

The Garden Conservancy Calls Garrison Home

National in scope

By Alison Rooney

A

lthough its reach extends across the country, the Garden Conservancy has a low profile in its home turf of Philipstown, with many locals unaware of precisely what the organization does.

The nonprofit was founded 25 years ago by the late Frank Cabot, who, with his wife Anne Perkins Cabot, designed and cultivated Stonecrop Gardens in Cold Spring as a private garden on their property before supervising its seven-year transformation into a public garden in 1992. They envisioned The Garden Conservancy as a way to preserve and share outstanding U.S. gardens to both inspire and educate. Today it has its national headquarters at Winter Hill in Garrison; its roster of preservation gardens include Rocky Hills in Mount Kisco and the Humes Stroll Garden in Mill Neck. Frank Cabot remained an active Garden Conservancy board member until his death in 2011. House Beautiful described him as being “as likely to be wearing dungarees with kneepads strapped on and pruning shears holstered in the back pocket as he is a blazer and bow tie.”

The Cartogs also had roles in founding Glynwood Center, also works with public agencies, private owners, land trusts and educators to preserve unique gardens. 

“The original mission was to

sides Interstate Park Commission and served as chairman for many years.

The Garden Conservancy sponsors a popular Open Days program, now in its 26th year, when some 3,000 private and public gardens open their gates for guided tours, often accompanied by talks and demonstrations. Modeled on Britain’s Yellow Road program, Open Days began when two Westchester gardeners, Page Dickey and Penelope “Pepa” Maynard, persuaded 110 gardeners to open their gates for a day. Last year about 70,000 gardeners took part. The Garden Conservancy also works with public agencies, private owners, land trusts and educators to preserve unique gardens. The incident was treated as a tragic accident by the police and had become quite unhappy. A short time later, Graswald placed a call to 911. A recording of the call aired on 48 Hours. “I’m in the Hudson River; my fiancé fell in the water; can you please call anybody,” Graswald is heard to say, “I can’t get to him. It is very windy and the waves are coming in and I can’t paddle to him. He is getting further and further away from me … he’s going to drown.” Graswald was rescued. Viofore was not found. His body was discovered May 23, just south of Bannerman’s Island.

The incident was treated as a tragic accident at first. But New York State Police investigators became suspicious after what they described as inconsistencies in Graswald’s account. She was arrested on April 29 and subsequently charged with second-degree murder and manslaughter. She pleaded not guilty and was sentenced to 33 years or a $9 million bond, perhaps because she holds a Latvian passport and could be considered a flight risk. Known to many Philipstown residents after working in area restaurants, Graswald remains in the Orange County jail.

The 48 Hours episode, which aired Sept. 12, points to numerous statements made by Graswald that cast her in a bad light. But it also raises questions about the prosecution’s case. The episode included little of the complete interview recordings, with the completeness of the information presented limited because the Orange County jail.
Mushroom and Bacon Pasta

Serves 6

1 pound bacon strips, cut into thirds
2 to 3 small cloves garlic
1 pound pasta (linguine or spaghetti)
1/3 cup white wine
1 pound fresh mushrooms, rinsed and sliced
3 eggs
1/2 cup chopped parsley
1 teaspoon sea salt
fresh ground pepper
¾ cup Parmesan cheese

1. Prepare linguine in large pan of salted water.
2. Cook bacon pieces with peeled garlic cloves over medium heat in skillet. Remove bacon and garlic and drain fat.
3. Slice garlic cloves and return to skillet with sliced mushrooms and white wine. Cook 3 to 5 minutes over medium heat.
4. Drain cooked linguine and return to heavy pan. Break eggs over hot linguine and mix thoroughly to incorporate eggs.
5. Pour mushroom and wine mixture over linguine. Add salt and pepper to taste. Mix in parsley. Transfer to serving dish and sprinkle with grated Parmesan cheese. Serve immediately.

Carb Loaded
Racing for a weekend pasta fix

By Mary Ann Ebner

Cross-country running events seem to have cropped up all over my schedule (my sophomore son runs for James O’Neill High School) and weekends are booked through November. There’s been little running on my part, but I’ve certainly accumulated a couple of miles of moderate cardio while trekking about hilly landscapes to watch young runners weave back and forth. What’s rewarding about watching high school students take on a running challenge is seeing everyone cross the finish line, from the first-timers to the middle-of-the-pack to the athletes setting records. Cross-country runners aren’t known as the rowdy type, but they’ve got spirit.

At the Washingtonville Invitational in Orange County on a humid Saturday morning this month, a deep field included runners from O’Neill, Haldane and Beacon. An inspiring race by Brewster’s Kevin Hazelwood made even the spectators a little hungry with all the calories he likely burned. (He finished the three-mile course in 15:20:99, more than a minute ahead of the pack.)

It made me wonder what parents are feeding these kids, which led to a lesson in “be careful what you wish for.” Wondering this aloud resulted in hosting in our backyard the next O’Neill cross-country team dinner. Families contribute pasta, sauce, salads and bread for race weekend supper. The meal offered the night before a Sept. 12 race in Warwick included a variety of pastas and sauces as well as a gluten-free corn and rice elbow pasta blend. The O’Neill coach encourages a light breakfast on race mornings but said his runners could eat as much pasta and salad as they liked the night before the race. They were likely to burn it off running around the yard before they even left the gathering–an advantage of being a teenager.

Most filled their plates at least twice. Two dishes in particular – a baked penne studded with pork sausage and plain pasta with a light olive oil – went quickly. An enormous salad prepared with leafy greens, sliced cucumbers and seeds and berries disappeared along with the tray of fruit. But that classic American dish, mac and cheese, took honors. Two pans made with four cheeses fueled dozens of runners. The family who contributed the mac and cheese said there was no secret to it other than choosing favorite cheeses and folding them thoroughly into the pasta before baking.

The non-runners in our family don’t regularly load up on pasta, but do on occasion eat baked ziti with red sauce or linguine with bacon. Penne tossed with olives also makes a meal, and anyone old enough with privileges to operate the kitchen stove can easily prepare it.

The purpose of the team pasta suppers may indeed be linked to eating a hearty meal the night before a race, but they are more important as a chance to connect. It wouldn’t have mattered if the menu had included whole-grain tortellini or simple spaghetti. The best choice on the menu was the chance to bond. And, like it or not, for most of us eating pasta this fall should come with additional instructions: Enjoy the carbs, but follow up with a long walk, rigorous ride or a leaf-peeping hike.
Local Leaders Surveyed on Drug Abuse (from page 1)

What do you think is the biggest problem for young people?

Prescription drugs and heroin (34); Underage drinking (29); Marijuana (24). Other answers included: tobacco/ciga-

retyres, bullying and gambling.

Why do you think young people en-

gage in these risky behaviors?

Lack of perception of risk of harm (29); Peer pressure (25); Parental attitudes fa-
voring alcohol/drug use (23). Other an-
answers: boredom, no place to hang out, easy access, family disconnect.

Where do you think young people engage in these risky behaviors?

Friend's house (35); Park/outside (28); The woods (25). Other answers: home,
school, train station.

Why do you think parents hold at-
titudes that are favorable toward al-
cohol/drug use?

Parents are aware but don't know what to do (35); Parents engage in substance abuse (29); Parents are not aware/che-

less (22). Other answers: parents do not care, some parents encourage or permit use.

How do these risky behaviors af-
fect the community as a whole?

Commission of petty crimes (theft, trespass) (25); Poor performance in school (24); Expanding community re-

sources (17). Other answers: IPV/DWAI arrests, diminished community value, unprotected sex, physical injury.

What do you think should be done to address these school-based prevention and parents' workshops (31); Pro-social activities for youth (26); Environmental strategies (23). Other answers: media campaigns, increased consequences for youth, in-

creased law enforcement.

No finger pointing

“We're here because there's a problem” affecting young people in the communi-

ty, Kelly said. “Risk behavior – not just drugs.” He said the Communities That Care Coalition is an attempt to work together “instead of finger pointing.” A common mistake is to simply blame lo-
cal schools for the drug problem, he said, and in reality it is a community-wide issue.

Since it was established in November 2014, the Philipstown coalition has un-
dertaken a number of initiatives, McGo-

cnall said. Besides the ongoing surveys, they include two public presentations of the results of a drug-use survey of Hal-
dane students, training of 25 residents in the use of Narcan to counteract heroin overdoses and pushing for the installa-
tion of a drop box for expired prescrip-
tion drugs.

Standing up for kids

“After 10 months of coalition building and in direct response to the recent trag-
dedy, today every corner of our communi-
nity came together, to stand together for our kids,” Gina Van Nosdall, a member of the Philipstown Coalition, wrote in an email to The Paper. “Philipstown may be small but our numbers and resolve this morning were mighty.”

While Van Nosdall’s email alluded to it, Wednesday’s meeting made no specif-
imention of the deaths of several Philip-
town young adults by drug overdose in recent months and years.

The Philipstown Coalition’s next meet-
ing will take place at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 24, at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison. For more information, email Van Nosdall at ginavannosdall@gmail. com. Putnam Valley, Carmel and Ma-

hopac also have developed coalitions.

48 Hours Air ‘Murder on the Hudson’ (from page 1)

County District Attorney’s office declined to comment on the program’s content. A call from The Paper to the DA’s office was not returned.

Graswald’s statements

Around the time of the arrest, me-
dia outlets quoted Assistant District Attorney Julie Mohl as characterizing $250,000 in potential life insurance benefits as part of Graswald’s motive for allegedly killing Viafore. A number of statements made by Graswald during the police interviews did not help her case. As shown on 48 Hours, at one point she commented, “I wanted him dead – and now he’s gone.” On the show, the police interrogator asserted that she re-
moved the drain plug in Viafore’s kayak “because you wanted him to die the re-
plied, “yes.” She also described problems in her relationship with Viafore, telling interviewers that she wanted him “gone” and adding that she felt “euphoric” after his death. When pressed by the police to make a definitive statement, Graswald said: “I wanted him dead and now he’s gone.” And when the interview asked her, “What did you do to make him drown?” she responded, “I took him out of his kayak.”

But also on 48 Hours, forensic scien-
tist Michael Archer describes the police and prosecutor’s theory as “outrageous,” terming Graswald’s alleged confession as “meaningless,” while adding that foren-
sic evidence tells the “true story.” While Archer has not seen all the evidence, he said that what he has seen does not sup-
port a homicide. “This is by all accounts a tragic accident,” he said.

Much of Archer’s argument centers on the role of the drain plug in Viafore’s death. Graswald admitted to removing the plug but insists during the recorded interviews that she did so months prior to the incident. Also during the interviews, Graswald’s inter-
rogators seem to believe that the drain plug was on the bottom of the kayak. Graswald corrected a number of times, point-
out that it is on the top.

Forensic expert’s perspective

48 Hours shows Archer con-
ducting two demonstrations us-
ing the same model kayak as Via-
fore’s. In the first, with the kayak’s cockpit sealed and the drain plug open, the kayak is pulled behind a power boat whose wake creates waves of about 3 feet. Archer comments that at the time of the incident, waves in the Hudson River were 3 to 5 feet. During the demonstration, less than an ounce of water enters the kayak through the open drain plug, which Archer says is “about the size of my pinky.” He adds. “For what would fit fill a shot glass, a woman is sit-
in jail for murder.”

In the second demonstration the kay-

ak’s canopy is left open. The same 3-foot waves quickly fill the cockpit to about one quarter of its capacity. At the time of the incident, Viafore’s kayak was not equipped with a skirt to prevent water from entering the cockpit. Archer con-
tends that it was the open cockpit that caused Viafore’s kayak to sink, not the removal of the drain plug.

The medical examiner’s report indi-
cated that the cause of Viafore’s death was drowning, describing “the manner of death” as “homicide because the plug was intentionally removed.” The report also shows that Viafore had a blood al-
cohol level which Graswald’s defense de-
scribed as “considered to be impaired.”

Archer enlisted the help of a Beacon kayak outfitter in the demonstrations. An experienced kayaker who knows the Hudson River well, the outfitter com-
ments that Viafore “absolutely” would have had to struggle to keep his kayak upright in the rough waters because his kayak was designed for calm waters as in a pond. “Over you go” is how he de-
scribes the likely outcome of facing even two-foot waves in that kayak.

Interrogation techniques

48 Hours obtained a copy of the po-
lice interviews with Graswald and had Jim Trainum, a former Washington D.C. detective now considered a national ex-
pert on police interrogation, review the footage. He questioned various aspects of the interviews, suggesting that police asked leading questions, manipulating Graswald into giving the answers they wanted. “You get the person to at least temporarily believe it’s in their best in-
teres to say what [interrogators] want to hear,” he comments. He said he would use the Graswald interview recordings to show police officers how not to con-
duct an interrogation.

Trainum said he thinks the police had “tunnel vision” and that their case is based on a false notion that Viafore’s death was caused by Graswald removing the kayak’s drain plug. “The interroga-
tor thought the plug was on the bottom,” Trainum said. “A good defense attor-
cy could have a field day” with that, he said. He also pointed out how he feels in-
vestigators led Graswald to the answers they expected, and how they may have misinterpreted some of her responses, such as in the following exchange:

Interviewer: What did you want that day? Graswald: I wanted to be free.

Interviewer: And you wanted him to die.

Graswald: I wanted him gone.

Trainum said that to investigators “gone” meant dead. I think she meant something totally different. She used the term to mean getting out of the re-
relationship.

“Me to this is a non-crime,” Trainum said. “This is an accident that they made into a criminal offense because of their
Scuccimarra Seeks Second Term on Putnam County Legislature

By Michael Turton

Barbara Scuccimarra is seeking election in December to her second three-year term as Putnam County legislator for District 1, which includes Philipstown. The Paper sat down with the Republican candidate to discuss her qualifications and a range of issues.

Why do you want to serve as a county legislator again?

I love my job. I grew up in Putnam Valley and my husband and I moved to Philipstown more than 40 years ago. We raised our kids here; they went to Garri- son School. I volunteered here. I worked here on Main Street for 12 years at Carn- lyn’s Flower Shoppe. I’m invested in this community. And (being on) the Town Board set me up for the legislature. It’s a lot of work. I don’t consider it a part-time job — I put every day into it somehow. I feel like I’ve done quite a bit, so I want to keep going with what I’ve been doing.

What are your qualifications?

Now that I’ve accomplished [the] But- terfield [development project] — and as you know that was quite a feat — I want to bring county services over here. I want to bring the Department of Mo- tor Vehicles here. I want the sheriff to have more of a presence. There are so many departments we could bring over here on a rotating, part-time basis. Also, we’re working on a $145 million budget and unfortunately 75 percent of that is state mandates, so we only have 25 per- cent discretionary spending. It’s a chal- lenge, and we will not go over the cap.

Regarding Butterfield, will the senior center also serve as a community center?

My main goal for the last year was to get the seniors in there. I think once we get the seniors in there we can work on other things. I’d like to see something for the kids to do in the evenings. We have a crisis here — there’s no getting around it — we do. I’m involved with the Commu- nities That Care Coalition; we started a new coalition in Philipstown just to bring awareness. I fought for the SRO [School Resource Officer] to come here to Haldane. And I also fought for three more deputies to patrol the western side of Putnum County.

What are your qualifications for the job?

I’m a people person. I put people be- fore politics and I’ll stick with that. I’ll work with anybody that’s in office and I’ll work for my con- stituents. I believe that I know my community so well, and that qualifies me.

What is the primary role of a county legislator? To bring services to Distriet 1 and act as a liaison between constituents and county government? Or to help set policy and govern?

It’s all three. I’ve only missed two Town Board meetings since being elected. I keep a finger on what’s going on in the commu- nity, in the town and the village. And one of the most important things to me is the individual constituents that call me. That’s where I get my greatest satisfac- tion, helping individuals.

What are your priorities?

There’s a perception that you rarely disagree with County Executive MaryEllen Odell. Is that fair?

I don’t think it’s fair. I question a legislator exhibit more independence?

I am an independent legislator. You don’t know what goes on behind the scenes. I had some battles with MaryEllen. She’s a tough one, but I be- lieve in her vision to make county gov- ernment smaller and more efficient. How can you fight that? The county executive is very approachable — I can always walk down the hall — and we have our chats together.

What steps would you take to get a portion of sales tax returned to Cold Spring, Nelsonville and Philipstown?

It’s talked about a lot, but right now projected sales tax revenue is down $300,000. That’s partly due to the price of gas. In a perfect world, yes, I would fight for sales tax to come over here, but right now that accounts for $14 million of our county budget. Twenty-five percent is all we have to work for, so that sales tax money is a very important part of what we have to work with. If we did [share sales tax] we’d have to raise county taxes to cover that. But I wouldn’t want that.

Yet there are only six or seven counties in New York that don’t share sales tax revenue with their municipalities.

And I don’t know how fiscally strong they are for doing that. I don’t think it’s something we can do right now. Maybe in the future if the mandate relief comes through, but right now I wouldn’t want to raise county taxes. When you say “shar- ing sales tax” — what do we get from the county? The county pays for the Board of Elections, and all the elections — a lot of other counties don’t do that. They pay for the sheriff’s road patrols over here — there’s a lot of overtime for that. We also guarantee the tax levy. When the town collects their taxes and someone doesn’t pay, the county covers that. If they didn’t cover that, can you imagine the school taxes? And we also put a share into com- munity colleges to make tuition more af- fordable.

Why is it important, or not important, to have county services and offices in Philipstown?

It’s 20 some miles to Carmel — from my house to the county building is 26 miles. A lot of people don’t want to drive that far for services. For the DMV they go south to Peekskill and north to Beacon, or they mail it. They don’t go east. If we had the DMV here a couple days a week I think it would be a benefit.

Most of the tourist attractions in the county are in Philipstown. Would it not make sense to move the DMV office to Main Street, Cold Spring?

We’ve talked about having it in But- terfield when the county moves there absolutely. We don’t have a big box store and we don’t want that. Our main draw right now is tourism. And with the Fjord Trail, more and more people are going to come. Now that we have the trolley running to these destinations and to Beacon — another thing I worked on — it’s going to bring even more. Trolley rideship is up way up.

Why should voters pick you over your opponent?

Because I’m doing good job. I’ve been doing a good job for three years and I want to continue. There are more things I want to do for my constituents. I’m involved in the community. I want to bring more transportation over here for seniors. The Recreation Department is doing some but I want to do a route from Cold Spring down to Continental Vil- lage. There are a lot of seniors there who would like transportation up Route 9 — maybe at Veras, the scoop the loop at Glassbury Court, or go up to Fishkill.

Barbara Scuccimarra

Photo provided
Osborne Wants ‘To Be County Legislator ‘Because We Deserve Much Better’

Democratic hopeful targets Putnam spending

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Lithgow Osborne, the Democratic candidate for Putnam County legislator representing District 1, spoke with The Paper. His answers were edited slightly for length.

Why do you want to be county legislator?

Frankly, I think I can do a better job. I feel I would be a much stronger advocate for Philipstown and for the portion of Putnam Valley that is part of the district. The incumbent [Barbara Seccummarra] said she would work to bring some of the overpayment in tax money back – either lower taxes or bring money back to Philipstown. And that hasn’t been the case, because she’s not really worked to lower taxes and she’s more or less rubberstamped everything she’s been asked to rubberstamp by the county executive [MaryEllen Odell]. I don’t feel she’s the best advocate at the county. I feel like we’re paying a lot of money to the county and we’re not seeing that money come back. We’re not seeing services.

I think having a legislator not afraid to push back a little harder would be good for Philipstown and also good for the county. What should your priorities be?

My priorities would be to work as hard as possible to rein in this budget and stop spending on projects that are unneces- sary and look into the hiring practices. It seems to me we have a lot of employees in the county. I think we don’t need to have nearly as many. It’s really about serving the people. That money comes from the taxpayers. So if we [as a county] are over budget, if we are mispending money, if we are flabby, in excess, if we have too many employees, then we need to do something about that. I understand there’s a $2 million deficit right now. If it is true, that’s a problem. The county says they’ve balanced the budget. They’ve balanced the budget on the backs of taxpayers who’ve overpaid sales and property taxes. That extra money has been used to shore up and fill in gaps. So it’s very easy to say the budget is balanced. That’s really not an accurate thing.

Another priority: I’d like to start a se- rious effort to look for businesses and encouraging entrepreneurs – artists, artis- ans – and try to bring some more of that energy to Philipstown. Up and down Route 9 there are still buildings for sale. We could seek to find businesses to re- purpose those. A greater effort needs to be made to look for individuals who might want to set up their businesses here and hire local people. Wouldn’t that be amazing – if we had more people who live in Philipstown able to work here as well? I now work at home. I’m very lucky. I’d like to make more people have that opportunity for some efficiency and for the shortfalls [in taxes] of the other towns. I think that is going to be an avalanche of dollars? No, but I think it would be an avalanche of dollars. I think that is going to be an avalanche indeed. I think that relationship needs to improve.

Why should voters pick you over your opponent?

I’m a quick learner. I un- derstand the problems and I think I can solve them to bring about some fiscal re- duction. My priorities would be to work as hard as possible to rein in this budget and stop spending on projects that are unneces- sary and look into the hiring practices. It seems to me we have a lot of employees in the county. I think we don’t need to have nearly as many. It’s really about serving the people. That money comes from the taxpayers. So if we [as a county] are over budget, if we are mispending money, if we are flabby, in excess, if we have too many employees, then we need to do something about that. I understand there’s a $2 million deficit right now. If it is true, that’s a problem. The county says they’ve balanced the budget. They’ve balanced the budget on the backs of taxpayers who’ve overpaid sales and property taxes. That extra money has been used to shore up and fill in gaps. So it’s very easy to say the budget is balanced. That’s really not an accurate thing.

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What should be the primary role of county legislator? To bring services and act as a liaison between constituents and county government? Or to help set policy and govern?

I’d say the former. But the legisla- tur, when it votes to enact anything (and) any time it acts in unison, is governing. They have to work with the county executive, but the county executive also has to work with them. I think that relationship needs to improve.

Do you think you know enough about the legislature to effectively run for office and, if you win, to do the job? Also, since you’re a Democrat, if elected do you think you can be effective at the legislature given the Republican domination of it?

Absolutely. I’m a quick learner. I un- derstand the problems and I think I can solve them to bring about some fiscal re- duction. My priorities would be to work as hard as possible to rein in this budget and stop spending on projects that are unneces- sary and look into the hiring practices. It seems to me we have a lot of employees in the county. I think we don’t need to have nearly as many. It’s really about serving the people. That money comes from the taxpayers. So if we [as a county] are over budget, if we are mispending money, if we are flabby, in excess, if we have too many employees, then we need to do something about that. I understand there’s a $2 million deficit right now. If it is true, that’s a problem. The county says they’ve balanced the budget. They’ve balanced the budget on the backs of taxpayers who’ve overpaid sales and property taxes. That extra money has been used to shore up and fill in gaps. So it’s very easy to say the budget is balanced. That’s really not an accurate thing.

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Why should voters pick you over your opponent?

I think it’s important because there are so many people in a situation where go- ing to the county is difficult. It requires taking a morning off. Maybe we need to start looking at this [planned Butter- field] senior center more as a community center. The DMV [Department of Motor Vehicles] does very well, it brings in a lot of money. Maybe they could apportion a small bit of that and work at having an office once or twice a month over here. Or if you could do that online ... that’s ex- actly how government saves money. The internet is one big way to save money and provide transparency. Then that money would stay in Putnam County. Do I think that is going to be an avalanche of dollars? No, but I think it would be an opportunity for some efficiency and for thinking of new ways to serve the public.

Why should voters pick you over your opponent?

We deserve much better representa- tion at the county level and I think I can do a better job.
they’re an expression of cultural heritage, an artistic expression, they’re cathartic, calming, important parts of communities; they can hold a host of historical ideas presented alongside new ones.”

To Friends of Roz,

Roz Barnes, a treasured friend to so many in our community, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Aug. 30, 2015. A celebration of Roz, and the many gifts she brought to us all, will be held Oct. 3, 2015 at 10 a.m. at St. Philip’s Church Hall in Garrison.

The Garden Conservancy exists because of a “can we squeeze one more thing in?” moment. In 1989 Anne Cabot induced her husband to have a look with her at Walnut Creek, a private dry garden on a walnut farm in Walnut Creek, California, before heading to the airport to catch a flight home. After touring the property and learning that the 86-year-old owner and designer of the garden, Ruth Bancroft, would likely be unable to continue with it much longer, Frank Cabot grew concerned. (“It was a garden filled with cactus, which is not my thing at all,” he would later recall. “Much to my great surprise, I remember actually shivering at the beauty of it.”) Anne suggested he remedy that by starting a conservancy, built around the notion of turning private gardens into public entities.

American gardens should engender the same preservation fervor as battlefields and national parks, Hamburg argues. “Gardens were fundamental to the founding of our nation,” she says. “After all, if you didn’t have a garden, you wouldn’t eat.” Further, because the conservancy believes gardening often inspires people to become conservationists and environmentalists, it supports programs that develop green skills at all levels.

“Are you going to squeeze one more thing in?” moment. In 1989 Anne Cabot induced her husband to have a look with her at Walnut Creek, a private dry garden on a walnut farm in Walnut Creek, California, before heading to the airport to catch a flight home. After touring the property and learning that the 86-year-old owner and designer of the garden, Ruth Bancroft, would likely be unable to continue with it much longer, Frank Cabot grew concerned. (“It was a garden filled with cactus, which is not my thing at all,” he would later recall. “Much to my great surprise, I remember actually shivering at the beauty of it.”) Anne suggested he remedy that by starting a conservancy, built around the notion of turning private gardens into public entities.

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At the Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek, California, Inspired Frank Cabot

Photo by Marion Brenner, from Outstanding American Gardens

### PLAY FOR JOHNNY BOY!

**GOLF OR FOOTGOLF! OR JUST JOIN US FOR DINNER!**

**September 25th, 2015**

**Rain Or Shine**

**Check In**

- **At 2:15 pm**
- **Tee Off**

**At 3:00 pm**

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**6 September 18, 2015 The Paper philipstown.info**

“Outstanding American Gardens: A Celebration,” will be published on Sept. 22. Edited by Page Dickey, it features photographs by Marion Brenner of more than 100 Open Days gardens. The book is a “snapshot of everything we’ve done, as well as a call to action to save gardens — especially in light of encroaching development,” says Laura Hamburg, a spokesperson for the conservancy. The selections range from American interpretations of British, Mediterranean and Japanese gardens, to those entirely native to a geographic region, to types such as dry, shade or organic. The gardens are, “a melting pot — the embodiment of our society,” Hamburg says, “And they’re so good for the psyche of community.”

The Garden Conservancy exists because of a “can we squeeze one more thing in?” moment. In 1989 Anne Cabot induced her husband to have a look with her at Walnut Creek, a private dry garden on a walnut farm in Walnut Creek, California, before heading to the airport to catch a flight home. After touring the property and learning that the 86-year-old owner and designer of the garden, Ruth Bancroft, would likely be unable to continue with it much longer, Frank Cabot grew concerned. (“It was a garden filled with cactus, which is not my thing at all,” he would later recall. “Much to my great surprise, I remember actually shivering at the beauty of it.”) Anne suggested he remedy that by starting a conservancy, built around the notion of turning private gardens into public entities.

American gardens should engender the same preservation fervor as battlefields and national parks, Hamburg argues. “Gardens were fundamental to the founding of our nation,” she says. “After all, if you didn’t have a garden, you wouldn’t eat.” Further, because the conservancy believes gardening often inspires people to become conservationists and environmentalists, it supports programs that develop green skills at all levels.

“The point of public gardens is to inspire, educate people,” du Pont says. “They’re an expression of cultural heritage, an artistic expression, they’re cathartic, calming, important parts of communities; they can hold a host of historical ideas presented alongside new ones.” In relation to the GC itself: “We’d love to capture hearts and minds, inspire the public to appreciate gardens and recognize their values — to not be afraid of embracing it in their own homes; could just be pots on a terrace. A passion for gardening is a passion for the environment, a gateway to appreciating all of it… . We’re lucky to be here in the Hudson Valley, surrounded by so much natural beauty that others before us have preserved.”

For more information, visit gardenconservancy.com.
Calendar Highlights for the week ahead
For further details about upcoming events, visit philipstown.info.
Send event listings to calendar@philipstown.info.
Early Work of Mary and Russel Wright at Garrison Art Center

Focus on aesthetic kinship of complementary, innovative couple

By Alison Rooney

In the 1940s Mary Einstein Wright served as a marketer and stylist for the work of her husband, Russel Wright, the industrial designer who was the progenitor of “branded” goods—in his case, tableware and furniture. She worked behind the scenes but, as a new exhibit at the Garrison Art Center demonstrates, was herself a talented artist.

Mary Einstein was in her early 20s when she met Russel Wright at the Marverick Art Colony, where she was studying sculpture. She was among the colony participants who followed him to Woodstock’s Maverick Theatre, where he was designing and directing. Their marriage followed—a partnership in life and eventually business, interrupted by Mary’s death in 1952, at age 48. She did not live to see the completion of their home and studio, Manitoga, on 75 acres in Garrison, now a national landmark.

The work of Mary and Russel Wright is the subject of a new exhibit, The Power of Two, which runs through Nov. 8 at the Garrison Art Center. It features early drawings, paintings, theatrical designs and manufactured items by both artists, some created individually and some collaboratively. Curated by the art center’s executive director, Carinda Cross, the exhibit includes many items loaned by the couple’s daughter, Ann Syrek, the exhibit includes many items loaned by the couple’s daughter, Ann Syrek, the exhibit includes many items loaned by the couple’s daughter, Ann Syrek, the exhibit includes many items loaned by the couple’s daughter, Ann Syrek, the exhibit includes many items loaned by the couple’s daughter, Ann Syrek, the exhibit includes many items loaned by the couple’s daughter, Ann Syrek, the exhibit includes many items loaned by the couple’s daughter, Ann Syrek.

An accompanying exhibit, The Vision of One, focuses on the accomplishments of the late Aileen Osborn Webb of Garrison, who was instrumental in changing the Studio Craft movement. The exhibit was curated by Geoffrey Platt with consultation from Paul Smith, director emeritus of the Museum of Arts and Design and former director of the American Craft Museum, and assistance from the American Craft Council.

Both exhibitions are open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information visit garrisonartcenter.org or phone 845-424-3960.
The Calendar

Depot Docs at 10: How To Dance In Ohio

By James O'Barr

In the fall of 2005, Depot Docs began life with a showing at the Philipstown Depot Theatre of host and co-curator Steven Ives' Anatomic: A Love Affair With Opera. Forty-seven films later, what is clearly a love affair with documentary films and the people who make them (passionately aided and abetted by regular attendees of all ages who often fill the house and join the post-screening Q&As and receptions), embarks on its 10th season on Friday, Sept. 25, with Alexandra Shiva's How To Dance In Ohio.

Shiva's third feature documentary (after Bombay Eunuch and Stagedoor), How To Dance In Ohio premiered at Sundance in January and was nominated for the Grand Jury Prize. It was taken at a key moment in their lives (their first formal dance), will have you asking questions. Because you're at the Depot Theatre and not at home in front of the tube, director Shiva, producer Bari Pearlman and the editor, Depot Docs' own Toby Shimin, will be there to answer them.

The frame of the film is set in the offices of Amigo Family Counseling in Columbus, Ohio, where clinical psychologist Dr. Emilio Amigo and his staff provide individual and group therapy to teenagers and adults "on the higher end of the autism spectrum." As part of the program, Dr. Amigo schedules a spring dance, which serves, as it does in the "neurotypical" world that most of us inhabit, as a rite of passage toward adulthood and independent lives. It is the use of this familiar framing that allows us to empathize with the film's subjects, people who, according to autism advocate Dr. Temple Grandin, suffer the anxiety of feeling threatened by everything in their surroundings—sounds, words, movement, disorder, the unexpected, everything.

(Continued on Page 13)

Questions for Toby Shimin

Editor of How to Dance in Ohio is Philipstown resident

Arts/Feature Editor Alison Rooney posed these questions, and these are Shimin's written replies, edited slightly for conciseness:

As editor of a film with this type of narrative, you strive to avoid sentimentality. Is that a directive from the director?

In creating a character driven film, there is a fine line between sentimentality and authentic emotional connection with the story's subjects. For me, one of the most important mandates in storytelling is to allow an audience to feel like they are "living with" the characters and not "looking at" them. During the editing, director Alexandra Shiva said that this was extremely important to her and that she wanted the audience to feel that they and producer Bari Pearlman felt after spending 12 weeks shooting with them.

(To Page 13)

tightening the Focus in Beacon

Third annual Independent Film Festival keeps it local

by Brian PJ Cronin

For all the work that goes into mounting a production as monumental as a film festival, there's one aspect that often gets overlooked: The watching.

"We had about 2,400 submission this year," said Nelson. "We wanted to make sure we vet these movies and we don't have any bad recommendations," said Nelson. "We wanted to make sure we vet these movies and we don't want to keep this festival in a bubble. It would be easy to get into group-think and not have other people see what's going on. It was important for us to get people that we trusted involved, to take a look at what we selected."

That focus on involving the larger Beacon arts community in the festival plays into the festival's programming on Sunday, as part of a special program called The 845. The films chosen for that particular program not only contain films made by Beaconites, but films about issues that affect those living in the Hudson Valley.

"People who live in Beacon are proud to live in Beacon," he said. "They're proud of what we do here, the things we accomplish here, and that we're an arts community."

The final film in the program, and the festival itself, is Farewell to Factory Towns, a documentary about former factory towns finding creative ways to reuse their crumbling infrastructure. The film centers on the story of North Adams, Massachusetts, and the conversion of a factory building there into the celebrated Mass Moca museum — something that Beacon, with its own world-famous museum sitting inside a former Nabisco factory, can relate to.

"The filmmaker will be here to answer questions after the movie, and we're going to try and figure out why he decided to make this film and is this really a growing phenomenon across the country," said Nelson.

Another film sure to be of particular interest to those in the Hudson Valley in Indian Point, a documentary about the infamous nuclear power plant down in Peekskill. Directed by Cold Spring's Ivy Meeropol, it will be shown Saturday night as part of a program entitled All In. Nelson said that the film managed to jolt him and his fellow screeners out of the malaise that naturally settles in when one is plowing through (Continued on Page 13)
Oil-on-Hudson: The Explosive Risks of Oil Transport in the Hudson Valley

Tuesday, September 29, 7-9 p.m.
Antipodean Books, Maps & Prints
29 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison, NY


This event is free and open to all.

The Gordon Stewart Concert Series event (previously scheduled for Sept. 20) has been postponed until Dec. 13 at 4 p.m.

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The Vision of One
The Power of Two

Two exhibitions of three late residents of Garrison, New York, whose creative and persistent work had a profound impact on design and craft of the 20th century.

The Vision of One is a summation of the historic accomplishments of Aileen Osborn Webb (1892 – 1979), whose philanthropy, innovation, and unparalleled passion changed the Studio Craft Movement of the 20th century. From her early pursuit of establishing Putnam County Products, 1936, in Carmel, New York, to her founding of the Museum for Contemporary Crafts, 1956, in New York City—now the Museum of Arts and Design—Webb played a vital role in elevating the perception of craft across the nation.

The Power of Two is a presentation of the dynamic partnership between Mary Einstein Wright (1904–1952) and Russel Wright (1904 – 1976), their art work and their pioneering contribution to lifestyle marketing, which laid the groundwork for today’s astonishing level of lifestyle branding. In addition, the exhibition includes fine art drawings by Mary Wright from the early 1920s that have been seen by few and never exhibited, as well as stage and costume designs by Russel Wright from the same period, also not shown before.

The Riverside Galleries at Garrison Art Center thru Nov 8, 2015
Reception September 19, 5 to 7pm

23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison, NY
garrisonartcenter.org 845-424-3960

On behalf of all in Philipstown who thoroughly enjoyed the Made in Philipstown Banquet on September 5, THANK YOU to its co-chairs, STACEY FARLEY and CARINDA SWANN! They brought together a remarkable group of makers – potters, painters, master chefs, bakers, woodworkers, metalworkers, young and eager volunteer workers, farmers, gardeners, floral designers, and a marvelous band of singers and songwriters. It was a stunning evening! And we are Your Grateful Philipstown Guests
The resurgence of vinyl records, as well an appreciation for obscure 1980s pop culture, is back on Main Street in Beacon. Audioccult has been open since April. For its owner, lifelong music fan Sean Congdon, 38, the location is ideal.

“I moved to the Hudson Valley four years ago, and Beacon was one of the places that we explored early on,” said Congdon, who lives in Holmes. “There’s something about pulling onto Main Street and seeing the mountains in the distance. I really did fall in love with it as soon as I visited.”

Congdon argues that while consumers gravitate to the convenience of digital, musicians have always favored analog recordings. Vinyl sales were nearly nonexistent 15 years ago, yet they have increased 260 percent since 2009, according to industry figures, and are up again this year. And promotions such as Record Store Day (recordstoreday.com) have become sales juggernauts.

“I attribute the resurgence of vinyl to the MP3 and the poor sound quality and less emotional nature of computer-based media,” Congdon said. “The MP3 format appeals to those who see media as being disposable. Vinyl appeals to those who are more invested in the art and sound quality. There’s an attraction to physical media that got lost.”

The physical, artistic aspect of the product is on display at Audioccult. There’s a section of new releases that runs the gamut of styles, as well as a stock of clean used records. This isn’t an old-school dark and dusty record store.

In addition to music, Congdon stocks the perimeter of his shop. (Continued on next page)
Tightening the Focus  
Audiocult: A New Beacon Record Store  

People have preconceived notions and that come out of that conversation. Nelson's team's attention was选举 into focus," said Nelson. Indian Point Another movie that grabbed Nelson was that difference that set Shiva to another — a perfect illustration of what is said in the film: "If you meet one person with autism, you've only met one person with autism." Otherwise, if you've met one person with autism, you've probably met a male, given that boys are four to five times more likely to have ASD. But it was that difference that set Shiva to wondering about the specific issues these girls face as they move into adulthood, that drew her to the story. What she learned in telling the story, she says, is that "there are many, many ways to be a person." One question this viewer wants to ask is how, as a filmmaker, even a documentary filmmaker, you inspire the kind of confidence, the kind of trust, that allows the filmmakers to get so close, at such a vulnerable moment, to young people who at the best of times suffer such extremes of anxiety and fear, unable to read or understand the verbal and social signifiers that make sense of the world that surrounds them? What is the hue and cry over manipulative editing of reality TV shows something that was/who we/uni are/uni0 and surly audience but they were completely engaged. By the end of the film, they would ordinarily seem like small social steps. We had one 8:30 a.m. screening. By the film's last scene, I think the audience actually feels the triumph in what happens in most documentaries, there is always manipulation in the shaping of story. But I always consider the distinction between "facts" and "a larger truth." Does each scene capture the essential truth of each character as the story moves forward? Often, in films that cover stories of people with disabilities, the parents and caregivers are the ones to tell a story. Aleksandria and Bari wanted the film's subjects to speak for themselves as much as possible, which was one of the reasons we decided to focus mostly on people on the higher functioning end of the autism spectrum. The three girls were chosen because of their unique eloquence as well as their respective stages of coming of age. Marideth is in high school, Caroline is starting college and Jessica is beginning a job. What made you most proud of your work on the film? By the very act of carving a story out of hundreds of hours of footage, as it happens in most documentaries, there is always manipulation in the shaping of story. But I always consider the distinction between "facts" and "a larger truth." 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Boys & Girls Varsity Cross Country Highlights

Hosting full teams for the first time this season, the Haldane Cross Country teams traveled to Warwick for the annual Wave Mania Invitational on Saturday, September 12th.

The boys ran first and finished 10th in their heat ahead of Beacon, Valley Stream and S.S. Seward.

Nick Farrell, running in his first race of the season, was 26th overall and was fastest finisher for the Blue Devils with a time of 17:43 in the 5000 meter race. Nick was followed by Jonas Petkus at 18:32, Adam Silhavy 18:21, Andrew Gannon 19:11, and Kyle Kisslinger at 20:00.

The teams’ average running time was 18:41 as compared to 19:30 back in 2013. Coach Tom Locascio commented: “Although our team finish wasn’t near the top, we are so much better than just a few seasons ago. I’m very happy with our performance.”

In another heat, freshmen Kenney McElroy medaled, finishing 13th, running an 18:31.

The Haldane Girls front, they too showed significant improvements over the last run in Warwick in 2013. With an average running time of 23:18 from 25:26 two years ago, the girls are getting stronger every day.

The Lady Devils were paced by Taylor Farrell who finished 13th, running a 20:51 and earned herself a medal for the second straight week. Olivia McDermott was next at 23:50, Ruby McEwen 24:05, Heather Winne at 24:07, Abbey Stowell at 25:19 and Meghan Ferri finishing with a time of 27:19. Locascio commented: “Although we do not have the numbers, each runner is dedicated to the sport. I expect them to continue to improve as the season continues.”

Next week, both teams will be in action again at the site of the 2015 NYS Championship at Monroe-Woodbury High School.

Haldane Girls Varsity Cross Country Photos

On Saturday, September 12, the Lady Blue Devils fell to John Jay East Fishkill 2:1 with Allison Cheira getting the Haldane goal off of an assist from Missy Lisikatos.

Haldane’s next opponent was another tough match, and Haldane lost 4-1 to Ketcham on Wednesday, Sept. 16. Marina Martin scored the only goal for Haldane. The Lady Blue Devils record is 2-3 so far in 2015.

At left, Sophmore Quarterback Brandon Twoguns (11) and freshman running back Sam Giachinta (44) lead the Haldane offense against the Tuckahoe Tigers at Haldane on Saturday, Sept. 12. The Blue Devils ran out of time in their battle with the Tigers, falling 21-18.

Share Your Sports News With Our Readers

Please send scores, high-resolution photos, and other sports news to: sports@philipstown.info.

Include the name of the photographer, and caption information for photos.
Raise a Glass for Oktoberfest
Knights of Columbus host Mayor’s Park event Sept. 19-20

The second annual Oktoberfest, hosted by the Loretto Council No. 536 of the Knights of Columbus, takes place Sept. 19 and 20 at Mayor’s Park in Cold Spring, rain or shine. The event, which features German food, beer and live music, takes place from noon to 7 p.m. on Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is $1, with food and drink available for purchase. The menu includes bratwurst, roasted pork sandwich-es, frankfurters, hot pretzels, German potato salad, Spaten and Franziskaner beers and many German desserts.

The music schedule on Saturday includes DJ Fred Clark (noon), Greg Philip-pips (1 to 3 p.m.) and The Edelweiss Oompah (3 to 7 p.m.). On Sunday, the Edelweiss Oompah returns from noon to 3 p.m., followed by Band of Brothers from 3 to 5 p.m.

The event will also include more than 30 artisans such as Little Pearl, Big City, which offers handmade jewelry. A portion of the event proceeds benefits Our Lady of Loretto and Special Olympics of New York. For more information, visit kofc536.com.

Benefit Concert Scheduled for Sept. 19
First Presbyterian hosts First You Dream

On Saturday, Sept. 19, at 7 p.m. John Cimino, Tom McCoy and a group of young musicians from Associated Artists will present a benefit concert for First Presbyterian Church of Philip-stown at 10 Academy St., Cold Spring. The theme of the program is “First You Dream, A Concert of Ideas,” with music, poetry, song and ideas from around the world as originally heard on the stages of Broadway, opera and Carnegie Hall.

Guest artists include pianists Francine Kay, a member of the performance faculty of Princeton University, and Jennifer Chu, a recent Juilliard graduate. Three vocalists will also perform: Christine Clemmons-McCune (director of Juilliard’s gospel choir), Sun Young Chang (a teaching assistant for the Metropolitan Opera Guild) and J.D. Webster (a Juilliard graduate).

The suggested donation is $20 (se-niors $12). Jazz Vespers will return to First Presbyterian in October.

Cultural Center Plans Flea Market
Tompkins Corners event Sept. 26

The Tompkins Corners Cultural Cen-ter in Putnam Valley will host a flea market on Saturday, Sept. 26, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Vendor spots are $20 each.

The center is located at 729 Peekskill Hollow Road, at the intersection of Wiccopee, in a church dating to 1891. The church served as a community center for more than a century, hosting fairs and festivals along with religious services. This will be the center’s first flea market and an op-portunity for residents to stop by, talk to the volunteers and find out more about the center’s plans. Music will be provided by the Kitchen Table Band and Edukated Fleas, a ukulele duo, among other performers.

Vendors, musicians and anyone interested in the flea market may contact the center to reserve a table or get more information. Call 845-528-7280 or email info@tompkinscorners.org.

Midweek ‘Humpday’ Launched at Doug’s
Gathering features food, music and libations

Doug’s Pretty Good Pub at 54 Main St. in Cold Spring will be the site of a new weekly “humpday” night out, with food, drink and live music at 8 and 10 p.m. by Johnny Hoppe and John Teagle playing classics by the Everly Brothers, Simon & Garfunkel and Roy Orbison. Sing-alongs, jam sessions, house parties, open-mic and karaoke also may occur.

“This is our take on the local Listening Room and open-mic nights that used to break up the week so well,” Teagle said. “The midweek night of entertainment and camaraderie has been missing in Cold Spring for some time; it’s our pleasure to bring it back.”

Stories Around Little Stony Set for Oct. 1
Jonathan Kruk will present free, family-friendly program

Storyteller Jonathan Kruk will pre-sent a free, family-friendly program, “Stories Around Little Stony” at Little Stony Point Park, just north of Cold Spring, on Thursday, Oct. 1, at 5 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Hudson Highlands Land Trust as part of its Take-A-Hike initiative.

Kruk will share the fanciful side of Hudson Valley history with tales of the Culprit Fae and the other imps and witches who have lived along the Hud-sen River. The trail that Kruk will walk, which includes only small inclines, is stroller-accessible and suitable for young children. “It’s an ideal stroll, with stories,” Kruk says.

The hike is free, although registration is required. Email info@hhtl.org or call 845-424-3358, extension 6.

(Continued on next page)
Philipstown Reform Synagogue to Screen Six Million and One

Documentary retraces steps of Holocaust survivor

The 2011 documentary Six Million and One by Israeli filmmaker David Fisher will be screened at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 26. The 90-minute film will provide an introduction to the “virtual pipeline” bringing crude oil along the Hudson River, and its potential risks.

The presentation, Oil-on-Hudson: The Explosive Risks of Oil Transport in the Hudson Valley, which includes a short film, will take place at Antipodean Books, Maps & Prints, 29 Garrisons Landing, in Garrison. It is co-sponsored by Antipodean and Philipstown Democrats.

According to Galay, residents of Philipstown can watch trains carrying crude oil traveling along the west side of the Hudson twice a day, on average, while a barge/tanker traffic carrying crude oil occurs about once per day. The risks the trains present include not only oil spills and explosions, spills and long-term environmental degradation, he says.

Chapel Restoration Presents Early Autumn Interlude Celloist and pianist will perform Sept. 27

Cellist Ani Kalayjian and pianist Reiko Uchida will perform a free concert at The Chapel Restoration at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 27, as part of the chapel’s Sunday Music Series. The pair will perform a selection of Romantic and Armenian music.

Kalayjian, who is Armenian-American and the grand prize winner of the International Chamber Music Competition of New England, will make her debut as a chamber music artist at the Chateau du de la Moutte festival in St. Tropez. She studied at Mannes College of Music and earned a master’s degree from the Curtis Institute of Music, a master’s degree from Mannes College of Music and an artist diploma from the Juilliard School.

The Chapel Restoration, at 45 Market St., in Cold Spring, is across from Metro-North Station, where free parking is available on weekends. Concerts are made possible, in part, through a grant from the Putnam Arts Council through the New York State Council on the Arts.

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Andy Revkin to Play Depot Theatre Concert features songs from A Very Fine Line

On Friday, Oct. 2, at 8 p.m., singer-songwriter Andy Revkin returns to the Depot Theatre for his first solo show in more than a decade. Songs will range from folk classics he learned from his parents sailing New England waters to British ballads lamenting the loss of Arctic explorers to environmental anthems like Bruce Cockburn’s “If a Tree Falls” and Revkin’s own “ Liberated Carbon.”

He will also perform selections from his album A Very Fine Line, which one critic described as a “tasty mix of roots goulash.” They include “Breakneck Ridge” and “Between the River and the Rails,” about the bygone Guinan’s Irish pub and general store, which was located near the theater.

Revkin is a longtime environmental journalist and blogger for The New York Times. Tickets are $15. Phone 845-424-3900 or visit brownpapertickets.com/event/2260094.

Art Exhibit Meeting Past at Akin Museums Local artists among 95 exhibiting work in Pawling

This is the fifth year that artist/curator Bibiana Huang Matheis has organized the Meeting Past exhibit at the Akin Library and Museums in Pawling. The works of 95 artists are included in the exhibit, including art by Philipstowns Jayne Gilliam Cyramus, Garrison’s Sheliah Rechtschaffer and Beacon’s Eleni Smolen, Nestor Madalengoitia and Rieko Frank.

The exhibit is on view from Sept. 18 through Oct. 18 at the Akin Library and Museums, 378 Old Quaker Hill Road in Pawling. The building, an elegant late Victorian stone structure on Pawling’s Quaker Hill, holds the Olive Gunnison Natural History Museum, Historical Society Museum and the Akin Library. Organizers say that adding contemporary artworks infuses the space and permanent collections with new meaning. Some artists will create site-specific artworks that appear to have been part of the collection, adding to the visitor’s experience of looking through all three floors of artifacts for the (To next page)
Special Tours This Fall at Mills Mansion

Landscape, Downton Abbey-themed tours

State Parks System Historic Site (also known as Mills Mansion) will offer two types of tours beginning in September – a Downton Abbey-themed experience and a landscape tour.

The Downton Abbey Themed Tour will compare State Parks System at Beacon to Downton Abbey. State Parks System, the turn-of-the-century home of socialite Ruth Livingston Mills and her husband, industrialist Ogden Mills, was a real-life American version of the fictitious British estate. A costumed guide will highlight State Parks System’s counterpart of the show. Tickets are $35 for adults, $30 for seniors and students, and free for children 12 and younger. The Downton Abbey Deluxe Tour will be offered on Sundays, Sept. 20 and Oct. 4, at 1 p.m. Admission is $30 for adults, $25 for seniors and students, and free for children 12 and younger. Reservations for both programs and can be made by calling 845-786-4515, ext. 355.

On Sunday, Sept. 27, at 1 p.m., the site will give a guided landscape tour, What You See ... and What You Don’t See. The walk will explore how the landscape was designed to deliberately hide all the labor that made the good life possible. There is no charge for the tour on one of mostly level terrain, with some uphill walking, suitable for all ages. The program will take about 1½ hours and will be canceled in the event of heavy rain.

State Parks System Historic Site and the Ogden Mills and Ruth Livingston Mills Memorial State Park are located on Old Port Road in State Parks System, off Route 9 between Rhinebeck and Hyde Park. For more information, call 845-889-8851 or visit nysparks.com and facebook.com/StateParksNY. Also, the exhibit, which includes large-format photography, digital video, animation and renderings, is constructed around themes found in a recently published book, Along the Mount Beacon Incline Railway, such as transportation and how the street trolley service ultimately connected all three components of the city, the river, the mountain and Main Street,” explained Jeff McHugh, president of the society. Another is “how a restored Incline would make it possible for people of all abilities to experience the summit and view the breathtaking vistas.”

The exhibit runs through March 6, with an opening reception and book signing at the State Parks System, 199 Main St., on Oct. 9 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. It will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays to Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. More information is available at incinerailway.org/events.

The Mount Beacon Incline Railway Restoration Society will open a six-month exhibit on Oct. 9 at the Beacon Institute. Titled Along the Mount Beacon Incline Railway, Part Two, the installation will explore the initiative to bring back the railway, which is located primarily on land owned and preserved by Scenic Hudson.

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Why Buy Soil When You Make it?

Compost works wonders in raised beds
by Pamela Doan

A reader asks: I’m making raised beds for vegetable gardening. Can I compost directly in the bed so it will be ready next spring? Getting soil delivered is expensive.

Great choice. Raised beds and compost are a smart way to get a vegetable garden started with nutrient-rich soil. It’s an interesting approach to compost directly started with nutrient-rich soil. It’s an interesting approach to compost directly.

Your best chance at success is to have the right mix of browns and greens and to layer it now and leave it alone. Don’t add to it. Because we’re on the verge of cold weather, your pile might not get hot enough. It generates heat as the microbes do their work. Starting a new compost pile in cold weather means the materials could freeze and not break down until they thaw again.

Raised beds aren’t very deep. Try to create several small piles with everything you have on hand. For ongoing needs to use vegetable and fruit waste and other compostable materials, consider a winter system that will allow you to reuse compostable materials, consider a winter system that will allow you to reuse compostable materials.

Winter composting solved. You can keep it conveniently close to the house and avoid trekking through the snow. I also want to address the idea that you might be able to fill the beds with materials from your own property. Since it’s fall, you’re in luck and depending on how many trees will be dropping leaves near-by, shredded leaves can be one of your main sources for bed layers and compost.

Leaves are full of carbon and considered a “brown” material for composting. Compost is a mix of nitrogen-rich materials, the “greens” and carbon-rich materials. Vegetable and fruit scraps are “greens.”

The method of lasagna gardening is outlined in a book by Patricia Lanza, Lasagna Gardening: A New Layering System for Beautiful Gardens: No Digging, No Till ing, No Weeding, No Killing! Instead of tilling the ground for plants, layer materials right on top. I’ve done this and had great results. Materials you can use include compost, peat moss, shredded leaves, manure, straw, wood ash, grass clippings, hay, and sawdust among others.

If you attach wire mesh to the bottom (Continued on next page)
Why Buy Soil When You Make it? (from previous page)
of your beds, it will prevent moles and voles from tunneling up into the beds and stealing your veggies. On top of that, create your bottom layer of mulch with layered newspapers to suppress weeds. Wet them down, then add layers of the materials listed above. One of my beds was mostly shredded leaves, compost and peat moss and it turned into really rich soil. It had few weeds and balanced out at a nice 6.3 pH, just right for most vegetables.

Here’s one last tip for managing fallen leaves. While they need to be shredded to speed decomposition, you don’t need special machinery. A friend shared their method of putting the leaves in a barrel or garbage can and using a string trimmer to shred them in place. Make sure to wear eye protection.
Sunflowers and vegetables: Davoren Farm
Photography: Cali Gorevic
Website: Pam McCluskey

Plate-making master
Lisa Knaus

Deserts:
Liz Bisbee Rauch
Zanne Stewart
Paula Carnibuci

Table decor:
Danielle Martinelli
Kyoiko Gelbe
Courtney McCarthy
Courtney Schacht
Tracy Strong
Leslie Wirowe

Herdroom tomatoes:
Longhaul Farm
Maura and Bob D’Nardo

Sunflowers and vegetables: Davoren Farm
Peppers: Linda Lomonico

Chickens: Jeff Cunningham, Cali and Roger Gorevic, Glynwood
Pork: Horseman Trail Farm
Honey: Blue Sky Apiary
Jams & jellies: Eleanor’s Best
Basil: Haldane Student Garden
Mozzarella: Vera’s Market

Thank you to the many co-hosting organizations who helped serve food and clean-up, with a special thanks to Co-hosts Garrison’s Landing Association and Garrison Station Plaza for the generous use of their little piece of paradise. Be sure to visit madeinphilipstown.com to see a list of others who helped make this event a reality. Cheers to 400+ guests at ONE LONG TABLE!