new energy and new ideas. We've been very methodical in our succession plan to make a seamless move from one leader to the next," he said.

Reflecting on his experience, he said that he's learned to be a better listener and more effective team leader, but most importantly, he understands that you can't please everyone. "Not everyone is going to agree that the environment is important and that conserving land is for the public benefit. You have to move on," he said. One final note, he said: "I'm really optimistic for the future of the organization and hope to come back and see the Fjord Trail being built."



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 MON 7:00, TUE 12:30 3:45 7:00
 WED & THU 7:00

"Now You See Me 2" (PG13)
 FRI 1:45 4:30 7:15, SAT 12:00 2:45
 5:30 8:15, SUN 1:15 4:15 7:15
 MON 7:15, TUE 1:15 4:15 7:15
 WED & THU 7:15

"Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows" (PG13)
 FRI 2:30 5:30 8:15, SAT 12:45 3:30
 6:15 9:00, SUN 1:30 4:30 7:30
 MON 7:30, TUE 1:30 4:30 7:30
 WED & THU 7:30

Studio 6 ~ Classic Film
"Finding Nemo" (G) (2003)
 SAT (June 11) 1:00 3:30



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The Calendar

Depot Docs Presents: *MAVIS!*

by James O'Barr

Depot Docs' 10th season comes to a glorious finale on Friday, June 17, with Jessica Edwards' inspired and inspiring bio-doc, *Mavis!* If your next question is "Mavis?," think the Staple Singers and the voice that sang lead for the homegrown sound of gospel, R&B, soul and pop that filled the national airwaves for a quarter-century while providing the musical accompaniment to Dr. Martin Luther King on his campaign for civil rights.

If you're still drawing a blank, listen to Al Bell, the legendary Stax Records impresario interviewed in the film, as he explains why he worked to get the woman in question into a solo recording career: "I respected and loved Aretha, and still do, but she wasn't Mavis Staples."

Still performing with her inimitable power and passion at 75, Mavis Staples began singing gospel in Chicago's black community churches with her brother and two sisters under the tutelage of her father, Roebuck "Pops" Staples, in 1950 when she was 11 years old. Even then, it was clear that she'd been blessed with an extraordinary vocal instrument and matching performance chops. Together with Pops' Mississippi Delta blues guitar



Mavis Staples in performance

Photo courtesy of Miikka Skaffari, Film First Co.

and the family vocal harmonies, Mavis and the Staple Singers evolved over the '50s and '60s to become a national phenomenon, both the unmatched musical voice of the civil rights movement and contemporary pop hit crossover artists. After signing with Stax Records in 1968, the Staple Singers reached the Top 40 eight times between 1971 and 1975.

Of course, that only takes us to Mavis's 35th birthday, with 40 years of musical legend-making still ahead. Edwards' loving and musically astute film — the first feature documentary on Mavis and her family — premiered at the South by Southwest Film Festival in 2015 and screened nationally and on HBO in February of this year. Combining arresting archival TV (Continued on Page 12)

Swann Song at Garrison Art Center

Executive director to retire

The Board of Directors of the Garrison Art Center has announced the retirement of Executive Director Carinda Swann at the end of 2016. Swann has been involved at the Art Center for 22 years. She has served as director since 2008 and prior to that as a teacher, volunteer, gallery committee member and board member.

In a statement, Board Chair Maryann Syrek cited Swann for expanding and broadening the center's educational programming; improving existing classes, adding numerous classes in a variety of disciplines and expanding the popular pottery program. Swann also established the Cabin Fever Workshops, introduced a teacher's retreat where public school teachers can deepen their skills and added ARTtots and the upcoming Summer Camp for Grown-ups to the center's summer programs.

Swann is also credited with working to create collaborative programs with other local organizations, including Boscobel, Manitoga: Russel Wright Design Center, Constitution Marsh and the Desmond-Fish Library.

"Carinda will be missed by all those who have walked through the door during her leadership," Syrek said. "Enthusiasm, professionalism, passion, talent, plus an unconditional sacrifice of personal time in pursuit of serving an appreciative community you love is a rare combination embodied by this director and the board will miss her, but wholeheartedly (Continued on Page 11)

Aliza Eliazarov: "Waste Not"

"Something initially considered trash becomes, in the end, revered for its beauty"

by Alison Rooney

As a professional photographer, Aliza Eliazarov works both on assignment and on series she generates herself. Sometimes one sparks the other, as is the case with her "Waste Not" collection of photographs, which are on exhibition at Fovea at Hudson Beach Glass from June 11 through July 3, with an opening reception from 5 to 9 p.m. on June 11. These images largely present discarded food not as it is often presented, i.e. in mounds left curbside or spilling out of trash cans, but instead, composed and lit in the manner of the 17th century Dutch masters, the reclaimed beauty of the thrown-out food making the statement so aptly applied to the series itself.

The genesis of "Waste Not" was an assignment, given to Eliazarov by a small

newspaper, to follow a "Dumpster diver" on Earth Day 2011. Watching him extract salvageables from the waste outside a market near Columbia University, she continued to photograph as he laid them out for people to see. Eliazarov found the conversations between the people encountering the sidewalk food as interesting as the visuals. "What I observed was interesting and insightful, and confirmed the confusion people had about food waste." Although planning to do more in this vein, she quickly realized that logistically, it was problematic. "You have to do it at night, with poor lighting, with dirty sidewalks, so that even a perfect apple doesn't look it," Eliazarov explains. Then another idea came to her: "At the same time I was looking at food in art, in paintings, particularly the Dutch masters' still lifes. I realized that what was most important was to show the beauty of the food, to communicate that really beautiful food is being wasted. To photograph it in a way that it looks really beautiful elevates it into an object of art. Something initially considered trash becomes, in the end, revered for its beauty.

The 22 or so images on display at Fovea at Hudson Beach Glass also include other aspects of food rescue work, from apple orchard gleaners at work plucking fruit for food (Continued on Page 15)



Produce and flowers rescued from curbside trash outside of Union Market at 7th Avenue and 13th Street, Park Slope, Brooklyn

Image courtesy of the artist

ONGOING

Gallery Shows
highlandscurrent.com/galleries

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

***The Government Inspector* by Nikolai Gogol**
7 p.m. Haldane School
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

***Dear President Obama* (Documentary, 2016)**
7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
50 Liberty St., Beacon
moviesthatmatterbeacon.org

HVSF: *As You Like It* (Preview)
7:30 p.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-265-3638 | hvshakespeare.org

Paul Reiser (Comedy)
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

SATURDAY, JUNE 11

All About Alpines
9 a.m. Stonecrop Gardens
81 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring
845-265-2000 | stonecrop.org

Bring the Kids! Tour (ages 6-11)
9 – 11 a.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Beacon City-wide Yard Sale
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. cityofbeacon.org

Outrun Autism 5K Run/Walk
9 a.m. Haldane School
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring

Paul McCormack Portrait Workshop
9:30 a.m. Atelier Room 205 | 211 Fishkill Ave., Beacon
845-705-3833 | atelierroom205.com

Family Music Sing-a-Long
10 a.m. Beacon Music Factory | 629 Route 52, Beacon
845-765-0472 | beaconmusicfactory.com

Wow! for Kids: Morphing in the Pond
10 a.m. CEIE | 199 Dennings Ave., Beacon
845-838-1600 | bire.org

Family Fest Pet Expo
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Dutchess County Stadium
1500 Route 9D, Wappingers Falls
845-838-0094 | hvrenegades.com

Interfaith Program on Ecology and Spirituality
11:15 a.m. Grace United Methodist Church
337 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley

Family Sing-a-long with Chris Ruhe
Noon. Stony Kill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
845-831-1617 | stonykill.org

Author/Illustrator Chad Wallace (Book Signing)
Noon – 3 p.m. The Gift Hut | 86 Main St., Cold Spring
845-297-3786 | thegifthut.com

Six Bands, Six Genres, Six Sculptures Fest
Noon – 6 p.m. Storm King Art Center
1 Museum Road, New Windsor
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Walkway Marathon Health and Wellness Expo
Noon – 8 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center
14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie
845-454-5800 | walkwaymarathon.org

HVSF Playwriting Workshop
1 p.m. St. Philip's Church | 1101 Route 9D, Garrison
RSVP to 845-809-5750 x20

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

Calendar Highlights

For upcoming events visit highlandscurrent.com

Send event listings to calendar@highlandscurrent.com

***The Government Inspector* by Nikolai Gogol**
7 p.m. Haldane School
See details under Friday.

2nd Annual Event in Honor of Uncle Jimmy Mack
7:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

Gilbert and Sullivan's *H.M.S. Pinafore*
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra: *From Russia with Love*
7:30 p.m. Mount Saint Mary (Aquinas Hall)
330 Powell Ave., Newburgh
845-913-7157 | newburghsymphony.org

HVSF: *Measure for Measure* (Preview)
7:30 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.

Kitchen Table Band and Friends
7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org

West Point Band: Army Birthday Celebration
7:30 p.m. Trophy Point, West Point
845-938-4159 | westpointband.com

BEACON SECOND SATURDAY

Paula Deitz on Michael Heizer
2 p.m. Dia:Beacon
3 Beekman St., Beacon
845-440-0100 | diabeacon.org

Aliza Eliazarov: *Waste Not ~ A Story of Food Waste*
5 – 9 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass
7 p.m. Artist talk | 162 Main St., Beacon
845-440-0068 | foveaeditons.org

Jamie Grossman: *Hudson Valley Hues*
5 – 8 p.m. RiverWinds Gallery | 172 Main St., Beacon
845-838-2880 | riverwindsgallery.com

Joe Radoccia: *Works on Paper*
5 – 7 p.m. Howland Public Library | 313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

bau Gallery
6 – 9 p.m. David Link: *Formas Geometricas*
6 – 9 p.m. Works by Vivian Altman
506 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7584 | baugallery.com

Group Show: *Le Reve Du Lapin*
6 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery | 163 Main St., Beacon
212-255-2505 | shop.cluttermagazine.com

Jayoung Yoon: *Ephemerality*
6 – 8 p.m. Theo Ganz Gallery | 149 Main St., Beacon
917-318-2239 | theoganzstudio.com

Kazumi Tanaka: *Wind & Rain*
6 – 9 p.m. Matteawan Gallery | 436 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7901 | matteawan.com

Liz Nielsen: *Elijah Wheat Showroom*
6 – 9 p.m. The Catalyst Gallery | 137 Main St., Beacon
845-204-3844 | catalystgallery.com

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

Desmond-Fish Library closed

Walkway Marathon
6:45 a.m. Walkway Over the Hudson
845-834-2867 | walkwaymarathon.org

Charles Polhemus Sr. Memorial Fishing Derby
8:30 a.m. – Noon. Fish & Game Club
183 South Highland Road, Garrison

Paul McCormack Portrait Workshop
9:30 a.m. Atelier Room 205
See details under Saturday.

Garden Conservancy Open Day
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Stonecrop Gardens
With Tea in the Garden | Details under Saturday

Strawberry Jammin' Festival
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Fishkill Farms
9 Fishkill Farm Road, Hopewell Junction
845-897-4377 | fishkillfarms.com

Strawberry Festival
Noon – 5 p.m. Seeger Park | 1 Flynn Drive, Beacon
845-463-4660 | beaconsloopclub.org

Gilbert and Sullivan's *H.M.S. Pinafore*
2 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
See details under Saturday.

HVSF Playwriting Workshop
2 p.m. St. Philip's Church | Details under Saturday

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

MONDAY, JUNE 13

Career Assistance Sessions
11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon | 845-249-4642
dutchessonestop.org | Appointment required.

Comfort Zones for New Seniors
Noon. Philipstown Community Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Decoding the Past: Patriotic Memorabilia
Noon. Locust Grove Estate | 2683 South Road, Poughkeepsie | 845-471-1630
dutchesscountyhistoricalsociety.org

Sold (2016)
7:30 p.m. Downing Film Center
19 Front St., Newburgh
845-561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.com

TUESDAY, JUNE 14

Flag Day

Boscobel Open for Artists
9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. 1601 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org | No public admission

Coloring for Enjoyment & Creativity (Adults)
10:30 a.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring | 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Health Insurance Counseling
3 – 4:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

Leaf and Yard Debris Pickup (Cold Spring)

Support Connection Annual Golf Outing
10 a.m. The Garrison | 2015 Route 9, Garrison
914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

Easy Herbs to Add to Your Garden or Patio
2 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Father's Day Craft in the Maker's Space
3:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

We Matter: Voicing Justice for Beacon and Newburgh
4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

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

Town Board Workshop: Dirt Roads
7:30 p.m. Town Hall | 238 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3329 | philipstown.com

Happy Together Tour 2016
8 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center | 14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie | 845-454-5800

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

Haldane PTA
9 a.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring | 845-265-9254 | haldaneppta.org

Kadampa Meditation
7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-856-9000 | kadampanewyork.org/beacon

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

Science Café: Science and the Backbone of the Body Politic (Talk)
7 p.m. The Hop
554 Main St., Beacon | bire.org/events

Carl Palmer's ELP Legacy
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill | 914-739-0039

ReBurt: Bacharach Rebooted v1.0
8:30 p.m. Dogwood | 47 E. Main St., Beacon
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbar.com

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

Rhyme Time by the Hudson (ages 1-5) (First Session)
9:30 a.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Family Camp-out
6 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 | hhnaturemuseum.org

Newburgh-Beacon Ferry Exhibit (Opening)
6 – 8 p.m. Crawford House
189 Montgomery St., Newburgh
845-561-2585 | beaconhistorical.org

Harmony on the Hudson on Mystic Whaler
6:30 p.m. Ferry Dock, Beacon
845-265-8080 | clearwater.org

Hudson Valley Renegades vs. Aberdeen
7:05 p.m. Dutchess County Stadium
1500 Route 9D, Wappingers Falls
845-838-0094 | hvrenegades.com

Depot Docs: *Mavis!* (2015)
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

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

Swann Song at Garrison Art Center *(from Page 9)*

encourage her to segue into the next exciting adventures of life yet ahead."

Swann said: "The people I have had the great fortune to work with and who make the heart of the Art Center tick are nothing short of astonishing, both in their abilities and in their commitment to the Art Center and all it stands for. I have witnessed such devoted dedication from staff, board members, teachers and volunteers that it is truly humbling.

"I will deeply miss working with the extraordinary Dolores Strelbel, programs and events manager, who so deftly keeps numerous balls in the air and without whom none of this could have been done, and the gracious and loyal Julia Famularo, administrative and social media assistant, who also goes far beyond the call of duty. I am honored to have worked with board members who serve with uncan-ny understanding, uniquely creative thinking and are willing to jump in even for the most thankless jobs — a wise and generous group passionately committed to art and community."

Carinda Swann

Photo provided



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Share news and announcements with the readers of *The Highlands Current*. To submit your upcoming events and announcements for consideration in our Community Briefs section (in print and online) submit a text-only press release (250 words or less) along with a separately attached high-resolution photograph to arts@highlandscurrent.com.



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Saturday, June 11, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, June 12, 2 p.m.

Depot Docs presents: **Mavis!**
June 17, 7:30 p.m.
 followed by Q&A with the director Jessica Edwards and editor Amy Foote

Music Tracks: **Tony Caroleo and Tannersville**
June 25, 8 p.m.

Auditions for summer teen production of **Damn Yankees**
June 25, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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 All tickets at brownpapertickets.com or philipstowndepottheatre.org

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Photographs by Aliza Eliazarov

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Depot Docs Presents: *MAVIS!* (from Page 9)

recordings and film documenting the rise of the Staples family to national prominence, with a running thread of contemporary footage of Mavis on tour (always with sister Yvonne, who sings back-up and, as family, has her back), Edwards gives us not only an up-to-the minute "life" but a postwar history of the U.S. at the intersections of race, the struggle for civil rights, war and civic unrest, and Mavis and the Staples' part in the soundtrack to all that.

Along the way, savvy commentary is provided by A-list musicians and music business cognoscenti, often identified as "family friend," among whom are Bonnie Raitt, music critic and Staples biographer

Greg Kot, Bob Dylan, civil rights activist and congressman Julian Bond, rapper Chuck D, Wilco's Jeff Tweedy, and singer Sharon Jones. In two especially moving sequences, we see Mavis performing with Prince in the 1980s after he invited her to work with him, and on a visit she makes to Levon Helm, of The Band fame, at his home in Woodstock, not long before his death in 2012. His voice is weak, but he joins in singing with Mavis. He was, she says, family.

All of these many and disparate pieces are beautifully, seamlessly woven together by editor Amy Foote, whose work was last seen at Depot Docs in 2010 in another winning music documentary, *For Once in*



The Staples Singers

Photo courtesy of Chris Strong, Film First Co.

My Life. And director/producer/writer Edwards, whose 2013 book *Tell Me Something: Documentary Filmmakers*, features advice on documentary filmmaking from some of the greats (Maysles, Pennebaker, Kopple, etc.), would seem to have taken whatever she needed from her mentors to join technique, sensibility, and affection in a masterly celebration of an

American treasure.

Mavis! will be shown at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, June 17, at the Philipstown Depot Theatre on Garrison's Landing. Edwards and Foote will be present for a Q&A and reception after the screening. For more information, visit philipstowndepottheatre.org. For tickets, go to: brownpapertickets.com/event/2544846.

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SUMMER CAMP for grown-ups

JULY 18 - AUG 5, 2016, 1:30 to 5:00

Whether an experienced artist or an emerging artist, **Garrison Art Center** invites the impassioned to attend Summer Camp for adults. This intensive program offers 3 weeks of afternoon workshops designed to expand the skill set of emerging artists and to challenge those already experienced artists who may also want to broaden and deepen skills within another discipline.

Take 1, 2, or all 3 weeks

1 week \$325. 2 weeks \$600.

3 weeks \$875.

Materials fee: \$35 per week

Week 1. Jul 18-22

DRAWING: Pushing the Edge
Carinda Swann takes a break from her job as Director of the Art Center to go back to what originally brought her here: teaching. This class will use traditional skills to explore non-traditional techniques, mediums, surfaces and compositions in both huge and small formats. Limited to 12

Garrison Art Center

Week 2. Jul 25-29

PAINTING: Portraits that Speak
Cassandra Saulter creates a comfort zone where many fear to tread. Portraiture is discipline as current and as powerful as it is ancient. You will live in a new story with each face, even if it's your own. Such courage results in mighty rewards, and you will become "portrait whisperers." Limited to 12

Week 3. Aug 1-5

RELIEF PRINTING: Cutting Deep
Melissa Schlobohm serves as Education Coordinator at Garrison Art Center in addition to running her own print shop, Fledgling Press in Beacon, NY. Her relief printing class will change your notion of mark making, color and composition by carving a variety of surfaces and discovering less conventional techniques. Limited to 8

Very limited space. Register and pay online
garrisonartcenter.org or call 845-424-3960

Sculpture Vandalized on Beacon's Main Street

(from Page 6)

pretation than it does the statue itself," Reichert said.

The artist Erica Hauser, who is married to Reichert, observed that "the fact it's life-sized and somewhat realistic may have had something to do with the reaction, as well. Beacon's had lots of outdoor sculptures of people before, but they haven't been as representational as this."

While the Beacon police are examining footage taken by nearby security cameras, the Beacon arts community is already springing into action.

"BeaconArts is working with Jon directly to get him the resources he needs to repair and reinstall the work," said its president, Dan Rigney, in a statement. "Meanwhile, we've initiated a social media campaign called #TheYawnIsOn to express solidarity with a hard-working artist who has contributed a great deal of himself to our community. Celebrate *The Yawner's* return by contributing a yawn of your own."

Those who wish to contribute to the statue's restoration can visit beaconarts.org/donate and select "The Yawn Is On" under the list of causes.

In the meantime, Reichert isn't sure when or where *The Yawner* will return. "I hadn't really blocked off time in my schedule for something like this, obviously," he said. But there's optimism that Main Street visitors will be yawning again

sooner rather than later. Late on Wednesday, Reichert posted a picture to Facebook of the sculpture dry-fitted back together. A little battered, a little bruised, a little shaky, but standing once again.

"To yawn another day," read the caption.



The Yawner this past Sunday

Photo by Eleni Smolen.

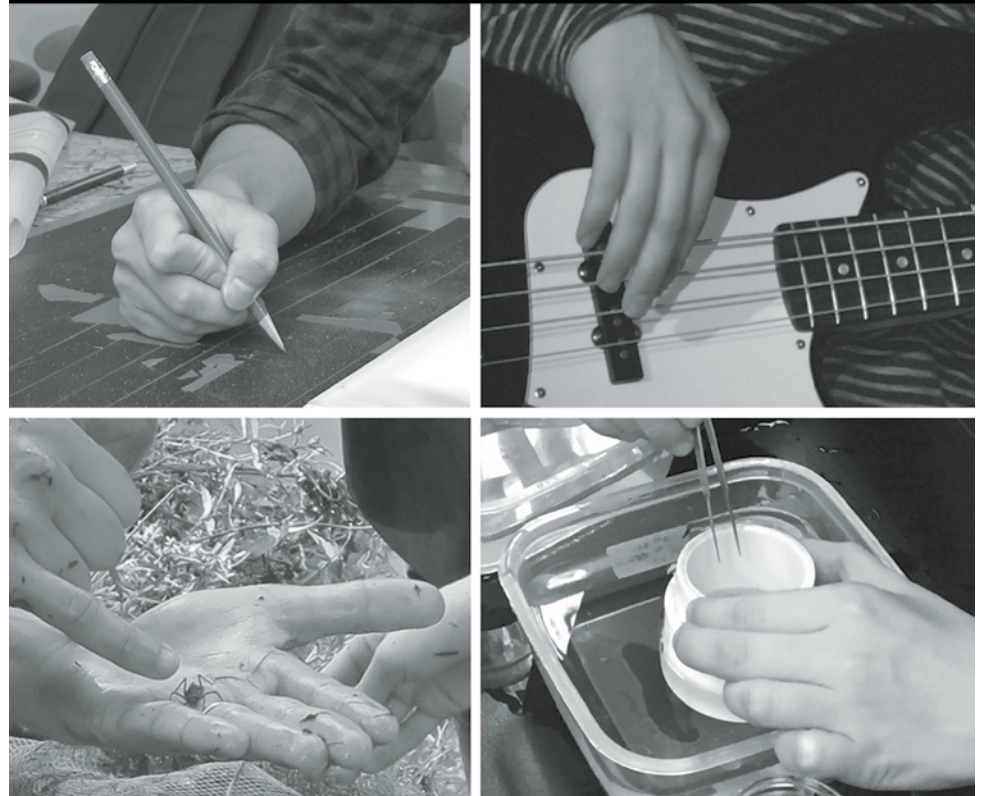
Beacon Ballet Arts Studio



It was jump for joy time during the *Moses Supposes* number, part of the Beacon's Ballet Arts Studio's recital at the Bardavon on June 4. From left, Josie Altucher, Teresa Figueiras, Olivia Olsen, Amanda Erickson, Riley Bissinger, Julie Geller and Anya Ptacek — all of Philipstown — are featured.

Photo by Eugenie Milroy Parrella

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A Survey of Philipstown Home Sales in 2016

310 Main St., Nelsonville

4 bedroom, 2+ bath, 1,998 sq ft, 0.7 acres
\$482,000

2 Short St., Cold Spring

3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2,273 sq ft, 1-acre
\$545,000

40 Market St., Cold Spring

2 bedroom, 1 bath, 960 sq ft
\$320,000

5 Peekskill Road, Cold Spring

3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,600 sq ft
\$265,000

20 West St., No. 4, Cold Spring

2 bedroom, 3 bath, 2,265 sq ft, 0.5 acres
\$1,065,000



This home on Half Moon Ridge in Cold Spring sold for \$5 million.



This Garrison home sold for \$585,000.

54 Half Moon Ridge, Cold Spring

4 bedroom, 4+ bath, 7,530 sq ft, 14 acres
\$5,001,000

84 Trout Brook Road, Cold Spring

3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2,076 sq ft, 4 acres
\$625,000

6 Oak St., Cold Spring

4 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,112 sq ft
\$429,000

64 Kona Way, Garrison

3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2,316 sq ft, 2 acres
\$585,000

56 Paulding Ave., Cold Spring

3 bedroom, 2+ bath, 2,700 sq ft, 1.41 acres
\$1,445,000

342 Avery Rd, Garrison

3 bedroom, 3+ bath, 3,559 sq ft, 5 acres
\$950,000

Source: Realtor.com (sales from February to May)

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propane stove, S/S refrig and D/W and large S/S sink. There is access to wraparound deck and screened porch. A MBR with tiled tub/shower bath is also on this level. The lower level has 3 BRs, hall tiled bath, storage room and family room with access to yard area. A laundry room, workshop and storage is also on this level. This country style living, whether as a full time resident or vacation/weekender has just what is needed. A private beach for residents, a tennis court for the more active and plenty of trailheads in the immediate vicinity for the adventurous. Lovely community with enough space between residences to enjoy your privacy if wanted.



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Aliza Eliazarov: "Waste Not" (from Page 9)

banks, to Dan Barber's WastED, a pop-up restaurant reinvention within Greenwich Village's Blue Hill restaurant which, over the course of three weeks in March 2015, devoted itself to the theme of food waste and re-use, with a dedicated menu using "overlooked byproducts of our food system, drawing ingredients from farmers, fishermen, distributors, processors, plant breeders, producers, restaurants and retailers." Guest chefs created daily specials from these ingredients.

According to the most recent figures from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, food waste is estimated at between 30 percent to 40 percent of the food supply, including 31 percent food loss at the retail and consumer levels, corresponding to approximately 133 billion pounds and \$161 billion of food. The USDA notes that the amount of waste "has far-reaching impacts on food security, resource conservation and climate change," citing "wholesome food that could have helped feed families in need is sent to landfills. The land, water, labor and energy ... used in producing, processing,

transporting, preparing, storing, and disposing of discarded food are pulled away from uses that may have been more beneficial to society."

Eliazarov, who will give a talk about this work at the gallery at 7 p.m. during the opening reception, is Brooklyn-based, yet despite that urban base, farming, farmers and food have been her focus, subjects of creative portraiture, conceptual still lifes such as these, and documentary images. An earlier series, "Sustain" took her across the country, photographing nascent farmers — young college graduates starting CSAs and leasing plots of land or starting urban farms and rooftop farms. Formerly both a teacher and a park ranger (not at the same time), Eliazarov has lived in several National Parks including Glacier, Lake Mead and the Boston Harbor Islands.

The cover story photographer for Modern Farmer Magazine, Eliazarov has been featured in everything from the New Republic to Fortune, Edible to CNN.com. In 2016 her series on alpacas for Modern Farmer won an American Photography 32 Award as well as the Grand Prize in *RangeFinder Magazine's* Best Friends Animal Photography Contest. Her work has been exhibited in the U.S and abroad, including The International Center of Photography, The Pingyao China Photo Festival — 25 Emerging Photographers in America, and a solo exhibition at the 92nd Street Y. She holds an advanced certificate in Photojournalism and Documentary Photography from the International Center of Photography, master's degrees in Creative Arts in Education and Elementary Education from Lesley College, and an undergradu-

ate degree in Natural Resource Management and Engineering from the University of Connecticut.

In considering the classical paintings which served as her inspiration, Eliazarov also realized that at the time they were created "there was never food waste; everything was used. So the object here is to show food rescue opportunities, not to show the waste," she notes. "Organizations like City Harvest are rescuing foods for distribution, there's the 'ugly' fruit and vegetable movement and there are other ways to divert food from the trash — even composting is a way of diverting waste away from landfills. The look of these images evolved from my need to tell this story."

Fovea at Hudson Beach Glass is located on the second floor at 162 Main St., Beacon, and is open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, visit foveaeditors.org and alizaeliazarov.com.



Juice rescued from dumpster behind distribution facility, Greenpoint, Brooklyn.

Images courtesy of the artist



Top, Tomatoes rescued from curbside garbage in front of Garden of Eden Market on 116th St., New York City; above, sorbet rescued from Key Foods, Greenpoint, Brooklyn.

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Thursday, 6/16 7:30pm
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Friday, 6/17 8:30pm
TOM PACHECO
guest **JACOB BERNZ**

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Inside Stonecrop Gardens

File photo by Alison Rooney

Stonecrop and Ross Open to Public on June 12

Part of national Garden Conservancy program

As part of the Garden Conservancy's Open Days Program, Stonecrop Gardens in Cold Spring and Ross Gardens in Garrison will be open to the public on Sunday, June 12.

Admission is \$5 at Stonecrop and \$7 at Ross; children age 12 and younger are free. Stonecrop is located at 81 Stonecrop Lane and open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a Tea in the Garden from noon to 4 p.m.. Ross is located at 43 Snake Hill Road and open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information on the program, including a schedule, or to order advance tickets, visit opendaysprogram.org.

Art Center Launches Camp for Adults

Three one-week sessions at Garrison center

Since the establishment of the Summer Art Institute for high school students in 1999, the Garrison Art Center has had many requests for an adult version. This summer, it will introduce three week-long art camps for grown-ups, from July 18 to August 5, from 1:30 to 5 p.m. each day. Each week will focus on a different discipline — drawing, painting and printmaking. The cost is \$325 per week, two weeks for \$600 or three weeks for \$875. Space is limited. Call 845-424-3960 for information or register at garrisonartcenter.org.

Full Moon Meets Summer Solstice

Museum to host night hike on June 20

On Monday, June 20 at 7:30pm, the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum in Cornwall will host a family-friendly



A full moon will appear at the same time as summer solstice.

Photo provided

Full Moon Summer Solstice Hike at its Outdoor Discovery Center on Muser Drive, across from 174 Angola Road. Celebrate the longest day of the year with a hike around the beautiful ponds and fields. Prepaid registration is required. Admission is \$7 for adults (\$5 for members) and \$5 for children (\$3 for members). To register, visit hhnm.org or call 845-534-5506, ext. 204.

The museum is also hosting a Family Camp-out beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday, June 17. To register, visit hhnm.org.

Limited Access to Foundry Preserve

Site will be closed June 18

Due to a private event, Scenic Hudson's West Point Foundry Preserve will have limited parking and access on Thursday and Friday, June 16 and 17. The preserve will also be closed to the public on Saturday, June 18, and there will be a cannon sounding at about 5:30 p.m. On Sunday, June 19 the preserve will be closed until noon.

Literary Bicentennials

Book group will read Emma and Frankenstein

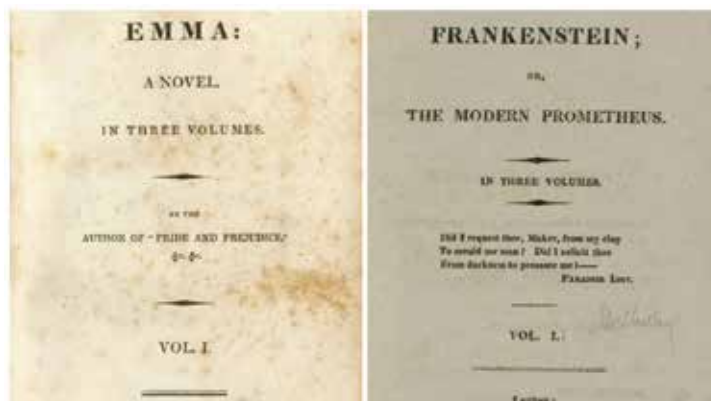
The Desmond-Fish Library's reading group will celebrate the bicentennials of two classic English novels with a discussion of Jane Austen's 1816 novel *Emma* on June 30 and the original 1818 edition of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* on July 28. All are welcome to join the conversations, which start at 6:30 p.m.

Emma's original title page named Austen only indirectly as "the author of *Pride and Prejudice*." Her identity was by then a well-known secret; Austen's fans included the Prince Regent (later George IV) to whom Austen dedicated *Emma* after one of his agents hinted that he would appreciate the honor.

Emma's powerful imagination and presumed knowledge find strange parallels in the character of Victor Frankenstein, who came to life in 1816 from the mind of 19-year-old Mary Shelley. As the legend goes, Shelley was summering near Geneva with her husband, Percy, and Lord Byron. The inclement weather forced the group to stay inside where they read tales of the supernatural and challenged each

other to write one. Her story was published anonymously in 1818 and quickly became a sensation. (Shelley revised the novel in 1831.)

The conversations on these two novels will be facilitated by Mary Anne Myers of Nelsonville, who holds a doctorate in English literature with a focus on British Romanticism. She has recently



The title pages of the first editions of *Emma* (1816) and *Frankenstein* (1818). Both were published over multiple volumes.

re-read both books with classes at Fordham University and Taconic Correctional Facility.

Copies of both books are available to borrow at the circulation desk at the library, which is located at the corner of routes 9D and 403 in Garrison. For more information, call 845-424-3020.

Fishing Derby in Garrison on June 12

Fish & Game Club members will assist

The Garrison Fish & Game Club will host its annual Charles Polhemus Sr. Memorial Fishing Derby from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Sunday, June 12. Club members will assist anyone who needs help, and there will be plenty of food, fish and fun for all ages, including prizes. All Philipstown residents are welcome. The club is located at 183 South Highland Road.

Beacon

Bacharach Revisited

Local musicians to celebrate pop classics

On Thursday, June 16, at 8:30 p.m., Dogwood Bar in Beacon will present ReBurt: Bacharach Rebooted v1.0, a fresh take on familiar pop hits by Burt Bacharach, including *Do You Know the Way to San Jose*, *Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head*, and *What the World Needs Now is Love*. The songs will be performed by Jen Clapp, Dan Fisherman, Michele Gedney, Rick Gedney, Jamian Probber, Vibeke Saugestad and Mark Westin, who conceived of the project.

"Burt Bacharach is often associated with a certain era in American pop music, but his songs are really timeless and elegant," Westin said. "The aim of ReBurt is to shine a spotlight on these classic tunes by reinterpreting them for a modern audience."

The concert is free. Dogwood is located at 47 East Main St.

The Health of the Hudson

Riverkeeper manager to discuss sampling program

Dan Shapley, the water quality program manager for Riverkeeper, will speak at 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 16, at The Hop in Beacon as part of Beacon In-

stitute for Rivers and Estuaries of Clarkson University's ongoing Science Café series.

In "Science and the Backbone of the Body Politic," Shapley will describe how water sampling efforts in the Hudson River Estuary are shaping policy, laws and infrastructure investment while building community throughout the Hudson Valley and New York City. Shapley has helped build one of the state's most extensive citizen science efforts, with communities along 600 miles of shoreline collecting water samples at 300 monitoring locations throughout the Hudson River Estuary.

The data collected is sobering: 100 percent of the river's tributaries would fail to meet federal guidelines for safe swimming due to frequency of contamination spikes; 94 percent of stream segments monitored would fail due to the degree of contamination.

The talk, which is free, will take place in The Hop's outdoor pavilion behind the restaurant. Registration is required at bire.org/events.



Dan Shapley of Riverkeeper Photo provided

Justice Through Lens of Music

Gwen Lastor organizes concert and dialogue

Justice for all envisioned through the lens of music will be presented from 4:40 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 15, at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon. The organizers of "We Matter: Voicing Justice for Beacon and Newburgh" invites the community to experience a live performance and dialogue about social justice and the relationship between local life and the Black Lives Matter movement.

The free program is funded by a grant from Arts Mid Hudson and organized by violinist Gwen Lastor, who will play her composition *Black Lives Matter Suite 1st Movement* and *Cigarette, the Sandra Bland Story*, with her ensemble New MUSE 4tet and special guest Sebastian Bardin-Greenberg, a.k.a. Siba Giba. MUSE fuses progressive, experimental music and jazz. For more information, call 845-831-4988.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Volunteers preparing strawberries for guests at last year's fest Photo provided

Strawberry Fest Set for June 12

Annual Beacon Sloop Club event at Seeger Park

The Beacon Sloop Club will host its annual Strawberry Festival from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday, June 12, at Pete & Toshi Seeger Park. Admission is free, and the rain-or-shine event features live music on two stages, environmental displays and speakers, craft booths and children's activities.

Members and friends of the all-volunteer Beacon Sloop Club will bake and serve their traditional fresh strawberry shortcake, a homemade treat with local berries, real whipped cream and hot biscuits. Other delicacies will include large chocolate-covered strawberries and strawberry smoothies.

In keeping with Sloop Club tradition, the live music will be powered by the club's solar panel trailer. For more information, visit beaconsloopclub.org.



A shot from the stage at a past Newburgh Illuminated Festival Photo provided

Newburgh Festival June 18

Annual party includes music, food, art

The fourth annual Newburgh Illuminated Festival takes place at Broadway and Liberty on Saturday, June 18, with live music on multiple stages, a marketplace and ethnic food vendors, an historic trolley tour, a Holi color festival and yoga, popup art shows and installations and kids' activities. For more information, visit newburghilluminatedfestival.com.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.



She shall Mandolin (seashell, wood, metal string, mother pearl, old piano key, brass), by Kazumi Tanaka

Gallery to Show Fragile, Powerful Work

Kazumi Tanaka uses her own hair to evoke intimacy

Matteawan Gallery in Beacon will host an opening reception with a musical performance from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, June 11, for its new exhibit of sculpture and drawings by Kazumi Tanaka. The exhibition runs through July 3.

The works in *Wind & Rain* started with Tanaka's visit in summer 2015 to the

A-Bomb Dome and the Memorial Museum in Hiroshima. Tanaka made a tiny unplayable piano using her own hair as strings for a show in Hiroshima to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II,

a testament toward the effects of radiation on the human body. She began to create other tiny instruments incorporating animal skulls, a seashell, wood, hair, and other materials that are eerily small and fragile, yet are also powerful and thought-provoking.

Also on view in the exhibition are a series of drawings in which the artist uses coffee as the medium to create watercolor landscape drawings, including views of paths through dense trees, and a sunflower.

The final sculptural work in the show is *Recording*, which combines an old record player with a record made of Tanaka's hair that spins in silence. She often uses her own hair to evoke intimacy, sense of loss and memory.

Tanaka, who was born in Osaka and moved to New York at age 25, lives and works in Beacon. The gallery is located at 436 Main St.



The Orange connected Newburgh and Beacon Photo provided

Newburgh-Beacon Ferry Exhibit Opens

Examines service that connected communities

The Newburgh and Beacon historical societies will co-host a reception from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, June 17, for the opening of an exhibit that examines the 240-year history of the ferry that connected the two communities. Curated by the Historical Society of Newburgh Bay and the Highlands, the exhibit features documents, photographs and objects and will remain through the end of the year at the Crawford House, 189 Montgomery St., in Newburgh.

The Beacon Historical Society, mean-

while, has mounted a "teaser" exhibit through July at the Howland Public Library. For more information, call 845-561-2585.



Manuel, by Joe Radoccia

Portraits on Paper at Howland

Library to exhibit works by Joe Radoccia

The Howland Public Library will host an opening reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 11, for *Portraits: Works on Paper* by Joe Radoccia. The exhibit will be on view (Continued on next page)

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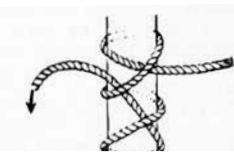
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS (From previous page)

Portraits on Paper at Howland
(from previous page)

through July 3. The library is located at 313 Main St.

Radoccia, who earned an MFA in Painting from the State University of NY at Buffalo, worked as a designer and fine art painter from his studio in Brooklyn before moving to Beacon in 2013.

A year ago, Radoccia set aside his oil paints, canvas and colorful pallet and picked up an ebony pencil, a couple earthen toned acrylics and a roll of paper. "I wanted to create not just larger-than-life representational portraits, but faces that somehow would engage the viewer and hint at the essence of the personality portrayed," he says.

St. Andrew's to Hold Dance

Annual fundraiser set for June 18

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Beacon will host its annual fundraiser dance, "Second Time Around," beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 18. Tickets are \$15 per person or \$25 per couple and can be purchased at the door or by calling 914-213-4329. The evening also includes a silent auction. The church is located at 17 South Ave.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

Master Gardener to Discuss Patio Herbs

Will share 12 that work in small spaces

Chris Ferrero, a Master Gardener with the Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County, will speak at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, June 15, at the Howland Public Library in Beacon on "12 Easy Herbs to Add to Your Garden or Patio" for culinary and ornamental purposes. The herbs are great candidates for kitchen gardens, perennial borders, vegetable plots and all sizes and types of containers. The library is located at 313 Main St.

Hats Off to Beacon Historical Society

Artist application deadline is June 15

The Beacon Historical Society has put a call out for original artwork created on hat cutouts for an upcoming exhibit, *Hats Off to the Beacon Historical Society*, which will run in October and November at the Howland Cultural Center and Beacon Bath & Bubble on Main St. The theme is in homage to Beacon's 100-year history in the hatmaking industry, from the Civil War through the 1960s.

The society will provide the cutouts, and the hats will be auctioned to benefit the Historical Society. For an application to participate, email hatsoff@beaconhistorical.org or visit beaconhistorical.org.

The application deadline is Wednesday, June 15, and cutouts can be picked up at Beacon Bath & Bubble starting in mid-July. Completed hats are due October 1.

Mount Gulian Welcomes Fathers and Pirates

Free admission and pirate program on June 19

The Mount Gulian Historic Site in Beacon will celebrate Father's Day on Sunday, June 19, with free admission for dads and a talk about pirates in the Hudson Valley. At 1 p.m. author and illustrator Chris Sanders will discuss her research for her graphic novel series *Treasures of the Hudson Highlands*, an historical fantasy about five pirates who battle the mighty Hudson in search of treasures.

"Yes, there were pirates on the Hudson, as early as there was trade on the river," Sanders says. "It seems Captain Kidd's final crew was recruited from this area and retired here upon his betrayal and unfortunate demise."

Copies of *Awash Ashore*, the premier issue of the series, will be available for sale and signing. Following the presentation, visitors may tour the historic house, 18th century Dutch barn, and restored garden.

While there is no charge for fathers, the fee for others is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors and \$4 for young people ages six to 18. Children 5 and under are free, as

Ephemerality at Theo Ganz

Theo Ganz Studio in Beacon will hold a reception from 6 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 11, for *Ephemerality*, an exhibit of sculpture, painting and video by Jayoung Yoon. Shown here is *The Lotus Leaf*. The gallery is located at 149 Main St.

Photo by Zac-Cam Studio

are Mount Gulian members. Mount Gulian is located at 145 Sterling St. For more information, visit mountgulian.org.

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Sports

Little League: Yankees Win Over Mets for Spot in Finals

The Philipstown Majors division kicked off its playoff season with the third game between the second-place Mets and the third-place Yankees. Previous games, as reported in these pages, had been one-run victories for the Mets — an indication that these teams were evenly matched. The final meeting proved the same point. For four innings Mets pitcher Julian Ambrose and Yankees pitchers Daniel McElroy and Terence O'Driscoll kept the game tied.

In the top of the first inning, Julian yielded a run before an out was recorded but then, with the bases loaded, struck out three players in a row. His team tied it in the bottom of the first via a daring steal of home by Giancarlo Carone. And so it stayed tied 1-1 for three more innings. The Yankees made 5 of the 9 outs with flawless fielding, while the Mets pitcher recorded 7 of the 9 outs via the K.

In the top of the fifth inning, after two outs were recorded, Daniel took off his pitcher's hat and put on his DH hat, launching a moon shot over the right field fence that clanged off the metal bleachers for a two-run homer. In the bottom of the fifth, Terence pitched around a lead-off double by Alex Klybas, striking out the next three batters to hold the lead. The Yankees added an insurance run in the top of the sixth on a steal of home by Jonathan Bradley. With a three-run lead going into the bottom of the sixth, Terence closed out the game, limiting the Mets to a single run in their comeback attempt.

The Yankees meet the first place Dodgers in the championship playoff game at 9 a.m. on Saturday. Later that day, the minors division finalists (teams decided via two first-round playoff games on Tuesday) will meet in their championship.



The Mets and Yankees celebrate three outstanding games against each other.

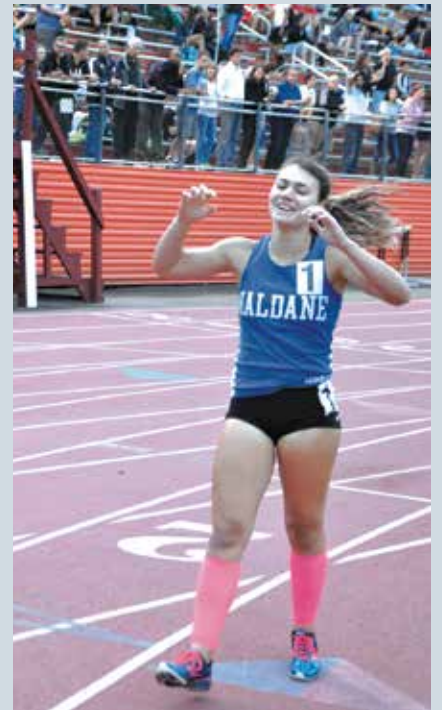
Photo by Linda Bolte



Mets pitcher Robert Viggiano delivers a pitch in the top of the sixth inning with Jonathan Bradley at second base.

Photo by Linda Bolte

Haldane & Beacon Track & Field



Above, Haldane sophomore Abbey Stowell is all smiles after winning the Penthalon at the N.Y. State Qualifiers at White Plains High School June 3.

Photos by Peter Farrell



Left, Beacon Bulldog Rayvon Grey lands a distance of 47-03.75 in the Triple Jump at the White Plains event. Right, Haldane Senior Theo Henderson competes in the 4 x 800m relays at White Plains. All three will head to the N.Y. State Championships in Syracuse on June 10.

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Black Rock, Schunnemunk Forests Named Vital Bird Habitat

Designation celebrates regional connectivity

By Jeff Simms



Black Rock Forest in early fall

Photo provided

Black Rock and Schunnemunk forests have been designated Important Bird Areas (IBA) by Audubon New York, bringing the total to more than 350,000 Hudson Valley acres deemed critical bird habitat.

As many as 160 bird species have been known to live in Black Rock alone, where the designation was announced on June 4. About two dozen of those species — including cerulean warblers, wood thrush and prairie warblers — are considered threatened, according to Audubon.

“IBAs are the most important places on earth for birds,” said Erin Crotty, the executive director of Audubon New York. “Large, contiguous forests, like this IBA, are crucial to the survival of breeding forest songbirds.”

Black Rock and Schunnemunk together cover nearly 15,000 acres. By adding them to the existing Hudson Highlands West IBA, which includes parts of Storm King State Park and lands west of Schunnemunk, Audubon has designated a huge swath of lower New York as the type of healthy, well-managed forest that’s necessary to host diverse, thriving bird populations.

“These are birds that require large tracts of contiguous forest. They just can’t survive in small patches,” explained Bill Schuster, the executive director of the Black Rock Forest Consortium, the organization that manages the 3,800-plus-acre forest. Without that connectivity, Schuster said, birds are more likely to suffer increased predation, disease and parasit-

ism. “Fortunately, we’ve got that (connectivity) in the Highlands — on both sides of the river.”

While Black Rock and Schunnemunk are both located in Orange County, as the crow (or blue-winged warbler) flies, the lands are just minutes from Philipstown and Cold Spring.

“The Hudson River is a real physical barrier to people. You have to drive your car and pay a toll,” said Eric Lind, the director of the 270-acre Putnam County Constitution Marsh, also designated an IBA by Audubon. “But from a bird’s point of view, it’s a matter of minutes.”

The deciduous forests of Harriman and Fahnestock state parks are remarkably similar to Black Rock and Schunnemunk in type and the species they support, Lind added.

On this side of the river, other places like the Cornish Estate and Breakneck Ridge provide tremendous natural diversity for nesting birds, skinks, snakes and other wildlife species, according to Cold Spring birder Lew Kingsley. “This is an unusual habitat because of the streams, meadows, marches and woodland fringes,” he said. “It’s an amazing area for a diverse bird population.”

For the western Highlands region, which faces development threats along Route 32 and the New York Thruway in particular, the IBA designation is a “very big step and a very big deal,” he said.

While having an IBA within its boundaries doesn’t bind local municipalities in

any way, Schuster said he’s hopeful that planning boards and other government bodies will recognize the importance of Audubon’s announcement. Initial feedback seems favorable.

“This designation can be a significant tool for community and land use planners in both the preparation of area plans as well as the review of development proposals,” said Orange County Planning Commissioner David E. Church. “By knowing in advance where important habitat is, we can be smarter about our activities and investments, and we can proactively avoid or lessen impacts from public and private land development decisions.”

If birds are allowed to thrive, species like the wood thrush will continue to provide the choral backdrop to the region’s outdoors, while also performing natural, otherwise useful functions, Schuster said. By keeping numbers of the invasive gypsy moth at bay, for instance, birds have now naturalized that threat. Birds also play a vital role in seed dispersal, which keeps cherries, grapes and other native plants generating.

“Birds give us a lot of joy,” Schuster said, “but they give us a lot of other things that are unappreciated, too.”



From top, scarlet tanager fledgling (Photo by Terryanne Maenza-Gmelch); a cerulean warbler, a threatened bird that thrives in Black Rock Forest; juvenile pine siskin; blue jay fledgling (photos provided) — all pictured at Black Rock Forest.



Bill Schuster discusses some of the unique habitat found in Black Rock Forest

Photo by J. Simms

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