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FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2016

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The Air is Full of Pokémon

Hit game has fans exploring the outdoors

By Liz Groombridge

If you've seen gaggles of kids or teens or even adults wandering around Philipstown and Beacon, staring at their phones, talking about gyms and where to find a Pikachu, they're almost certainly playing Pokémon Go. Since its release on July 6, the smartphone app has quickly achieved more daily users than Twitter.

The app works with your phone's GPS and camera to create an "augmented reality" (AR) in which you can catch Pokémon as they appear on a map of your immediate surroundings. Once you find a Pokémon, you can turn on the camera feature to place it in the live scene in view of your camera. To catch it, flick a Pokéball at the right time. You're rewarded with the Pokémon and experience points that help you catch stronger Pokémon.

The app interacts with local geography through Pokéstops, which are located at places of local or historical significance. These are little markers that, when you're within about 10 feet of them, give you items necessary to play the game, such as Pokéballs. There are also training "gyms" placed around towns where your Pokémon can battle other people's Pokémon.

The game at the moment only has the original 151 Pokémon (a contraction of "pocket monsters"). Cold Spring has a plethora of all of the standard Pokémon such as Pidgey, Rattata, and Zubat, but it's also a great place to catch water-type Pokémon. That's because certain Pokémon appear based on the landscape. Water-type Pokémon appear near large bodies of water, such as the Hudson, while fire-type Pokémon appear on sunny days or sometimes near gas stations. Cold Spring is also a great place (Continued on Page 18)

Coast Guard Proposes More Barge Parking Areas

Public input sought on plan, which includes Beacon

By Brian PJ Cronin



The "barge parking lot" on the Hudson between Beacon and Newburgh that is among those proposed by the Coast Guard. Each barge would have a swing radius of about 1,800 feet. Source: Google Maps

The U.S. Coast Guard is considering 10 sites for overnight barge parking lots, called anchorage grounds, on the Hudson River between Yonkers and Kingston, including 445 acres between Beacon and Newburgh, an area large enough to berth up to five barges.

There is currently only a single anchorage ground, near Hyde Park, along the 100-mile river stretch from New York City to Albany, which the Coast Guard says raises safety concerns.

"It's just like driving a big-rig truck, you're under stress and time is money," explained Lt. Karen Kutkiewicz, a spokesperson with the First Coast Guard District in Boston. "Companies want to drive through, but that's not safe. There needs to be a safe place for them to drop the hook for the night and then continue on their voyage. Especially when there's ice on the river and then it's an even slower transit."

Although the proposal is at its earliest stage of development, it has drawn concern from municipalities and environmental groups, which have requested public hearings.

"It would certainly be an eyesore for us, as it would affect our viewshed," said Beacon Councilmember George Mansfield. "It also would affect our access to the river, kayaks, fish habitats, and the levels of noise and light pollution. There's really no upside in it for us."

Mansfield said Mayor Randy Casale had sent a written request to the Coast Guard for a public (Continued on Page 3)

Walking the Ward: At-Large in Beacon

Lee Kyriacou has seen city change

By Jeff Simms

When Lee Kyriacou, one of the City's Council's two at-large representatives, was first considering a move to Beacon, his real-estate agent told him point-blank, "You don't want to be there."

The year was 1992 and most professionals in Dutchess County, including many who worked for IBM, didn't live in Beacon. A good part of Main Street was deserted.

"The city's comprehensive plan allowed for 10-story buildings on either end of Main because they didn't think anything would come there again" otherwise, Kyriacou recalled, walking along the Beacon waterfront this week. "There were way too many empty buildings."

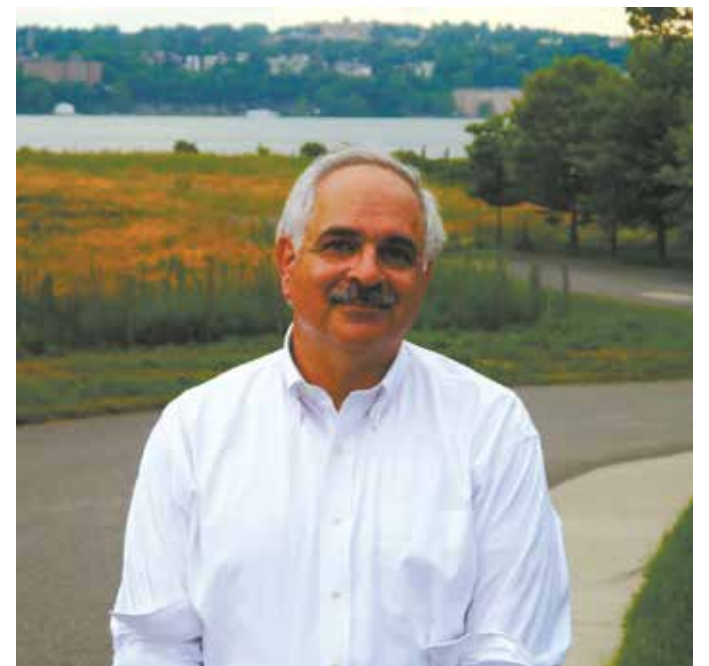
But Kyriacou and his wife gave Beacon a

chance and witnessed, and participated in, a reinvention of the city that few expected.

Kyriacou joined the City Council a year after arriving and, with his colleagues there, helped rethink Beacon's zoning laws while updating the city's vision for its waterfront. Now in his eighth term, Kyriacou points to those initiatives as catalysts for Beacon's turnaround.

Lessons learned in the early 1990s have stuck with him, too.

"Your zoning tells you what you're going to get, and our zoning was a disaster," he says. At the time, two-thirds of the city's housing stock, by his estimate, was zoned



Lee Kyriacou

Photo by J. Simms

to allow for the conversion of single-family homes to multi-family units. Based on that, the house where Kyriacou still lives could have been divided into 14 units.

As a result, families who might consider Beacon were consistently outbid by developers eager to convert homes into multi-unit rentals. (Continued on Page 5)

Roots and Shoots

Build a Rain Garden, Save a Lake

By Pamela Doan

Thinking about taking a dip in one of the county's many lakes this summer? Better make sure the beach is open first. Algal blooms that can cause skin irritation and stomach issues like vomiting and diarrhea are forcing the Putnam County Department of Health to close some beaches for swimming. The agency reports that six beaches in Putnam County have been closed so far this summer, and it's part of a worsening trend.

Algae live in all freshwater lakes and usually coexist happily as part of the lake's ecosystem with people and animals. Harmful algae form when nutrients in the lake get too high from some external source and the algae overgrows. Phosphorus and nitrogen, both used in fertilizers, are key culprits behind blooms.

The harmful blooms are called blue-green algae, although they can be many colors. They contain cyanobacteria that are the health hazard. "To be safe residents should avoid contact with any water that has a floating covering or scum on its surface, is discolored or has an unpleasant odor," said Robert Morris, the county's director of environmental health. The water will look like it's been painted.

The health department and state Department of Conservation (DEC) test water samples to determine the level of toxins. The DOH monitors beaches weekly and the DEC tracks harmful algal blooms statewide and works with communities to address the issues that cause them.

Rebecca Gorney, who coordinates the



A beach in Western New York with a harmful algal bloom. Photo provided

DEC's Harmful Algal Blooms Program, has been in her post since last fall. It's a new position created to address the growing problem. "Blooms are coming sooner, lasting longer and are more severe," Gorney said. She credited better tracking and data collection to raising the profile of the problem. "We're doing a better job of looking for them and the public is more aware."

In Putnam County, the DEC statistics definitely demonstrate a worsening problem. In 2012, one bloom was recorded at Roaring Brook Lake in Putnam Valley. There have been more every year since, with seven lakes affected in 2015. The blooms last from three to nine weeks. Kirk Lake, Peach Lake, Lake Carmel, and Roaring Brook Lake have ongoing occurrences.

Algaecides, a class of pesticide, can be used to treat blooms, but they have to be approved by the DEC and rarely are. "Generally, a con is that they are a bandage-

type of treatment," said Gorney. "Treat it as you see it rather than treating the reason it's happening. We have to think about what and where from the nutrients coming into lake. It's also expensive and most treatments have to be repeated annually or more often."

When I noted that all the affected lakes seem to be heavily developed, Gorney confirmed that there is a direct causal relationship. "They're often seen together but it's not the only predictive factor," she said. "Stormwater runoff, bank erosion, certain agricultural practices — both fertilizers and animal manure, can lead to more nutrients in a lake."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency considers fossil fuels and wastewater as sources, as well. Burning fossil fuels increases nitrogen in the air, and sewer and septic systems don't always remove enough nitrogen and phosphorus before water is released.

The excess nutrients can come from anywhere, not just from residences and businesses located near lakes. "All land

drains to some body of water," Gorney said. "People should be aware of what's coming off their land. Use the least possible amount of fertilizer with the least amount of phosphorus."

Rainwater coming off a roof, a driveway, a sidewalk, a road or a parking lot contains chemicals that dump into our waterways. Green roofs that hold rain, porous paving and rain gardens, which collect stormwater and keep it on a property, are effective in storing and cleansing water. While the DEC can work with communities and lake associations to find strategies and plans to mitigate harmful algal blooms, anyone can create a rain garden in their lawn.


A rain garden can be built over a weekend. In simple terms, it's a 4- to 6-inch depressed area designed to hold an inch or more of water during a typical rain. Test the soil first to make sure the water will drain into the ground within 24 hours. You're not making a wetland. It's filled with plants that like wet feet.

Detailed instructions can be found on Cooperative Extension websites. Sometimes there are local classes, too. Perennials that will thrive in wetter soils include iris, milkweeds, Joe-pye weed, coneflowers and blueberries.



A bloom seen in a Putnam County lake

Photo provided



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Coast Guard Proposes More Barge Parking Areas *(from Page 1)*

hearing and also was discussing the issue with other mayors.

Although the deadline for a public meeting request was June 30, Kutkiewicz, told *The Current* there “absolutely” would be public hearings in 2017.

“We have input from the commercial mariners of where they think would be the best for them and their crews, but we’re also taking into consideration the public that lives along the Hudson,” she said. “We’re looking forward to hearing from them and hearing ‘Hey this might be a good spot, and this might not be such a good spot.’ So we’re welcoming comments from any interested parties, whether they’re along the Hudson or not, local environmental groups, maritime waterway users that aren’t commercial users, property owners, and all other possible stakeholders.”

John Lipscomb, captain of the Riverkeeper Patrol, is skeptical of that assessment. “As a riverboat captain, I’m very interested in safety,” he said while collecting water samples from the Hudson near the Tarrytown Lighthouse. “But safety is often used as a catch-all for development.”

Lipscomb was quick to point out that neither he nor Riverkeeper are necessarily against the proposal, at least so far. “We don’t want to say no before the conversation even starts,” he said. “But we’re fairly confident that of all the proposed anchorage grounds, we will probably say no to several of them.”

There are three reasons to object to some proposed sites, he said. The first involves the increase in noise and light pollution that barges berthed overnight in the river would cause, especially along narrower and less populated areas. For many years, until the fall of 2015, barges would illegally anchor near Port Ewen and Rhinecliff until the generator noise and bright lights caused complaints that brought the barges to the attention of Riverkeeper and the Coast Guard.

The second reason involves the environmental impact caused by the barge’s ground tackle — the nautical term for the

anchor and chain — raking across the river bottom. Because the Hudson is a tidal river, the vessels swing to the rhythms of the tide when berthed, causing the ground tackle to further scour the river bottom. That may cause problems on stretches of the river between Poughkeepsie and Albany that serve as habitat for the bottom-dwelling Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon.

Riverkeeper has been working with researchers using sonar to survey sturgeon grounds. “The researchers can see that the anchor scours off of Port Ewen, which was being used illegally until October 2015, are still there, virtually unchanged,” said Lipscomb. “The effect doesn’t quickly go away.”

What is unknown is whether disrupting the river bottom has any negative impact on the sturgeon. “What’s required here, is before we start using the river to park barges, is we have to find out how those anchor scours affect endangered species,” said Lipscomb. “Both Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon are endangered, and under the Endangered Species Act, you can’t negatively affect their habitat.”

The final and most pressing reason involves the cargo on most of the berthed barges. The Tug & Barge Committee of the Port of New York and New Jersey, in a letter dated Jan. 21 in which it requested more anchorage grounds on the Hudson, the port at Albany is referred to as a leading export port for trade of crude oil and ethanol from the Bakken field in North Dakota. “Trade will increase on the Hudson River significantly over the next few years with the lifting of the ban on American crude exports for foreign trade and federally designated anchorages are key to supporting trade,” the letter stated.

Lipscomb responded: “Anything that facilitates more transport of crude oil on the Hudson is not a good risk. What we’ve learned from studying spills of Bakken oil into moving waterways is that there’s no recovery. It’s very light, so it mixes into the water column very quickly. So you have response, but no recovery.”

Although it’s possible that increased

anchorage grounds would lead to an increase in safety and therefore a decrease in the possibility of a spill, Lipscomb wondered why, if additional anchorage grounds were so badly needed, the site in Hyde Park wasn’t always full.

“The Hyde Park anchorage is authorized for up to three vessels,” he said. “I’ve been operating this boat for 16 years, going by that spot at least twice a month, and I’ve never seen three vessels there. The port of Albany evolved as a receiving port for oil, but now it’s also an export facility. They haven’t built any new tanks or docks. The docks are doing double duty. So is this about safety, or is this proposal a way of parking barges in public anchorages while they wait for the port of Albany to have room?”

Lipscomb suggested the solution may be to increase the facilities at the port. “If I’m a school bus operator with 75 buses that I don’t use over the summer and on weekends, do I park them on public streets when I’m not using them?” he asked. “Or do I keep them in a facility that I own and maintain?”

Lipscomb said that Riverkeeper would be urging the public to comment on the proposed rules before the Sept. 7 deadline. In this instance, he and Lt. Kutkiewicz were in agreement.

“We need more comments,” said Kutkiewicz. “Especially from the homeowners and property owners in the Hudson Valley.”

To comment, search for USCG-2016-0132-0001 at regulations.gov. As of July 14, sixty-six comments had been received.



A rescued cat pictured inside the Mid Hudson Animal Aid shelter *MHAA photo*

50 Cats Rescued After Beacon Fire

Taken to shelter; fund established for care

The City of Beacon Fire Department fought a house fire on July 12 at 9 Crescent Drive and rescued about 50 cats inside. The home’s occupant was not injured.

The department received an alarm at 7:07 p.m.; the first engine was on the scene at 7:10. Three firefighters entered the home in search of someone possibly inside and discovered the fire in the kitchen, that was quickly extinguished. Personnel on the scene administered first aid. Seven cats died of smoke inhalation and 47 others were transported to the Mid Hudson Animal Aid shelter. Live traps were set up to retrieve the 16 cats who escaped the home.

Two volunteer firefighters were injured by the cats while removing them; they were treated at St. Luke’s Hospital.



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Cold Spring Police Report

Following is the report by Officer-in-Charge George Kane of the Cold Spring Police Department for the month of June.

The month of June 2016 was as expected busier than normal for the Cold Spring police. Officers handled 100 calls for service in the village, the most notable being two burglaries and two attempted burglaries on June 7. This case is still under investigation. Another notable event was an arrest for DWI, which occurred on Route 9D on June 18 and another arrest made for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle which occurred on June 16.

Officers issued 126 parking tickets for various village code violations including limited time parking and expired parking meter at the Fair Street lot. Officers also issued 68 tickets to motorists for various vehicle and traffic infractions.

As the summer vacation season starts CSPD reminds residents to take advantage of the department's Dark House program. After filling out a short form, officers will make regular checks of your home while you are away on vacation. The purpose of this program is to prevent and deter burglaries and give the homeowner peace of mind while they are away.

The Community Day celebration (July 3) went very well. Several thousand spectators came out to celebrate the Fourth

of July. Just about every parking space in the village was taken. In the end only two incidents occurred; these were not related to the festivities. CSPD along with Putnam County Sheriff's Deputies responded to Little Stony Point beach to assist NYS Park Police with large, unruly crowd, which was dispersed after several beach patrons were issued tickets. At approximately 11:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 3, CSPD arrested a male for Assault 3 after he punched a woman causing physical injury while they were exiting the Cold Spring Boat Club. The male was arraigned on July 4 in Village Court and remanded to the Putnam County Jail on \$2,500 cash bail or \$5,000 bond.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Where is my crosswalk?

The sidewalk project is near completion. How long did it take to get this contracted? Way longer than it took to actually do the job. Lots of blame for wasted time all around. But part and parcel of this project was the hoped for addition of a Main Street crosswalk. Not so exotic right? We have crosswalks painted all over the village, but everyone had a complicated explanation whenever I asked why a crosswalk could not be painted across Main Street, to protect citizenry and tourists from the most dangerous jay-walk in town. "Oh, we have to get permission from Albany." Really?

I have been privately advocating for this for five years. My advocacy was instigated by an elderly man getting hit by a car as it careened onto Fair from Main, without decelerating at all. More recent expressions of concern sent to publicly disclosed email addresses of village board members, and the mayor, went unanswered.



A Photoshopped image showing a crosswalk on Main St.

Given the ramps that now are placed from the new sidewalk project at either side of Main as indicated exactly as

this Photoshopped image, it seems it is planned. So how many more years before we buy some white paint and do it?

Barry Wells, *Cold Spring*

Cold Spring Village Board Hears Status Reports

Quiet meeting underscores village challenges

By Kevin E. Foley

The much welcomed, occasionally complained about, Main Street sidewalk project is nearing completion with the contractor turning onto the final leg of Furnace Street. Trustee Marie Early, who can often be seen on Main Street conferring with supervisors and workers, told a meeting of her colleagues on July 12 that she expected construction would be finished within a month, and trees planted in the fall.

Other trees in the village need serious pruning. Jennifer Zwarich, chair of the Village's volunteer Tree Committee, which hopes to oversee the new plantings on Main Street, received a sympathetic hearing from the trustees about contractor bids that came in well over the money allocated in the budget but stopped well short of resolving the issue. They promised to get back to Zwarich.

Although most department and committee reports were routine, they nevertheless shed a spotlight on some of the thorny questions requiring long-term strategic and financial consideration by the board.

Water and Sewer Superintendent Greg Phillips reported that the Cold Spring reservoir is at 95 percent of capacity, even after a significant dry spell in June. He also noted that water customers now can go online to check and pay their bills with a credit card



Illustration by Dana Wigdor

or bank transfer. He also expects that wireless meter reading will be in place by year's end.

Money, money

Phillips said that the first phase of the rehabilitation of the upper dam is expected to cost \$105,585. The contracted engineer has sent a draft proposal to the village attorney. Although the water system is funded by its users, (Continued on Page 6)

Beacon Police Blotter

July 1 to July 7, 2016

Officers handled 331 calls, including two auto accidents and 14 domestic disputes. This is a selection of their reports.

Friday, July 1

7:30 a.m. – Harold Gaines, 31, of New Windsor, was arrested at Forrestal Heights and charged with exposure and public lewdness.

9:15 a.m. – A caller on Rombout Ave. reported the theft of a gray Trek Mountain Bike with black wheels and black handle bars.

8:45 p.m. – Shatika Gorhan, 23, of Beacon was charged with possession of a

forged instrument and impersonation. Craig Roberts, 32, of Beacon, was charged with possession of a forged instrument and possession of forgery devices.

Saturday, July 2

3 a.m. – William Moreno, 39, of Beacon, was stopped on Main St. and charged with driving while intoxicated and criminal possession of a controlled substance.

4:45 a.m. – Caller reported items missing from residence on Main St.

1:45 p.m. – William Herrera, 27, of Beacon, was arrested on Jordan Road and charged with assault with a deadly weapon, criminal possession of a weapon, strangulation, assault, resisting arrest and criminal mischief.

7 p.m. – Pablo Duran, 53, of Beacon, was arrested on Main St. and charged with menacing, harassment and endangering the welfare of a child.

Sunday, July 3

10:20 p.m. – After a dispute on Robert Cahill Drive, Sharray Lee, 27, of Beacon, was charged with criminal contempt, aggravated family offense, obstructing governmental administration, criminal impersonation, endangering the welfare of a child and resisting arrest.

Tuesday, July 5

5:30 p.m. – Dispute between neighbors on Crescent Drive.



Wednesday, July 6

12:45 p.m. – Officers investigated an incident of road rage on Main St.

1:30 p.m. – Caller to headquarters reported being harassed by neighbor.

10:30 p.m. – After a suspicious auto was reported on Wolcott Ave., Michael Deveaux, 28, of Beacon, was charged with assault, resisting arrest, criminal impersonation and being in park after closing.

Thursday, July 7

7:30 a.m. – A hit-and-run accident was reported on Lydia Drive.

11 a.m. – A caller reported items taken from residence on South St.

Walking the Ward: At-Large in Beacon *(from Page 1)*

Over the next few years, the council amended the zoning codes. Ground-floor apartments on Main Street — a vivid indicator of the local economy's poor health — were eliminated, as well.

"I think, correctly, we've planned for greater density on Main Street. Correctly, we've connected Main Street to the waterfront, and we're correctly using [former] factory buildings along creeks for more urban housing."

Slowly, Kyriacou says, the community readied itself to receive newcomers. The city was still not as aesthetically pleasing as it could be, he said, but more families began buying homes.

At the same time, the second step toward change, Kyriacou said, was taking place at the waterfront. The Nabisco factory near Denning's Point, a relic of the city's industrial past, had closed. Other uses, many of them also industrial, were considered for the site. A fish factory, Kyriacou says, almost came in before some good luck and key connections led to Dia:Beacon taking the property.

The museum opened in 2003 and changed the character of the waterfront

immediately. What had been exclusively industrial was now a major drawing point.

"That was the huge boon for the community," he said. "It certainly made Beacon an attraction for a whole generation of young families."

With those two changes in place — zoning reined in and the waterfront evolving — the city was ripe for a revision of its comprehensive plan. Drafted in the 1970s, the plan had been modified in bits and pieces in the decades that followed. By the early 2000s, however, the changes in Beacon were evident.

con were evident.

By then enough of the community could see the new direction, Kyriacou says. "The comprehensive plan process, which was completed in 2007, really reflected the turnover of the community. Newcomers were actively involved."

Beacon Mayor Randy Casale formed another committee earlier this year to consider additional revisions to the document as the city enters yet another new era of growth.

Recalling his statement that zoning "tells you what you're going to get," Kyri-

acou says the City Council is rightly planning for a vibrant future.

"I think, correctly, we've planned for greater density on Main Street," he says. "Correctly, we've connected Main Street to the waterfront, and we're correctly using [former] factory buildings along creeks for more urban housing."

On the flip side, though, he's followed the debate over rezoning portions of the city's linkage zone closely, and cautioned that the city not overbuild: "You need to pick your density where it belongs."

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Before Care & After Care Assistants
The Haldane Before Care & After Care program is a recreational setting that will provide additional care for those students who parents might need a longer day. We are looking for enthusiastic and flexible people to help build this new program. Some experience working with children is required. Candidates do not need to be available for both the morning and afternoon programs.

Senior Fitness Instructor
The Fit For Life fitness program is a basic fitness class with the use of light weights and cardio movement. Candidates must be energetic, patient and be able to provide modifications to routines based on various fitness abilities. Candidates must have some fitness teaching experience. Experience with senior clients is a plus.

CS Village Board Hears Status Reports *(from Page 4)*

rather than taxpayers, the trustees nevertheless have to weigh the impact of borrowing to pay for the infrastructure upgrade.

As is often the case, Phillips was the only department head in attendance and therefore the only one who could be questioned.

One project that served as an example of “stuff happens” was his report on the planned removal of an oil tank from the sewer treatment plant on Fair Street. “What began as a \$900, simple project bloomed into one quite a bit larger,” he told the trustees. After removing the 1,000-gallon tank, workers discovered two 500-gallon tanks beneath it.

Phillips said he has followed state Department of Environmental Conservation protocol, which includes immediately notifying the agency. He estimated the removal project now has a \$9,000 price tag.

As another example of coming up short in the municipal money department, the Historic District Review Board reported the State Historic Preservation Office awarded the Board a \$14,200 grant to update the board’s design standards. The problem is the HDRB asked for \$17,950, with \$16,900 budgeted for a project consultant.

For the data hungry, the Highway Department reported it collected 54.71 tons of garbage in June as well as 17.43 tons of recyclable material. In addition, chief Ed Trimble wrote that the agency used 18 tons of blacktop on village streets.

E-waste

Philipstown Town Board member Robert Flaherty told the trustees that the town recycling center on Lane Gate Road, open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., will once again take electronic waste, which had been suspended. He also noted that county-supplied Zika virus information kits were available at Town Hall.

Obituary

Norman Alan Brown

1946 - 2016

Norman Alan Brown, 69, of Cold Spring, died on July 12, 2016, after a battle with a brief yet devastating illness.

Born October 26, 1946, in Cincinnati, Ohio, to Norman Albert and Marion Graf Brown, Norm found his heart’s home here in the Hudson Valley. He was a 1969 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and continued his Army career for 21 years, retiring in 1990 at the rank of Lt. Colonel.

His years of service included Vietnam, SHAPE Belgium, earning a master’s degree in engineering from RPI and teaching at the USMA West Point and the University of Arkansas. Norm began his second career in 1990, working in construction management for Jacobs Engineering before retiring in 2013.

Norm had a wonderfully giving and loving heart and soul. He loved many things, but most of all, he loved God, his family and his church. He was a ruling elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown, where he often taught the adult study group and preached, having earned a Master of Divinity degree from New York Theological Seminary in 2006. Norm was passionate about mission work and actively led many work groups to Habitat Newburgh, Midnight Run in New York City and Bridges to Community in Nicaragua.

Norm loved reading, travel, movies, and being with friends. He warmly shared his gift for hospitality, hosting many parties over the years with a smile that lit up the room and with much joy and laughter.

Norm will be forever loved and missed by his wife Lynn; his children, Norman Alan Brown, Jr. (wife Ami) of Southport, N.C., and Rebekah (husband Steve) Czarnecki of Tujunga, Ca., and grandchildren Norman Alan Brown III (Trey) and Ashley Brown of Wellington, New Zealand, and Lindalee, Autumn, Juliet and Chase Czarnecki of Tujunga. Norm also leaves his sister Barbara (Dennis) Gesse, of Greensboro, N.C., nephews Kevin (Kathryn) Gesse and Darin (Sharon) Gesse, and grandnieces Eliza, Sara Kathryn, Megan and Madi. He also is survived by his “second parents,” Ede and Dickson Baldrige of Wilmington, N.C., and all of the Baldrige Family.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 16, at St. Mary’s Episcopal Church at the corner of Route 9D and 301 in Cold Spring, with a reception to follow at the First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown at 10 Academy Street.

Contributions in his memory may be made to the capital campaign of the First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown (10 Academy St., Cold Spring, NY 10516), Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh/Presbybuild (habitatnewburgh.org), or Midnight Run (midnightrun.org).



Owl Rescued from Soccer Net

On Saturday, July 9, Garrison resident Suzie Gilbert, wild bird rehabilitator and author, was visiting a friend in Beacon when she noticed a Facebook post from Julian Paik about an owl tangled in a soccer net at Beacon High School.

She immediately went to the field to assist the Beacon Police Department officers O’Connor, Confield, and Durkin in their response. “When I arrived, the owl had been cut loose but the net was still tightly

tangled around him. This was a strong, healthy Great Horned Owl and not in a good mood, so it was wise they waited for me! I held him with gloves while Officer Durkin cut the remaining ropes. The owl was not injured, so we left him in the long grass at the base of a big tree, so he could hide and rest until nightfall (you don’t want owls flying away during the day, they’ll be attacked by songbirds and crows). It was a great group effort!” said Gilbert.



Rescuing an owl from a soccer net in Beacon



Photos courtesy of Beacon PBA

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Reading in Sunlight

What's in your summer book bag?

By Anita Peltonen

The words “summer reading” suggest fun, fulfillment, and maybe fantasy: kids reading comics, and adults ditching work-related material for books of their own taste. “Beach reading,” a subset, suggests trashy magazines, science fiction fantasy, and all manner of romance novels from bodice-rippers to Jane Austen.

True, many adults have little downtime from work emails, and kids have long lists of required reading to complete for the next school year.

But the weather and the long days have unmistakably positive effects on how much we read. At no other time of year might you grab a few hours reading in natural light on the porch after work, or before the rest of the house wakes up. “One benefit of summer was that each day we had more light to read by,” observes Jeannette Walls,

author of the intense childhood memoir, *The Glass Castle*.

If you don't have air conditioning, our public libraries do, as well as staff and staff-picked lists and displays that can help you find something new to read, for free. P.S. Books are easier to read outdoors than screens.

A few locals shared their reading choices, and how they came to them, with *The Current* last week.

Janine Ravase just took home *Lilac Girls* from Butterfield Library in Cold Spring. It was on a list of recommended books by the Mount St. Mary College at Desmond/Newburgh, where Ravase studies in the core adult program. *Lilac Girls* is author Martha Kelly's first book, based on the real World War II story of an American socialite who rescues Polish women.

Voracious young readers Josephine and Henry Foley-Hedlund stock up at Butterfield by the bagful. Henry checked out and dove right into *The Dark Island*, part of Scott Chantler's *Three Thieves* graphic-novel series. Josephine planned to hunker down with *The Girl is Murder*, set in 1942, about a teenager who does detective work to help her dad after he comes home injured from the war.

Taking turns sitting with their dog Puggie outside Howland Public Library on Beacon's Main St. this week were Natacha Laboy and daughter Kaylasha Fryar. Laboy says most of the reading she does is mandatory material for work, such as Windows manuals and marketing books; she's a shift director at Dunkin Donuts near Newburgh, in training to be an assistant manager. When she was a child, she loved the *Goosebumps* books. Today she still loves scary stories, especially military ones.

Fryar used to like books like *Drama Queen* but is now heavily into Manga, Japanese graphic novels with young superheroes,



Olivia and Ben Hayes outside Butterfield Library

Photos by A. Peltonen

demons, and royalty. They borrow everything from Beacon's Howland Library, which, like Butterfield in Cold Spring and every other library in the Mid-Hudson Library System, lets you borrow from its shelves or from the entire system's interlibrary loan system. Request books will be sent to your home library.

Patsy Johnson is settling down with two books from Butterfield this week: *Before the Fall*, an intrigue involving a plane crash off Martha's Vineyard, and *The Girls: A Novel*, which the *New York Times* calls: “A seductive and arresting coming-of-age story hinged on Charles Manson.” Johnson gets her book recommendations from the *Times*’ and other book reviews.

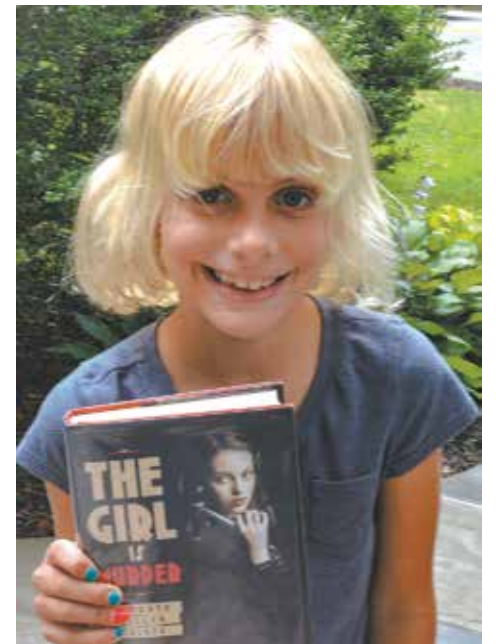
The Hayes children, Olivia and Ben, are deep into Butterfield's *Who Was? What Was? Where Is?* nonfiction series for



Janine Ravase's next novel: *Lilac Girls*

young readers. They started off with titles *Who Was George Washington?* Olivia was reading *Who is George Lucas?* “because I'm really into *Star Wars*. It's an easy read but a good one.” Ben is going to read *What Were the Twin Towers?*

Finally, Cold Spring librarian Jess Rozman, a serious nonfiction fan, has been reading *In the Darkroom* by Susan Faludi, *Secondhand Time: The Last of the Soviets*, and, perhaps because it's summer, one new novel, *The Little Red Chairs* by acclaimed Irish author Edna O'Brien.



The next novel Josephine Foley-Hedlund will read is *The Girl is Murder*.



Kaylasha Fryar, dog Puggie, and mom Natacha Laboy outside Beacon's Howland Library.



Prolific reader Patsy Johnson, shown here in Butterfield's reading garden .

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Reading *Frankenstein* in 2016

Still time to get a copy and join the conversation

by **Mary Anne Myers**

Two hundred years ago this summer, 19-year-old Mary Wollstonecraft

Shelley had an idea for a story. On holiday in Lake Geneva, Switzerland, with her husband, Percy, and a few others, the group had been forced to stay indoors due to bad weather. Lord Byron challenged the group to each write a ghost story.

Mary Shelley's story grew from a dream she had on June 16, 1816. When *Frankenstein: The Modern Prometheus* was published in 1818, it was an immediate sensation. A discussion of the novel will take place at the Desmond Fish Library in Garrison on Thursday, July 28, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Read it or listen to it, preferably the original 1818 version, which is slightly shorter.

Many people picture Frankenstein as the square-headed monster made famous by Boris Karlof in the 1931 film directed by James Whale. In Shelley's tale, however, Frankenstein is not the creature but the creator. Victor Frankenstein, misguided by his untutored reading of medieval science, succeeds in animating an assemblage of dead body parts using some vital spark resembling the recently "discovered" electricity.

Horried by the results, Victor rejects his creature, leaving his motherless progeny to figure out life on his own. The two become locked in a lifelong struggle for love and power, leaving the reader to wonder at the end which one is really the monster.

The brilliance of Shelley's tale lies in its story-within-a-story structure, which resembles a set of Russian nesting dolls. Framing the story is a ship's captain named Robert Walton, who is in the Arctic searching for the earth's magnetic pole when Victor Frankenstein boards the ship.

At the heart of the story is the

creature's narrative, relayed by Victor who makes it part of his own story, which he tells to Walton. The novel is Walton's retelling to his sister Margaret in the form of a letter home to England, thus putting the reader into Margaret's position and leaving us to sort through the layers of mediation and unreliability.

Walton's letters cover a nine-month span from 1796 to 1797, the year Mary Shelley was born to Mary Wollstonecraft, the radical writer and proto-feminist who died just days after the birth. Wollstonecraft had married the equally radical political philosopher William Godwin after learning she was pregnant, having already given birth to a daughter of a man she had not married.

Mary Shelley had already seen a lot of life by the time she penned her tale. Two years earlier in 1814 she had eloped to the continent with her father's acolyte, the already-married Percy Bysshe Shelley, and her stepsister, Claire Clairmont. Her father disowned her temporarily, and Mary came back pregnant. The baby died just 12 days after she was born.

Mary and Percy married in late 1816 after his first wife, Harriet, committed suicide. By then their second child, a boy, was nearly one. Percy died in a shipwreck in 1822, when the two were living in Italy. Theirs was a complex existence.

Frankenstein is not a happy novel, but it is a compelling one written at a time of tremendous social, scientific, technological, and political upheaval with significant parallels to our own day.

Composed a year after the Battle of Waterloo ended the 17 years of the Napoleonic Wars that grew out of the French Revolution, it has been read for various historical, cultural, and psychosexual meanings, as well as for lessons on class, gender, race and education.

The year Shelley began it, 1816, was known in Europe as the "year without a

summer," a period of traumatic climate change caused by the 1815 volcanic eruption of Mount Tambora in Indonesia. The resultant cloud over the continent caused failed harvests, famine, epidemics, and apocalyptic fears, as well as the bad weather that kept the Shelleys indoors.

Frankenstein is both a Romantic and anti-Romantic treatise on ambition and the limits to knowledge. It illustrates how humans cede power to their own inventions and create "others" as opponents without realizing how much these others resemble themselves. It is about the importance of listening and the danger of making judgments based on appearance. It epitomizes the adage, "Be careful what you wish for."

In recent years, the creature and Frankenstein have provided metaphors for the Internet and genetically modified "Frankenfood" among other things."

A search for "Frankenstein" on *The New York Times* website yields more than 5,600 hits, including a review of a recent ballet version performed in London, and a claim from 1919 that "there is probably no figures of speech so persistently misused."

Frankenstein was first adapted for the stage in 1823, just five years after it was published, and the story has been played, sung, danced, cartooned, and lampooned ever since. Mary Shelley revised it just once, in 1831.

Myers, who lives in Nelsonville and holds a doctorate in English literature with a focus on British Romanticism, will lead the discussion. She has recently re-read both books with classes at Fordham University and Taconic Correctional Facility.



Mary Shelley in 1840-41, by Richard Rothwell



Above, the frontpiece of the 1831 edition; below, a movie poster



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The Calendar

Susan English: *Pourous Light* at Matteawan

Paintings and watercolors explore 'the delicate relationship between control and accident'

by Alison Rooney

Those unfocused, unproductive, feeling pointless times familiar to all artists; the in-between times, when the next inspiration has yet to overtly germinate: when the fiddling around begins. It was just this kind of tinkering which led artist Susan English from one body of work to another. After a period of doing painted work on canvas, she began making little sculptural pieces, small shapes placed on not much larger pieces of wood. Seeing them, someone remarked “the shapes are so interesting, you should just make them,” and she started doing just that, taking small blocks, drizzling things onto them, then trying that technique directly onto shapes, pouring tinted polymer onto their surfaces.

Pourous Light, English's new show at Beacon's Matteawan Gallery demonstrates what evolved from her experiments with that process.

Pourous Light refers to, according to gallery notes, “both the process of creating English's paintings and also to the idea of putting oneself in the path of light, feeling oneself in the present, and for a moment dissolving ego and self and becoming the thing



Susan English, pictured in front of her work at Matteawan Gallery (Image courtesy of Susan English) Below, *Near and Far*, polymer on panel, by Susan English (Photo by Howard Goodman)

that one is observing.”

Working on a flat surface, English uses tape to help create a pool of paint; the tape is then peeled off. “I pour polymer that's tinted with paint, sometimes making many, many layers of it,” she explains. Over six years in working with this method, English has learned about the material and what colors she can produce with it. Somewhere along the way, English realized that the shapes she was “pouring” were similar to the hourglass shapes she had painted, decades earlier, in graduate school. She had already returned, earlier in her professional career, to these same shapes. “I took a break then took off” (Continued on Page 11)



Sheilah Rechtschaffer at her opening at the Buster Levi Gallery.

Photo by Lucille Tortora

Sheilah Rechtschaffer: Staying in the Game

“My work is specifically made to reflect something that is happening”

by Alison Rooney

In 1994, for reasons that still remain mysterious to her, Sheilah Rechtschaffer made a painting depicting mountains above a fire in a lake, set, at least in her mind, in Vietnam, a country she had not, by that time, visited. “It came from the unconscious, the inexplicable, and it was apart from the other stuff I was doing at that time, which was abstract work, moving towards landscape representation. I was always interested in landscapes, but not views. Little places, muddy places, not monumental vis-

tas. That unconscious work pre-dated Rechtschaffer's many later trips to Vietnam, which began in 2003. Those trips provided the much more literal inspiration for a large body of Rechtschaffer's work, celebrating the regeneration of that country after the war.

Now both that initial painting and all the work which followed have contributed to another series, one in which Rechtschaffer has changed her palette from the lush, verdant greens of the *Green In Vietnam* series to, as she puts it, “darker earth colors” representing fire and elements of water, earth and air and the increasing shadows of environmental rupture and global warfare — as well as an unshakeable beauty. As Rechtschaffer writes in her Artist Statement for *THREADS: new pastels*, the exhibition of (Continued on Page 12)

ONGOING

Gallery Shows

highlandscurrent.com/galleries

FRIDAY, JULY 15

H.V. Renegades vs. Staten Island

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

HVSF: As You Like It

7:30 p.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-265-3638 | hvshakespeare.org

Colin Hay (Men at Work)

8 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Open-Mic Night

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon | howlandculturalcenter.org
845-831-4988 | Sign-up begins at 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 16

Community Yoga Class

8:30 a.m. Dockside Park, Cold Spring
Suggested donation \$5

Dazzling Dragonflies

9:30 & 11 a.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 | hhnaturemuseum.org

Storming of Stony Point

11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Stony Point Battlefield
44 Battlefield Road, Stony Point
845-786-2521 | nysparks.com

Upcycle Art Studio for Teens

11 a.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaonlibrary.org

Food + Farm Day

Noon – 5 p.m. Glynwood Farm
362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring
845-265-3338 | glynwood.org

Isabel Lewis: Occasions and Other Occurrences

Noon – 5 p.m. Long Dock Park
23 Long Dock Road, Beacon
845-440-0100 | diabeacon.org

Assemblyman Frank Skartados Office Hours

1 – 2:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Frank-Skartados

Bannerman Island Garden Party & Dedication

3 p.m. Boat departs Beacon Institute dock
800-979-3370 | bannermancastle.org

German Fest

3 – 10 p.m. German-American Social Club
11 Kramers Pond Road, Putnam Valley
845-528-5800 | gac1936.com

Group Show: Archipelago (Opening)

3 – 5 p.m. Theo Ganz Gallery | 149 Main St., Beacon
917-318-2239 | theoganzstudio.com

Sunset Tour

5:30 p.m. Manitoga | 584 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3812 | visitmanitoga.org

Pablo Garcia Lopez: Silkworks (Opening)

6 – 9 p.m. The Catalyst Gallery | 137 Main St., Beacon | 845-204-3844 | catalystgallery.com

Benny Havens Band: Red, White and Country

7:30 p.m. Trophy Point, West Point)
845-938-4159 | westpointband.com

HVSF: Macbeth | See details under Friday.

C'mon Beacon, Let's Dance

8 – 11 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org

Calendar Highlights

For upcoming events visit highlandscurrent.com
Send event listings to calendar@highlandscurrent.com

SUNDAY, JULY 17

Desmond-Fish Library closed

Blood Drive

9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Continental Village Clubhouse
49 Highland Dr., Garrison
800-933-2566 | nybloodcenter.org

Behind the Scenes Tour

10 a.m. Wildlife Education Center | 25 Boulevard, Cornwall | 845-534-7781 | hhnaturemuseum.org

Garden Conservancy Open Day

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Stonecrop Gardens | 81 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring | 845-265-2000 | stonecrop.org

Sara and Art Labriola (Gypsy Jazz)

11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café
379 Main St., Beacon
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

German Fest

Noon – 7 p.m. German-American Social Club
See details under Saturday.

Isabel Lewis: Occasions and Other Occurrences

Noon – 5 p.m. Long Dock Park
See details under Saturday.

H.V. Renegades vs. Brooklyn

5:05 p.m. Dutchess County Stadium
See details under Friday.

Sunset Music Series: Scott Wolkson & Other Heroes

6 – 8 p.m. Foot of Main, Cold Spring)
facebook.com/coldspringmusicseries

HVSF: As You Like It

7:30 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.

MONDAY, JULY 18

H.V. Renegades vs. Brooklyn

11:05 a.m. Dutchess County Stadium
See details under Friday.



75 Main Street, Cold Spring NY 10516
845.265.4444
skybabyyoga@gmail.com
www.skybabyyoga.com

Cinema Paradiso (1996)

2 & 7:30 p.m. Downing Film Center
19 Front St., Newburgh
845-561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.com

Stampin' Up Card Making Workshop for Adults

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

HVSF: Macbeth

7:30 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.

Nelsonville Village Board

7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St., Nelsonville
845-265-2500 | villageofnelsonville.org

TUESDAY, JULY 19

Howland Public Library

10 a.m. Baby & Me Story Time (ages 0-2)
3 p.m. Tech Tues Drop-in | Details under Monday

Coloring for Adults

10:30 a.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring | 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

New Moms & Infants Group

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
Email whiteside.ks@gmail.com

Philipstown Community Center (First Sessions)

3:30 p.m. K-3 Ceramics | 6 p.m. Adult Ceramics
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Smart Phone and Mobile Device Workshop

6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

H.V. Renegades vs. Brooklyn

7:05 p.m. Dutchess County Stadium
See details under Friday.

HVSF: As You Like It

7:30 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.

Guided Lantern Tour

8:30 p.m. West Point Foundry Preserve
80 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring
845-473-4440 x238 | scenichudson.org

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20

Toddler Tales (ages 2-3)

11 a.m. Howland Public Library
See details under Monday.

Ceramics (grades 4-6) (First Session)

3:30 p.m. Philipstown Community Center
See details under Tuesday.

Community Potluck

5:30 – 7 p.m. Beacon Pool
University Settlement Camp

Guided Tour: Native Plants

6 p.m. Stonecrop Gardens | 81 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring | 845-265-2000 | stonecrop.org

HVSF: Measure for Measure

7:30 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.

Free Movie Night: Robin Hood, Men in Tights

8 p.m. Visitor's Center | Main St. at Route 9D, Beacon
845-765-0444 | beaonchamberofcommerce.com

THURSDAY, JULY 21

Animal Embassy (grades K-6)

2 p.m. Howland Public Library | Details under Monday

Animal Embassy (grades K-6)

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

Mary Poppins (Youth Players)

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

Alex Meisner

7 p.m. Great Lawn, Bear Mountain State Park
845-786-2731 | visitbearmountain.com

Marta Elva and Annamaria Alfieri Book Signings

7 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library | See above.

Science Cafe: The Role of Holes in Climate Change

7 p.m. The Hop | 554 Main St., Beacon
845-838-1600 | bire.org

HVSF: As You Like It

7:30 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.

St. Paul & The Broken Bones

8 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Colin Hay (Men at Work)

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

FRIDAY, JULY 22

Putnam County Kennel Club Dog Show

8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Veterans Memorial Park
225 Gipsy Trail Road, Carmel
putnamkennelclub.com

Howland Public Library

11 a.m. Ready Readers Story/Craft Program (ages 3.5 to 6) | 3 p.m. Origami Workshop for Teens
See details under Monday.

Mary Poppins (Youth Players)

3:30 & 7 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
See details under Thursday.

Dragonfly Story Hour: A Story Slam For Adults

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

Macbeth

6 p.m. Friday Night Prologue
7:30 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.

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Susan English: *Porous Light* at Matteawan (from Page 9)

where I left off," she explains, continuing, "I made an abstract image, then put it away and seven years later found it and went back to it: the hourglass stretched and torqued."

Finding the cutting and shaping of large pieces to be very time consuming, and getting far greater enjoyment from the pouring component of her process, English shifted away from the shapes, but continued the pouring process, this time working with "almost squares" of 11 x 11.5 inches. After a period of time with these, experimentation entered again, and she cut the almost-squares into quarters, turned them vertically, and started putting them together, finding the edges "created a way of achieving subtle variations in tone, reflecting landscapes that I hold in my memory and things I see in the world."

Exhibition notes describe English's paintings as having "an unusually rich surface texture and color, which is created by pouring layers of tinted polymer on panels. The poured polymer mimics nature: a layer of paint hardens like ice or mud, its thickness and viscosity impacting how the surface dries. Within the surface are small inconsistencies that are like drawings; paint collects and coagulates and cracks are formed. These marks are the result of the process of pouring and letting layers of paint dry, and English embraces the delicate relationship between control and accident."

English started putting together long sequences of these small blocks, setting them up on a track upon which she could then shift them around, as moveable parts. "The number of choices was staggering."

Altering the direction again reduced the possibilities, which suited English better. "To limit choices is important for me," she says, noting, I play with orientation continuously. Turning something you've done one way to another is a radical change. For me the vertical is about narrative; they're sequences; I think I was thinking about endings."

With her most recent work, some displayed at Matteawan and others at the Littlejohn Gallery in Manhattan, English wanted to continue pouring sequences, in a vertical format. To consider color, she

worked first in watercolors, applying the paint directly, as opposed to the earlier pouring, which is much more speculative. "You can't see what it looks like for 24 hours, until it dries. There's a relationship between control and accidents and accidents lead you to discover things. Over the years I've gotten more and more precise in making the colors; they've become extremely specific." English started cutting the watercolors up, making 'exact thirds' collages of them. These watercolor collages are also on view at Matteawan.

English, who, along with her husband, John Harms, has long had a "day job" doing specialty painting, under the company name of English & Harms. She used to feel that there was no relationship between that work and her own painting. "I didn't mind doing it, but over the years in fact I've realized how connected they are, because they are both totally visual things: I think about color, environment, space, materials, tools — something will occur in that world that I'd bring in to this one."

At this "mid-career" juncture of her working life as an artist, English feels she is in "a sweet spot, right now." With two sons in their twenties, "it's affording me time to do my work. It's headspace things too. Having a dedicated studio has always helped. I don't bring my computer and for a long time there was no internet. If something's in progress I step right into it. I haven't always been able to afford the studio, but somehow I coughed it up ... I combined working with having children, always working and showing my work, but there was always a beginning and end to the time I could paint — there were always increments, like there would be two hours free and I would always imagine what it would be like to have eight hours, imagined what it would be like to lose track of time. Our culture is all about the badge of busyness. For an artist, just floating is important."

English's work has been previously



Watercolor "thirds", tape, a ruler: part of a still life at Susan English's studio.

Photo by A. Rooney

included in Matteawan Gallery exhibitions *Elemental* in 2014 and *The UV Portfolio* in 2013. Her work has been the subject of solo exhibitions at Littlejohn Contemporary, NYC; Theo Ganz Studio, Van Brunt Gallery, Beacon; and Concrete Gallery, Cold Spring. Group exhibitions include *Abstraction: New Modernism* at Ann Street Gallery in Newburgh, in 2013; *Currents: Contemporary Abstract Art in the Hudson Valley* at the Edward Hopper House Gallery in Nyack, in 2012; and *Far and Wide* at the Woodstock Artists

Association and Museum in Woodstock, in 2012. In September 2016 English will be participating in an artist residency at Saltonstall Foundation for the Arts in Ithaca. She received an MFA from Hunter College and a BA from Hamilton College.

Porous Light runs through Aug. 21. Matteawan Gallery is located at 436 Main St., Beacon. Summer hours are Friday, Saturday and Sunday noon – 5 p.m., and by appointment. For more information visit matteawan.com and susanenglish.us or phone 845-440-7901.



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Sheilah Rechtschaffer: Staying in the Game (from Page 9)

this new work currently on display at Cold Spring's Buster Levi Gallery, "Emotional statements of beauty are important to me ... to slow down and think and work towards the prospect of awareness, involvement and peace." Also in her statement she relates a remark that her art school history professor, Irving Sandler, told the class, many decades ago: "Artists reflect the world in which they live, and in doing that, often predict a world that is to come."

"I think most good art is made in the subconscious and only becomes clearer as you stay in the game," Rechtschaffer, who is proudly and actively 78, says. "Being this age, my work is always going to retain a sense of who I was when I was coming of age. I was so influenced by abstract expressionists and coming out of the W.P.A. movement to a more instinctive impetus."



Red Door, pastel by Sheilah Rechtschaffer

Rechtschaffer's work has always "interfaced with the political," nonetheless she describes herself as a "romantic optimist" at heart, who "wants to create beautiful images that are inspirational. It's just that my work is specifically made to reflect something that is happening. This new work is darker, less optimistic than the [previous] *Vietnam* series because there are real decisions facing us now, that are monumental. But I'm trying to find a center, because when the center reacts, that's when change happens."

All of these new works were done in pastels, a medium

Rechtschaffer is very familiar with and comfortable working in. That was critical because she had only two months to produce an exhibition's worth of artworks, no small challenge for anyone, yet alone someone still recovering from a hip replacement operation. Yet it proved galvanizing in the best way, with Rechtschaffer spending hours on end, sometimes until 2 a.m., in her Garrison studio, working. Friends came and helped her build a painting rack, as she was unable to climb a ladder to hang her work. She got it done, despite the physical limitations

which come with age, something she grapples with but doesn't despair over. "As an older artist, I recognize that it's very important to not take everything on. Your energy is limited and you can't stand in front of an easel for hour after hour. You have to accept that and proceed accordingly."

It's all very different from the 1980s, when Rechtschaffer was making "enormous paintings which I never gave any thought as to how I would store them." Nowadays she

laments the increasing "international corporatization of art galleries, and a public that isn't really educated a lot about general art." Regardless, it's very important to Rechtschaffer to keep reinventing her art. "I try very hard to keep inventing. It's the older person's inclination to rely too much on the older stuff, because you have so much in your brain, repetition happens. You get stale because you rely on knowledge rather than the derring-do of youth."

Oftentimes, Rechtschaffer re-works her work, over and over again, something she is able to do due to the nature of the pastels and the strong Vietnamese bamboo paper she uses. She is able to resurface all or part of her drawings, using an acrylic liquid which, when put over existing pastels, muddies them in a way which allows her to play with them. "Sometimes I use totally coated paper. When you work on it, you can find "new" colors ... They're spontaneous, but I think about them and revise them if I don't get it right."

One constant in Rechtschaffer's life, which has never needed a wholesale reinvention, is her marriage; she and her husband Bert just celebrated their 53rd anniversary. Bert, who plays jazz piano frequently in a trio, often at the Chill Wine Bar in Beacon, plays every morning. "It's an incredible joy to hear him. We're so blessed; it's a gift."

THREADS/New Pastels/2016 will be on exhibit at the Buster Levi Gallery, located at 121 Main St., Cold Spring, through July 31. Gallery hours are Friday through Sunday, 12 to 6 p.m., or by appointment. For more information visit busterlevi.com or sheilahrechtschaffer.com.



Twilight on the Sea, pastel by Sheilah Rechtschaffer

Images courtesy of the artist

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Dream In Plastic

There's a theme in there being no theme; it's just a weird combination of stuff that goes together

by Alison Rooney

The merchandise at Beacon's Dream in Plastic (DIP) does conjure up a hallucination of sorts. A wander around the Beacon store, in business there since the summer of 2009, becomes a kind of fugue mixing the nutty, the colorful, the instant "I didn't know I wanted it but now I really want it" and, more rarely, "this could actually be useful." Above all, it's a fun browse. Or, as DIPs owner, Jenny Zuko puts it: "I kind of feel it's what the inside of my brain looks like!"

An amble around just the left half of the two-room space reveals such disparate items as socks with astronauts and mermaids, a pretend accordion, café au lait bowls, temporary tattoos, same-sex wedding cake toppers, cards and prints, vintage cameras, a tote bag featuring a hula dancer and a ukulele and a wall full of 'Adopt-a-Robot's — painted cubes, each with its own description, one reading "Prefers chocolate to mayonnaise, loves a deal that literally costs an arm and a leg, wants to be a fulltime old-timer." Much more awaits, on the other side and in the back room, which doubles as an art gallery, with rotating monthly exhibits, featuring very affordable art which gels with the overall zen of the store.

DIP began as a website, the creation of Zuko and a Brooklyn-living friend, based on the concept of "designer rental toys" as she puts it. Zuko was working in web design and had no retail/wholesale experience, just an enthusiasm for certain types of products. "I was a web developer. I went into this with a designer's eye and an "I want to find the most perfect gift" attitude ... The business plan came later, after all, 'What do you do as a business plan when you don't know anything about how to do it?'" Zuko notes with a grin.

Seven years ago, upon Zuko's move to Beacon, the online business morphed into a retail store, which she alone runs. There is still a website, which has about 90 percent of the physical store's stock on it, but the majority of web sales are from customers who have come in, seen things they wanted but don't feel like lugging home, who decide to purchase them later online and have them shipped. "The retail site was originally the main focus but it no longer is, although it is still definitely part of DIP," Zuko notes.

The store's stock is ever-changing, and the product list keeps growing, as Zuko works with "thousands of suppliers, from individuals to large companies. "All I do is shop ... I like to think it evolved with me, as I've become more adult, it has also become more adult. Now we have a lot more housewares, for example." Indeed, amidst the large orange bunny, Japanese toys and back room full of "Squishables" round

plush toys, one can also find bowls and colanders, notebooks and other stationery, and a whole section devoted to funky kids' party stuff, with confetti balloons and mini piñatas, as well as a good selection of sippy cups for toddlers.

"There's a theme in there being no theme; it's just a weird combination of stuff that goes together" is how Zuko explains it all.

Over time, Zuko has been able to shift from running DIP on a part-time basis while maintaining her job working in the city as a web designer to what is now fulltime, something she is very appreciative of. Aiding and abetting her in the store is her half pug/half Boston Terrier, Hazel. Last January Zuko had a wall torn down at the back of the front room, and changed what had been her office into more retail space, which doubles as a gallery. The aesthetic of the gallery is "accessible art", something reflected in the prices as well as the style. As Zuko notes, "You won't see a \$10,000 painting here. Everyone wants to hang art on the wall, but many people can't afford to. Our last show sold about 75 per-

cent of the displayed work. Our commission is super low, I do it for my love of art." Receptions are held on the Second Saturday of every month from 6 to 9 p.m. This month's exhibit is "Through Space and Time: intergalactic works on canvas" by Sean Donovan.

So, what's up for fall at DIP? Zuko isn't totally sure, aside from saying the party section and the bath and body prod-



The storefront window at Dream in Plastic offers a sneak peek of what's inside.



Look up and see a plastic stag head, while on the floor there's a blow up zebra: just a corner of Dream in Plastic.



Dream In Plastic's owner, Jenny Zuko, with her partner in Plastic, Hazel.

Photos by A. Rooney

ucts will both continue to grow. "We're also bringing in some Beacon-related things, exclusive to us. A lot more Japanese stuff — I'm obsessed with it. We test the waters with a lot of things, see what the response it like and then order more if it's good. Overall we're trying to stock things you can't walk into a department store and find."

Dream in Plastic is located at 177 Main St., Beacon and is open Thursdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and on Sundays and Mondays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit dreaminplastic.com and all of the major social media sites for more information.



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Growing Up On Stage

Teens direct younger kids, then do show of their own

by Alison Rooney

At the Philipstown Depot Theatre, when the “little kid summer show” actors age out, the most stage-struck

among them graduate to performing in the teen summer show. Some also circle back around, directing, stage managing, choreographing and costuming the little kids’ shows.

This tradition began in the summer of 2008 when former little kids’ show participants Jessica and Rachel Ritacco and Amie Anderson, by then college students,

directed a production of *The Odyssey* with actors in the fourth to sixth grades, while Tess Dul and Zosia Kruk, then in high school, led the second and third graders in *Snow White*. The following summer Dul wrangled orphans in *Annie*, and she continued in that vein in later summers.

This summer, seven teenagers are steering *Mary Poppins* toward its July 21 opening. Harper Levy and Corydon Zouzias are directing, Jeremy Roffman choreographing, Jocelyn Lane and Cassie Traina costuming and Noga Cabo and Allie LaRocco stage managing. Each of them has come up through the Depot Youth Theatre program.

“I remember spending a



Directors in the morning, actors in the afternoon: Corydon Zouzias and Harper Levy Photo by A. Rooney



Enthusiasm is in full supply with the *Mary Poppins* cast.

Photo by Amy Dul

lot of time with the counselors and really looking up to them,” Levy recalls. “I loved how it was a different feel than with other shows with adult directors. And now, even though there is an age difference, we can still connect with them, make them feel at ease.”

One of the trickiest parts of the summer productions are the auditions. Having been through this themselves, the teens have come up with some strategies to minimize the disappointment of not getting a role.

“With the auditions themselves, we try to make it as comfortable as possible, for instance there is no solo dancing required,” Levy says. “Jeremy teaches a short portion to them and watches how attentive they are. With the singing, we give them options: they can prepare a song from the show if they’d like, but they can also sing anything they’d like, with a friend or alone.

“With the sides [selected passages from the script], we tell them they are not necessarily up for the character they are reading and it doesn’t reflect how we see them in advance We also email the cast list instead of announcing it. From experience, we realize it’s hard to hear your part be read out in front of the whole cast. It can be difficult to handle, being visibly upset or even being excited but knowing someone else’s feelings are hurt at not getting that role. It’s better for parents to handle ...

“We put a lot of work into everyone having fun with the process, so it’s not all about the big parts, plus we try to put people with less to do in the big ensembles. We always tell them that when they first read the script and can’t find many lines, it’s not indicative of what they may do in the show. We also have a lot for campers to do when they’re not in a scene — they’re not just sitting backstage. We do theater games, character analysis, make props and get them involved in the off-stage aspects of theater. We want them to see when you create everything, it’s much bigger than just performing on the stage. Sometimes

we also just go down and play catch by the river, too.”

In terms of the discipline necessary to bring a show to life in three weeks, Zouzias says that he and Levy “stress at the first read-through how tight the schedule is and that there can’t be procrastination. That’s sort of the underlying theme: we can get behind and the more behind we get, the harder everything will be at the end.”

A “phone jail” has been established where campers drop their cell phones each day. Most days begin with warm-ups and stretches, and are followed by splitting the group into those doing scene work and those working on the music; choreography usually takes place in the afternoons.

The teen creative staff is given an assist by members of the community who, together with Depot staff members such as technical director Donald Kimmel, lend their expertise.

The overlapping productions make everything more challenging. The same basic set must be used for both. Depot Managing Director Amy Dul says that the “first mission is to find a show that will support a group of kids and one that the directors are passionate about, and then it’s about meshing the sets so that both can be done.”

During the hour between their directing duties with the Youth Players and their acting ones with the Teen Players, Levy and Zouzias suit up for *Damn Yankees*, directed by Katie Bissinger. “It’s just plain happy — it’s great to return to a musical comedy after doing *Sweeney Todd* at Haldane,” Zouzias says. Levy adds: “It also teaches an important lesson: keeping those you love close, appreciating them. Plus it has fun dance numbers and hilarious characters.”

Mary Poppins will be performed from July 21 to 24 and *Damn Yankees* from July 28 to 31. Tickets are \$12 at philipstowndepottheatre.org. The theater is located at Garrison’s Landing. A grant from the Putnam Arts Council supported both productions.

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An Animated Afternoon

The second annual Garri*Con, held at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison on July 9, drew a colorful crowd. The Solar Sound Band provided music, Greg's Good Eats sold food and drink and Groombridge Games taught and played Magic the Gathering while authors and graphic novelists including Chris Duffy, Drena Fagen, Regina Gelfer, Deb Lucke and Summer Pierre offered advice to young artists. An exhibit of comic art by both younger and adult artists will remain on display at the library until July 24.

Photos by Karen Thompson/DFL



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS



I Am Listening, a charcoal drawing by Carla Rae Johnson of Peekskill in the *Word Show*

Museum Wants Your Words

Looking for local takes on exhibit

The Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art in Peekskill has invited artists to participate in a project called Writing the Walls II by creating plays and poems in response to works in its current group show, *Word*.

The deadline is Wednesday, July 20, and works that are selected will be added to the *Word* exhibit from August to its closing in December.

The submission fee is \$25, which includes a museum membership. (Artists who are already members may submit free.) Writers may submit two or three poems or short plays. For specific requirements, visit hvcca.org. The Word show can be viewed noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, or by appointment by emailing Jo-ann Brody at jbrody@hvcca.org.



County Executive MaryEllen Odell (right) presented the "Best in Show" award in 2015 to Ali, a Saluki bred dog, shown with handler Lesley Ann Potts (center) and judge Garry Newtown (left).

Putnam Dog Show Set for July 22-23

Hundreds expected to compete

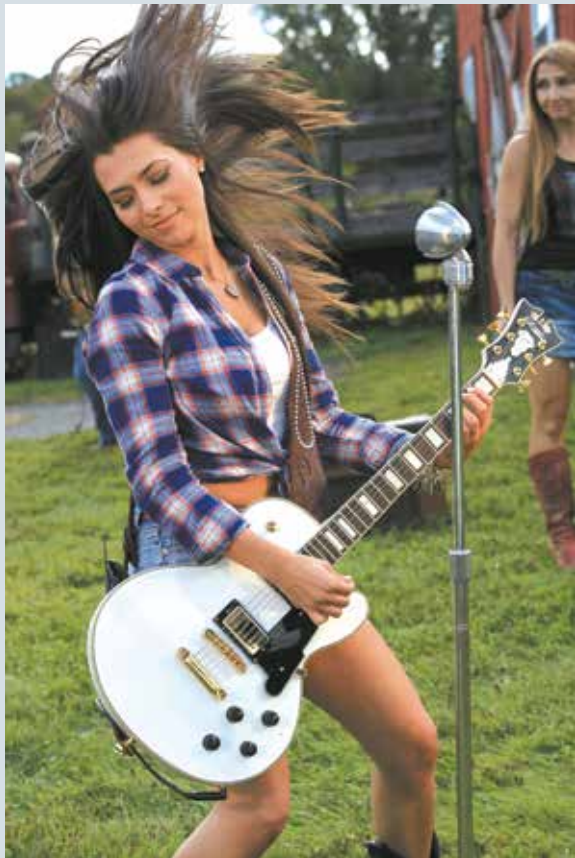
More than 500 dogs are expected at the annual AKC Putnam County Kennel Club All-Breed Dog Shows on Friday, July 22, and Saturday, July 23, which include conformation, obedience and rally trials. The free shows take place at Vet-

erans Memorial Park at 225 Gypsy Trail Road in Carmel.

Dogs in the conformation competition will be judged against standards for the breed. Obedience and rally trials will test dogs' understanding of commands as they maneuver hurdles and retrieve articles.

The show runs each day from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The time and rings for each breed will be available on July 15 at putnamkennelclub.com. The kennel club, founded in 1952, will also hold its annual picnic at the park on Aug. 18.

Country Comes to Town



Jessica Lynn

Photo by Matt Ceretta

Country singer Jessica Lynn will perform at the Cold Spring bandstand on Sunday, July 24, as part of the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce's Sunset Music Series, now in its 14th year. The free show begins at 6 p.m. Lynn's debut self-titled EP was released on June 21, and she will open for Loretta Lynn on Aug. 27 in Ridgefield, Conn.

discussions at the box office. Tickets to the performances that follow can be purchased there or online. The remaining summer schedule is:

- July 22 — Seth Herbst, assistant professor at West Point and Harvard University Teaching Fellow, followed by *Macbeth*.
- July 29 — Davis McCallum, director of *Measure for Measure*, followed by *Measure for Measure*.
- Aug. 5 — Michael Sexton, artistic director of The Shakespeare Society, on gender and performance, followed by *Macbeth*.
- Aug. 12 — Company members Kurt Rhoads, Nance Williamson and Stephen Paul Johnson on *As You Like It*, *Macbeth* and *Measure for Measure*, followed by *Macbeth*.
- Aug. 19 — Kate Farrington, artistic director of the Pearl Theatre Company, followed by *As You Like It*.
- Aug. 26 — Zachary Fine, director of *So Please You* and the HVSF Conservatory Company, followed by *Macbeth*.

For more information, visit hvshakespeare.org or call 845-265-9575.

Catch 'Em While You Can

State releases fishing guide, and fish

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has published a free manual, *The I FISH NY Beginners' Guide to Freshwater Fishing*, that can be downloaded at the agency's site. It includes chapters on New York fish, tackle and tech-

niques and ice fishing, among other topics, and can be downloaded at dec.ny.gov/outdoor/98506.html.

Each spring, the DEC stocks more than 2.3 million brook, brown and rainbow trout in some 300 lakes and ponds. In this area, the agency released 5,600 brown trout in Sprout Creek in East Fishkill, 3,500 in Fishkill Creek in Beacon and Fishkill and 90 in Foundry Brook in Philipstown. Brown trout, which can grow up to three feet long, are said to be one of the most difficult trout species to catch.

The Talk Before the Show

HVSF offers Friday prologues

Each Friday night, the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival hosts a free prologue to that evening's performance. Tickets can be picked up for the 6 p.m.



Zachary Fine as Lucio in *Measure for Measure* Photo courtesy of HVSF

Novelists to Speak at Desmond-Fish

Will have new books to sign

On Thursday, July 21, at 7 p.m. two novelists, Marta Elva and Patricia King (who writes as Annamaria Alfieri), will return to the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison to discuss their latest books in a joint appearance. Signed copies of Elva's *American Tumbleweeds* and King's *Strange Gods* will be available for purchase.

Elva's novel tells the story of a Mexican-American family's struggle to stay together as tradition collides with the social upheaval of 1960s America. Elva was born in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, and raised in El Paso, Texas. A Florida resident, she and her family formerly lived in Garrison.

King writes historical mysteries; her current series is set in British East Africa, beginning in 1911. The stories capture the beauty and the danger of the African wilderness and the complexities of imposing a culture on a foreign land. Her five books on business subjects include *Never Work for a Jerk*. She lives in New York City and is a member of the board of the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival.

The library is located at the corner of routes 403 and 9D.



Marta Elva



Patricia King

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Jazz & Blues Fest July 23

Annual festival in Peekskill starts at 3 p.m.

The annual Jazz & Blues Festival returns to Peekskill's downtown from 3 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, July 23, with live music, an arts-and-craft fair, and food at the 12 restaurants within walking distance of the event.

The main stage will be located on North Division Street at Park and Central avenues, with the first act, Alexis Cole, at 4 p.m. The headliner at 9 p.m. is Joe Louis Walker, a member of the Blues Hall of Fame. Other performers include the Jessi Mason Band, Greg Westhoff's Westchester Swing Band, 3D Rhythm of Life and the Brighton Beat.

In addition, the Beanrunner Café at 201 S. Division St. will feature guitarist Jimbo Ro at 3 p.m. and the Donna Singer Jazz Quartet at 5 p.m. as benefits for Support Connection, a non-profit organization that provides support to women with breast and ovarian cancer.

For a schedule visit facebook.com/PeekskillJazzandBlues.



Joe Louis Walker

German Fest Coming to Putnam Valley

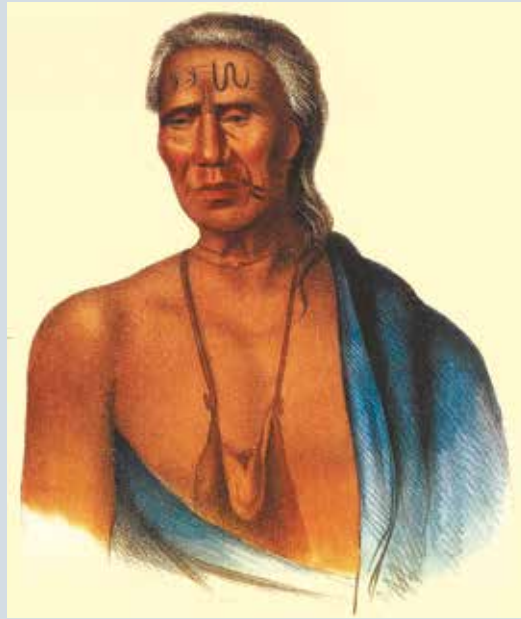
Scheduled for July 16 and 17

The German-American Social Club of Peekskill will host a two-day German Fest from 3 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, July 16, and noon to 7 p.m. on Sunday, July 17, at its clubhouse at 11 Kramers Pond Road in Putnam Valley.

Die Spitzbuam Band will provide music, and on July 17 all active and retired police officers, firefighters and emergency medical service providers with identification will receive free admission. A variety of German and American food will be served, along with beer and mixed drinks.

Admission is \$10 per person, and children ages 13 and under are free. For more information, call 845-528-5800 or visit gac1936.com.

Life Among the Lenape



Barry Keegan, an expert on the Native Americans of New York, will speak at 3 p.m. on Saturday, July 23, at the Fort Montgomery State Historic Site on the Lenape and demonstrate their fire making, flint knapping and other skills. (Image provided)

Beacon

Art for Teens

Library to host creative workshops

The Howland Library will expand its programming for teens over the summer. Starting this month, it will host a monthly art workshop called Upcycle Art Studio in which middle- and high-school students experiment with transforming discarded materials into art.

At the first session, scheduled for 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 16, participants will create collages from recycled magazines. Future session will explore making sculptures from books, beads from magazines and magnets from bottle caps. All supplies are provided.

The library also plans an origami work-

shop for students ages 11 and older at 3 p.m. on Friday, July 22. Instructor Bob Voelker will work from simple designs to more complex folds and modular constructions.

Registration is required for both programs. Email communityart@beaconlibrary.org or call 845-831-1134, ext. 101. The Howland Public Library is located at 313 Main St.



Registration Open for Baseball Camp

Week with varsity coaches begins Aug. 22

Bobby Atwell, coach of the Beacon High School varsity baseball team, has opened registration for the 16th annual Bulldogs baseball camp for boys and girls ages 6 to 12.

The camp, which costs \$100 per camper, will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. from Monday, Aug. 22 to Thursday, Aug. 25, with a rain date scheduled for Aug. 26. Atwell will be assisted by Tim Newman, assistant varsity coach and high school and college players.

To register, submit the form at cityofbeacon.org/Pdf/2016bulldogbaseballcamp.pdf with payment. The deadline is Aug. 15.

Chemist to Discuss Saving Oceans

Latest in series of Science Cafes

Chemist Mario Wriedt will speak on Thursday, July 21, at The Hop in Beacon on "the role of holes in climate change" as part of the ongoing Science Café series organized by the Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries of Clarkson University.

Wriedt, who is a professor of chemistry and biomolecular science at Clarkson, will share his research through a "futuristic



Mario Wriedt

drama" in which advanced porous materials, X-ray diffraction and alternative fuels play a critical role in saving the world's marine ecosystems from the effects of ocean acidification.

The presentation will take place in The Hop's pavilion behind the restaurant located at 554 Main St. The talk is free, and food and drink will be available for purchase. Registration is requested at bire.org/events.

Bearing Arms

Soft Targets, an exhibit by Don Mengay of works such as *Teddy with Glock* that are designed, the artist says, as "a direct response to the ever-pervasive and destructive role of guns in American life," continues through Aug. 7 at Hudson Beach Glass, 162 Main St., in Beacon.



Teddy with Glock by Don Mengay

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.



Examples of origami

Photo provided

Share Your News With Our Readers

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.

The Air is Full of Pokémon *(from Page 1)*

to catch a common Pokémon known as an Eevee; the town is littered with them.

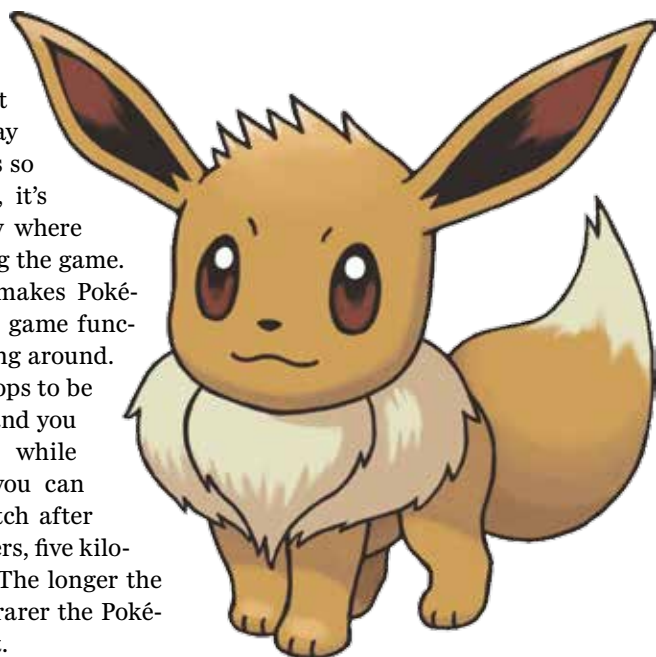
Cold Spring is a particularly contentious locale as far as gyms. Players can't interact with gyms until they've reached level 5; when they do, they pick a team. The options are Team Instinct (yellow), Team Mystic (blue), and Team Valor (red). Players can capture gyms for their team, leaving Pokémon there to train with players from their team or battle players from another team. Defeating the Pokémon left to guard the gym can help players claim the gym for their own team.

In Beacon, the gyms are mostly claimed by the red team, and they've been that way for a while. In Cold Spring, the six gyms cycle rapidly between all three teams, switching colors at least once an hour. This may be because Cold Spring has so many players. If you look, it's hard to find a time of day where you don't see people playing the game.

One of the things that makes Pokémon Go special is that the game functions around players walking around. You have to walk to Pokéstops to be close enough to use them and you encounter more Pokémon while wandering. Additionally, you can get Pokémon eggs that hatch after you've walked two kilometers, five kilometers and 10 kilometers. The longer the distance of the egg is, the rarer the Pokémon that will hatch from it.

The app tracks your movement via your GPS, not using a pedometer. This is actually a great thing, as it allows individuals in wheelchairs to participate as well. The app also has a speed cap; if you're moving faster than 10 mph, it doesn't count your movement toward hatching your eggs.

The first two or three days after its release in the U.S., Pokémon Go had so many new players that the servers were crashing practically every half hour. A week after its release, the servers seem to have stabilized. There's still a lot to perfect about the game, as it is riddled with glitches and the servers still have some issues during high traffic hours.



But overall, there's been an overwhelmingly positive response. People crowd around Pokéstops and talk to other players, trying to find the best places to catch rare Pokémon. The game has helped motivate people with depression to walk around, get exercise and feel the sun. It's also helped people with social anxiety issues, as it gives them a point of connection and a way to meet new friends. It's helped people go out and discover things they never knew about where they live. Personally, I've rediscovered just how beautiful Cold Spring's riverside is. It had been ages since I'd been down there before I was lured by a high concentration of Pokéstops.

Groombridge works at Groombridge Games in Cold Spring.

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Linda Hubbard Retires from RiverWinds

Gallery celebrates 13th anniversary

On July 9, RiverWinds Gallery in Beacon celebrated its 13th anniversary

with many of its artists, friends and family crowding the gallery. One of the gallery's founding partners, Linda Hubbard, announced her retirement from RiverWinds and introduced artist Karl LaLonde as a new co-owner. Mayor Randy

Casale stopped by to thank Hubbard for her contributions to the city. The gallery's current exhibit is *Odyssey*, a juried show of paintings by 14 Hudson Valley artists that continues through Aug. 7.



From left, gallery co-owners Mary Ann Glass, Virginia Donovan, retiring co-owner Linda Hubbard, Beacon Mayor Randy Casale and new co-owner Karl LaLonde

Photo by Rafael Quirindongo

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Playing Tough, Despite Loss

*12U Little League team
played best game on June 30*

By Mike Meeropol

This year 134 players from ages 6 to 16 participated in Philipstown Little League in four divisions, and 26 adult board members, officers, managers and coaches volunteered their time.

The league's 12-and-under team included 13 players, four of whom were returning from last year's team. Their best game was June 30 against Taconic, which scored on a two-run home run in the first inning but was held to only one run after that by pitchers Julian Ambrose, Terence Driscoll and Daniel Santos. They were backed by excellent outfield and infield relays cutting down a runner trying to stretch a double to a triple — Ryan Merritt to Kevin Van Tassel to Blake Bolte — and a runner trying to stretch a single to a double — Julian Ambrose to William Bradley.

The team played virtually error-free defense. Taconic's third run was disputed (the runner appeared to have failed to tag on a line out to left fielder Soren Holmbo). Philipstown scored in the fourth and had the tying run on third with one out. In the sixth, Philipstown had runners on second



The 12U Philipstown All-Stars, sponsored by Appalachian Market

Photo by Kristin Van Tassel

and third after a daring double steal, but the Taconic pitcher closed the game out.

The 12U team also included Darrin

Santos, Jonathan Bradley, William Bradley, Evelyn Higbee, Tommy Tucker and Tim Ben Adi.

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