



What to do with  
leftovers ...  
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# Mountain Lion Sightings Generate Uproar

*Residents, outdoor experts  
share views*

By **Liz Schevtchuk  
Armstrong**

**R**ecent reports of a mountain lion in the area follow recurrent claims in the last several years of one or more of the large, sleek tan cats hanging out in the Hudson Highlands, typically in state parks or other rugged, wooded areas.

Outdoor life professionals differ on the likelihood. While some cite no credible evidence of mountain lions, others are far less skeptical and one asserts that they're definitely here.

Besides "mountain lion," the cats go by various names: cougar, puma, panther, catamount, and more.

Interest in them burgeoned when Sheila Rauch posted on the Philipstown Locals page of Facebook Aug. 9 that her husband "just saw a mountain lion outside his studio in the woods," off Lane Gate Road, about a mile from Route 301. She said it "walked across a field, over his driveway and into the woods," was "trotting cat-like," and was the size of a Labrador dog, with a "tawny color [and] long, long tail. This is just where we walk with the dog on a leash at night"; thus the incident was "extremely scary," she wrote.

Irene Rofheart Karlen commented on Philipstown Locals the same day that "my husband saw something this afternoon matching that description. It was darting across Fishkill Road, near the North Highlands Fire Department."

*"... when I called DEC, to report the sighting, I was told that I must have [been] mistaken; there were no mountain lions in our area."*

## Bull Hill encounter

Another resident, who declined to be identified by name, has a home and business in the Village of Cold Spring. She told *The Paper* about her experience with a cougar near the village in 2006.

"It was late spring ... perhaps sometime in May or June," during a hike with the family dog, she said. She said she and the dog came "from Nelsonville going over Bull Hill, down toward Little Stony Point. I believe I was south of the old quarry area" and recall "standing on a rock, looking down the hill, when I noticed a golden-brown animal bounding up towards me. Perhaps it was [a] few hundred feet from where I was. It disappeared behind the bushes." She called her



A rainbow over Town Hall on Sunday (Aug. 17) at 6:45 a.m.

Photo by Kelly House

dog, who was several feet ahead, to return to her, and "waited a few minutes on the rock to be cautious. If it were a dog, I figured it would have come up and said hello to me by then. I moved towards the trail, to my left, to see what would happen. I saw the animal stand up from the bushes, staring at me and moving in clockwise direction as if he/she was circling around



Mountain lion climbing down rock, Yellowstone National Park

Photo source: Wikimedia Commons, courtesy of National Park Service

the mid-point of our distance; then [it] disappeared again. I stopped and waited a little more. I didn't know what else to do but continue down the trail. I picked up a stick and made lots of loud noise as I headed down. I kept looking around to make sure we were not being followed. Luckily, we were spared."

She added that "when I called DEC, to report the sighting, I was told that I must have [been] mistaken; there were no mountain lions in our area."

## The DEC position

The DEC — New York State Department of Environmental Conservation — maintains that no evidence exists of a sustained native mountain lion population in New York State. Nonetheless, it acknowledges that the odd animal, escaping from a private owner or arriving from beyond the state, could show up here or elsewhere. (A mountain lion from South

(Continued on page 3)

# Butterfield Services Debated

*Uncoupling senior center  
suggested by some*

By **Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong**

**T**he Butterfield project came before a key Putnam County Legislature committee in Carmel Wednesday night (Aug. 20), prompting a heated, nearly 90-minute debate over the merits and costs of bringing county services to Philipstown and whether to include a county-supported senior citizen center at Butterfield or put it elsewhere.

The expense, or conversely, income from a county Butterfield facility also factored into the intense discussion and to save the (Continued on page 3)



The present-day Yankee Clipper Diner, in Beacon.

Photo courtesy of the Yankee Clipper

# Yankee Clipper Diner: Serving It Up in Beacon Since 1946

*'We're homey; we want people to feel like they aren't just a customer'*

By **Alison Rooney**

**U**nlike the faux-retro diners which sprout in suburbia, attempting to look like long-entrenched bastions of Americana, Beacon's Yankee Clipper (YC) is the real deal. The eatery on the corner of Teller and Main opened in 1946 looking not all that dissimilar to its appearance today. Its door moved a bit to the left to accommodate a ramp, the lettering now a bit more Deco-30s than breezy, confident post-war 40s, nonethe-

less the visual appeal of the multi-windowed, modest chrome and red exterior which belies a spacious interior, is intact.

Named after the Boeing B-314 "flying boat" planes developed for trans-Atlantic travel, the initial Clipper service was devoted to mail flights and the first passenger service on that route was inaugurated by Pan American Airlines in 1939.

The YC's owners, Tonia and Petros Petsas, considered changing the name when they took over the diner in 2003, but decided against it (they have since been joined in co-ownership by Tonia's sister Katina and her husband Nikos Pertesis). At that time the YC had been vacant and derelict, following a 1998 fire. According to Tonia, after its heyday in the '40s and '50s the diner fell into a decline. With its contributing problems: poor word of mouth.

## Family affair

For the past decade, the family, with long prior experience in the diner trade, has been working to revitalize the YC into a community cornerstone, and (To page 5)



The Petsas family, from left, Tonia, Nikoletta, Maria and Petros, half of the Yankee Clipper's ownership (the other half was enjoying a vacation in Greece).

Photo by A. Rooney



Mouths to Feed

Left-Right Leftovers

By Celia Barbour

Other people's leftovers are not like my leftovers. The leftovers that wind up in my refrigerator make sense to me. I know their backstories; I know why they're there. Typically, they have earned their leftover status due to either a miscalculation — the quantity of food I prepared was out of sync with the hunger and/or quantity of diners — or a shrewd, ulterior calculation: I wanted leftovers, so I purposefully made way too much food. (Though ever since my boys turned into teenagers, such schemes have grown increasingly unreliable — “way too much food” often turns out to actually be way less than enough.) Even the forgotten or neglected stuff — the pasta sauce I was planning to use for Tuesday's supper but didn't and subsequently forgot about — is merely depressing, never gross. Not so a refrigerator full of other people's leftovers. Their cold stew is indisputably creepy — what have they done to it? — their container of cooked peas weirdly disconcerting. Even the small, dark crust around the mouth of their ketchup bottle is not like the crust around my own

ketchup bottle. The former is nasty, quite possibly toxic, the latter merely dried-out ketchup. I know this is not rational, but I can't help it. Still, sometimes if I work really hard, I am able to temper my repugnance. And just such a Herculean effort was required of me this week. We arrived in New Hampshire late Sunday night, having turned a six-hour drive into a nine-hour drive through a combination of long, lazy stops and an almost uncanny knack for getting stuck behind the slowest drivers in whatever county we happened to be passing through. I was cranky by the time we drove down the long, birch-lined driveway leading to the 19<sup>th</sup>-century farmhouse that belongs to Peter's extended family. By “extended” I mean extended: the house has been in the family so long that 51 relatives now spend some part of their summers here, and have worked out a remarkably smooth and sensible system for dividing up time and getting along. One of the rules is: No leftovers in the fridge. Not even condiments. No matter how delicious or dear your grilled skirt steak with corn salsa, if you can't take it with you, you must throw it away before you leave. The result is that when you arrive at the house to begin your own sojourn here, you can expect salt and oil and cinnamon, toilet paper in the bathroom and dish soap by the sink, and not much else. But on Saturday, the day before we arrived, the departing family had celebrated a big birthday, with more than 40 guests, so not only were there leftovers galore, but these leftovers were meaningful. To them. The birthday boy (he just turned 70, but “birthday man” doesn't sound right) hoped that I would accept them as my own — which is a bit like expecting a stranger to find your children as charming as you do. At



Leftovers



Savory bread pudding

Photos by C. Barbour

10 p.m., with haloes of headlights still blotting my eyesight, I found myself going through the contents of two refrigerators with my husband's second cousin once removed. Leftover chicken tenders: no way. Three kinds of cake and eight quarts of ice cream: Heck yeah. Grilled pork with peaches, ziti with sauce, white bean salad: why not? The containers of green salad: Ew, no, like, what were you even thinking putting dressed salad in the fridge?

Yesterday, the boys had cake for breakfast, and we all sat down to someone else's leftovers for supper. They were fine. We didn't die. Today, I set myself to the task of turning the remaining vegetables, some stale bread, and a whole lot of heavy cream into a meal. I made a savory bread pudding to go with some grilled chicken. Because the best way I know to make someone else's leftovers palatable is to cook them up into something totally different — to create, in other words, soon-to-be leftovers of your very own.

Savory Bread Pudding

The basic proportions of this dish can be applied to just about any combination of (leftover) vegetables, cheese, and bread(s).

1 loaf bread, cut or torn into 1½- to 2-inch pieces (about 12 cups total)	1 teaspoon fresh thyme leaves
½ stick butter (or 2 tablespoons butter and 2 tablespoons olive oil)	salt and pepper
1 large onion, chopped, or a combination chopped leeks, onions, and shallots to total 1 cup	4 large eggs
2 stalks celery, chopped	2 cups whole milk
2 cups fresh corn kernels	2 cups heavy cream
	salt and pepper
	½ teaspoon paprika
	2 cups grated cheddar and Monterey Jack cheese

- Heat oven to 350°. Butter a 9-by-13-inch baking dish; set aside.
- Spread the bread pieces on a baking sheet and toast in oven about 20 minutes, rotating the pan halfway through, until crisp and dry.
- Meanwhile, heat butter (or butter and oil) in a large skillet over medium heat. Add onion and celery and sauté until soft and barely gold, 8-10 minutes. Add corn and thyme and sauté, stirring, three minutes. Remove from heat.
- In a large bowl, whisk together eggs, milk, and cream. Add salt and pepper to taste, plus paprika. Mix in sautéed vegetables.
- Working in layers, add half the bread pieces to the buttered dish. Sprinkle with a third of the cheese. Pour half the corn mixture over it. Repeat with the rest of the bread, a third of the cheese, and the remaining corn mixture. Let sit about 15 minutes, so the bread absorbs the custard.
- Top with the remaining cheese and bake until puffy and golden, about 45-50 minutes. Remove from oven and allow to rest 10 minutes before serving.

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## Mountain Lion Sightings Generate Uproar *(from page 1)*

Dakota came through New York and got all the way to Connecticut before being killed by a car in 2011.)

“We don’t have mountain lions in New York state; they’ve been extirpated since the mid-1800s,” DEC spokesperson Wendy Rosenbach told *The Paper* Aug. 12. “We have not seen any evidence,” such as paw prints, droppings, fur, or other conclusive signs, and “have no evidence of reproducing animals,” such as a mountain lion pair or family. Likewise, “we have no indication” of a lone animal or two wandering through the Hudson Highlands after originating elsewhere, she said.

At the Taconic Outdoor Education Center, part of the New York state parks system, Paul Kuznia said Aug. 19 that no one has ever reported a mountain lion in Fahnestock State Park or other nearby state parks, nor has the education center staff seen any evidence of mountain lions. Moreover, bobcats might be mistaken for mountain lions, he said. “You can be easily fooled.” In general, he said he agrees with the DEC assessment on the presence, or non-presence, of cougars locally.

### ‘They are here’

Shane Hobel’s perceptions differ. An expert tracker and outdoorsman, Hobel runs the Beacon-based Mountain Scout Survival School. “I have been tracking a pair of mountain lions in this area since 1999,” he told *The Paper*, Aug. 19. “They are here. They do exist. I’ve been seeing the same mountain lion” — a male — “for years” Hobel said. “The last time I saw this mountain lion was last summer, up on Mount Taurus,” or Bull Hill, behind Cold Spring and Nelsonville. Two of his students spotted the same cougar on Mount Taurus this summer, he added.

So far, he said, “I’ve seen two distinct mountain lions” here. And he wonders



Paul Kuznia of the Taconic Outdoor Education Center, Fahnestock State Park

*File photo by Mary Ann Ebner*

about more.

However, he noted, “it’s extremely rare” to see one. “They really are an extremely elusive animal. For the most part, they want to stay away.” Hobel referred to mountain lions as “fantastic” creatures who, among other things, help control an over-abundant deer population. “We should be incredibly grateful they’re here,” he said. Hobel is also reluctant to pinpoint their locations. “If we prove these animals exist, every red-neck, gun-toting idiot out there” will want to try to shoot one, he said.

Tim Corless, a local resident, told *The Paper* on Monday (Aug. 18) that on an icy day two years ago he fished in the vicinity of Cold Spring’s Upper Reservoir and Foundry Brook, off Lake Surprise Road in North Highlands. A day or so later, a fisherman friend at the same spot discovered cougar paw prints and the clear im-

print of an animal in the snow, as if the cat had been “doing a roll ... making a perfect snow angel,” Corless said. Efforts to reach his friend were unsuccessful.

Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea — no outdoor novice — similarly said “I do” think it’s possible cougars live here. “My wife swears she saw one two years ago up on East Mountain Road,” near a trail leading to Fahnestock Park, Shea said Aug. 14. “I think if there’s a mountain lion roaming Philipstown, people should be aware of it.”

Hobel believes the DEC and other state agencies know that mountain lions dwell in New York but “the state will always deny it.” Indeed, he suspects “the DEC released them” itself, although again “they will forever deny it.”

### ‘Mystery and ghosts’

The DEC refutes such notions. “The DEC has never released cougars, despite

what you may hear to the contrary,” it declares on its website, also cautioning that numerous Internet pictures of mountain lions purported to have been photographed in New York actually were taken in states like Minnesota and Wyoming.

Peter Salmansohn, a naturalist with the National Audubon Society, spends part of his year in Philipstown. From his summer home in Maine, on Aug. 13 he said the issue of “‘Cougars in New York’ is a political conversation, as is ‘Wolves.’ Why? Primarily because if the state DEC were to confirm their presence, they would then have to ‘protect’ them and put into existence all kinds of rules and land-use regulations, which they are loathe to do. Many conservationists and naturalists have other perspectives on rare predators than the state or federal view.” At the same time, Salmansohn pointed out that “there are a lot of nuts out there who couldn’t tell a cougar from a large house cat” and “this topic swirls in mystery and ghosts and reports from crackpots as well as sharp-eyed locals.”

Conservation groups with significant roles in Philipstown said they had seen nothing of mountain lions.

“No one has mentioned anything to me, and probably would have,” had anyone seen something, said Katrina Shindledecker, of Friends of Fahnestock and Hudson Highlands State Parks, Aug. 13.

Eric Lind, director of the Constitution Marsh Audubon Center and Sanctuary, also said, “I’ve never seen one or any evidence of one” in the marsh or elsewhere.

Representatives of Scenic Hudson and the Hudson Highlands Land Trust made similar comments.

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## Butterfield Services Debated *(from page 1)*

county money, two legislators suggested taking a new Butterfield building (when finished) or the American Legion building by eminent domain for county use.

Likewise, the room echoed with insinuations — and denial — of questionable Butterfield presentations in Philipstown by county leaders.

At the meeting, the three-member legislative Physical Services Committee was joined by the six other legislators, while a Cold Spring Village Board member and two members of the Philipstown Town Board participated in the back-and-forth from the audience, which also included two representatives of the town’s senior citizens.

Ultimately, the legislators indicated they would thoroughly weigh the pros and cons, financial and otherwise, of offering some county services in Cold Spring.

### A county Butterfield lineup

Philipstown resident Vincent “Vinny” Tamagna, the county’s deputy planning commissioner, launched the proceedings with slides promoting county government leasing of space at the privately-owned Butterfield site to house auxiliary units of several county offices: Personnel, the Bureau of Emergency Services, Health Department, Social Services, Motor Vehicles (DMV), County Clerk’s Office, Veterans Affairs, Tourism, and the Putnam Women’s Resource Center (assisting victims of domestic violence). Tamagna said a Butterfield county presence would also include a “Philipstown Community Center Office of the Aging” facility with the senior citizens lunch program now operating in leased space at the American Legion building; senior citizen exercise and computer classes, lectures, legal counseling, and other programs.

Tamagna pointed out that western Putnam County (Philipstown, Putnam Valley, and part of Kent), covers one-third of the county and with about 21,500 people contains 20 percent of Putnam’s population. “The residents of western Putnam have a hardship in receiving county services due to geographic limitations,” he said.

Moreover, he maintained, the county loses money as citizens go to Beacon and Peekskill, in adjacent Dutchess and Westchester counties, where DMV and other offices are closer than those in Carmel, the county seat. From the DMV and county clerk offices alone, the county could take in \$50,000 in revenue through Butterfield branches, according to Tamagna. “We’ve actually regressed; 20 years ago we had more county services in western Putnam than we have today,” he said.

Overall, a leased Butterfield facility “is literally going to throw off more revenue than what the cost is,” Tamagna said. “There’s no new employees,” because some of those currently based exclusively in the eastern end of the county would rotate into the Butterfield offices.

### Legislative doubts

Such assertions raised doubts on the part of legislators, among them, District 4 Legislator Ginny Nacerino, a Physical Services Committee member, who called for “a cost analysis. When we say no additional jobs will be created as a result of this major change, I look at it with a little skepticism.”

“I think that” when it comes to Butterfield “on its own, the Village of Cold Spring has to make that decision,” said District 8 Legislator Dini LoBue. “I don’t think the county *(Continued on page 5)*

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**The Art of  
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Arranging**  
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Tiny Hearts Farm  
10:00am-11:30am



**23**  
**Chat with  
a doula and  
lactation counselor**  
with Katherine Whiteside &  
Krystal Ford  
10:00am-11:00am



**30**  
**Dancing  
Tree**  
presents Kids Yoga,  
ages 4 and up  
10:00am



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# Butterfield Site Plan Imminent

## Policing issues raised at Village Board meeting

By Michael Turton

After years of meetings, delays and at times heated debate, the redevelopment of the Butterfield Hospital site is about to move one important step closer to becoming a reality.

In a report to the Cold Spring Village Board at its Tuesday (Aug. 19) meeting, Planning Board Chairman Barney Molloy announced that the initial site plan for the project will be presented at the Planning Board's Sept. 3 meeting. In the interim, Chuck Voss, a consultant working with the Planning Board on the Butterfield project, will conduct a detailed review of the plan. "It seems straightforward," Molloy said in describing the plan, which he had received just the day before. He estimated that the Planning Board's review will take three to four months and that the board will likely meet bi-weekly in order to move the process along. He also indicated that developer Paul Guillaro is "fairly confident" that by year-end he will be able to move on to the next two stages — demolition of the existing building and being granted a building permit. The existing demolition permit expires at year-end.

Vandalism continues to be a problem at Butterfield. Trustee Michael Bowman said that the situation has become so bad that "kids are now bringing furniture [from inside the hospital] outside," adding that "the front door is wide open." Building Inspector Bill Bujarski, who said that black mold is also a significant problem inside the abandoned hospital, supports fencing the property, a possibility that has been raised in the past. Regarding fencing he said, "I fully agree... [we need] to do something about safety" at the site. There was a consensus that Guillaro should apply for a variance, allowing him to erect a temporary, 6-foot-high chain-link fence. "He is painfully aware of the situation," Molloy said.

## Appointments made to Zoning Update Committee

The committee that will rewrite Cold Spring's outdated zoning code is starting to take shape. At their July 24 meeting trustees had agreed that the new group would be comprised of seven members and indicated a preference to include one representative from each of the village's standing committees. At Tuesday's meeting they voted to fill five seats on the new committee — but only after some rather pointed debate.

Appointed to the Zoning Update Committee were Barney Molloy, chair of the Planning Board; Marie Early, chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals; Carolyn Bachan, member of the Historic District Review Board and Michael Armstrong who chaired the Special Board that drafted the 2012 Comprehensive Plan, the document which lays the foundation for the zoning update. Donald MacDonald, past chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals, was also named to the committee.

Prior to making the appointments the Village Board voted 3-2 in favor of not interviewing appointees from the standing committees. Trustee Stephanie Hawkins and Deputy Mayor Bruce Campbell argued in favor of interviewing all candidates before making the appointments, with Hawkins asserting that it came down to "treating all the applicants fairly." The argument against interviewing was led by Trustee Bowman, noting the candidates' experience and the fact that they had been nominated by the standing committees. The two remaining seats will be filled from a pool of five residents who have expressed interest in serving on the Zoning Update Committee.

## Policing the village

In his monthly written report, Officer-in-Charge George Kane commended Cold Spring Police Officers Greg Walz, Gary Marino and Ed Boulanger for their work in quickly putting an end to the recent outbreak of graffiti and for arresting three suspects. During a review of Village Accountant Ellen Magean's



Officer-in-Charge George Kane File photo

financial report, Trustee Bowman asked about a budget entry for removal of the graffiti. Mayor Ralph Falloon said that all village costs, including labor and materials, are being tallied and will be passed on to the Cold Spring Justice Court for consideration as part of possible restitution should the suspects be found guilty.

Falloon also praised the recent work of the Cold Spring Police Department, singling out the graffiti incident and stricter enforcement of parking rules — as evidenced by 101 parking tickets being issued for violations in the past month.

He voiced concern about complaints he has received from some residents that the CSPD is not doing its job. "That's not true. They work hard ... they do a fine job," he said. "We are a very reactive village." He also emphasized that only one officer patrols the village at most times. "No matter how you look at it we're a one-cop town. It's pretty hard for them to run radar and be checking the whole village at the same time."

Kane has asked the Village Board to allow him to fill one vacancy on the CSPD. In recent weeks that shortage has resulted in at least one shift with no police coverage, accrued overtime and scheduling difficulties. Because it was deemed a public safety issue the scheduling difficulties and hiring of an additional officer were discussed in executive session after the completion of the regular meeting — along with the employment history of one CSPD officer.

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## Obituary

### Longtime resident and spiritual steward of village community

Margaret Rose Teller Mills, a longtime resident of Cold Spring, died peacefully in her home at 48 Morris Ave., Cold Spring, on Saturday (Aug. 16), after a battle with cancer. Mrs. Mills, as she was affectionately known by almost everyone in the village and beyond, was predeceased by her husband of 62 years, Father John Gladstone Mills II, priest and rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church of the Highlands, in 2012. She is survived by her two sons, Dr. John Gladstone Mills III, doctor of laws, of Washington, D.C., and Dr. Charles Stuart Mills, doctor of medicine, and his wife, Rhonda Hochheiser Mills of Worcester, Massachusetts, and three grandchildren, Aliza, Talia and Benjamin.

Mrs. Mills was raised in the Midwest, in Iron Mountain, Michigan, by her seven maternal aunts, after her mother died in childbirth when she was 3 years old.

Mrs. Mills was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, with a Bachelor of Science degree in English and a master's degree in English and guidance counseling. She also did some of her graduate work at Cornell University, but received her advanced degrees from the University of Wisconsin. She taught English at the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater Campus, where her husband, Father John, also taught English and comparative literature. She also taught English in high schools in California and in New York

## Margaret Rose Teller Mills

(Ladycliff Academy, Yorktown Heights).

Both Father John and Mrs. Mills lived a life dedicated fully to public service and spiritual stewardship in the community of Cold Spring. They arrived in Cold Spring in the summer of 1961, one day after a terrible fire burned and nearly destroyed the church building of Saint Mary's. She was an active partner with her husband and the entire community in rebuilding Saint Mary's after the great fire and with invigorating the many activities of the church.

She was active in the Women of Saint Mary's, the Altar Guild, the Cold Spring Historical Society, the Garden Club, innumerable church fundraisers and dinners. There was never a person who was in need in the community, for whom meals or help was not readily forthcoming from the Mills rectory. Pastoral counseling was not limited to Father John but was actively supported and augmented by Mrs. Mills. Even into their later years, their home on Morris Avenue was an open door for intellectual and spiritual nourishment. Her Sunday night gatherings, Bastille Day French celebrations and every seasonal holiday in between were renowned for the generous spirit of inclusion and warmth.

She believed in the power of prayer and the power of the written word and felt the imperative to maintain contact with cards and letters. She never failed to give thanks for any human kindness extended to her with handwritten acknowledgements. Countless charities had her "number" but the solicitations were



Margaret Mills with her husband Rev. John Mills, pictured in 2010

File photo by Margaret Schatzle

never seen as a bother but rather as an opportunity to help.

She was always a true daughter of the Midwest in heart and in practice forever cheering anything that struck of the Wisconsin badger "red and white" or even more importantly, her beloved Green Bay Packers.

The family extends its thanks to all of her dear and supportive friends in Cold Spring without whom she and Father John would have been unable to remain in their own home throughout their lives. She will be missed by all who knew her. It had been her wish that contributions be made in her memory to the American Cancer Society.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Friday, Aug. 22, 2014, at Our Lady of Loretto Church, Cold Spring. Interment followed in the Cold Spring Cemetery.



## Butterfield Services Debated *(from page 3)*

should be coming in and extending government services. I don't think that's the best use for the site."

"It's going to cost the county money. It's going to cost more. It's going to require hiring people," District 6 Legislator Roger Gross predicted. He said that Cold Spring residents seeking services can go to Carmel, the county seat.

"Maybe we should keep sales tax revenue over there" in Philipstown as well, Town Board Member Nancy Montgomery responded to Gross and LoBue. "What you're saying is you don't want to provide any services over there. You need to bring county services over there."

County Executive MaryEllen Odell agreed, saying that "the question that has to be asked by each of us, even coming out of our own little districts, is: Do the people in the western part of the county deserve to have a convenient and efficient offering of services because they are equal taxpayers?"

District 1 Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra, who represents Philipstown and serves on the Physical Services Committee, said that "it's very upsetting to me ... we are totally underserved, and we've been underserved forever."

### A Philipstown senior center

A chronic need, all parties concurred, is a long-sought, adequate senior citizen center in Philipstown. They differed as to the best way to get one.

Tamagna and Odell said the county can provide \$800,000 toward a Butterfield facility with a senior center — a \$500,000 donation from Philipstown resident Roger Ailes for a senior center; \$250,000 in a state grant, and \$50,000

federal grant.

But several voices called for separating the senior citizen center from Butterfield.

"I cannot believe we have made the seniors wait when we can lease another facility immediately — tomorrow. We have the funding," said LoBue. "This whole thing has been clogged up because we've been waiting for approvals for Butterfield. I want to expand services to seniors. I'm not convinced it has to be done at Butterfield."

From the audience, Cold Spring Village Board Member Stephanie Hawkins said she "would hate to see the senior center initiative further mired in this discussion about one particular property [Butterfield]. I would like that momentum unhinged from something that is an encumbrance."

Tamagna and Pat Sheehy, Putnam's director of senior resources, said no suitable quarters exist. "We couldn't operate a senior center someplace else tomorrow," Sheehy said. "We have been diligent and looking around to see what we can do" and the seniors want something other than the present American Legion. Furthermore, she said, "we don't have to have a space dedicated only to the seniors. We can share the space" for multi-use purposes. She said opposition to a county center at Butterfield "is mind-boggling."

Town Board Member Montgomery termed the Butterfield option "attractive for everyone," including "the multi-municipal use" possibilities. "I hope we can all share government space. I can't wait for this to happen." Nonetheless, she also told the legislators that despite

Butterfield's appeal, "it's not the be-all and end-all... There's a lot of property that's available with the existing American Legion building." She, too, told the legislators that "I don't want services for Philipstown to get hijacked by the Butterfield issue."

A few years ago the Town Board explored renovation and adaptation of the privately-owned American Legion as an enhanced senior-community-town government center, with no tangible results.

Montgomery also said that if the county wants to expand exercise classes and similar programs for seniors in Philipstown, "I can make that happen tomorrow," without waiting for a full-scale senior center.

### Renting or buying

District 2 Legislator Sam Oliverio, who represents Putnam Valley, urged that the county not rent space, at least not long-term. "I support services on the west side of the county and a senior center. But I cannot support a project that will only go to leasing." He advocates a lease with an option to buy.

Gross also favors a senior center in Philipstown. "The question is whether we own it free-standing, or fix up the American Legion — maybe take that by eminent domain."

Similarly, District 9 Legislator Kevin Wright said that if a building suitable for county needs were constructed at Butterfield, "you could always in the future take that by condemnation, for a public purpose."

Both Tamagna and District 5 Legislator Carl Albano, who chairs the Physical Services Committee and the full legisla-

ture, said that county ownership sacrifices the tax income generated by a privately owned-building in which the county rents offices. "If we own it, it comes off the tax rolls," Albano said. He described Butterfield as "almost shovel-ready" and thus available relatively soon, as opposed to having the county build its own place, which could take years. Butterfield "happens to be new construction. It's good for the economy. It's a good location," Albano said. "And I do love the idea of multiple use. If the numbers work, we should consider it. The math is really where it all comes out," showing costs versus gains.

### Calls for cooperation

Some legislators also argued that the Odell administration failed to inform them of its plans, while making overtures locally.

LoBue said that some county officials "have been before the Village Board and they're telling people we're going forward with this, without coming to us [the legislature]."

"That's not accurate," Albano answered.

Gross, too, said "we have never been consulted."

Town Board Member Dave Merandy recommended they start conferring now. "Work with us," he proposed. "I'd like to ask you to meet with us. We're all for this project, but we'd like to be involved in it. I feel — sitting on the Town Board — we haven't been included."

At least three legislators welcomed that suggestion. "I like that idea a lot," Oliverio announced. "And I think that's fair for the residents."

## Yankee Clipper Diner: Serving It Up in Beacon Since 1946 *(from page 1)*

today business is nonstop, early in the morning until late at night. They're open daily from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays until 11 p.m. They serve a mix of regulars and tourists, with a philosophy of "we wish everyone had a diner like this to grow up with," says Tonia.

Tonia and Katina grew up in Buchanan, and then moved to Mahopac, their family going back to their grandparents having long worked in the diner business. Petros, who, like his brother-in-law hails from the small Greek island of

Soon, they asked Katina and Nikos to join in with them, a partnership that has provided "a little more of a life," says Tonia. Not that she regards spending time at YC as something onerous. "This is my life," she says. "I don't 'go to work' — I don't look at it that way. You're in my house. I get excited when I bring people their plates. The best part is when they love it. You get that energy. We're not going to be millionaires from this but we pay our bills and love our life."

### Buckets of batter

Work or not, the labor begins at 5 a.m. every day. Much is done by hand at YC. Buckets of pancake batter (eight different kinds) are made, potatoes are chopped, and chicken stock is prepared from scratch. So are the rice and bread puddings, and all their sauces. There's a small kitchen on the other side of the counter, with multiple cooking stations.

"The guy in the middle has to coordinate everything," explains Tonia. "It's a hard job because you can get just one table's order and it'll be, say, one oatmeal, one poached eggs, one turkey club and one steak, well-done, and he has to time it exactly right so that they're all served at the same time."

Underneath the restaurant there's a large, highly organized pantry with freezer rooms. Tonia has never actually done a customer count, but the YC seats 97 and there are frequent occasions, including most Sundays, when every seat is filled. There's that diner staple: an extensive menu, and deliveries bring a spate of ingredients in three times a week. Asked



Awaiting the "counter contingent," the Yankee Clipper's stools and counter are redolent of an earlier era.

Photo by A. Rooney



Booths, counters, tables — all part of the Yankee Clipper interior.

Photo courtesy of the Yankee Clipper

Andros (and it is a complete coincidence that they married sisters, as they were only passing acquaintances back home), had worked on cruise ships, and learned the restaurant trade after moving to New York. After working for others, the Petsases relocated to Oneonta, where Petros was working in coffee sales when he stumbled upon this location. With their years of experience running diners, they took the plunge.

"It was just me and him, seven days a week, in the beginning, even though our children were little — 7 years old and 20 months, when we started," Tonia recalls (now both girls help out in the diner).

how it is possible to keep so many varying components in stock, Tonia says simply, "You know what you sell and when you sell it, and you've got to be highly organized, and that comes from experience."

Specials are offered each day of the week, and there are regulars who turn up on Thursdays for corned beef and cabbage or Fridays for the macaroni and cheese. Tonia notes: "One party has been coming in here every Friday night for 11 years for the pot roast, potato pancakes and strawberry shortcake."

In fact, doing business the old-fashioned way is a key to YC's success. Tonia pulls out an address book — a paper one, not a smartphone — and in it she has name after name and that person's favorite. She phones them when that item is making an appearance. Sometimes she doesn't even know the full name, and there are notations like "locksmith

— cream of potato soup." It's that kind of service. "I'll get people who will ask me 'Can you save me two? I'll be there tomorrow.' And we do, because it's all about listening to the customers. When they come to us it's a whole package — I want them to come because of us, and because of our staff. We build relationships here."

Many of the 15 staff members have been with them for years. "We care," Tonia says. "I want to know your name. We walk around the restaurant all the time, talking to our customers. We know our 'counter contingent' — the customers who only sit there. Our children are all working here. We get invites to things all the time from our customers: weddings, funerals. Basically we want people to feel like they aren't just a customer — we're homey."

Visit [www.philipstown.info](http://www.philipstown.info) for news updates and latest information.



Day Trip

# James Baird State Park

Trails, golf and more

By Michael Turton

You are not alone if you have driven past James Baird State Park, located just 25 miles north of Cold Spring on the Taconic State Parkway, and said to yourself, “I should check this park out sometime,” but have never quite gotten around to it. It’s worth the short drive and for more reasons than simply satisfying your curiosity. The variety of pursuits that the park can accommodate must be unique among state parks. Where else can you hike a trail, sink a 30-foot putt, play a little pickup basketball, enjoy a picnic, finish your day in a pleasant pub — or even host your daughter’s wedding — all in one peaceful, natural setting?

Trails, picnics and ‘a beautiful place’

The park is a throwback to a simpler time. Almost 600 acres in area, its gently undulating terrain features more than six miles of wooded trails to explore. Numerous spacious, tranquil picnic areas are set on the forest’s edge. Outdoor recreation facilities enable visitors to play basketball, softball, tennis or volleyball. Two large picnic pavilions make the park worth considering for family reunions and other gatherings. Both can accommodate up to 300 people.

One contributor to Trip Advisor described the park this way: “This is our family’s favorite place to go with the kids — a beautiful spot that is both not busy, yet beautiful with nature around you. Bring the kids with their bikes, kite, Frisbee or whatever you like. This place [has] it all from grounds to trails, to barbecues and picnic tables, as well as swings and slides. Did I mention it is a beautiful place ...?”

A golfer’s delight

An 18-hole golf course that is mainly flat to gently rolling is the park’s dominant feature. Its designer was the renowned Robert Trent Jones who also designed more than 500 courses in the U.S. and in 40 countries around the globe. His designs reflect his philosophy that golf should be a “no risk, no reward” sport, challenging golfers to “go for it.” Two of the par-5 holes at James Baird are considered by many to be among the best in the Hudson Valley. The course also has a driving range and pro shop. A new irrigation system has delighted the course regulars, keeping the fairways green even through August.

A cozy pub

Also unlike many state parks, James Baird features a pleasant restaurant and pub that offers catering and facilities suitable for weddings, graduations or corporate outings. The Eagle’s Nest restaurant and pub overlooks the golf course and has a warm feel thanks to the beautifully rich wooden floors and walls. The



The 18-hole golf course was designed by Robert Trent Jones and boasts a new irrigation system. Photos by M. Turton

menu is as diverse as the park itself offering everything from salads, burgers and other sandwiches to mussels, prime rib and chicken Francaise. The pub has a full bar menu. The indoor facility can accommodate up to 100 people and in spring, summer and fall the tented patio can host another 150 guests for special vents.

Historic roots

Even history buffs have reason to visit the park. A small display between the golf course pro shop and the Eagle’s Nest illustrates the park’s history. The park is named for James Baird (1873 — 1953) who moved to nearby LaGrange in 1932 where he farmed 200 acres of land. Baird studied engineering at the University of Michigan and was the Wolverines’ quarterback from 1893 to 1895. He also played on the baseball team. After graduating, Baird established his own construction company, which went on to build some of America’s most famous structures including the Lincoln Memorial and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. He also built New York City’s Flatiron Building, the nation’s first steel skyscraper. In 1939 he deeded 590 acres of land to New York State, resulting in the creation of the park that now bears his name. Work began on the golf course in 1940 and it opened in 1948. Baird was a man with an eye to the future. During construction of the park, in

a 1944 letter to the head of the Taconic State Park Commission, he wrote: “After all, the important thing is how the entire park will look ... 100 years from now.”

Directions, pets and more information

James Baird State Park can be entered directly from the Taconic State Parkway, 11 miles north of I-84. The park is also open in winter. Household pets are allowed but must be kept on a leash. Pets are not allowed in buildings, picnic areas or on the golf course. Visitors should note that the Nature Center mentioned on the park website is no longer open.

Learn more about James Baird State Park at: [nysparks.com/parks/101/details.aspx](http://nysparks.com/parks/101/details.aspx). A map including trails is available at: [nysparks.com/parks/attachments/JamesBairdTrailMap.pdf](http://nysparks.com/parks/attachments/JamesBairdTrailMap.pdf).



Trails lead visitors through the wooded landscape.

# collaborative concepts

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Yasgur 2:30pm  
Bert Rehtschaffer Trio 3:15pm  
Leah Nikolaya/Siegel J 4:00pm  
Judith Tulloch Band 4:45pm

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# PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE

**Dog in a Manger • August 22, 7 p.m.**  
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**845.424.3900 • [www.philipstowndepottheatre.org](http://www.philipstowndepottheatre.org)**  
Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station.)



# The Calendar

## Plummer Play Explores Fears of Each Other

*Terrorism's implications on display in staged reading*

By Kevin E. Foley

Coming off a season of mostly traditional (and doubtless much appreciated) summer fare — two different productions of *Fiddler on the*

*Roof!* — The Depot Theatre in Garrison plans to begin the autumn season with a bracing, contemporary, adult comedy/drama. *A Ship to Cross the Sea of Suffering*, by successful television writer and Cold Spring resident John Plummer, will feature some of the best known and accomplished actors in the area in a four-performance staged reading on two

nights in September. If you have enjoyed the likes of Jason O'Connell, Maia Guest, Greg Miller and Vaishnavi Sharma in past Depot, HVSF and World's End Theater productions, then you might find their latest collaboration of particular interest. Each of them will be challenged by playing characters who are tough, smart, mean, profane, angry, selfish, loving, hating, duplicitous, obvious, vulnerable and yes, Plummer assures us, funny.

An experienced theater hand, Plummer is also directing the reading. While the combined schedules of the company didn't allow for sufficient rehearsal time for mounting a complete show, "the cast is so phenomenal it will be better than a lot of full productions," Plummer said.

The play, written in 2011, is a deep dive into the murky regions of terrorism, the meaning of art, the definition of an artist, the pain and solace of personal relationships, loyalty to country, friends and lovers as well as the complexity of language and how it helps and hurts our capacity to confront and make sense of all these and other matters.

And then, poetry lovers, there's Walt Whitman, whose work becomes a sort of fifth character in the play. Did you know Osama bin Laden read Whitman? Apparently he didn't care for the 19<sup>th</sup>-century Brooklyn boy's sensuality



John Plummer File photo

and democratic spirit but perhaps his reasons were dishonest.

### Wrestling with terrorism

Osama bin Laden is not a character either but he is a presence in the play's swirl of current-event-driven angst and redemption. The play spends time with FBI agents and their troubling, at times desperate interrogation techniques; a terror suspect who seems to relish the idea of suspect as performance artist; and a woman well known to the agents who loves not wisely but ultimately perhaps quite well.

In a telephone interview from Los Angeles, Plummer, 47, underscored that despite the play's harsh language and dark themes, it was actually "an uplifting show about terrorism. It's very

(Continued on page 11)



Top left: Maia Guest (Photo by Leslie Hassler); Jason O'Connell (Photo provided), Greg Miller (Photo by Jordan Matter), Vaishnavi Sharma (Photo provided)

## RiverWinds Gallery Orchestrates Alice Judson Memorial Fundraiser

*Proceeds to help restore artist's gravestone*

RiverWinds Gallery announces an Alice Judson Memorial Fundraiser to help restore the gravestone of one of Beacon's well-known female artists. Tickets to win an original signed Alice Judson painting — *The Porch* — will be sold starting Aug. 22 through Sept. 27, at RiverWinds Gallery. The proceeds from the sale of the tickets will cover the expense of restoring her gravestone located in St Luke's Cemetery in Beacon.

**Alice Judson** (1876 – 1948) is one of Beacon's earliest famous painters. She studied under John Henry Twachtman at the Art Students League in New York City. Judson's

(Continued on page 10)



Alice Judson



Gravestone of Alice Judson

Images courtesy of RiverWinds Gallery



The Porch by Alice Judson



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**Shannon and Rich (Jazz)**  
9 p.m. Chill Wine Bar  
173 Main St., Beacon  
845-765-0885 | facebook.com/chillwinebar

**The Compact with Erin Hobson**  
9 p.m. Max's on Main | See details under Friday.

**Rob Roy**  
9:30 p.m. 12 Grapes | See details under Friday.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

Kids & Community

**Beacon Flea Market**  
8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Henry Street Lot, Beacon  
845-202-0094 | beaconflea.blogspot.com

**Kayak Tours**  
9:30 a.m. Destination Waterfall  
10 a.m. Bannerman Castle  
Hudson River Expeditions  
See details under Saturday.

**Dutchess County Fair**  
10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Fairgrounds  
See details under Friday.

**Kayak Tour**  
10 a.m. Denning's Point, Beacon  
845-831-1997 | mountaintopsonline.com

**Military Reenactment Day**  
11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Boscobel  
1601 Route 9D, Garrison  
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

**Beacon Farmers' Market**  
11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Scenic Hudson River Center  
Long Dock Drive, Beacon  
845-234-9325 | beaconfarmersmarket.org

**Bannerman Island Tour**  
12:30 p.m. Beacon Dock  
800-979-3370 | bannermancastle.org

**Annual Used Book and Media Sale (\$5 per box)**  
1 - 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
See details under Friday.

**Children & Families: Monarchs, Milkweed, & Migration**  
1 p.m. Storm King Art Center | 1 Museum Road,  
New Windsor | 845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Sports

**Soccer Referee Training Course**  
8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Call for location.  
845-424-4618 | philipstownsoccer.org

Art & Design

**Member Morning**  
9 - 11 a.m. Storm King Art Center  
1 Museum Road, New Windsor  
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

**Hudson Valley Modern Quilting Guild**  
1 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St., Beacon  
845-831-1134 | hvmodernquiltguild.com

**Group Show: Birds of a Feather (Opening)**  
2:30 - 5:30 p.m. Ellen Hayden Gallery  
40 Main St., Cold Spring  
845-265-4866 | artantiquegallery.com

**Group Show: Salon des RefUSE (Opening)**  
6 - 8 p.m. Garrison Art Center  
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison  
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org



Kali Bird and Matt Decker look forward to sharing their love of hiking with local teens on HHLT's Teen Hike and Adventure Challenge on Aug. 23. Photo courtesy of HHLT

Theater & Film

**Heavyweights (1995)**  
3 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St., Peekskill  
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

**Othello with Q-and-A**  
7 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.

Music

**Serenade Quartet**  
2 p.m. Storm King Art Center  
1 Museum Road, New Windsor  
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

**Howland Cultural Center**  
3 p.m. Kazzie Jaxen Quartet  
7:30 p.m. Sumi Tonooka / Erica Lindsay Quartet  
477 Main St., Beacon  
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

**Live Music**  
5 - 8 p.m. Round Up Texas BBQ  
See details under Friday.

**Traditional Irish Session**  
6 - 9 p.m. Silver Spoon Cafe  
124 Main St., Cold Spring  
845-265-2525 | silverspooncs.com

**Sunset Concert Series: Chris Cubeta & The Liars Club**  
6:30 p.m. Riverfront Bandstand, Cold Spring  
coldspringareachamber.org

**Spuyten Duyvil / Metropolitan Klezmer**  
7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe  
See details under Friday.

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

Kids & Community

**Tri-Arts Summer Camp (ages 3-5) (Opens)**  
9 a.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St., Beacon  
845-831-4988 | compassarts.org/registration

**Free Admission**  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. FDR Historic Site  
Route 9, Hyde Park  
845-229-5320 | nps.gov/hofr

Free Admission

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Eleanor Roosevelt Site (Val-Kill)  
Route 9G, Hyde Park  
845-229-9422 | nps.gov/elro

Free Admission

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Vanderbilt Mansion  
119 Vanderbilt Park Road, Hyde Park  
877-444-6777 | nps.gov/vama

Annual Used Book and Media Sale (Free)

1 - 3 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
See details under Friday. | Donation requested.

Health & Fitness

Yoga with a View

6 p.m. Boscobel  
1601 Route 9D, Garrison  
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Basketball at Philipstown Rec

6:15 p.m. Youth Basketball Skills (grades 3-8)  
7:30 p.m. Men's Pick-up  
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison  
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Sports

Army vs. St. John's (Women's Soccer)

7 p.m. Clinton Field, West Point  
845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

Hudson Valley Renegades vs. Aberdeen

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

Theater & Film

The Liar with Q-and-A

7 p.m. Boscobel  
See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures

Beacon School Board

7 p.m. Beacon High School  
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon  
845-838-6900 | beaconcitK12.org

Book Club: Transatlantic

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

Michael Keropian: Seeing History through Art

7 p.m. Kent Town Hall  
25 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes  
RSVP: kenthistoricalsociety@gmail.com

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

Kids & Community

Craft Hour (grades 2+)

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

Health & Fitness

Lymphedema Support Group

12:30 p.m. Lindenbaum Cancer Center  
1978 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor  
914-293-8400 | hvhc.org/events

Weight Loss Surgery Seminar

6 p.m. Hudson Valley Hospital  
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor  
914-734-3896 | hvhc.org/events

Breast Cancer Support Group

7 p.m. Support Connection  
40 Triangle Center, Suite 100, Yorktown Heights  
914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

Women's Pick-up Basketball

7 - 9 p.m. Philipstown Rec Center  
See details under Monday.

Sports

H.V. Renegades vs. Aberdeen

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

Theater & Film

The Two Gentlemen of Verona

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

Meetings & Lectures

Board of Trustees Workshop

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

Philipstown Recreation Commission

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Rec Center  
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison  
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

Kids & Community

Senior Bus Trip to Fishkill

10 a.m. Chestnut Ridge, Cold Spring  
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Desmond-Fish Library

10:15 a.m. Music and Movement for Toddlers  
1:30 p.m. Pre-School Story Hour (ages 3-5)  
See details under Tuesday.

Summer Car Show

6 - 9 p.m. Bear Mountain State Park  
55 Hessian Drive, Bear Mountain  
845-786-2701 x242 | popyourhood.com

Kayak Group Paddle

6 p.m. Long Dock, Beacon  
845-831-1997 | mountaintopsonline.com

(To next page)

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The Calendar *(from page 9)*

Support Groups

For a full list of area support groups, visit:

[philipstown.info/support](http://philipstown.info/support)

Health & Fitness

Breastfeeding Support Group

11 a.m. Hudson Valley Hospital  
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor  
914-734-3257 | [hvhc.org/events](http://hvhc.org/events)

Red Cross Blood Drive

1 - 5 p.m. Church of the Nazarene  
953 Main St., Fishkill  
800-733-2767 | [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)

Marge's Knitting Circle for Women with Cancer

6:30 p.m. Support Connection  
See details under Tuesday.

Sports

H.V. Renegades vs. Aberdeen

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

Art & Design

Bus Trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art

9 a.m. Henry Street lot behind Yankee  
Clipper Diner, Beacon | 845-831-4988 |  
[howlandculturalcenter.org](http://howlandculturalcenter.org) | Reservations required.

Theater & Film

Othello

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

Meetings & Lectures

New Moon Ritual

6:45 p.m. Notions-n-Potions | 175 Main St.,  
Beacon | 845-765-2410 | [notions-n-potions.com](http://notions-n-potions.com)

Recreation Commission

7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St., Cold Spring  
845-265-3611 | [coldspringny.gov](http://coldspringny.gov)

Garrison School Board

7:30 p.m. Garrison School | 1100 Route 9D,  
Garrison | 845-424-3689 | [gufs.org](http://gufs.org)



**Town Board Public Hearing (C.V. Rescue Truck)**  
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Town Hall | 238 Main St.,  
Cold Spring | 845-265-5200 | [philipstown.com](http://philipstown.com)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

Kids & Community

PechaKucha Night

6 p.m. Socialize | 7 p.m. Presentations  
8:30 p.m. Socialize  
The Garrison | 2015 Route 9, Garrison  
845-424-3604 | [pechakuchagarrison.com](http://pechakuchagarrison.com)

Summer Reading Movie Night:

Ernest Green Story

6 p.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave., Cold  
Spring | 845-265-3040 | [butterfieldlibrary.org](http://butterfieldlibrary.org)

Health & Fitness

Stand-Up Paddleboard Yoga

10 a.m. Hudson River Expeditions  
14 Market St., Cold Spring  
845-809-5935 | [hudsonriverexpeditions.com](http://hudsonriverexpeditions.com)

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center  
See details under Monday.

Sports

H.V. Renegades vs. Connecticut

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



**Eagle Scout Project:** At left, Chris Bohl, center, standing among the crew supporting his Eagle Scout project restoring a pergola (a form of gazebo) on the site of the Cornish estate in Hudson Highlands State Park. The estate site is a popular hiking destination and the pergola will serve as a rest area. *(Photo by Kevin E. Foley)* Above, the view from the original pergola in the early 1900s. *(Photo: collection of Robin Huntington)*

Art & Design

Free Admission

10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Storm King Art Center  
1 Museum Road, New Windsor  
845-534-3115 | [stormking.org](http://stormking.org)

Film & Theater

The Liar

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

Thunder from Down Under

7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St., Peekskill  
914-739-0039 | [paramounthudsonvalley.com](http://paramounthudsonvalley.com)

Music

The Revelers

7:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe  
See details under Friday.

Talibam!

8 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St., Beacon  
845-831-8065 | [quinnnsbeacon.com](http://quinnnsbeacon.com)

The Old Way

9:30 p.m. Dogwood  
47 E. Main St., Beacon  
845-202-7500 | [dogwoodbar.com](http://dogwoodbar.com)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

Health & Fitness

Navigating Healthcare Options

10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St., Beacon | 800-453-4666 | [misn-ny.org](http://misn-ny.org) | Appointment required.

ONGOING

Art & Design

Visit [philipstown.info/galleries](http://philipstown.info/galleries)

Religious Services

Visit [philipstown.info/services](http://philipstown.info/services)

Meetings & Lectures

Alcoholics Anonymous

Visit [philipstown.info/aa](http://philipstown.info/aa)

Support Groups

Visit [philipstown.info/support](http://philipstown.info/support)

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## Plummer Play Explores Fears of Each Other (from page 7)

funny, very hopeful,” he said. Plummer also acknowledged that the humor is to a degree hidden beneath layers of mystery, sex and violence, as well as literature and politics. It is also about “very intelligent people doing stupid things,” he said.

### Tower tragedy sparks initial inspiration

The play’s story date is 2007, six years after the fateful events of Sept. 11, 2001. Plummer, a former New York City resident present for the falling towers and all that followed, readily credits that time as the initial inspiration for the play. “It’s a response to that event and terrorism in general. It’s also about the human willfulness to divide up ourselves into you’re in that group and I’m in this group,” Plummer said.

Also informing Plummer’s perspective is his religious faith in Buddhism. His particular practice is known as Nichiren Buddhism, which follows the teachings of the 13<sup>th</sup>-century monk Nichiren Daishonin through the worldwide lay organization Soka Gakkai International. Plummer sees in part that the origin of his play is in the Buddhist awareness that “we have all been in a world of suffering” (particularly since 9/11). He sees the job of the artist as bringing out that “we all have the capacity to transform suffering into joy.” The title of the play comes from Nichiren Daishonin’s writings.

That said, leave your preconceived notions of Buddhism and its practitioners at the theater entrance. Plummer’s script is not about proselytizing but rather an attempt at a dramatic embrace of humanity in all its muck and mire. “To be human is complicated. We have the capacity for violence and destruction and for love and creation,” he said.

## RiverWinds Gallery Orchestrates Alice Judson Fundraiser (from page 7)

art career flourished in the ‘20s and ‘30s. She belonged to North Shore, Dutchess County, Putnam County, Hudson Highlands, and Pittsburgh Art Associations, as well as the Gloucester Society of Artists, National Academy of Women Painters and Sculptors, and the Society of Independent Artists.

*The Porch* is a rare signed architectural oil painting by Judson that is being donated by RiverWinds Gallery to raise funds to restore her gravestone which has fallen over. Tickets go on sale on Aug. 22 at RiverWinds. They will be \$5 per ticket or \$10 for three tickets.

On Saturday, Sept. 27, from 4 to 7 p.m., a reception will be held at Riverwinds Gallery. It will include light refreshments, a presentation about Judson by Diane Lapis of the Beacon Historical Society, and most importantly of all, the drawing of the winning ticket. You do not need to be present to win.

RiverWinds Gallery is a multi-faceted art space featuring over 45 of the finest Hudson Valley artists, traditional fine art including paintings and photography, and contemporary crafts, including jewelry, cards, ceramics, scarves and hand-dyed yarn. It is a member of the Beacon Arts Community Association (BeaconArts) beaconarts.org and Art Along the Hudson artalongthehudson.com. RiverWinds Gallery is located at 172 Main St., Beacon. Call 845-838-2880 or visit riverwindsgallery.com.

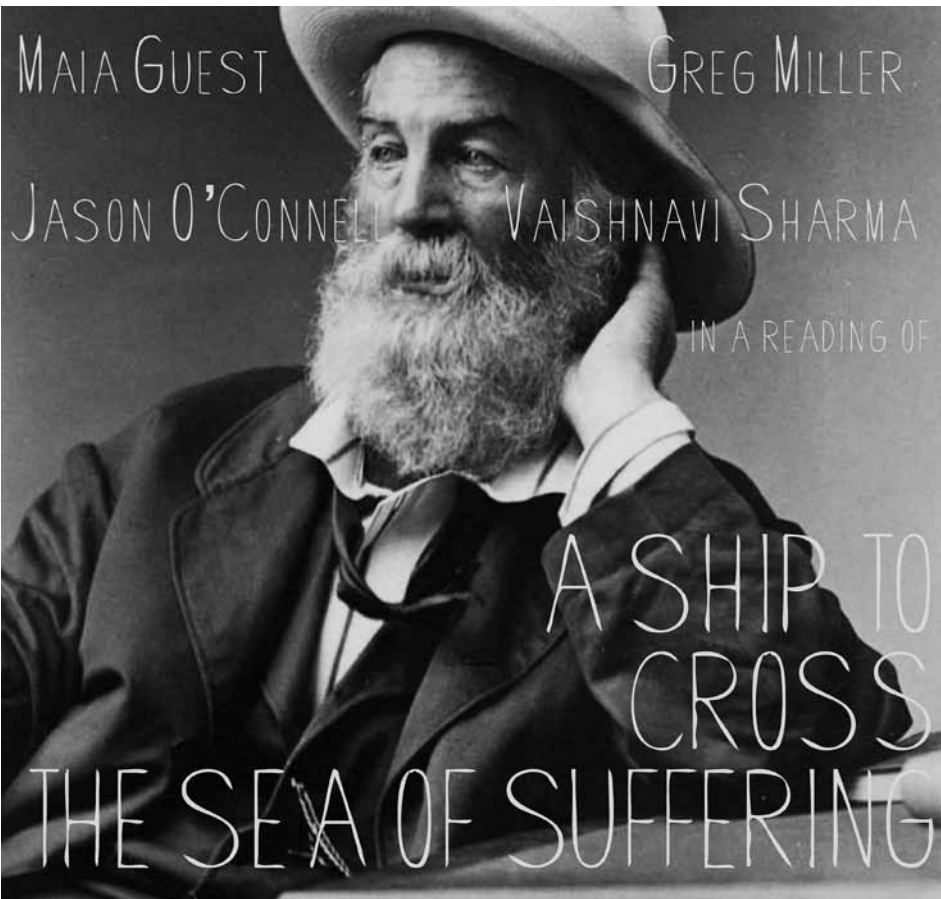
Hours are Wednesday through Monday noon to 6 p.m., Beacon Second Saturday noon to 9 p.m.

### Role of art, dangers of language and power of love

The characters in *A Ship to Cross the Sea of Suffering* come at each other with burning needs and desires for understanding and connection. They resort first to insistent questions with no tolerance for what they perceive as dishonesty or evasion. The male FBI agents frustrated by their hunt for terror suspects and the deviousness of the one they have in the chair find themselves stripped down to their impulses as language fails them as a mode of understanding. The two women in contrast use language to mask and deceive as well as uncover truths.

A professional writer for over 20 years, Plummer’s current preoccupation is with his admitted first love, television, which these days has an expanded broadcast universe. At the moment he is finishing writing all the episodes of season three of *Granite Flats* a program on BYUtv (Brigham Young University) available on satellite channels and at BYUtv.org that features among the actors his wife, the aforementioned Maia Guest, and their 15-year-old son Charlie. Christopher Lloyd, of *Taxi* and *Back to the Future* fame, was a guest actor last year and is returning this year.

A co-writer in season one, head writer in two, Plummer is now the sole writer as a result of both his success and the necessity for productions to be



Walt Whitman pictured in the play’s poster Image provided

leaner in an expanding and very competitive Internet-driven universe. HBO’s *True Detective* and *Fargo* on FX are recent examples of the single writer show, according to Plummer.

Set in 1962, *Granite Flats* is small town America wrestling with the threats of a Cold War world and the anxieties of relationships. In an inter-

view with *The Paper* in April 2013 he said the show was about searching for truth, mystery, investigation.”

*A Ship to Cross the Sea of Suffering* will run for four performances, 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. on both Saturdays, Sept. 6 and Sept. 13. A premium wine and cheese event including meeting the writer and actors will be held at 7 p.m. on Sept. 6.

## Central Hudson Shares Steps to Prepare and Stay Informed During Severe Weather

Central Hudson reminds customers to take steps to be prepared for severe weather and offers ways in which the community can stay informed during emergencies.

“Have a plan in place so that you know what to do in an emergency,” said James P. Laurito, president of Central Hudson. “This may include checking on vulnerable neighbors or family members, and having adequate emergency supplies on hand such as non-perishable and ready-to-eat foods, bottled water, prescription medications and cash,” he said. “Be sure flashlights are working, have a supply of spare batteries, and keep a battery-operated radio on hand to stay informed of storm and restoration updates and the locations of community resources.”

### Other ways to prepare include:

- Paying close attention to weather advisories and storm warnings
- Having a telephone that does not require an electric outlet to operate
- Charging cell phones, or having a car cell phone charger
- Refueling vehicles and ensuring that

they are in good working condition

- Knowing how to manually open automatic garage doors

If power is interrupted, customers should turn off or unplug appliances to reduce the risk of damage when power is restored and leave on a light or two to know when power is restored.

If a storm should strike and power is interrupted, Laurito advised customers to keep safety in mind. “For example, avoid the use of candles for illumination, and use generators outdoors only and follow the manufacturers’ instructions,” he said. “Also, never use outdoor gas or charcoal grills indoors, as they pose a fire hazard and over time can give off deadly carbon monoxide gas. He emphasized that these items should be used outside only with proper ventilation. Similarly, operate cars and motor vehicles outdoors, and never in a closed garage.

### Other ways to keep safe include:

- Keeping away from downed power lines, and lines which may be entangled and hidden in fallen trees.

Assume all downed lines are live, and stay at least 30 feet away.

- Avoiding travel; but if necessary, exercise extreme caution, as downed trees and lines, together with the potential for flash flooding, may create hazardous driving conditions.
- Being aware that localized flooding may potentially undermine underground utilities, including natural gas lines, and report any gas odors; and calling 911 to report public emergencies, such as dangerous tree conditions.

### To report outages and get updates:

- Call the PowerLine at 845-452-2700 or 1-800-527-2714, and use the automated system.
- Download Central Hudson’s mobile app at CentralHudson.com/mobileapp.
- Sign up for text messaging at CentralHudson.com/alerts.

Visit the StormCentral section at CentralHudson.com.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Members of Cub Scout Pack 137 complete a community service project at Little Stony Point. Photo courtesy of Pack 137

Cub Scouts Clean Up at Little Stony Point

Eighteen Cub Scouts from Pack 137, Philipstown, spent the morning of Sunday, Aug. 17, performing a cleanup of Little Stony Point beach. These Scouts, ranging in age from kindergarten (Lions) to fifth grade (Webelos), were joined in their hard work by parents, siblings and members of Boy Scout Troop 437, Philipstown. Members of the Little Stony Point Citizens Association board and New York State Parks were also on hand to oversee the project and lend a hand.

Volunteers helped remove over 10 contractor-size trash bags of debris, litter, bottles and cans from the riverside portion of the Hudson Highlands State Park. The project reinforced scouting’s “leave no trace” outdoor principles and the concept of performing a “good turn” for the community.

The cleanup was scheduled as part of the pack’s summer program and coordinated through the Little Stony Point Citizens Association, which also serves as the charter organization for Pack 137.

Families of boys entering kindergarten through fourth grade who are interested in joining Cub Scouts this fall, should send their contact information to cubmaster@cubscoutpack137.org.

Fort Montgomery Historic Site Hosts Sept. 4 Lecture

The Fort Montgomery State Historic Site will present a lecture, 60 Men at Yorktown: The Light Infantry Company of the 22nd Regiment of Foot, at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 4.

During the American Revolution, the British light infantry was at the forefront of every major campaign from the first shots at Lexington through the surrender at Yorktown. Composed of elite soldiers from each British regiment, the light infantry marched fast and fought hard in sparse, arduous conditions. Researcher

Don N. Hagist will look at the light infantry company of one British regiment and discuss some of the individual men who served in it, from their background before joining the Army through their fate after leaving it.

Seating is by reservation only and limited to the first 50. Reserve by calling 845-446-2134. Leave your name, phone number and number of people in your party.

The lecture series is sponsored by the Fort Montgomery Battle Site Association. Fort Montgomery State Historic Site is located a few short minutes from the Bear Mountain Bridge traffic circle at 690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery. Visit nysparks.com.

HHLT Hike Featured in Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble

Hudson Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) is offering Jonathan Kruk’s *Spooky—Not Scary—Local Legends* Hike as part of the 15th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble. This year, the Ramble features more than 200 events hosted by more than 150 organizations from the Capital Region to New York City. For a complete listing, visit hudsonrivervalleyramble.com.

As part of the Ramble, HHLT welcomes people to experience *Spooky — Not Scary — Local Legends* with acclaimed professional storyteller Jonathan Kruk at Little Stony Point Park in Cold Spring at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 6. Kruk’s stories are beloved by children and their parents, and his local legends and hour-long, tot-friendly hike is the perfect end to a late summer day in the Hudson Valley. The hike, part of the Hudson River Valley Ramble, is free, but early registration is recommended because space is limited. Email jonathan.leitner@hhlt.org or call 845-424-3358, ext. 6, to reserve a spot for your family.

“We are pleased to be able to offer this family-friendly hike, which highlights



Jonathan Kruk entertains children and their parents with his *Spooky — Not Scary — Local Legends*. Photo courtesy of HHLT

the Hudson Valley’s distinctive cultural heritage, during the Hudson River Valley Ramble,” HHLT Outreach Director MJ Martin said.

Marina Gallery Presents Contemporary Art Show

Marina Gallery, located at 153 Main St., Cold Spring, will present the new contemporary art show curated by well known European artist Basha Maryanska who lives and creates in Beacon.

Maryanska has been working as a curator for New Century Artists Gallery in Chelsea, New York City, for 12 years. For the first time she selected the group of international artists for this small works show titled *Jumble Expressions*.

The show will run through the month of September of 2014. Marina Gallery invites people who love art to visit this show and the opening reception from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 5. Visit marina-galleryfineart.com.

Eat Smart Restaurant Week Scheduled in Putnam County

Eat Smart Restaurant Week is coming to Putnam County. From Sept. 7 through Sept. 21, participating restaurants will offer two to three delicious and healthy menu entrees that make the best of fresh ingredients in appropriate portion sizes. Health Department nutritionists will work with restaurant chefs to perfect the entrees of their own choosing and ensure they meet healthy guidelines for fat, calories and sodium. To date, over 40 local food establishments have signed up to participate.

With the increasing concern for weight management and health, the ultimate purpose of the two-week event is for residents to enjoy a wonderful dining experience, and at the same time, have an

opportunity to learn about healthy eating. For a list of participating restaurants and more information visit putnamcountyny.com/eat-smart-restaurant-week-september-7th-21st/.

Big Band Swings Boscobel

Visit Boscobel on Sunday, Sept. 7, for its 14th Annual Big Band Concert and Sunset Picnic.

Visitors are invited to bring blankets, chairs, and a picnic to enjoy an evening of swing music and dancing. Returning this year will be swing dance demonstrations performed by instructors and students of the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Wappingers Falls. Bring your dancing shoes.

One of the most popular jazz orchestras in the area, The Big Band Sound, recreates the swinging jazz music of the big band era, performing compositions that span a century of music, including classics made famous by Duke Ellington, Count Basie and more.

Free admission to children 10 and younger accompanied by a paid adult. Admission for adults: \$16. Friends of Boscobel members receive a 10 percent discount. Purchase tickets at Boscobel.org or at the door.

Big Band attendees can purchase a combination ticket, Boscobel mansion tour and concert: \$27 per adult. Children 10 and under tour free with adult on concert day. Purchase combo tickets in advance by phone: 845-265-3638.

Gates open at 5 p.m. on Sept. 7, and the concert kicks off at 6 p.m. (Rain date Sept. 14.) Tickets are non-refundable unless Boscobel cancels. Food available for purchase on site (while supplies last). Visit Boscobel.org or call 845-265-3638.



Picnickers and dancers enjoy a Big Band concert on Boscobel’s great lawn. Photo courtesy of Boscobel



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Health Department Goes to Bat Against Bats

No doubt about it: it is bat season everywhere including Putnam County. Bat populations normally rise in the warmer months and this year has been no different. So far this summer 61 bats have been brought in for testing to the Putnam County Department of Health. That is up about 35 specimens from last year at this time, and a sign that the capture-the-bat message is getting out. Unfortunately the health department still hears about bats being captured and then set free outside, leaving residents undergoing treatment that probably could have been avoided, if the bat had been available for testing.

“This increase in (To next page)



COMMUNITY BRIEFS



See the instructional video at [putnamcountyny.com/how-to-capture-a-bat/](http://putnamcountyny.com/how-to-capture-a-bat/). Source: New York State Department of Health

(From previous page) turned-in bats is great news,” explains Commissioner of Health Allen Beals, MD. “It means we are doing our job and getting the message out that capturing a bat found in a home is so important. If the bat cannot be tested, many prophylactic treatments to prevent rabies are necessary. When the bat is caught and turned into the health department, we test it and can avoid the unnecessary and costly treatments.”

Rabies remains one of the most deadly viruses, with a 100 percent fatality rate if untreated. Fortunately, post-exposure prophylactic treatment is completely effective if started before symptoms begin.

The health department’s specimen prep room, where the bats are prepared for testing, opened last January making this summer the first season it has been operational. The dedicated, consolidated space provides proper ventilation for handling noxious materials. Renovations were completed with the support of County Executive MaryEllen Odell, by Putnam County personnel, making it highly cost effective. Together with the capture-the-bat initiative and the Feral Cat Task Force, the prep room enables the PCDOH to reduce the number of expensive rabies treatments in the county.

To safely capture a bat, watch the instructional demo from New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) available on the Putnam County Department of Health’s website and the NYSDOH website. The video has also been posted on the PCDOH social media sites, Facebook and Twitter.

All possible bat exposures should be reported immediately by calling 845-808-1390. (If it is after hours, press extension “3” for instructions.)

For more information, visit the PCDOH website at [putnamcountyny.com/health](http://putnamcountyny.com/health) or visit the social media sites on Facebook and Twitter.

## decomposer to Perform many songs one center During Collaborative Concepts Farm Project

The collaborative art group decomposer, made up by Matt Frieburghaus, Thomas Huber, and Laura Kaufman, will explore the interaction between sight and sound in space as part of the Collaborative Concepts Performance Art On The Farm. *many songs one center* is decomposer’s second performance and will take place in a cow pasture at Saunders Farm, Garrison, on Aug. 30. While there is no start time to the performance, it will end at 4 p.m. There are rain dates of Aug. 31 and Sept. 1, 2014. The performance art program, *Here, There, There, There, and Everywhere*, along with dozens of sculptures, is part of the Collaborative Concepts “Farm Project 2014.”

For *many songs one center*, decomposer asked local artists and musicians to participate in creating a “song” by following a set of instructions. Meet-

ing on the day of the performance only, 30 players will improvise with traditional, homemade instruments, and found objects. Players will begin playing independently, spreading throughout the farm. Eventually they will join together in a circle at the top of a field at the farm. At this moment, the performance will draw into a unified sound.

Along the way, players will find interconnected moments with each other and the landscape.

The audience is invited to walk among the players to hear the multiple new centers of song. How it goes will be a surprise for all.

Performance Art On The Farm was curated by Marcy Freedman, who will perform her piece *Do You Remember Winter?* (2 to 6 p.m.).

Saunders Farm is located at 853 Old Albany Post Road, Garrison. Visit [decomposer.info](http://decomposer.info) and [collaborativeconcepts.org](http://collaborativeconcepts.org).

## Beacon

### Interfaith Gospel Group Performs Aug. 23

*Spirit of Unity returns to Howland Center*

On Saturday, Aug. 23, the Howland Cultural Center welcomes back the gospel singing group Spirit of Unity to its Gospel Café at 7 p.m. Admission is \$10 at the door, with refreshments available.

Spirit of Unity is an interfaith performing arts group involving many religious denominations, cultures, and races, encouraging members as well as the community to build upon the ministry of music to attract people from all walks of life who love to sing gospel.

Organized in 2005 by Eugene Williams, director of musicians, Ray Watkins, program director, and gospel singing veteran Sharlene Stout, director of singers, the group includes Men of Spirit Quartet, Ladies of the Spirit, Spirit of Unity Mixed Ensemble, and the Spirit of Unity Band: bass guitar, lead guitar, keyboards, drums, percussion, trumpet, and sax.

Spirit of Unity specializes in traditional and contemporary gospel styles. Performers have a diverse background, which includes recording with world-renowned gospel, folk, and R&B artists.

The Howland Cultural Center’s Gospel Café is presented in a coffeehouse setting: small, candle-lit tables, an ambiance of a warm and intimate room, desserts with coffee and ... music which brings cultures together for a richer understanding of and an appreciation for each other’s culture. It is held the fourth Saturday of each month with the exception of November and December. For information, call Lyna Pritchett at 845-453-0884 or 831-4988.

### Guitarist Jason Vieaux and Escher String Quartet Open Howland Chamber Music Season

Guitar virtuoso Jason Vieaux joins the Escher String Quartet for the opening concert of the Howland Chamber Music Circle’s 2014-2015 season at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 14, at Beacon’s historic Howland Cultural Center (477 Main St.).

They will perform Boccherini’s popular *Guitar Quintet in D Major*, nicknamed *Fandango* for its closing movement, written in the style of the Spanish dance. In addition, the quartet will perform Respighi’s *Quartet in D Major*, and Vieaux will play J.S. Bach’s *Lute Suite No. 1 in E minor*.

Vieaux is the classical guitarist that goes beyond the classical. He has earned a reputation for putting his expressive gifts and virtuosity at the service of a remarkably wide range of music, and his schedule of recital, concerto, chamber music, teaching and recording commitments is distinguished with return engagements throughout the U.S. and abroad.

The Escher Quartet takes its name from Dutch graphic artist M.C. Escher, inspired by Escher’s method of interplay between individual components working together to form a whole. The Escher has received acclaim for its profound musical insight and rare tonal beauty. In its hometown of New York, the ensemble serves as Artists of The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, where last season they presented a critically acclaimed three-concert series featuring the quartets of Benjamin Britten. In 2013, the Quartet became one of the very few chamber ensembles to be awarded the prestigious Avery Fischer Career Grant. Within months of its inception in 2005, the Escher Quartet was invited by both

Pinchas Zukerman and Itzhak Perlman to be Quartet in Residence at each artist’s summer festival.

Anyone who subscribes to a concert series or makes a contribution of \$30 or more automatically becomes a Howland Chamber Music Circle member. There are no additional dues. Season tickets now available, \$30 single tickets for sale subject to availability. Visit [howlandmusic.org](http://howlandmusic.org) or call 845-297-9243. Learn more at [jasonvieaux.com](http://jasonvieaux.com), [escherquartet.com](http://escherquartet.com).



Kids on the farm Photo courtesy of Common Ground Farm

### Registration Open for CGF Fall Programs for Kids

Common Ground Farm announces fall programs for kids. Preschool on the Farm will be offered from 10 to 11 a.m. on Fridays. First session: Sept. 19.

Children ages 2 to 4 are invited to join in one-hour workshops designed just for them. Each class features a different farm or nature topic, experiential investigation and learning, movement, stories, and arts and crafts. Cost is \$80 prepaid for 12 sessions (2014 members \$72); \$45 prepaid for six sessions (2014 members \$40); \$10/drop-in session.

Pioneer Living will be offered Tuesday or Sunday, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. First session: Sunday, Sept. 21 or Tuesday, Sept. 23. Cost is \$80 for series of four sessions (2014 members \$75 for series). In this monthly program held at the farm, children learn about and experience life as it was in late 1800s frontier America: how children and parents provided food, shelter and entertainment for themselves, long before the days of TV, refrigerators, cars and supermarkets. Snacks provided. Visit [commongroundfarm.org](http://commongroundfarm.org).



Jason Vieaux Photo by Tyler Boye



Escher Quartet Photo by Laura Rose

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# Critical Success for Global Warming Series

Garrison producer wins Emmy

By Pamela Doan

For Garrison resident David Gelber, the co-creator and an executive producer of *Years of Living Dangerously*, winning an Emmy Award for Outstanding Documentary Series had special significance even though he's no stranger to the spotlight; this is the ninth time he's won an Emmy. When the series debuted on Showtime this past April with a nine-episode run, it was the fulfillment of four years of work that he'd put into creating the series with his business partner, Joel Bach, after they both left jobs at *60 Minutes* to pursue it.

*Years of Living Dangerously*, or the YEARS Project, explores the impact of climate change on communities around the world, using celebrity correspondents to do the reporting. Harrison Ford, Don Cheadle, Olivia Munn, Matt Damon, and Jessica Alba, among others, were



David Gelber

Photo credit: The YEARS Project/SHOWTIME

drawn by their commitment to the issue to be involved, and Hollywood heavy-

weight James Cameron was an executive producer. Gelber and Bach's strategy for the series was for the celebrities to act as journalists and they interviewed people who are affected by environmental crises caused by global warming. "I was amazed at what good 'journalists' our actor-correspondents turned out to be," Gelber said. "They all performed with the skill and intelligence of *60 Minutes* correspondents."

The Primetime Creative Arts Emmy Awards, announced on Aug. 16, recognize technical accomplishments in television programs (the Primetime Emmy Awards will air on Monday, Aug. 25). Gelber's series *Years of Living Dangerously* was nominated in two categories, for both Outstanding Writing for Non-fiction Programming, which *Cosmos: A SpaceTime Odyssey* won, and for Outstanding Documentary or Nonfiction Series, which *Years* won. Gelber said he expected the popular *Cosmos* series, which had 12 nominations and is hosted by astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson, to win both categories; the competition was formidable.

When *Years* was announced as the winner, Gelber stepped in to give the acceptance speech on behalf of the team and said, "I talked about climate change being far and away the biggest issue of our time, which was a little out of sync with the festive mood." *Years of Living Dangerously* was also named as "the EMA Outstanding Achievement for Environmental Content Award" in the 2014 Environmental Media Awards earlier this month.

Although the recognition for the YEARS Project is Gelber's ninth Emmy award, it's his first nomination and award in the

primetime category. His previous eight Emmy honors were for news and documentary. For 25 years, Gelber was a producer on *60 Minutes* and has been honored with every major journalism award throughout the course of his career.

### Telling the climate story

Still, the Emmy for *Years of Living Dangerously* has special significance due to his personal connection with the subject matter.

"I think we've figured out a way to tell the climate story in a way that interests viewers, even if they don't think much about global warming and what causes it," Gelber said. "The response from critics couldn't have been better." In an interview with *The Paper* last April, Gelber talked about climate change as the issue he was going to devote the rest of his life working on. As a father, he felt it his mission to do this for his daughters.

The series has been so well received that Showtime is re-airing it again starting the second week of September and the entire series will be on DVD beginning Sept. 7. Gelber and his co-creator and partner on the series, Joel Bach, are hoping for a chance to run a second season in 2016.

For Gelber, the timing is critical because it would air during the next presidential race. Climate change wasn't an issue in the 2012 presidential race and he would like to influence that in the next race. That a documentary series on global warming was recognized with television's highest honor signals that the debate is shifting and *Years* is helping to tell the story.

The YEARS Project got so many requests for material from (To next page)

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Roots and Shoots

Friend or Foe?

Or what shows up in a neglected garden

By Pamela Doan

As I've written before, my pregnancy this summer (hello baby Rosabelle!) prevented me from devoting any attention to the garden or landscaping. Now that the baby is here, I've started looking around out there again and have discovered a few surprising new plants. Although they're interesting looking, two have flowers and one has large leaves and a multi-colored stem, I had to turn to my research books to identify them and determine if I had a welcome new addition or an invader. Given all the aggressive, invasive plants that typically crowd out the natives in my yard, my bets were on foe, not friend.

The first guest appeared in the compost pile. Popping up out of the rich mulch is a 2-foot-high plant with long leaves dropping from a black-striped thick stem. Since I get volunteer tomatoes sprouting from seed in the compost pile, my husband's first guess turned out

to be the correct one. He assumed it was something that had been composted, not something that drifted in, and he didn't recognize it as one of the usual fruits or vegetables we eat like peppers or carrots. Avocado, he guessed.

Avocados grow from trees in warm climates, tropical or sub-tropical. Most kids are familiar with sticking toothpicks in a pit and suspending it in water to get it to sprout, but that's usually as far as it goes. Keeping the sprout going and turning it into a tree that will bear fruit eventually doesn't often happen in our climate. I had to turn to the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources website for information about them. They don't show up, of course, in any of my resources based on Northeast growing.

Since the avocado isn't hardy to our climate, I'm going to transplant it to a pot soon and bring it in for the winter. Why look a gift tree in the mouth? If it doesn't work, I can compost it again, but if it lives, then in 5-13 years (not kidding) I'll have avocados growing on the patio. Once again, understanding what it takes to grow a favorite food brings new appreciation for it. Patience is necessary.

The original avocado would have been a Hass, but the tree is cross-pollinated and is a hybrid of the original parent and whatever else, not a true Hass. That's the case with all volunteer plants.

My next discovery turned out to be a foe as I expected. In a patch of yard that I cleared, but didn't get around to filling in this summer, a 3-foot-high, bushy plant has taken over. At first glance, it has nice pretty flowers. Flowers are good, right? Not in this case. A little investigating confirmed it is Japanese knotweed, a huge problem because it's aggressive, fast growing, invasive and hard to eradicate. Good times ahead.

Japanese knotweed was intentionally planted as an ornamental plant that turned out to be problematic, as so many of these imported plants become. Outside of their native habitat without their natural checks and balances, many introduced plants go



Japanese knotweed is an aggressive, invasive plant that can take over in the landscape.

beyond our landscape boundaries.

To get rid of this unwelcome newcomer, I'll need to resort to using an herbicide, glyphosate, the main ingredient in Roundup. Japanese knotweed spreads through rhizomes and simply cutting it back would trigger new growth. The most effective method is to cut it back to 3 to 4 inches above the ground and then apply Roundup, which at least is a selective herbicide and will affect only the vegetation that it is directly sprayed on. As long as I follow the label's instructions and take care not to spill it or spray it on surrounding plants, it can be used safely.

Last but not least, I found jewelweed growing in the same area as the Japanese knotweed. The speckled orange trumpet-shaped flowers on dense foliage attract bees and this one is just passing its bloom time. It's an herb that has been used for many conditions and it is considered a cure for poison ivy. As a native plant, it isn't a problem. I could treat it like a weed and

pull it or I could leave it and let the bees and hummingbirds enjoy it. I quite like the flowers and can't see any reason to mind it. Welcome to the garden, jewelweed.



Jewelweed Photos by P. Doan



An avocado tree found growing from a pit left in the compost pile.


Success for Global Warming Series (From previous page)

schools that they teamed up with the National Wildlife Federation to create curriculum based on the series for middle school, high school and college students that will be available this fall. Gelber said that he hasn't been in contact with either the Garrison or Haldane School Districts yet about sharing curriculum, but he'd be happy to work with them.

The fight to address the biggest issue facing the planet has plenty of talent and leadership right here in the community. Two other Garrison residents were


involved in the series. Radley Horton, a climate scientist at Columbia University, was involved in the series by vetting the scientific rigor of their scripts and Arturo Aranda was their social media guru. Behind the scenes, Gelber credits his wife, Kyoko, and daughters Maya and Clara, for their support of him and the project as it's taken up a lot of his time and he couldn't have done it without them.

Watch the first episode of *Years of Living Dangerously* for free on the website [yearsoflivingdangerously.com/episodes/](http://yearsoflivingdangerously.com/episodes/).



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Fitness

Better with Age

By Kathie Scanlon

Baby boomer seniors are redefining retirement, keeping physically active to improve their quality of life and overall health. Amber Stickle, direc-



Fit for Life Class for Seniors at Chestnut Ridge Community Room, Cold Spring

Photos courtesy of Amber Stickle

tor of the Philipstown Recreation Department, responded to a request from the Philipstown Town Board to develop free exercise classes for residents 62 and better. Registration is currently open with classes beginning the week of Sept. 8 for an eight-week series.

On Mondays, Fit For Life instructor Danielle Pack McCarthy offers a gentle cardio workout with light weights. On Wednesdays and Fridays, Kathie Scanlon (full disclosure: that’s me) offers Chair Yoga classes for improved range of motion and balance as well as stress reduction. Kelly House gets the group moving on the dance floor with Zumba Gold® on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

“It is a real pleasure to offer the seniors a fun way to exercise,” House said. “I love it when they say they feel stronger and more flexible.”

In 2013, the first year of the program, approximately 60 participants joined all or some of the three classes offered. Councilwoman Nancy Montgomery and Stickle are presently seeking funding from Putnam County for additional classes.



Fit for Life Class for Seniors

Stickle is pleased with the receptivity of the instructors to their students’ needs: “They are able to tailor the classes to participants who have mobility issues that prevent them from doing a particular exercise.”

Seniors have reported they are happy to have a venue where they may exercise

and socialize with their peers.

Classes are held in the Continental Village Clubhouse and the Chestnut Ridge Community Room. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Further information can be found at philipstown-recreation.com or 845-424-4618.

A Look at Cottontail Rabbits

Resist temptation to disturb natural habitat

By Alison Rooney

It may be well past Easter, but with many bunnies being born throughout summer, Hudson Highlands Nature Museum (HHNM) wildlife educator Carl Heitmuller wants to get the word out: “If you care, leave them there.”

What he means by this is if you happen upon a “nest” of rabbits during daytime, seemingly unattended by their mom, resist the impulse to scoop them up and bring them in as the ramifications are usually dire. As these rabbits feed at morning and night, during the daytime their mother is meant to be away from them, and if they are taken from her too early they generally perish within the week from simple stress.

This bit of information was the centerpiece of Heitmuller’s program on Cottontail Rabbits, held recently at Hubbard Lodge in another of the joint programs sponsored by the HHNM and the Hud-

son Highlands Land Trust.

Heitmuller began the well-attended talk by noting some general characteristics: big eyes, located at the size of their head, a “great nose for smelling,” large back feet, capable of covering 10 feet in a single stride, and reddish brown or grey coloring perfect for camouflage, all along with, of course, the white, cotton ball-esque tail. Cottontails grow to about 14 to 18 inches long and up to 4 pounds and the females are larger than males. According to Heitmuller, they move in small hops and jumps, but can achieve much greater speeds when frightened, often moving in a zigzag pattern to confuse a pursuing predator. They also can swim well, though rarely favor moving through the water.

Herbacious bunnies

Heitmuller took care to mention that these rabbits are not rodents, but instead are lagomorphs, strictly herbaceous animals which never consume meat, possessing two extra incisors, four in total, and preferring clover, grass, leaves, and — in winter — even twigs

and bark. They tend to live in or near meadows, fields and other grassy areas. They do not hibernate and spend winter searching for new food sources. Their main predators are foxes, owls, hawks, snakes and coyotes. Because they have many predators, they breed often and have litters several times a year.

Hares differ from rabbits in both appearance and habitat. Dwelling in drier climates, hence not around here, hares have larger ears and longer, skinnier bodies.

Breeding occurs from March through the fall. After a 30-day gestation period, after the mom creates a little burrow out of twigs and her own fur, litters generally of four or five young are born. Babies, weighing under a pound, are born hairless and blind, with their eyes opening up before a week has elapsed; after just two weeks they’re already out on their own and are weaned and fully independent at four to five weeks. At just one year they are old enough to have their own litter, and the average lifespan in the wild is three years.

“People find rabbits,” Heitmuller said. “I get calls just about every day around this time of year saying ‘I’ve taken them in the house.’ No!” he stressed. “Leave them there unless you know for sure that the mother is dead. Even if you don’t see her for hours, during daylight, probably nothing is wrong, in fact if the mom stays, hawks and other predators will see activity around the nest and attack. If you do see a dead parent near a nest with living babies, call a licensed wildlife rehabilitator.” Heitmuller described the mission as unpaid, doing it for the love of animals. Rehabilitators do everything possible to return animals back into the wild and not turn them into companion animals.

For those who do seek a rabbit as a companion animal, Heitmuller urged



A Netherland Dwarf rabbit, brought along to the presentation, looks a bit surprised to be the center of attention.

Photos by A. Rooney



Carl Heitmuller illustrates his talk with a live rabbit, this one a Netherland Dwarf.

them to do a lot of research first. “It’s essential to get the right hutch,” he said. “You can leave them outside only if there are no predators around — and these predators can include small animals, for example the short-tailed weasel ... Also be aware, if keeping them in a hutch indoors, that the smell of their urine is very strong. And whatever you do, don’t feed them carrots, or rather if you must, take a piece no larger than the size of your thumb and give it to them once a week, or it is like gorging for them — it’s not part of their natural diet.”

At the conclusion of his talk and PowerPoint presentation, Heitmuller invited attendees to sit in a circle where he had them act out a rabbit-being-pursued scenario invoking some of the characteristics he had described. Then it was time for the real deal, as he pulled a rabbit out of, if not a hat, then a cage, or rather opened the door to a hutch, from which a Netherland Dwarf rabbit shyly emerged, retreated, stuck his head out of the open top, and eventually was induced to come into the center of the circle and show himself off a bit.

For more information on the HHNM’s natural history programs, on and off site, visit hhnaturemuseum.org or call 845-534-5506.