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HDRB Challenges Mayor, Attorney on Butterfield

Defining 'historic'

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Members of Cold Spring's Historic District Review Board (HDRB) repeatedly clashed with the mayor and village attorney Tuesday night (Sept. 18) over issues related to the Butterfield redevelopment project, including the definition of a "historic" building, criteria for HDRB decision-making, and whether village officials want to dictate how the HDRB handles a specific application or instead ensure that it correctly applies the village code of law.

The entire five-person HDRB met with three Village Board members — Mayor Seth Gallagher and Trustees Bruce Campbell and Matt Francisco — at a Village Board workshop marked by frequently acerbic exchanges. Ultimately, both boards concurred on the benefits of obtaining advice from an outside expert — Julian Adams, a local government liaison in the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

Village Attorney Stephen Gaba led the discussions, presented as an overview of procedures for the HDRB to follow in all pertinent cases but with the proposed Butterfield redevelopment looming over everything. Butterfield's owner seeks to demolish the old hospital at the center of the site and construct a complex of single-family houses, market-rate condominiums for retire-

(Continued on page 3)



Kenny Elmes and his wife Fran in the foreground at the Cold Spring Planning Board public hearing on the Dunkin' Donuts franchise application

Photo by K.E. Foley

Dunkin' Donuts Proposal Thoroughly Aired

Personal regard for the applicant complicates differing views

By Kevin E. Foley

A steady evening rainfall following an afternoon of wicked wind did not deter a standing-room-only crowd from attending and speaking at the Cold Spring Planning Board public hearing on the Kenny Elmes proposal to open a Dunkin' Donuts franchise and a convenience store at his Chestnut Street gas station. At its peak, approximately 70

people filled the VFW Hall on Kemble Avenue on Tuesday (Sept. 18).

The meeting began at about 7:20 p.m. and ran until 10:40 p.m., with an unofficial tally of 38 speakers divided for and against the proposal and supporters appearing to hold a small majority. Although there were sharp differences of opinion on Elmes' application, the hearing was civil throughout, with almost all remarks receiving polite applause, sometimes even by opponents.

Despite the division, the meeting evidenced a deep consensus that Cold Spring was a special place to live. Some expressed a strong belief that its special character lies primarily in the people who reside in the village and that a fast-food outlet, especially one that would help a long-time respected businessman, cannot undermine the sense of camaraderie and community spirit.

Others argued just the opposite, that permitting a national fast-food franchise to operate in a village treasured for its physical uniqueness by residents and visitors alike would be a slippery slope leading to additional franchise applications and a permanent surrender of the village's most attractive qualities.

At the outset of the meeting, the Planning Board formally designated itself lead agency for the approval process after hearing no objections to that role from other governmental entities at the village, town, county and state level. Going forward, the Planning Board will hold additional workshops on the matter with the board deciding the extent of further review under the State Environmental Quality Act (SEQR). Chairman Joseph Barbaro said at the end of the meeting that it would not be until Oct. 16 before the board could meet again due to the time needed to transcribe the evening's testimony.

Almost all of the speakers at the hearing made some reference to the applicant, Elmes, who has operated the universally appreciated Elmseco service station for over 25 years. Elmes has said at several meetings that he needs to close the au-

to-repair business due to declining business and the injuries he sustained in a motorcycle accident. He has said that the franchise operation together with the convenience store is his best option for business sustainability.

Some expressed their support as simply Elmes' due as a respected businessman, a property owner with rights, and more personally, someone they trusted, liked and believed needed a break.

PCNR reporter takes a stand

The first speaker of the evening set the tone for many in favor of the applicant. Tim Greco, the pastor of the Church on the Hill in Nelsonville and also the Putnam County News and Reporter journalist covering the event, declared he was taking his reporter's hat off to testify. Referencing hardships faced by Elmes, including the loss of a son and his left leg, Greco said: "He's been fair to us, he's been very fair to me, I trust Kenny, and I ask you do the same. I think he should be approved and he should have his drive-thru window. He has a right to make a living in our town, and for us to deny that is unfair."

Greco exhorted the Planning Board to show empathy toward the applicant and to put themselves in his shoes. "I know a lot of people would separate that (the personal circumstances), but I don't think you can." Throughout the evening, several more people repeated Greco's basic theme of fairness to a good and deserving man.

Echoing many opponents' perspective, Eric Muth didn't disagree with Greco's view of Elmes. "I feel for him. He's probably the most honest businessman I know in the village. I know he's gone through a lot."

But then Muth said he doubted the assessment by the traffic consultant for Tim Miller Associates that the Dunkin' Donuts and its drive-thru window would not significantly add to traffic problems in the area. "I have been working with consultants for 15 years, and you can always pay for an opinion you want," he said. He referred to a situation in Monmouth, N.J., (Continued on page 3)



Installation of artificial turf will allow Haldane's main athletic field to be used for football, soccer and lacrosse as well as for physical education programs. A three-lane track will also be added around the field.

Photo by M. Turton

Haldane Moves Forward With Field Improvement Details

Referendum on \$2 million project set for Nov. 13

By Michael Turton

The Haldane Board of Education passed a number of resolutions at its Sept. 18 (Tuesday) meeting, officially setting the wheels in motion that will move the school district closer to a major renovation of the main sports field on campus. If approved by voters in No-

vember, the \$2 million project will include the installation of a new artificial turf field to accommodate football, soccer and lacrosse as well as physical education programs. In addition, a three-lane track will serve as a practice facility and a community walking area. Lockers that go back to the 1960s will be replaced, and improvements (Continued on page 14)

Mouths to Feed

A Scaled-Down Salad

By Celia Barbour

I try to shop mindfully at the farmers’ market — “mindfulness” being the new/ancient approach to finding balance and contentment in daily life. But, try as I might, I get distracted and my mind wanders off like a toddler in a department store, and by the time we are reunited, my bags are full of things that do not add up to a week’s worth of coherent meals.

Yet last Saturday, something serendipitous occurred. I realized when I got home that, by chance, I had bought exactly what I needed to make a dish that had been one of the highlights of my summer cooking stint: Thai beef salad. Only this one would be much, much smaller.

When I tell people how many kids I cooked for at that sleepaway camp (180), they often say, “How’d you do that?” (or something to that effect).

four cooks plus 2 1/2 hours — it does not add up to an elaborate, often exotic, multi-dish meal for 180, including options for the gluten-free, dairy-free, and vegan contingents. So I suspect that something magical was at work in that kitchen, too. Kitchens are like that, you know.

On this particular day, I arrived to find that the lunch menu on the blackboard had not quite gelled. The list read: Pad Thai, option with tofu? sautéed green beans — ginger?, some kind of salad, plain rice (we always had something for the kids who preferred their food flavor-free), fresh fruit, water + juice. Lily, the head cook, said, “We need a meat thing for the meat-eaters.” She is 22, and one of the coolest people I’ve ever met.

“How about Thai beef salad?” I suggested,

having eaten it back in my own 20s when my friends and I would venture onto the dark streets near Chinatown in search of southeast Asian food. Like many of the dishes we ordered and shared, this salad spun my head around, it was so good. But I’d never tried making it myself, not even for five people.

Lily asked what I needed for it. “Lime, probably,” I said, trying to conjure up a memory of the dish, “and cilantro and mint. Red onions, soy sauce, fish sauce, chilis ... um ... some kind of greens?”

The mint grew near a pasture by the lake. I went out and collected a giant colanderful (other dishes would need it, too), then got to work, preparing the rice, slicing the onions, sautéing the beef.

Two hours later, everything was almost ready and some campers bustled in to set the tables. I tasted the beef salad. “It’s good, Lily,” I said. “Try some.” But she could never eat until the meal was underway, and she was sure that we’d pulled it off.



Photo by C. Barbour

Still, I was right: The beef salad was good. Many raved about it, and one girl, a New York City kid, came back for fifths.

I was putting away leftovers when I spied Lily sitting on a shelf tucked beneath one of the counters, eating my salad. She looked at me, nodded slowly, and said, “Freakin’ Thai beef salad.”

It was the best compliment I got all summer.

Thai beef salad

At the camp, I didn’t marinate the beef — it’s quicker that way, but it tastes nice if you take the extra step. My son George described this dish as “something you could just crave all the time.”

For the marinade/dressing:

- zest of 1 lemon or 2 stalks lemon-grass
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons Thai fish sauce
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- ½ cup vegetable oil, plus extra for skillet
- 3-4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/3 cup fresh lime juice
- salt & pepper

For the salad:

- 1 pound flank steak
- 1 red onion
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice or mild vinegar
- 1 small head lettuce
- 3 radishes, thinly sliced
- 1 small cucumber, peeled and sliced
- 1 bunch watercress
- 2 cups mixed cilantro, mint, and basil leaves
- 1 Thai or Serrano chili, seeded and minced (wear gloves), or red pepper flakes to taste, optional

1. If you’re using lemongrass, trim off the root end and outer leaves, then thinly slice the bottom 6 inches of the stalk. Place it or the zest, the soy sauce, fish sauce, sugar, and oil in a blender and blend well. Measure out 3 tablespoons of this mixture into a shallow dish and add the garlic, then add the flank steak, turning it in the marinade. Cover and refrigerate for 1 hour, or up to 6 hours.
2. Add the lime juice to the remaining dressing; taste for seasoning, adding salt and pepper as needed.
3. Slice the onion as thinly as possible. Combine the lemon juice or vinegar with equal parts water and soak the onion in this mixture.
4. Remove the steak from the marinade; discard marinade. Heat a grill pan or skillet over high heat for 30 seconds; add a drizzle of oil then the steak. Sear both sides until well browned, then lower heat and cook to desired doneness. Remove steak from skillet and set aside to rest for 10 minutes. Slice thinly against the grain. Toss with about half the dressing.
5. Arrange the lettuce on a platter. Remove the onion from the marinade; drain and toss together with the radish, cucumber, watercress, herbs, and chili in the remaining dressing. Arrange the onion-watercress mixture over the lettuce. Top with the beef.



Photo by C. Barbour

“It wasn’t hard,” I reply. And it wasn’t, though in truth, when I look back, I’m not sure how that’s possible. Sure, it helped that there were four of us at a time in the kitchen, so each of us was in charge of two dishes, maybe three, tops, and that we had 2 1/2 hours to prepare most meals. Still, when I do the math —

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Dunkin' Donuts Proposal Thoroughly Aired (from page 1)



Jeff Consaga – against

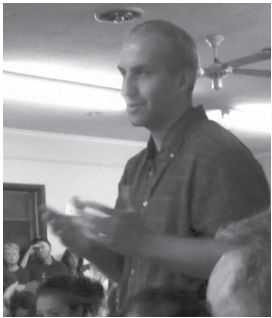
where he claimed consultants had assured the community about a fast-food franchise and now there is great upset over the traffic problems. “Consultants don’t always get it right,” he said, reluctantly declaring himself opposed.

Several opposition speakers honed in on the traffic implications for the redeveloped gas-station site, for the nearby establishments such as the Main Course food store, and for the wider area, including the Foodtown Plaza and parking lot, the Drug World mini-mall, and the planned Butterfield development across the street. Parking concerns included safety is-

sues on the site, on Route 9D (Chestnut Street), and dangers to pedestrians in a village that seeks to promote walkability, a key theme of the Cold Spring Comprehensive Plan.

“Our review of the current site plan ... considers it unworkable,” said Janice Hogan on behalf of the Benedict and Marion Avenue Association, whose members live behind the Foodtown Plaza and the Elmesco station. “Too much [traffic] is being squeezed into too little space. Unlike other Dunkin’ Donuts drive-thru [operations] this plan has no dedicated path for cars.” Hogan asserted that vehicles entering the site to order coffee and donuts at the drive-thru window would have to compete for maneuvering room with cars at the gas pumps or in parking spaces.

“The most significant issue, and one that has not been addressed, is that nowhere on the site plan is there a safe path for pedestrians. How can we even consider a business that is danger-



Mike Bowman – for

ous for walkers when we say in our plan that we want to be a walkable village and that Chestnut Street should be safer? Not to mention that a lot of the pedestrians may be youth, and less inclined to pay attention to cars flowing in multiple directions,” said Judith Rose, whose detailed testimony invoked the goals of the Comprehensive Plan, such as preserving village character and enhancing economic vitality, at several points.

Hogan and Rose also warned about the impact of multiple delivery and garbage collection trucks servicing the site both during and after hours of operation, currently planned from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Just as the two opponents referred to the Comprehensive Plan as the “people’s will” on the future quality of life for the village, others offered a counter-perspective that hewed closely to the existing village code as the relevant context for the Planning Board.

“We should consider this issue under the law, said Carlos Salcedo, who argued that under current zoning, “Mr. Elmes has every right to have a Dunkin’ Donuts and to use his property to that effect as long as he doesn’t break the law.” Salcedo said he didn’t personally care for the franchise being located in the village, but “whether I like it or don’t like should be indifferent.”



Carlos Salcedo – for

“The law is the law, and current village code is the law, and the Comprehensive Plan is not. It is a set of suggestions to either follow or not,” argued Michael Bowman. Continuing Bowman said, “The last time I checked, Cold Spring was in the United States. We’re capitalists. We don’t have the right to tell Kenny Elmes what business to put on Chestnut Street. ... The Planning Board doesn’t have the right to tell Kenny Elmes what business to put on Chestnut Street.”



Lynn Miller – against

Photos by K.E. Foley

HDRB Challenges Mayor, Attorney on Butterfield Project Issues (from page 1)

ment-age buyers, an intergovernmental municipal building (with a senior-citizen-cum-community center), post office, and retail-commercial space. The HDRB rules on demolitions within the village’s local and national historic districts by granting or denying a certificate of appropriateness. So far HDRB members have expressed opposition to demolition and launched a search for alternatives.

Cold Spring’s local historic district encompasses much of the village, including the Butterfield property, and goes beyond the national district. Named for its federally recognized status, the national district covers the Main Street corridor and some adjacent areas; stricter regulations apply to changes there than in the local district.

In ascribing historic importance to the hospital, HDRB members mention the link to Julia Butterfield, the 19th-century Cold Spring philanthropist who posthumously funded the institution in her will, and to other residents instrumental in subsequent expansions. The original structure, constructed circa 1922-1925, no longer exists as a distinct entity, having been merged into the 1941 and 1963 additions. “What we’re dealing with is a building that’s historic because of its associa-

tion with personages,” HDRB Chairman Al Zgolinski explained.

“Isn’t that awfully open-ended?” objected Gaba, who suggested the approach could spawn determinations based on “some far-flung historic personages [rationale].”

“The issue, it seems to me, is ‘historic character,’” Gaba said. “We’re looking for the definition of historic character.” He said that in assessing historic character, the HDRB should refer to the stated purpose of the historic district, given in the village code in Part 1 of Chapter 64, which deals with historic preservation. Part 1 refers several times to safeguarding 19th-century architecture and thus “the essential 19th-century character” of the village. However, Chapter 64 does not specifically define “historic character,” a lapse that encourages conflicting interpretations.

Historic districts “are established to maintain a sense of place,” Gaba said. When assessing historic character, under the Village Code, “the actual history does not apply” in the sense of a prominent individual’s connection to a building, he said. “You have to be able to point to something about the building that contributes” to significance through architectural elements. “If there’s nothing left to

reflect the historic character, a certificate of appropriateness has to be granted” for alterations, including demolition, if the property owner applies for one, he said.

Zgolinski disagreed. “I think it’s more than the aesthetic aspects of it” that must be considered, he said. “Why do we dismiss history? Our charge is to preserve historic buildings ... buildings that are historic for other than aesthetic reasons.”

Gaba further asserted that “it’s important to have an objective criteria as to whether something has historic character or not.” In deciding whether a building cannot be torn down or altered, he and he mayor said that the HDRB should not employ the standards it uses for recommending that a building get landmark status. Under the Village Code, a building may be “landmarked” if it “possesses special character or historic or aesthetic interest or value as part of the cultural, political, economic, or social history of the community.” The Village Board, not the HDRB, makes the final decision on whether to declare a building a landmark.

Another flashpoint involved a building’s status as one “contributing” to a historic district or instead merely standing as a “non-contributing” structure within a historic district’s bounds. A 2010 study

commissioned by the HDRB but since criticized by it termed the old hospital “non-contributing.” Zgolinski said the HDRB had told the study author upfront to avoid designating any Cold Spring buildings as contributing or non-contributing.

The study “was accepted and used by us as a draft,” said HDRB Member Kathleen Foley. “We disagreed with her [the study’s author].”

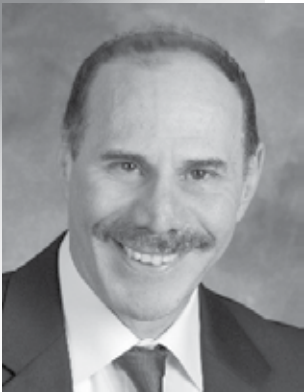
Although the completed study was sent to New York state, “we never accepted it” as a document to be adopted, Zgolinski added.

A state grant funded the study and the mayor said Albany wants such studies to list contributing and non-contributing structures. “This is what the state says you should do and then you use this to determine if buildings are historic, are contributing” or not, he said. “You don’t have to protect non-contributing buildings.”

In the case of the old hospital, the 2010 survey “is very strong proof the building does not have historic character,” Gaba told the HDRB.

A memo from Zgolinski sent to the Village Board earlier in the day and distributed with other materials at the meeting observed that the Village Code does not mention the “contributing” versus “non-contributing” (Continued on page 5)

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His experience as a Philipstown Board Member (1994-98) resulted in many benefits for the average citizen: he was a leader in advocating for the development of the Town Park, helped write the town’s Dirt Road Policy, helped Continental Village residents receive state services at lower rates and worked with the Continental Village Property Owners’ Association to pass the original school tax special assessment.

His diverse background in government, the not-for-profit world, and the private sector gives him a wealth of experience in public policy and its impact on middle class families in Putnam County.

Rosario is the Democratic Candidate for Putnam County Legislature, which includes Cold Spring, Continental Village, Garrison, North Highlands and northwest Putnam Valley.

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LETTERS

Notice Central Hudson's Pruning Practices at Village Gateway

Dear Editor:

Hello. I just wanted to make sure both of our local papers have observed the results of the pruning job that Central Hudson has done to the street trees in the Village of Cold Spring yesterday and this past week. There are three trees in particular around the intersection of 9D and 301 — a village gateway — that have really been mauled by what any impartial arborist would identify as poor pruning practices (even under the more lax guidelines for utility pruning). One small oak has been topped, a practice Central Hudson claimed in a recent meeting that they do not employ. Another young oak across 9D from the war memorial has sustained even greater damage to its structure to the point that it is now highly susceptible to sun-scald. An old maple on St. Mary's east lot is also left looking quite sad.

As a citizen of the village who has been involved recently in planting and caring for new trees around this intersection, I am deeply chagrined at the quality of the recent pruning work. It makes anyone dedicating time, sweat, and money to improving the lot of the village's street trees feel hopeless. I had hoped, given the recent controversy in other parts of Philipstown over utility tree trimming, that if/when they arrived here Central Hudson would do a better job considering aesthetics and tree health alongside their (important) goal of achieving wire clearance minimums.

I fully support the importance of the job that Central Hudson has to do to maintain a safe, secure power supply. But there are other villages in the Hudson Valley that manage to work out better compromises with the utility for pruning practices for trees under power lines. Why can't we be one of those?

I hope the newspapers will not let this go unnoticed.

Best regards,

Jennifer Zwarich

Cold Spring

P.S. You can keep updated on other (citizen-reported) news about trees in the village by checking in on the Cold Spring Village Shady Lane Campaign's Facebook feed at <https://www.facebook.com/villageshade>.

On Proposed Dunkin' Donuts

To the Members of the Cold Spring Village Planning Board:

Unfortunately, I had to stay home with

my child last night and was unable to attend the public hearing, but I wanted to voice my concerns regarding the proposed Dunkin' Donuts on Chestnut Street. Please know that I've been giving this issue careful consideration, as I understand what's at stake for both the business owner and the town. While I have concerns about Dunkin' Donuts as a corporation and the bigger implications for opening our town to fast-food restaurants in general, my primary concern is that of safety.

The "commercial" strip of Chestnut Street is already a ticking time bomb. Between Route 9D through-traffic, truck deliveries, cars turning in and out of the already precarious parking lots of The Main Course, Foodtown and the Drug World plaza, and pedestrians, it's a marvel that there aren't more accidents. I must cross Chestnut with my toddler in a stroller to bring her to The Nest, and I cannot count the number of distracted drivers that have almost plowed us over on that stretch (and yes, I always cross in the crosswalk). You cannot honestly believe that the addition of a business that encourages people to eat while driving won't increase the traffic danger tenfold.

I moved here from New York City, and if there's one thing that I know how to do, it's how to cross a busy intersection. But if this road has stymied me, I can only shiver at the thought of all of the children and elderly who traverse this road daily.

Your positions on the Planning Board are all the more important in a town so small and so precious. I hope that above all else you will consider the safety of this town's residents and visitors while making your own considerations.

Respectfully yours,

Ana Silverlinck

Cold Spring

Dear Editor:

As local business owners, our objections to the proposed Dunkin' Donuts franchise here in Cold Spring are not due, as many would assume, to increased competition for coffee and refreshment sales. Greg and I firmly believe that competition is as American as Main Street and the key to success is "building a better mousetrap." Our business serves a market segment that promotes artisan foods sourced from local farms and organic, fair-trade and sustainable suppliers. We don't look to compete with an operation enjoying economies of scale available to it by huge corporations like Dunkin' Donuts. Our objections stem from the larger effects formulaic businesses have on the unique atmosphere of villages like ours.

Five years ago, Cold Spring residents were surveyed to determine what we

value most about the place we live, what goods and services we need, and our vision for the future. Indeed, many spent numerous hours studying survey results, participating in brainstorming forums, and working to craft a Comprehensive Plan that defines our values as a community and a direction forward. Throughout the survey and forum results and the Comprehensive Plan they inform, we find our citizens value, above everything, the historic, small-town qualities so uniquely preserved in Cold Spring. Nowhere is a commanding desire for large corporate interests offering cheap, predictable and mediocre goods available along any interstate.

Our business community is comprised of imaginative entrepreneurs offering unique, often handcrafted goods, personalized services and pieces of our collective history that we, and visitors, delight in discovering. Many business owners depend on these atypical qualities that attract so many people here. Our business district and farmers' market are singular examples of business incubators allowing innovative people to develop and test new concepts aiming to provide for our families, fulfill community needs, create jobs and enrich the experience of those who come to enjoy our beautiful environment.

Elmesco service station has met our community's need for automotive repair and maintenance for 25 years and if replaced by Dunkin' Donuts, local access to this necessary service is depleted by 50 percent. Any solid business plan includes market research defining how the proposed business meets the needs of the community it serves. It's impossible to imagine how converting this busy service station to Dunkin' Donuts and convenience store achieves this goal. This proposal creates a redundancy of product and service, increases traffic congestion, noise and litter, and endangers pedestrians.

Greg and I, business owners who, not unlike Mr. Elmes, were forced to reinvent ourselves after the 2008 economic crash, experienced first-hand the arduous, often frustrating approval process. We sympathize and identify with the difficulties Mr. Elmes faces and the considerable setbacks leading to his choice. We appreciate the valuable service Elmesco has provided for over 25 years. However, we're compelled to ask him to reconsider his choice and strive to adjust his plans to more effectively address community needs. By selling to Dunkin Donuts, his choice diminishes Cold Spring in three significant ways: (1) depriving our youth of the vocational development and employment Mr. Elmes has offered over the years, (2) eliminating a needed, trusted and valued service many depend on and, (3) depreciating the distinctive character of our village by introducing a redundant operation offering average products readily available nearby.

We implore the Planning Board to do what they are entrusted to: review and evaluate proposed changes to our village and determine how such proposals improve or diminish Cold Spring as a whole. Considering that, the Planning Board should disapprove this proposed change of use and assure that our village grows in ways that ultimately meet our needs, preserve community values and protect our distinctive character.

Lynn and Greg Miller

Cold Spring

CANDIDATE OPINION EDITORIAL

Leading the Way With New Energy Technologies

By Terry Gipson

Our energy reality is that we are dependent upon non-renewable fossil fuels. The sad consequences of not ending this dependence are well known and just as real.

I want to change those realities by making the Hudson Valley a leader in creating sustainable jobs and long-term economic growth by investing in renewable energy, including solar, wind, geothermal, bio-methane, and hydrokinetic power.

I've been meeting with businesses that specialize in research, development, production, and installation of renewable energy technologies. These are practical, "can do" companies with exciting futures and good jobs to offer that will kick-start our economy and ignite a renewed interest in science and engineering in our public schools.

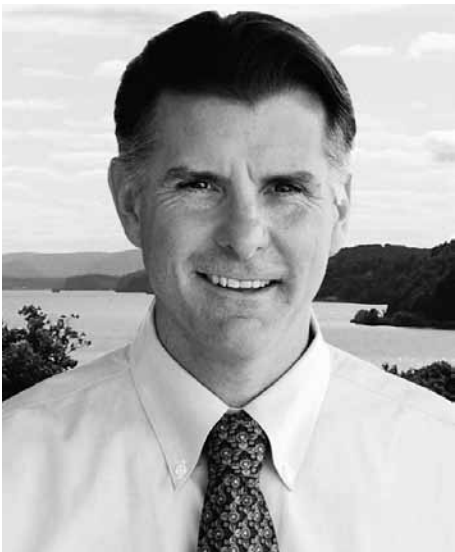
This is just the type of renaissance our local communities need: the next step is getting these businesses to come here. We can start by ensuring that the Hudson Valley remains a great place for people to live and work and for companies to thrive. This includes protecting our water supply and not allowing our

most precious resource to be used for hydraulic fracturing.

"Fracking" requires millions of gallons of water be trucked to each and every drill site, where it is mixed with toxic chemicals and injected into the earth to "fracture" the shale below to release the natural gas.

By saying "no" to fracking in New York, we will maintain our ability to provide safe drinking water, which is absolutely necessary to building and maintaining a thriving economy. By saying "no," we will challenge gas companies to use their enormous profits to develop drilling techniques that don't require taking our water from lakes, rivers and reservoirs and then polluting it.

Meanwhile, our legislature should pass the Solar Jobs Act. It sailed through the Assembly's Energy Committee and has bi-partisan support in the Senate (S. 4178). A noticeable exception of that support is our present Dutchess County State Senator, Steve Saland. This bill would create thousands of local jobs across a wide range of fields, from education to construction. It is also expected to generate a multibillion-dollar boost in wages and economic output that will be



Terry Gipson

reinvested in New York's economy.

This smart investing, combined with Gov. Cuomo's NY-Sun Initiative (which would quadruple solar power installations by 2013), along with his proposal to invest in a new "energy highway," will put us at the forefront of sustainable job creation and lay the foundation for an energy policy on which our economy can thrive.

These investments, as the governor has pointed out, will have the added bonus of eliminating the need for Indian Point. Our aging nuclear facility remains a constant safety threat with a peak injury zone that includes New York City, the Hudson Valley, and beyond.

We have the opportunity to become the "Renewable Energy Technology Valley" and the leader in sustainable job creation. If we don't do this, someone else will.

Terry Gipson is the Democratic candidate for State Senate in the 43rd District.

Butterfield Project Issues

(from page 3)

factor, and "so, it does not apply." The code allows the HDRB to review "any improvement" — building — in the district, the memo further declared. The code likewise states that "insofar as possible, the proposed alteration shall retain exterior architectural features of the designated property which contribute to its historic character as seen from the street," as Zgolinski also noted. "We feel it's pretty obvious that demolition doesn't retain anything," he wrote. "Based on that criterion, we feel justified in denying the application."

Foley objected to Gaba's and Gallagher's intervention. "What this smacks of is the mayor and village attorney telling us how to vote on an application" — the request to demolish the old hospital, she said.

"We've never interceded for any other applicant," Trustee Francisco put in.

Gallagher and Gaba replied that the issue is not Butterfield per se but how the HDRB acts in any such case and whether it comports with village law.

Under the HDRB thus far, Gaba claimed, "it seems obvious that we're not following the process as written in the code."

"In deciding an application you have to follow the village code," Gallagher said. "You're not considering the code as it was written. Our job is to make sure our boards adhere to the code. We're not looking to have any special treatment of an applicant but to apply the code equally and properly."

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

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Community Nursery School

'I'd call us warm, friendly and welcoming; the tone is happy'

By Alison Rooney

The simply and perfectly named Community Nursery School and Learning Center has been going strong in the Philipstown community since its founding in 1968. As more women entered the workforce during that decade of changes, the need for a preschool became apparent to Community's founder, Marie Rohrberg. What started out as a pilot program took off from the first day, according to Community's current director, Rosemary Rodino, who has been at the welcoming premises located within the First Presbyterian Church on Academy Street in Cold Spring for 26 years now. Rodino says she still feels "that same excitement and challenge every morning when I walk through the door. Every class has its own uniqueness, so there's always something new."

What began as a 2 1/2-hour program three days a week has morphed into 3-hour-long sessions four days a week, though children can attend any number of the four days. The school year runs from September through June. At one point Community offered a separate afternoon session, but this has been discontinued.

When children — who range in age from 2 1/2 to 5 — enter each morning, it is called "receiving time," and all children have the freedom to roam between the two classrooms that constitute Community's space within the church. In those rooms they will find a multitude of activities: water play, sand tables, easel painting, geography, science, singing, coloring, cutting, ABCs and 123s, painting, exploring, baking, stories and more. If any particular activity shows signs of not working, "We're flexible," says Rodino, "we'll put it away and try it again another day." The children are divided into two age groups, the "threes" and the pre-K class.

Beyond all of these options, says Rodino, is a philosophy, and that is to respect childhood and nurture these young children. "This defines us and our role as teachers," she states, adding, "Our job is to give them the best possible preschool experience." Although kindergarten readiness is ever more important, with "kindergarten now more like first grade," according to Rodino, "if our sole purpose is just to prepare them for kindergarten we've missed part of what's important." Notes given to parents describe Community as striving to be "a place where children are encouraged to learn, play and socialize in an environment that understands how essential play is to learning and building social skills. There is quite

a unique and special balance between nurturing and teaching that occurs once your child walks through the doors of CNS, and it is a style that we as early childhood educators celebrate."

Rodino says that preschool education has changed so much over the past several years, but that "children have evolved with it; they're meeting more challenges."

The children venture outside each day, weather permitting. There is a small outdoor playground on the church grounds, and lots of walks are taken, as well as visits to places like Glynwood Farm. The community also comes to visit Community, sharing their talents. Among others, local children's book author Jean Marzollo stops by to read to the children, and "Farmer Curtis" of Homestead Farms visits from time to time.

As the school has now been open for over 40 years, multiple generations of Philipstownners have attended, with the comment, "A few years back my husband was your student," not as rare as it used to be. Many of the staff have stayed at Community for years, or, as Rodino puts it, "Wonderful women have come and gone, but the core remains the same. They all bring something special with them to Community. One of our teachers, Terry Scozzafava, was here for 16 years." Current teachers Debbie Pidala and Tricia Junjulas have worked there for 15 years each, and Jessica Valenti is now in her third year there.

Rodino herself moved to this area from Michigan in 1982. She was hired by Mrs. Rohrberg, worked a year, then left to have her own children (both of whom attended Community, naturally). At the urging of Mrs. Rohrberg she returned to Community after a few years, and took over as director in 1986. "It's given me an opportunity to meet so many wonderful families that have become part of my life as friends," she says.

The school has seen many sets of twins, and part of this year's crew is a set of boy triplets. The school has seen a rise in working moms through the years, although Rodino is quick to note that with their limited hours, they are not a daycare center, so the majority of moms are of the stay-at-home variety and see Community as giving their children social interaction and activities not possible at home.

The school, which has no religious affiliation, has nonetheless been welcomed by First Presbyterian since its inception. "We've enjoyed a great deal of support from them," says Rodino, adding, "We certainly have had the support of Rev. Leslie Mott [the current pastor] and so many



Community Nursery School Director Rosemary Rodino

Photo by A. Rooney

ministers before her, and of the church community too, even though the program itself is independent of the church."

Community welcomes visitors all year long; there is an open-door policy. Enrollment takes place whenever there are openings — there are currently a few — throughout the school year. Children need to be "self-sufficient" in the bathroom in order to attend. "Come in and see if we're a good fit for you and your child," says Rodino. Still, not everything

is immediately visible: "There are so many moments that make up part of our day that parents do get to see. Millions of moments turn into something special that we share with their children."

For more information, call Rodino on her cell, 845-661-0874, or leave a message on the church phone, 845-265-9151, and your call will be returned.

This article is the start of a series on each of Philipstown's preschool providers.

Castle to River Run

Sunday, October 7, 2012
10K, 5K & Kid's 1-mile Race
Philipstown Community Center, Garrison, NY



10K - 9am start 5K - 9:30am start
1 mile Kid's Race - 11:30am

To register: www.active.com
or call Philipstown Recreation Department, 845-424-4618
10K and 5K: \$35 (\$45 day of race)
Kid's Race: \$15 (\$20 day of race)




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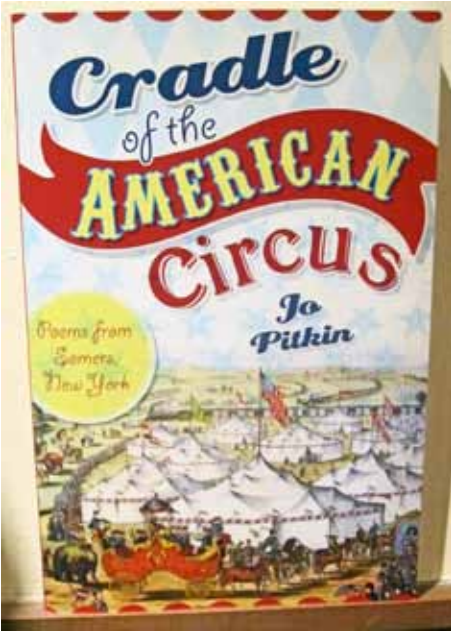
The Calendar

Jo Pitkin Uncovers Somers History as Menagerie Central

Author to read from new book at Butterfield Sept. 23

By Alison Rooney

Although it is but a stone’s throw away, geographically speaking, few in Philipstown are likely to know much about the almost outlandish history of the northern Westchester town of Somers. Philipstown poet Jo Pitkin didn’t know much more than the broad strokes despite having grown up there. She knew, as she says in the prologue to her new book, *Cradle of the American Circus*, that “an elephant loomed



large in Somers history. My childhood was threaded with tales about Old Bet, the town’s resident pachyderm. ... At school I cheered for the Tuskers ... an elephant was emblazoned on our shiny fire trucks.”

That much alone is fodder enough to pique the imagination, but what Pitkin discovered, after deciding to write a sequence of poems about her hometown’s unusual history, was that the 19th-century farmers and drovers of Somers were the progenitors of the traveling menagerie business in this country, importing and displaying large animals from Africa and other far-off precincts of the globe for the first time. Making use of Somers’ proximity to the ports of New York City, they used the coach roads and the large swathes of farmlands to their advantage and coupled this with their expertise in handling farm animals to create a fantastical and lucrative new enterprise.

Working over an extensive period of time, Pitkin wound up “pulling a thread and going in another direction. ... I let the material lead me.” Initially, old-fashioned investigation and research began through Pitkin’s local library system (at that time she was living in Massachusetts). In that pre-Internet universe, her thirst for more details led her back to her hometown, to the Somers Historical Society archives stored at the aptly named Elephant

Hotel. “I opened old metal filing cabinets crammed with fascinating material: hotel receipts, bills of sale, letters home, passports. It appeared that no one had looked in these files for a long, long time.” Stimulated by what she found, she further immersed herself in literature relating to small-town American life, letting it shape the way she would tell her story, eventually settling on a mix of poems and prose, the prose giving a context to the poems, as well as giving her a foundation for the imaginative leap she would then give to interpreting this slice of history and its players.

The prose portions of the book began as notes that Pitkin originally envisioned forming a lengthy set of footnotes to the poems. As the notes kept increasing, Pitkin decided to move them forward and to incorporate them into the book itself. Illustrations were added at the suggestion of the publisher to complete the now three-pronged approach.

Humans have been fascinated by

displays of exotic animals as far back as ancient Rome, where the beasts were paraded around arenas. The details on the arrival of the first elephant in this country are slightly murky, but it is an either/or that one was brought from India in 1796 by a sea captain, or that the first import came from Africa, via London, purchased at an auction in the early 1800s by the brother of Somers’ Hachaliah Bailey and shipped across the Atlantic, then up the Hudson, where it was unloaded at Ossining and walked to Somers. Conjecture about

(Continued on page 11)



Author Jo Pitkin, pictured in the garden outside Butterfield Library

Photo by A. Rooney

Being Elmo is the Depot Docs Season Opener

Depot Docs kicks off its seventh season on Friday, Sept. 28 with the Sundance award-winning film, *Being Elmo*. Beloved by children of all ages around the world, Elmo is an international icon. Few people know his creator, Kevin Clash, who dreamed of working with his idol, master puppeteer Jim Henson. Displaying his creativity and talent at a young age, Kevin ultimately found a home on Sesame Street.

Narrated by Whoopi Goldberg, this documentary includes rare archival footage, interviews with Frank Oz, Rosie O’Donnell, Cheryl Henson, Joan Ganz Cooney and others and offers a behind-the-scenes look at Sesame Street and the Jim Henson Workshop.

Being Elmo will be shown at 7:30 p.m., at the Depot Theatre, Garrison’s Landing. There will be a Q & A afterwards with the director, Constance Marks, followed by a reception. Tickets cost \$20, and reservations are advised as the screenings frequently sell out. Reservations can be made online through brownpapertickets.com or by calling the theatre at 845-424-3900.



Kevin Clash, the subject of *Being Elmo*, the next offering from Depot Docs

Photo courtesy of Depot Docs

GUARDING the KAYAKS

❖ by Tara ❖



One of the many appealing things about Cold Spring is that there is always something different to encounter if you keep your eyes open as I do. So it was last week when I went for my early morning walk at Dockside Park. The meadow was alive with people. With them on the grass were multi-colored canoes which the boss said were kayaks that people use to paddle on the Hudson.

I examined the vessels closely and gave them a good sniff before sitting down to guard them. We made inquiries and discovered that the kayaks were from the Hudson Valley Outfitters, the store on Main Street run by Teri Barr. Having spent years around the retail business at the Country Goose I am an expert on the subject and have always admired Teri for launching an original business in the village, filling a niche that nobody else had thought of.



We also discovered that the youngsters congregating around the kayaks were seniors from Haldane who were about to set off on a mini adventure. About 40 seniors would leave the village to hike Bull Hill to Stony Point while another 40 would paddle up the river to meet them. At the beach, they would switch places. The paddlers would turn over their kayaks to the walkers and set off on the trail back to the village on foot. Meanwhile, the walkers would paddle to Dockside. Neat, n'est ce pas?

I applaud whoever had the idea. It's healthy, lots of fresh air, exercise and the kids could enjoy views that are unavailable to those on land. I, of course, often swim in the river so those views have long been known to moi. We also learned that the Haldane principal, Mr Alm, took part in the paddling and walking, thus setting a splendid example for the students.

None of this is more splendid than the Country Goose, where the boss is happy to explain to customers the benefits of her latest import from Sweden, Lanolin-Agg-Trav, an egg-white care soap. Use this soap in the prescribed manner and you will discover the secret to the fresh and healthy skin enjoyed by Swedes.



115 Main Street ❖ Cold Spring NY
845-265-2122 ❖ www.hIGHLandbaskets.com

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 21

Kids & Community

Children Read to Dogs

3:30 – 5 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org
Call to register.

Family Camp-Out

6 P.M. HUDSON HIGHLANDS NATURE MUSEUM
OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 | hnnaturemuseum.org
Pre-paid registration required.

Parent-Child Preschool on the Farm

10 A.M. & 1:30 P.M. COMMON GROUND FARM
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
845-231-4424 | commongroundfarm.org
Drop-in: \$10 per session.

Art & Design

PHOTOcentric 2012 Exhibit

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

Farm Project Sculpture Exhibit

DAWN – DUSK, SAUNDERS FARM
853 Old Albany Post Road, Garrison
845-528-1797 | collaborativeconcepts.org

GAC Current Sculpture Exhibition

9:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Manitoga Tour

11 A.M. – NOON RUSSEL WRIGHT DESIGN CENTER
584 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3812 | russelwrightcenter.org
Admission: \$15/adult; \$13/seniors; \$5/child under 12 | Reservations required. Register online at brownpapertickets.com.

Theater & Film

The Master (Film)

5:10 & 8:15 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
19 Front St., Newburgh
845-561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.com

Sleepwalk With Me (Film)

7:30 – 9:30 P.M. PARAMOUNT CENTER FOR THE ARTS
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-2333 | paramountcenter.org
Tickets: \$7 - \$9

County Players' Forever Plaid (Theater)

8 – 10:30 P.M. FALLS THEATRE
2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls
845-298-1491 | countypayers.org
Call for tickets.

The Gin Game (Theater)

8 – 10 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE
445 Main St., Beacon
845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

Music

The Bar Spies

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

Live Music

8 – 10 P.M. SILVER SPOON CAFÉ
124 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2525 | silverspooncoldspring.com

Meetings & Lectures

Free Computer Help

2 – 3 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

North Highlands Fire Department District Workshop Meeting

5:30 – 7:30 P.M. NORTH HIGHLANDS FIRE HOUSE
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring
845-265-7285 | nhfd21.org

Beginner AA Meeting

8 – 9 P.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Kids & Community

Putnam County Historical Society Fundraising Gala

845-265-4010 | pchsfsm.org | Call for details.

Farmers' Market

8:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison | csfarmmarket.org

Food Pantry

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

Old Rhinebeck Air Show: Antique Biplane Fly-In

10 A.M. – 5 P.M. OLD RHINEBECK AERODOME
9 Norton Road, Red Hook
845-752-3200 | oldrhinebeck.org | Weekend admission: \$5 - \$20; children 5 and under free.

Hudson Valley Irish Fest

RIVERFRONT, PEEKSKILL
hudsonvalleyirishfest.com

New York Renaissance Faire

10 A.M. – 7 P.M. 600 ROUTE 17A, TUXEDO
845-351-5171 | renfair.com/ny
Tickets: Adults: \$22; Children (5-12): \$11

Bicentennial Harvest Dance

6 – 10 P.M. THUNDER RIDGE SKI AREA
Route 22, Patterson
Sponsored by the Hudson Valley Trust.

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Haldane v. Croton Girls' Soccer

11 A.M. – 1 P.M. ST. BASIL'S ACADEMY FIELD, GARRISON
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Haldane v. Riverdale Football

1:30 – 3:30 P.M. HALDANE SCHOOL
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254

WWE Raw World Tour

7:30 – 10 P.M. WESTCHESTER COUNTY CENTER
198 Central Ave., White Plains
914-995-4050 | wmconcerts.com
Tickets from \$35

Hudson River Valley Ramble: Boscobel House & Gardens Woodland Trails

9:30 – 11:30 A.M. BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Hudson River Valley Ramble: Hike the Greenway Trail

NOON – 2 P.M. CARNWATH FARM
Wheeler Hill Road, Wappingers Falls
518-473-3835 | hudsonrivervalleyramble.com

Hudson Highlands Nature Museum

Honey Festival

10 A.M. – 4 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
25 Boulevard, Cornwall
845-534-7781 | hnnaturemuseum.org

Bannerman Island Tour

1:30 – 4:10 P.M. BEACON LANDING
800-979-3370 | prideofthehudson.com
Cost: \$130/adult; \$25/child 11 and under

Art & Design

PHOTOcentric 2012 Exhibit

10 A.M. – 5 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
See details under Friday.

Farm Project Sculpture Exhibit

DAWN – DUSK, SAUNDERS FARM
2 p.m. Arts Day for Dance and Theater
See details under Friday.

Manitoga Tour

11 A.M. & 1:30 P.M. RUSSEL WRIGHT DESIGN CENTER
See details under Friday.

GAC Current Sculpture Exhibition/Free Admission Saturday

9:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL
See details under Friday.

Light & Landscape Exhibition Beekeeper Tour

NOON, 1 P.M. & 2 P.M. STORM KING ART CENTER
1 Museum Road, New Windsor
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Dia Public Tour

1 – 2 P.M. DIA:BEACON
3 Beekman St., Beacon
845-440-0100 | diabeacon.org
Free with admission.

Lecture: Beatrice Gross on Sol LeWitt

3 – 4 P.M. STORM KING ART CENTER
1 Museum Road, New Windsor
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Landscape Show: like it or not Opening Reception

6 – 9 P.M. MAD DOOLEY GALLERY
197 Main St., Beacon

Theater & Film

The Master (Film)

2 P.M., 5:10 P.M. & 8:15 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

Symbiopsychotaxiplasm Take One (Film)

6:30 – 10 p.m. Beahive Beacon
291 Main St., Beacon
845-765-1890 | beaconbeahive.com
Admission: \$20. Proceeds benefit Beacon Independent Film Festival and the Beacon Arts & Education Foundation.

Silent Film Series: A Cottage in Dartmoor

7 – 9 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Monty Python and the Holy Grail (Film)

7:30 – 9:30 P.M. PARAMOUNT CENTER FOR THE ARTS
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-2333 | paramountcenter.org
Tickets: \$7 - \$9

The Dork Knight (Theater)

8 – 10 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE
10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org
Order tickets at brownpapertickets.com

County Players' Forever Plaid (Theater)

8 – 10:30 P.M. FALLS THEATRE
See details under Friday.

The Gin Game (Theater)

8 – 10 P.M. THE BEACON THEATRE
See details under Friday.

Music

Spencer Bohren

7:30 – 9:30 P.M.
521 Kennicut Hill Road, Mahopac
visitputnam.org

Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra:
The Magic Carpet

7:30 – 9:30 P.M. MT. SAINT MARY COLLEGE
AQUINAS HALL
333 Powell Ave., Newburgh
845-913-7157 | newburghsymphony.org
Tickets: \$10-\$25; children under 7 free

September Guitars with Kenny Wessel Trio

8 P.M. SILVER SPOON CAFÉ
124 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2525 | silverspooncoldspring.com

Meetings & Lectures

Beacon4Obama Meeting

10 A.M. – NOON BEAHIVE BEACON
291 Main St., Beacon
845-765-1890 | beaconbeahive.com

Introduction to Buddhism

NOON – 1:30 P.M. GRAYMOOR SPIRITUAL
LIFE CENTER
1350 Route 9, Garrison
914-522-9044

Free Computer Help

2 – 3 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
See details under Friday.

Strange Medicine: Dental and Medical
Practices in the Age of Washington

1 & 2 P.M. WASHINGTON’S HEADQUARTERS
84 Liberty St., Newburgh
845-562-1195 | nysparks.com

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Kids & Community

Pancake Breakfast

8 A.M. - 12 P.M. NORTH HIGHLANDS FIREHOUSE
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring
845-265-9595 | nhfd21.org | Cost: \$8,
\$5/children 4-10, children 3 and under free

Therapeutic Equestrian Center Benefit

4 – 7 P.M. THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTER
115 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring
845-265-3409 | myfeettakewings.org
Call to RSVP. Tickets: \$125/person.

Active Aging Week: John Arrucci Sextet

2 - 5 P.M. MAHOPAC PUBLIC LIBRARY
668 Route 6, Mahopac
914-764-3014 | theboxwood.org/events

New York Renaissance Faire

10 A.M. – 7 P.M. 600 ROUTE 17A, TUXEDO
See details under Saturday.

Family Tour

1 – 2 P.M. STORM KING ART CENTER
1 Museum Road, New Windsor
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Depot Theatre Beggar’s Opera Calls for Singers



interested should contact Artistic Director Nancy Swann at nancyswann@aol.com, or Stage Manager Andre Herzegovitch at andreherz@optonline.net.

The Depot Theatre is looking for men and women of all vocal ranges to fill two to four ensemble roles in their production of *The Beggar’s Opera*. There will be limited rehearsals before Oct. 23. Those

Beacon Flea Market

8 A.M. – 3 P.M. HENRY STREET PARKING LOT
6 Henry St., Beacon
845-202-0094 | beaconflea.blogspot.com

Patterson Flea Market

8 A.M. – 4 P.M.
3161 Route 22, Patterson
845-265-4414 | pattersonfleamarket.com

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Castle-to-Castle Hike

2 – 5 P.M. CAT ROCK, GARRISON
845-424-3358 | hhlit.org | Cost: \$10/adult; \$5/
child under 12 | Call to register.

Public Canoe Trip

6 – 8 P.M. CONSTITUTION MARSH CENTER,
GARRISON
845-265-2601 | constitutionmarsh.org

Putnam Hospital Center Reservoir Classic
5-Mile Road Race & 2-Mile Fun Run

8 A.M. – NOON PUTNAM HOSPITAL CENTER
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel | 945-279-4773

McArdle Fund 5K Family Run/Walk

9 A.M. – NOON
39 Seminary Hill Road, Carmel
andrewmcardle.org | Registration: \$25 online at
racewire.com or \$35 day of.

Hudson River Valley Ramble: Mount
Beacon Fire Tower Hike

10 A.M. – 1 P.M. CORNER OF ROUTE 9D &
HOWLAND AVENUE, BEACON
914-819-8792

Hudson River Valley Ramble: Hike the
Greenway Trail

1 – 3 P.M. CARNWATH FARM
See details under Saturday.

Yoga Class & Kayak Tour with Lauri Nemetz

11 A.M. HUDSON VALLEY OUTFITTERS
63 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-0221 | hudsonvalleyoutfitters.com
Call for reservations. Cost: \$110

Bannerman Island Tour

1:30 – 4:10 P.M. BEACON LANDING
See details under Saturday.

Nature Walk at Storm King Art Center

1 MUSEUM ROAD, NEW WINDSOR
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Art & Design

Farm Project Sculpture Exhibit

DAWN – DUSK, SAUNDERS FARM
See details under Friday.

GAC Current Sculpture Exhibition

9:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL
See details under Friday.

PHOTOcentric 2012 Exhibit

10 A.M. – 5 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
See details under Friday.

Manitoga Tour

11 A.M. & 1:30 P.M. RUSSEL WRIGHT DESIGN
CENTER
See details under Friday.

Theater & Film

Move to Move (Ballet)

1 – 3 P.M. PARAMOUNT CENTER FOR THE ARTS
1008 Brown St., Peekskill | 914-739-2333 |
paramountcenter.org | Tickets: \$16-\$20

The Master (Film)

1 p.m., 4:10 p.m. & 7:15 p.m. Downing Film Center
See details under Friday.

The Gin Game (Theater)

3 – 5 p.m. The Beacon Theatre
See details under Friday.

Music

Harp & Flute Concert

4 – 5:30 P.M. CHAPEL RESTORATION
45 Market St., Cold Spring
845-265-5537 | chapelrestoration.com

Toby Keith

7 – 9:30 P.M. EISENHOWER HALL THEATRE
655 Ruger Road, West Point
845-938-4159 | ikehall.com

Live Music

SILVER SPOON CAFÉ | See details under Friday.

West Point Band Chamber Recital

3 P.M. EGNER HALL-BUILDING 685
West Point, New York
845-938-2617 | westpointband.com

Walden Chamber Players

4 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-297-9243 | howlandmusic.org
Cost: \$30/adult; \$10/student

Meetings & Lectures

Cradle of the American Circus Book Signing
& Reading

3 – 5 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Strange Medicine: Dental and Medical
Practices in the Age of Washington

1 & 2 P.M. WASHINGTON’S HEADQUARTERS
See details under Saturday.

Religious Services

Our Lady of Loretto

7:30, 9, & 11:45 A.M. 24 FAIR ST., COLD SPRING
845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church

8 & 10:30 A.M. 1 CHESTNUT ST., COLD SPRING
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

St. Philip’s Episcopal Church

8 & 10:30 A.M. 1101 ROUTE 9D, GARRISON
845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

St. Basil’s Academy Greek Orthodox Chapel

8:30 A.M. ROUTE 9D, GARRISON
845-424-3500 | saintbasilacademy.org

Buddhist Meditation

9 – 11 A.M. CHUANG YEN MONASTERY
2020 Route 301, Carmel
845-228-4288 | baus.org

First Presbyterian Church

10:30 A.M. 10 ACADEMY ST., COLD SPRING
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

St. Joseph’s Chapel

10:15 A.M. 74 UPPER STATION ROAD, GARRISON
845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

Church on the Hill

10:30 A.M. 245 MAIN ST., COLD SPRING
845-265-2022 | coldspringchurchonthehill.org

United Methodist Church

11 A.M. 216 MAIN ST., COLD SPRING
845-265-3365

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Kids & Community

Active Aging Week

Various special events
914-764-3014 | theboxwood.org/events

Bridge Club

9 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-4988 |
howlandculturalcenter.org | Fee: \$3

Little Bookworms

10 – 11 A.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org
Call to register. Ages 2 ½ to 5 years.

(Continued on page 10)



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3-Time Winner: Best of Hudson Valley Magazine

The Calendar (from page 9)

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Haldane v. Henry Hudson Boys' Soccer

4:30 – 6:30 P.M. HALDANE SCHOOL
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Youth Basketball Skills & Drills

6:15 – 7:15 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN
RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Dr., Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com
For grades 6-8. Cost: \$1

Men's Basketball

7:30 – 9:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN
RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Dr., Garrison | 845-424-4618
philipstownrecreation.com | Cost: \$3. Ages 18
and older. Philipstown residents only.

Art & Design

Farm Project Sculpture Exhibit

DAWN – DUSK, SAUNDERS FARM
See details under Friday.

GAC Current Sculpture Exhibition

9:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL
See details under Friday.

Theater & Film

The Master (Film)

1 P.M., 4:10 P.M. & 7:15 P.M. DOWNING
FILM CENTER | See details under Friday.

Music

Community Chorus

7 – 9 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Jazz Open Jam Session

8 – 11 P.M. TURNING POINT MUSIC CAFÉ
468 Piermont Ave., Piermont | 845-359-1089 |
turningpointcafe.com | Admission: \$5

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Kids & Community

Active Aging Week: Armstrong Preserve Forest Walk

10 - 11:30 A.M. POUND RIDGE LAND CONSERVANCY
1361 Old Post Road, Pound Ridge
914-764-3014 | theboxwood.org/events

Highland Knitters

NOON – 1 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Furry Friends Reading Buddies

3:30 – 4:30 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Magic Tree House Book Club

3:30 – 4:30 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Kids Craft Hour

4 – 5 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Art & Design

Farm Project Sculpture Exhibit

DAWN – DUSK, SAUNDERS FARM
See details under Friday.

PHOTOcentric 2012 Exhibit

10 A.M. – 5 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
See details under Friday.

Theater & Film

The Master (Film)

7:30 – 9:30 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

Music

Open Mic

7:30 – 9:30 P.M. BANK SQUARE COFFEEHOUSE
129 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7165 | banksquarecoffeehouse.com

Meetings & Lectures

Cold Spring Board of Trustees Workshop

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

Beacon Historical Society

7 – 9 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Digital Salon

7- 9:30 P.M. BEAHIVE BEACON
291 Main St., Beacon
845-765-1890 | beaconbeahive.com

Women's AA Meeting

7:30 P.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Religious Services

Philipstown Reform Synagogue

Kol Nidre Services
8 – 9:30 P.M. ST. MARY'S CHURCH
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-8011 | philipstownreformsynagogue.org

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Kids & Community

Active Aging Week

Various special events.
914-764-3014 | theboxwood.org/events

Music & Movement for Toddlers

10:15 – 11 A.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Pre-school Story Hour

1:30 – 2:30 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Mah Jongg Open Play

10 A.M. – 1 P.M. VFW HALL
Kemble Street, Cold Spring
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Art & Design

PHOTOcentric 2012 Exhibit

10 A.M. – 5 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
See details under Friday.

Farm Project Sculpture Exhibit

DAWN – DUSK, SAUNDERS FARM
See details under Friday.

GAC Current Sculpture Exhibition

9:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL
See details under Friday.

Theater & Film

The Master (Film)

7:30 -9:30 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

Music

Open Mic Night

8 – 11 P.M. WHISTLING WILLIE'S
184 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2012 | whistlingwillies.com

Meetings & Lectures

Beacon4Obama Meeting

10 A.M. – NOON BEAHIVE BEACON
291 Main St., Beacon
845-765-1890 | beaconbeahive.com

Bible Study

7 – 8 P.M. CHURCH ON THE HILL
245 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2022 | coldspringchurchonthehill.org

Life Support Group

7:30 – 9 P.M. ST. PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1101 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3571 | stphilipshighlands.org

Philipstown Town Board Workshop

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

(Continued on page 11)

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



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The Calendar *(from page 10)*

Religious Services

Philipstown Reform Synagogue Yom Kippur Morning Services

10 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. ST. MARY’S CHURCH
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-8011 | philipstownreformsynagogue.org

Philipstown Reform Synagogue Yom Kippur Afternoon Services

4:30 – 7 P.M. ST. MARY’S CHURCH
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-8011 | philipstownreformsynagogue.org

Philipstown Reform Synagogue Havdalah & Breakfast

7 P.M. ST. MARY’S CHURCH
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-8011 | philipstownreformsynagogue.org

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Kids & Community

Bouncing Babies

10:30 – 11:30 A.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Active Aging Week:

In Stitches Knitting Group

6:30 – 8 P.M. REED MEMORIAL LIBRARY
1733 Route 6, Carmel
914-764-3014 | theboxwood.org/events

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Haldane v. Putnam Valley Boys’ Soccer

4:30 – 6:30 P.M. HALDANE SCHOOL
15 Craigsides Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Meditation Class

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

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball

7:30 – 9:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN
RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison | 845-424-4618
philipstownrecreation.com | Cost: \$3/night. Ages
18 and older. Philipstown residents only.

Art & Design

PHOTOcentric 2012 Exhibit

10 A.M. – 5 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
See details under Friday.

Farm Project Sculpture Exhibit

DAWN – DUSK, SAUNDERS FARM
See details under Friday.

GAC Current Sculpture Exhibition

9:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL
See details under Friday.

Theater & Film

Sleepwalk With Me (Film)

7:30 – 9:30 P.M. PARAMOUNT CENTER
FOR THE ARTS
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-2333 | paramountcenter.org
Tickets: \$7 - \$9

The Master (Film)

2 P.M. & 7:30 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
See details under Friday.

Meetings & Lectures

Emergency Preparation Seminar

6:30 – 9 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

A Fond Look Back at the ‘Old Put’

7 P.M. MAHOPAC PUBLIC LIBRARY
668 Route 6, Mahopac
845-628-2009

Jo Pitkin Uncovers Somers History

(from page 7)

the reasons for the purchase included the ability of the elephant to help in clearing farmland, and, more simply, that the intention was always to display the animal.

Whatever the beginnings, the first few decades of the 1800s saw the rapid rise in popularity of traveling menageries — differentiated from the raffish circuses, which were considered a bit shady and controversial, with their acrobats, clowns and scantily-clad women. The menageries, traveling separately, had no such connotations and were perceived as scientific. Initially, says Pitkin, the animals were just displayed and didn’t perform any tricks, but as things evolved, the showmanship aspect came more into play, and eventually, by the mid-19th century, the menageries and circuses were joined.

It was the community of farmers and drovers of Somers, led originally by Bailey, that transformed the menagerie business. Many were astute businessmen, and seeing the curiosity engendered by glimpses of these creatures, they realized there was a large touring market. At one point, Pitkin says, 130 men, largely from northern Westchester and eastern Putnam, formed a consortium and basically held a monopoly on the business. It was the showmen’s entrepreneurial earnings that essentially built Somers. As time went on, and audiences grew bored with the same old animals, new ones were imported and shown. Pitkin says that it is important to remember that in this pre-photography era, people had no preconceived realistic idea of what these

animals looked like, relying on the written word and posters of the day, which often depicted the scale incorrectly, with tiny humans dwarfed by gigantic lions and the like. Thus, fascination ran high.

With all of this as a jumping off point, Pitkin grew curious, and her questions, which fed her poems, drove her further in research. Frustrated by how little she could find, in particular relating to how people felt about it all, she mused on many perplexing things: How were these animals shipped, and how were the cages constructed? How did they maintain their diets in this wildly different climate? With tales of dangerous animals stored in barns, and even a rhinoceros kept in a creek near a home, how did the wives and families of the showmen feel about all this — were they fearful? Did they form their own relationships with the animals?

This fertile ground gave rise to a variety of perspectives for the poems — one is written from the animal’s point on view, another takes the form of an inventory list, while many project the thoughts of the showmen. Rather than seeking to write a comprehensive history in poetic form, Pitkin simply wrote about what she connected to most, spurred on by, in some cases, firsts associated with Somers: they were the first to import giraffes, to design portable circus tents ... the list goes on.

Pitkin writes “pretty much everyday.” Always interested in writing, she turned towards poetry in high school and eventually earned an MFA in poetry from the

Village Board, Residents Glimpse New Streetscape

Main Street improvement project gets underway

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Cold Spring last week caught a glimpse of Main Street’s future appearance when consultants on a \$1 million street-improvement project unveiled plans for improved sidewalks, curbs, and other road-related infrastructure at the village’s heart.

On the long-term agenda since 2005, when the U.S. Congress approved the bulk of the funding (with a smaller share coming from New York State and a bit from the village), the project officially got underway at a forum preceding the Village Board’s formal monthly meeting on Wednesday (Sept. 12). The total of \$1,050,000 breaks down into two shares: \$800,000 for the overall street and sidewalk upgrade and \$250,000 for lighting and further sidewalk-related fixes.

Two representatives from CHA, an Albany-based consulting firm, presented basic concepts and then answered questions as members of the board and public gathered around aerial photographs of Main Street. In essence, the project covers the blocks between Route 9D (Morris Avenue-Chestnut Street) and the railroad tracks, with some spill-over work on adjacent streets, especially Furnace. Nonetheless, Mountain Avenue repairs also are involved. The project is intended to address:

- Handicapped accessibility
- Safety
- Infrastructure needs
- Aesthetic concerns

“I think the first priority is handicapped accessibility,” Mayor Seth Gallagher said in opening the discussion.

“This is actually required by law,” added Scott Lewendon, a CHA project manager. Enacted in 1990, the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) bans

discrimination against the physically handicapped, including a denial of access to public services. Cold Spring’s sidewalks currently lack the curb cuts that allow wheelchairs to leave a sidewalk, cross a side street, and re-enter the sidewalk.

Safety improvements include such items as smoother sidewalks to minimize heaving and breakage of the concrete and new crosswalks at intersections, while fundamental infrastructure elements include road repairs, better curb alignments and drainage, and more. Tree planting and aesthetic improvements are also anticipated.

Joseph F. Cimino, CHA vice president, cautioned that the effort is “an enhancement project. There are some limitations given the scope of this project, in that it’s not a full reconstruction,” which would cost \$5 million or more, he said. Nonetheless, according to Cimino, Furnace Street, one of the village’s original roads leading to the West Point Foundry, is slated for a “full-depth reconstruction,” including work to deal with problems of drainage.

Writers’ Workshop at the University of Iowa. A long career in publishing has supported her creative life as a poet. After working as an editor at Houghton Mifflin for years, she now works freelance from home, largely on textbooks, with clients all over the country. Pitkin’s “day job” writing is factual, with stipulations for number of lines and exact specifications. Writing poetry, on the other hand, relaxes her, as “it’s two different parts of the brain,” she says. With no deadlines and with the end product less scrutinized by a hierarchy of editors, there is inherent freedom.

In the mid-1990s, after living elsewhere, Pitkin decided to return to live near where she grew up. Remembering Cold Spring from visits when she was a teenager, she “looked around and ended up here.” She has been involved in many things literary and local, starting up a series of readings at Butterfield in 2002, bringing writers from both sides of the county together, and eventually bringing nationally known writers in as well. (For years she ran a similar group in Massachusetts.) Her previous published work includes *The Measure and Commonplace Invasions*, and her individual poems have garnered awards and been included in many anthologies, including *Riverine: An Anthology of Hudson Valley Writers*.

Pitkin will read from *Cradle of the American Circus* this Sunday, Sept. 23 at 3 p.m. at Butterfield Library. Copies of the book will be available for signing, and the program is free of charge.

Mountain Avenue likewise is scheduled to receive more detailed attention.

Although the project deals with lighting improvements, Lewendon said it would not involve attempts to bury electrical and other utility lines, an idea often suggested in the village and raised at the forum by audience members. “This is basically out of the question” financially, he said. Lewendon cited costs not only to utility companies but to individual property owners, who pay for the lines running from their homes or stores to the common wires along the street. Cost constraints also decrease the chance of using porous materials to help handle water runoff, he said, responding to another question.

If all goes well with necessary higher-government approvals for the plans and other prerequisites, construction could begin next summer, Cimino said.

Meanwhile, Main Street will remain “as is.” Even with deficiencies, it has a lot going for it, Lewendon assured the Village Board and public: “You have a beautiful street, a wonderful street.”

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Active Aging Week Invites Putnam, Westchester Senior Citizens

Senior citizens in Putnam County and Upper Westchester get a chance to explore cultural, health and nature events later this month during Active Aging Week.

Sponsored by The Boxwood Alliance, a coalition of those who work with older residents, the week runs from Sunday, Sept. 23 through Saturday, Sept. 29. Most events will occur in upper Westchester, with a few in Carmel and Mahopac in Putnam County. A small sampling includes:

Sunday, Sept. 23, 2 - 5 p.m., concert at the Mahopac Public Library, 668 Route 6, with the John Arrucci Sextet performing original compositions influenced by jazz, classical, and world music.

Tuesday, Sept. 25, 10 - 11:30 a.m., approximately 1-mile, non-strenuous forest walk in the Armstrong Preserve, with the Pound Ridge Land Conservancy, 1361 Old Post Rd., Pound Ridge.

Thursday, Sept. 27, 6:30 - 8 p.m., In Stitches Knitting Group, for beginner and experienced knitters and crocheters alike, meeting at the Reed Memorial Library, 1733 Route 6, Carmel.

Friday, Sept. 28, 10:30-11:45 a.m., special screening of the film documentary *The Age of Champions*, at the Pound Ridge Library, 271 Westchester Ave., Pound Ridge. Produced by the International Council for Active Aging, the movie tells the story of a group of older competitive athletes — a 100-year-old tennis champion, 86-year-old pole vaulter, octogenarian swimmers, and team of “basketball grandmothers.”

More information on individual events and on the week is available from

The Boxwood Alliance at 914-764-3014 or at its website: www.theboxwoodalliance.org. The alliance encourages other agencies and organizations that wish to be included to call the above number or send an email: info@theboxwood.org.

Hudson Designated National Water Trail

The U.S. Department of the Interior has designated the Hudson River Greenway Water Trail as a National Water Trail.

The Greenway announced the new honor on Friday (Sept. 7) at a news conference in Kingston. Created to provide access to the river at least every 10 miles on both shores and overnight accommodation sites every 15 miles (or less), the Greenway Trail stretches from the Adirondack Mountains to Manhattan.

A New York state-sponsored program established in 1991, the Greenway program now includes 271 of the 324 eligible municipalities within the Greenway area. Communities join voluntarily. The Greenway encourages them to develop initiatives related to natural and cultural resource protection; regional and local planning; economic development; public access to the Hudson River, as well as to other regional and local resources, and heritage and environmental education. It provides technical assistance and small grants for planning, trails, and similar projects. So far, more than 800 miles of trail have become part of the Hudson River Greenway Trail System, including 96 sites on the water trail. The Town of Philipstown became a Greenway member in 2002.

According to the Interior Department, the federal government estab-

lished the National Water Trails system to protect and restore the nation’s rivers, shorelines, and waterways, and to conserve natural areas along waterways and increase access to outdoor recreation on shorelines and waterways.

Poughkeepsie Day School Enrichment Classes Open to Community

Poughkeepsie Day School’s Fall 2012 Enrichment Program offers students of all ages opportunities to learn new skills and have fun while exploring current or emerging interests. This fall, children in kindergarten through grade 12 from throughout the Hudson Valley are welcome to enroll; the program is not limited to Poughkeepsie Day School families.

Among the many offerings for students are: First Lego League (FLL) Robotics, Stop-Motion Animation, Beginner Chinese Conversation, Drama, Art, Graphic Design, International and Middle Eastern Dance, Yoga, Juggling, and the Wayfinder Experience.

The registration deadline is Sept. 21, and classes begin Sept. 24. For more information and to sign up, visit: poughkeepsieday.org/enrichment.

Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Program at Desmond-Fish

September is National Disaster Preparedness Month. You can learn more about this important topic at the program *Are You Ready? Emergency and Disaster Preparedness: What You Need to Know*, at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison

on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 6:30 p.m.

It will be presented by Madeleine De-Nitto of Stressed, Pressed, Messed professional organizing services. This free program deals with organizing strategies to become prepared for various emergencies, including medical illnesses or injuries, natural disasters, vehicle accidents, inclement weather, etc. Learn what important items to keep stored in specially designated areas for emergencies and what documents are most important to have in your possession.

For more information, go to DesmondFishLibrary.org or call 845-424-3020.

Butterfield Library Sends Team to 2012 Regional Battle of The Books

On Saturday, Sept. 8th, 11 students from Haldane Middle School traveled north to Arlington High School in LaGrange, N.Y. to compete in the eighth annual Battle of the Books competition against 24 libraries from the Mid-Hudson Library System.

“Julia’s Been Matched,” as the Butterfield Library’s team was called, was made up of sixth- and seventh-graders and included Riley Bissinger, Aidan Cimino, Meghan Ferri, Victor (V.J.) Fina, Lydia Garrett-Metz, Emily McDermott, Mae McGrath, Nicole Mitchell, Reva Sandlund, Michael Scicluna and Olivia Sterling. The team fought hard in two rounds of trivia battles but did not emerge victorious. This year’s competition was won by Adriance Library in Poughkeepsie with Red Hook and Howland Library (Beacon) taking second and third place respectively.

(Continued on next page)

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

(from page 12)



Some members of the Butterfield's Battle of the Books team, fingers on the buzzers. Photo courtesy of Butterfield Library

The Battle of the Books is a national summer reading program for middle-school students that requires participants to read eight books during the spring and summer and then compete in trivia battles based on the titles. The program aims to introduce children to books and authors they might not otherwise encounter and to allow students to experience good sportsmanship and friendly competition.

The 2012 titles included *Dairy Queen* by Catherine Gilbert Murdock; *Found* by Margaret Peterson Haddix; *The Great Wide Sea* by M.H. Herlong; *Heist Society* by Ally Carter; *The Magician's Nephew* by C.S. Lewis; *Matched* by Ally Condie; *Moon Over Manifest* by Claire Vanderpool; and *The Watsons Go to Birmingham 1963* by Christopher Paul Curtis.

Butterfield's team met weekly since February to read, discuss and quiz themselves with practice questions based on the books. Through a generous gift from the Friends of the Butterfield Library, the library was able to purchase a buzzer system similar to the ones used in the regional battle. (The Friends also subsidized many of the program expenses.) "Often, it comes down to who can buzz in the fastest, so it is necessary to practice with the buzzer system," says Maureen McGrath, who was co-coach with Johanna Reinhardt. The team also participated in several practice battles with Patterson, Kent, Beacon, and East Fishkill libraries during July and August.

The members of "Julia's Been Matched" were unquestionably disappointed that they didn't place in the regional battle but showed maturity and courage throughout the competition against approximately 200 other students. Jennifer Sandlund, mother of Reva, commented, "I especially think the camaraderie and joint love of books was inspiring to Reva." Indeed, Mike Nyerges, executive director of the Mid-Hudson Library System, captured the spirit of the day when he told the competitors that they were all winners because they spent the summer reading!

Reviews by the team members of the 2012 titles appear on *Philipstown.info* — see the last one below — and these eight books, as well as titles from previous

years, can be found to check out on the Butterfield Library's Battle of the Books shelf.

Dairy Queen

A Battle of the Books Review
By Olivia Sterling

Dairy Queen by Catherine Gilbert Murdock, is an intriguing novel about D.J. Schwenk, a 15-year-old girl who lives in the farmlands of Wisconsin. The exciting aspects of football were so perfectly spun into the story that I refused to put the book down. This book is not just for football fans — everyone can enjoy the humorous aspects.

The first-person narration adds wit and humor to an amazing tale that keeps you up all night reading. This book takes you through the ups and downs of an emotional roller coaster of first loves, family and, of course, football.

I would definitely refer this book to any teen looking for an exciting, action-packed, fast-paced, and funny book to capture you and pull you into the exciting world of D.J. Schwenk.

Madera Vox Performs at Chapel Restoration

Well-influenced group plays Oct. 6



Members of Madera Vox Photo by Jennifer Timmer Trail

The unusual configuration of oboe, bassoon, piano, percussion and voice makes up the chamber group Madera Vox, which will perform at the Chapel Restoration on Sunday, Oct. 6 at 5:30 p.m. At its core there is a classical foundation, but what is launched from there takes off into uncharted territory. The group's distinctive sound comes from unexpected and often playful combinations of instruments and voice, coupled with a calculated mix of high-brow and low-brow musical styles. A major influence for Madera Vox has been the music of the mid-20th-century German-American composer Kurt Weill, who said, "I have never acknowledged the difference between 'serious' music and 'light' music. There is only good music and bad music." A recent review went on to say that "Madera Vox knows the difference."

All of the members of Madera Vox have a foundation of conservatory-level classical-music training. Over the years, current oboist Allison Rubin Bitz, bassoonist Cornelia McGiver and pianist Sylvia Buccelli have pursued classical performing careers. They have played Carnegie Hall, Weill Hall, Merkin Hall, New England Conservatory and many more. They can be heard on recordings from Albany, Parnassus, Narada and PBR Records, as well as on film soundtracks. Soprano Kelly Ellenwood has distinguished Broadway credentials (*La Carlotta*, *Phantom of the Opera*), and percussionist David Gluck has toured internationally as a jazz and rock drummer and as a founding member of Rhythm and Brass, with whom he has

multiple recordings.

Madera Vox, which is Beacon-based and formed in 2007, is a collaborative synthesis of each member's contributions, which in turn challenges each player's versatility. The resulting musical alchemy aims to be accessible, engaging, playful, and insightful — unusual instruments, unusual music, an unusual combination of players.

The indie-classical ensemble has performed extensively in the Northeast region and was invited to perform at the 2011 International Double Reed Society conference in Tempe, Ariz. College residencies, private house concerts and full-scale public concerts are among the performance offerings for the ensemble. "Our music spans generations as well as genres," says Ellenwood, the "vox" of the group (and resident of Beacon). "Our repertoire has something for everyone, from Kurt Weill to Kurt Cobain."

Madera Vox released their debut self-titled CD in Sept. 2009. A sophomore recording is in the works now, as is a holiday album. They are also currently working on an exciting music-video project with filmmaker Sam Whedon, with the plan to incorporate the result into their live concerts, adding a multimedia aspect to their performances.

Madera Vox will also be performing on Oct. 14 at the Newburgh Chamber Music Series.

Parking for the Chapel Restoration concert is free and available at the adjacent Metro-North station Cold Spring parking lot.

Visit ChapelRestoration.org and MaderaVox.org for more details and to listen to audio clips.

September Guitars at Silver Spoon Concludes with Kenny Wessel Trio

The three-night September Guitars series at the Silver Spoon concludes on Sept. 22 at 8 p.m. with a free performance by noted New York City guitarist Kenny Wessel and his trio.

The trio consists of Wessel on guitar, Matt Pavolka on bass, and Russ Meissner on drums. Wessel has performed in 27 countries. He toured with revolutionary jazz artist Ornette Coleman for over 12 years as a member of Prime Time, Coleman's groundbreaking electric jazz ensemble. He can be heard on Coleman's CD, *Tone Dialing*. Performing Coleman's *Skies of America*, Wessel has appeared with Kurt Masur and the New York Philharmonic and London's Philharmonia Orchestra, and performing Coleman's *Generation* at Lincoln Center, Wessel appeared with Lou Reed and Laurie Anderson. He has also worked with Donald Fagen, David Leibman, Badal Roy, John Abercrombie, Karl Berger, Debbie Harry, Gloria Lynne, Debashish Bhattacharya, Adam Rudolph and others from the jazz, pop and world-music spectrum.

His CDs include *Weights & Measures* (with Joel Frahm, Brad Jones, and Kenny Wollesen), *Daybreak* (with Badal Roy and Stomu Takeishi), and *Jawboning* (with Lou Grassi and Ken Filiano), about which Derek Taylor in *All About Jazz* wrote, "based on this auspicious debut my money says Wessel is one to watch."

An active educator, Wessel currently teaches at Long Island University, City College of New York, the New York Jazz Workshop, and the Music Conservatory of Westchester. He gives clinics and workshops around the world and has taught

at universities and festivals, including the Oslo Music Academy, ICSMS Festival (Istanbul, Turkey), Mahaidol University (Bangkok), Yale University, Manhattan School of Music, and many others.

This final concert will be presented without cover charge, though donations for the musicians will be gratefully accepted. The Silver Spoon is located at 124 Main St. in Cold Spring. For more details visit silverspooncoldspring.com or call 845-265-2525.

Gypsies, Tramps & Thieves: '70s Music

Cabaret in the Country returns, with a nod to that decade

Gypsies, Tramps & Thieves, a long-running New York City revue celebrating music of the 1970s, will make a one-night-only local appearance on Saturday, Sept. 29 at 8 p.m. at the Depot Theatre.

Gypsies, Tramps & Thieves is a romp through the music of the '70s. Included are not only tunes from notable singer/songwriters of that era but also a sampling of disco and others such as the Doobie Brothers, Marvin Gaye, Styx and even Blue Oyster Cult. In medley after medley, cabaret performers Karen Mack and Michael Holland will ride through the era that encompassed both soulful strumming and Studio 54.

Holland created all of the arrangements for the recent Broadway revival production of Stephen Schwartz's *Godspell*. A studio musician and vocalist with a four-octave range, Holland was the musical director for the 2010 Drama Desk Awards. Mack is a five-time Manhattan Association of Clubs award-winner for her vocal performances. Recently, she was part of the 25th Anniversary Gala of the New York Pops at Carnegie Hall. Her club appearances include Town Hall, Symphony Space, The Bottom Line, Joe's Pub, Fez, and Caroline's.



Michael Holland and Karen Mack Photo by S.V. Hamstra

As a duo, Mack and Holland have created a series of long-running cabaret shows, all under the slightly outrageous moniker Gashole. Together, they have garnered many awards for their blend of music and humor, including three years named "Best NYC Club Act" by *Showbusiness Weekly*.

Time Out New York has described them as a "gleefully goofy, shamelessly entertaining neo-lounge act. For five years, Mack and Holland have been resurrecting the lost art of the medley, with an emphasis on pop hits from the '70s."

Those old enough to sound out the following sentence supplied by the producers should be able to find much familiarity in the show: "Come sail away with us at this special, one-night-only concert event! Oh-ou-ah! Listen to the music!"

Cabaret in the Country is a series at the Philipstown Depot Theatre that strives to bring the best of city cabaret to the Landing several times per year. Past productions include the sell-outs *Sondheim Unplugged* and *Simply Streisand*.

Tickets, \$25, may be obtained by visiting brownpapertickets.com or by calling 800-838-3006. For more information, visit philipstowndepottheatre.org or call 845-424-3900.

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Haldane Moves Forward With Field Improvement Details (from page 1)

to the auditorium will also be carried out as part of the project.

The project is eligible for aid from the New York State Department of Education, to the tune of about 34 percent of the total cost. Haldane trustees have pledged that the project will not increase taxes. They passed five resolutions on Tuesday, setting the stage for a public vote later in the fall.

The resolutions

The first resolution approved was a formality, designating Haldane Central School District as lead agency in implementing the fields project. Other local government bodies had been polled as required by law, however, not surprisingly, none showed interest in leading the initiative. Next, the New York State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) declaration was approved, in essence stating that the project will not result in any adverse environmental impacts. Superintendent of Schools Mark Villanti acknowledged that some neighbors below the main sports field had expressed concern regarding storm-water runoff. “I think we’ll actually have better drainage (as a result of the project),” Villanti said. “We’ve been very open with the public,” he said, and commenting that as with recent improvements to the baseball fields along Route 9D, letters will be sent to all property owners regarding the storm-water management aspects of the project. At a previous meeting, the consultant designing the project indicated that improved drainage would result from the track being made of the same turf material as the sports field.

The third resolution passed came about as a result of a suggestion by trustee Peter Henderson at a previous meeting. Henderson was concerned that if the



At their Sept. 18 meeting, members of the Haldane Board of Education honored three community organizations for their exemplary records of service to the school and its programs: the Parent-Teacher Association, the Athletic Booster Club, and the Haldane School Foundation. Pictured here, left to right, are Peter Henderson, school board trustee; Gillian Thorpe, school board vice president; Jon Champlin, school board trustee; Fred Kohut, Athletic Booster Club; Michael Junjulas, school board president; Terese Olsen, Haldane School Foundation; Craig Roffman, Haldane School Foundation; Evelyn Carr-White, Parent-Teacher Association; Evan Schwartz, school board trustee; and Brian Knapp, Haldane School Foundation.

Photo by M. Turton

formal referendum to which voters will say “yes” or “no” in November were written in legal terms, the meaning might not be clear to the average voter. As a result, trustees passed a “plain English” resolution, outlining the makeup of the project that residents will vote on, and how it will be funded. The resolution states that the project will be funded 34 percent from state aid, \$600,000 from existing capital reserves, \$300,000 from the district’s endowment fund; \$200,000 from a community fundraising effort called “PLAY Haldane” as well as from funds from the sale of 10 acres of land known as the James Pond property, which has been valued at

between \$425,000 and \$500,000. If approved, the referendum authorizes the district to sell that property.

After a fourth resolution was passed establishing Nov. 13 as the date on which the referendum will be held, trustees approved a fifth — the formal wording of the referendum as determined by bond and legal counsel. Henderson’s concerns seem to have been well founded. The legalistic verbiage of the actual referendum resolution states that after use of the capital reserves, monies from the endowment fund and sale of the James Pond property, the balance of project costs “shall be raised by the levy of a tax

upon the property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education law; and in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued.” That does not mean a tax increase. Villanti explained that what it means in plain English is that until the district receives its 34 percent in state aid, it will borrow the money to complete the project. “The state doesn’t just give you a check (upfront),” he said. “You have to borrow, then they pay.”

Both Villanti and School Board President Michale Junjulas acknowledged the confusing *(Continued on next page)*

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(from page 14) nature of the legal language, Villanti stating that it has been that way through numerous projects throughout his career as a superintendent. “That’s why Peter (Henderson) suggested the plain English ‘intent’ resolution, so that people could understand what it (the formal referendum) means,” Junjulas said.

Trustee Evan Schwartz feels that voter turnout will be a key factor in the referendum. “We’ve done a great job of informing people,” he said. “Now we have to really get out the vote. People think it’s a done deal.” Schwartz recalled one budget vote that was defeated the first time it went to voters. “We dropped the ball,” he said, by taking a “yes” vote for granted.

Second try for BOCES project

The Putnam and Northern-Westchester BOCES (Boards of Cooperative Educational Services) located in Yorktown Heights finds itself in a situation not unlike what Haldane Central School District faced a few short years ago. It has aging facilities in serious need of repair and upgrading and has to raise the money to do the work. Haldane currently has 21 students attending BOCES, which offers a myriad of vocational, career-oriented programs.

BOCES is funded by 18 school districts including Haldane. Spending for any capital improvements must be approved by unanimous vote of those districts, because they foot the bill. Earlier this year a proposed project totaling \$19,050,000 was rejected. At Tuesday’s meeting, BOCES representatives were on hand, outlining a revised project that has been trimmed by about \$2 million. Work would include repairs to badly leaking

roofs; replacement of heating, venting and air conditioning (HVAC) units; a redesigned pool used for physical therapy; and replacement of fire alarm and PA systems. All districts will vote on the revised project on Oct. 9.

Districts fund BOCES proportionately with Haldane’s share of the proposed capital project assessed at 1.62 percent of the total cost, or \$250,198 spread over three years. In contrast, Bedford School District would pay 11 percent of the project cost, or \$1.7 million. Those expenditures must be counted as districts struggle to stay within the 2 percent tax cap imposed by the state of New York.

Haldane trustees will discuss the funding request at a future meeting and seem to lean strongly towards supporting the revised spending plan. Their discussions are more likely to center around how to finance Haldane’s share than the project components themselves. Junjulas was effusive in his praise of BOCES and what it offers students. “BOCES is not for the kid who can’t handle school,” he said. “What they offer is amazing. They offer so much. Coming out of high school, in this bad economy, I’d go with what they have.”


Trustees took a brief timeout to thank three community organizations that contribute to life at Haldane on a regular basis — the Parent Teach Association, the Blue Devils Booster Club, and the Haldane Foundation. Representatives of each organization were presented with certificates of appreciation.

Ranks were thin at the meeting. Villanti and Junjulas considered canceling it because of severe weather that day. A number of administrators who are normally on hand did not attend, some due to power outages at home.




Funding for improvements to Hadane’s main sports field wil come from a variety of sources. School Board trustees have pledged that the project will not increase taxes.

Photo by M. Turton



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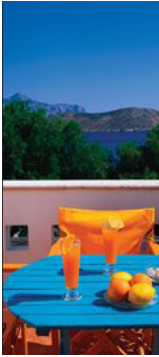
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Day Trip

The Age of Washington

*Hudson River Valley
Ramble perpetuates
legacy of Washington’s
Headquarters*

By Mary Ann Ebner

As commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, Gen. George Washington established his headquarters and residence from April 1782 through August 1783 at the Newburgh family home of Jonathan and Tryntje Hasbrouck. The first publicly preserved historic site in the nation (1850), Washington’s Headquarters State Historic Site unassumingly sits on a spacious corner lot in the city’s East End Historic District, overlooking a spectacular stretch of the Hudson River. A guided tour of the Dutch fieldstone farmhouse unveils the depth of heritage that the National Landmark preserves in the collection of Washington’s papers and effects as well as furnishings that reflect life during the Revolutionary period.

Though the site’s museum is temporarily closed for renovations, 30-minute guided tours of the headquarters prove to garner the attention of self-described amateur historians as well as school children who visit the rooms where Washington helped shape American history. Washington generated a high volume of correspondence from the Hasbrouck House, and his Circular Letter of June 8, 1783 illustrates the magnitude not only of dictation, but of a powerful message.



The Tower of Victory at Washington’s Headquarters State Historic Site

Photo by M.A. Ebner

For the past 14 years, Lynette Scherer has helped preserve Newburgh’s historical treasure on countless guided tours, and once visitors sign on with her to revisit the world of Washington, she delivers in detail.

“It took Washington’s men three weeks to reproduce 13 copies of his 4,000-word letter of June 8, 1783,” Scherer said as she led guests around the desks used by Washington’s Aide-de-Camp staff. “The letters would be delivered to the 13 state governors.”

In addition to the significant military history to explore, Washington’s Headquarters sustains the period’s design of furnishings, culinary traditions, and architecture. Considered a mansion in its day, the Hasbrouck House boasts high ceilings, designed to accommodate the 6-foot-4-inch Hasbrouck. Outbuildings and guard stations added by Washington no longer stand on the property, but a Tower of Victory built with native limestone was constructed near the headquarters for the centennial of the war’s conclusion.

As part of the Hudson River Valley Ramble, Washington’s Headquarters will celebrate the area’s heritage with two special events. At 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 22 and 23, the public is invited to a presentation on the grounds in Newburgh for *Strange Medi-*

cine: Dental and Medical Practices in the Age of Washington. At 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 29 and 30, staff members will present *The Officer’s Pride*, a tell-all describing the heart of the dining table — not so much the food, but “the who and the what” were on the conversational menu when officers were invited to dine with Washington.

Historic Site Manager Elyse Goldberg is excited about upcoming events as well as the re-opening of the Museum at Washington’s Headquarters.

“There’s a history here of being a pride of the city,” Goldberg said. “We’re trying to show off the history for Newburghians, and it’s something for them to be proud of. We’ve been doing renovations on the museum for about three years, and opening day is Dec. 1. We’re using something known as open storage to display over 1,300 objects on the second floor. Peebles Island Resource Center is part of New York’s Bureau of Historic Sites. I’ve been working with them for a number of years to collaborate on this, and people have been working very hard.”

Beyond its military pieces, the museum collection will display an eclectic assortment of domestics, dolls, commemorative items of the Revolutionary period, as well as souvenirs collected from world travels. The permanent exhibit will also

feature an electronic catalog to showcase the vast collection of letters, illustrations, artifacts, and rare items such as the orders written by Washington for the Badge of Military Merit, the forerunner of the Purple Heart.

Washington’s Headquarters is located at 84 Liberty St. (at the corner of Washington and Liberty Streets), Newburgh. Suggested admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for students and seniors (62 and older), and free for children 12 and under. For more information, browse the website of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation at www.nysparks.com or call 845-562-1195.

Schedule

Through Oct. 31
Wednesday – Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
After Oct. 31: open for special events by appointment.

Trip Tips

- Lot parking and street parking available.
- Hasbrouck House accessible for people with limited mobility.
- Museum partially accessible.
- No photographs allowed inside.
- Call ahead to confirm hours during the off-season.



The Museum at Washington’s Headquarters State Historic Site will display over 1,300 objects when it reopens Dec. 1.

Photo by M.A. Ebner



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