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View of the Hudson River, 1864, by Robert Weir | More on Boscobel's Weir exhibit, page 7 Image courtesy of Boscobel/West Point Museum

Putnam County Legislature Moves to Revise Contractor Laws

Sheriff's Nelsonville substation to get new doors

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Putnam County Legislature Tuesday night (Sept. 3) pushed forward on the task of updating and streamlining laws governing building-trades contractors, a project that so far has taken three years.

By twin 8-0 votes, with one member absent, the legislators agreed to remove the \$25,000 bond requirement for those engaged in lawn mowing, leaf-blowing, and ground maintenance and spared novice "helpers" in the plumbing and mechanical trades from registration and related requirements applicable to more seasoned journeymen and to master plumbers and licensed tradespersons. Both changes in law took effect immediately.

Previously, the county code forced lawn-mower operators, like others in the home improvement business, to obtain a "surety license and permit bond in the amount of \$25,000." It did not apply to teens who cut neighbors' grass, but otherwise affected small-scale mowing operations. Another contractor-



The Putnam County Legislature, from left: Anthony DiCarlo, Barbara Scuccimarra, Sam Oliverio, Roger Gross, Richard Othmer, Ginny Nacerino, Dini LoBue, Joseph Castellano, Carl Albano.

File photo by L.S. Armstrong

related law demanded registration of helpers – those "learning the plumbing or related trade" as well as "any person working on a job site" who is not a master plumber or journeyman.

Legislature Chairman Richard Othmer, a mason and contractor, said that he has sought to rid the (Continued on page 3)

Down to Business for Students, Teachers, School Board Trustees

Haldane approves search firm for new superintendent

By Michael Turton



Superintendent of Schools Mark Villanti and Haldane School Board President Gillian Thorpe.

Photo by M. Turton

In an annual ritual highly anticipated by parents and students alike, though perhaps for very different reasons, Haldane reopened its doors on Friday, Sept. 6, marking the beginning of the 2013-14 school year. At its last meeting prior to school startup, the Haldane School Board met on Sept. 3, for what was largely a house-cleaning session. At the outset of the meeting, School Board President Gillian Thorpe congratulated Superintendent of Schools Mark Villanti on what she called his "final, first day of school." Villanti will retire at the end of the year. "Congratula-

tions Mark. We're going to work you until the last day!" Thorpe quipped. Villanti, who came to Haldane in July 2006, has worked in public education since 1978. Later in the meeting trustees accepted a proposal from the firm of Hazard, Young, Attea and Associates to conduct the search to replace Villanti.

Senior trip to New Orleans approved – with one condition

The Class of 2014 is making a statement with its senior trip to New Orleans, one that could affect that annual tradition for years to come. Unlike trips in the past that went to cities such as Boston and Washington, D.C., and featured visits to historic sites, monuments and tourist attractions, New Orleans will see students work on a Habitat for Humanity project as the city continues its lengthy struggle to re-

(Continued on page 3)

Butterfield LLC Returns for Another Season

New cast may bring story line to a conclusion

By Kevin E. Foley

Just like a reality television series, *Butterfield LLC* is returning for yet another season with cast and script changes presumably intended to achieve if not better ratings, at least a plot resolution before it is taken off the broadcast schedule. Viewers of course will differ on what would constitute a satisfactory ending.

A few of the key story elements and cast will of course remain the same to maintain continuity and not alienate loyal audience members. Developer Paul Guillaro will again star and propose a mixed use of market-rate senior condominium housing and commercial building space for lease on the 4.6-acre former site of the Butterfield hospital. Supporting cast members Tim Miller and Matt Moran from Guillaro's team began the process of introducing the project anew last Wednesday evening (Sept. 5) before the Cold Spring Planning Board.



Karn Dunn, new Cold Spring Planning Board member

Photo by K.E. Foley

(Continued on page 4)

Historic District Code, Grove RFP Discussed

Docking permit raises issues

By Michael Turton

Members of Cold Spring's Historic District Review Board attended the Village Board meeting on Sept. 4 (Wednesday) to discuss revisions to the Historic District Code and a proposed Request for Proposals. William Hurst, an attorney now in private practice who previously worked at the Preservation League of New York, the non-government organization that wrote the model code used by many municipalities as a basis for local preservation laws, also attended. Issues raised included the lack of a process for applicants to appeal rulings made by the HDRB, criteria for permitting demolition of a building based on neglect, and the need to recognize (Continued on page 5)

Mouths to Feed

Green Resolution

By Celia Barbour

In a few months, some people will begin talking about The True Meaning of Christmas, and grouching about the superficiality of our modern rendition of the holiday.

But meanwhile, what about poor Labor Day? Its true meaning has been equally obscured, yet no one took to the airwaves or Twitter feed last weekend to angrily denounce the shallowness of this once-proud day.

Or if they did, we were too busy chilling on the patio to notice.

I suppose it can't be helped. Holidays tend to take on their own meaning, much of which is woven deep into the unconscious rhythms of our lives.

So Labor Day, originally a celebration of America's "trade and labor organiza-

tions" and their contributions to this nation's greatness, has instead acquired a dizzy dual personality. It's a last-hurrah-farewell-to-summer celebration. And it's also an extended New Year's Eve of sorts, since, as anyone who ever attended a little institution called school knows, September marks the real turning of the calendar and the beginning of a new year.

A couple of days before the school doors opened at the Garrison School, my daughter, Dosi, said to me, "I think I'm ready to make a good first impression." I commended her for this, then pointed out that, as she is going into fourth grade, first impressions are actually probably well behind her; she already knows everyone in her class. She shook her head, unswayed by my logic.

Evidently, on the first day of school, everything and everyone is brand-new. Even old friends.

It is in this spirit that I find myself inclined to make resolutions right around now. Like all resolutions, mine are mostly improbable, with a few crossing the border into downright absurdity. Kids do help one differentiate between the two. For example, when I mentioned to mine that I thought it might be fun to take a hip-hop dance class, they rolled their eyes so hard I thought they'd sprain them, so I shelved the idea. On the other hand, a drawing class at the Garri-



Photo by C. Barbour



Green smoothie Photo by C. Barbour

son Art Center is something they wholeheartedly support.

At any rate, I was feeling positively new-leafish when I decided to turn part of this past week's Glynwood CSA share into a green smoothie. I was inspired by a certain counselor who brought his own Vitamix blender to camp this past summer, situated it on one of our kitchen counters, then showed up every single morning to make himself a concoction of fruit (usually a whole melon or several apples, a banana, and a whole lemon or lime) and leafy green vegetables (preferably kale, chard, or spinach; collards in a pinch). He drank an entire pitcherful for breakfast every day.

Some mornings I was fascinated by his diligent ritual — he pared the outside of the melon away like a whittler shaving away a fine layer of wood. Other times I was annoyed by his extravagance: the whole melon in his smoothie could have been sliced up to feed 15 kids, and that bunch of kale wasn't cheap. Over time, I mostly just found myself wanting to taste whatever he was whipping up, so I began asking for a sip. It always tasted surprisingly good, and felt intensely vital, as if the vitamins and phytochemicals were swarming to work as they slid down my throat.

I happen to own a Vitamix. It spent the summer here in Philipstown, contributing nothing to anyone's health. Some might see that as immoral. Vitamix owners tend towards fanaticism, judging by certain websites I've visited. They're convinced that their pricey appliance is capable not only of turning whole grains into flour or nuts into nut butters (which it is), but of transforming an unhealthy body into a healthy one.

I'm skeptical as to the latter, having lived through too many nutritional miracle-claims to embrace yet another. But now that I am settling back into my own kitchen again, I'm happy to give my blender a whirl — and toast the new year with a drink the color of the season gone by.

Green Smoothie

This makes about half a pitcherful, which is all I can manage and then some. If you have a Vitamix, you already know that you can include the seeds, stems, and pulp of the melon, citrus, and greens, and that the result will be creamy-smooth. If you are using another type of blender, you will probably need to remove the tough parts of the fruits and vegetables, and add a little juice or water to aid in the blending.

½ honeydew or other melon
1 ripe banana
pulp of ½ lemon or lime
5-6 leaves of kale, chard, or other leafy green, washed
4-5 cubes of ice

Put everything in the blender and pulverize, starting on low and increasing the speed as the ingredients start to liquefy. Blend 20-30 seconds total. Drink right away.

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Down to Business for Students, Teachers, School Board Trustees (from page 1)

cover from Hurricane Katrina. While both types of trips offer educational opportunities, there is widespread agreement that what students will experience in New Orleans will take the educational component of senior trips to another level. Villanti said that he and High School Principal Brian Alm agree that the trip offers "... great educational value. It could be life changing."

Former School Board President Joe Curto expressed his support for the trip in a letter to trustees. He wrote that on a recent trip, "... it struck me what an amazing educational laboratory New Orleans was on almost every city block. I can't think of a more educational and potentially powerful class trip than what they are proposing."

After considerable discussion, trustees gave tentative approval, provided that at

least two thirds of the class participates. The cost will be about \$900 per student. Trustee Peter Henderson initially expressed concern about participation levels, suggesting that the board require 75 percent of the class to register before giving its approval. He also had reservations about the mid-March timing of the trip, close to AP exams. Villanti however reassured Henderson that the schedule is workable and Ginny Pidala, a teacher who helps students organize the senior trip, indicated that two-thirds participation has been typical in the past. At the urging of Trustee Jennifer Daly, the resolution set the goal at 100 percent participation, but with 66 percent being the minimum acceptable for the trip to take place. In turn, each trustee spoke in favor of supporting the trip. An alternate activity will be planned for students who

don't go to New Orleans. One possibility is for those students to work at a Habitat for Humanity project in Newburgh, something that Thorpe said a number of local contractors have also expressed interest in.

"... it struck me what an amazing educational laboratory New Orleans was on almost every city block. I can't think of a more educational and potentially powerful class trip than what they are proposing."

Teacher evaluation

Trustees approved an amended policy for Evaluation of Professional Staff, bringing it in line with New York State Department of Education requirements. Trustee Evan Schwartz reviewed and commented on the policy. "It's a great thing for this school district and for all districts," he said. Schwartz explained that 60 percent of each evaluation is based on teacher performance, 20 percent on State criteria and 20 percent on local evaluation determined by the district. Teachers will be graded as Highly Effective, Effective, Developing or Ineffective. Those graded as Developing or Ineffective will be required to implement a Teacher Improvement Plan. Repeated grading as Ineffective can result in dismissal. Haldane District's overall ratings will be released to the public and parents will be able to determine the grades given to individual teachers.

In the world of sports

Villanti reported that work on the newly refurbished main athletic field should be complete by Saturday, Sept. 7. Numerous activities are being planned to show

off the new field during Homecoming on the first weekend of October. He also reported that the new lockers, also part of the field project, have been received and that installation was underway. Trustees accepted a donation of more than a dozen pieces of baseball equipment from local resident Ruben Vahos. The equipment, valued at more than \$10,000, includes a pitching machine, batting cage, radar gun, instructional DVDs and other items. A merger agreement was also approved which will permit Haldane students to play hockey in conjunction with Hendrick Hudson High School. The merger results in no cost to the Haldane Central School District as families are required to pay their own expenses and provide transportation.

Pension rates and tax levy

Villanti reported that the New York State Employer Pension Contribution rate did not increase for 2014-15, "good news" compared to the substantial increases experienced in recent years. He also said that due to a small increase in State aid, the total 2013-14 tax levy was adjusted and reduced by \$125,000.

Mark your calendar

The third annual Haldane PTA Back-to-School Picnic will be held from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 13, at the Haldane playground.

New staff members and newly tenured teachers will be recognized at the Tuesday, Sept. 17, School Board Workshop at 7:00 p.m. Michael Smith, Senior Manager of Construction for ConEdison Solutions, will also address the board that evening.

The Haldane School Foundation's Fall Ball will be held from 5:30 to 11:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, at Bear Mountain Inn. Tickets are available at haldaneschool-foundation.org.

Putnam County Legislature Moves to Revise Contractor Laws (from page 1)

code of unnecessary, confusing or inconsistent provisions. "If we were challenged legally, we'd not be able to defend ourselves," he said.

Furthermore, Othmer continued, study of the code revealed "there were certain things that inhibited the construction business in Putnam County. It got to the point in this county where we needed to be licensed to do everything." He cited his business as an example. In Dutchess County, a quarter mile from his home in Kent, "I don't even need a license. I can build your house; I can build your foundation; I can do a chimney," he said. But in Putnam, a contractor often faces requirements or costs for something simple like hiring a college kid or soldier on leave to handle a wheelbarrow or shovel in a temporary job. "It's another hindrance," he said.

Legislators observed that various skilled trades involve detailed training systems, with stages - including helper roles, in some cases - in which hours spent learning are well documented, but that these practices aren't found in all trades or among many non-union personnel.

Othmer said the county's Plumbing and Mechanical Trades Board wanted to dispense with the registration rules on helpers, but that the comparable board overseeing electrical contractors chose to keep the "helper" requirements for their field.

"Contractors needed a little bit more flexibility, so we have amended the law to take out the 'helpers' [provisions] where applicable," said District 4 Legislator Ginny Nacerino, who as a member of the Rules, Enactments, and Intergov-

ernmental Relations Committee spearheaded the changes.

In other business:

On an 8-0 vote, the legislators signed off on using \$4,690 for the Putnam County Sheriff's Department "to purchase overhead doors for the Nelsonville substation." According to Undersheriff Peter Convery, the upgrade "is necessary for proper security" at the site. With the money available in a related fund, the allocation has zero fiscal impact, according to the county Department of Finance.

The Legislature also approved a continuation of the agreement with the New York State Department of Transportation for the county role in clearing snow and ice from state roads, with a bonus - \$154,608 more in reimbursements "based on revised expenditures to more accurately reflect the season" and "additional lane miles of state roads plowed" by the county last winter. Initially adopted in 2009, the agreement was subsequently extended through June 2014 and involves a total of \$818,159. The county proposes to spend \$132,000 of the bonus on vehicles and \$22,608 on other equipment.

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Butterfield LLC Returns for Another Season (from page 1)

Long-time viewers will be on the lookout for the point in the story when Guillaro decides he has had enough with all the questions, criticisms and general lack of appreciation for his plan and once again withdraws his application along with the overt threat to build only single family homes with the implicit threat they will be filled with children seeking tax-expensive educations in the Haldane school system.

Perhaps this time around Guillaro and his advisors will find a way to more patiently concentrate on providing the details and answering the questions important to residents and the various government agencies that have jurisdiction over aspects of the plan. In this week's episode, which included Guillaro's new lawyer, Steven Barshov (from a Park Avenue Manhattan firm), the tone was silken as to cooperation while insistent the plan reflects community input and serves the community's interests.

Missing from the cast of course will be former Mayor Seth Gallagher who competed with Paul Guillaro for the most thin-skinned character. Together these two otherwise intelligent people outdid each other in reacting badly to questions raised by other officials and an increasingly skeptical public as they tried to push the project along.

The new characters this season begin with Barney Molloy, a one-time chair of the Peekskill Planning Board, and now the new chair of the Cold Spring Planning Board thanks to Mayor Ralph Falloon who has both a producer and actor role in the series. Molloy, a few viewers will recall, starred very briefly in his own show when he ran a 48-hour campaign for mayor of Cold Spring last year. When he abruptly withdrew from the race, the PCNR, not for the first time, put Molloy's picture on the front page throwing his support to Falloon.

Molloy is savvy about planning issues and clearly intent on a swift, efficient and open process. He has pledged to make the voluminous documents used at meetings available to the public. Joining Molloy around the table are planning veterans: Comprehensive Planning Board Vice Chair Anne Impellizzeri and former Village Board and Comprehensive Planning Board member Karn Dunn as well as James Pergamo, new to this area of civic life but seen by Falloon as a helpful addition. Arne Saari is the only returning cast member. He will provide the institutional memory having sat through all the previous Planning Board episodes

Barney Molloy, left, and Tim Miller

Photos by K.E. Foley

of *Butterfield LLC*.

Since the appointed Planning Board is now going to be the lead agency reviewing the *Butterfield* details, Molloy's role will be a key one. In previous seasons the Planning Board was the lead agency under Joseph Barbaro. Then the scriptwriters decided to have the elected Village Board take the lead, which confused a lot of viewers because the characters did not seem to know exactly what they were doing. Then the Planning Board demanded the lead role back claiming it had the expertise. But then some Planning Board members resigned. The Village Board could still take back all or part of the Planning Board's role but given that the air of uncertainty and lack of progress may have contributed to a loss of viewers such a story change seems unlikely.

Lead agency by the way means this is the group that reassures all the other government agencies including state agencies, such as the Department of Environmental Conservation, that their concerns will be addressed – no small matter. Audience members eager to see the buildings go up often give the legal requirements of the process.

The Village Board, with Stephanie Hawkins the only new cast member, will have to yet again attempt to change the zoning for the *Butterfield* property from health/medical to mixed use to allow the project to go forward. A casting call for extras will no doubt be posted to fill out the crowd for a public hearing on this matter. Last season's Jan., 29, 2013, episode drew quite an audience of people skeptical of changing the zoning without knowing the full details of what was to come afterwards. How the Village Board will address this concern should provide a plot twist or two.

Another hoary story element already rolled out anew in a special summer episode is the county, town and village political leaders getting together to agree with themselves how great it would be if any number of governmental services, that would greatly benefit residents, especially senior citizens, could be centrally located at *Butterfield*. This was so similar to past story lines some viewers thought it was a repeat episode.

Look for additional cameo appearances by these officials: Barbara Scuccimarra, Richard Shea, MaryEllen Odell, and possibly others, urging approval of Guillaro's project to save the post office, create a senior center, consolidate the courts and open a DMV office among other things. Guillaro himself, if true to his character, will deny any involvement in these promises because he has no deals to lease the space and therefore needs the freedom to lease to other entities once his buildings are up.

The government officials may come in for harder questioning this season as to why leasing such space is good use of tax dollars and if it is what prevents them from making real agreements as part of the overall project before it is approved. Fear of unfulfilled government promises and buildings filled with undesirable commercial enterprises will continue to be a source of plot tension.

On Wednesday night the Planning Board proceeded tentatively asking only preliminary questions mostly about traffic and parking studies. The real start of the show will be in two weeks on Sept. 18, after new Planning Board consultants, attorney Anna Georgiou and planning firm Barton & Loguidice have reviewed the Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) submitted by the *Butterfield* team and present their observations and questions. Molloy exhorted his fellow board members and members of the viewing audience to also study the EAF carefully. He also scheduled a 6 p.m. walkabout of the *Butterfield* site on Chestnut Street (Route 9D) so board members (and audience members) could get a physical feel for how traffic and parking would operate according to the project proposal.

Historic District Code, Grove RFP Discussed (from page 1)



Development of The Grove will be sought when the Village Board issues a Request for Proposals. Restoration and alterations to the building are subject to review by the Historic District Review Board.

Photo by M. Turton

varying degrees to which buildings contribute to historic character. The code currently treats all buildings within Cold Spring’s Historic District as contributing equally. Hurst will suggest revisions to the code. He will also review the proposed RFP for development of The Grove, the historic building located atop the embankment across from Drug World.

Docking permit raises issues

Trustees approved a docking permit for the *Atlantica*, a 150-foot, 400-passenger ship that will visit Cold Spring Oct. 10. Local resident John Landolfi complained that such boats can disrupt fishing and crabbing. “Sometimes it interferes with taxpaying residents who like to use the dock,” he said. “We live here, we’re taxpayers ... we spent a lot of money on the dock.” He said that most boats dock only briefly, but that the sloop *Clearwater* stays for a week. “We can’t use the dock ... maybe this is something we need to address.” Landolfi said that while he is a member of the Cold Spring Boat Club and can fish from there, not all residents have that luxury. “To me it’s ridiculous,” he said, referring to *Clearwater*’s lengthier stays. A summary included in Wednesday’s agenda showed that *Clearwater* has been in Cold Spring five times in 2013, with stays of two to four days. Trustee Bruce Campbell said that applications are considered on a case by case basis. He also explained that boats are charged a dockage fee of two dollars per foot, but that for *Clearwater*, a non-profit, the fee is waived. Campbell said that passenger vessels are granted permission to dock at Cold Spring to help bring business to Main Street shops.

Coal tar remediation

Following up on discussions at their meeting Aug. 30, trustees reviewed a draft letter to the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) regarding

remediation of coal tar in the area of the Cold Spring Boat Club. At that meeting it was agreed that the village would ask DEC to reconsider its Record of Decision (ROD) which calls for cleanup of only 20 percent of the toxic material and excludes deposits under the Boat Club building. Residents in the area and the Village Board favor a more extensive cleanup. Discussion centered on whether or not to request that DEC pay the cost of altering or removing the Boat Club building if required by a more complete remediation. It was decided not to include the request since the intent of the letter is only to ask DEC to reopen the ROD. Village resident Kathleen Foley asked if there was a “successor company” that might be responsible for cost of remediation. She said that in a community where she lived previously, where coal tar was also an issue, NYSEG was responsible for remediation because that company had taken over site operations. Falloon explained that the manufactured gas plant that operated in Cold Spring ceased operations in the 1920s and that there was no successor company.

No move yet on new village attorney

Trustee Stephanie Hawkins reported that she had consulted with Village Accountant Ellen Mageean regarding budgeting for hiring a new village attorney, a move that has been under consideration for several months. The Village Board has all but decided to go with the Brewster-based firm of Hogan & Rossi, however questions remain regarding cost of the firm’s retainer, hourly fees, and the relative advantages of both. Hawkins will provide more information at next week’s meeting.

Reporter questions

The Paper asked Falloon, if in recently repainting parking lines on Main Street, the village had considered a 2008 parking study that recommended that the lines

Obituary

Terence Edward “Terry” Leaves



Terry Leaves

Terence Edward “Terry” Leaves died in his sleep on Aug. 25, at his home in Cold Spring. He was 38 years old.

Born in Somerset in England, to Julie and Richard Leaves, Terry and younger sister Naomi were raised in the quaint village of South Petherton. As a child, Terry discovered his passion for the bicycle, exploring the hilly countryside around the village, riding farther and faster over the years. The tremendous skills and strength he developed on the bike showed a combination of drive, discipline and exuberance. These qualities showed through in all of his activities, including earning degrees in mathematics and computer science at University of Oxford. From there he built an expertise in information technology and eventually became a “Quant” or quantitative

analyst for the Fixed Income Research and Strategy Team at BNP Paribas, N.Y., where he had worked for the last twelve years.

When not ensconced in the nuances of higher mathematics, Terry relaxed with 100-mile rides. To meet other riders, he joined the New York Cycling Club where he became renowned for discovering new, scenic, low-traffic routes in and around the beautiful tri-state area. While on such a ride he met Shari Alexander. Together they explored the hills and country roads, as well as the local food and fine beer of the Hudson Valley. They branched out by car as well as bicycle, and on a cross-country trip in 2009, Terry proposed to Shari at the summit of Mt. Evans in Colorado. Soon after being married they bought a house in Cold Spring, and enjoyed both city and country life.

Terry loved the peace of rural Cold Spring. From their home, they could hear the birds waking in the morning and could head any direction for beautiful terrain. Although a private person, he delighted in the company of friends. People in the community gravitated toward him, drawn by his cooking (he favored a five-alarm chili paired with exotic local micro-brews), his razor-sharp wit, his deep generosity and his ability to make others feel comfortable whatever the context.

When Terry learned that their sleepy Parrott Street would be inundated by 1,500 tiny ghosts, goblins and headless-horsemen each Halloween, he dove right in to this local custom, collecting dozens of giant spider decorations to transform the house into a haunted web — replete with candy for all of the little trick-or-treaters. For all of this and more, Terry will be deeply missed by his friends and family.

Terry was buried in the Cold Spring Cemetery on Tuesday. A memorial will follow at a later date. He is survived by his wife, Shari Alexander, his parents Julie and Richard Leaves, his grandmother Marjorie Orme, his sister Naomi and her husband Craig Sinclair, and nephews Walter and Finlay.

Memorial donations may be made to the Environmental Defense Fund at www.edf.org.

not be renewed, as a more efficient way to use available parking space. Falloon said the recommendation had not been considered. Trustee Charles Hustis said that he was working on scheduling a public meeting to reconsider the parking study as decided at a previous meeting.

The Paper also asked if a public meeting would be held to review the findings of an Environmental Protection Agency report released at the end of June, updating the status of remediation efforts at the Marathon Battery site. At a Village Board meeting on July 9, Falloon said that if residents requested it, the village would ask the EPA to present the report’s findings. Pamela Tames, Remedial Proj-

ect Manager with the EPA, told *The Paper* at the time that she was willing to make the presentation, however Falloon said that no meeting has been scheduled because the public has not requested it.

At Wednesday’s meeting, reporters from both *The Paper* and the *Putnam County News and Recorder* noted how difficult it is to hear what is said at village workshops, an observation confirmed by at least one member of the audience. The reporter for *The Paper* recounted that a similar issue at meetings of the Philipstown Town Board was addressed several years ago by installing a sound system and requiring board members to use microphones.

AM CLASSES
6:00, 7:00,
9:00, 10:00

PM CLASSES
5:30, 6:30, 7:30

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Episcopal Churches Are Unique Mixes of Protestant and Catholic Elements

St. Philip's and St. Mary's cater to different tastes within same denomination

By Jeanne Tao

There's a reason why two of the most prominent and majestic churches in Philipstown — St. Philip's in Garrison and St. Mary's in Cold Spring — are Episcopal parishes: the denomination has deep and powerful roots in the area, as it has had in the nation, since colonial times. Not only did many of Philipstown's most influential residents belong to these churches, as the plaques around the buildings indicate, but several of America's Founding Fathers and presidents have also been Episcopalian.

The Rev. Frank Geer, longtime rector of St. Philip's Church in the Highlands and former student of history, is a fount of knowledge on what he likes to call "the community church of Garrison." Likewise, the Rev. Shane Scott-Hamblen of the Episcopal Church of St. Mary-in-the-Highlands, who is currently working on a doctoral dissertation about American Episcopal history, can provide loads of information on the denomination. Both tell a story that touches on controversy but also ultimately speaks to pluralism and inclusion, for which the Episcopal Church has become known.

Protestant and Catholic

The Episcopal Church calls itself "Protestant, yet Catholic," going back to its roots in the Church of England, which also describes itself as "Reformed and Catholic."

Henry VIII established the English Church in 1534, when the Roman Catholic Church would not annul his marriage to Catherine of Aragon. Intending for the church to remain Catholic but without papal authority, the king himself became head of the church. After Henry VIII's death, many Protestant reforms (such as lifting the celibacy requirement for priests) were adopted under Edward VI, but Mary I then reinstated Roman Catholicism. It was not until Elizabeth I became queen that the Church of England was re-established and a compromise made — the Elizabethan Settlement in 1558 — between the church's Protestant and Catholic factions.

To this day, in the Church of England and national churches within the Anglican Communion (such as the Episcopal Church of America), congregations may emphasize either the Catholic or Protestant side of their Anglican faith.

A former Roman Catholic priest ordained in the Vatican by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (before he became Pope

Benedict XVI), Scott-Hamblen has a strong background in Catholicism. "We belong to the same denomination, but [St. Philip's members] tend to accentuate the more Protestant side, and we tend to accentuate the more Catholic side," he said. That emphasis on Catholic ritual leads St. Mary's to call its service a "Mass" whenever the Eucharist, or Holy Communion, is celebrated — currently twice every Sunday at 8 and 10:30 a.m. and on important holidays. Also in the Catholic tradition, St. Mary's frequently uses incense, elaborate vestments and plainsong in its services.



Rev. Frank Geer

File Photo

Geer said that St. Philip's, on the other hand, has had a long tradition of offering different types of services. The church celebrates Holy Communion every Sunday morning at 8 and every first, third and fifth Sunday of the month at 10:30. The other 10:30 services, on alternate Sundays, take the form of Morning Prayer.

To elaborate on the two forms of worship, Geer explained the sacramental service: "Eucharist" is a Greek word for 'thanksgiving.' The intent of the sacrament of Communion, 'the common sacrament,' is that it celebrates those everyday things in life, the common things in life, and also the things in life that we all hold common. ... The Morning Prayer service is a beautiful traditional form of worship that happens to not be sacramental; it's more of a teaching opportunity."

Geer added that the different forms allowed him flexibility as a pastor. "I sometimes feel that on the Sundays where it's Morning Prayer, (a) I can take a little bit more time for the teaching part of the ceremony, and (b) I can be a little more creative." An example of that flexibility occurred at St. Philip's July 14 service celebrating Bastille Day, when Geer was able to focus more time on the history and significance of the French Revolution than he would have in a Communion service.

Upheaval and growth

While the Episcopal Church is grounded in English history, it has also developed its own distinct character, one that Scott-Hamblen describes as "a kind of John Wayne-aspect we throw in as Americans that kind of irritates some others in Anglicanism." He said not having a pope or king as supreme head of church allows the American church to rule itself, "and therefore we make up our rules ... and not everybody else is happy with that — issues especially like gay marriage, gay ordination, women's



Rev. Shane Scott-Hamblen

(Photo courtesy of Scott-Hamblen)

ordination, though it goes back even further" to the civil rights movement. (Both Scott-Hamblen and Geer have conducted same-sex weddings at their churches in the past few years, and in May Scott-Hamblen was married at St. Mary's in such a ceremony, officiated by Bishop Andrew Dietsche of New York.)

As in so many revolutions, however, that independence did not come without a cost. Although there were numerous Church of England parishes in the American colonies, many in the north had to close after the Revolution, with the departure of their Loyalist priests and members.

St. Philip's, which had been created in 1770 by St. Peter's Church in Peekskill, was among those that had to close. Geer related the Loyalist history of the church: "The priest that was here sided with the British, and our senior warden at the time was Beverly Robinson, who was famous for being a co-conspirator along with Benedict Arnold and Major [John] Andre, to turn West Point over to the British."

On the losing side, St. Philip's also became a target for anti-British sentiment when the Continental Army was bivouacked nearby, in the area now known as Continental Village. Geer continued: "One night a group of Continental Army

soldiers decided they were going to burn down the Tory church, which was made out of wood at the time, and George Washington got out of bed and rode to intercept them and basically told them to go back to the barracks, that we're not fighting this war to burn down churches, our churches or anybody else's." To honor Washington (who was also Episcopalian) and his defense of the church, he is depicted in a stained glass window in St. Philip's vestibule.

St. Philip's finally reopened around 1800, and in 1840 it founded St. Mary's for the Episcopalian congregation that had grown up around the West Point Foundry. By the 1860s, with the booming business of the foundry during the Civil War, the parishes grew to require larger churches, and because so many of Philipstown's most affluent and influential residents were Episcopalian, the new stone buildings attained prominence. St. Philip's new building has the added distinction of being designed by church member Richard Upjohn, the architect of several famous churches, including Trinity Church in Manhattan and St. Paul's Cathedral in Buffalo.

Continuing the legacy

When Geer called St. Philip's the church of the community, he explained that it is Garrison's only freestanding church, not associated with a larger one. Numerous organizations had their start at St. Philip's, including the Constitution Marsh Audubon Center and Sanctuary; the Garrison Volunteer Ambulance Corps; and the area's school, which the church opened in the 1830s and which later became the Garrison Union Free School.

St. Philip's continues to serve Garrison through its nursery school, which recently celebrated its 50th anniversary and, according to Geer, does not generate profit for the church. Geer leads a book club that meets after services as well as the Life Support Group, open to all, on Wednesday evenings. Teresa Pappard holds a tai chi class at St. Philip's on Saturday mornings.

Both churches have Sunday Schools, contribute to the Philipstown Food Pantry and continue to host Alcoholics Anonymous meetings in the evenings. The Philipstown Reform Synagogue used to meet at St. Philip's and is now housed at St. Mary's, attesting to the churches' commitment to being open and inclusive.

That spirit of inclusion is what many members cite as a reason for going to both churches. Ralph Arce, who is St. Mary's senior warden, said that he gave up on religion for a while after feeling uncomfortable in church as a gay man. A friend introduced him (Continued on page 14)

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Music Tracks: Peter Calo

September 28, 8 p.m.

Tickets \$15

www.brownpapertickets.com

www.philipstowndepottheatre.org

Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station.)

The Calendar



View of Hudson River Valley, Environs of West Point, c. 1840 by Robert Weir
Image courtesy of Boscobel/West Point Museum



Boscobel View by Rick Gedney, whose work is available at Riverwinds Gallery in Beacon
Image courtesy of the artist

Weir Exhibit at Boscobel Brings West Point Stalwart Across the River

Museum director and local artist share appreciation of 19th-century painter and teacher

By Kevin E. Foley

Few people could claim greater Hudson Highlands roots and influence, both cultural and historical, than Robert Weir. A 19th-century West Point drawing teacher for 42 years, he won renown as a painter and nurtured several other important artists including his sons, John F. Weir and J. Alden Weir and the famous James Whistler who studied at the U.S. Military Academy. Civil War Gens. Ulysses S. Grant and William Tecumseh Sherman and Confederate States President Jefferson Davis were among Weir's more famous cadets at the military academy. Drawing, in an age before photography (let alone digital imaging) could be easily applied, was an important observational skill for a military officer. Generally considered the best of Weir's work, *Embarkation of the Pilgrims*, was a commission by the U.S. Congress and it was installed in the Capitol Rotunda in 1844 after a display at West Point and a tour around the country. In a retrospective of Weir's work, the first in 30 years, Boscobel House and Gardens in partnership with the West Point Museum is presenting 37 examples of Weir's different styles of work, including landscapes and portraits. The exhibit, *Robert W. Weir and the Poetry of Art*, which runs until November 30, is housed in the Boscobel gallery beneath its historic Federal period house. Gary Allen Hood, retired Curator of Art at the West Point Museum who now resides in Oklahoma, organized the show. "We're happy just to be able to cull

all the pieces together in one place and be able to show his myriad of different styles, landscapes, allegorical scenes, genre scenes, it's quite nice to be able to do that," said David Reel, director of the West Point Museum. "We are delighted to have his works there (at Boscobel). It's nice to have the meshing of the two locations across the river, so close and yet separated by a wide expanse of water. So now we can get people back and forth from both west and east sides of the Hudson and really get a true feeling for the whole area. There is a great cultural exchange I think in the Hudson Valley. Many of the institutions look to work with each other to promote the Hudson Valley and have people come up and experience what we have," said Reel. Reel spoke in the library of the West Point museum during a discussion with Cold Spring contemporary artist Rick Gedney held at the request of *Philipstown.info* to mark the opening of the Boscobel exhibit and to underscore Weir's place in art history and his influence even in the 21st century. (A video based on the discussion accompanies the article). "I have always appreciated him as a history painter. It's not very often these days you see history painters. He was for me a draftsman and his belief in drawing as the basis of a good painting was important for me and is incorporated in my work," said Gedney whose paintings often depict scenes from the Hudson Highlands. "One of the fascinating things I find about Weir was that he wanted to get his students outside of the studio and get them into the clean air and be able to paint outdoors. He believed very much in that method of teaching," said Reel. Reel and Gedney's conversation highlighted Weir's membership in what



Portrait of Robert Weir by Daniel Huntington
Photo by K.E. Foley

came to be known as the Hudson River school of painting. Three of the works in the exhibit, *View of the Hudson River*, *View of the Hudson River Valley*, *Environs of West Point* and *Washington's Headquarters at Newburgh, NY* are fine representations of that form of landscape vision. Reel pointed out that Weir arrived at West Point in 1834 from New York City where he would have encountered the painters who were seeking to capture the beauty of the Hudson Valley and especially the Highlands. And in turn said Reel, many of the same painters would visit West Point creating a regional social circle. "I have enjoyed Weir's work through thinking about Thomas Cole (considered by many the founder of the Hudson River school) and what they called at the time the Arcadian spirit which blended the idea of draftsmanship and nature and human ability to coexist peacefully in nature during that time, with the sense of realism and the views they were experiencing as they came up the Hudson River," said Gedney. He also acknowledged that Hudson River painters would paint scenes that often ignore blights on the landscape to create a vision of the possibilities that were most important to them. Both Gedney and Reel acknowledged the irony that many of the views that inspired the (Continued on page 11)

First Beacon Film Festival

Three days of films, discussions and building community

By Kevin E. Foley

Rapidly transforming technology begets changing tastes. So the art and business of movie making has undergone significant market and production disruption in recent years. Hollywood these days more and more looks for the very expensive blockbuster epic fantasy film or the big broad comedy to fill theaters with young people in the U.S. and increasingly around the globe. Funding for more adult fare and for even more edgy independent filmmaking is much harder to come by, as are theaters for such films to be screened. The burgeoning international film festival circuit (Cannes, Venice, Tribeca, Toronto, even Woodstock) is now a major way independent filmmakers and producers are finding audiences by creating market and critical buzz. The festivals are also a way for a community to bring locals and visitors who share an interest in films, especially those outside the corporate mainstream, together to view first-run work and examine recent trends and approaches in (Continued on page 11)



Terry Nelson is orchestrating Beacon's first Indie Film Festival. Photo by K.E. Foley

BEHIND *the*
COUNTER
❖ by Tara ❖



With the beginning of September arrives a new school year, kick-off to the football season and local primaries. My attention, *bien sur*, is riveted to Mayor's Park where our Blue Devils will be sinking their cleats into the grass there. This gives us one last chance for a chew on proper grass. Future games will be on the new turf — it is a sacrifice we are willing to make. Count on the loyalty of a dog to take one for the team. Loyal football fans will be sporting their blue while having a devilish time at this Saturday's scrimmage. Word on Main St. is that a certain devil dog has convinced the boss to GO BLUE in the storefront. I have requested the afternoon off on Thursday, Sept. 12 for the first game although I expect to hear some rubbish from the boss that I am only going to lurk around the concession stand waiting for food to be dropped. One would assume a bit more respect would be due a female of a certain age such as myself.



On the other side of the county, a different boys in blue contest will be waged as voters go to the polls in a primary election for Putnam County Sheriff on Tues., Sept. 10. The incumbent sheriff is campaigning on the slogan that he has made Putnam County the safest in all N.Y., neglecting to mention this is certainly due to the stellar quality of guard dogs in our little slice of heaven. I have been observed searching the boss's pockets, never mind that it was for dog biscuits. Another young dog at the foot of Main St. is known to overwhelm visitors at his door with affection consequentially melting even the most criminally hardened heart. There's often detective work going on behind and over the counter and plenty of informants can be found on Main St. benches, one of whom is undercover by night as a deliveryman of pies from another planet. At least on *this* side of the county, it's we dogs who have a tight grip on anarchy's leash. Although we'll leave the ticketing of Main St. cars abandoned for over four hours to those best suited to the job.

Stop in at the Country Goose and check out our delicious pâtés and tapenades, perfect for tailgating or discussing politics over cocktails.



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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, SEPTEMBER 6

First Friday in Cold Spring

First Day of School at Haldane

Kids & Community

Gem and Jewelry Show

NOON - 6 P.M. WESTCHESTER COUNTY CENTER
198 Central Ave., White Plains
914-995-4050 | countycenter.biz

Teen Connections Support Group

3 - 6 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Wine Tasting

4 - 7 P.M. ARTISAN WINE SHOP
180 Main St., Beacon
845-440-6923 | artisanwineshop.com

Fireflies and Family Ties

5 - 8 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Wine & Cheese

5 - 8 P.M. ANTIPODEAN BOOKS
29 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3867 | antipodean.com

Public Sail on the Woody Guthrie

6 P.M. BEACON SLOOP CLUB
2 Red Flynn Drive, Beacon
Call 845-297-7697 for reservations.

Health & Fitness

Red Cross Blood Drive

1 - 6 P.M. EAST FISHKILL F.D. HEADQUARTERS
2502 Route 52, Hopewell Junction
800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org

Art & Design

House, Studio and Landscape Tour

11 A.M. & 1:30 P.M. MANITOGA
584 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3812 | russelwrightcenter.org

Pies & Ponds (Opening)

6 - 8 P.M. THE MARINA GALLERY
153 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2204 | themarinagallery.com

In Times of Chaos and Looking Past Reality (Openings)

6 - 9 P.M. GALLERY 66 NY | 66 Main St., Cold Spring | 845-809-5838 | gallery66ny.com

Theater & Film

20/20 One-Act Play Competition

8 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE
10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

Calling All Poets

8 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org.

Music

Kid Rock & ZZ Top

6:45 P.M. BETHEL WOODS | 200 Hurd Road, Bethel | 866-781-2922 | bethelwoodscenter.org

Tony Pastrana & NY Latin Jazz

7:30 P.M. BEAN RUNNER CAFÉ
201 S. Division, Peekskill
914-737-1701 | beanrunnercafe.com

The Bar Spies

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

Live Music

8 P.M. COLD SPRING DEPOT
1 Depot Square, Cold Spring
845-265-5000 | coldspringdepot.com

R&B Sessions

9 P.M. VIRGO'S SIP N SOUL CAFE
469 Fishkill Ave., Beacon
845-831-1543 | virgossipnsoul.com

T. Jay

9 P.M. MAX'S ON MAIN
246 Main St., Beacon
845-838-6297 | maxsonmain.com

The BluesMothers

9:30 P.M. 12 GRAPES
12 N. Division St., Peekskill
914-737-6624 | 12grapes.com

Meetings & Lectures

Free Computer Help

2 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Beacon Sloop Club Meeting

6:30 P.M. 2 RED FLYNN DRIVE, BEACON
914-907-4928 | beaconsloopclub.org

Friends of the Butterfield Library

7 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Recycling Center Closed

Kids & Community

Cold Spring to Newburgh Paddle (Advanced)

METRO-NORTH LOT, COLD SPRING
845-462-1909 | jcfouere@gmail.com
Register for exact launch time.

Bicycle Tour of Olde Fishkill

VAN WYCK HALL, 1095 MAIN ST. (FAMILY & MEDIUM)
Van Wyck Homestead, 504 Route 9 (Extended)
Maps at soundearth.com/BikeTour.html

Cold Spring Farmers' Market plus Ask the Master Gardener

8:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL
10:30 A.M. TO NOON. GILLIAN'S ISLAND 1601
Route 9D, Garrison | csfarmmarket.org

Food Pantry

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

Outdoor Discovery Center Events

9 A.M. - 4 P.M. NATURE PLAY AREA (AGES 2-10)
10 A.M. GEOLOGY HIKE
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 | hnnaturemuseum.org

Native Plant Appreciation Weekend

9 A.M. - 5:30 P.M. OPEN HOURS
11 A.M. ATTRACTING BIRDS TO YOUR GARDEN
2 P.M. NATIVE SHRUB AND TREE ID
ROSEDALE NURSERIES
51 Saw Mill River Road, Hawthorne
914-606-7870 | sunywcc.edu

Bike Tour of Historic Poughkeepsie

9:45 A.M. METRO-NORTH STATION
41 Main St., Poughkeepsie | 845-471-1630
dutchesscountyhistoricalsociety.org

Regional Battle of the Books (grades 6-9)

10 A.M. - 2 P.M. ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL
1157 Route 55, LaGrangeville | midhudson.org

Gem and Jewelry Show

10 A.M. - 6 P.M. WESTCHESTER COUNTY CENTER
See details under Saturday.

Manitou Nature Preserve Hike (Easy to Moderate)

10:30 A.M. MEET AT PRESERVE PARKING LOT
Route 9D, Garrison
845-661-4132 | westhike.org

Soup Kitchen

11 A.M. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
50 Liberty St., Beacon
845-831-5322 | beaconpresbychurch.com

Hudson Valley Wine & Food Festival

11 A.M. - 6 P.M. DUTCHESS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
6550 Spring Brook Ave., Rhinebeck
845-658-7181 | hudsonvalleywinefest.com

Senior Citizen Picnic

NOON. MAYOR'S PARK | Fair Street, Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

Wildlife Education Center Events

NOON - 4 P.M. STORY WALK CELEBRATION
1 & 2:30 P.M. MEET THE RABBIT
25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845-534-7781 | hnnaturemuseum.org

Bannerman Island Tour

2:30 P.M. BEACON DOCK
800-979-3370 | bannermancastle.org

Wine Tasting

3 - 6 P.M. ARTISAN WINE SHOP
180 Main St., Beacon
845-440-6923 | artisanwineshop.com

Code Springers (ages 5-14)

4 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison | codespringers.org

Sunset Seine and Sing

5 P.M. ESOPUS MEADOWS
257 River Road, Ulster Park
845-797-2847 | clearwater.org

Barn Dance Gala

5 - 10 P.M. GLYNWOOD FARM
362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring
845-265-3338 | glynwood.org

Health & Fitness

Adult Pick-up Soccer

9 A.M. BEACON MEMORIAL PARK
meetup.com/hudsonvalleycoedsoccer

Caregiver Support Group

9:30 A.M. HUDSON VALLEY HOSPITAL CENTER
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-734-3896 | hvhc.org/events

Tai-Chi Chuan Group

9:30 A.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 Route 52, Kent Lakes
845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

(Continued on next page)



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Art & Design

Free Admission to Boscobel Grounds
9:30 A.M. - 5 P.M. 1601 ROUTE 9D, GARRISON
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Free Admission for Beacon Residents
11 A.M. - 6 P.M. DIA:BEACON
PUBLIC TOUR AT 1 P.M.
3 Beekman St., Beacon
845-440-0100 | diabeacon.org

House, Studio and Landscape Tour
11 A.M. & 1:30 P.M. MANITOGA
See details under Friday.

Latino-American Artists Exhibit (Opening)
3 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Storm King Art Center Events
3 P.M. WANDERINGS AND WONDERINGS WITH ERICA EHRENBURG
4 P.M. MEMBER EVENT: PHOTOGRAPHING STORM KING | 1 Museum Road, New Windsor
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Sean Breault and Judy Sigunick (Closing)
4 - 6 P.M. THEO GANZ STUDIO
149 Main St., Beacon
917-318-2239 | theoganzstudio.com

Theater & Film

An Evening with Bill Cosby
7:30 P.M. WESTCHESTER COUNTY CENTER
198 Central Ave., White Plains
914-995-4050 | wmconcerts.com

20/20 One-Act Play Competition
8 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE
See details under Friday.

Music

In the Pines Music Festival
4 P.M. 1977
5 P.M. HIGH ON REBELLION
6 P.M. LURAY
7 P.M. RAQUEL VIDAL AND THE MONDAY MEN
8 P.M. THE VONTONS
9 P.M. THE LOOM
10 P.M. JACK GRACE BAND
THE THEATER AT UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT CAMP
724 Wolcott Ave., Beacon | local845.com

Fred Smith Jazz Ensemble
7:30 P.M. BEAN RUNNER CAFÉ
See details under Friday.

French Montana
8 P.M. MID-HUDSON CIVIC CENTER
14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie
845-454-5800 | midhudsonciviccenter.org

Live Music
8 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE’S
See details under Friday.

SugaRush
9:30 P.M. 12 GRAPES | See details under Friday.

Jason Gisser
9:30 P.M. MAX’S ON MAIN | Details under Friday

Meetings & Lectures

Overeaters Anonymous
8:30 A.M. GRAYMOOR
1350 Route 9, Garrison | 917-716-2488 | oa.org

Free Computer Help
2 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
See details under Friday.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Kids & Community

Paddle for a Cure
7:30 A.M. PADDLESPOUT CENTER, ANNSVILLE
914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

Beacon Flea Market
8 A.M. - 3 P.M. HENRY STREET PARKING LOT
Behind Main Street Post Office, Beacon
845-202-0094 | beaconflea.blogspot.com

Nature Play Area (ages 2-10)
9 A.M. - 4 P.M. OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER
See details under Saturday.

Native Plant Appreciation Weekend
9 A.M. - 5:30 P.M. OPEN HOURS
1 P.M. BENEFICIAL PLANTS FOR BUTTERFLIES
ROSDALE NURSERIES, HAWTHORNE
See details under Saturday.

Create a Four-Season Garden
10 A.M. COMMON GROUND FARM
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
845-231-4424 | commongroundfarm.org

Tail Wagger Dog Walk
10 A.M. - 3 P.M. WALKWAY OVER THE HUDSON
64 Parker Ave., Poughkeepsie
914-266-0618 | petsalive.org

New York Metro Reptile Show
10 A.M. - 4 P.M. WESTCHESTER COUNTY CENTER
198 Central Ave., White Plains
914-995-4050 | countycenter.biz

Beacon Farmers’ Market
11 A.M. - 3 P.M. SCENIC HUDSON RIVER CENTER
Long Dock Drive, Beacon
845-234-9325 | thebeaconfarmersmarket.com

Hudson Valley Wine & Food Festival
11 A.M. - 5 P.M. DUTCHESS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
See details under Saturday.

Gem and Jewelry Show
11 A.M. - 5 P.M. WESTCHESTER COUNTY CENTER
See details under Friday.

Hudson River Valley Ramble Sail
NOON - 5 P.M. BEACON HARBOR
914-907-4928 | beaconsloopclub.org

Wildlife Education Center Events
NOON - 4 P.M. STORY WALK CELEBRATION
1 & 2:30 P.M. MEET THE RABBIT
See details under Saturday.

Children and Families: Tour with Wally McGuire
1 P.M. STORM KING ART CENTER
1 Museum Road, New Windsor
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Members’ Garden Party
1 - 5 P.M. STONECROP GARDENS
81 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring
845-265-2000 | stonecrop.org

Bannerman Island Tour
2:30 P.M. BEACON DOCK
800-979-3370 | bannermancastle.org

Health & Fitness

Adult Pick-up Soccer
9:45 A.M. BEACON MEMORIAL PARK
meetup.com/hudsonvalleycoedsoccer

Art & Design

Drop-In Art Sessions
9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. DRAWING AND PAINTING FROM LIFE (LONG POSE)
10 A.M. - 1 P.M. BASIC ETCHING
1:30 - 3:30 P.M. PRINTMAKING CLUB
GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

House, Studio and Landscape Tour
11 A.M. & 1:30 P.M. MANITOGA
See details under Friday.

Free Admission for Beacon Residents
11 A.M. - 6 P.M. DIA:BEACON
See details under Saturday.

Centerpiece Workshop
2 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE | 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes | 845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

Theater & Film

20/20 One-Act Play Competition
4 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE
See details under Friday.

Sunset Reading Series: Joan Silber & Lily Tuck
4 P.M. CHAPEL RESTORATION
45 Market St., Cold Spring
845-265-5537 | sunsettreadings.org

Music

Dixieland Jazz Band
1 P.M. COLD SPRING DEPOT
See details under Friday.

Hoot on the Hudson
1 - 5 P.M. TACONIC OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTER
75 Mountain Laurel Lane, Cold Spring
littlestonypoint.org

Pete Seeger
1:30 P.M. PARAMOUNT HUDSON VALLEY
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

Open House
2 - 4 P.M. BEACON MUSIC FACTORY
12 Hanna Lane, Beacon
845-202-3555 | beaconmusicfactory.com

Ukulele Group
3 P.M. ARTS ON THE LAKE
640 Route 52, Kent Lakes
845-228-2685 | artsonthelake.org

Emmylou Harris & Rodney Crowell
5 P.M. HITS-ON-THE-HUDSON
454 Washington Ave. Extension, Saugerties
845-246-8833 | hitsshows.com

Big Band Concert & Picnic
6 P.M. BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Caleb Gaylord AML Leukemia Benefit Concert
6:30 P.M. THE HOP
458 Main St., Beacon
facebook.com/calebgaylord.fundraisingpage

Sara Carbone and Tara Dougherty
6:30 P.M. 12 GRAPES
See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures

Mid-Hudson Orchid Society
1:30 P.M. UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
44 Balmville Road, Newburgh
914-393-2514 | mhos.us.com

Bob Murphy on Historic Beacon (Lecture)
2 P.M. BEACON INSTITUTE | 199 Main St., Beacon
845-838-1600 | bire.org/events

Religious Services

See philipstown.info/churches for Sunday listings

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Kids & Community

Bridge Club
9:30 A.M. - 12: 30 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Yoga for Toddlers
10 A.M. BEACON YOGA CENTER
464 Main St., Beacon
347-489-8406 | beaconyogacenter.com

Garden to Table Fall Vegetable Workshop
6 P.M. CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
1 Geneva Road, Brewster
845-278-6738 | cce.cornell.edu/putnam

Public Sail on the Woody Guthrie
6 P.M. BEACON SLOOP CLUB
See details under Friday.

Health & Fitness

Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group
10 A.M. PUTNAM HOSPITAL CENTER
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
800-532-4290 | supportconnection.org

Yoga with a View
6 P.M. BOSCOBEL | 1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Basketball at Philipstown Rec
6:15 P.M. YOUTH SKILLS/DRILLS (GRADES 3-8)
7:30 P.M. MEN’S PICK-UP
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Art & Design

Drop-In Drawing & Painting from Life (Short Pose)
9:30 A.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
See details under Sunday.

Theater & Film

Open Auditions (Multiple Shows)
7 - 9 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE
445 Main St., Beacon
845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

Music

Community Chorus
7 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Beginning Fiddle, Cello & Mandolin
7 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Meetings & Lectures

Cold Spring Lions
6:30 P.M. PRIVATE HOME
845-424-3867 | coldspringlions.com

Beacon Council Workshop
7 p.m. 1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon
845-838-5000 | cityofbeacon.org

Zoning Board of Appeals
7:30 P.M. TOWN HALL | 238 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Kids & Community

Primary Election Polls Open
6 A.M. - 9 P.M. GARRISON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
1616 Route 9, Garrison | putnamcountyny.com
(Continued on next page)

Hudson Valley Occupational Therapy for Kids is proud to offer Handwriting Without Tears Kindergarten Program with Sherrie Wharton, MA OTR/L

\$35 per class plus \$10 materials fee (includes *HWT* book)
October 5, 12, 19 and 26
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Pepper Franchina-Gallagher BS/MS OTR/L • 845-380-3996 • hvot4kids@gmail.com
3182 Rt. 9, Suite 207 • Cold Spring, NY 10516



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AUGUST 10-SEPTEMBER 14

Beacon’s annual public art exhibition
On display 24 /7 all along Main Street

WWW.BEACONWINDOWS.ORG

The Calendar (from page 9)

Hiring Our Heroes Employment Workshop
9 - 10:30 A.M. CAMP SMITH
1 Heady St., Cortlandt Manor
uschamber.com/HiringOurHero

Senior Day Center
10 A.M. - 2 P.M. MOTHER LURANA HOUSE
166 Old West Point Road East, Garrison
845-424-3184 | graymoorcenter.org

Kids Craft Hour
4 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Public Sail on the Woody Guthrie
6 P.M. BEACON SLOOP CLUB
See details under Friday.

Foot in Mouth Players (ages 12-19)
6:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Open House (grades 6-8)
7 P.M. GARRISON SCHOOL
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3689 | gufs.org

Health & Fitness

Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group
10:15 A.M. EAST FISHKILL LIBRARY
348 New York 376, Hopewell Junction
800-532-4290 | supportconnection.org

Free Hepatitis C and HIV Testing
1:30 - 3:30 P.M. 121 MAIN ST., BREWSTER
845-808-1390 x43114 | putnamcountyny.gov

Support-a-Walk Open House
4 - 8 P.M. SUPPORT CONNECTION
40 Triangle Center, Suite 100, Yorktown Heights
914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

Adult Pick-up Soccer
6 P.M. BEACON MEMORIAL PARK
meetup.com/hudsonvalleycoedsoccer

Newborn Breastfeeding Class
6:30 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY HOSPITAL CENTER
1980 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-734-3896 | hvhc.org/events

Art & Design

Boscobel Open to Artists
9:30 A.M. - 5 P.M. 1601 ROUTE 9D, GARRISON
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org
No public admission

Theater & Film

Open Auditions (Multiple Shows)
7 - 9 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE
See details under Monday.

Music

Old-Timey Southern Fiddle Jam Session
7 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

The Dream Choir with Cat Guthrie
7:15 P.M. YOGASONG STUDIO
27 Travis Corners Road, Garrison
meetup.com/The-Dream-Choir-of-Hudson-Valley

Meetings & Lectures

Knitting Club
10 A.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Highland Knitters
NOON. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Book Club: Hudson River Bracketed
1:30 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Bionutrient-Rich Crop Production (Lecture)
6:30 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Beacon Planning Board
7 P.M. MUNICIPAL BUILDING (COURTROOM)
1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon
845-838-5000 | cityofbeacon.org

Fiction Writers Workshop
7 P.M. BARNES & NOBLE
2518 South Road, Poughkeepsie
meetup.com/Hudson-Valley-Fiction-Writers-Workshop

Town Board Workshop
7:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN TOWN HALL
238 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Cold Spring Leaf and Yard Debris Pickup

Kids & Community

Come & Play (ages 0-3)
9:45 - 11:30 A.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Chess Club
10 A.M. - 1 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org

Mah Jongg Open Play
10 A.M. - 1 P.M. VFW HALL
34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Senior Bus Trip to Fishkill
10 A.M. PICKUP AT CHESTNUT RIDGE, COLD SPRING
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Desmond-Fish Library Events
10:15 A.M. MUSIC AND MOVEMENT FOR TODDLERS
1:30 P.M. PRE-SCHOOL STORY HOUR
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Rivertown Kids Chorus (ages 9-13)
4 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-264-3393 | rivertownkids.org

Guided Flower Garden Tour
5:30 P.M. STONECROP GARDENS
81 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring
845-265-2000 | stonecrop.org

Public Sail on the Woody Guthrie
6 P.M. BEACON SLOOP CLUB
See details under Friday.

Car Show
6 - 9 P.M. BEAR MOUNTAIN STATE PARK
3006 Seven Lakes Drive, Bear Mountain
845-786-2701 | nysparks.com

Fawn Ridge Backgammon Club
6:30 P.M. PASQUALO TRATTORIA
1892 Route 6, Carmel | 845-363-1669

Farmers' Market Community Dinner
7 P.M. THE GARRISON
2015 Route 9, Garrison | rsvp@csfarmmarket.org

Health & Fitness

Breast Feeding Support Group
10 A.M. - NOON. CORNERSTONE PARK BUILDING
1 Fair St., Carmel
845-808-1390 x43150 | putnamcountyny.gov

Adult Pick-Up Soccer
6 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN PARK
Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Young Women's Breast Cancer Support Group
7 P.M. SUPPORT CONNECTION
40 Triangle Center, Suite 100, Yorktown Heights
914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

Life Support Group
7:30 P.M. ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3571 | stphiliphighlands.org

Sports

Army vs. Marist (Men's Soccer)
7 P.M. CLINTON FIELD, WEST POINT
845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

Theater & Film

Open Auditions (Multiple Shows)
7 - 9 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE
See details under Monday.

Immortal Beloved with Q&A
7:30 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
19 Front St., Newburgh
845-561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.com

The New York Film Festival at 50
7:30 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Meetings & Lectures

Nutrition As We Age
1:30 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Tioronda Garden Club
7 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4565 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Sci-Fi, Fantasy & Horror Writers' Group
7 P.M. BARNES & NOBLE
2518 South Road, Poughkeepsie
meetup.com/The-Mid-Hudson-Sci-Fi-Fantasy-Club

Philipstown Conservative Committee
7:30 P.M. VFW HALL
34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring
845-392-3405 | philipstownconservative.com

Historic District Review Board
8 P.M. VILLAGE HALL | 85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Kids & Community

Brain Games for Adults
10 A.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Senior Day Center
10 A.M. - 2 P.M. MOTHER LURANA HOUSE
See details under Tuesday.

Children Read to Dogs (ages 7-10)
3:30 - 5 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Public Sail on the Woody Guthrie
6 P.M. BEACON SLOOP CLUB
See details under Friday.

Open House (grades K-5)
7 P.M. GARRISON SCHOOL | 1100 Route 9D, Garrison | 845-424-3689 | gufs.org

Health & Fitness

Free Hepatitis C Testing
10 A.M. - NOON. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
1 Geneva Road, Brewster
845-808-1390 x43114 | putnamcountyny.gov

Red Cross Blood Drive
1 - 6 P.M. POUGHKEEPSIE GALLERIA
2001 South Road, Poughkeepsie
800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org

Adult Pick-up Soccer
5:30 P.M. SARAH TAYLOR PARK
Old Main Street, Fishkill
meetup.com/hudsonvalleycoedsoccer

Caregiver Support Group
6 P.M. KATHLEEN'S TEA ROOM
979 Maine St., Peekskill
914-402-4747 | hvhc.org/events


Thai Foods: Hot, Sour, Salty & Sweet (Class)
7 P.M. ELLA'S BELLAS | 418 Main St., Beacon
917-803-6857 | homecookingny.com

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball
7:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com


Community Matters: Living with Alzheimer's
7:30 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

(Continued on next page)

ARCHITECTUREINTERIOR DESIGNPLANNING



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WWW.HUDSONDESIGN.PRO

The Calendar *(from page 10)*

Theater & Film

Anthony Jeselnik (Comedy)

7 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL
13 Main St., Tarrytown
914-631-3390 x100 | tarrytownmusichall.org

Back to School

9:45 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Music

Taconic Opera Gala Fundraiser

7 P.M. CV RICH MANSION
305 Ridgeway, White Plains
855-886-7372 | taconicopera.org

Open-Mic Night

8:30 P.M. 12 GRAPES
See details under Friday.

Karaoke Night

9:30 P.M. MAX’S ON MAIN
Details under Friday

Meetings & Lectures

Haldane PTA

3:30 P.M. HALDANE SCHOOL (GARDEN)
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldanepta.org

Exploring Latin American Literature

6:30 P.M. HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Chess Club

7 - 10 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Hudson Valley Garden Association

7 P.M. SHAWAGUNK TOWN HALL
14 Central Ave., Wallkill
845-418-3640 | hvga.org

NHFD District Meeting

7 P.M. NORTH HIGHLANDS FIRE HOUSE
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring | nhfd21.org

Stranger Than Fiction: On the Art of Storytelling

7 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Zoning Board of Appeals

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

Town Board Meeting

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

ONGOING

Art & Design

Visit philipstown.info/galleries

Religious Services

Visit philipstown.info/services

Meetings & Lectures

Alcoholics Anonymous | philipstown.info/aa

Weir Exhibit at Boscobel Brings West Point Stalwart Across the River *(from page 7)*

painters of the 19th century were available today, including from West Point and Boscobel despite a long spate of industrialization along the river in the 19th century.

“I can look now nearly two hundred years later at the same views. I am grateful to all the environmentalists that have done all their work to keep all the area sound. It’s also interesting to see how nature has reclaimed itself since many of the factories [have] gone,” said Gedney.

“It’s great that you and other artists can come up here and paint the same scenes,” agreed Reel.

“My interest in looking at the Hudson River school has a lot to do with the spirit of the works that they were trying to incorporate. The whole idea of nature, their human experience and how that related to God in their understanding of it. Many of them were



West Point Museum Director David Reel and Hudson Valley artist Rick Gedney discuss the works and influence of Robert Weir.

Photo by K.E. Foley

very religious and tried to understand their experience and where they were in their lives,” said Gedney.

“Weir was very much a family man, a religious man,” said Reel. And he pointed out the exhibit reinforces that observation with expert sketches and paintings illuminating his family life as well their worship at the Church of the Holy Innocents which is located across from West Point in Highlands Falls. The church was designed by Weir and Reel said construction was largely paid for by Weir with the proceeds he received for the Embarkation of the Pilgrims.

Other works in the exhibit demonstrate Weir’s keen interest in literature, especially the classics with depictions of Dante and Virgil from Dante’s *Inferno* and also a scene from Cervantes’ *Don Quixote*.

“One of my favorite artists was James McNeill Whistler who was one of Weir’s students,” said Gedney. Whistler left West Point before graduating eventually becoming a famous painter. “His drawing is so sound ... which I have to think back on his early instruction with Weir.”

“I think Weir was a big influence on Whistler, absolutely,” said Reel.

Speaking of the Weir sons, especially impressionist J. Alden Weir, who built solid reputations on the American art scene, Reel said: “I think sometimes the sons overshadow the father as far as recognition or awareness in the art world but his influence is evident in their works.”



West Point Museum

Photo by K.E. Foley

First Beacon Film Festival *(from page 7)*

the medium they love. Festivals can also be good for local commerce.

Enter the first annual Beacon Indie Film Festival. On Friday Sept. 13, the festival will open for three days of screenings, panel discussions, Q-and-As with directors as well as live music and food and drink offerings from Beacon purveyors.

The venue for the festival is the rustic and charming University Settlement Camp performance theater hidden in the woodlands off Route 9D at the south entrance into Beacon.

Spearheading the creation of the festival is Terry Nelson who decided Beacon needed “something special” and that it had the human and financial resources to pull it off. He arrived for an interview with *The Paper* at the theater smiling, slightly distracted, his cell phone buzzing, befitting someone taking on a project with more details and issues than it seems a body can absorb.

“My background is in film and television since 1989, editor, librarian, you name it. I have always loved film. Ever since I move up here four years ago and got involved in the arts scene. I have been struck by the lack of film presence in Beacon,” said Nelson.

Nelson began the festival building process by presenting his idea to his

fellow board members of Beacon Arts (BACA) who agreed with his vision and became the fiscal sponsor of the event. “They’ve been great, very supportive,” said Nelson who credited Beacon Art’s Director of Operations, Maureen Neary, with providing the sort of practical advice required to mount such an operation. “She has 15 years as an event planner, she knows what’s needed.”

Nelson’s next stop was a successful application for a grant from the Dutchess County Arts Council to get things rolling. He then reached out to film professionals he knew to hear about their festival experiences over the years. With the help of an intern he researched U.S. festivals for films that either won awards or otherwise received special notice. I was a judge myself for a festival in Brooklyn so I knew something about the process. There were a lot of phone calls seeking to secure films and filmmakers and others to fill out the program.

Nelson said the organizers are seeking “a relaxed communal enjoyment of film. We’re not trying to be highbrow in the sense of being snooty or exclusion-ary. We want everyone to feel welcome.”

Nelson readily accepted the idea of the festival as drawing attention to Beacon generally and creating an



The USC Theater

Photo by K.E. Foley

opportunity for some business getting done. He underlined local merchant support and participation at the festival as a big factor in getting started and adding to the overall festival experience.

The large lawn in front of the theater will have several Beacon food and drink establishments represented as well as sellers of other items such as T-shirts.

Opening night of the festival will feature a documentary *Ain’t In It for My Health*, about Levon Helm founding member of The Band as he created his first studio album in 25 years up in Woodstock. The event will also feature live music by Beacon’s Stephen Clair.

The second day will start with six short films and then a question-and-answer session with some of the directors. Later there will be a panel discussing how digital technology is changing the art of storytelling.

The late afternoon and evening program has three feature films: *Palace Living* — about what happens to friends who move from New York City to the country; *One Wall, Kings of Coney Island* — a documentary about handball players; *How to Make Movies at Home* — a comedy about filmmaking and life.

On the third day two directors will screen and discuss their documentaries about an Alaskan island above the

Arctic Circle and the creation of the Beacon Riverfest music festival.

And the final film of the festival is one shot in Beacon starring Academy Award winner Melissa Leo with a cast that includes several Beacon residents.

Cold Spring provided inspiration and help

The theater seats 135 people and it has a newly installed hardwood floor.

“We built our own 16x9 screen taking a cue from Cold Spring Film Society shows where they built their own screen,” said Nelson.

Butterfield Library also offered a backup projector. They have been generous and kind in supporting us,” he said. Nelson said films will be shown with Blu-Ray projection.

Nelson said he hopes the festival will serve as a catalyst for a greater film activity in Beacon. He has held quarterly screenings at The Beahive in Beacon as a way of introducing – in conjunction with the Beacon Arts and Education Foundation — to instilling a deeper awareness of filmmaking among community youth.

“The art of filmmaking has been lost on a generation of kids – filmmaking is a lot more than turning on your phone,” said Nelson.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Putnam Early Education Partnership (PEEP) to Host Training Conference

Spring into Learning *set for Sept. 21*

The Putnam Early Education Partnership (PEEP), a collaborative group made up of representatives from Putnam County human service agencies and schools, will host its second annual Spring into Learning conference on Saturday, Sept. 21.

The event, which runs from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Clearpool Outdoor Education Center, 33 Clearpool Road, Carmel, is a training conference for early childhood staff working with children ages birth to five. Participants in this event can earn professional development or Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS) training hours.

Conference registrants will all participate in three workshops: *Appropriate Referrals to EI and CPSE*, *Play: The Foundation of Early Learning*, and *Making the Most of Circle Time*. All workshops will focus on understanding developmental milestones and age appropriate expectations. The workshops will also provide suggested strategies that can be implemented in the daycare/preschool setting.

Putnam Early Education Partnership (PEEP) is a collaborative group comprised of individuals, PARC Preschool (Putnam ARC), Putnam County Early Intervention and Preschool Programs, the Lower Hudson Early Childhood Development Center, and Putnam Independent Living.

The registration fee is \$15 per participant. Light refreshments will be served. For more information and to register in advance, call the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam at 845-473-4141, ext. 217. Credit card payments for registration are also accepted.

Cold Spring Farmers' Market to Hold Community Dinner

11th annual fundraiser

The fun and affordable Cold Spring Farmers' Market (CSFM) Community Dinner will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 11, at The Garrison. The annual fundraiser draws a crowd of more than 250, with a mixture of market shoppers, farmers, vendors, and fresh-food lovers.

CSFM has developed a series of programs every Saturday to make the market more of a community destination. Programs so far included Spanish at the market for kids, jam making, a mushroom cooking demonstration, and a Tom Chapin concert. Ava Bynum, CSFM co-manager, believes "having programs at the market brings in new shoppers who can see what a wonderful resource the market is. And most importantly these programs help kids feel like the market has a lot to offer them, and they can feel engaged not only by farmers, but with the entire community."

The event is affordable because of the generosity of farmers and vendors and The Garrison. Vendors donate a large portion of the food or sell at wholesale cost. The Garrison donates space, cooking and wait staff at no cost to CSFM.

Local musical trio Gillian's Island – Susan English, Roberto Muller, and Margaret Vetare – will play during the

cocktail hour.

The dinner is CSFM's only fundraiser, generating a large proportion of the operating budget. The CSFM works hard to ensure that the 27 vendors have what they need to make the market one of their favorites. "Our goal is to support local, regional, and sustainable commercial farms. We try to meet that goal keeping vendor rents affordable and attracting shoppers," says Krystal Ford, CSFM co-manager.

Reservations are encouraged and can be made at the market table on Saturdays or at rsvp@csfarmmarket.org, or by leaving a message at 845-661-1460. Tickets are \$40/adults, \$15/kids and ages 6 and under are free. If you cannot attend but would like to make a contribution, mail a check, payable to the Village of Cold Spring, with CSFM in the memo space, to the Village of Cold Spring, 85 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.

The History of Future Folk to Screen at Downing Film Center

The History of Future Folk will have a special screening at the Downing Film Center at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 15, followed by a question and answer session with Anu Schwartz, co-producer and production designer of the film.

The History of Future Folk tells the hilarious (and possibly exaggerated) origin story of the real life alien bluegrass band, Future Folk, that has been charming NYC audiences with their live act for the better part of a decade. When a comet threatens to destroy their planet, the citizens of Hondo enlist their most decorated soldier, General Trius (Nils d'Aulaire), to search for a new home planet – and wipe out the current inhabitants with a flesh-eating virus. After landing somewhere near Brooklyn, General Trius wanders into a megastore to unleash the terror ... when he's suddenly enchanted by a strange and mystical human invention known as "music." They don't have music on Hondo, and since it's the best thing he's ever heard, General Trius immediately abandons his mission to eradicate the human race, assumes the name Bill, starts a family, and launches a one-alien bluegrass act in a tiny bar owned by Larry (Dee Snider). Years later, his peaceful life is disrupted when the Hondonians send a bumbling assassin named Kevin (Jay Klaitz) to get the mission on track. Although subduing Kevin is no challenge for the great General Trius, the Hondonians have no intention of calling off their plan to eliminate mankind, so Bill and Kevin must join forces to save Hondo, and hopefully get bigger gigs for the universe's first Hondonian bluegrass duo: Future Folk!

Regular ticket prices apply: gen. \$8.50, seniors (62+) \$7, students (16-21) \$7, children (15 and under) \$6, and members \$6. Tickets can be purchased at the box office during box office hours or on the website at downingfilmcenter.com. Call 845-561-3686.

Food Workshop Sept. 10 at Desmond-Fish Library

Dan Kittredge, executive director of the Bionutrient Food Association, will present a workshop on bionutrient rich crop production at the Desmond-Fish Library at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 10. This program is free and all are welcome. It provides a venue for farmers, growers and gardeners of any type to learn about current research and proven methods that will lead to optimum crop

health and sustained yield. Workshop participants will learn to relate more knowingly and directly with their soils and plants, to detect the growth stages, processes and limitations of their plants, and the interactions they are having with the soil and surrounding air. Among principles to be covered are identifying deficiencies, biological farming, vital health in the field, and managing crops through the season.

The Desmond-Fish Library is located at 472 Route 403 (near the intersection with route 9D) in Garrison. For more information, visit bionutrient.org, or DesmondFishLibrary.org, or call 845-424-3020.

Hudson River Valley Ramble Set for September Weekends

The Hudson River Valley Greenway and Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area invite people from near and far to participate in the Hudson River Valley Ramble. Now in its 14th year, the Hudson River Valley Ramble brings people outside to enjoy distinct cultural heritage and scenic beauty during the Northeast's most beautiful time of year.



Hudson River Valley Ramble events are being held on four weekends: Sept. 7-8, 14-15, 21-22 and 28-29. To find an event, visit hudsonrivervalleyramble.com or find a Ramble booklet at tourist destinations throughout the region.

During the Ramble, more than 155 environmental, land conservancy, trail and historic preservation organizations, New York State historic sites and parks, as well as the National Park Service participate by offering events, and many are free of charge and family friendly. Guided hikes, cycling and kayaking tours, historic site walks, festivals and river explorations are some of the events available.

"In 2012, over 120,000 people participated in Ramble events and we expect a great turnout again this year," said Mark Castiglione, Acting Director of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area and Greenway. "If it's September, then it's time to Ramble. The event provides people of all ages an opportunity to experience the cultural landscape of the Hudson River Valley by hiking a trail, visiting an historic site or paddling on the river. The Ramble demonstrates that celebrating our natural, cultural, and historic resources also provides a big boost to our regional economy."

Rich Rosenthal performs Sept. 18 at The Falcon

Hudson Valley-based guitarist Rich Rosenthal, who continues to celebrate the release of his powerful first recording date as a leader, the CD release



Rich Rosenthal to perform at The Falcon
Image courtesy of the artist

Falling Up, will perform with his quartet at The Falcon at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 18. On the new recording, Rosenthal is joined by noted Hudson Valley multi-instrumentalist, Joe Giardullo, with whom he played in Giardullo's Open Ensemble, notably recording the Rogue Art release *Red Morocco*. Rosenthal will be joined by Chris Kelsey on saxophones, Craig Nixon on bass (who is also featured on *Falling Up*) and Dean Sharp on drums.

Listen to tracks from this new release now on Soundcloud: soundcloud.com/callitanything/sets/rich-rosenthal-falling-up. The Falcon is located at 1348 Route 9W in Marlboro, on the corner of Dock Road and 9W. For more information, call 845-236-7970.

Classical Trio Featured at Chapel Restoration Sept. 15

A classical trio, with clarinet for an interesting change, will feature a program of Bach, Bruch and Khachaturian at 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 15, at The Chapel Restoration. This Sunday Music Series concert is free.

Rachel Evans is a versatile violinist and violist who performs opera, contemporary music, medieval music on period instruments and jazz. Among groups she has performed with are Santa Fe Opera, Continuum, Meridian Quartet, and the medieval ensembles Sequentia and La Stravaganza Köln. She has appeared at Carmel Bach Festival for more than a decade and at the Boston, Berkeley and Utrecht early music festivals, and Aus-



Rachel Evans, left, and Cynthia Peterson

Photos courtesy of The Chapel Restoration

tralia's Victoria Festival. A recipient of the Coleman Chamber Music Award, Ms. Evans holds bachelor and master's degrees in music from The Juilliard School.

Pianist Cynthia Peterson also performs works from a broad solo, chamber and contemporary repertoire, with among others, the Philharmonic Symphony of Westchester, the Virginia Beach Pops Orchestra, and as soloist with Yonkers Civic Orchestra and Westchester Youth Symphony. Among venues she has appeared in are the Brooklyn Museum, Museum of the City of New York, Bruno Walter Auditorium at Lincoln Center and Garden State Center for the Arts. Ms. Peterson has won several concerto competitions.

Allen Smith's career on the clarinet has come full circle. After graduating from Juilliard, with a major in bass clarinet, he spent several years as a musician and also worked (Continued on next page)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

(from previous page) with a number of rock and roll bands as sound engineer, road manager and artist manager. The pop music business phase of his life ended with retirement as a senior vice president of Sony Music, after which he went back to playing the clarinet and further study at Juilliard, with Ayako Oshima, and at Mannes School of Music.

The chapel is located at 45 Market St., Cold Spring, across from the Metro-North station. Visit chapelrestoration.org.

Nancy Allen Trio to Perform Sept. 15

Les Amies — a musical trio of Nancy Allen, harpist, Cynthia Phelps, viola, and Carol Wincenc, flute — will perform under the auspices of Arts on the Lake's Friends of Classical Music in the Lodge at Tilly Foster Farm at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 15.

Allen is known to area residents as a graduate of Carmel High School where her mother was a long-time music teacher. She is now Principal Harpist with the New York Philharmonic as well as heading the harp departments of The Juilliard School, Yale School of Music, and the Aspen Music Festival and School.

She is joined in this concert by international flute soloist Carol Wincenc and Principal Violist of the New York Philharmonic Cynthia Phelps. All three stand at the top of their fields, winning first prizes in prestigious competitions as well as performing with the symphony orchestras of Chicago, New York, London, St. Louis, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Minnesota and Hong Kong.

The program, titled Mostly French, will include works by J. S. Bach, Jacques Ibert, Gabriel Fauré, Maurice Ravel and Claude Debussy's Trio Sonata for Flute, Viola and Harp.

The concert, originally scheduled for the date of the early snowstorm in October 2011, was rescheduled by Midhat Serbagi, Director of the Friends of Classical Music at Arts on the Lake.

Formed in 2010, the Friends of Classical Music brings concerts of interna-

tionally known musicians to the area at popular prices.

The Friends are scheduled to present the Alexander String Quartet on Nov. 16.

General admission for this performance is \$30. Arts on the Lake members receive a \$15 discount. Tickets can be purchased in advance at artsonthelake.org, or reservations may be made by leaving a message at 845-228-2685.

The Lodge at Tilly Foster Farm is located at 100 Route 312, Brewster.

Putnam History Museum Annual Gala

Set for Sept. 22 at Highlands Country Club

The Putnam History Museum Board cordially invites the community to its Annual Gala, *A Celebration of the Pursuit of Knowledge and the Passion to Illuminate*, Sept. 22, at Highlands Country Club in Garrison. This long-standing community event promises to be a lively evening of cocktails, dinner, silent auction and music. Following gala tradition and tying into this year's theme, the Putnam History Museum Board will present the Historic Family Award to the Malcolm Gordon family and the General Israel Putnam Trail Blazer Award to the Honorable Loretta A. Preska.

The Historic Family of Philipstown Award, which honors longtime resident families who have made a contribution to the Philipstown community and beyond, will be given to the Malcolm Gordon family. In 1927, accomplished educator Malcolm Kenneth Gordon settled in Garrison and founded the Malcolm Gordon School. Malcolm and his grandson, David Jr., each served as headmaster of the elementary boarding school for boys until it closed in 1990. David will accept the award.

Previous recipients of the Historic Family Award include the Fish, Osborn, Hustis and Polhemus families.

The Israel Putnam Trailblazer Award is named for the major general in the American Revolution who also gave his name to Putnam County. This year's recipient is Preska, Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, which includes Putnam County. When Chief Judge Preska began service on the federal bench 20 years ago, she was a pioneer as a woman in a predominantly male field. She continues to lead, presiding

over seminal cases that affect daily lives.

Previous recipients include Russel Wright, Pat and Marion Dugan, artist Don Nice and environmentalist John Cronin.

Gala festivities begin at 5 p.m. with a cocktail reception, and include dinner (6 p.m.) featuring seasonal local offerings, a silent auction influenced by the best of the Hudson Valley and a musical interlude by Motherlode, plus Art Labriola and Sara Labriola.

The mission of the Putnam History Museum is to collect, preserve, interpret and present the history of Putnam County, Philipstown, the West Point Foundry, and the Hudson Highlands. RSVP by Sept. 10 by calling 845-265-4010. Gala tickets are \$250 each, \$2,500 per table. Visit 2013phmgala.eventbrite.com to purchase tickets and to see a full description. For gala or Putnam History Museum information, call 845-265-4010, visit putnamhistorymuseum.org, or email info@putnamhistorymuseum.org.

Desmond-Fish Library to Present *Stranger Than Fiction: On the Art of Storytelling*

Josh Farrar, author of the middle-grade novels *Rules to Rock By* and *A Song for Bijou*, will share with young readers the ins and outs of his storytelling process at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 12, at the Desmond-Fish Library. A lifelong songwriter, Farrar will trace his own transition from writing three-minute songs to three-hundred-page novels. Still inspired as much by musicians and filmmakers as by other writers, Farrar will talk about some of the universal storytelling

principles so important to all these media.

Josh will give the audience examples, too, of the ways in which a storyteller can write a novel and use music, music video, and even video-gaming to access different, deeper aspects of the same story. Finally, he will introduce the audience

to some of the very real people who inspired his fictional stories, and the ways he interacted with these talented, charismatic real-life characters both before and after publication.

The Desmond-Fish Library is located at the intersection of Routes 403 and 9D in Garrison. This program is free, and all are welcome. For more information, visit DesmondFishLibrary.org or call 845-424-3020.



Josh Farrar Photo courtesy of Desmond-Fish Library

Beacon

Howland Library Offers Drop-in Homework Center

Beginning Tuesday, Sept. 17, Howland Public Library, located at 313 Main St., Beacon, will offer an after-school Drop-in Homework Center for students in grades one through eight. The center, which will operate Mondays through Wednesdays from 3 to 5 p.m., is a safe and supervised place for children to receive homework assistance. Homeschoolers are welcome, too. The center will run around the Beacon City School District calendar.

We have an open door policy. Anyone can drop in after signing in with the homework center coordinator. A homework assistance staff is backed up by the Youth Services Librarian. Services include: homework help and guidance, help with writing assignments and school projects, computer resources, including Internet and database services, and grade one through eight curriculum support.

Please be aware that this is not an alternative to after-school day care or babysitting services. The Homework Center's purpose is to assist children with their school work only. Students are expected to be respectful and considerate of those working around them. When students are finished, they must be picked up.

No pre-registration is necessary for this free service. For more information please contact Ginny Figlia, Head of Youth Services: 845-831-1134, x.103, or youth@beaconlibrary.org.

Studio B Announces Fall Dance and Acting Class Schedule

The school year is about to start and so are Studio B Dance and Acting Classes in Beacon. Studio B classes are growing and getting more diverse, and the studio needs even more space to house all of the class selections.

Studio B is pleased to announce that the dance program will now be held at Studio B2! Studio B2 is located in the Old Beacon High School, 211 Fishkill Ave., in studio 205 on the second floor. Parking is on the side parking lot and the side entrance leads directly to studio space.

The acting and voice program will continue to be held at The Beacon theatre space.

The Fall semester is 18 weeks and will run from Sept. 9 through Feb. 1, 2014. There will be no classes from Nov. 26-30 and Dec. 20-Jan. 3. Visit thebeacontheatre.org for a full list of classes.

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



Les Amies, from left, Nancy Allen, Cynthia Phelps and Carol Wincenc Photo courtesy of Arts on the Lake



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Sunset Reading Series

Fiction writers Joan Silber and Lily Tuck to speak Sept. 8

Sunset Readings, a not-for-profit organization focused on bringing literary programs to the community, presents an event at 4 p.m. Sunday Sept. 8, featuring fiction writers Joan Silber and Lily Tuck, at The Chapel Restoration.

Silber was raised in New Jersey and received her B.A. from Sarah Lawrence College, where she studied writing with Grace Paley. She moved to New York after college and has

made it her home ever since. She holds an M.A. from New York University.

Silber's new book of fiction, *Fools*, was published in spring 2013 by Norton. Her first book, the novel *Household Words*, was published in 1980 and won the PEN/Hemingway Award. She has published five other books of fiction, *In the City*, *In My Other Life*, *Lucky Us*, *Ideas of Heaven: A Ring of Stories*, finalist for the National Book Award and the Story Prize, and *The Size of the World*, finalist for the *Los Angeles Times* Prize in Fiction and one of the *Seattle Times*' ten best books of fiction of 2008.

Born in Paris, Tuck's new book, *The House*

at *Belle Fontaine*, 2013, was published by Atlantic Monthly Press. She is the author of four previous novels: *Interviewing Matisse, or the Woman Who Died Standing Up*; *The Woman Who Walked on Water*; *Siam, or the Woman Who Shot a Man*, which was nominated for the 2000 PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction; and *The News from Paraguay*, winner of the National Book Award. She is also the author of the biography *Woman of Rome: A Life of Elsa Morante*.

Sunset Reading Series presents T.C. Boyle in a special event at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 9. The Chapel Restoration is located at 45 Market St., Cold Spring. Visit sunsetreadings.org.

On View at The Paramount: *Where Have All the Flowers Gone?*

Pete Seeger to perform in Peekskill

Inspired by the Pete Seeger song *Where Have All the Flowers Gone?*, an exhibition of 25 artworks will be on view at The Paramount Hudson Valley in Peekskill, beginning on the occasion of Seeger's *Return to Peekskill* concert at The Paramount in partnership with WAMC radio. The art opening will be held from 5 to 7 pm. on Saturday Sept. 7. The concert will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 8.

Where Have All the Flowers Gone? was written by Seeger in 1955, and published in *Sing Out! Magazine*. Additional

verses were added by Joe Hickerson in 1960. The 1964 release of the song as a Columbia Records 45 single by Seeger was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame in 2002 in the Folk category. The song continues to be performed worldwide and recorded by many outstanding musicians.

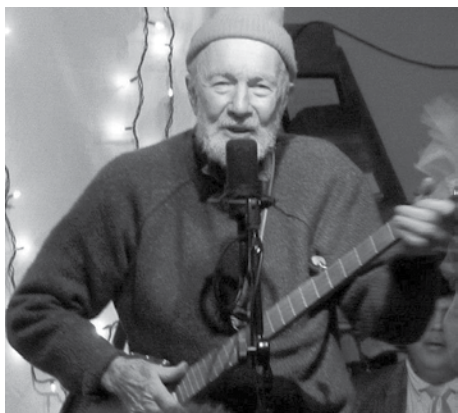
The Paramount Hudson Valley Theater recently completed a series of major historic restoration and renovation projects. Originally built as a 1,500-seat movie palace by Publix Pictures, a subsidiary of Paramount Pictures, the Peekskill Paramount Theater first opened its doors with great fanfare on June 27, 1930. The Peekskill Paramount was constructed

as a state-of-the-art facility unrivalled in the region and designed by the noted architectural firm of George and Charles Rapp. The Paramount building is a designated Westchester County Landmark, listed on both the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places.

The Paramount prospered for decades despite the Depression and World War II. However, Paramount sold the building in 1973. Eventually the building was acquired by the City of Peekskill in 1977, but in 2012 the Paramount shut its door until its new operator, Red House Entertainment, stepped forward in May 2013 with a goal to making this landmark theater a destination for the very best of live music and performing arts.

The *Where Have All the Flowers Gone?* exhibition is jointly organized by Amy Lipton of ecoartspace and Simon Draper of Habitat for Artists, both Hudson Valley based nonprofit art organizations.

NYC and Hudson Valley based artists included are: Christopher Albert, Brian Beaton, Richard Bruce, Joan Bankemper, Kelli Bickman, Lisa Breznak, David Chow, Simon Draper, Susan English, Carol Flaitz, Carla Goldberg, Faheem



Pete Seeger

Photo by Kate Vikstrom

Haider, Marnie Hillsley, Kirsten Mosher, Michael Natiello, Jessica Poser, Molly Rausch, Sheilah Rechtschaffer, Tom Sarantonio, Ilse Schreiber, Jackie Skrzynski, Greg Slick, Roy Staab, Chrysanne Stathacos, and April Warren. Hudson Valley Seed Library Artists: Jenny Lee Fowler, Elia Gurna, Donna Sharrett, Sarah Snow, and Cynthia Winika.

For more information please contact Amy Lipton at amy@ecoartspace.org or call 917-743-8275. The Paramount Hudson Valley Theater Gallery is located at 1008 Brown St., Peekskill. Call the box office at 914-739-0039, ext 2.

Episcopal Churches Are Unique Mixes of Protestant and Catholic Elements (from page 6)

to an Episcopal church in Yonkers, where he felt accepted, convincing him a few years later to become Episcopalian.

After moving to Beacon, Arce began



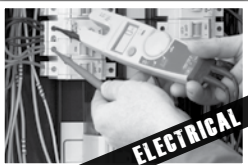

attending services at St. Mary's in 2007. "I found Father Shane to be a priest whose sermons were uplifting and gave me thought for the week," Arce said. The congregation's accepting attitude and the Classical music attracted him as well.

The music and welcoming congregation are also cited by members of St. Philip's as reasons for going there. Preston Pittman noted, "The choir is excellent all the time, not just on special occasions." He called the congregation "alive and friendly" and added that "[Geer] tells good stories about life, and he relates the scriptures to real-life situations in a way that isn't overly theological or really dogmatic."

Similarly, another member of St. Philip's said she appreciated not having to check her intelligence at the door. This is in keeping with the Episcopal doctrine that calls reason, along with scripture and tradition, a source of authority.

For more information on what Philipstown's Episcopal churches have to offer, visit their websites, stphilipshighlands.org and stmaryscoldspring.org, or call St. Philip's at 845-424-3571 or St. Mary's at 845-265-2539.

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Roots and Shoots

Japanese Barberry: Know Before You Grow

By Pamela Doan

When it comes to Berberis thunbergii or Japanese barberry, it's personal for me. I enjoy hiking and it's deeply unsettling to see it colonizing our natural environment. The woods surrounding my house are full of it, nothing else grows but a few other invasive plants like garlic mustard, stilt-grass and Japanese knotweed. I've been on a mission to get it under control in my own yard where it was left to overrun the landscape by previous gardeners. I have already spent hundreds of dollars paying a contractor with a backhoe to come in and remove large patches in the yard. Given how much of it there is, it's the only solution. It has to be ripped out by the roots and removed.

This tenacity and hardiness is one of the reasons people plant Japanese barberry. On the surface, it has quite a few advantages. It can be cut to the ground, grown in poor soil, and the deer will not eat it, which is a major consideration for many plant lovers in Philipstown. It will grow in sun or shade, likes our cold winters, and the leaves turn color in the fall. As a hedge, Japanese barberry creates a thorny, impenetrable barrier. Sound good? Well, here's the rest of the story. It isn't native to our area so it doesn't have



Japanese barberry growing into a walkway. Photo by P. Doan

anything to keep it in balance. It's been reported as invasive in twenty states and its line of aggression runs straight down the Eastern seaboard. It's been problematic in the U.S. since the 1970s when it started taking over pastures and roadsides, displacing native vegetation.

This bush has a unique way of crowding out other plants. It leafs out early in the spring, earlier than other plants, and craftily shades out anything else. It also alters the soil pH and can spread easily. When a stem touches the soil, it can take

root, spreading quickly. Birds eat its berries and disperse its seeds, which have a 90 percent germination rate. As if those traits don't impress you as plant superpowers, its seeds can lay dormant on the soil for ten years and still be viable and any root left in the ground can re-grow. In our forests, Japanese barberry is creating monocultures where nothing else grows.

In Canada, Japanese barberry is banned from sale. Locally, you can find it in just about any landscape center with a tag cheerfully promoting the joy it will bring in your landscape. Curious about why a garden center would stock it, I contacted Sabellico Greenhouses and Florists in Hopewell Junction, a personal favorite. Sabellico grows many of their own plants in their onsite greenhouses and I trust them for good stock and information. They list Japanese barberry

on their website. Gail Morris, manager of the perennials department, talked about how they decide what to stock. "If a customer requests Japanese barberry, we'll mention that we don't usually stock it and offer alternatives. If a customer has a barberry bush that has died and they want to replace it, we may order a few, not a large quantity." To their credit, Sabellico recommends alternatives. "Spirea is a great alternative to barberry, also weigela, boxwood and holly," said Morris.

All of those are great alternatives and none of them cause the environmental problems that Japanese barberry does. The native American cranberry bush or viburnum trilobum is native to our area, flowers, has nice fall foliage, and berries that birds love. A little deer spray will protect it. Sabellico offers information and seeks to educate their customers through an email newsletter. "We keep track of invasive plants using New York state resources and the Cornell Cooperative Extension's information. We're trying to responsibly introduce customers to more native plants, too," said Morris.

If you're still not convinced of the risks of planting Japanese barberry, consider this last point. Studies have shown that it is a perfect habitat for ticks. Ticks need humidity and the canopy of Japanese barberry can provide 100 percent humidity for them. Mice also use the foliage for nesting. Voila! A Lyme disease incubator, right there in your yard.

While it's encouraging to hear that a garden center carefully and consciously screens their stock for problematic plants, it's clear that gardeners need to make responsible choices when buying plants. The USDA database lists whether a plant is considered a threat along with its risk level. A little research before introducing any new plants into the landscape can make all the difference.

Collaborative Concepts

Pastures of Saunders Farm are grazed over with 50 works of art in an exhibit presented by Collaborative Concepts. The sculptures incorporate a variety of materials and methods to create an exciting installation in a natural environment. Cindy Booth, left, and Barbara Galazzo are pictured here with a sculpture on which they collaborated.

Photo by K.E. Foley



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Look for Phil McCrackin on Facebook



LICENSED & INSURED





Watch for *The Paper's* Summer Vacation Photofest in Next Week's Issue

The Paper has been collecting high-resolution, color pictures from local photographers of their 2013 summer vacations, *near and far*. The best photos (in our opinion) will be featured in *The Paper*.

Limit: three photos weekly per person. Please title photo file with your name and photo location, for example: JaneDoe-ColdSpringDock.jpg.

Send photos to photofest@philipstown.info.



Summer of 2013 comes to a close as school resumes in Philipstown.
Photo by Mary Ann Ebner

Thank you to our readers
who have contributed to
The Paper's Summer Photofest



View from Foundry Dock
Photo by Ken Margolies



Sunset behind Foodtown
Photo by Stacy Radich



Beaver pond
Photo by Deborah Radich



Cold Spring Farmers' Market
Photo by Brian Sutcliffe



Black-eyed Susans in Cold Spring
Photo by John DiElsi



Water lily
Photo by Fred Kohut