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West Point Foundry Workers Defied Danger, Economic Vagaries

Labor built an industry and community

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

On Thursday, Aug. 18, 1859, William Penman, a 19-year-old apprentice, went to his job at the West Point Foundry. He never came home. In an incident shrouded in mystery, he died on the job, “killed by a cannon discharge,” according to a sketchy note in an obscure book.

Whether any parents or siblings mourned him is unknown, but his young peers clearly felt his loss. His tombstone, in the Old Cold Spring Cemetery (next to the Haldane school campus), was “erected as a tribute by fellow apprentices,” relates the obscure source, *Old Tombstones of Putnam County*, a 1975 compendium of grave listings. Though visible 40 years

ago, Penman’s tombstone, if it still exists, today cannot readily be found; graveyard weeds grow high, many stones lie toppled, and inscriptions on others have worn away.

A diverse workforce — except in gender

Penman’s untimely demise, portending the deaths of thousands of young men a few years later in the Civil War, underscores the risks confronted daily by those who turned Cold Spring from a tiny riverfront hamlet into a thriving 19th-century village, home to an innovative industrial giant, the West Point Foundry, an ironworks established in 1817. Known not only for its state-of-the-art cannons, but for policies both enlightened and paternal toward workers, the foundry offered employees houses (initially rented, then sold), many still in use, and encouraged family life. (Continued on page 3)



James Lahey and Margaret Lahey in an undated photograph: A West Point Foundry employee, James lost an arm in a workplace accident.

Photo courtesy of Beth Myers and Scenic Hudson

O’Neill High School Welcomes Garrison Students

Incoming freshmen attend orientation

By Mary Ann Ebner

A group of 16 Garrison high school freshmen may be doing their homework in Philipstown come next Wednesday, Sept. 3, but they’ll be learning in the classrooms of James I. O’Neill High School across the river in this new academic year. Students will make a “Fresh Start,” the theme of O’Neill’s Freshman and New Student Orientation held Wednesday (Aug. 27), as they invest in the next chapter of their education.

Highland Falls Fort Montgomery Central School District’s high (To page 6)



Shirley Hot, owner of Beacon’s The Pandora, in front of an “exploding tardis.”

Photo by S. Hixson

Doctor Who Brings Legions of Fans to Beacon

Tea Room becomes Pandora

By Sommer Hixson

“I can’t stop giggling,” Shirley Hot said. Last month, the proprietor of The Cup & Saucer Team Room in Beacon reopened her business as a theme restaurant based on the cult TV series, *Doctor Who*. The average wait for a table at The Pandora, Hot’s new establishment, is now two hours or more. She says she receives 30 to 40 phone calls a day, and The Pandora’s Facebook page is fast approaching 10,000 “likes.” Needless to say, business is good.

Hot purchased The Cup & Saucer in 2007, after she worked there as a waitress and a cook. “For the last two or three years I was considering a redesign because Beacon had changed. Young

families and a lot of young people were moving up from the city and they weren’t attracted to the place. It wasn’t their style. I figured I should become a little more contemporary.”

Without going too far into the complex storylines of *Doctor Who*, a science fiction show created by Sydney Newman, The Pandora is a fictional underground prison beneath Stonehenge, the actual prehistoric monument in England. The series has celebrated avid fandom since it first premiered on BBC1 Television in 1963, the day after President Kennedy was assassinated. This past Saturday, Aug. 23, the newer BBC America series premiered its eighth season and its 12th Doctor, portrayed by Peter Capaldi (*In The Loop*, *World War Z*).

Hot, who is British, has been watching *Doctor Who* (Continued on page 11)



James I. O’Neill High School Principal Louis Trombetta, Assistant Principal Robin Haberman and Guidance Counselor Patricia Lofaro

Photo by M.A. Ebner



La Dana, a small sailboat anchored offshore at Cold Spring for the past several months, has sparked curiosity among village residents.

Photo by M. Turton

Mystery Boat

La Dana prompts questions

By Michael Turton

Since late this spring, the most common question on the Cold Spring riverfront has been, “What’s with that boat?” A small sailboat, La Dana, has been anchored close to shore, directly across from Moo Moo’s Creamery, for several months. Comments from fre-

quent visitors to the waterfront indicate that the boat has seldom, if ever, left anchor. Residents have also wondered about the legality of leaving a boat anchored for an extended period of time in that location.

Capt. William McNamara, spokesman for the Putnam County Sheriff’s Office, said La Dana is believed to be owned by a resident of Nelsonville. The Hudson River, he added, is governed (To page 4)

Mouths to Feed

Eat A Bean

By Celia Barbour

My daughter, bless her, will lick a peach.

This display of bravery swells my heart, even if, immediately thereafter, she narrows her eyes and shakes her head.

“Too sour,” she says, both annoyed and apologetic.

In all likelihood, her impromptu verdict means that she will not revisit peaches until she is well into her teens.

She is 10 now, and I want her to love good food — food that will make her strong and healthy, calm and clear-minded. I also want her to experience the things that thrill me, like a perfectly ripe, exquisite peach. But most of all, I want to stop worrying about her diet — and this, at heart, is simply a permutation of the great longing every parent feels, always and forever: to be confident



that your children, left to their own devices, will make the right choices so that you can stop monitoring them.

Her brothers are like that. They will add lettuce and tomatoes to their sandwiches, eat entire peaches and come looking for more.

With Dosi, I have to be more vigilant. Left alone, she will live on cereal, frozen peas, macaroni, and cinnamon toast, with an occasional bowl of frozen blueberries topped with milk and sugar as an evening treat.

And if there is chocolate ice cream in the freezer one day, it will not be there the next.

So it is up to me to keep green beans in the house. I need to provide her with sautéed spinach or broccoli with garlic, caramelized kale, grilled zucchini. I need to make smoothies, and hummus for her carrots. I need to chop parsley for her to sprinkle over her buttered noodles, and slice up apples or bananas and set them down beside her. She eats these things gladly, so long as they are offered to her.

With Dosi, eating well is a joint venture. And sometimes I forget to keep up my end of the bargain.

My mother thinks my daughter is picky, and she would like for me to think so, too. To her, rejecting food is not only immoral (she grew up during the war) but also slightly unhinged, a sign of obstinacy bordering on madness. But who gets to decide what “picky” means? Not her. Not me, either. According to the National Institute of Health, 25 to 35 percent of children are defined as picky — by their parents. The pediatricians don’t tend to agree. To them, most picky kids are doing just fine.

So I try to see the logic in Dosi’s choices: She does not like juicy, acidic foods. She hates tomatoes, strawberries, oranges. And I’ve noticed that the more I respect her aversions, the more likely she is to trust me, and to maybe, once in while, ever-so-



Potato salad with green beans and herbs

Photos by C. Barbour

gingerly lick a slice of perfectly-ripe peach.

We were in New Hampshire when she did that, and a little while later, I went for a walk. The sky was overcast and drizzly, and no one wanted to join me. I started off up the hill, hiking into the dark woods, but stopped hardly 10 minutes later. It had occurred to me that perhaps the organic farm down the road was selling green beans. I turned and headed in the opposite direction.

Two miles later, I arrived at Booty Farm (“Booty” is the family’s last name, and does not refer to anything else *at*

all.) In the rocky New England soil and challenging New England climate, they manage to grow some of the sweetest, tenderest carrots, tomatoes, squashes, and beans I have ever tasted, anywhere.

Their farm stand operates on the honor system, out of a wooden shed by the side of a dirt road. I open the coolers one by one. Peppers, zucchini, onions, potatoes, carrots ... and finally, in the last one, a tangle of slim, young green beans. I fill my knapsack with three pounds of them, put cash in the box, and head back uphill, feeling purposeful and good-motherish. And happy that my pleasure and Dosi’s will soon be in perfect sync.

Potato Salad with Green Beans and Herbs

One secret to a flavorful potato salad is to splash the potatoes with some mild vinegar while they are still hot, just after you’ve drained them. Another is to make your own mayonnaise — with lots of mustard and herbs.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 3 pounds boiling potatoes, scrubbed and peeled if desired | 1 tablespoon lemon juice |
| 3 tablespoons kosher salt, divided | 1 cup mayonnaise, preferably homemade |
| 2-3 tablespoons light vinegar (cider, white, or white wine) | 3 tablespoons mustard |
| ½ pound green beans, stem ends trimmed | ½ cup chopped, mixed fresh herbs (try dill, parsley, and basil, or parsley and tarragon) |
| 1 small shallot, minced | sea salt and pepper, to taste |

1. Cut the potatoes in half. Place the potatoes and 3 tablespoons of salt in a large pot; cover with cold water. Bring to a boil then lower heat and simmer until barely tender, about 10 minutes. Drain, return pot to heat and cook over low until all the water evaporates, about 15 seconds. Splash the potatoes with vinegar, cover the pot, and allow the potatoes to steam 15 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, bring a medium pot of water to a boil. Add 1 tablespoon salt and the green beans and cook until tender, about 6 minutes; drain and set aside.
3. Mince the shallot and place in a small cup or dish with the lemon juice and set aside, stirring once or twice, about 10 minutes.
4. When the potatoes are cool enough to handle, cut into 1- to 1½-inch pieces. Cut the green beans to ½-inch lengths. In a bowl, combine the potatoes, green beans, and shallot mixture. Toss gently. Refrigerate to cool, if desired (or serve right away, at room temperature).
5. Ten minutes before serving, mix together the mayonnaise, mustard, and herbs. Toss with the potato mixture. Taste, and add more salt, pepper, or vinegar if needed. Serve.



The Paper reporter Clayton Smith on summer break at Bernal Hill in San Francisco. Photo by Shauna Ricketts

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West Point Foundry Workers Defied Danger, Economic Vagaries *(from page 1)*

The men — so far, research reveals only one woman in the workforce — settled into new village neighborhoods; their children went to a foundry-built school (where apprentices likewise took classes) and they socialized and worshipped at WPF-supported churches. They worked in the foundry machine, pattern, blacksmith, and casting shops; and in the boring mill, offices, and other facilities. For a time, the foundry included a large smelting furnace and kept sloops to transport goods on the Hudson River, crucial before the railroad arrived. WPF employees produced train and steamboat components, water pipes, building facades, agricultural equipment, household implements, stoves, and more, in addition to cannons and armaments.

Sometimes specifically recruited (especially at the beginning), they traced their origins to Ireland, England, Scotland, France, Germany, and Puerto Rico, as well as New York state. Collectively, they filled laboring, trained crafts, and managerial positions. Archaeological digs at the location of homes built within the foundry boundaries found scientific instruments, quality ceramics and porcelain, toys, and similar items, evidence of comfortable middle-class lives. Thanks largely to the foundry and its employees, by 1852 Cold Spring sported what one news story described as “neat and tasty buildings, with comfortable homes and happy firesides.” Even so, accommodations were not always so attractive: during the Civil War, when an expanded workforce flooded the village, the foundry brought in a barge on the Hudson to serve as staff dormitories.

Over the years, through their patronage, WPF personnel also helped fuel the growth of Main Street’s numerous shops, professional offices and businesses, listed abundantly on 1860s maps.

“The workers provided the skills that made the West Point Foundry a success and, in turn, contributed so much to the development of the village,” said Rita Shaheen, Scenic Hudson parks director, Aug. 26. “Through their work in manufacturing Parrott guns, they also played a critical, if unheralded, role in winning the Civil War.”

(In 1996, decades after the foundry closed, Scenic Hudson, a regional environmental organization, bought the property and later converted it to a historical park.)

But trainees like Penman were tightly controlled — apprenticeship rules forbade sex, card games, and hanging out at bars, among other taboos. The older, regular workers often endured 10- or 12-hour shifts in the sprawling foundry, which stretched from approximately Chestnut Street to the Hudson River.



In the latter 19th century, WPF workers gather for a group photo by the machine shop.

Photo courtesy of the Putnam History Museum

Over everyone loomed the potential for disasters like the one that killed Penman.

Perils in proofs

Tests or proofs of cannon, to ensure proper functioning, could be particularly hazardous. “Things like that” — fatal accidents — “in a proofing exercise sound all too common,” Steven Walton, an assistant professor at Michigan Technological University, told *The Paper*, Tuesday (Aug. 26). In Penman’s case, Walton suggested, “it could have been an accident or could have been a bad barrel that blew up. Typically the company proofed it once or twice themselves, and then if it did not blow, they subjected it to an Army or Navy proof again. So if he was killed in that, I would bet it would have been an accident in the company’s proof process.” Walton worked on the WPF archaeological dig and has researched and written about foundry topics. Michigan

Tech, a leader in industrial archaeology, conducted excavations at the WPF from 2002 to 2008.

“Accidents came with industry, and they happened regularly at the foundry, where workers contended with deafening sound, flying sparks, molten metal, and tools and products that weighed in the tons,” the Scenic Hudson mobile WPF tour explains. “Add to that the crowded, cramped workspaces and stress of ever-increasing production demands during the Civil War, and the foundry’s doctor would have been just as busy as the rest of the workforce.” The long-time WPF physician, Dr. Frederick Lente, in 1853-54 built The Grove, a spacious but now derelict home above Chestnut Street, and became nationally renowned for his medical acumen.

Two serious foundry mishaps preceded an 1864 worker strike, a job-action os-

tensibly sparked by dissatisfaction over wages but launched at a time when the foundry ran 24 hours a day, under intense pressure to produce war materiel. Involving attempts to lift heavy weights, the accidents left one man with a broken leg and the other with a broken collarbone, according to Scenic Hudson.

Also at some point, WPF worker James Lahey lost part of an arm in an on-the-job accident. He survived, to pose with his wife, Margaret, in a photo — now included in Scenic Hudson’s mobile tour of the site.

The WPF paid financial assistance to injured workers who could no longer function on the job.

Foundry executives also put in long stints. Letters from Foundry Superintendent Robert Parrott, an inventor and former Army officer who created the highly successful cannon that bears his name, attest to his inability in 1863 to even cross the river to visit the iron furnaces that provided the foundry with metal. Cannons “are ordered by the fifties” by the Union “and all my efforts required to keep up the supply,” he wrote to his brother. “I have no let-up in the calls for guns” and ammunition, he reiterated several weeks later, “in fact, it is increasing daily.” (*The West Point Foundry and the Parrot Gun*, a booklet by Charles Isleib and Jack Chard, contains excerpts of the correspondence.) During the war, the foundry employed more than 1,200 workers, about 2.5 times its pre-1861 level.

A war-time walk-out

Notwithstanding Parrott’s 24/7 duties, the nitty-gritty, hot, physically demanding labor fell to the factory workers. The strain perhaps contributed to the sole serious (or publicized) WPF strike, in March 1864, when, according to *The New York Times*, about 300 workers, forming the Laboring Men’s Union, walked off the job on a Thursday, forcing others to leave as well *(Continued on page 4)*

Michael McKee, PhD
Licensed Psychologist
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PUBLISHER

Gordon Stewart

MANAGING EDITOR

Kevin E. Foley

ARTS/FEATURE EDITOR

Alison Rooney

SENIOR CORRESPONDENTS

Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Michael Turton

LAYOUT EDITOR

Kate Vikstrom

CALENDAR EDITOR

Chip Rowe

calendar@philipstown.info

COPY EDITOR

Mary Ann Ebner

SPORTS EDITOR

Kathie Scanlon

sports@philipstown.info

REPORTERS

Sommer Hixson

Pamela Doan

Clayton Smith

PHOTOGRAPHER

Maggie Benmour

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Michele Gedney

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ThePaper

CSPD Hires NYPD Officer

Three firms bid on NYSERDA grant

By Michael Turton

After months of discussion, the Village of Cold Spring Board of Trustees approved hiring an additional officer for the Cold Spring Police Department at their Tuesday (Aug. 26) meeting. Michael O'Rourke is a 23-year veteran of the New York City Police Department. CSPD has been short one officer on the schedule for several months, a situation which resulted in accrued overtime and at least one shift in which there was no officer on duty.

Trustees also moved toward filling the two remaining spots on the new, seven-member Zoning Update Committee. Susan Peehl and Tom Monroe, two of five residents who have indicated an interest in serving on the committee, were interviewed in a closed session prior to the start of the regular meeting. Previous appointments to the committee include 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; Michael Armstrong, former chair of the Special Board for the Comprehensive Plan and Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan, and Donald MacDonald, past chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals. The code, originally written in the 1960s, has long been criticized as inappropriate for Cold Spring because it was taken from a suburban community that

bore little resemblance to the village.

Three consulting firms have submitted proposals, seeking the contract to assist the village in implementing a \$75,000 grant from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). The grant will support the Zoning Update Committee in its work. Trustees agreed to set aside one meeting to interview the three consulting firms, each of which have considerable local experience: AKRF, which worked with the Town of Philipstown on its zoning update; Barton & Loguidice, which is currently working with the Cold Spring Planning Board on the Butterfield project; and GreenPlan, which wrote the successful NYSERDA grant application and which worked with the Special Board in developing the Cold Spring Comprehensive Plan and LWRP.

Representatives of RBC Wealth Management and Penflex Inc. addressed the Village Board and suggested improvements to streamline data entry procedures for the Cold Spring Fire Company's service award program — a move that trustees readily agreed to. Volunteer firefighters qualify for a pension based on years of service and Penflex specializes in administering such programs in conjunction with RBC. The village sets aside funds each year in order to meet the program's future pension needs. In recent years the annual contribution has been as much as \$60,000 — an amount expected to be reduced to approximately \$54,000 due to the strength of the program's investment portfolio.

Cold Spring's Village Hall has a leaky

The cupola that sits atop the Cold Spring Village Hall housed the fire company siren during the era in which the building served as the fire hall. The cupola's roof is badly decayed and is the likely cause of leaks in the village hall ceiling.

Photo by M. Turton

roof. According to Mayor Ralph Falloon the causes may include the cupola and a ladder that is permanently mounted on the roof near where the two halves of the building meet. The cupola, which is now empty, housed the siren for the village fire company during the period that the building served as the fire hall. Falloon said the cupola's roof is "completely shot." Steps are being taken to make necessary repairs.

Paving contracts were approved to complete work on Grandview and Parrott Streets. Carmel-based Intercounty Paving was the successful bidder on both projects.

West Point Foundry Workers Defied Danger, Economic Vagaries

(from page 3)

— abruptly shutting the plant. The diplomacy of Father J. Caro, the local Catholic priest, who convened a worker meeting; a cordial greeting from Parrott's wife when the workers marched en masse to the couple's home, accompanied by Caro; the fact Parrott himself stayed at work, shrugging off any threats; private negotiations; and the arrival of 120 soldiers, joined by the Putnam County sheriff, to arrest the alleged strike leaders and ensure production resumed, all seemed to end the walk-out without violence. For a while, however, tension prevailed and teachers at the foundry school fled Cold Spring, worried about attacks.

"Groups of men in earnest conversation may be seen on the corners of the streets and in the grog-shops of this usually quiet village. The work at the foundry is still stopped and fear is entertained lest injury to life and property may ensue," a *New York Times* article reported, two days after the strike began. "It is to be hoped this unfortunate affair may soon be brought to a favorable termination and that the West Point Foundry may speedily resume its operations, for its importance in connection with the government and the war is incalculable." A day later, the *Times* reported that the strike was largely over, with work beginning to resume, though a military guard remained. "The property and persons of the [village] inhabitants have not been injured and under the circumstances the [striking] operatives have conducted themselves with greater decorum than was expected," the correspondent wrote.

An end in 1911

After the war, business slacked off and in 1873, during a U.S. economic downturn, the foundry cut back workers to 75 percent of their normal hours. The factory continued for another 38 years, but steel replaced iron and the heyday of the 1820s-60s never returned. Though the J.B. & J.M. Cornell Co., a New York City

WPF machinists and apprentices take a break for a photo in the late 1800s.

Photo courtesy of the Putnam History Museum

business, acquired the foundry in 1898 and oversaw upgrades and expansions, the foundry closed in 1911.

Nonetheless, despite the ups-and-downs of its latter years, the workers still felt enthused enough to maintain a WPF band and play on a baseball team.

[For more on the foundry, visit the Put-

nam History Museum, with its foundry-related collection, 63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring; consult *West Point Foundry*, by Trudie A. Grace and Mark Forlow, an Arcadia Publishing 2014 book; tour the West Point Foundry Preserve and take advantage of the mobile tour, also found on the Scenic Hudson website: www.scenichudson.org.]

Mystery Boat

(from page 1)

by state laws enforced by the Sheriff's Office Marine Unit, as well as other state, county and local agencies, while federal boating and navigation laws are enforced by the U.S. Coast Guard. "It is my understanding ... that there is no law restricting the length of time that a boat may be anchored in such a location," McNamara told *The Paper* via email.

Asked if there could be a legal issue if a large number of boats anchored in the same location, McNamara said that it is his understanding of applicable laws that, "... anchorage of a boat or boats may become an issue if the location of the anchored craft(s) impedes navigation of other boats or creates an unsafe condition." As an example he said that if an anchored boat is left in or near a channel or blocking a public boat launch site, "it may constitute a violation of law."

George Kane, officer-in-charge for the Cold Spring Police Department, said that because La Dana is anchored offshore, the village has no jurisdiction over it.

Where There's Smoke — There's Daisy

Arson K-9 a local resident

By Michael Turton

A big part of Westchester Police Detective John Peters' job description sounds straightforward: "To assist in investigations to determine the cause and origin of a fire." But investigating fires, especially when arson is suspected, can be anything but simple. And anything but a one-man job.

"Fire investigation is a team effort," Peters said in a recent interview. One set of eyes just doesn't work." One of the extra pairs of eyes on Westchester's arson team, and more importantly one extra nose, belongs to a dog named Daisy. Peters is Daisy's handler — and the two are inseparable.

Peters grew up in Irvington and joined the Westchester Police Department in 1996, doing road patrol as a rookie. In 2001, he joined the detective division where he quickly became a Level II Fire Investigator, the highest New York State rating. His training as an arson detective has been "ongoing and constant" ever since. "Arson is my passion but I have to catch other cases too," he said.

He has also been actively involved with volunteer fire departments since 1983. He worked his way up through the ranks to



Detective John Peters and Daisy — A working arson dog, Daisy is also the Peters' family dog.

Photos by M. Turton

become chief of Irvington Fire and Rescue. Peters moved to Philipstown in 2002 and immediately got involved with the administrative side of the North Highlands Fire District where he now serves as a commissioner.

Drive, intelligence and a good nose

Daisy is an English Black Lab, a breed Peters said is well suited to arson duty. "They look for dogs that have drive, intelligence and are sniffers," he said. "You need a dog that wants to please



Daisy is an English Black Lab, a breed that has drive, intelligence and a keen sense of smell. She once identified an arson suspect in a police lineup.

its handler. Daisy would do anything to make me happy — including going into a completely burned out building." Commenting on her abilities Peters added, "Daisy is a tool — an amazing tool — in a fire investigator's toolbox."

Daisy was originally destined to assist people in wheel chairs but made a career change when assigned as a "sniffer dog." She was sent to Indiana where she was imprinted to detect numerous fire accelerants — gasoline, lighter fluid and the like.

Intense training and a strong bond

Peters and Daisy were paired in 2012 as part of a five-week training program hosted by the Maine Criminal Justice Academy and State Farm Insurance. The latter funds the program to the tune of about \$1 million annually. For the insurance company it's a small investment,

considering that billions of dollars of property are destroyed and hundreds of lives lost nationwide each year through intentionally set fires. "If one dog solves one fire the program has paid for itself," Peters said.

Arson investigation training creates a bond between man and dog that is incredibly strong, one that Peters said few people get to experience. "It was one of the greatest experiences of my life," he said. It is also an intense experience. "It was physically demanding and constant. Hundreds of drops of accelerants every day."

In a "drop" an object is tainted with a small amount of accelerant and hidden. The canine trainee's job is to find it. Sniffer

dogs are trained using Pavlovian response. When Daisy searches for an accelerant she knows there's a food reward awaiting her when she finds it. She's good at her job but must be recertified annually at a training facility in Montour Falls, New York.

Sniffing out suspects — and evidence

Peters explained that the burden of proof often rests with the arson dog — and Daisy has proven herself many times. In one case she earned her reward by identifying a suspect in a police lineup. "Arsonists almost always spill accelerant on themselves but aren't aware of it," Peters said. In the lineup, Daisy went directly to the suspect, sniffed, and sat right in front of him — the passive posture she adopts to indicate she has found evidence. The suspect's clothes were tested and the presence of an accelerant was confirmed.

One of the biggest mistakes arsonists make is assuming that no evidence will remain after a fire. "They think they

(Continued on page 14)

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Applicant:OLSPAN LLC
235 E 87TH ST #1L
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Facility:OLSPAN WAREHOUSE
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Application ID:3-3726-00315/00001

Permit(s) Applied for:I — Article 24 Freshwater Wetlands

Project is located:in PHILIPSTOWN in PUTNAM COUNTY

Project Description:
The applicant proposes 840 square feet of disturbances in the regulated 100-foot adjacent area of NYS Freshwater Wetland WP-9, Class II, in association with the expansion of an existing warehouse. All proposed work, with the exception of 90 square feet, will take place in a previously disturbed area that is currently paved. The disturbances include the construction of a two covered walkways, a small open courtyard, grading and paving of a small area adjacent to existing pavement, and the installation of a section of pvc drainage pipe.

Availability of Application Documents:
Filed application documents, and Department draft permits where applicable, are available for inspection during normal business hours at the address of the contact person. To ensure timely service at the time of inspection, it is recommended that an appointment be made with the contact person.

State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Determination:
Project is an Unlisted Action and will not have a significant impact on the environment. A Negative Declaration is on file. A coordinated review was performed.

SEQR Lead Agency: Philipstown Town Planning Board

State Historic Preservation Act (SHPA) Determination:
Cultural resource lists and maps have been checked. No registered, eligible or inventoried archaeological sites or historic structures were identified at the project location. No further review in accordance with SHPA is required.

Availability For Public Comment
Comments on this project must be submitted in writing to the Contact Person no later than 09/11/2014 or 15 days after the publication date of this notice, whichever is later.

Contact Person
JONATHAN J STERCHO
NYSDEC
21 SOUTH PUTT CORNERS RD
NEW PALTZ, NY 12561-1620

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(rain date: Sunday, August 31)
2:00 Performance Art
curated by Marcy B. Freedman
2:30 Music organized by Thom Joyce
Yasgur 2:30pm
Bert Rehtschaffer Trio 3:15pm
Leah Nikolaya/Siegel J 4:00pm
Judith Tulloch Band 4:45pm

Mid Run Reception:
Sat., September 27, 2-6 pm
(rain date: Sunday, September 28)

Arts in the Highlands at Mid Run Reception:
Dance Theatre Opera

Exhibition & Programs open to the public
Free of charge open daily
Info: 845-528-1797
collabconcepts@optonline.net www.collaborativeconcepts.org

O'Neill High School Welcomes Garrison Students *(from page 1)*

school welcomes 142 students to the class of 2018, and values the opportunity to partner with families from Garrison to teach their children.

"It's a big class," said O'Neill Principal Louis Trombetta. Trombetta noted that this year's number of Garrison students is larger than usual. "It's trending upwards and hopefully it will continue."

Students from Garrison typically attend O'Neill or Haldane in Cold Spring, or any number of private schools. For Lori Mayo and her son, Christian, choosing either O'Neill or Haldane would further a family legacy.



O'Neill High School's incoming freshman class includes 16 students from Garrison.

"His (Christian's) dad graduated from here (O'Neill) and I graduated from Haldane," Mayo said. "Christian was pretty set on coming here. Their presentation was impressive."

Valerie Young of Garrison also gave her daughter, Desi, the opportunity to make a choice on school selection.

"Desi thought long and hard about her decision," Young said. "In her mind this was the only right decision. She wanted the opportunity for independence, to have opportunities academically, socially and athletically. She felt that this school supported every child as an individual."

Class of 2018

O'Neill Assistant Principal Robin Haberman said that making the important choice of where to attend high school is often a family decision, and O'Neill furthered their outreach to prospective students and parents this year.

"I think the kids are a huge part of the decision making," Haberman said. "We hosted a [Garrison School] visit in January. They see some of the older students who share their positive experience. With our presentation, it helped solidify the decision."

O'Neill student Carly Lawless of Fort Montgomery addressed students and parents in the auditorium during the orientation. She said the immersion of students from the Highland Falls, Garrison and West Point communities contributes positively to the O'Neill experience.

"When I first came here there were only three or four students from Garrison," Lawless said. "I think this year is awesome with so many. Our Student Council presented the Garrison skit and this year it was really good."

O'Neill Guidance Counselor Patricia Lofaro said that students, staff and faculty came together with a renewed enthusiasm to heighten awareness of O'Neill's atmosphere from academics and clubs to music, Junior ROTC and athletics.

"We wanted to present a comprehensive overview," Lofaro said. "They're making a choice that's going to impact their life. I take pride in meeting all my families and sitting down with them to start connecting early on."



Photos by M.A. Ebner

As she strolled around the gymnasium, hallways and cafeteria where scores of O'Neill students were leading workshops, answering questions about extracurricular activities and acting as ambassadors, she extolled the amenities of the school and the spirit of the community.

"We're a small school," Lofaro said, "but we have a lot to offer. "The Garrison students come well prepared and adjust beautifully to the school."

Being prepared in high school was one of the signature messages echoed throughout the orientation. Keynote speaker 2nd Lt. Alex Brammer, a 2014 graduate of West Point, shared his own high school story. Brammer grew up in an unstable environment and was pulled out of high school before he even learned the purpose of a student council. When he realized that racing dirt bikes and moving on without a high school education would present few opportunities, he began to work to achieve his own small miracle. When he turned 18, he joined the Army. Through a long process and service to the nation, Brammer made his way to West Point and will continue his studies in economics later this year at King's College in London.

"My story could have gone wrong at so many points," Brammer said. He faulted his own actions for failing to make the most of his high school education, but stressed that parents play a big part in helping their children navigate life. "Preparation, communication and determination matter every single day," he said. "My advice and plea to you today is to make a fresh start and above all, apply yourself in the classroom."

Orientation speakers emphasized the importance of traditional organizational skills. Though each student will have his or her own Google Drive account, notebooks, paper and textbooks still play a part as key tools for students. And the school promotes the SOAR philosophy: Set Goals, Organize, Ask Questions and Record Your Progress, all while keeping organized with a meticulous binder system.

In addition to maintaining organization, Principal Trombetta, speaking to parents in attendance, shared what he termed as two keys to success.

"Please have your children involved in our community and in school. And the second thing, believe it or not, is the dinner table. Families that eat together see more success. There's a high correlation of these two things," Trombetta said.

O'Neill Raiders

Several of the Garrison students are already suiting up in maroon and hitting athletic fields. Athletic Director Debra Crowe said that the district has 22 sports, noting that women's golf returns this year.

"One of my goals is promoting spirit and involvement," Crowe said. "Playing sports can be a very rewarding experience. If you don't play sports, there are other ways to get involved, as a team manager or scorekeeper."

Keith Wimer of Beacon is happy with his son's high school decision. A 2014 graduate of the Garrison School, Josh Wimer is looking forward to participating in Raider athletics.

"It was completely Josh's choice," Wimer said. "He plays soccer, golf, tennis and baseball, and he wants to continue. He had a chance to go to private school but he chose O'Neill."

Incoming freshman Derek Champi is also sporting team colors.

"I like it a lot already," Champi said. "I'm looking forward to the sports and I'll be playing soccer, basketball and lacrosse."

Champi's classmate Alex Mancuso is starting the year off with enthusiasm as well. His mother, Kim Mancuso of Garrison, said that Alex looked forward to the sports, academics and music programs.

"Alex wanted to come to O'Neill because many of his friends were coming," Kim Mancuso said. "I like the cultural diversity here and the programs are just what my son wanted."

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The Calendar



Painted Betty

Photos by Rudolph van Dommele

Painted Betty Rocks Harder These Days

Reconfigured Hudson Valley band blends genres at four upcoming gigs

By Alison Rooney

Painted Betty is at it again. The local band fronted by female vocalists Deb Madsen and Sonia Rzyz-Ryski is newly reconfigured, heavier on the amplification, and ready to rock out at a club near you.

An upcoming Sept. 11 gig at the Towne Crier is most prominent in their fall schedule, which generally includes two to three monthly performances in the region. Painted Betty is also in the process of recording a new album, which they've already titled *Midnight Buffet*.

The six-person band, musically unclassifiable, and described accordingly — previous designations, gleaned from multiple sources, have included “Americana, elements of jazz, French

song, blues, lush and elegiac,” and simply, by *The Paper’s* own Joe Dizney, as “sophisticated and eccentric” — has rebooted, with guitarist Mark Westin and bass player Jay Nicolas joining founding band member and multi-instrumentalist David Rothenberg and more recent addition percussionist Eric Starr in making merry, off-kilter, crowd-pleasing music.

“We try not to take ourselves too seriously,” says Rzyz-Ryski. “We’re just fun, we keep it light, we’re not avant-garde at all, but — we want it to be good ... We’re eclectic, and well-supported. Overall we do songs people can dance to, but it’s all a little twisted.” Madsen adds: “We came together for fun and were surprised how good the music could be. We tend to write whatever comes into our heads. Our songs are about life experiences, and actually they can be serious. We try not to be afraid.”

The band takes rehearsals seriously, setting aside Wednesdays on a commit-

ted schedule, which can be difficult with a mix of full-time and part-time musicians, each with non-traditional working hours and responsibilities. Dedication is key. Madsen is a nurse, and Rzyz-Ryski, a former fashion model, now has a successful hair and make-up business under the name of Celeste Von

Damon. She is also raising three sons, with whom she emphatically doesn’t share the music just yet. (“It’s too inappropriate,” she says, — “the album art alone ...”) Rothenberg, a philosophy professor and clarinetist, has a multi-dimensional career with interwoven strands in

(Continued on page 11)

Saunders Farm Again Site of Collaborative Concepts Farm Project

Aug. 30 reception with music and performance art opens outdoor sculpture exhibit



Parakeets installation by Anna Adler | See additional images on pages 9 and 10. Image courtesy of Collaborative Concepts

By Alison Rooney

With this summer’s mild temperatures staving off the typical shock of the more temperate autumn, the 2014 edition of the Collaborative Concepts Farm Project seems less of a seasonal transition accompaniment than usual.

Beginning on Saturday, Aug. 30, (rain date Aug. 31) the pastoral pleasures and green hues of Saunders Farm will be contrasted by the shapes, forms, colors and ideas embodied in the sculpture and installations artfully placed in and around its 140 acres by Collaborative Concepts, in what is a perfect actual demonstration of the meaning of their name.

The outdoor exhibition, which runs through Nov. 1, always from dawn to dusk, and always free of charge, changes with the calendar. As leaves turn and fall from the trees the visual landscape of the 18th-century Old Albany Post Road farm is altered, too. This year the landscape is divided into *Here*,



Midnight Buffet

There and *Everywhere* sections. It all begins with performance art and music at an opening reception, which lasts from 2 to 6 p.m. All are urged to bring a picnic and blanket and rusticity is confirmed by hay bale seating. A mid-run reception, celebrated with entertainment — this time dance, opera and theater — and refreshments will take place from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sept. 27 (rain date Sept. 28).

The exhibition/installation holds works by artists from near and far, and includes some living locally, along with an international contingent. Maps are available for self-guided tours at the mailbox in the parking area. Please be sure to close the gate upon entering and exiting. Saunders Farm is located at 853 Old Albany Post Road, in Garrison. For more information and a map displaying locations of the work of each of the artists, as well as detailed directions to the farm, visit collaborativeconcepts.org or phone 845-528-1797.

SITTING *behind*
the COUNTER
❖ by Tara ❖



Repeated apologies for the same offense are perhaps apt to be unforgiven but I plead my case to my dear fans for my absence last week. Although I had discussed salient topics with my scribe, by week’s end they had been lost in the wrinkled folds of her memory. She claims it is PTSD from a former horrendous work environment but we must also factor in biology. I quickly and kindly point out that she has not aged a moment from the knees down, my customary focal point. And now at this week’s end, She of failing recall leading She whose memory has got up and gone, we must consult with the Boss although nudging her remembrances requires more force than nuzzling a biscuit from her pocket.

The Boss claims it was this joke we had decided to spread about (much like the odor of fish gone bad, I say). I view it as her desperate attempt to seem tech-savvy when in fact she does not even own a cellphone.

“How do dogs tweet?”
“Woof.”

If only I had a dog biscuit for every time I’ve heard that one. I do think that sympathy for what I must endure at her feet is perhaps why I am so generously rewarded in treats.

❖ ❖ ❖

An alert to all locals: lions, coyotes, bears, oh my! have been spotted in these parts. It was reported that a man saw a mountain lion on Lane Gate Rd., its size compared to that of a Labrador. While I agree that the standard larger than a bread-box is not specific enough here, I do take exception to my gentle breed being used in any association to a savage wild animal.

Some might say our town is going to the dogs especially as a pack of Guiding Eyes dogs in training was spotted near St. Mary’s lawn on Thursday and my bench with its community water dish has become the local watering hole for the four-leggeds. If this shopkeeper gig grows stale, we are considering a dog café/spa opening to deer midweek. With the influx of deer in the village, I expect to see them shopping at Foodtown, especially with its expanded nuts and berry section. One lovely local knows firsthand how these pesky deer need a good delousing from ticks. Glad to have her back and sassy as ever.

The hottest item at The Goose this week is the Cold Brew Iced Coffee Maker. It provides 65% less acid than hot-brewed coffee and will stay fresh in the fridge for 14 days.



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The Calendar

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29	
Kids & Community	Music
Member Mixer	Steve Wells
Wine & Cheese	Zac Brown Band
Health & Fitness	Tom Keifer of Cinderella
Navigating Healthcare Options	Jobe / Redfearn Ensemble
Sports	Todd Londagin Band
Army vs. Fairfield (Men's Soccer)	Myles Mancuso Band
Hudson Valley Renegades vs. Connecticut	Last Minute Soulmates
Theater & Film	Live R&B
A Hard Day's Night (1964)	Nailed Shutt

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9:30 p.m. 12 Grapes
12 N. Division St., Peekskill
914-737-6624 | 12grapes.com

Meetings & Lectures

Spiritual Harvest

7:15 p.m. Notions-n-Potions
175 Main St., Beacon
845-765-2410 | notions-n-potions.com

Young Democrats Cocktail Fundraiser

8 p.m. Mill House Brewing Company
289 Mill St., Poughkeepsie
facebook.com/dutchessyoungdems

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

Desmond-Fish Library closed

Kids & Community

Antique Show & Flea Market

8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Stormville Airport
428 Route 216, Stormville | 845-221-6561
stormvilleairportfleamarket.com

Kayak Tours

8 a.m. Boat Bootcamp
1 p.m. Destination Waterfall
7 p.m. Twilight Tour
Hudson River Expeditions
14 Market St., Cold Spring
845-809-5935 | hudsonriverexpeditions.com

Cold Spring Farmers' Market

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Open
Boscobel, 1601 Route 9D, Garrison
csfarmmarket.org

Woodstock-New Paltz Art & Crafts Fair

10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Ulster County Fairgrounds
249 Libertyville Road, New Paltz
845-679-8087 | quailhollow.com

Bannerman Island Tour

12:30 p.m. Beacon Dock
800-979-3370 | zerve.com/bannerman

Health & Fitness

Blood Drive

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Galleria
2001 South Road, Poughkeepsie
800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org

Stand-up Paddleboard Fitness

10 a.m. & Noon. Yoga
11:45 a.m. Pilates
Hudson River Expeditions
14 Market St., Cold Spring
845-809-5935 | hudsonriverexpeditions.com

Yoga at Storm King

10:15 a.m. 1 Museum Road, New Windsor
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Sports

H.V. Renegades vs. Connecticut

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

Art & Design

The Farm Project 2014 (Opening)

2 - 6 p.m. Open hours
853 Old Albany Post Road, Garrison
845-528-1797 | collaborativeconcepts.org

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philipstown.info/support

Theater & Film

A Hard Day's Night (1964)

Noon. Downing Film Center
See details under Friday.

Othello and Closing Party

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

Music

The Farm Project 2014 (Opening)

2:30 p.m. Yasgur
3:15 p.m. Bert Rechtschaffer Trio
4 p.m. Leah Nikolaya/Siegel
4:45 p.m. Judith Tulloch Band
853 Old Albany Post Road, Garrison
845-528-1797 | collaborativeconcepts.org

Ten Brook Molly

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

Doansburg Chamber Ensemble

7:30 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-228-4167 | home.comcast.net/~doansburg

Crossroads Band

8 p.m. Whistling Willie's | See details under Friday.

Summarily Dismissed

8 p.m. BeanRunner Café | Details under Friday

Chris Hillman and Herb Pedersen

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe
See details under Friday.

Michael Kadnar Jazz Trio

9 p.m. Chill Wine Bar
173 Main St., Beacon
845-765-0885 | facebook.com/chillwinebar

Leo B.

9 p.m. Max's on Main
See details under Friday.

Native Vibe

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

Right, *Geo-Skull* sculpture by John Belardo on view at Saunders Farm (Image courtesy of Collaborative Concepts) Far right, *Helios* by Jane Soodalter, one of the artists on view in September at Gallery 66 NY | See page 12. (Image courtesy of Gallery 66 NY)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

Desmond-Fish Library closed

Kids & Community

Antique Show & Flea Market

8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Stormville Airport | See details under Saturday.

Beacon Flea Market

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

Roaring Brook Lake 5K Walk/Run

8 a.m. Registration | 9:05 a.m. Start
10:30 a.m. Awards ceremony | Lake Shore Road and Pudding St., Putnam Valley | rblpoa.com

Woodstock-New Paltz Art & Crafts Fair

10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Ulster County Fairgrounds
See details under Saturday.

Kayak Tour

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

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 | zerve.com/bannerman



Children & Families: Workshop with Chakaia Booker

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

Kayak Tours

1 p.m. Bannerman Castle
2 p.m. Destination Waterfall
7 p.m. Fireworks Tour
Hudson River Expeditions
See details under Saturday.

Labor Day Celebration with Fireworks

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

Theater & Film

A Hard Day's Night (1964)

1 p.m. Downing Film Center
See details under Friday.

Fame (1980)

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

The Liar

7 p.m. Boscobel
See details under Friday.

Music

Mike Klubnick

5 - 9 p.m. Round Up Texas BBQ
See details under Friday.

Songwriters' Showcase

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

Miranda Lambert

7 p.m. Bethel Woods
See details under Friday.

(To next page)

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Saturday 8/30 8:30pm CHRIS HILLMAN & HERB PEDERSEN also CARLENE CARTER	Saturday 9/13 8:30pm CHRIS O'LEARY BAND
Sunday 8/31 7:30pm SONGWRITERS' SHOWCASE	Sunday 9/14 7:30pm MURALI CORYELL
Friday 9/5 8:30pm THE COSTELLOS also OPEN BOOK	Friday 9/19 8:30pm CLAIRE LYNCH BAND
Saturday 9/6 8:30pm TRIBECASTAN	Saturday 9/20 8:30pm VANESE THOMAS
Sunday 9/7 7:30pm MICHAEL TORSONE QUARTET	Sunday 9/21 7:30pm IAIN MATTHEWS guest CHRISTOPHER BROWN
Thursday 9/11 7:30pm PAINTED BETTY Open Mic Mon & Wed 7 pm Tickets and info: townecrier.com • 845-855-1300	Thursday 9/25 7:30pm SIMI STONE BAND

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The Calendar *(from page 9)*

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Labor Day

Local libraries closed

Government offices closed

Kids & Community

Kayak Tours
9 a.m. West Point | Hudson River Expeditions
See details under Saturday.

Woodstock-New Paltz Art & Crafts Fair
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Ulster County Fairgrounds
See details under Saturday.

Bannerman Island Hudson Valley Authors Day
12:30 p.m. Departs Newburgh dock
800-979-3370 | zerve.com/Bannerman/Authors

Public Canoe Trip
3 p.m. Audubon Center
127 Warren Landing Road, Garrison
845-265-2601 x15 | constitutionmarsh.org
Reservations required.

Health & Fitness

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Kids & Community

Craft Hour (grades 2+)
4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Health & Fitness

Heart Disease Support Group
12:30 p.m. Putnam Hospital Center
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
845-279-5711 | health-quest.org

Diabetes Support Group
2 p.m. Hudson Valley Hospital
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-734-3557 | hvhc.org/events



Artist Winn Rea standing near her sculpture, *Displacement-Flow*, on view at Saunders Farm beginning Aug. 30

Photo courtesy of Collaborative Concepts

Alzheimer’s Caretakers Support Group
7 p.m. All Sport Health & Fitness
17 Old Main St., Fishkill
845-471-2655 | alz.org/hudsonvalley

Women’s Pick-up Basketball
7 - 9 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Art & Design

Beading Class
Noon. Momminia | 113 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2260 | momminia.com

Music

Open Rehearsal for Handel’s Messiah (First Session)
7:30 p.m. Church of the Nazarene
1243 White Hill Road, Yorktown Heights
914-737-6707 | taghkanicchorale.org

Meetings & Lectures

Putnam County Legislature
7 p.m. Putnam County Historic Courthouse
44 Gleneida Ave., Carmel
845-208-7800 | putnamcountyny.com

Digital Salon
7 p.m. Beahive Beacon
291 Main St., Beacon
845-765-1890 | beahivebzzz.com

Haldane School Board
7 p.m. Haldane School
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Library Board Meeting
7 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Ham Radio Club
7 p.m. East Fishkill Library
348 Route 376, Hopewell Junction
914-582-3744 | qsysociety.org

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

First day of school at Garrison

Kids & Community

Master Gardener Training (First Session)
9 a.m. Mahopac Public Library
668 Route 6, Mahopac
845-278-6738 | counties.cce.cornell.edu/putnam

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.

Volunteer Work Party and Potluck
3 - 7 p.m. Glynwood Farm
362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring
845-265-3338 | glynwood.org

Health & Fitness

Living Well Workshop Leader Training (First Session)
8:30 a.m. Putnam Hospital Center
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
914-666-7616 x1235 | putnamcountyny.gov

Blood Drive
1 - 7 p.m. Elant at Fishkill
22 Robert R. Kasin Way, Beacon
800-933-2566 | nybloodcenter.org

Take Shape for Life Seminar
6 p.m. Hudson Valley Hospital
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
917-653-5933 | hvhc.org/events

Sports

Haldane vs. Henry Hudson (Volleyball)
6 p.m. Haldane School
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Theater & Film

Finding Vivian Maier (Documentary, 2013)
7:15 p.m. Jacob Burns Film Center
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Meetings & Lectures

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

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

First day of school at Haldane

Kids & Community

Yorktown Grange Fair
5 - 10 p.m. Grange Fair Grounds
99 Moseman Road, Yorktown Heights
914-962-3900 | yorktowngrangefair.org

Philipstown Recreation Center
4 p.m. *The Brothers Grimm* (grades K-6)
(First Session)
5 p.m. Social Club (grades K-4) (First Session)
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Health & Fitness

Qi Gong/Tai Chi
8:30 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Stand-up Paddleboard Fitness
10 a.m. Hudson River Expeditions
See details under Saturday.

Blood Drive
2 - 8 p.m. Knights of Columbus
25 Townsend St., Beacon
800-933-2566 | nybloodcenter.org

Living with Cancer Support Group
6 p.m. Hudson Valley Hospital
See details under Wednesday.

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
See details under Tuesday.

(To next page)

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



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The Calendar *(from page 10)*

Sports

Haldane vs. Panas (Boys' Soccer)

4:30 p.m. Haldane School | 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring | 845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Music

Traditional Irish Music

7 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe | Details under Friday

Beginning Fiddle & Mandolin

7:30 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

JP Patrick & Friends

8:30 p.m. 12 Grapes | See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures

Zoning Board of Appeals

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

60 Men at Yorktown (Lecture)

7 p.m. Fort Montgomery Historic Site
690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery
845-446-2134 | nysparks.com

Town Board Meeting

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Town Hall | 238 Main St., Cold Spring | 845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

First Friday in Cold Spring

Kids & Community

Yorktown Grange Fair

10 a.m. - 11 p.m. Grange Fair Grounds
See details under Thursday.

Rhyme Time By The Hudson (ages 1-5) (First Session)

10 a.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845.265.3638 x140 | boscobel.org

First Friday Farm Tour

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

Tales from the Script (grades K-6) (First Session)

4 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
See details under Thursday.

Oktoberfest

5 - 11 p.m. Germania of Poughkeepsie
51 Old Degarmo Road, Poughkeepsie
845-471-0609 | germaniaoktoberfest.com

Sports

Army vs. Delaware (Women's Soccer)

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

Art & Design

Carol Flaitz & Jane Soodalter: Terra Incognita (Opening)

Robert Weiner: *Colorbars* (Opening)
6 - 9 p.m. Gallery 66 NY
66 Main St., Cold Spring
845-809-5838 | gallery66ny.com

Group Show: Jumble Expressions (Opening)

6 - 9 p.m. Marina Gallery
153 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2204 | marinagalleryfineart.com

Theater & Film

Calling All Poets

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

Doubt: A Parable

8 p.m. County Players
2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls
845-298-1491 | countyplayers.org

Music

Live Music

6 - 9 p.m. Round Up Texas BBQ
See details under Aug. 29

Cajun Dance

7 p.m. Beginner's lesson
8-11 p.m. C'est Bon Cajun Band
White Eagle Benevolent Society
487 Delaware Ave., Kingston
845-255-7061 | hudsonvalleydance.org

Orlando Marin, The Last Mambo King

8 p.m. BeanRunner Café
See details under Aug. 29

The Costellos / Open Book

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe
See details under Aug. 29

3D Ritmo de Vida

9:30 p.m. 12 Grapes
See details under Aug. 29

ONGOING

Art & Design

Visit philipstown.info/galleries

Religious Services

Visit philipstown.info/services

Meetings & Lectures

Alcoholics Anonymous | Visit philipstown.info/aa

Support Groups | Visit philipstown.info/support

Painted Betty Rocks Harder These Days *(from page 7)*

scientific research, largely related to music and nature, writing and teaching.

Both Madsen and Rzyz-Ryski sang in high school. Madsen, the huskier side of the trade-off vocalist duo, grew up in Somers and performed with a Ramones cover band called Some Kind of Freak. Rzyz-Ryski, a soprano, grew up in Shrub Oak, where she sang with a cover band which aptly summoned up the high school years with their name: Mass Confusion. They both packed their singing away in storage after graduating. Meeting up as adults in Philipstown, they organically came together with the other original band members, who included brothers Tim and Andrew Hall, and began to be invited to perform at open mics.

Naming Betty

It grew from there and Painted Betty was born and formalized. Its name was first derived from the Jerzy Kosinski

book *Painted Bird* (which Rzyz-Ryski notes that she “hates, but I liked the name”), which she then “fed” into an online band name generator. The search brought forth Painted Betty, which everyone loved. “It’s a little weird that the painted bird story relates to the idea that if you paint a bird, other birds will notice it’s painted and peck it to death,” she details. Madsen added, “Well, we haven’t yet been pecked to death during one of our shows!”

Both women feel comfortable with the two-vocalist dynamic of Painted Betty, Rzyz-Ryski calling it “nice to trade off on the vocals” and Madsen noting: “We can be saucy, but sometimes the atmosphere is, well, let’s just say there’s comfort in having another woman on stage at times — it’s like ‘I’m with *her*.’” Rzyz-Ryski also largely handles the business end of things, doing the books, trying to expand to new venues, making the push for their

videos to be played more widely.

The vocalists are full of praise for the rest of the band. A lot of collaboration goes on. In terms of songwriting, Madsen says she usually comes up with a melody first, then gets the lyrics done, then brings it to Westin who “adds the life to it,” she says.

“We nabbed Mark and we were lucky,” adds Rzyz-Ryski. “He has a really busy solo career and he’s a prolific writer. He can swing from genre to genre and he’s a great lyricist. I like to collaborate on the lyrics; I find I need the ‘bridge’ and I ask for help.”

Altered sound

If Westin adds the life, Rothenberg contributes “the rich, buttery flavor” according to Rzyz-Ryski. Madsen calls Starr, who also played piano on the group’s first CD, *Fifty Bucks and I’ll Show You*, “fantastic.” As for Nicolas, Rzyz-Ryski says, “he had been in other local bands, like Monday Men and playing with Stephen Clair — he’s been really great — very dedicated.”

The change in lineup has led to an altered sound, both women concur, with Madsen noting: “All my songs sound completely different now with Mark. It’s like experimenting in the kitchen with food — it’s still good and now I’m going to try cooking it this way.” Rzyz-Ryski says, “We moved from a string bass to electric and from acoustic to electric guitar. We now have a huge band behind us that shreds. I don’t think people

realize how hard we rock.”

Painted Betty will appear at the Town Crier at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 11. Other upcoming dates include Brewster’s Clock Tower Grille on Sept. 5, Dylan’s Wine Cellar in Peekskill on Sept. 13, and The Wherehouse in Newburgh on Oct. 11. For more details and to listen to their music, visit paintedbetty.com or their Facebook page.

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

Doctor Who Brings Legions of Fans to Beacon *(from page 1)*

since she was a young girl. She credits a next-generation fan for alerting fellow “Whovians” of a destination in the Hudson Valley they should be sure to visit.

“A wonderful girl came in and asked if she could say something about The Pandorica on Reddit,” Hot said. “She did, and the post went straight to the front page. From there it was picked up by almost every blogger in the ‘Whoniverse.’”

Hot says the timing of The Pandorica’s opening with the season premiere is purely coincidental and that she had hoped to launch earlier this summer. Still, she set up a cosplay (costume play) event at the restaurant last weekend, which sold out. The concept for the redesign is hers. Bill Miller Designs helped with the interior design and execution.

“It started with the bathroom. Angel, of Beacon’s New Air Design, turned it into a ‘tardis.’ I thought I’d call it the Who Loo,” Hot said. “A novice won’t notice the little details that a Whovian would, and that’s how I wanted it. I didn’t want anyone to feel intimidated by the theme.”

Some of these details include sunflowers on the table, from the 10th episode of the fifth series, in which Doctor Who and his companion, Amy, bring Vincent Van Gogh to the Museum of Modern Art, via time travel, in an unsuccessful effort to avert the artist from suicide. On the entire back wall of the restaurant is a de-


piction of an exploding tardis, the blue police box that doubles as Doctor Who’s time-traveling machine. On the wall next to the Who Loo is a “crack in the universe,” a portal between dimensions, from the first episode of the fifth series.

The menu has also been revamped, slightly.

“I added a few items, but I kept a lot of the original tea room menu,” Hot said. “We kept the chicken salad and the salmon salad, the wraps and the antipasto salad. ‘We’ is me, I make all of the food.”

New items include two versions of fish fingers and custard: an appetizer of real fish fingers with a citrus remoulade that looks like custard, and a dessert, which is batter-dipped French toast with a warm egg custard. The K-9s, named after Doctor Who’s robot dog companion, are mini corn dogs. The Galifried Potato Pancakes pay homage to the Doctor’s home planet. The Big Bang, flaming sausages, is available only to diners who are 21 years of age or older.

The Pandorica’s legal capacity is only 40 people, including staff. In the restaurant’s outgoing voice mail message, a female voice (Hot’s) recommends that anyone traveling from outside a 100-mile radius should not bother to come until after Labor Day, when an online reservation service she plans to use will guarantee a table and presumably shorten the wait time.



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Service Academy Nomination Applications Due Oct. 11

High school seniors invited to apply

Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney (NY-18) announced that his office is accepting applications for students from the Hudson Valley to seek a United States Service Academy nomination. Rep. Maloney has the ability to nominate students to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, U.S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point. Students applying to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London do not need a Congressional nomination. In June, 13 students from the Hudson Valley accepted offers of appointment to one of the nation’s service academies.

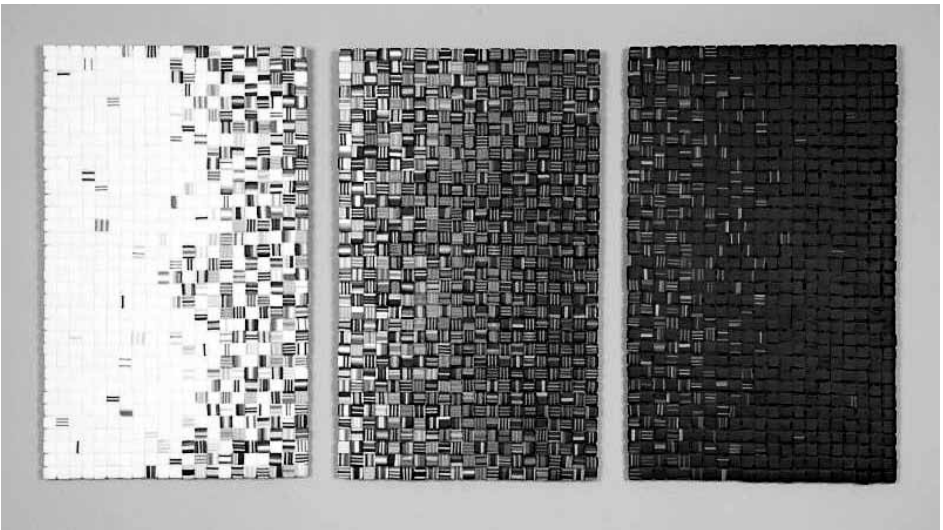
Interested students must submit completed applications to Maloney’s district office at 123 Grand St., Newburgh, NY 12550, no later than Oct. 11, 2014. All applicants who have submitted their completed application materials will be contacted to schedule their interview with Rep. Maloney’s Service Academy Selection Board.

The application process is open to all interested high school seniors in New York’s 18th Congressional District. Students are encouraged to research specific academies on their respective websites for information on the nomination and selection process. Detailed information and a downloadable application are available at seanmaloney.house.gov. Questions may be directed to Oscar Dunham, Senior Veterans Advocate, at 845-561-1259.

Putnam County EDC Recognition Breakfast Set for Sept. 26

The Putnam County Economic Development Corporation Recognition Breakfast will be held Friday, Sept. 26. The event takes place from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Putnam County Golf Course.

The breakfast will be an opportunity for business leaders throughout Putnam County as well as the Hudson Valley to network. Keynote speaker will be former Gov. George Pataki. Learn more about the economic development efforts of the EDC over the past year, and celebrate organizations that have made an impact on the economic vitality of Putnam County. To register, visit eventbrite.com/e/putnam-county-edc-recognition-breakfast-tickets-12568305139.



Beauty in the Breakdown by Robert Wiener

Image courtesy of Gallery 66 NY

Terra Incognita at Gallery 66 NY

Artistry of Carol Flaitz and Jane Soodalter opens Sept. 5

Two artists will be highlighted in the September exhibition, *Terra Incognita*, in Gallery A, at Gallery 66 NY, Cold Spring. Each, through her own chosen media, finds startling new worlds in infinitesimally small places, and translates them into fine art.

Ceramics artist Carol Flaitz draws her initial inspiration from the realm of electron microscopy. She seeks out the anomalies in images barely a millionth of a meter in scale, and in them, finds what she calls “geological landscapes.” Using these landscapes as her point of departure, she introduces a potpourri of other mediums. Starting with a fixed base of crystalline salt, she builds layers consisting of acrylics, various resins, burnt wood panels, ground glass, and encaustic.

Jane Soodalter has been a photographer all her life. Over the past several years, rather than seek expression through an ever-widening scope of subject, Soodalter has chosen to find hidden worlds through the realm of macro photography. First drawing her subjects from nature, she exposed the innermost secrets of flowers, plants, and — in some instances — animals. Her portfolio, *Eulogy*, a macro study that traces the death and return to the earth of a turkey vulture, won critical acclaim, and was featured in the literary magazine *Stone Voices*.

Gallery B will feature the contemporary abstract paintings of Mark Zimmermann. Zimmermann’s paintings are based on the marriage of meditative fields, architectural structures and an organic gestural line.

Gallery C will feature *Colorbar*, Robert Wiener’s contemporary and architectural glassworks. Fascinated by the infinite

diversity of color, texture and form in glass, his work explores the relationship between pattern and color through abstract, geometric design.

Gallery 66 NY is located at 66 Main St., Cold Spring. All exhibits are on view from Sept. 5 through Sept. 28, with an opening reception from 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 5. Regular hours are Thursday through Sunday noon to 6 p.m. Call 845-809-5838 or visit gallery66ny.com.

Classes Scheduled for Buddhism Study and Practice

All are invited to study and practice in a space where generosity, personal transformation, loving-kindness and compassion are featured topics of conversation. The Dharma Teacher Order will host the Dharma Study Class starting on Sept. 6. The class will be held in the fourth floor conference room in the Spiritual Life Building at Graymoor in Garrison every other Saturday from September through April from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The class theme is Buddhism and the Mind. No background in Buddhist studies is necessary. If one chooses, a Certificate of Buddhist Studies is offered after meeting all class requirements in a three-year period. Casual class participation is also welcomed. Suggested class donation: \$150 for the year. The end of the year three-day retreat is an added expense and a requirement for people seeking a certificate. All class donations are tax deductible.

The class is organized and taught by senior students of the Venerable Thich Tri Hoang who founded the Dharma Teacher Order in 1997. The class has been in existence in the Hudson Valley for nine years. The structure includes group readings, student presentations, and discussions that allow participants to contemplate Buddhist concepts and share and explore how to live the Dharma.

According to Sherry Horowitz, a senior

student, “The class allows a sacred space to explore our busy Western lives and to deeply contemplate the values that are important to us. Practice and study are emphasized equally.”

On Sept. 6, meet Rev. Hoang and class members. An overview will be offered followed by refreshments. For information, e-mail Maeve Eng-Wong at maevetx1@optonline.net, or Fernando Camacho at dharmastudent15@gmail.com. Visit dharmateacherorder.org.

Haldane School Foundation Announces Enrichment Grants

The Haldane School Foundation (HSF) announced \$27,059 in educational enrichment grants to the Haldane Central School District for this season’s grant cycle.

These Innovation Grants will help fund the new Haldane Learning Lab Center, the start of a National Model UN Conference Program, Educational Field Trips to New York City, Albany and Teatown Nature Preserve, a STEM humanoid programmable robot engineering program, Destination Imagination Academic Tournament and many other educational enrichment initiatives.

The HSF has a strong commitment to supporting the development of the new Learning Lab, which will serve grades K-12 and will be conducive to developing the collaborative classroom of the future and project-based learning. The new technology space will use multi-media tables, including iMacs and advanced media editing to enhance learning. The Learning Lab will also extend Virtual High School opportunities for the highest achieving Haldane middle school students.

“Our goal is to continue to encourage and promote collaborative approaches to learning that demand deep thinking and thoughtful problem-solving. Redefining and reinventing the organization of a classroom space to promote authentic project-based learning opportunities will further encourage more student-centered approaches to instruction,” said Haldane Elementary and Middle School Principal Brent Harrington.

HSF awards Innovation Grants twice per year. The grants are funded by donations from the community and through fundraising events held by the HSF throughout the year. Teachers, administrators and parents submit grant applications for project funding beyond what is available under the regular school budget.

Since its inception in 2000 the HSF has raised more than \$700,000 for the Haldane School District.

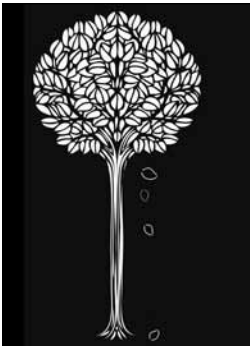
The HSF’s annual Fall Ball is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 4, at The Garrison. Tickets are on sale now at haldaneschoolfoundation.org.

“This year’s Fall Ball theme is STEP UP FOR STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math). We will feature a special fundraiser to add a 3D Printing Makerspace to the new Haldane Learning Lab,” said Fall Ball Co-Chair Betsy Matos Carone.

Parents and other members of the community who would like to help can donate silent auction items or become a volunteer “Friend of the Foundation.” Contact Shannon Keegan at 917-449-4129.

Writing Workshops for Adults at Butterfield Library and Philipstown Rec

Everyone has their own voice and stories to tell, whether the stories stem from (Continued on next page)



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Photo courtesy of Dharma Teacher Order

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

(From previous page) imagination or memory. This is your writing workshop if you: always wanted to write but think you're not a writer; are a writer and need encouragement/inspiration; don't know how to move forward; want to hone your craft; want to explore personal memoir.

Using the Amherst Writers and Artists method, Susan Wallach provides a safe and encouraging atmosphere to write, using prompts (evocative prose, poetry, photos, props) to spark creative voice. Explore and take risks in your writing. All you need is pen and paper to write in the workshop.

There are two six-week workshops. One meets Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m., from Sept. 8 through Oct. 13, at Butterfield Library in Cold Spring. Cost is \$120, and is limited to eight participants. You must pre-register. To register — or if you have questions — email susanwallach1@verizon.net. The other workshop meets Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m., from Sept. 9 through Oct. 14, at Philipstown Recreation Center. Register through the Rec Center at 845-424-4618.

Wallach, an accredited leader of the Amherst Writers and Artists method, was an editor at Random House, and is a published author. Writing projects include ghostwriting for Holt Henry Books for Young Readers and Temple University Press.

County Players Falls Theatre Presents *Doubt, A Parable*

County Players opens its 57th season with *Doubt, A Parable* on Friday, Sept. 5, at 8 p.m. In a Catholic church and school in the Bronx in 1964, the school's principal, Sister Aloysius, suspects the young Father Flynn of improper relations with one of the male students. With the



Julie Eads Woolley as Sister Aloysius, Nancy Nelson-Ewing as Mrs. Muller

help of a younger teacher, Sister James, she sets out to get the priest removed from the church. However, questions arise regarding her accusations. Is her obsession warranted or is Father Flynn innocent of her charges? What do you do when you are not sure? This timely play is a thought-provoking evening of high drama that is unpreachy and full of startling twists and turns.

Bill Peckham directs this thought-provoking drama by John Patrick Shanley. The cast includes Emily Hart, Nancy Nelson-Ewing, Rick Meyer and Julie Eads Woolley.

Subsequent performances will be Sept. 6, 12, 13, 19, and 20 at 8 p.m., and Sept. 14 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$17 for adults and \$14 for seniors/children under 12. Call the box office at 845-298-1491 for reservations or order your tickets online at countyplayers.org. Visa, MasterCard, and Discover accepted. County Players Falls Theatre is located at 2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls.

Tribes Hill Music Festival Set for Sept. 14 in Katonah

Red Molly, an all-female Americana roots vocal harmony trio, headlines the Tribes Hill Music Festival from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 14, at John Jay Homestead State Historic Site in Katonah, New York.

Also featured is the Sloan Wainwright Trio. Appearing in the round will be past Tribes Hill presidents James Durst, Fred Gillen Jr., Susan Kane, and Matt Turk, all distinguished singer-songwriters in their own rights.

Main stage: The Levins, Larry Kolker, with Judy Kass, Pluck & Rail, Steven Frieder, M.R. Pouloupoulos and the Earth Tones. Music on the main stage is from noon until 6 p.m.

This festival will feature a song circle and jam tent. Bring an instrument (or sing, or just listen) and participate. The festival, including free parking, will offer locally-produced food and beverages, arts and crafts vendors and children's activities.

Admission: \$20, \$18 in advance at TribesHill.com/festival, \$15, students and seniors, free for children under 12. Visit TribesHill.com/fes

tival or contact Larry Kolker or Peter Shaf-ran at festival@tribeshill.com.

John Jay Homestead is located at Route 22, 400 Jay St., in Katonah. Visit JohnJayHomestead.org.

Beacon

Concerts Continue on Extreme Thursdays at Quinn's

Quinn's continues to offer concerts on Extreme Thursdays in September. Shows begin at 9 p.m. Featured artists include: Sept. 11 — Juan Pablo Carletti Trio: Carletti returns to the Quinn's house Ludwig kit, joined by Tony Malaby on saxophones and Chris Hoffman on cello. Sept. 25 — Iron Dog: Sarah Bernstein on violin and vocals, Stuart Popejoy on bass and synthesizer, and Andrew Drury on drums and percussion "create spontaneous soundscapes where minimalist structures erupt into psychedelic onslaughts."

Quinn's is located at 330 Main St., Beacon. As with most performances at Quinn's, there will be no cover charge at the door but donations for the musicians will be requested.

Ukraine/Crimea Talk at Howland Library Sept. 10

Join Dr. John Kotch as he presents an hour-long discussion titled *The Crisis in Ukraine and Crimea: Crisis Diplomacy* at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 10, at the Howland Public Library. Kotch will explore how the dynamic relationship between international law and international politics plays out in the Ukraine and Crimea. The discussion will focus on crisis management and diplomacy. He will raise questions such as, "What is a crisis?" and "What are its origins, both in terms of Ukrainian history and politics?"

Kotch holds a Ph.D. in political science and international relations from Columbia University, an MBA in international business from the Columbia University School of Business, and an International Business Law Certificate from the American University of Paris, Sorbonne. He has taught at Cambridge and Harvard universities, among others.

Visit beaconlibrary.org.

Riverkeeper Paul Gallay Joins Clarkson University Graduate Faculty

Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries announced that Hudson Riverkeeper Paul Gallay will join the faculty of



Riverkeeper Paul Gallay
Photo courtesy of BIRE/Clarkson University

Clarkson University's master of science in engineering management program (MSEM) as adjunct professor of environmental law. Gallay, an attorney, educator, and environmentalist, will launch his class for a new group of students on Sept. 26, at Beacon Institute's education facility at Denning's Point in Beacon.

Gallay's Riverkeeper work includes challenging the illegal activities of polluters and strengthening laws protecting New York's waterways. Gallay's previous experience includes the New York State Attorney General's office (1987-1990), the Department of Environmental Conservation (1990-2000) and land conservation organizations (2000-2010).

"So much of my work as Hudson Riverkeeper depends on forming partnerships across disciplines and interest groups, and solving problems that look unsolvable," says Gallay of his current position. "My goal as a faculty member for the Clarkson program will be similar: to help MSEM students blend creative approaches to engineering and design with a stronger, deeper understanding of environmental law and policy, so they can become better leaders in the all-important work of building sustainable communities."

Clarkson's MSEM program, one of the few in the U.S. to incorporate environmental law and sustainability principles into its coursework, is a two-year hybrid program of in-person and online classes designed for full-time engineering and technical professionals. The environmental component for the program reflects the Institute's mission of protecting water with innovative technology, education and policy.

Clarkson University Master of Science in Engineering Management

The Clarkson Master of Science in Engineering Management (MSEM) is a two-year, 30-credit hybrid program that combines in-person and virtual classroom experiences to accommodate complex schedules of full-time working professionals. Visit bire.org and clarkson.edu.

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Where There's Smoke — There's Daisy (from page 6)

can't get caught — that all the evidence will burn. But there's evidence left behind 95 percent of the time," Peters said. Arsonists also sometimes can't resist lingering to admire their "work." When he arrives at a fire in progress that is suspected to be arson, Peters' first step is to have Daisy sniff onlookers — a strategy that sometimes finds the arsonist standing in the crowd.

Her keen sense of smell often makes Daisy superior to her human colleagues, at least in terms of finding evidence. At a house fire in which two bedrooms were destroyed, arson detectives combed the two rooms looking for proof of arson — while Daisy found a small rag, hidden in the undamaged kitchen, that had traces of accelerant.

"Daisy finds evidence where no human being would have looked," Peters said, in some instances as far as 300 yards away from the fire scene. "It's amazing."

A convincing demo

During the interview for this article Peters and Daisy provided a convincing

demonstration. Standing in front of the North Highlands fire hall, with Daisy waiting in his truck, Peters took out three small metal washers and placed a drop of gasoline on each. The reporter took them around the corner of the building and hid them in the grass on the baseball diamond — at first base, behind the pitcher's mound and by the backstop — and then signaled Peters. When they entered the playing field Peters simply said "Seek!" and within about two minutes Daisy had found all three washers, and was rewarded accordingly.

Cross-county cooperation

Peters is one of about 30 members of the Westchester County arson team. Daisy is its only canine member. The Dutchess County Sheriff uses an arson dog named Libby and the Rockland County Sheriff's K-9 sniffer is known as Scooter. The Westchester team routinely works with the Orange County Sheriff's Office in investigating fires and with Rockland and Dutchess on an as-needed



Daisy has her own sports card. Canine tokens are used to mark locations where she finds evidence at a fire scene.

Photo by M. Turton

basis. Putnam County has not opted to make use of the Westchester arson investigation team's services.

In 2013, there were 82 requests to use Westchester's arson dog. Daisy was put to work on 67 of those cases. In total 33 were deemed arson fires with nine listed as possible arson pending further investigation. Of the remaining fires, 33 were categorized as non-arson while seven were classified as "unknown." Houses, cars, commercial buildings, boats and other recreational vehicles can fall prey to arson. The motive can vary, Peters said, from an act of revenge to hopes of an insurance payout.

Working dog – family dog

Black Labs can serve as sniffer dogs for 10 to 12 years although in Westchester their career is limited to nine years. Daisy lives with Peters and his family and she will continue to do so when she reaches retirement age. "She's our family





dog and she's with me 24 hours a day. I'll keep her forever," Peters said. "And she gets along great with our mutt."

Life as an arson detection dog is not really work for the canine, Peters said. "Dogs like to be treated like dogs," he said. "Daisy is having a great time when she works — for her it's fun." He bristles when the appropriateness of using canines in solving arson fires is questioned. "There are people who don't understand and don't support it," Peters said. "I ask them 'What does your dog do — sit in the house all day?'" Given the opportunity he said, "I can turn any non-believer into a believer — with one fire scene."

Follow Daisy on Facebook

Daisy has her own Facebook page. To follow her, search Daisy-the-Arson-Detection-Dog. She is even pictured on her own trading cards, which Peters distributes, mainly to kids, when explaining the role of arson dogs.

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Roots and Shoots

You Know You're A Plant Nerd When

By Pamela Doan

I came home from my last day of garden school, aka Master Gardener Training, with the following items: three voodoo lily bulbs, giant sequoia seeds, a bag of horse manure, a packet of native wildflower seeds, a bulb of homegrown garlic, and a soil pH test kit. And I was delighted. I also had my official name badge and enough handouts, notes, and manuals to fill a bookshelf. If all of these things sound exciting to you, then hurry and sign up for the upcoming Master Gardener Training with the Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) in Putnam County now. The next class begins Wednesday, Sept. 3.

The 15-week training provides Master Gardeners with basic knowledge about horticulture, botany and a range of subjects to equip them to volunteer in the community and be a resource and educator. Among other things, Master Gardeners help families learn to grow their own food, answer questions on the Diagnostic Hotline, teach classes on a range of subjects, including composting, veggies, planting for bees, reducing chemical use, and so much more. After the training, Master Gardeners are expected to contribute 30 hours per year to CCE projects.

In the two years since I completed the class, I've taught workshops on gardening in a changing climate and edible landscaping and answered questions at the Cold Spring Farmers' Market, as well as helped with the annual Plant Sale, a major fundraiser. I also participated in a statewide committee on climate change in New York and attended a conference on the same subject at Cornell Univer-



Essential garden tools

Photo by P. Doan

sity, thoughtful learning experiences and occasions to engage with researchers and other Master Gardeners who are working on this critical issue.

One of my main motivations for becoming a Master Gardener was to find a local way to be active around global warming and the research and materials coming from Cornell create opportunities to share information that is useful to anyone with a lawn or interest in gardening. I believe that every action counts and whatever small changes we make — composting, eliminating lawn fertilizers, planting perennials that attract birds and bees — all of it matters. When people realize how simple adjustments can tip the balance for more sustainable

environments, then we all have a change for the better. Master Gardeners are in the unique position to carry this message to a wide range of people.

While my gardening and landscaping experience was limited to container gardening in Brooklyn before the training, it didn't matter. The classes cover everything you need to know and the backgrounds of the other volunteers are diverse. Part of the fun is learning from each other and sharing tips and of course, plants. Join our Facebook page to get a sense of the many different interests and ideas that come up:

- facebook.com/groups/MasterGardenerVolunteersofPutnamCounty/

The section on soil was particularly enlightening to me. I didn't know anything about this most essential component of gardening, but after a three-hour class on soil composition, purpose, and amendments, now I can improve my own growing material and advise others on how to do it. Soil, It's What's in the Dirt, that was the headline of my first column for Roots and Shoots, too. What can I say, once you can see the soil in the dirt, you become an evangelist. Organic matter is free and available right out there in the yard and it makes a huge difference to your plants. Brilliant.

There are nearly 100 Master Gardeners in Putnam County. It says a lot about the program that one of the volunteers has been involved for 30 years. It's a rewarding program and a chance to contribute to a healthy community. Getting to know the CCE staff is another bonus. They're knowledgeable, helpful, and super cool to hang out with.

The point of everyone's effort is to take the research coming from Cornell, one of the top universities in the country, and make it available on a local level. Getting advice that's backed by science, you can't beat that. There isn't a commercial interest behind it and not to knock Great-Aunt Gertie's strategy for sprinkling salt on the tomatoes to ward off pests, but research methods are more strenuous at Cornell.


Plant nerds unite. For a memorable and lasting experience, get involved in the Master Gardener program. For more information and to apply, check out the website: putnam.cce.cornell.edu/events/2014/09/03/master-gardener-training.



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Sports

Brigati Bricks Honor Blue Devil Legacy on Haldane Walk of Fame

By Kathie Scanlon

On another marvelous Hudson Valley August Sunday (Aug. 24) at noon, Dan Hughes was one of two people on the Lawrence Brigati Field, aka the Blue Devil Field of Dreams. A lone female athlete stretched before beginning her run on the track, now in its second season of use, while Hughes knelt in the sun laying brick in the Walk of Fame.

Hughes, the past president of the Blue Devil Booster Club, was co-chair of the PLAY Haldane project that helped to fund Haldane’s first turf field. The first 100 personalized bricks in the Walk of Fame are being installed in the area between the under-construction concession stand and bleachers. Hughes estimates this inaugural batch will be laid in about two weeks, well in advance of Homecoming, Sept. 27. The first home game of the season is at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 2; JV Boys Soccer takes on Hendrick Hudson followed by Varsity Boys Soccer on Thursday, Sept. 4, against Walter Panas.

Additional personalized bricks are being sold to raise

funds to complete the concession stand/press box. The building’s first-floor shell is constructed and consists of two bathrooms, one that is handicapped accessible, a storage area for equipment, a sink and scrub room and a concession area, which when completed, will have rolling gate window closures. This construction was funded by excess donations raised during the PLAY Haldane project, including the monies raised by the initial 100 bricks. The project had set a goal of \$100,000 to build the turf field and track as well as to upgrade the locker rooms and the auditorium audio-visual system. Since over \$130,000 was raised, construction on the concession building was started. Dave DiGregorio is credited for the construction of the concession building to date. Volunteers and donated materials are being sought to complete construction on the second floor, which will house the press box and coaches’ area.

Danielle Musso donated her expertise to design the layout of the Walk of Fame. Center bricks honor Lawrence Brigati and Mark Villanti. Brigati, for whom the



Dan Hughes, above, past president of the Blue Devil Booster Club, lays the first Walk of Fame personalized bricks at Brigati Field, Cold Spring, Aug. 24. Right, bricks honoring Coach Brigati and former Superintendent Villanti

Photos by K. Scanlon



The concession stand under construction Aug. 27 at Haldane’s Brigati Field

field is named, was the Haldane varsity football coach for over 32 years and grandfather to the new Varsity Football Head Coach Ryan McConville. Brigati died in March 2013, and his family asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to PLAY Haldane. The families of two other members of the community with strong ties to Haldane who also died in March of 2013, Kathyrine Thorpe and Sara “Sally” Peparo, requested the same and collectively these three families donated \$10,000 to the project. A brick purchased by the Haldane Foundation honors former superintendent Mark Villanti, a staunch Blue Devil and PLAY Haldane supporter who retired in January 2014, after the first season of Blue Devil sports on the new field.

Personalized engraved bricks can be ordered by downloading the order form at haldaneschool.org. Click Departments tab, select Athletics and scroll to lower left Resources to find the Haldane Brick Order Form.

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