Junjulas Elected Haldane School Board President  
Fundraising for improvements OK’d  
By Michael Turton

At its July meeting, the Haldane Board of Education got down to business as it reorganized for the upcoming school year. As expected, Michael Junjulas was elected president by his fellow trustees, and Gillian Thorpe was returned as vice president. Junjulas replaces Joe Curto, who did not seek re-election. The newest trustee, Jon Champlin, took the oath of office, having won a seat on the board in the election held in May.

Trustees approved the ad hoc Athletic Field Committee’s request to begin fundraising to support major improvements to Haldane’s main sports field. The field, located on Route 9D just below the school, is currently used almost exclusively for football. The $62 million project hinges on the fact that it cannot result in any increase in taxes to local rate payers. One of the project’s major features will be installation of artificial turf, which will mean the field can be used intensively for football. The $2 million project, which can include in-kind donations of services and materials, the school board president and Gillian Thorpe was re-elected as vice president. Junjulas replaces Joe Curto, who did not seek re-election. The newest trustee, Jon Champlin, took the oath of office, having won a seat on the board in the election held in May.

As examples of rope-team emergencies, Valentine told the Town Board. Currently, the team needs unique equipment, Valentine added. “We have had a lot of experience in recent years, unfortunately, with prosecuting scammers of elderly New Yorkers. We want to move from the mode of proactively preventing scams before they even happen,” said Schneiderman addressing an audience of 150-200 people.

The forum was Galb’s annual gathering for seniors, advocates and service providers held at the Cortlandt Manor Town Hall. The forum also included other speakers on a variety of topics affecting the lifestyles and health of the elderly. Philipstown is among the towns

mean the field can be used intensively, year-round. Use of the upgraded field will include such activities as lacrosse and physical education. The latter has been hampered for years by the lack of an all-weather, year-round facility, with the elementary and middle schools often having been limited to indoor physical-education classes.

To order to qualify for close to $700,000 in state aid, the project must be the first to answer a call in its territory — the team needs unique equipment, Valentine said. “We have had a lot of experience in recent years, unfortunately, with prosecuting scammers of elderly New Yorkers. We want to move from the mode of proactively preventing scams before they even happen,” said Schneiderman addressing an audience of 150-200 people.

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Day Trip

Fort Montgomery Historic Site

Revolutionary relic takes visitors back to 1777

By Mary Ann Ebner

Day trips can take hours to reach by car, train or bike, but destinations close to home can deliver rewarding experiences without the expense of extended travel time. The Fort Montgomery State Historic Site, located in Orange County and a few minutes from the Bear Mountain Bridge, preserves a chapter in Revolutionary War history dating back to 1777.

On Saturdays and Sundays through July and August, visitors can tour the remains of Revolutionary War fortifications and learn more about the site’s rich history and purpose through guided tours, artillery demonstrations and living history camp life exhibits. Grant Miller, in his fifth year as historic site manager for the facility, will be among the interpreters leading tours that begin at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

“This piece of land was fortified with the idea to blast any British ships coming through this area of the Hudson,” Miller said as he looked out over the striking view of the Hudson River where British ships were anticipated to arrive in 1777. “The Americans knew the British were coming, and Fort Montgomery was undermanned, but the American defense fought to repulse the attacks.”

Though the American Patriots lost Fort Montgomery as well as the powder magazine after the battle, the ruins of Fort Montgomery reveal the fortifications and infrastructure built by soldiers. Most of the remains were recovered through archaeological endeavors that took place generations after the Battle of Fort Montgomery.

“Much of the research of the fort was done by Jack Mead,” Miller said. “He started digging in 1967, and until 1968 or ’69, the remains of the barrack were completely buried. Time takes its toll on everything, but this was all placed by soldiers. We now have a 14-acre site that was at one time overgrown like a jungle. Finally, in 1997, a group of local people formed the Fort Montgomery Battle Site Association to move the project along to what we share today.”

Visitors to the summer weekend events can hike along a line of linear patterned stones laid by Patriots sometime around the spring of 1776, man the lookout at the Grand Battery overlooking the Hudson, or try grinding their own corn flour to make fire cakes, which were simple cakes that soldiers prepared with wheat flour or corn meal and water, and baked over the camp’s fire.

Historic site interpreter Peter Cutul demonstrates Revolutionary-era life and teaches visitors the process used during the period to prepare food for the troops. “The kids on tours and especially kids who join us for camps like to try to make their own corn flour,” Cutul said. “Basically, we burn out a tree stump for our mortar, and the pestle does the grinding. Corn flour was important to the Native Americans and the Colonists as well. Soldiers would commonly make these simple cakes.”

The Fort Montgomery Historic Site features a museum that opened in 2006, a 15-minute film on the Battle of Fort Montgomery (shown on demand) and walking trails with descriptive displays (including illustrations created by Jack Mead). The historic site is located half a mile north of the Bear Mountain Bridge at 690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery. Admission is by donation to the Fort Montgomery Battle Site Association. Regular hours to visit the museum and take self-guided tours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. For more information on tours, outreach programs or special group reservations, call 845-446-2134 or visit the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation website at www.nysparks.com/historic-sites/28/details.aspx.

Saturday and Sunday Summer Schedule

• Guided Tours: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.
• Musket Demonstrations: noon and 3 p.m.
• Artillery Demonstration: 1 p.m.
• Music Demonstration: 4:30 p.m.
• Living History Camp Life Demonstrations: periodically

Trip Tips

• Wear comfortable walking shoes.
• No climbing on ruins or displays.
• Restroom facilities are available.
• Overflow parking located north of site entrance on 9W.
• Trails are not handicapped accessible.

As part of the celebration we plan to present a selection of photos and memorabilia related to the Chapel during its long history, from its construction in 1833 through its restoration almost a century and a half later. We would like to include your photos, memorabilia and stories about the Chapel.

Please send copies (we cannot be responsible for originals) to:

The Chapel Restoration, Inc.
P.O. Box 34, Cold Spring, NY 10516

or email to marmstrong@chapelrestoration.org

In August, we’ll announce details of the 35th Anniversary Exhibit and Celebration. Meanwhile, hold the dates: September 15 and 16.

The Pig Hill Inn

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Bring Us Your Memories!

On September 15 and 16 the Chapel Restoration will celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the 1977 opening of the restored Chapel as an ecumenical place for all people.

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of excess land off of Cedar Street. Sale of the James Pond property could raise more than $400,000 and must be approved by voters as part of a public referendum on the entire project. That vote will likely take place in the fall. The land sale would also be contingent upon the school district retaining the right to use part of the property for such purposes as parking and continued use of the pond area as an outdoor classroom for environmental programs. Superintendent of Schools Mark Villanti has stressed the importance of the land sale to the success of the project as proposed, saying that if the land is not sold, reducing the project to a $1.6 million budget, it would be a “drastically different” initiative.

It looks like Haldane students will be playing high school hockey in the upcoming season, although it won’t be on a Blue Devils team per se. Trustees approved a three-way merger, which will see players from Haldane, Putnam Valley and John F. Kennedy High School in Somers form a team that will play its home games at the Brewer Ice Arena. The proposal must still be approved by BOCES and the New York State Public High School Athletic Association.

Dan Valentine of the Cold Spring Fire Company announces the new rope-rescue team at the Town Board meeting. Photo by L.S. Armstrong

Dan Valentine of the Cold Spring Fire Company announces the new rope-rescue team at the Town Board meeting. Photo by L.S. Armstrong

Councilor Dave Merandy observed that the board had only received details the previous day, long after dissemination of the agenda. “How do we step in [the established process] for this?” he wondered. “I don’t have any problems with this” as such, he said, adding that perhaps the agenda policy needs another look, “or you could say that anything just came up” and must be discussed at a meeting, he said. “Some things need to be acted upon because of the time constraints,” as in the case of the application package, Shea answered.

The board then authorized Shea to complete the necessary paperwork for the application package. Likewise, the board gave the supervi- sor the go-ahead to complete an agreement with the state for a $200,000 grant for a new boiler system at the Claudia Marzollo Community Center and replacement of doors and windows at Town Hall.

\[PHOTO BY M. TURTON\]

\[PHOTO BY M. TURTON\]
Dear Editor:

I live in South Texas but have been coming to Cold Spring for about 30 years to visit relatives, and I love your charming little village very much. I am usually only here for a week or 10 days but have been here for almost three months this year. I have spent hundreds of dollars in the wonderful collection of various shops and restaurants along Main Street, as I do most years. One of the things I love most about Cold Spring is its uniqueness — the absence of any franchises.

One issue that I have not seen addressed in the letters to the editor in The Paper, which I read from cover to cover, although I may have missed it, is the franchise “toe in the door” danger. If Dunkin’ Donuts is successful, what is to keep other franchises from worming their way into this lovely town? Believe me, although I live in a beautiful area near Rockport, Texas, the whole area is crowded with various franchises and it detracts greatly from the ambience. I know for a fact that much of your tourist trade comes to Cold Spring because of its charm and greatly owned shops. Being from Texas, I am probably friendlier than I should be, but so many people that hear my Texas twang ask, “Where are you from?” This leads to more conversation, so I’ve met several citizens of Cold Spring, as well as quite a few of your tourists. One very nice-looking couple from Europe stopped to chat with me and said that although they had come to New York City on vacation, they were so charmed with Cold Spring that the next time they visit, they will probably stay in Cold Spring and visit New York!

What I’m saying is, don’t “kill the goose” by letting franchises ruin the totally unique charm of your wonderful village.

Sincerely,

Beverly Acker, Aransas Pass, Texas

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State AG Wants Seniors to Protect Themselves (from page 1)

The next registration will be held on Aug. 2 at both centers from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Classes being offered are Computer Fundamentals; Maintaining Your Computer; Internet and email; Digital Photography; Picasa; and many more. Free workshops will also be offered on topics such as How to Buy a New Computer; Copy and Paste; Word Processing; Setting up Your New Tablet; Keyboard Shortcuts; and Windows Explorer. Suggestions for other workshops are always welcome.

Anyone age 55 or over with even a minimum of computer skills is encouraged to become a volunteer in the program. Coaches to assist in the classes are always needed. To learn more about the classes and workshops, or to volunteer, please call Cathy O’Brien at 845-628-6423, email her at cobrien25@comcast.net or visit putnamrsvp.com/clic.

Many among the recommendations contained in the booklet, a few stressed are:

• Never give out personal information, bank account numbers, or credit card numbers over the phone.
• Be suspicious of contractors who come to your home or who offer last-minute deals on cheap repairs.
• Do not provide any of your banking information to anyone who knocks on your door, even if they say they have a “book” to distract a listener from the details under discussion or to let his or her guard down. A hook will usually involve money or credit, love or goodwill, or fear and desperation to appeal to the deepest needs in most people.

Among the many recommendations contained in the booklet, a few stressed are:

• Submit free inspections.
• Be careful not to trust a voice claiming to be a grandchild in trouble who needs cash right away, even when they seem to sound familiar and happen to know family details that they could have gotten from Facebook or other social media.
• Be suspicious of contractors who have last-minute deals on cheap repairs to your home or who offer free inspections.
• Never give personal information, including birthdate, Social Security number or any reference that might be a password, to an unlicensed caller, email or entity you don’t know.

For a copy of the booklet or to obtain more information go to www.ag.ny.gov or call 1-800-771-7755.

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Putnam County Seniors Are Going Back to School

If you are a senior interested in learning about computers, you can register for a variety of classes offered by the Putnam County Office for the Aging at the Putnam Valley Senior Center, 117 Town Park Lane, Putnam Valley and the Koehler Senior Center at 180 Route 6 in Mahopac.

The Putnam County Office for the Aging offers classes in a variety of subjects, including:

• Mathematics
• Business Mathematics
• Computer Fundamentals
• Computer Fundamentals II
• Computer Fundamentals III
• Computer Fundamentals IV
• Computer Fundamentals V

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Letters to the Editor

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Paper welcomes letters to the editor. Please email letters using the form at:

www.philipstown.info/letters

Letters may also be mailed to: 69 Main St., Cold Springs, N.Y. 10516

Please make sure to include your full name and area where you live. We reserve the right to edit letters for length. As is the case with our website, letter writers should avoid making personal attacks or unsubstantiated charges. Unless you indicate otherwise, letters will also be posted on our website.

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EXTRA!
Historic Board Dunkin’ Donuts Hearing Continued Until Aug. 8

Questions linger on lighting, building’s rear

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

After nearly an hour and 45 minutes of discussion focusing on such issues as lighting, treatment of the back, and pedestrian hazards, the Cold Spring Historic District Review Board (HDRB) last week continued the formal public hearing on conversion of the Elmesco Citgo Inc. car-repair garage into a Dunkin’ Donuts franchise. It set the resumption of the hearing for Aug. 8.

At the HDRB meeting, July 11, the design for the converted building itself — reminiscent of a 1950s gasoline service station — generated limited controversy, with some HDRB members saying that it fits in with the mid-20th-century shopping center aesthetics just to the south, although not necessarily with the 19th-century architecture of the village around the strip.

“We’re bringing it back to almost where it was in the 1950s,” but with “a more modern look,” said Cynthia Falls, architect for building owner Kenny Elmes.

HDRB Chairman Al Zgolinski de-clared that “there are different neighbor-hoods in the village,” each with its own character. This is set in the context of the Foordtown Plaza shopping strip and “fits into the context” there, he said.

Board Member Kathleen Foley recalled that the board had debated the design at length in previous go-rounds. “This area represents, for better or worse, 1950s strip development as manifested in Cold Spring,” and the board saw merits in “embracing that period of time” and the proposed Dunkin’ Donuts appearance, she said.

“What’s wrong with people?” asked Lisa Gold, a Brooklyn resident with a house at 6 Chestnut St. “Every town in up north- east has a strip mall. What’s the fuss?” She said that village newcomers “seem to be the people who complain the most. I think the arguments are spurious and come from not knowing.” However, Gold urged Elmes and Falls “to lower the lights.”

An Elmesco neighbor, David DiVico, of 26 Chest-nut St., told the board that “I don’t have a problem with the look. They could put a bordello there and I wouldn’t care.” What causes concern, he added, is the potential for intrusive glare. “It’s all about the lights. I just want to see less lights.”

The menu board or sign planned for the back of the structure, where the drive-through donut-sup-plying window will be lo-cated, prompted many of the lighting qualms, espe-cially if the sign is back-lit. The large Cit-go sign, recently damaged and in need of fixing or replacement, aroused concern as well.

“We need to comply with our guide-lines, and our guidelines say internally illuminated signs are not allowed,” Zgo-linski noted.

“I’ve never run into this” lighting problem, Falls observed, saying that the menu board lights would be as low level as possible. “You’ve got to be able to read it. We want this thing to function,” she said.

“But for us it’s setting a precedent,” HDRB Member Peter Downey informed her. “We consistently deny internally illuminated signs,” Foley added. “The bigger issue for me is precedent.”

“If there is a menu board, it should be treated exactly like any other sign is treated, in that it should not be back-lit,” said Judith Rose, who lives on Marion Avenue, the street that runs behind the shopping area. She said that “I love Dunkin’ Donuts,” but that questions re-main about the outlet planned for Cold Spring. “I would hope you would be as rigorous with the drive-through as you would be with the front of the building,” she told the HDRB.

Other residents also focused on the drive-through — the main way of getting the donuts, as there will be no indoor seating or tables in the structure — and the back of the building overall.

“My feeling is, the back is the back,” Zgolinski said.

Others sought more attention to that side of the building.

“I’d love to hear a lot more about what’s going on in the back. I don’t know if anyone has thought about the back, but I would hope you do,” including con-sideration of the size of the menu sign, said Karen Doyle, who lives at 15 Marion Ave., behind the Elmesco site.

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Nelsonville Village Board Considers Trailer and Other Parking Rules

Meeting protocol debated

by Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Cold Spring Village Board decided to adhere to a workshop to paperwork, pond rights, and protocol on Tuesday (July 17) and took initial steps to address questions of long-term parking on public property.

“Right now there’s no limit” to parking on streets, observed Mayor Seth Galagher, who wants to remedy that. “The problem is traffic – with people parking a car for four months and never moving it and we mow the grass around the car,” he said. He cited as examples an apparently abandoned vehicle near the fence along Kemble Avenue and a trailer at the dead-end of the Boulevard. The trailer “just got dropped there and it’s like it having your own little shed” on village property, he said. He recommended a ban on leaving unattended trailers (there are none) and other trailers and vehicles elsewhere.

Along with banning unconnected trailers from streets, Galagher proposed legislating for “no parking” signs in a “protected area” to, he said, limit parking on public property, ensuring “that everybody that comes to a meeting understands” what they are allowed to do.

In another traffic-related matter, he urged installing a STOP sign on Mountain Avenue, at the crosswalk near Locust Ridge. The traffic there “affects kids going to school” and the goal would be to have the sign in place before classes resume for the fall, he said.

Village Attorney Stephen Gaba promised to draft laws on the signage and parking issues raised.

Meeting protocol

The board also took up an upcoming concern – fictional public comment periods at meetings. At times, meetings end with members of the public shout- ing out allegations and questions to the board or with members voicing frustrations. “I think a lot of us felt at the end of the meeting last week [July 10] that it didn’t go well, that it was a little bit out of control,” said Hall. “And I didn’t think it was the needs of the board, and, I would say, the village at large,” Gallagher said. Public comment at the July 10 meeting featured lengthy allegations from three residents regarding conduct by the mayor and/or board. [See Philipstown.info: Ethics Allegations Against Village Goliath: “What happened is you [as a board] sort of accept these chippings away of a basic right to conduct a meeting,” Galagher said, proposing that they explore ways to improve the situation. “I think what we have to do is re-think in a lot of regards,” without getting overly formal. “Ultimately, hopefully you save time.”

“Ultimately, hope you save time,” everyone at a meeting by not permitting verbal free-for-alls, he added.

“I talk to someone in formal, verbally lead by example,” Trustee Matt Francis-co suggested.

Gaba advised that “it’s important that the board offer a sign-up sheet for audience questions, such as calling out remarks or questions to the audience directly.” If “we’re going to tighten things up,” he cautioned, “it really should be across the board. It shouldn’t just be in the public comment period.” For the public comment period itself, he suggested limiting individual comments to a set number of minutes and that at the start of each meeting the board offer a sign-up sheet for audience members who wish to speak.

Village Board Considers Trailer and Other Parking Rules

Property taxes still due

by Pete Smith

Though the agendas were light, the Nelsonville Village Board continued for their regularly scheduled meetings for the months of June and July. Much of June’s meeting was devoted to the completion of the road repair performed throughout the village with federal grant money. “This grant was a headache,” I guess that a good word to describe it” said Mayor Tom Corless, rhetorically. “It was so specific, it really hindered us,” he added.

The mayor was referring to the time-consuming nature and strict guidelines of money awarded through the Federal Transportation Improvement Act of 2005. In addition, the difficulties referred to by the mayor, the grant guidelines dictated that the funds be evenly distributed to all venues originally identified in the grant application, leaving no option for the village to revise plans according to road deterioration that might have occurred after the grant had been awarded. This resulted in achieving much-needed improvements on Division Street, Wood Avenue and some of the streets intersecting with them a way that looks less comprehensive than it otherwise would in the absence of the strict guidelines.

Although the project was especially drawn out due to the requirement that each phase of the project, from engineering to design and finally to construction, be paid for as it occurred, with the State Department of Transportation acting administratively on behalf of the federal government. Given the increased and in such a bureaucratic process, the project’s timeline was prolonged. The total grant amount was $250,000. Per the grant requirements however, the village was obligated to contribute over $60,000 from its own coffers. With the final cost of paint applied to the new crosswalks and a final check issued to McNamee Construction, this seven-year road repair chapter for the Village has closed.

During July’s public comment period, a Pine Street resident weighed in with her concerns about the overgrown trees on her block that were planted years ago by the village. In turn, she learned about the role typically played by Central Hudson Gas and Electric in terms of branch pruning. “The power company trimmed them brutally, before you moved in,” said Trustee Andre Merante. “They take care of them only to the extent that it frees the power lines up.”

That resident’s concerns were in line with a survey conducted through June and July by Trustee Merante. He took a count of trees with overgrown canopies and broken limbs. His study also examined any damage to sidewalks resulting from the root systems of the trees. “There are five sections of sidewalk on Division Street that are a real problem,” said Merante, adding that some of the broken limbs can be traced back to the Halloween storm of last October. “There are still a number of branches hanging down. Even my little car hits one of them every now and then. A delivery truck comes by and it’s doing more damage to those trees,” he said.

Mayor Corless assured the Pine Street resident that the village would be addressing her concerns, noting that it’s a multi-pronged problem involving pruning, sidewalk repair and, in some cases, tree removal. “We will continue to check it out. We’ll have to get some cost estimates,” said the Mayor.

Also during July’s public comment period, village resident Frank Caccetta voiced interest in the status of 114 acres leased from the village by the Open Space Institute (OSI). The Board had taken up a request in March by the Nelsonville Fish and Fur Club to establish a bow-hunting range on the parcel, which is now a small grassy meadow and includes the wooded area at the foot of Bull Hill. Caccetta’s main interest though, was whether OSI would permit hunting on the parcel. “The amount of deer that are coming out of there, they

APPARENTLY ABANDONED CAR ALONG KEMBLE AVENUE

PHOTO BY L.S. ARMSTRONG

Nelsonville Village Board Gives Updates on Road Repairs

Intersection of Division and Pine complete with painted crosswalks

PHOTO BY PAULA SMITH

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Two men signed up: Michael Bowman, who has previously accused Gallagher and the board of unethical behavior, and Andrew Hall, whose wife, Susan Peehl, lobbied similar claims on July 10 and who with Peehl has been critical of a neighbor’s shed-building project.

If the meeting wound down, Galagher looked at the sign-up sheet. “We generally don’t have public comment at a workshop [but] the first request is to do more public comment,” he said, referring to Bowman’s request.

However, the board agreed to let Hall pose a question about a board decision earlier that evening to grant a Butterfield Library request for a reduction in escrow on a variance application. “Are you reducing the escrow to $300 for everyone?” Halled wondered. He also sought “to make an observation,” but Galagher declined to hear it. The board did not discuss the matter and Galagher gaveled the meeting to a close.

Bowman protested that he had been barred from speaking and that he like Hall had merely wanted to ask about an agenda item.

“We’re getting away from that kind of thing, where you come in and just have a discussion,” Galagher replied, suggesting Bowman talk to board members elsewhere, send an e-mail or use a similar approach. “We’re all around. It doesn’t have to be at a meeting.”

“Can I have an off-the-cuff talk with the board?” Bowman asked.

“Not,” Gallagher responded. “We have to pay him.”

Gallagher put out a yellow sheet, for attendees wishing to be heard that night. Two men signed up: Michael Bowman, who has previously accused Gallagher and the board of unethical behavior, and Andrew Hall, whose wife, Susan Peehl, lobbied similar claims on July 10 and who with Peehl has been critical of a neighbor’s shed-building project.

When the meeting wound down, Galagher looked at the sign-up sheet. “We generally don’t have public comment at a workshop [but] the first request is to do more public comment,” he said, referring to Bowman’s request.

However, the board agreed to let Hall pose a question about a board decision earlier that evening to grant a Butterfield Library request for a reduction in escrow on a variance application. “Are you reducing the escrow to $300 for everyone?” Hall wondered. He also sought “to make an observation,” but Galagher declined to hear it. The board did not discuss the matter and Galagher gaveled the meeting to a close.

Bowman protested that he had been barred from speaking and that he like Hall had merely wanted to ask about an agenda item.

“We’re getting away from that kind of thing, where you come in and just have a discussion,” Galagher replied, suggesting Bowman talk to board members elsewhere, send an e-mail or use a similar approach. “We’re all around. It doesn’t have to be at a meeting.”

“Can I have an off-the-cuff talk with the board?” Bowman asked.

“Not,” Gallagher responded. “We have to pay him.”
Double O Shows Enliven the Depot Theatre’s Summer

Youth Theatre presents Oliver!, followed by Oklahoma!

By Alison Rooney

Quick, name a famous musical that starts with the letter “O”: On a Clear Day You Can See Forever, On The Town — the list is surprisingly long. Two of the most prominent and popular arrive this week and next at the Depot Theatre in the form of the Depot Youth Theatre’s productions of Oliver! and Oklahoma! In common with their shared first letter, both shows are noted for their strong sense of place. Dickens’ London in the former, and the open plains of the Sooner state in the latter. They’re also known for being perennial vehicles for young performers, the orphans, pickpockets, cowboys and ingenues being well within the range of kids and teenagers.

The younger group tackles Oliver! first. Opening this Thursday, July 19, the six-performance production runs through Sunday, July 22. This crew of urchins, wastrels, snitches and a few kindly folk charm, cajole and wend their way through the twists and turns of the saga of young Oliver Twist, the gruel-fed orphan who dares to ask for more and thus propels himself into the requisite back alleys of a Dickens plot. Young Hudson Lovell plays Oliver. In his song Food, Glorious Food he runs down a recitation of the meals he dreams of, including “cold jelly and custard.” Asked what his personal food-glorious-food list would include, Lovell displayed a carnivorous bent: “beef tacos, steak, hamburgers. Oh, and doughnuts.” Freya Wood-Gallagher is the Artful Dodger, who shows off his/her street smarts and teaches Oliver some tricks of the trade. Pondering the question, “What does the Artful Dodger artfully dodge?” Wood-Gallagher replied, “He kinda like dodges from people. He’s nimble on his feet and he’s seen it all — nothing surprises him. He never gets caught. Oh, except for one scene.” And then there’s Fagin, in the form of first-time summer Youth Theatre participant Gwen Laster and Gameboard Perform at Boscobel

View enliven the Depo Theatre’s Summer.

Gather in the magnificent stairway in the grand entry hall of BoscoBel House on July 23 for one in a series of musical events in the mansion. Violinist and composer Gwen Laster will be performing “electc” acoustic original music with her ensemble, Gameboard, featuring Ken McGloin, acoustic/electric guitar, Damon Banks, electric bass, and Brahim Fribgane, oud/cabon. Laster has collaborated with various popular, jazz and global music artists giving her a diverse set of skills and musical sensibilities. These artists include Alicia Keys, Haitian vocalist Emeline Michel, Leroy Jenkins, Jamaican vocalist Beres Hammond, Adam Rudolph, Aretha Franklin, Anthony Braxton and many others. For more information about Gwen, please visit her website at gwenlaster.com.

Young Hudson Lovell plays Oliver. Photos by A. Rooney

The Paper July 20, 2012 7

Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival

2012 SEASON June 12–September 2

Love’s Labour’s Lost Romeo and Juliet The 39 Steps

Adapted by Patrick Barlow From the novel by John Buchan From the movie of Alfred Hitchcock

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW: Online at hvshakespeare.org and Box Office 845/265-9575

(Gwen Laster Photo courtesy of the artist)
I am a truth generally acknowledged to be Cold Spring, except for a very few dissenters, that I am an honest and modest animal. So I will now describe the startling event that occurred when early last Sunday the boss and I took me for a walk and a swim at Dockside Park.

We were reaching the far end of the park when I saw that a number of geese had gathered in the river near the shore and close to the spot where I always start my swims. Now I must have been ready to plunge in and retrieve the Frisbee, for shore. Two or three more times the boss threw and I swam. The birds in the water for a paddle. So far, so good. I indicated to the boss that I was ready to plunge in and retrieve the Frisbee she always throws for me. This would be the test.

Refusing to be intimidated, I warily approached the water’s edge, I noted that they watched me closely but there was no hissing or honking even when I put my delicate paws in the water for a paddle. So far, so good, I indicated to the boss that I was ready to plunge in and retrieve the Frisbee she always throws for me. This would be the test. So I approached the water’s edge, I noted that they watched me closely but there was no hissing or honking even when I put my delicate paws in the water for a paddle. So far, so good, I indicated to the boss that I was ready to plunge in and retrieve the Frisbee she always throws for me. This would be the test.

A warm greeting is always to be found at The Country Goose especially when customers want to send a gift basket. The boss always asks about the interests and dietary considerations of the recipient so that every basket is custom made for that individual. In other words, her baskets are unique. Rather like me.

The Calendar
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FRIDAY, JULY 20

Sports & 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.

Hudson Valley Renegades
7 – 10 P.M. Dutchess County Stadium
1500 Route 9D, Wappingers Falls
(845) 838-9094 | hvrrenegades.com
General admission: $8

Music
Andrew Craig Quartet
4 – 6 P.M. Bean Runner Café
201 S. Division, Peekskill
(914) 737-1701 | beanrunnercafe.com
Reservations recommended.

Robbie Rege
8 – 11 P.M. Whistling Willie’s
184 Main St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

Meetings & Lectures
Free Computer Help
2 – 3 P.M. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
(845) 424-9020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

SATURDAY, JULY 21

Kids & Community
Hudson River Day
Special activities up and down the Hudson
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
(845) 424-9000 | phillipstownoutfitters.com

Damsels in Distress (Film)
7:30 – 9:30 P.M. Paramount Center for the Arts
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
(914) 739-2333 | paramountcenter.org
Cost: $7.50

Wine Tasting & The 29 Steps (Theater)
8 – 11 P.M. Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, Roscoe
1601 Route 9D, Roscoe
(845) 265-9975 | hudsonvalleshakespeare.com
Call for tickets or order online.

Music
Petey Hop and the Jack Rabbits
9:30 – 11:30 P.M. 12 Grapes
12 N. Division St., Peekskill
(914) 737-0624 | 12grapes.com
Cost: $5.

Meetings & Lectures
NHF District Workshop Meeting
5:30 – 7:30 P.M. North Highlands Fire House
504 Fishkill Rd., Cold Spring
(845) 265-7285 | nhfd21.org

Beginner AA Meeting
9 – 9:30 P.M. First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-3200 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Farmers’ Market
8:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. Boscorel
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
cfarmermarket.com

Food Pantry
9 – 10 A.M. First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-3200 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Book Sale Set-Up
10 A.M. – 1 P.M. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
(845) 424-9020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Children’s Story Time
11 A.M. & 1 P.M. The Beacon Theatre
445 Main St., Beacon
(845) 453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org
Recommended for ages 5 and up. Cost: $5.

Saturday Late Night & Family Free Time
5 – 8 P.M. Mid-Hudson Children’s Museum
75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie
(845) 471-0589 | mhm.org

Midsummer Night’s Firefly & Fairy Festival
Saturday, July 21 from 5 to 9 P.M.
Peekskill’s DePeW Park.
5-9 P.M. DePew Park, Peekskill
embarkpeekskill@gmail.com

Health, Sports & Outdoors
Newburgh to Beacon Swim
7 A.M. – Noon Hudson River
120 Front, Beacon
riverpool.org

Great Hudson River Fish Count
4 – 6 P.M. Little Stony Point
Route 90, Cold Spring
Tom Lake, Hudson River Estuary Program

Putnam County Dept. of Health Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic
10 A.M. – Noon Hudson River Outfitters
2920 Route 9, Cold Spring
(845) 808-1390 | putnamcounty.com/health

River Rose Hudson River Cruise
3 – 5 P.M. Cold Spring Riverfront
(845) 562-0677 | riverrosecruises.com
Tickets: $30/adult; $20/child; age 4 and younger free. Call for reservations.

Banmaner’s Castle Hard Hat Kayak Tour
10 A.M. Hudson Valley Outfitters
63 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-0221 | hudsonvalleyoutfitters.com
Cost: $110. Call to register.

Constitution Marsh (with instruction) Kayak Tour
11 A.M. Hudson Valley Outfitters
63 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-0221 | hudsonvalleyoutfitters.com
Cost: $110. Call to register.

Bats
10 A.M. Hudson Highlands Nature Museum
120 Muser Drive, Cornwall
(845) 534-9500 Ext. 204 | hhnaturemuseum.org
Pre-paid registration required. Call for details.

Hudson Highlands Nature Museum Island Hike
9 A.M. Iona Island
Bear Mountain State Park
(845) 534-9500 Ext. 204 | hhnaturemuseum.org
Pre-paid registration required. Call for details.

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The Paper

July 20, 2012

www.philipstown.info

Art & Design

Cheval Glass Exhibit
See details under Friday.
Free Admission Saturday.
9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
(845) 265-3638 | boscobel.org

CURRENT 2012 Sculpture Exhibition by
Garrison Art Center
See details under Friday.

Manilla Tour
11 A.M. & 1:30 P.M.
See details under Friday.

Beeskeeper Tour at Storm King
NOON & 1 P.M. STORM KING ART CENTER
1 Museum Road, New Windsor
(845) 534-3115 | stormking.org

Public Tour
1 – 2 P.M. Duf. BEACON
3 BECKMAN ST., BEACON
(845) 440-0100 | diabeacon.org
Free with admission.

“Art and Motherhood” Panel Discussion
2 – 4 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR
Contemporary Art
1701 Main St., Peekskill
(914) 788-0100 | hvcca.org

Theater & Film

Bella Luna Children’s Theatre; Auditions
11:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT
THEATRE
10 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
(845) 424-3900 | philipstowndepttheatre.org
Teens or adult winners are welcome to audition.

Youth Players: Oliver! (Theater)
4 P.M. & 7 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN DEPT THEATRE
See details under Friday.

Romeo & Juliet (Theater)
8 – 11 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY SHAKESPEARE
FESTIVAL, BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
(845) 265-9575 | hsvshakespeare.org
Call for tickets or order online.

Cold Spring Film Society Presents: Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid (Film)
8:30 – 10:30 P.M. DOCKSIDE PARK
West Street, Cold Spring
coldspringfilm.org

Music

Jazz & Blues Brunch
1 – 4 P.M. BEAN RUNNER CAFE
201 S. Division, Peekskill
(914) 737-1701 | beanrunnercafe.com
Cost: $15. Reservations recommended.

Jazz and Blues Fest
1 – 10 P.M.
Central Avenue and North Division Street,
Peekskill

Bert Rechtschaffer Jazz Trio
8 – 11 P.M. SILVER SPOON CAFE
124 Main St, Cold Spring
(845) 265-0205 | silverspoonscoldspring.com

Karen Hudson River Band
8 – 10 P.M. THE TURNING POINT CAFE
468 Pierson Ave., Pierson
(845) 359-1089 | turningpointcafe.com

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

Meetings & Lectures

Computer Help
See details under Friday.

Religious Services

Jazz Vespers
5:30 – 6:30 P.M. FIRST PRESIDENTIAL CHURCH
10 Academy, Cold Spring
(845) 265-5220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Philipstown Reform Synagogue Shabbat Services
7:30 – 9:30 P.M. ST. MARY’S CHURCH
1 Chestnut, Cold Spring
(845) 265-6011 | philipstownreformsynagogue.org

SUNDAY, JULY 22

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 Art Day
2 – 4 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR
Contemporary Art
1701 Main St., Peekskill
(914) 788-0100 | hvcca.org
Free for members, $5 per person for non-members. Parent participation required for children 5 and under.

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Banermann’s Castle Hard Hat Kayak Tour
11 a.m. Hudson Valley Outfitters
63 Main St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-0221 | hudsonvalleyoutfitters.com
Cost: $150. Call to register.

Constitution Marsh (with instruction)
Kayak Tour
NOON HUDSON VALLEY OUTFITTERS
63 Main St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-0221 | hudsonvalleyoutfitters.com
Cost: $110. Call to register.

Hummingbirds!
2 P.M. – 3:30 P.M. HUBBARD LODGE
2880 Route 5, Cold Spring
845-533-9506, ext. 204 | hutch nature museum.org
Admission: $10/adult; $5/child
Recommended for adults, and for children ages 5 and older.

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CURRENT 2012 Sculpture Exhibition by
Garrison Art Center
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Cost: $150. Call to register.

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

Religious Services

Our Lady of Loretto Parish
7:30 A.M., 9 A.M. & 11:45 A.M.
24 Fair St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

St. Mary-in-the-Highlands Church
8 A.M. & 10 A.M.
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-2539 | stmaryinthehighlands.org

St. Philip’s Church in the Highlands
8 A.M. & 10 A.M.
1101 Route 9D, Garrison
(845) 424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

South Highland Methodist Church
9:30 A.M.
19 Snake Hill Road, Garrison
(845) 265-3365

First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown
10 A.M.
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

St. Joseph’s Chapel
10:15 A.M.
74 Upper Station Road, Garrison
(845) 265-9718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

Cold Spring Church on the Hill
10:30 A.M.
245 Main St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-2022 | coldspringchurchonthehill.org

United Methodist Church
11 A.M.
216 Main St., Cold Spring
(845) 265-3365

MCCAY 73

Kids & Community

Bridge Club
9 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St, Beacon
(845) 831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org
Fee: $3 per week.

Trivia Quiz Night
5 P.M. PEKES CAFE & COFFEE HOUSE
101 S. Division St., Peekskill
(914) 739-1287 | pekescafeandcoffeehouse.com

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Yoga With a View
6 – 7:15 P.M. BOSCOBEL
1801 Route 9D, Garrison
(845) 265-9038 | boscobel.org
Cost: $17

Hudson Valley Renegades
7 – 10 P.M. DUTCHESS COUNTY STADIUM
1500 Route 9D, Wappingers Falls
845-838-0094 | hvrenegades.com
General admission: $6

Men’s Basketball
7:30 – 9:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
107 GCENS DVE, GARRISON
(845) 424-4018 | philipstowndepttheatre.org
Cost: $5. Ages 13 and older. Philipstown residents only.

Art & Design

Cheval Glass Exhibit
See details under Friday.

(Continued on page 10)
Cold Spring Artist Larry Lyons’ new show, New Paintings, opened on July 14 at the gallery at the Beacon Theatre in Beacon, N.Y. The exhibit will run through Aug. 11. Lyons pulled up a chair at Cup-o’cino on Cold Spring’s Main Street recently and spoke with The Paper’s Michael Turton about his work and the world of art. Their conversation has been edited.

The Paper: Where did you grow up?
Lyons: Northern New Jersey — Bergen County.

The Paper: At what point in your life did you start thinking of yourself as an artist?
Lyons: It’s a complex question, but there was a moment when I first held a crayon in my hand. And (Cold Spring shop keeper) Peter Clark, a conceptual artist, once told me I had to start thinking of myself as an artist. I went home and converted my bedroom into a studio.

The Paper: Are you self-taught or have you had formal art education?
Lyons: I’m self-taught.

The Paper: How would you describe your art?
Lyons: It can definitely be taught. Technique can be taught. But art schools can be big killers of artists. Many quit after art school.

The Paper: What percentage of art is skill, and what percentage is inspiration?
Lyons: Some people are just extremely talented and can create something beautiful but are not involved in the process of art. I don’t have a ton of natural talent. What I have is the desire to be part of the process of art.

The Paper: How do you describe your art to someone who has never seen it?
Lyons: What I usually say is that I like to do big, geometric abstractions. A ton of shapes that together create an image. Many of my paintings are bird metaphors. I keep adding to the painting until you can’t see that image.

The Paper: At least half of your work is in black and white. What draws you to that?
Lyons: I don’t know how to answer that, but I am drawn to black and white. That white cop car with black letters that just went by was very appealing to me. I like the contrast, the hard edge.

The Paper: Do you see most issues in life in black and white, or is that too Freudian?
Lyons: I see nothing in black and white in the other areas of my life! Maybe I’m drawn to the simplification of black and white in art.

The Paper: How do you arrive at a concept for a painting?
Lyons: Many of my paintings have a native or primitive imagery to them. I’ll start with something like that and just experiment and see where it goes.

The Paper: You have a “day job.” Does it affect your art, or is it strictly a way to help pay your bills?
Lyons: It doesn’t influence my art — it is completely separate. It only creates time limitations.

The Paper: What’s your favorite kind of pizza?
Lyons: Pineapple and ham. Yeah. I really like that.

The Paper: What do you think is the most common misconception about art and artists? What is it that people often just don’t get?
Lyons: (They don’t realize) that art is everywhere around them. There are kids on Kemble Avenue who have done incredible drawings on the sidewalk. It is some of the best art I’ve seen in Cold Spring.

The Paper: Speaking of misconceptions, I admit was surprised when I first learned that you drive a Dodge Challenger, a muscle car. Is it legitimate to even ask you if that’s unusual for an artist?
Lyons: I’ve never thought of that. It is very unusual, although they’re unrelated. Klein liked baseball. Duchamp loved chess. I think muscle cars are my distraction — the power, going fast.

The Paper: Value is a very subjective.
What is your reaction when you hear of a painting being sold for a million dollars or more?
Lyons: I’m happy when art gets that level of attention, but usually the artist has nothing to do with it by then. It’s the current owner or the dealer or the auction house.

The Paper: How do you feel about putting a price tag on your work?
Lyons: It’s very difficult. I very much enjoy giving my work away if someone wants to live with it every day. Other artists don’t like it if I devalue my work. But a person with a day job can do that.

The Paper: Have you produced a painting that you have been perfectly happy with?
Lyons: No. They’re all imperfectly perfect. There will be no more (Picasso’s) Guernica.

The Paper: What’s the last book you read for fun?
Lyons: The Mick Jagger biography. Although I don’t think Jagger will ever speak to the author again.

The Paper: Did you evolve into your current style of painting, or has it remained pretty consistent?
Lyons: I’ve evolved through stages — cartooning, landscapes, abstract landscapes — before arriving here.

The Paper: Do you think you will evolve further, to a drastically different style?
Lyons: Well, I would hope so. That would be great. I’d love to see where it goes.

The Paper: How do you feel when you first approach a blank canvas? What is your primary emotion?
Lyons: I’m never intimidated. I like to just jump in and start. I sometimes start four or five paintings and then go back and forth.

The Paper: As an artist, is there a question you hate being asked?
Lyons: Yes. “Can you paint my dog?” Those artists who paint dogs beautifully. If I painted your dog you would not be happy.

The Paper: How do you describe your style of painting?
Lyons: It’s a complex problem, but there was a moment when I first held a crayon in my hand. And (Cold Spring shop keeper) Peter Clark, a conceptual artist, once told me I had to start thinking of myself as an artist. I went home and converted my bedroom into a studio.

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Lyons: I’m self-taught.

The Paper: How would you describe your teacher?
Lyons: Open to influence, easily swayed. Open to things he didn’t know.

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Lyons: Yes. “Can you paint my dog?” Those artists who paint dogs beautifully. If I painted your dog you would not be happy.
New Hampshire, as my family does every year, or jet off for a week in a villa by Celia Barbour

Mouths to Feed

by Celia Barbour

I think our everlasting love for vacation probably has as much to do with the places we leave behind as the places we go. Whether you spend two weeks in a farmhouse in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, as my family does every year, or jet off for a week in a villa by the coast, going away means renouncing — temporarily — a house full of stuff, and your daily load of responsibilities towards it. Which, to be honest, is really, really hard.

Packaging is bad for me. For me, it means trying to figure out the minimum number of things five people need to remain clean, safe, and relatively happy on a hilltop 250 miles away — inevitably more than will fit in our trunk. Worse on a hilltop 250 miles away — inevitably remain clean, safe and relatively happy. The number of things five people need to hold full of stuff, and your daily load of responsibilities towards it.

But not those eternal condiments, mind you. My refrigerator and its contents.

For me, however, the most painful thing is probably the most tirable for undertaking this dish when time is so short, and also reminding myself that the window locks still need to be checked. When the water comes to a boil, I start watching the clock intently, which means forcing my brain to focus on its second-hand and not on the fact that I have yet to pack my toothbrush. I start plugging the eggs in very cold water, which will make the shells peel off easily. The eggs sit there, chilling, as I mix up the dressing.

The eggs are BASELY,杜兰特, Adriana Curto, Jacqueline Ferguson, Henry Heintzman, Kelley Hyatt, Callum Lane, Andrew Homola, Kelsey McEwen, Nicole Pidala, Shauna Stoll, George Weed, Eleanor Young

High Honor Roll

8th grade: Carly Brief, Isabella Contevino, Matthew Hard, Sara Labriola, Marina Martin, Cant McCullough, Elizabeth Mauro, Abbey Westenwich
9th grade: Chloe Davis, Isabella Da-vis, Anna Northup, Edmund Northup, Alexandra Voutsa, Paul Walker
6th grade: Edward Barry, Keifer Convertino, Elijah DeRico, Henry Driscoll, Alex Gagnon, David Higbee, Alex Mancuso, Kaelin Martin, Raymond O’Rourke, Yumus Solakoğlu, Lucinda Strol, George Wee, Eleanor Young

High Honor Roll

8th grade: Macdara Heanue, Daniel Harrison, Frank Batignani, Albert Casamento, Jack Berkowitz, Theodore Henderson, Elena LaBreche, John Lam, Saman-tha Leach, Katherine Lahey, Joe Lam, Samantha Liebmann, Mike McHale, Matthew Norton, Michael O’Connell, Jack Rutter, Remi Smith, Anthony Valencia
9th grade: Matthew Bakuuci, Zachary Bischoff, Jacob Cox, Edmund Fitzgerald, Jayne Fox, Samuel de Gosal, Sarah Jacoby, Peter McGovern, Lola Nicholas, Cooper Nugent, Paige O’Toole, Vivian Pasanoutos, Vanessa Urbe

HALDANE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Principal’s List

9th grade: Christian Bach, Allisen Carbajal, Jacob Cox, Edmund Fitzgerald, Jayne Fox, Samuel de Gosal, Sarah Jacoby, Peter McGovern, Lola Nicholas, Cooper Nugent, Paige O’Toole, Vivian Pasanoutos, Vanessa Urbe

HALDANE HIGH SCHOOL

Principal’s List

12th grade: Salvatore Baisley, Judith Barrow, Adriana Curto, Jacqueline Ferguson, Henry Heintzman, Kelley Hyatt, Callum Lane, Andrew Homola, Kelsey McEwen, Nicole Pidala, Shauna Stoll, George Weed, Eleanor Young

Honour Roll:

12th grade: Peter Allen, Bryant Dain, Raymond DiFrancesco, Miller Francis, Kristal Herring, Sean Hickey, Timothy Kassian, Samantha Rickets, John Swartwelder, Kelly Vahos, Thais Van Brun

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12th grade: Peter Allen, Bryant Dain, Raymond DiFrancesco, Miller Francis, Kristal Herring, Sean Hickey, Timothy Kassian, Samantha Rickets, John Swartwelder, Kelly Vahos, Thais Van Brun

Egg Salad

1 cup mayonnaise
1/2 tsp mustard
1/2 tsp chopped pickles or relish
1/2 tsp chopped capers (optional)
1/2 finely minced celery
1/2 T finely minced red onion or shallot, soaked for 5 minutes in ice water and drained
If using fresh herbs, chopped, salt and pepper, to taste
8 hard-boiled eggs

Mix together the first eight ingredients in a bowl. Peel and chop the eggs. Add to the bowl, and toss gently to combine.
Midsummer Night’s Firefly & Fairy Festival

Costumed kids can make wands, crowns and wander a woodland obstacle course.

EMBARK/Peekskill, a coalition of performing and literary artists and companies from Peekskill and surrounding communities will host its second annual Midsummer Night’s Firefly & Fairy Festival on July 21 from 5 to 9 p.m. in Peekskill’s Depew Park.

Peepeekskill’s Jazz & Blues Fest is Concert and Fair

Jazz brunch, crafts, farmers’ market, music shows part of the mix.

Peepeekskill’s 6th Annual Jazz & Blues Festival, presented by the Peekskill Business Improvement District (BID), is a free outdoor concert and fair that will be held Saturday, July 21, from 1 to 10 p.m. at the intersection of Central Avenue and North Division Street in the heart of historic downtown Peekskill.

The streets will be closed to traffic for the duration of the event. Local restaurants will be offering outdoor dining; artists and craftpeople will be selling and displaying their work; and there will be activities for the whole family. In addition, the Peepeekskill Farmers’ Market will be open all day long with the season’s freshest produce.

The event is free to the public, but there is a suggested donation of $5 per person. Space in this part of the park is limited, so please email a reservation with number of adults and children to embarkpeekskill@gmail.com.

In conjunction with the festival this year, EMBARK Co-Founder and Executive Director Katie Schmidt Feder is directing two half-day, week-long camps at Energy Movement Center. The participants of these camps will perform and explore creative dance, drama and crafts through fairy tales and will present a little scene and dance.

Older children and teens will be introduced to Shakespeare in an afternoon camp and will then be part of EMBARK’s “Rapidly Rehearsed Repertory” rendition of scenes from Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” performed in English and a little Spanish. Once again there will be a special guest appearance by Peekskill City Council member Andy Torres as “Nick Bottom,” the actor/turned mule, and other actors will be pulled from the audience to perform their “roles.”

For the second year in a row, Carrie Pest Control is the main and somewhat ironic sponsor of the Firefly and Fairy Festival. (They don’t exterminate fireflies!) Additional support has been provided by the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce and Peekskill Parks and Rec.

EMBARK | Peekskill is committed to the establishment and development of a Performing and Literary Arts Center for Peekskill as a home and venue. It is the goal of EMBARK to partner and collaborate with arts alliances and supporters of the arts and to encourage understanding of the role the arts play in building community and in celebrating diversity.

For more information, visit the EMBARK website at www.embarkpeekskill.com.
Parents and Little League board members met recently to discuss how all-star teams are selected. Photo by M. Turton

By Michael Turton

Little League baseball is about as American as it gets. It provides athletic competition, fun, lessons in sportsmanship and memories for countless youngsters across the country, but it is not without conflict, as Philipstown Little League officials have recently discovered. The issue is how “all-star” teams are selected at the end of the regular season — teams that represent Philipstown in the District 17 Little League all-star tournament that features teams from Putnam, Dutchess and Columbia Counties and Connecticut.

This year, two local all-star teams made up of 11-year-olds were selected for tournament play. Both teams bowed out quickly, losing their first two games. In the past, a team of 10-year-old players has also participated in the tournament but not in 2012, and therein lies the rub. A number of 12-year-old players who were selected as all-stars were not able to participate, as has been the case the past few years.

Parents and Little League board members met recently to discuss how all-star teams are selected. Little League President Eddie Barry is standing, far left. Photo by M. Turton

Barry pointed out that Philipstown faces the difficult issue of making a decision. Barry also submitted a letter to the editor, defending the decisions made in the 2012 all-star team selection. He wrote, “I’m left wondering regarding whether teams should be selected based strictly on choosing players and whether there should be broader participation with less emphasis on winning. Philipstown Little League by-laws currently call for selecting the best athletes and fielding the best team possible.”

State Approves $27,000 Waterfront Revitalization Contract

The State of New York has given final approval to a contract with the Village of Cold Spring for a $27,000 matching grant to complete the village’s Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP). Most of the village’s share of the matching portion of the grant will be in donated volunteer hours.

The LWRP is the final stage in a multi-year effort that so far has produced a new Comprehensive Plan for Cold Spring (adopted in January 2012) and a Local Waterfront Revitalization Strategy (November 2011). In 2006 the village Board appointed a Special Board to update its 1987 Master Plan and complete an LWRP (a 1990 draft had been rejected by the state and never taken up again). After LWRP adoption, state and federal actions will need to take place again. After LWRP adoption, state and federal actions will need to take place again.

The LWRP is subject to a public hearing and SEQRA (State Environmental Quality Review Act) and must be approved by the Village Board. Beyond that it will be evaluated by approximately 80 government agencies during a 40-day review period, then returned to the village for final review and consideration for adoption. The village will be required to pass a local law providing for a consistency review, a procedure for determining whether actions and local laws are consistent with the LWRP.

At the July 13 meeting Barry encouraged those in attendance to visit the national Little League website to understand how difficult an issue the selection process is across the country. He also described a district in Florida that has taken a creative approach to selecting its all-star teams. There, all the Little League players are assembled, and they themselves make the all-star team selections.

At the July 13 meeting some in attendance questioned why the board bowed to pressure from some parents of the 12-year-olds who had been selected to “play up” with the 12-year-olds, stating that the decision to field a 12-and-under team should have been strictly a board decision. Contacted by The Paper, Barry said, “Those parents absolutely have the right to be involved — it’s their children.”

The meeting also included discussion regarding whether teams should be selected based strictly on choosing players and whether there should be broader participation with less emphasis on winning. Philipstown Little League by-laws currently call for selecting the best athletes and fielding the best team possible.

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Barry also submitted a letter to the editor, defending the decisions made in the 2012 all-star team selection. “... none of the decisions ... were made unilaterally, nor were they made by a select few coaches,” he wrote. “They were the product of a long series of meetings ... and a good faith effort by the volunteers ... to resolve a difficult dilemma.”

The issues are complicated — but what is clear is that at least some parents were not happy that the 12-year-olds were unable to participate, as has been the case in recent years.

One of the two 2012 Philipstown Little League all-star teams. Photo by M. Turton

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The issues are complicated — but what is clear is that at least some parents were not happy that the 12-year-olds were unable to participate, as has been the tradition in Philipstown. They met with Little League officials on July 13 to discuss the process used in selecting local all-star teams. A fundamental point in the debate is that teams for 12-year-olds can also include 11-year-olds who are considered good enough to play at that older level. Likewise, teams for 11-year-olds can use talented 10-year-old players to round out their lineup.

At the end of the 2012 regular season, league officials met and selected an all-star team for 12-year-olds — one that included five or six players that age, supplemented by a number of talented 11-year-olds. At that point it seemed that the 12-year-olds would get to play. Enter some of the parents of the 11-year-old all-stars who did not want their sons playing on the 12-year-old team, in part because they favored keeping what they considered a strong team of 11-year-olds together. Faced with that opposition, “It wasn’t going to work out,” Little League President Barry explained at the July 13 meeting. Instead he said, two teams of 11-year-olds were created, leaving the 12-year-olds with no team.

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Simon Draper Brings Habitat for Artists Project to Washington’s Corcoran Gallery

Cold Spring artist’s collaborative project featured at prominent D.C. locale

By Amy Lipton

Cold Spring-based artist Simon Draper is the founder of Habitat for Artists (HFA), a unique collaborative art project that is being featured at the Corcoran Museum of Art in Washington, D.C., where it opened on July 16. In its five-year history HFA has included over 75 participating artists and has partnered with over 20 different organizations including schools, universities, farms, environmental centers, sculpture parks and festivals. Hudson Highlands Land Trust loaned HFA their adjacent field in Garrison for six vibrant artists’ residency projects during the summer of 2011. HFA builds small 6-by-6-foot temporary art studios made from reclaimed and recycled materials and invites artists to take up residence and work inside the space as well as on the exterior surface. The focus of these residencies is on the creative process more than creating finished, discrete artworks. The public is invited to engage in the process every step of the way via workshops, interaction and discussion with the artists.

When we arrived to scout the location at THEARC, it seemed too far from the monumental core of D.C. to attract attention and bring visitors. Anacostia is a mostly African-American neighborhood — home to the Smithsonian’s Frederick Douglass Museum, south of the Anacostia River and geographically separated from the rest of the city. However after successful meetings and much enthusiastic support for the project from THEARC director Edmund Fletch and his partner organizations, Draper decided to call it the new (temporary) HFA home. That decision turned out to be for the best. One or two HFA artists per week were on location every day, culminating in seven weeks.

Over the course of their stay at THEARC each participating artist would find different ways to engage with the public. Though they came with preconceived ideas, their projects often changed or evolved as everything was being created there on site and in the moment. Being present and adapting depended on who arrived; the experience of interacting determined the outcome of each day’s work, meaning that the place, the people and the content is the artwork itself.

For Chere Krakovsky, a daily performance piece involved serving tea and cookies, which generated lots of discussion, a video created by teenagers, lessons on how to make the best tea, and many drawings. Matthew Slatts collected words from his visitors, which then became “mosaic sculptures” in the nearby garden. Michael Natiello created handmade paper from junk mail and collected trash to make mandalas with kids out of the refuse material. Michael Asbill turned the habitat into a mini-greenhouse, where his visitors could collect trash to make mandalas with kids out of the refuse material. Michael Asbill turned the habitat into a mini-greenhouse, where his visitors could plant seeds (generously donated by Hudson Valley Seed Library). Jessica Poser created The Mending Wall with many small pieces of fabric and spent her week sewing, mending and telling stories with her visitors. For the final week, Simon and Todd Sargood took apart and then rebuilt a new habitat to leave with THEARC in their garden.

Aside from collaboration and public engagement, the small HFA studios provided the space for artists to explore their creative needs but also act as a metaphor for thinking about our own domestic needs. How might we be more creative about our consumption of materials, our use of energy and land? Could we be doing more with less, yet still create a vibrant, relevant society and culture? HFA asks us to consider the questions: How much? How little? The space to create.

Amy Lipton is an independent curator and co-director of ecoartspace, a bi-coastal nonprofit organization dedicated to raising environmental awareness through the arts. She resides in Garrison.

The Kitchen Table Habitat at THEARC

Photo by Chere Krakovsky

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Guitar Workshop

Marina Gallery

By Amy Lipton

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Yes... That Can Be Arranged...

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Max Mormor, who was quite specific on the best way to go about picking a pocket: “It’s probably best to distract the person. You try to sort of go from the back, especially if there’s a back pocket. That’s where most people keep their wallets.” And have the techniques changed much through a century and a half or so? “Actually it’s easier now because these days there are fewer buttoned pockets so it’s not hard.” At this, another actress, Alena Gagnon, embarks on a story about her grandmother getting her pocket picked on a subway in Paris — petty crime stories being the backstage chatter of this show.

Director Tess Dull is at the helm for her fifth go-round of summer theater. This year is a little bit different, because as a large group of regulars “aged out” last year, this summer brings a large contingent of first-timers, which makes things both easier and harder. “For the last couple of years the people had been in the program for two or three years before that and understood the acting process and stage directions. This year it has been much easier to pass along my love for a classic Rodgers and Hammerstein show like this, and these actors are doing an incredible job,” Dull said, a sentiment that was echoed by Depot Managing Director Amy Dul. “The Depot Pot has been such a wonderful vehicle for developing young actors. It is such a privilege to be able to pass along my love for a classic Rodgers and Gammerstein show like this, and these actors are doing an incredible job with the piece.”

For Liz Richter, 18, the lead part of Laurey is definitely the role I’ve been looking forward to the most throughout years of performing. Richter, the very essence of a demure yet spunky soprano, first and foremost loves the music. “I get to sing some of my favorite music, including beautiful songs like Out of My Dreams. I always play roles like Laurey, but she has the best music by far. She’s kind of quirky, and also because they are always ready for a challenge from me. I have retained plenty of original Agnes DeMille choreography so that they all can experience a little of the same feeling the performers felt back in 1943. I am also showing off the musical talents of this cast by having several of them play instruments to kick off the second act. It is such a privilege to be able to pass along my love for a classic Rodgers and Hammerstein show like this, and these actors are doing an incredible job with the piece.”

Melina Marinakis, who alternated the role of Sarah Brown with Richter in Haldane’s recent production of Guys and Dolls, is at 18, a first-time summer participant. She says she “used to be obsessed with Oklahoma! so I couldn’t not be in it.” She is enjoying playing Ado Annie, a character very different from her own temperament. “She’s kind of quirky and silly, but she’s so out there, and I’m a little more introverted.” Marinakis is definitely planning to do more theater in college.

For Richter, the summer theater programs at the Depot have helped her develop a bond with the other participants. “We’ve become a family,” she says. Marinakis says that “everyone is really close.” These sentiments are echoed by Depot Managing Director Amy Dull: “The Depot has been such a wonderful vehicle for so many kids in our community to find and hone their talents, overcome insecurities and grow into wonderful young adults. From those who want to pursue the performing arts as careers to those who just need a place to fit in and consider themselves one of the family, we have truly grown a family of theater kids. When I watch Hudson Lovell sing, Where is Love? I know that one of the places we all find love and call home is the Depot!” Linda Speziale provided vocal direction, Paul Heckert is the musical director/pianist, Dana Kenn designed the set, Donald Kimel the lights and Charlotte Palmer Lane the costumes.

Oklahoma! opens Friday, July 27 at 6:30 p.m., with additional performances Saturday, July 28 at 2:30 and 6:30 p.m. and Sunday, July 29 at 2 p.m. There is also a special preview performance on Thursday, July 26 at 3:30 p.m. for a reduced rate.