



Philipstown.info The Paper

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Garrison School Class of 2012

Photo by Maggie Benmour

Graduation Walk at Garrison School

27 students graduate

By Mary Ann Ebner

Ready to meet life's challenges and opportunities ahead, 27 graduates took their final walk as middle school students Wednesday evening (June 20) at the Garrison School's 8th

Grade Commencement. If a prophecy had been written about the Garrison School's Class of 2012 when many of the class members entered the Garrison Union Free School in kindergarten 9 years ago, the prediction may have noted that the classmates would succeed in their academic endeavors, give back to their community, and (Continued on page 6)

Butterfield Recommendations Reported by Planning Board

Urges elected trustees not to be threatened by false claims

by Kevin E. Foley

When the Cold Spring Village Board finally has a new Butterfield proposal before it a number of thorny issues will confront the elected officials as they assume the leadership role in determining the development parameters of the site.

A strong taste of those contentious items emerged from the Village Board's solicitation of the appointed Planning Board's views on the likely issues that ultimately confront the entire village community as well as the residents of the rest of the town.

At a workshop meeting last Tuesday (June 19) the Planning Board finalized its report to the Village Board wherein it laid out what it believes are the significant challenges facing the community in allowing development of the site as well as what it believes are the guidelines the Village Board should use to reach a negotiated development plan.

The Planning Board also put a stake in the ground regarding the context for any future consideration of Butterfield development plans. It candidly warned the Village Board "not to be threatened by false claims of property rights violations for not having permitted Mr. Guillaro to build what he wants." And then

a little further on, the report said: "The village code, the comprehensive plan and public input are all valuable vehicles for modulating property rights to benefit the community." The report concludes with, "Let's keep Cold Spring special."

The report makes clear that whatever confusion exists over roles and positions taken so far, the Planning Board is not sorry, rather it is proud its deliberations slowed down the developer's plan so the issues involved can be more fully aired and addressed. The board also strongly rejects the perception they might have been expressing views on whim or in an unorganized manner. Instead the report argues that board members used the village's comprehensive plan, the publicly held planning charette and their own experience in examining developer site plans as the basis for positions taken.

At the heart of the Planning Board's concerns are questions regarding the long-term tax consequences of any housing proposals versus additional commercial development; the preservation of open space on the site; the need for design harmony with the rest of the village; the traffic impact on the village from the development; and the adequacy of the village infrastructure to meet new demands from the development.

Taxes and Housing

The developer Paul Guillaro withdrew his application (Continued on page 4)

Lyons Realty Withdraws Soil Mining Application

Opponents 'overjoyed'

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Nine days after opposition to proposed soil mining in Philipstown produced riveting testimony within and outside Town Hall, the applicants behind the controversy withdrew their request for permission, derailing the mining venture.

Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea announced the pullback by Nathan and Ernest Lyons, of Lyons Realty LLC, at a news conference Wednesday morning (June 20) in the same room that had seen a crowd denounce the mining idea at a Zoning Board of Appeals public hearing on June 11.

"Out of their concern for the town, concern for a lot of things, they've come to the decision that they're going to withdraw their application for the mine," Shea told the press and audience of about a dozen. "There are no plans for that property right now. That's it for now."

Nathan and Ernest Lyons told Shea of their decision in a June 19 letter that succinctly stated that "as equal partners of

were among the mine's adversaries.

Various critics predicted a host of unwelcome byproducts, including water, air and noise pollution as well as heavy traffic and destruction of the area's tranquility; raised the spectre of "spot zoning," and threatened legal action if the ZBA approved the application. Covered by a soil mining overlay district in the updated zoning code adopted in May 2011, the Lyons tract is currently the only site of potential mining in Philipstown. The zoning code states that "mining activities require a special permit and are allowed solely in the Soil Mining Overlay District."

Shea said "I'm sure" that proposals will come before the Town Board to change the zoning code and outlaw mining entirely in Philipstown. He declined to predict the outcome. "That'd be a board decision. I would not speak for the board."

Nathan Lyons joined Shea at the news conference but let the supervisor do most of the talking. Lyons did say that the family had incurred "quite a bit" of expense in the approval process, though he disclosed no amount. He said that public comments had contributed "a little bit" to the decision to scrap the project. Overall, he added, he didn't expect the level of reaction — some of which grew quite vitriolic. In trying to proceed with their plans, "we did everything according to what the state wanted and the town wanted," he said.

Shea mentioned the controversy in his opening remarks and defined the hearing process as an opportunity for applicants to disseminate plans publicly and for residents to comment on them. "That public hearing process is supposed to strike a balance," he said. "What it's not is a time to level personal attacks. And unfortunately during this process we saw some of that. We

also saw some really thoughtful comments. That's what it's for. I would like to think that the decision the Lyons family came to is based on those thoughtful comments."

He encouraged the public to consider the implications of the withdrawal, touching upon the Lyons' property rights, right to make a living in the town, and consideration for their neighbors. "People need to think about the huge concession that's been

(Continued on page 3)



Richard Shea, left, and Nathan Lyons at the news conference

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

Lyons Realty we wish to withdraw our application to soil mine."

Lyons Realty had sought a special use permit to open a soil mine along Route 9, between Mill Road and East Mountain Road North, in Philipstown's upper fringe. There, the company owns 137 acres and had intended to "disturb" about 33 of them for the mine and accompanying road. Now wooded, the site is zoned industrial in part and residential in part — and nearby homeowners

Meridian String Quartet to Hold July 1 Concert

By Christine Simek

On Sunday, July 1 the Meridian String Quartet will present an afternoon of music at the *Philipstown.info* space. The group has earned international acclaim as winner of the Artists International Competition, as semifinalists at the Evian International Competition and as regular performers at Carnegie Hall. This concert will mark their 20th anniversary.

Rachel Evans, the quartet’s violist who lives Garrison, is thrilled to have the opportunity to present her music in the Hudson Valley, the place that she has called home for over 15 years. Like many local performers, Evans has found connection and kinship within the network of musicians and other artists who ameliorate the already bucolic hills and valleys of our towns. “I’m happy to be doing this concert in a place like Cold Spring that has been so welcoming to me as an artist,” she says.

Evans earned both a Bachelor of Music and a Master of Music degree from the Julliard School of Music. In addition to the Meridian Quartet, she has performed in a variety of ensembles, including the Santa Fe Opera and String Fever, a jazz string group. For her chamber music work, she was a recipient of the Coleman Chamber Music Award. As an early musician, Evans has performed medieval music with Sequentia and with La Stravaganza Köln in Europe. She has also played baroque music with some of the country’s top ensembles.

Evans’s interest and mastery of such a variety of musical styles are reflected in the array of movements she’s chosen for the July 1 program. Selections will

be offered from composers ranging from Joseph Haydn to Ruth Crawford Seeger (Pete Seeger’s stepmother), who was part of a string quartet in the 1930s whose aim was “finding an American voice and a way to express modern classical music. It’s a slow movement with all kinds of affect ... of sounds being layered over one another ... that swells and dies away,” Evans says.

She’s chosen Haydn’s *Op. 20, No. 4*, a well-known selection, that showcases the composer’s sense of humor and playfulness, as well as Dimitri Shostakovich’s *String Quartet No. 8*, which he dedicated to the victims of war and fascism and “is reflective of 1960s Russia and the oppression and the struggle for man to be an individual and express [himself].” The group will conclude with a string quartet composed by local musician Art Labriola, a piece that Evans says is “full of joy” and will come around at the end of the program to balance out the heaviness and reflect “the potential and possibility that we live in now.”

Inspiration for the program came from the “tricky” current state of affairs of our world, specifically the politics of separation and dissonance that seem to be ubiquitous. Evans is motivated to use her music to “take back the voice of the individual, the power of standing together as individuals ... [by] bridging some of the gap between the classical repertoire and the contemporary repertoires.”

Evans’s passion for exploring our shared humanity with her music — as well as exploring the limits of it — is evident in her prolificacy as well as the diversity and versatility that run through the choices she has made as an artist. Along with traveling around the world



Members of the Meridian Quartet: from left, Rachel Evans, Sebu Sirinian, Lisa Tipton, Deborah Assael-Migliore

Photo courtesy of R. Evans

with an array of ensembles, she can be heard on more than 20 recordings, from new music with New York’s Continuum Ensemble to medieval music with Sequentia. “My desire to have what I do have aspects of beauty and relevance and deep meaning for the consciousness of humanity and our immortality and our universality ... is the reason that I love to share music with other people,” she says.

In addition to Evans, the other members of the Meridian Quartet include: Deborah Assael-Migliore, cellist. Assael-Migliore is a founding member of the quartet who has played with the Harlem Chamber Players, the American Symphony Orchestra, the New York Pops, Little Orchestra Society, and the New Jersey Symphony. She is currently working on Broadway in the musical *Newsies*.

Lisa Tipton, violin. Tipton, also a founding member, is an advocate of American music. She established the

“Made in America” series at Carnegie Hall and recorded the *Ives Sonatas Hammers and Strings* on Capstone Records with pianist Adrienne Kim. Tipton is the director of the New York Youth Symphony Chamber Music Program, a faculty member at the School for Strings and is currently working on her doctorate at the CUNY Graduate Center.

Sebu Sirinian, violinist. Sirinian is from Romania and performs chamber music with the Simon Quartet, the American Symphony Orchestra, the Stamford Symphony, and the Brooklyn Philharmonic. He has been a member of the orchestra for several Broadway shows including *Phantom of the Opera* and *Evita*.

Meridian Quartet will hold the free concert at the *Philipstown.info* space at 69 Main St. on Sunday, July 1 at 4 p.m. Wine and cheese will be served.



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Curto Honored for Service to Haldane and Community

Term as president ends this month

By Michael Turton

Joe Curto has attended his last public meeting as president of the Haldane Board of Education. The monthly session held on Tuesday (June 19) was devoted almost entirely to praising him for his contributions to the school district since joining the board as a trustee six years ago. He spent three years as trustee, one year as vice president and two years as president. His term officially ends on June 30.

One by one, his fellow trustees, past board members, administration, retired staff, PTA representatives and others heaped praise on Curto.

The resolution passed by his fellow trustees recognized him specifically for his role in upgrading the district's technology program, increasing public trust and developing and implementing the district strategic plan.

It went on to say that Curto's leadership also improved morale and Haldane's reputation in the community. It highlighted his advocacy for fiscal responsibility and transparency, his handling of district contracts and his understanding of the importance of open communication with the public.

While the resolution hinted at it, the personal comments and the tone of voice from those who offered comments were what really brought home the depth of affection and respect that the community feels for Curto.

"You are a true listener. You listen to every opinion. You have never left a question unanswered," said middle school vice principal Julia Sniffen.

Trustee Michael Junjulas, who will likely succeed Curto as president, said: "I appreciate your honesty, your passion. I



Curto: "Just a couple of quick questions!" Photo by Michael Turton

know I can always call you."

Board Vice President Gillian Thorpe has served with Curto on two different boards. "You've been such a huge mentor for me both on the school board and on the Haldane Foundation," she said.

Trustee Evan Schwartz said he felt Curto has set a standard that goes beyond the local community. "You set the tone for what is expected of board members in this town," he said. "You could be a model for what a board member should be across the state."

Past Board President Dave Merandy, now a member of the Philipstown Town Board, also spoke. "Things were turbulent when you joined the board," he said to Curto, praising him for being a calming influence. He also poked fun at Curto's well-known habit of asking more questions than most trustees. Merandy said that often, towards the end of a

meeting, Curto would utter six words that would hit his fellow trustees "like a shot in the gut from Mike Tyson." According to Merandy, Curto would simply say, "Just a couple of quick questions!"

Superintendent of Schools Mark Villanti summed up what many in the room said about Curto in various ways throughout the evening. "In public service you're known for two things — what you accomplished, but, when all is said and done, you are known for who are. You are class. You are a gentleman. You are a thinker. You work at things until you get it. You are civic minded. You've inspired me."

An emotionally-charged Curto was very brief. His voice cracking, he said, "I won't say a lot. It's not my nature. It's been a good ride. And ... thanks."

Baseball team honored

The Haldane Blue Devils baseball team and their coaches were recognized for a winning season that included league, sectional and regional championships and a semifinal win in the New York State final four tournament before bowing out in the championship final. "I can't say enough about these guys," said Head Coach Tom Virgadamo. "They went above and beyond. It was a great season that didn't end the way we wanted. But we learned about more than just baseball."

"On a Mission" was the team's motto in 2012, and Virgadamo has already selected the slogan he hopes will guide the 2013 team to a state championship — "Unfinished Business."

Villanti had some advice for the team after praising its members for their conduct both on and off the field: "Follow the values your coaches taught you. You made us very proud."

Curto presented Virgadamo with a copy of *Good Enough to Dream*, a book by Roger Kahn that chronicles the author's year as owner of a minor league baseball franchise. "Read it," Curto said. "It's your team's story."

Other business

Trustees accepted a letter of resignation from School Nurse Ann "Candy" Zgolinski, who will retire in 2014. She has been school nurse for 19 years.

High School Principal Brian Alm reviewed revisions to the school's code of conduct. The meeting served as a public hearing on the document, and trustees will likely vote to accept the updated code in July. The document can be viewed on the Haldane website.

Lyons Realty Withdraws Soil Mining Application

(From page 1)

made here," Shea said. The decision, he added, "is just a continuation of the long history of the Lyons family being extremely considerate in this town and doing the right thing. They live here. They work here. They plow the firehouse. They give donations. Those things can't be forgotten also. This is a good family. I stand by them as I have all along."

He blamed the ease and speed of Internet postings for some of the rancor. "With that power comes an obligation to be more thoughtful in your commentary," he said, calling some of what happens with the Internet "disturbing. Those comments can have major consequences, especially in a small town like this."

Responding to questions from the press, Shea also attributed some of the adverse reaction to the mine to a tendency to overlook zoning provisions and only pay attention when a relevant item lands on a town agenda. "When [something] comes up for an application, that brings a focus to it," he said. But "people need to take a look at the zoning and go through the document. Part of your responsibility in a democracy is to educate yourself." He pointed out that "we've always had mining operations in the town. We still have mining on the books."

Some applause from non-news media attendees greeted the announcement of the application withdrawal. However, Shea did not take questions

from the audience.

As the press conference broke up, Ricard Butensky, a leader of the opposition to the mining proposal, said he was "overjoyed" at the outcome. "I am grateful to the Lyons family and to Richard Shea that the project is not happening." Sam Tallerico, another opponent and a neighbor of the site, described himself as "ecstatic" at the news. "We thank the Lyons for their decision and wish them all the best."



Scenic Hudson officials turn the first spades of earth on the organization's \$3.6 million creation of a new historic and environmental park in Cold Spring. The work is expected to take 15 months with the preserve closed during that period. For more information go to www.philipstown.info.

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Planning Board Reports Butterfield Recommendations

(From page 1)

for developing Butterfield the day after a meeting with the Planning Board, which had taken a 3-2 position against the presence of senior-citizen market-rate housing on the site. Guillaro claimed he could not move forward profitably without that element of the plan. In its new report the board frames its position as not being against the idea of such housing or against the developer's need for profit. Rather the board seeks guarantees against what it believes are avoidable risks in committing to it.

Specifically the Planning Board wants the developer to create fee simple housing wherein ownership is direct (as in single-family home ownership) and the tax burden is equal to other village homeowners. Under a condominium plan, which has ownership restrictions, the property tax burden is considerably less. Most members believe this constitutes a subsidy of the site by other village property owners, including senior citizens.

The Planning Board also emphasized the need to closely cluster any housing to preserve as much open space on the site as possible. Housing design should also conform to current village look and the height of any buildings should conform to existing standards.

Affordable housing apartments were also in the original proposal and the Planning Board outright rejected this idea as too risky financially. Judith Rose, a local resident and professional in the field, had previously warned the board such housing (which is not subsidized by any government) is experiencing difficulty throughout the state from an inability to meet costs and tax obligations over time, presenting burdens to their localities. The board took the warning to heart. It argued that commercial development would be preferable. A belief that such a project would largely result in the "warehousing" of non-resident seniors also made such housing undesirable to pursue.

The Planning Board recommended that the village amend the village zoning code to broaden the possible uses within a B-4 district (Butterfield is B-4) creating more flexibility in a negotiation for a greater mix of commercial retail space and housing options. The board cautioned the village government not to go too far afield in its vision, remembering the impact on the remainder of the village.

A sliver of the Butterfield site would be R-1 if the Planning Board had its way

to allow for single-family homes along Paulding Avenue, which would be more in keeping with the general look of existing homes on that thoroughfare.

Traffic

A traffic study for the entire 9D commercial area corridor, rather than just the Butterfield site, was also recommended to assess total impact from adding as many 250 parking spaces on Butterfield. The potential occupation by county, town and village offices as well as police, courts, a post office and other commercial services raises the stakes for traffic consequences according to the Planning Board.

Hire an Engineer

The Planning Board encouraged the village trustees to pursue a negotiation with Guillaro, referring to him as "an honorable man." But it also said: "The Village Board should engage an engineering consultant if it intends to reach a conceptual agreement with the developer so it understands the implications of its decisions." Beyond traffic, such infrastructure issues as adequate water pressure for fire protection, storm water runoff and the sewer system need study, according to the Planning Board.

Zoning

The Planning Board recommended that the village amend the village zoning code to broaden the possible uses within a B-4 district (Butterfield is B-4) creating more flexibility in a negotiation for a greater mix of commercial retail space and housing options. The board cautioned the village government not to go too far afield in its vision, remembering the impact on the remainder of the village.

A sliver of the Butterfield site would be R-1 if the Planning Board had its way

Cold Spring Honors Immorlica for 35 Years of Service

Long-time Planning Board member

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Cold Spring resident Joseph Immorlica heard words of honor ringing in his behalf last week when the village government issued a proclamation saluting his 35 years of service on the Village Planning Board.

Lauded by Mayor Seth Gallagher and four trustees and applauded by the audience, Immorlica stepped down from the Planning Board this spring. Read by the mayor at the Village Board's June 12 meeting, the proclamation declared that Immorlica had "selflessly served the Village of Cold Spring with dedication and perseverance" and "volunteered his time and talent ... exercising good judgment and an extraordinary sense of commitment and determination to both preserve the existing character of the village and improve its future." Signed by Gallagher on behalf of the whole Village Board, the proclamation also stated that Immorlica had "worked in a tireless manner on behalf of the senior citizens of this commu-

Joe Immorlica (standing left) with Mayor Seth Gallagher, as Planning Board members watch from the audience

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

nity" and made "extraordinary efforts to be an active and productive asset to his community."

Immorlica also received a certificate from the New York State Conference of Mayors for "35 years of distinguished public service" to his local community. "You're a great role model," Gallagher told him, as current Planning Board members watched from the audience.

In response, Immorlica said: "I sure appreciate it. I really wasn't looking for anything, because I feel as if being a native of this community I enjoy it. I'll do whatever I can for the community and the people of the community."

Mayor Accused of 'Unethical' Acts

Board accused of law violations

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Simmering slowly on the Internet, opposition to Mayor Seth Gallagher's salary hike erupted at the Cold Spring Village Board meeting last week with accusations that Gallagher engaged in "unethical behavior" and that the whole board "violated New York State law" in setting the higher pay.



Michael Bowman with his letter

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

The allegations, brought by resident Michael Bowman, who in May created an online petition to rescind Gallagher's raise, dominated the last part of the board's formal monthly meeting June 12.

The mayor responded that the salary question was considered by the entire board "as openly as possible."

Gallagher's raise took effect on June 1, the beginning of the village's fiscal 2012-13 year, and brings his total compensation package to \$15,162. That breaks down as \$11,621 in base salary; \$1,041 for a committee chairmanship (the same amount trustees get for chairing key committees), and a \$2,500 stipend as village budget officer. Although he gets health-care coverage through the village-employee plan, Gallagher pays for it himself — at a charge he pegged at \$18,000 annually.

On April 17, the board held a public hearing on the then-draft budget. At the session, Trustee Bruce Campbell proposed a series of budget adjustments, including the pay raise, but the board took no action that evening. A week later, following further budget discussions, it boosted the mayor's pay by \$2,500, along with making other last-minute changes, including taking \$2,000 from a \$2,800 line originally devoted to an old MTA tax and using it for garbage truck upgrades

and decreasing from 7.5 percent to 5 percent village employees' share of insurance premiums under new health-care provisions. To fund the mayor's raise, the board took \$2,000 from a contingency account that had been earmarked for \$12,500 — \$3,650 higher than the fiscal 2011-12 contingency fund — and reduced from \$750 to \$250 the amount allocated for the "mayor-contractual" account, which covers such costs as conference travel.

Bowman contends that by making decisions on the salary increase outside of the formal public hearing, the mayor and entire board acted improperly, invalidating its actions. "Seeing that the Village of Cold Spring Board of Trustees had never put forth any notice stating the proposed compensation of the Board of Trustees — which includes the mayor's salary — and given the fact that the

public hearing on the tentative budget had already been closed on April 17th, it is my belief that the actions taken by the Village Board on the evening of April 24th should be null and void as they have violated New York State Law," Bowman declared in a letter he read to the board June 12. "In fact, by closing the public hearing and then adjusting the tentative budget to accommodate an increase in pay for the mayor, I believe that the Village Board, or at least the Village budget officer [Gallagher], has shown a pattern of unethical behavior by knowingly manipulating budget lines in preparation for a possible pay raise. Specifically," he asserted, "money earmarked for the defunct MTA tax was purposely left in the budget for this reason." Dated May 30, the letter is addressed to the Village Board.

Bowman also said that state law demands that the proposed compensation for all board members be given in an official newspaper notice announcing a public hearing on a budget. Without enumerating on salaries or other details, the village's official notice, dated March 30, stated: "The Board of Trustees for the Village of Cold Spring will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 17, 2012, at 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall, 85 Main St., Cold Spring, N.Y., to hear public comment on

the tentative budget for the 2012/2013 fiscal year. Copies of the budget are available at the Village Clerk's Office ... All interested parties are encouraged to attend and be heard."

As a result of the various alleged errors, Bowman asked "that the Village Board please consider any budgetary actions taken on April 12 to be null and void" and that the village launch an ethics investigation of the mayor and board in regard to the budget and pay hike. "In addition," Bowman said, "I believe that a clear conflict of interest has occurred in this matter, as the Village Budget Officer — who is also the mayor — manipulated taxpayer funds for his own financial gain."

Gallagher replied that the raise was not in the tentative budget because "I do prepare the budget. But I didn't want to include that, a raise for myself. I did ask the board to address that" in prior years.

In 2010, a year after taking the office, Gallagher recommended that mayoral pay be increased by \$5,000 but that the raise not kick in until after the March 2011 mayoral election. Gallagher won the 2011 race and in later setting the 2011-12 budget the Village Board increased his overall salary by \$2,500 to cover his work as budget officer.

This April, the issue came up again. "We had a public hearing on the budget," Gallagher said. "This was raised at the public hearing." During the hearing, Bowman spoke out against the salary hike and the board subsequently mulled everything over for another week before voting on the budget. "We didn't need to have another public hearing," Gallagher said. "Certainly the budget can be adjusted after the public hearing. It's expected to be adjusted because you're taking comments from the public and taking [them] into consideration."

"Without question, the reason you have a public hearing and public comment and post a tentative budget is to possibly make adjustments to that and approve a final budget," Trustee Matt Francisco agreed.

Bowman repeatedly tried to interrupt from the floor. When Gallagher persistently gaveled him down Bowman asked that "you take a vote of the five [board members] to see if I be allowed to speak." He had already spent more than nine minutes reading his letter and making other remarks and no board member supported his request.

Trustee Ralph Falloon, noting reluctantly that although "obviously, this isn't an agenda item, we're here anyway," asked Village Attorney Stephen Gaba about Bowman's statements. "Is there truth to these? Is there any unethical and illegal action we did? Should this be ad-



Mayor Seth Gallagher Photo by L.S. Armstrong

ressed?"

Gaba replied that he had reviewed the matter and "I didn't see any procedural irregularities. As far as ethical violations: They sound completely spurious to me."

Trustee Bruce Campbell, who had included the mayoral salary hike in a list of potential budget changes he proposed April 17, said, "I know how much time he [Gallagher] puts into this job." Nonetheless, Campbell added, he would have backed a raise regardless of who is mayor. Campbell, as well as Gallagher and Francisco, recalled that the idea of a mayoral salary increase dates back to the administration of Mayor Anthony Phillips. In February 2009, acknowledging the long hours Phillips put in, then-Trustee Gordon Robertson suggested that the trustees give up half of their salaries to boost the mayor's pay. The board did not act on his proposal.

On June 12, Robertson characterized the references to his 2009 proposal as "untrue. You're paraphrasing" the record, he objected.

Trustee Charles Hustis revealed that after he had advocated Gallagher's raise at the April 24 meeting he had tried to repudiate it, drawing flak for both moves. For initially backing the raise, "I've been attacked on the street verbally, and at times rightfully so ... \$2,500 meant a lot to people," he said. Later, when "I saw the online petition, I sat back and actually turned around and signed it. If the world wants to condemn me for being a hypocrite and Indian giver, so be it. I did turn around — thought I could turn around and make a difference by turning around and signing the online petition."

Francisco urged an end to the invective. The public can freely comment, he said. "That's a great right we have in this country but with that right comes responsibility. To present things like this is some kind of backroom money-grabbing is highly inflammatory and grossly inaccurate."



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Graduation Walk at Garrison School (From page 1)



Principal Stephanie Impellittere and Superintendent of Schools Gloria Colucci
Photo by Maggie Benjour

make remarkable music together, as they have done. Garrison students over the years have demonstrated enormous enthusiasm and talent for learning, and this year's class lived up to the legacy.

In her ninth year as principal, Garrison School's Stephanie Impellittere has watched and encouraged the members of this graduating class throughout the years, and they'll leave their own lasting legacy in her school's hallways.

"I think the biggest thing from my point of view is that these students are a talented group in so many ways," Impellittere said. "They have won school awards and community acknowledgements, and all have shown great strength and character through all of life's challenges."

Dressed not in cap and gown, on a fitting first day of summer, girls chose sundresses, while boys donned khaki pants and casual shirts. Their entrance

procession included a short narrative of each graduate, delivered by Impellittere and Superintendent of Schools Gloria Colucci. Board of Education President Carol McCullough was invited to the stage for the awarding of diplomas, and each student's choice of high school was announced. Of the 27 graduates, 15 will attend Haldane High School in Cold Spring, seven will attend James I. O'Neill High School in Highland Falls, and five will attend private schools.

Diplomas captured the spotlight, but musical performances also highlighted the commencement for classmates, teachers, family and friends. Isabella Convertino sang *No Woman, No Cry* by Bob Marley, Sara Labriola played an instrumental piece (the Beatles' *Yesterday*) on classical guitar, and *Time of Your Life* by Green Day was performed by Marina Martin accompanied on guitar by Sara Labriola.

"Graduation varies from year to year, and this year's graduating class is a very musical group," Impellittere said. "We have some extraordinary musicians and vocalists in the class to add to this beautiful ceremony."

Impellittere said that the class members are very closely knit, and it was hard to watch them going their separate ways. "Our students have had an opportunity to get the best education ever," she said. "And it's not just about the academics, but the social and emotional element."

Elizabeth Walker, who delivered an address as class president, will attend O'Neill High School. "Garrison is a unique school," Walker said. "I've only been here since fourth grade, but most of our grade has been here since kindergarten, and it will be hard since we're all going to different high schools. It's really been like a family."

Sound Check

Audio Visual Club covers graduation

By Mary Ann Ebner

With studies completed and grades posted, a team of eighth-grade students at the Garrison Middle School faced a final task in preparation for graduation. Before the Class of 2012 could march forward to receive their diplomas, members of the Audio Visual Club set the stage for the June 20 ceremony.



Garrison Principal Stephanie Impellittere reviews a graduation speech with class president Lizzy Walker.
Photo by M.A. Ebner

phones and cables to prepare the school's gymnasium for graduation ceremonies.

"Let's get the cart, four speakers, and four stands," Heitmann belted out to a dozen eager kids who were setting up not only for the school but for their own commencement. "Why don't you guys start on microphone cables ... and we're going to tape those down like usual."

Heitmann, who has volunteered to lead the club for the past five academic years, has worked with this group of students throughout the school year to orchestrate audio visual operations for plays, musical performances, and ceremonies. A sound engineer and senior vice president of CP Communications in Elmsford, N.Y., Heitmann works primarily in providing audio visual services for sports and entertainment broadcasting.

"I'm an audio engineer by trade," Heitmann said. "My father was an engineer so I grew up in the business. This is something I can do to give back to the community. Some kids really buy into it. It's easy for kids to use technology, but we're giving kids the basics of how it works. They can't join the club just to goof around."

As the club members moved equipment swiftly from the storage area and around the stage and floor seating arranged for the ceremony, they weren't goofing around, but were enjoying their work.

Eighth grader Lizzy Walker is glad that she signed up for the club, though she wishes she had joined in seventh grade. "I was thinking that it was cables and stuff and it couldn't be that hard," Walker said, "but there's a lot to learn." Walker sorted out cables that had be-



Audio Visual Club leader Kurt Heitmann, left, and club member Matthew Hard, set up equipment for the 2012 Garrison Middle School graduation.
Photo by M.D. Ebner

come knotted, and prepared to review the speech that she would deliver at the podium microphone as class president.

Club member Addie Westerhuis laughed along with other students as Heitmann teased them about the tangled cables. There's nothing glamorous about working with cables, but keeping equipment neat and organized is essential.

"Working with cables and wrapping the cable is the hardest part," Westerhuis said. "It's part of the fun, but it's probably the hardest thing you have to do."

The team of students kept busy with a steady rhythm and made the process look easy. Macdara Heanue and Matthew Hard hoisted speakers together, and labeled the console for each microphone. "Success!" Hard shouted, as the microphones passed the sound check.

Garrison School Principal Stephanie Impellittere looked on with approval as

the Audio Visual Club completed their final event of the school year.

"Kurt went to school here and his family has been very involved, and Danny, his youngest son, is graduating this year," Impellittere said. "He's invested in our community and wants to teach students about community service."

All of the members of the current Audio Visual Club will move on to high school in the fall, and Heitmann, who has agreed to continue to lead the elective course in the new school year, hopes that rising seventh and eighth graders will consider the course.

"I tell the kids that if they enjoy this, they can get a job anywhere in audio visual," Heitmann said. "There are lots of opportunities. You may start out making minimum wage, but before you know it, you're running a business."

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"American Baby"

MAGAZINES

The Calendar



Film still from *Thunder Soul*

Photo courtesy of Depot Docs

Depot Docs: *Thunder Soul*

You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll want to dance

By James O'Barr

In the fall of 2007, producer/writer/director Mark Landsman was working in his office, when a story came up on the radio that caught his attention. It was about an all-black high school band from Houston that had become a national sensation during the 1970s. When a track from one of their eight studio albums was played, Landsman says he was riveted by “a wall of incredible funk music.” That music was the legendary, world-class sound of the Kashmere High School Stage Band, led by jazz musician turned master music teacher Conrad O. Johnson, known to his students, with affection and respect, as “Prof.”

The story, and the amazing music, had an immediate allure for Landsman, and he wanted to know more. He found that Conrad Johnson was still living in Houston, and when they spoke on the phone, was happy to talk

about his work at Kashmere High. At that point, Landsman was thinking of a fictional treatment of Prof's reinvention of himself as a teacher, and his transformation of Kashmere High's conventional stage band, playing jazz and American Songbook standards in easy listening arrangements, into one of the premier funk bands of the 1970s, performing, at a professional level, a catalogue of original music and intricately choreographed moves (in one writer's words, “James Brown 101”), all of it composed and choreographed by the one and only Prof. But when he flew to Houston to meet Mr. Johnson at his home, to gather material for a narrative feature, he found a frail 92-year-old, surrounded by former students who were planning a reunion concert in his honor. It was suddenly clear to Landsman that he had the elements of a powerful and affecting documentary staring him in the face, and he didn't blink.

The result is *Thunder Soul*, next up for Depot Docs on Friday, June

22, at the Philipstown Depot Theatre in Garrison. Powerful and affecting — absolutely. Initially the focus is on Craig Baldwin, a self-proclaimed bad boy as a student at Kashmere High, whose charisma, drive, and love for Prof Johnson are behind the successful effort to bring alums back, not only from 35 years after their stage band glory days, but, for many of them, from just as long without having opened their instrument cases or played a note. The film follows the build up to the reunion concert with interviews of the band members and the Prof, wonderful archival footage and photographs, and a sound track that includes some of the greatest hits of Kashmere High's funk powerhouse.

But the heart of the film, and the reason that there's a story to be told, or that it matters, is Conrad O. Johnson, Prof. Like every great teacher, Prof brought his love for and mastery of his subject, which happened to be music, to the band room at Kashmere High, and he treated the young men and women he met there (Continued on page 10)

Sunday Sunset Reading Series

Andrew Blackwell and David Rothenberg read from works

By Alison Rooney

In just four years, quite a roster of esteemed novelists, poets, and essayists have found their way to Cold Spring to bring their words, spoken aloud, to those aficionados of all things literary who regularly attend the Sunset Reading Series, presented quarterly at the Chapel Restoration. This Sunday, Andrew Blackwell, author of *Visit Sunny Chernobyl*, will join them, as he reads from his book, a paean to the ruined-by-man places of the world. Joining Blackwell will be Cold Spring musician, professor, author David Rothenberg, who will be reading from a recent work.

These writers haven't found their way here by accident. The trail of literary breadcrumbs which have led them to these parts was begun by Philipstown's Ivy Meeropol and Bekah Tighe, documentary film-maker and baker, respectively, by trade, and avid readers by nature. They first came up



Ivy Meeropol, left, and Bekah Tighe

Photo by Alison Rooney

with the notion of the readings out of a love for the Chapel Restoration itself, wanting to draw visitors in to appreciate the beauty of the 1833-built Greek Revival church (now ecumenical).

With four years under their belts, what started, and continues, as a labor of love for both women, now comes a bit more easily to them. “It's a well-oiled machine on the day now,” says Tighe, “We (Continued on page 10)

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SITTING on the BENCH

❖ by Tara ❖



The enormous popularity of my thoughts as laid out in my columns is a given. But I hear the one that aroused the most interest was my musing about police activities on Main Street. Some of my many readers have even claimed that they can identify the officer I mentioned. I'm not going there, but in my ruminating I concluded that a parking ticket can depend entirely on the mood of the law enforcer.

For example, motorists who park their vehicle a few inches beyond the white line indicating the legal position may find a ticket awaiting when they return from shopping.

Yet, I once saw the strictest officer of them all discover that an enormous delivery truck had stopped in such a way that Kemble Avenue traffic was completely blocked off from Main Street. Did the officer issue a ticket? Not that I saw. In fact, the officer allowed the offender, who could have simply double-parked, to remain while his goods were unloaded and the vehicles on Kemble had to wait.

❖ ❖ ❖

When the task had been completed the driver was allowed to go on his merry way. How could that be? After much thought, I decided it was a matter of the mood of the officer who that day was feeling kindly.

In contrast, my moods depend entirely on the situation. If a puppy is too lively around me I will give a warning growl. And when the boss takes me swimming at Garrison Landing I furiously wag my tail and even moan with delight. Entirely rational, n'est ce pas? Some might say that makes me superior to humans but I'm not going there either.

Also rational are those who shop at the Country Goose where SwaggerTags are now in stock for all those youngsters who are going off to camp. You can attach a SwaggerTag identification tag to personalize your gear with your own photo, image or logo. SwaggerTags are strong, durable, weather and impact resistant.

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The Calendar



Looking for things to do in and around Philipstown? Grab The Calendar and go. For more details and ongoing events, visit philipstown.info. Send event listings to calendar@philipstown.info. See you around town!

Scan the QR code above with your mobile device for more calendar details.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

Kids & Community

Summer Reading Kickoff: Pirate School!

11 A.M. – NOON, BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
(845) 265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org
Registration required.

Celebrate Summer!: Dog on Fleas Performance

10 A.M. & 2 P.M. MID-HUDSON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie
(845) 471-0589 | mhcm.org
Admission: \$6/person

Health, Fitness & Outdoors

Sunset Kayak Tour

6 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY OUTFITTERS
63 Main St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-0221 | hudsonvalleyoutfitters.com
Cost: \$80. Call to register.

Theater & Film

Moonrise Kingdom film

5:30 P.M. & 8 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
19 Front St., Newburgh
(845) 561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.com
Tickets: General Admission \$8.50; Seniors/students \$7; Members & Under 16 \$6

Depot Docs Season Finale: Thunder Soul film

7:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE
10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
(845) 424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.com
Tickets: \$20 for film & reception. Order at brownpapertickets.com.

A Bag of Hammers film

7:30 P.M. PARAMOUNT CENTER FOR THE ARTS
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
(914) 739-2333 | paramountcenter.org
Tickets: \$7-\$9

Reasons to Be Pretty play

8 P.M. THE BEACON
445 Main St., Beacon
(845) 774-5973 | thebeacontheatre.org
Tickets: \$15

Music

Buddy Traina

8 - 11 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE'S
184 Main St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

“Civilizacion:” Eclectic Music Program

8 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
(845) 831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org
Admission: \$8

Manhattan Transfer

8 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL
13 Main St., Tarrytown
(914) 631-3390 Ext. 100
tarrytownmusic hall.org | Tickets: \$45-\$85

The Fred Savages '80s Party Band

9:30 P.M. – 12:30 A.M. 12 GRAPES
12 N. Division St., Peekskill
(914) 737-6624 | 12grapes.com
Fee: \$10 or \$5 with entree

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

Kids & Community

Fiddle-Dee-Dee Potluck & Square Dance

7 P.M. SAUNDERS FARM
853 Old Albany Post Road, Garrison

First Annual Solstice Hoe-a-Thon & Potluck Lunch

6 A.M. – 8 P.M. COMMON GROUND FARM
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
(845) 231-4424 | commongroundfarm.org
Fees: \$25/individual; \$100/team of 4

Cold Spring Farmers' Market

8:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
csfarmmarket.org

Food Pantry

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

Go With the Float! 4th of July Parade Family Art Workshop

10 A.M. - NOON GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
(845) 424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Book Sorting

10 A.M. – 1 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
(845) 424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Constitution Island Seafood Barbecue

5 – 8:30 P.M. CONSTITUTION ISLAND
Bus transport from Cold Spring Metro-North train station lot.
(845) 446-8676 | constitutionisland.org
Tickets: \$160/person. Reservations required.

Health, Fitness & Outdoors

Hudson Highlands Land Trust Hiking 101

10 A.M. – NOON WINTER HILL
20 Nazareth Way, Garrison
(845) 424-3358 | hhlt.org
Family-friendly. Registration required.

Constitution Marsh Kayak Tour (with instruction)

NOON HUDSON VALLEY OUTFITTERS
63 Main St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-0221 | hudsonvalleyoutfitters.com
Cost: \$110. Call to register.

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10: 30 A.M. & 1:30 P.M. TEATOWN LAKE RESERVATION
1600 Spring Valley Road, Ossining
(914) 762-2912 Ext. 110 | teatown.org
Access by guided tour only for ages 12 and over.
Thru Sept. 30.

The Great Sunflower Project
10 A.M. HUDSON HIGHLANDS NATURE MUSEUM
120 Muser Drive, Cornwall
(845) 534-5506 Ext. 204 | hhnaturemuseum.org
Admission: \$7/adults; \$5/child 12 and under
(Members: \$5/adult; \$3/child 12 and under)

Art & Design

Summer Solstice Celebration
5 P.M. STORM KING ART CENTER
1 Museum Road, New Windsor
(845) 534-3115 | stormking.org
Tickets: Start at \$125/person. Call to register.

The Hudson River School of Art: Paintings, Painters, Period & Places – and How to Get There Lecture & Presentation
7 – 8:30 P.M. MILL STREET LOFT ARTS AT SCENIC HUDSON’S RIVER CENTER
8 Long Dock Road, Beacon
(845) 471-7477 | millstreetloft.org | Donation: \$5

Theater & Film

Moonrise Kingdom film
12:30 P.M., 3 P.M., 5:30 P.M. & 8 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

Steve Jobs: The Lost Interview film
5 P.M. PARAMOUNT CENTER FOR THE ARTS
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
(914) 739-2333 | paramountcenter.org
Tickets: \$7-\$9

Beyond Ipanema: Brazilian Waves in Global Music film
Q & A WITH FILMMAKER FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS & DANCE
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
(845) 424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.com
Tickets: \$20. Order at brownpapertickets.com.

Reasons to Be Pretty play
8 P.M. THE BEACON
See details under Friday.

Free Outdoor Film on the River: The Goonies
COLD SPRING FILM SOCIETY
SUNSET 8:31 P.M. DOCKSIDE PARK
West St., Cold Spring | coldspringfilm.org

Music

Reggae & Jazz Gospel Café
7 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
(845) 831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org
Tickets: \$10



The Goonies will be shown by the Cold Spring Film Society at sunset on Saturday.
Photo courtesy of Cold Spring Film Society

Acme Acoustic Band
8 - 11 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE’S
184 Main St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

Matthew Sweet – The Girlfriend Tour
8 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL
13 Main St., Tarrytown | (914) 631-3390 Ext. 100 | tarrytownmusichall.org
Tickets: \$29-\$45

Sloan Wainwright Band
8:30 P.M. TOWNE CRIER CAFE
130 Route 22, Pawling
(845) 855-1300 | townecrier.com
Tickets: \$25 advance/\$30 door

Bert Rechtschaffer Jazz Trio
9 P.M. – MIDNIGHT CHILL WINE BAR & TAPAS
173 Main St., Beacon
(845) 765-0885 | chillwinebar.net

Opening Night Concert: Mendelssohn's A Midsummer Night's Dream
8:30 P.M. CARAMOOR CENTER FOR MUSIC & THE ARTS
149 Girdle Ridge Road, Katonah
(914) 232-1252 | caramoor.org
Tickets: \$15-\$85

Meetings & Lectures

Poultry Processing & Pastured Poultry
9:30 A.M. – 4 P.M. GLYNWOOD
(845) 265-3338 | glynwood.org
Price: \$60. Advance registration required.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

Kids & Community

Beacon Flea Market
8 A.M. – 3 P.M. HENRY STREET PARKING LOT
6 Henry St., Beacon
(845) 202-0094 | beaconflea.blogspot.com

Family Tour
5 P.M. STORM KING ART CENTER
1 Museum Road, New Windsor
(845) 534-3115 | stormking.org

Health, Fitness & Outdoors

Constitution Marsh Kayak Tour (with instruction)
1 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY OUTFITTERS
See details under Saturday.

Season Opening of Wildflower Island Guided Tours
1:30 P.M. TEATOWN LAKE RESERVATION
See details under Saturday.

Art & Design

CIRCA 1986 Redux – R.M. Fischer: Current Works Opening Reception
4 – 6 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART
1701 Main St., Peekskill
(914) 788-0100 | hvcca.org

Theater & Film

Moonrise Kingdom film
1:30 P.M., 4 P.M., 6:30 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

Reasons to Be Pretty play
3 P.M. THE BEACON
See details under Friday.

Music

Tristen Napoli Jazz Trio
1 P.M. PEEKSKILL COFFEE HOUSE
101 S. Division St., Peekskill
(914) 739-1287 | peekskillcoffee.com

Celtic Notes
5 – 8 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE’S
184 Main St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

West Point Band Music Under the Stars: Jazz Knights’ The Wizard of Oz
7:30 P.M. TROPHY POINT AMPHITHEATRE
CULLUM ROAD, WEST POINT
(845) 938-2617 | westpointband.com

Three Dog Night
7 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL
13 Main St., Tarrytown | (914) 631-3390 Ext. 100 | tarrytownmusichall.org
Tickets: \$48-\$90

Meetings & Lectures

Sunset Reading Series: Andrew Blackwell and David Rothenberg
4 P.M. CHAPEL RESTORATION
45 Market St., Cold Spring
sunsetreadings.org

MONDAY, JUNE 25

Kids & Community

Lions Club Installation Dinner
6: 30 – 8:30 P.M. CATHRYN’S TUSCAN GRILL
(914) 474-0111 | coldspringlions.com
Tickets: \$30/person

Theater & Film

Moonrise Kingdom film
7:30 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

(Continued on page 10)



Angelina's
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The Calendar (from page 9)

Music

Young Players’ Creative Strings Summer Workshop

M-F 9:30 A.M. – 4 P.M. CHAPEL RESTORATION
(845) 265-2878 | chapelrestoration.org
Fee: \$250

Meetings & Lectures

Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

7:30 P.M. TOWN HALL | 238 Main St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-5200 | philipstown.com

TUESDAY, JUNE 26

Kids & Community

Kids’ Craft Hour

4 – 5 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
(845) 424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Theater & Film

Moonrise Kingdom film

7:30 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

Music

Derek A. Dempsey

8 - 11 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE’S
184 Main St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

Slaid Cleaves/Also Appearing Rod Picott

8 P.M. TURNING POINT MUSIC CAFE
468 Piermont Ave., Piermont
(845) 359-1089 | turningpointcafe.com
Tickets: \$30

Meetings & Lectures

Cold Spring Village Board Meeting

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

Kids & Community

Wacky Wednesday: River Life

1 P.M. MID-HUDSON CHILDREN’S MUSEUM
75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie
(845) 471-0589 | mhcm.org
Fee: Museum admission plus \$2/child

Theater & Film

Moonrise Kingdom film

7:30 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

Music

Painted Betty

7 P.M. THE WINERY AT ST. GEORGE
1715 E. Main St., Mohegan Lake
(914) 455-4272 | thewineryatstgeorge.com
Tickets: \$10

Open Mic

8 - 11 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE’S
184 Main St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

Meetings & Lectures

Philipstown Town Board Workshop

7:30 P.M. TOWN HALL
238 Main St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-5200 | philipstown.com

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

Kids & Community

Cold Spring Area Chamber Mixer

6:30 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
(845) 265-3200 | coldspringareachamber.org
Cost: \$15. Reservations requested.

Theater & Film

Moonrise Kingdom film

2 P.M. & 7:30 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) Play

8 P.M. MARIST COLLEGE NELLY GOLETTI THEATRE
3399 North Road, Poughkeepsie
(845) 575-3133 | rivervalleyrep.com
Tickets: \$22-\$30

Music

Chris Fox & Mojo Monde

8 P.M. TURNING POINT MUSIC CAFE
468 Piermont Ave., Piermont
(845) 359-1089 | turningpointcafe.com
Tickets: \$15

Meetings & Lectures

The Creative Joy Women’s Retreat

THURSDAY – MONDAY GARRISON INSTITUTE
14 Mary’s Way Route 9D, Garrison
(845) 424-4800 | garrisoninstitute.org
Call for details.

Sunday Sunset Reading Series (from page 7)

don’t get nervous anymore.” There are four readings each season, generally in May, June, September and October. An attempt is made to mix it up with different genres, and to include local literary talent as well. Outreach to the authors is sometimes made directly, through personal connections, while at other times it’s a matter of, “We really like this book — let’s try and get this,” describes Meeropol, and inquiries are made through literary agents. The latter was the case with Andrew Blackwell. Seeking a nonfiction author this time around, Meeropol and Tighe were intrigued by the themes of his work. As Tighe notes, “Visiting toxic waste sites is the opposite of eco-tourism. His position is that since we are polluting, we should embrace and find something interesting there.”

(Continued on page 16)

Depot Docs (from page 9)

with kindness and respect. His only demand was that they take what he had to teach them as seriously as he did, and that that they perform at the highest level of which they were capable. The result was not only something very special in terms of the short-lived fame and the longer-term musical influence that the band achieved, but the deep sense of confidence, the wide expanse of personal potential, and the undeniable evidence of accomplishment that Prof’s students went out into the world with.

Of course, the fact that Kashmere High was in an impoverished section of Houston, and that these students, and their teacher, are black, is another

reason to celebrate the tale that *Thunder Soul* so joyfully, playfully, and affectionately tells. The intimate lives of black American communities, unless they are about crime or dysfunction, are still too often lived on the margins or in the shadows of the popular culture. *Thunder Soul* shines a bright and beautiful light, and the music, well, just try not dancing.

Thunder Soul will be shown at the Philipstown Depot Theatre, Garrison’s Landing, on Friday, June 22, at 7:30 pm. A Q&A with director Mark Landsman and a reception will follow the screening. Reservations are advised, and can be made by calling the Depot Theatre at 845-424-3900, or at philipstowndepottheatre.org.

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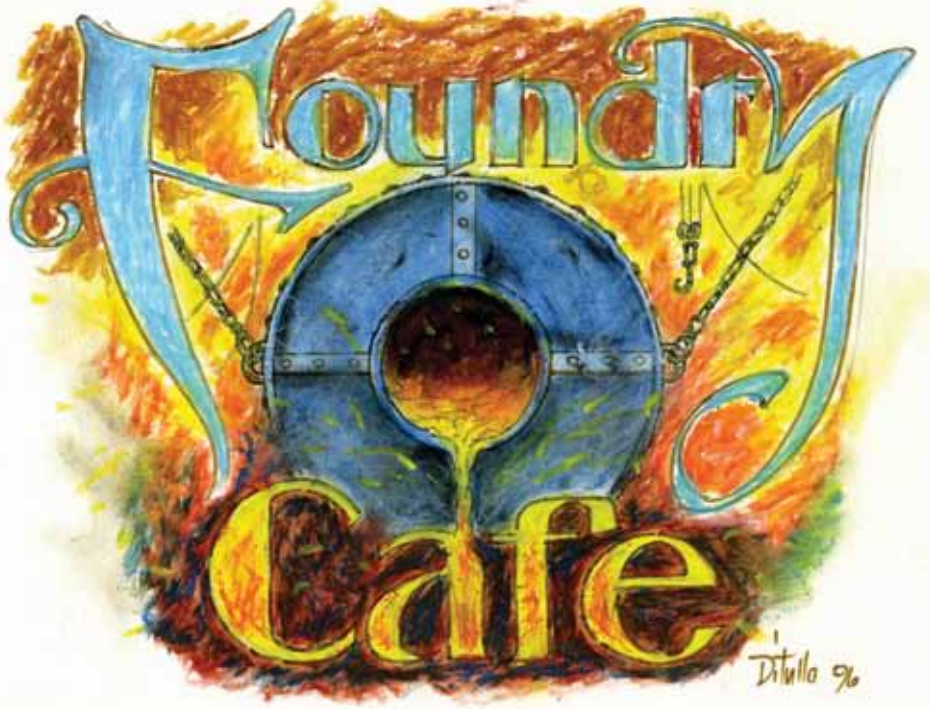
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Beyond Ipanema Explores Brazilian Music

Reform Synagogue and Depot Theatre hold screening

At 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 23, the Philipstown Reform Synagogue, together with the Philipstown Depot Theatre, will present a screening of *Beyond Ipanema: Brazilian Waves in Global Music*, a feature documentary film by Guto Barra and Béco Dranoff. The film explores the repeating cycle of the discovery and adoption of Brazilian music throughout the world. Artists, producers, DJs and critics analyze how the cross-pollination of music styles, as well as sampling and globalization, have helped Brazil to secure a unique position in global culture.



Included are interviews with David Byrne, M.I.A., Os Mutantes, Gilberto Gil, Creed Taylor and many others. The soundtrack features a wide range of Brazilian music, covering genres and movements such as Samba, Bossa Nova, Tropicália, Electrobossa, Favela Funk and other modern hybrids. *Beyond Ipanema* premiered at the Museum of Modern Art in 2009 and has been screened at various film festivals and venues since. More information about the film can be found at beyondipanema.com.

The event will take place at the Depot Theatre and will include a Q&A with Béco Dranoff followed by refreshments and more music — wear your dancing shoes! Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased online at brownpapertickets.com or by calling 845-424-3900.

Proceeds from this screening of *Beyond Ipanema* will benefit both the Philipstown Reform Synagogue (“PRS”) and the Philipstown Depot Theatre. PRS was founded in 2002 with the purpose of creating an inclusive venue to investigate the practice of Judaism, both intellectually and spiritually. PRS hosts monthly services led by Rabbi Michael Rothbaum, provides religious education and offers opportunities to participate in social welfare activities. PRS can be found on the web at philipstownreformsynagogue.org or contacted at 845-265-8011 or philipstownreformsynagogue@gmail.com.

The Philipstown Depot Theatre is sponsored by the Philipstown Recreation Department. To learn more about their events and membership program visit philipstowndepottheatre.org.

For more on this story go to www.philipstown.info.

Catch The Goonies

Cold Spring Film Society begins its free summer outdoor film series this Saturday

Sound the trumpets: school will be out for the summer this Friday! And this Saturday, June 23, The Cold Spring Film Society kicks off their second annual free Outdoor Summer Film Series with the family classic *The Goonies* (1985). Treasure maps, booby traps, crooks, pirates and skeletons abound in this fun family adventure film from the minds of Steven Spielberg and Richard Donner.

The Goonies will start at sundown (around 8:30 p.m.) in Dockside Park (entrance just north of the Cold Spring bandstand). Admission is free and open to all. The Film Society will be popping fresh popcorn and there will be lemonade, raffle tickets, membership tote bags, new Summer Film Series T-shirts and more available for purchase. Bring a blanket and a picnic and come early to enjoy the amazing view before the starry night, and the film, ensue.

Visit coldspringfilm.org to find out more information about all the free outdoor films playing at Dockside Park this summer or to make a tax-deductible donation to help support these screenings. You can also donate by mailing a check to: Cold Spring Film Society, 192 Main Street, Cold Spring, N.Y. 10516, and keep up with event photos and special announcements by joining the Facebook page at facebook.com/coldspringfilm.



Movie viewers at last summer's screening of *The Princess Bride*

Photo courtesy of CSFS

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www.themarinagallery.com
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AN EVENING WITH PHILIP GLASS

A concert to benefit the Garrison Institute



Thursday, July 19, 7 pm

Philip Glass will perform his works in a rare Hudson Valley concert appearance. Composer/pianist Trevor Gureckis and vocalist Tara Hugo also perform Glass's settings of texts by Allen Ginsberg & Leonard Cohen.

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Destination: Big Backyard

Hiking 101 prepares beginners to hit the trails

By Mary Ann Ebner

The wild lands of the Hudson Valley offer convenient access to a wide array of hikes and nature escapes, and the hikes in Philipstown, ranging from easy to difficult, provide adventurous hikers and beginners with a wealth of choices to traverse the community's big backyard. Familiarizing yourself with trail conditions, knowing your own physical abilities, and planning your hike can add to enjoyment and overall safety.

Hiking 101, a two-hour educational hiking experience, has been designed with the beginner in mind to help the curious discover hiking, to heighten awareness in the woods, and prepare novice hikers for safe treks on the trails. Lisa Mechaley, River of Words educator with the Hudson Highlands Land Trust (HHLT), will lead the inaugural session of Hiking 101 through the Garrison School Forest for a moderate family friendly hike. The program begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 23, at Winter Hill, where the Land Trust's offices have recently relocated.

"This is the first time we've offered Hiking 101," Mechaley said. "If someone's been thinking about hiking but isn't experienced, this is a good introduction. We'll talk about how to be safe and how to be comfortable in the woods."

Some of the trails of the Garrison School Forest have been cleared and maintained by members of the school's Green Team, middle school students who are working to preserve the environment, sustain the forest and encourage responsible hiking.

"I'm working with the Green Team and the blazes that they have designed for the trails," Mechaley said. "We'll be showing the Hiking 101 participants trails that are marked and unmarked and what the blazes look like. We'll also take a look at topographic maps and learn to identify signs in the woods."

Learning to identify signs in the woods and along trails can range from knowing where to step on a rocky area to paying attention in order to stay on established trails, to avoid damaging soil or delicate vegetation. Part of the HHLT 2012 Take-a-Hike! program, Hiking 101 will include an overview of what to pack, what to wear and how to be prepared for future hikes.

Whether it's an easy stroll, an out-and-back hike, or a more difficult trek with steep ascents, the region invites a walk in the woods. Teri Barr, owner of Hudson Valley Outfitters in Cold Spring, believes there's a local trail to suit all abilities, and she agrees that hikers need to do their homework before hitting the trail. Regardless of the trail being tackled, Mechaley urges even the casual fitness walker to wear proper footwear, and Barr recommends a sturdy trail shoe that has a good grip. To prepare for a hike, Barr also recommends wool or moisture-wicking socks, and plenty of water.

"You should have at least a liter of water for every two hours," Barr said, "and the water should be in a backpack to keep hands free." She also noted that everyone's checklist should include snacks, trail maps and compass, flashlight, tick spray and emergency plans.

"We have people who hike in the area who sign in and out at the store with us," Barr said. "They leave their cell numbers



Teri Barr of Hudson Valley Outfitters displaying some hiking boots Photo by K.E. Foley

and the name of an emergency contact, in case they don't return to sign out. We've never had to call an emergency number."

Keeping an eye on your checklist as well as the weather are important reminders that Mechaley emphasizes. She will lead Hiking 101 if a little rain happens to fall, but a thunderstorm is another matter. "All of our activities are weather dependent," Mechaley said, "and we wouldn't let a little rain spoil a hike."

If you wait for the perfect day, you can miss out."

There is no cost to participate in Hiking 101, but participation requires advance registration. Register by Friday, June 22 by contacting Hudson Highlands Land Trust at 845-424-3358 or info@hhlt.org.

For additional information on local hiking, see www.hhlt.org/takeahike.html or www.hudsonvalleyoutfitters.com.

Philipstown Garden Club Hosts Statewide Zone III Delegates



Anne Osborn, left, and Andrea Maasik at the event Photo courtesy of Margaret O'Sullivan

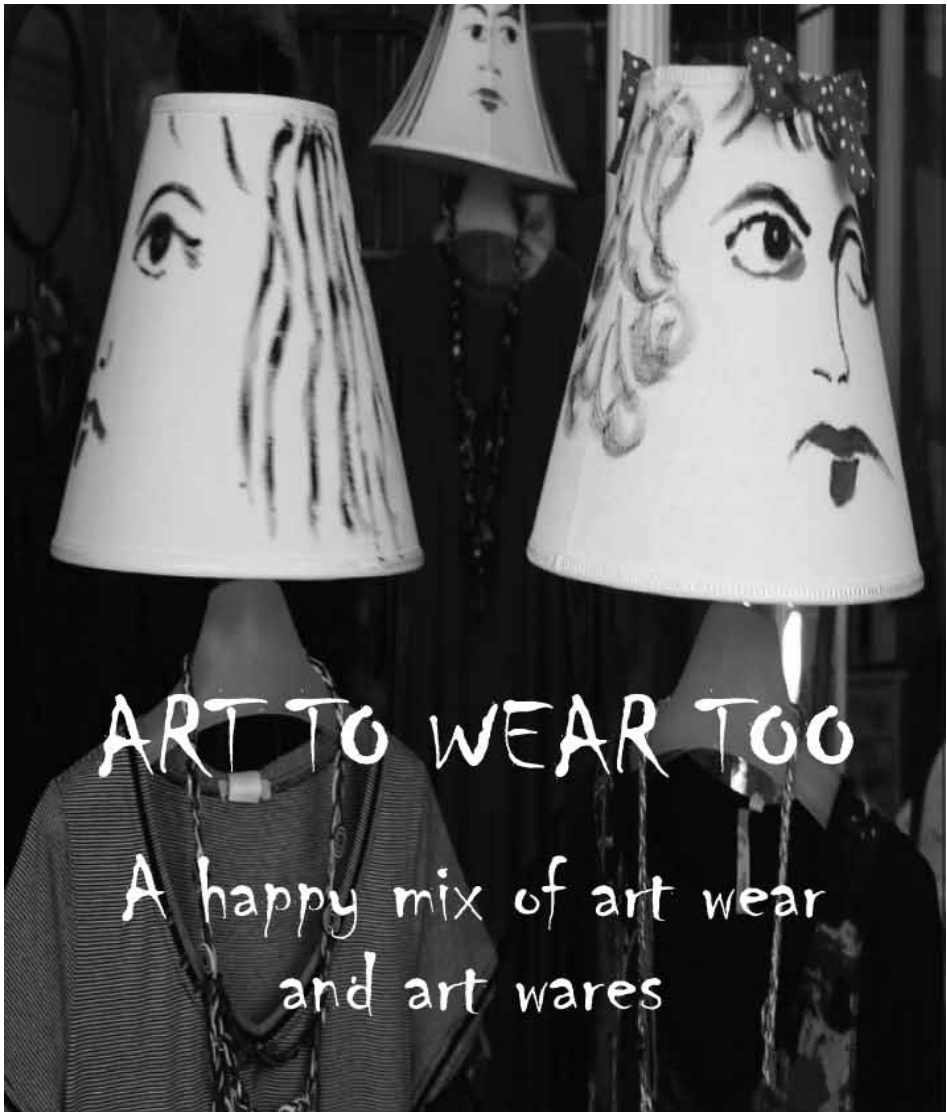
Anne Osborn awarded conservation honor at Thayer Hotel event

Philipstown Garden Club, a member of the Garden Club of America, hosted the annual Zone III meeting this year on June 12, 13 and 14. There are 22 garden clubs in Zone III, which is comprised of the whole of New York state. Each hosts the others once every 20 years or so. This year the 89 delegates came from all over the state and stayed at the Thayer Hotel at West Point, where they also held their meetings.

The awards dinner was held on the final evening, June 13, in the Thayer Hotel dining room overlooking the Hudson. Opening remarks were given by Nan Berger, Zone III chairman, and congratulatory remarks were added by Marian Hill, president of the Garden Club of America.

Awards were given to organizations and members in Philipstown: the Zone conservation award went to Anne Osborn, president of the Philipstown Garden Club, and the Zone conservation commendation to Glynwood. Stonecrop Gardens received the Zone horticulture commendation and Boscobel the Zone historic preservation commendation. JoAnn Brown, past president of the Philipstown Garden Club, was a Medal of Merit recipient, and Margaret O'Sullivan, also a past president, received a second place award for her photograph in the class Summer Sun in the photography show The Seasons of Trees.

The entire meeting was organized and coordinated by Carolyn Fadden, who was assisted by Andrea Maasik, with JoAnn Brown as co-chair. The plans for this meeting started three years ago.



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Trading Tunes: Marc Von Em & KJ Denhert at the Depot Theatre

Blending genres: urban folk, funk, blues and jazz at June 30 show

The Hudson Valley’s Marc Von Em & KJ Denhert will be sharing the stage together on Saturday, June 30 at 8 p.m. at the Depot Theatre. Denhert and Von Em will be performing two sets of their original brand of urban folk, funk, blues and jazz. The two have been friends for years and share a musical camaraderie that binds their varying styles together seamlessly. They improv and play off of each other’s material and enjoy it so much it sometimes seems as if they forget the audience is there. This comfortable stage presence, combined with musicianship, creates a unique show every time.

Marc Von Em is a soulfully energized singer/songwriter whose sound flows easily between blues, folk, funk, jazz and classical. His lyrics weave tales of intimate real-life events, and do so with depth. These lyrics are driven by his fluid acoustic guitar playing, rich voice, and comfortable, sometimes comical, stage presence.

On Jan. 1 this year Von Em released his



KJ Denhert

Photo by Helene DeLillo

fourth studio recording, *Crash Boom Pow*. *Crash Boom Pow* is a diverse collection of 10 originals. From solo acoustic performances to full band funk this recording runs the gamut of styles with his voice and guitar playing forming the cohesive



Marc Von Em

Photo courtesy of Marc Von Em

glue that bonds the music together.

In addition to his own solo career, in 2009, Von Em again joined Rob Thomas (Matchbox Twenty) for a second world tour. Von Em was happy to oblige when asked to open for Thomas once again,

and the results were positive, “I’ve had the pleasure of working closely with Marc Von Em as a singer, but when I heard his original stuff, I asked him to open up a 10,000 seat gig. Just him, his guitar, and his songs. He killed it!” said Thomas.

KJ Denhert’s special blend of urban folk and jazz has earned her four Independent Music Award nominations and in ’09, she was named as one of Jazz.com’s top female vocalists. She has appeared at scores of festivals and has residencies at Smoke Jazz Bar in New York City, Baz Bar in St. Barth’s, and the Umbria Jazz Festival in Italy. Her very latest, Album No. 9, a collection of ’60s jazz, pop and rock standards, was released on Motema Music in Europe and the U.S. in 2010.

Consistently praised for her pathos, originality and impeccable musicianship, Denhert is a songwriter, guitarist and performer.

Although she continues to define herself as an urban folk and jazz artist, Denhert decided to step outside of that box a bit for Album No. 9, opting to explore a few of the other genres that have also influenced her throughout her career. The result is a collection of jazz, pop and rock covers and original songs. “This is the album where I got over some of my self-consciousness about the music I love,” says Denhert. Unrestrained in its musical content and delivery, Album No. 9 marks a number of firsts for Denhert, from performing for the first time without her guitar on “Alfie” to writing and recording her first French song and her first reggae song, to unveiling her first video for the iconic Beatles song “Help”.

Purchase tickets, which cost \$20, at brownpapertickets.com or 845-424-3900.

Jazz Pianist Sumi Tonooka Performs at Chapel

June 30 concert celebrates new CD release

Local jazz pianist and composer, Sumi Tonooka, makes her live performance debut of songs from her newly-released CD, *Now – Live at the Howland*, at Cold Spring’s Chapel Restoration, June 30, 2012, at 7:30 p.m. Tonooka has been hailed as “a profound artist, a fierce and fascinating composer and pianist,” by Jazz Times; “provocative and compelling, both in straight-out swinging situations and when she is developing fresh ideas for familar ballads,” John Wilson, *The New York Times*; and “Revelatory ... reminds you that originality is possible. She’s made her phrasing and touch personal; her lines breathe ... her compositions ... are rock solid without a moment of indecision or mistake. Technique is mastered by imagination, inspiration by intellect. She comes to her own conclusions, which is what jazz is all about,” Peter Watrous, *Musician Magazine*.

Tonooka’s attraction to jazz began at the age of 13, when she attended a live performance by jazz giant Thelonious

Monk. “It was because of his music that I decided to become a jazz musician,” she says. At 15, she left her hometown of Philadelphia to find creative sustenance in Boston with two legendary piano teachers, Margaret Chaloff and Charlie Banacos. After paying her dues on the Boston scene, she moved to Detroit for her recording debut with trumpeter Marcus Belgrave, who served as a mentor for generations of Motown jazz musicians. Returning to Philadelphia, prior to her move to New York, she worked steadily with her trio, featuring drummer Newman Baker and bassist Tyrone Brown, which provided an outlet for her prolific composing.

Since moving to upstate New York in the late 1990s, Tonooka has maintained a significant presence on and off the bandstand. She has taught at Rutgers University and maintains a private home studio. She co-founded the internationally recognized recording label, Artists Recording Collective (ARC), which provides a platform for artists’ projects to reach a global audience.

Tonooka will be joined in one of her original pieces by Cold Spring’s Gwen Laster, violinist, and Lucy Austin, vo-

calist, as well as by a couple of her local piano students.

The Chapel is located at 45 Market St., Cold Spring; free parking is available on weekends at the adjacent Metro-North Station. Admission by donation, suggested \$15 adults/\$10 students and seniors.



Sumi Tonooka

Photo by Alison Rooney



Cold Spring’s Cathryn’s Tuscan Grill celebrated its 15th anniversary on Main Street this past Monday (June 18). Celebrating were, left to right, Mary Jane Nagel, Susan Eilliott, Rand Otten, Michelle Folster, along with proprietor, Cathryn Fadde.

Photo by Mike Turton

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Day Trip – Constitution Island

Portions of Warner House Reopened for Summer Tours

By Mary Ann Ebner

If day trip outings fit your schedule, spend an afternoon on Constitution Island. The local treasure served as a fortification site in the 18th century and the eastern foundation for the Great Chain that stretched over the Hudson River to West Point during the Revolutionary War, and the destination stands as a jewel of places to consider for an afternoon of history, Hudson River strolling, and outdoor enjoyment.

When New York City lawyer Henry Warner established a Hudson River family hearth on Constitution Island in 1836, he preserved a Revolutionary War-period wall in the construction, and cut few corners to build what is known and cherished by historians and citizens today as the Warner House. With all the accoutrements of high living, the Warner home on Constitution Island, modest by comparison to the family’s palatial primary home, provided a relaxing retreat from the city for Warner, a widower, and his daughters, Susan and Anna. Shortly after the completion of the home, the family lost much of their fortune during tough economic times in 1837, and the island property became their primary residence.

In recent years, Constitution Island, gifted to the United States and the U.S. Military Academy in 1908, has served as a living history museum where docents conduct tours and visitors learn about Revolutionary defenses, life on the is-

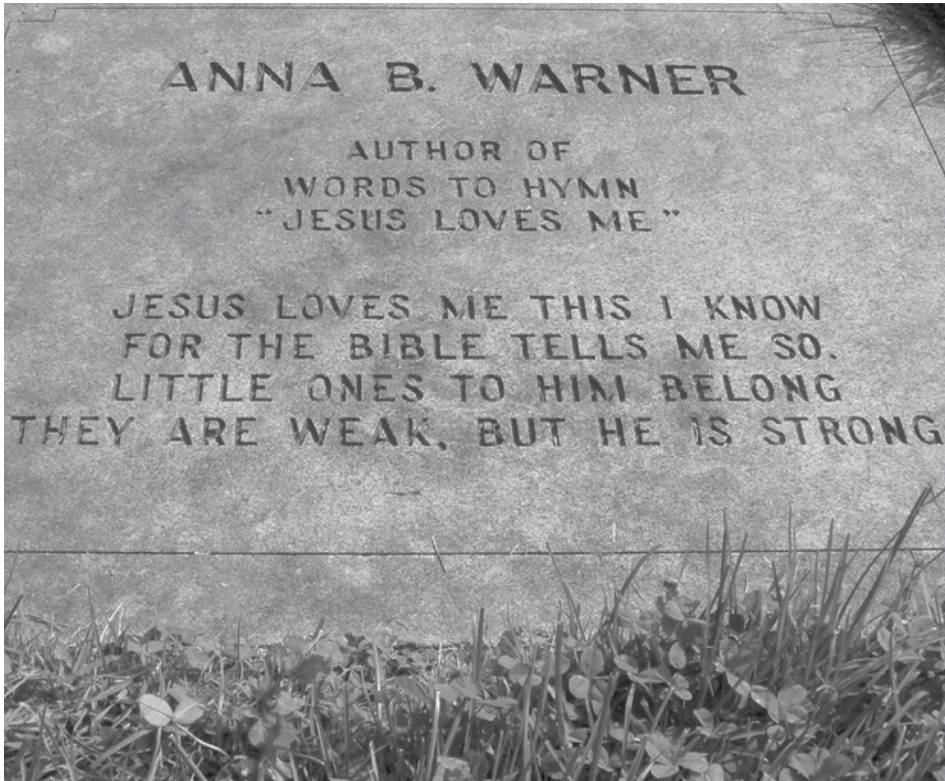
land later in the 19th century, and links to West Point perpetuated by the Warner sisters. But the Warner House, where family members resided until 1915, was closed in 2009 due to structural concerns. Budget constraints have stalled attempts at restoration, and although the Constitution Island Association (CIA) continues to promote preservation and restoration, West Point’s plans to move forward on critical repairs have not been announced.

CIA executive director Richard de Koster said that realizing restoration progress in 2012 is unlikely, but tourists to the island will be able to experience a history of the island’s prominence during the Revolutionary War period as well as part of the Warner legacy throughout this summer’s tour season.

“I don’t think any work is going to be done by the Army this year,” de Koster said, “but we have received permission to use two of the (Warner House) rooms for the tours.”

The rooms to be reopened include the kitchen and the old workroom adjacent to the kitchen. A docent will interpret life in the 19th century with the Warner family, and a 20-minute video will be shown which showcases the home and original Warner family furnishings and personal effects.

“We’re very happy to be able to reopen a portion of the house,” de Koster said, “After visitors complete the video, they’ll exit the house for a tour of the outer portion of the home, and our tour then goes to the redoubt and other walking areas.”



The Warner sisters are buried at the West Point Cemetery which overlooks their home on the Hudson. Words from Anna Bartlett Warner’s “Jesus Loves Me” are etched at the memorial site.

Photo by M.A. Ebner.

Charlene Hendricks of West Point has visited Constitution Island recently and in years when the house was fully open. She recommends the National Registered Landmark as a short day trip, and as a mother of three, she rates the destination as highly friendly for families.

“I’ve been through the Warner House, and if a docent is there, it’s golden. Still, if someone has the opportunity to go this year, it’s worth the visit,” Hendricks said. “You can bring a picnic, see great views of the Hudson, and take a walk through history. And when you think about the Warner sisters, they were prolific writers and had to rely on themselves in difficult times. They did it with style and grace and how they interacted with cadets was wonderful.”

The Warner sisters are known to have welcomed many West Point cadets to their home and gardens where the sisters led Bible classes and shared their genteel hospitality. In addition to the books and articles the sisters wrote, Anna Bartlett Warner penned the words to the celebrated hymn, Jesus Loves Me, and her legacy to future generations lives on through her lyrics and the life she lived on Constitution Island.

Two variations of tours are offered, and this season’s public tours to the island run June 20 through October 4. The weekday tours depart Wednesdays and Thursdays from West Point’s South Dock. The tours last approximately two and 1/4 hours and are conducted at 1 and 2 p.m. Suggested donations for the weekday transportation/tour are \$10 for adults, \$9 for senior citizens, and \$3 for children under 6. Reservations are required and may be made by calling 845-446-8676.

“Advance reservations must be made,” de Koster said. “We also ask people to please leave a callback number due to weather. All of our tours and special events are also subject to change due to the schedule of West Point, so we ask that people check our website as it’s possible that days could be changed.”

The Constitution Island Association also offers weekend tour special events on select Saturdays throughout the season. Shuttle bus transportation to the island is available at the Cold Spring Metro-North train station. Suggested donations for special event transportation/tour are \$10 for adults and \$5 for senior citizens and children under 16.

“The bus from the train station is going back and forth all day long on a 10-minute schedule,” de Koster said. “This schedule runs from 10 a.m. to 3

p.m., and everyone is off the island by 4 p.m. We recommend that people plan for several hours to take the tour and walk the areas, and pack a picnic as it’s always fun to bring what you enjoy.”

This summer’s Special Events include Garden Day (August 4), Reenactment Day (August 25) and Family Day (September 29). A Putnam County Bicentennial Celebration will also be held on the island as a ticketed event (\$175 per person) on July 7. The CIA also invites friends and supporters to its Seafood Barbecue fundraising event, catered by Mount Kisco Seafood, to be held from 5 to 8:30 p.m. this Saturday, June 23. Tickets are \$160 per person and may be purchased online at www.constitutionisland.org.

“This is the eighth year we’ve held this fundraising event,” de Koster said. “It’s the only fundraiser we do throughout the year, and this year we will have a very special surprise at the barbecue.”





For more information on tours, schedules or volunteering at Constitution Island, visit the CIA website at www.constitutionisland.org, e-mail the organization at info@constitutionisland.org, or write to the Constitution Island Association, Box 41, West Point, N.Y. 10996. The phone number is 845-446-8676.

Schedule of Events

June 23	Seafood Barbecue*
July 7	Bicentennial Celebration*
Aug. 4	Garden Day
Aug. 25	Reenactment Day
Sept. 29	Family Day
Oct. 4	Last Day of Tours

*Ticketed Events

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The Hop Draws a Crowd

Craft beer, artisanal fare

By Kevin Foley

Beer, an alcoholic concoction as old as history, continues to claw its way into the U.S. public consciousness as an admirably considered drink beyond the usual mass-market portrayals. The specialty beer-making craft, undergoing a renaissance in this country for several years, has created a growing number of people who appreciate the same rich variety in taste, body, color, and yes aroma, as wine offers.

Introducing people to beer’s constellation of possibility is the mission of a new and popular establishment in Beacon. The Hop at 458 Main St. is not a brewery. Rather the owners seek to honor the beer craftsmanship of others. Upon entering you immediately experience a welcoming shrine dedicated to the discovery, celebration and enjoyment of beer’s long traditions and latest trends.

“We want to elevate beer to the status of food accompaniment.”

Lining the walls and shelves are over 100 different bottled beer brands, from which you can select, for example, a beer made in Germany from a recipe first printed in the 15th century. Behind the bar you will encounter an ever-changing menu of drafts from kegs shipped from breweries in the region, the country and around the globe. Just ask for a taste to help you decide or even better ask for a flight of all the tapped beers so you can experience a mix of strong, sweet, bitter and smooth brews that will stimulate your taste buds in new ways.

And if you have questions about the stouts, lagers and porters, rest assured the proprietors are eager to answer them. They will also have some of their own. “People come in and say we don’t know any of the beers on tap. We ask them what they usually like, give them a taste,” said John Kelly, an owner and along with another owner, Matt Hutchins, a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America where their appreciation for beer first developed.

While Kelly is out front making converts or offering aficionados a taste from the latest barrel, Hutchins is in the kitchen creating plates of food that pair well with different beers and while the customer rules, they will be pleased to suggest combinations. “We want to el-

evate beer to the status of food accompaniment. Beer is better than wine in many circumstances,” said Kelly.

Kelly said they consider the place “as a sort of hybrid, not a full-on restaurant.” There are only about a half-dozen round tables for seating along with a small bar and a large display case in the middle of the room around, where patrons can stand to drink, eat and socialize. The plates are not entrees but rather inventive appetizers often using local ingredients such as cheeses, milled crackers and meats, which patrons frequently share with companions. The menu isn’t large on a given night, but it changes often.

For customers wanting an immersion experience, The Hop offers a table in the kitchen with a five courses of beer and food for \$65 per person. “We find people want to stop before we do,” Kelly said with a smile.

Open almost four months, The Hop has developed a following, with some loyalists toting their special Hop bottles for a refill from one of the taps. “People have begun to spread out the times that they come,” said Kelly, eager to encourage the idea there is room for more.

On one rainy Saturday afternoon, shortly after Kelly sent out a Facebook message announcing he had just tapped a new barrel, a richly aromatic brew from the Californian Green Flash Brewing Co., people began streaming in expressing gratitude; a longer line had not yet formed.

The Hop is closed Monday and Tuesday; visit thehopbeacon.com or phone 845-440-8676 for their hours and more details.



John Kelly, Matt Hutchins and John Anthony Gargiulo at The Hop Photo by K.E. Foley

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Six Bands On Two Stages: Beacon’s Riverfest

June 30 all-day free music fest runs the musical gamut

Local 845 will present its third annual Beacon Riverfest outdoor music concert in the city’s Riverfront Park beginning at noon on Saturday, June 30. The 2012 line-up of musical artists includes the following headliners, as described by the organizers:

Brooklyn Qawwali Party

This brass band reworks 700-year-old Pakistani Sufi music called Qawwali — think gospel music goes to Pakistan — into a sound that gets folks dancing, shaking, sweating, and even whirling.

The Figgs

Brash punk freaks, recklessly mixing elements of punk and pop but rarely losing sight of a solid hook. Long-time backers of Graham Parker too.

Schwervon!

“Party/Folk/Rock/Pop makes cute fun out of the Big Black blueprint.” — Village Voice

The Octomen

Beacon’s original high-octane surf trio inspired by punk, metal, and early rock and roll.

M Shanghai String Band

“Like a modern day medicine show.” — Tommy Ramone

Band videos, photos and more can be viewed at beaconriverfest.com

Beacon Riverfest will take place at Riverfront Park on Saturday, June 30 from noon until 8 p.m. Admission is free, with donations welcome.



Musicians perform at the 2011 Riverfest Photo courtesy of Beacon Riverfest

Local 845 is producing the event. Under the direction of musician and producer Stephen Clair, who was the recipient of a Dutchess County Executive Arts Award in Oct 2011, Local 845 has continuously produced concerts and live music shows in Beacon and surrounding areas since 2007. Local 845 presents a variety of original rock, folk, jazz and contemporary musical artists year-round at Beacon’s historical Howland Cultural Center and more non-traditional locales such as Open Space Gallery, University Settlement Camp and Spire Studios.

In addition to launching Beacon Riverfest in 2010, Local 845 also produced Pete Seeger If I Had A Hammer: Concert For a House, a benefit for Habitat for Humanity presented at Washington’s Headquarters in Newburgh, New York. Since August 2011, Local 845 has produced Scenic Hudson’s Rhythm on The Riverfront Concert Series, four weekly free concerts in Beacon’s newly renovated

Long Dock Park, and its In The Pines concerts at Beacon’s University Settlement Camp are one of the most popular mini-festival series in the region.

Beacon Riverfest has secured unprecedented sponsorship to expand this year’s event. The 2012 roster includes marquee sponsors Beacon Natural Market and WFUV-FM, with generous support from Ameriprise Financial Services, Rhinebeck Savings Bank, Dutchess County Arts Council (DCAC), Beacon Arts Community Association (BACA), and the City of Beacon.

For more information, please contact Stephen Clair, festival director at steve@local845.com

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

Sunset Reading Series

(from page 10)

Meeropol adds, “He also has a personal voice. It’s kind of a travelogue memoir and his voice is very much a part of it.” On the Visit Sunny Chernobyl website the book is described as follows: “From the hidden bars and convenience stores of a radioactive wilderness to the sacred but reeking waters of India’s most fetid river, Visit Sunny Chernobyl is a love letter to the world’s most ruined environments, mixing satire, analysis, and good, old-fashioned storytelling to make the case that we have to start appreciating our planet as it is — not as we wish it to be.”

The first fall reading will take place on Sept. 9, and features short story writer Kevin Moffett, whose book Further Interpretations of Real-Life Events was released earlier this year.

Meeropol and Tighe promise that their fifth anniversary season will bring “some big names.” They have already settled upon Sept. 29 as the “Save The Date” Saturday for a big fundraiser, replete with door prizes, games, signed copies of books and more.

For now, it’s back to the business of literature, and this weekend’s reading, which, as with all of the Sunset Series events, is free, begins at 4 p.m. and will be followed by wine and cheese on the banks of the Hudson.

In summing up, Meeropol says that “although it’s a lot of work, it’s also really gratifying. It started because we both loved The Chapel so much and it feels good that The Chapel is being used well.” Tighe pipes in, “Our kind of church.”

For more information visit sunsetreadings.org and visitsunnychernobyl.com.

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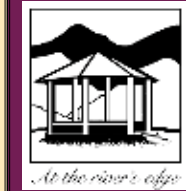
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