



The Philipstown.info Paper



Opens at the Depot
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2015

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Santos Family Ready to Rebuild

Parrott Street fire has taken emotional toll

By Alison Rooney

As Halloween approaches, a certain wistfulness crosses the face of Melissa Santos. She and her family have always been one of the big Parrott Street draws on Halloween, with its “only for the daring” displays. But on May 18 the driveway held a different horror — it was covered with debris from a fire that destroyed the second floor and attic.

Five months later, their charred home, its upper windows boarded, still stands, providing some comfort to Santos, who sometimes sits in her backyard, where she can hear a nearby creek, grabbing a moment away from her hectic household: While they wait for the home to be torn down and rebuilt, she and her husband Darrin and three children, Darrin, Daniel and Mikayla, share a one-bedroom loft cottage a stone’s throw away.

“Staying organized is challenging, especially because there are days when I’m on the phone the entire day relating to the fire,” Santos says. While the family is grateful to their neighbors, Maria and Rob Leiter, who immediately moved them into the cottage next door to their own house, looking at her damaged home every day has taken a toll on San-



At left, Melissa Santos, holding Pancho; above, the Santos family home on Parrott Street, which burned in May.

Photos by A. Rooney

tos, especially because she says there is not yet a fixed timetable for demolition and reconstruction.

An environmental assessment was performed last week; if no asbestos is found, demolition can begin soon. Bill Bujarski, the Cold Spring building inspector, has pledged his assistance, telling Melissa, “as soon as you get your plans, send them to me — I want to get you into your home.”

Once everything is green-lighted, according to architect Jamie Copeland of Hudson Design, who volunteered his services, and pending confirmation of an initial determination that the foundation is solid, their new modular home can be built rapidly. Most of the building for modular homes is done off-site, and so even with winter weather, the on-site construction can take as little as a week.

“There wasn’t an area [of the house] that wasn’t damaged by smoke and water and infused with the smell of smoke,” says Copeland, who is a volunteer with the Garrison Volunteer Fire Company. “I’ve been a firefighter for 14 years and I can never get used to seeing a house burn. It’s very different than a commercial establishment, so (Continued on Page 5)

The Travails of Little Stony Point

Will Fjord Trail help or hinder?

By Michael Turton

Little Stony Point, the diminutive riverfront park located just beyond Cold Spring’s northern boundary, faces a number of resource management issues. But one stands out — it has become too popular.

Weekend crowds leave the area covered with litter. The parking lot fills quickly, resulting in long, hazardous lines of vehicles parked along both shoulders of Route 9D. A drowning in early September provided a grim reminder of the risk taken by visitors who ignore the ongoing prohibition on swim-



At the beach at Little Stony Point, the prohibition on swimming is largely ignored. The state considers the river inherently dangerous. *Photos by M. Turton*

ming. And there are concerns the development of the proposed Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail could make a bad situation worse.

“It is getting so much use it’s detrimental to the entire park, as a preserve and a public amenity,” said James Hartford, a Cold Spring resident who leads the volunteer Little Stony Point Citizens Asso-

ciation. “It’s not a sustainable situation.” “It’s been loved to death,” observed Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea.

Loss of caretaker

Until last year, a caretaker lived in a house on the site as part of an agreement between the citizens’ association and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Pres- (Continued on Page 3)

Dry Conditions Affect Wells

Winter temperatures also play a role in water supply

by Pamela Doan

While Beacon, Cold Spring and Nelsonville residents have been alerted about the low levels at municipal reservoirs and told to conserve, Philipstown residents with wells have no way to gauge their water supply.

Wells are made by drilling into the cracks of the water table and resupplied when rainfall soaks into the ground. The conditions this year have left the water table very low, however.

The U.S. Geologic Survey monitors wells around the country, including one at Bear Mountain State Park (since 2002), one near Mahopac (since 2004) and a third near the eastern border of the county at Putnam Lake (since 2006), to keep an eye on the groundwater levels, which are reported in great detail at Groundwater Watch (groundwaterwatch.usgs.gov). The water at the Bear Mountain and Mahopac wells is currently below normal levels, and on Sept. 1, the Putnam Lake well reached its lowest level since the USGS began monitoring the site.

The problems began as early as January, when the area had a deep frost, explained Henry Boyd, a master driller for the Empire State Well Drillers Association and founder of Boyd Artesian Well in Carmel. It was compounded by heavy snowfall in February. “Snow is the best recharge for ground water but the ground was so frozen that when it melted this year, it ran off instead of soaking in,” he said.

The weather was wet in March, then dry through May, when the area went more than six weeks without rainfall. June was rainy, but Boyd said that once the vegetation is in full bloom, the plants soak it up and less (Continued on Page 3)



A rain barrel in action *File photo by P. Doan*

Candidates Forum for Town Office
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- Town Highway Superintendent

Roots and Shoots

October Gardening Work Can Mean Better Spring Results

Grow veggies with row covers, a hoop house or a cold frame

By Pamela Doan

Yes, you can harvest vegetables — including beets, carrots, kale, spinach, leeks, collards and turnips — from your garden in November, maybe even December, depending on conditions and timing. Go for transplants instead of seeds and get your protection up soon since it looks like we could have our first frost soon.

Plant garlic

Garlic is planted in the fall and harvested in mid-summer the following season. There are many varieties that range from mild to spicy hot. Don't use the garlic you buy at the grocery store, though. Those bulbs are frequently sprayed with a growth inhibitor to prevent sprouting. Instead, order from a website or catalog or check with the farmers at the Cold Spring or Beacon farmers' markets to see if they have garlic suitable for planting.

Plant bulbs

Bulbs need to spend the winter in the ground to wait for the right time to sprout in the spring. Even if you don't have a lot of time, getting in a few bulbs now to signal the start of spring will bring a lot of cheer after many cold months.

Water well and wisely

As I wrote in the Oct. 3 column, it's been an uncommonly dry season and newly planted shrubs, trees and perennials, and evergreens (especially broad-leaf evergreens like azalea) need to go into the winter months well watered to survive.



Leave dry blooms on plants like this Joe-pye weed that birds will use for food.

Photo by P. Doan

Mulch

Mulching is important to protect plant roots from the heave/thaw cycle in winter and keeping moisture in the soil. Add a two-inch layer of aged wood chips, straw or shredded leaves around the diameter of a plant. Avoid creating a mound around the trunk or stalk, though. Keep it six inches away from the base to prevent pest or animal damage and to let the air and water in.

Shred those leaves

Instead of herding leaves into bags with gas-powered, carbon-belching blowers, treat them like the valuable resource they are and put them to work. Mulch the leaves into the lawn, which adds organic

matter to the soil and supports beneficial microbes. Or use leaves as a "brown" layer for compost. Shred a decent sized pile and keep it handy to your winter compost bin. If you don't have time for that, let them sit in a corner of the yard through the winter and use them in the spring. Shredded leaves can be used to refresh a raised bed, too.

Close down the garden

The tomatoes and peppers are not looking happy at this point but don't leave everything in place to rot. These are valuable materials for composting

Roots and Shoots and our two food columns will share this page going forward.

and can give you a head start on needs for spring.

Winter composting plan

A snowy yard and icy paths can be a good excuse not to trudge out to a composting bin, but the materials will still be there. Try a worm bin in the cellar or set up a closed composter in a location that's easy to reach and you'll be ready to feed your plants as soon as spring hits.

What to do with diseased plants

The only exceptions for composting are diseased plants. Unless your compost pile really cooks, the pathogens can survive in the compost and will recirculate in the garden next season. One option is to create a separate compost pile with diseased plants that won't be used in the garden but can be used for trees.

Bring in cold-sensitive plants

Mandevilla vines, geraniums, rosemary and other non-hardy plants won't survive winter temperatures in the yard. Keep them in containers inside for the winter and enjoy them as houseplants. If you don't have space in your living space, a garage or basement is okay. Keep them watered and make sure they get some sunlight.

Plant a cover crop

Keep the soil protected from erosion and add nutrients for spring planting. Rye planted in the garden now will keep nitrates in the soil. Nitrogen is used by plants for growth and fruiting or flowering; it's important! It leaches out of soil naturally and is diminished when plants take it up but other sources don't replenish it.



File photo by Kate Vikstrom



Let the countdown begin!

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Dry Conditions Affect Wells *(from Page 1)*

reaches the water table.

During July, August, September and October, the area had little precipitation and the few storms dumped so much rain so fast that it ran off instead of soaking in. Slow and steady is the best type of rainfall for replenishing ground water.

Residents with wells need to conserve their water, Boyd advised. “Wells that are less than 100 feet deep are running out.” His business is getting three or four calls per day from homeowners with wells that are running low.

There are a several warning signs that your well may be in trouble, although Boyd says a well never goes completely dry; the level of water just gets too low

to be brought to the surface. Watch your taps for slowing flow or air, both of which could be signs of low water levels. A major source of wasted water are toilets that are constantly running, which Boyd says he sees often.

Newer homes are less likely to have well problems because they are typically drilled deeper, both because improved technology makes it easier to do and health departments often require it. Wells that reach 200 to 500 feet below ground level are typical.

Wells are not regulated in the same way as the reservoirs, and so Dave Klotzle, Philipstown’s natural resources officer/wetlands inspector and Conservation

Board member, said its role is mostly to make homeowners aware of the potential problem.

The Conservation Board, which is appointed by the Town Board, does oversee residential water usage for buildings and surfaces, however. For example, Klotzle said, “We discourage construction with impervious surfaces” because rainfall ends up in a storm drain instead of soaking into the ground. “Driveways can be gravel or pervious cement,” he said.

Roof water is also valuable and Klotzle said that the board wants to see that water going into a dry well or rain garden, which is a slightly depressed area that collects run-off. They aren’t used to capture rainfall, however: Use a rain barrel for that. It

attaches to gutter downspouts to collect roof runoff and save water for another day.

Although Philipstown doesn’t provide rain barrels, Klotzle said that some communities do and he plans to find out more for residents who have an interest. In the meantime, you can make your own. The Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County is offering a one-hour workshop on Saturday, Oct. 17, in Patterson in which participants will construct a 55-gallon plastic rain barrel with spigot, mosquito screen and overflow. The cost is \$45. The program, which begins at 11 a.m., will be held at the Patterson Environmental Park on South Street. Call 845-278-6738 or email jj95@cornell.edu for information.

The Travails of Little Stony Point *(from Page 1)*

ervation. But the agency shuttered the house.

“Losing the caretaker was an unfortunate decision,” Hartford said. Volunteers pick up litter when they can and staff members from Fahnestock State Park clean up five times a week, but even that combined effort isn’t enough. “It’s a big headache,” Hartford said.

The crowds are also driving away residents, he said. “Each summer local residents stop using the park, unless it’s early in the morning to walk dogs,” he said. “The park gets taken over by people who are less invested in the place.”

Fjord Trail

Hartford said he tries to remain upbeat about the proposed Fjord Trail, “but I think it’s going to bring more people to the park and unfortunately, so far, I don’t see that as being a good thing.”

Shea, who served as caretaker at Little Stony Point after he finished college, sees it differently. “There’s a need for capital improvements at Little Stony Point and along the 9D corridor and the Fjord Trail is the way to get that done,” he said. His optimism, he said, stems from the involvement of major players in the project, from local municipalities and the state to Scenic Hudson and Metro-North Railroad.

He said a 52-space parking lot being created adjacent to the park as part of the Fjord Trail project “will go a long way to alleviate some of the issues.”

Anthony Phillips, a former Cold Spring mayor who chairs the village’s Parking Committee, believes the new lot “could easily be expanded to accommodate more than 100 cars,” pointing out that the site is a former gravel mine and would provide a suitable base.

But Amy Kacala, a senior planner with Scenic Hudson, said doubling the lot size would also double the cost, and funding is not available. Further expansion would also require the approval of the New York State parks office, which owns the land.

Over the winter, the state plans to review the management and operations of Little Stony Point, which covers about 25 acres of the 6,000-acre Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve that stretches from Annsville Creek in Peekskill to Dennings Point in Beacon.

Kacala pointed out that the Fjord Trail project “grew out of local concern for safety conditions in the 9D corridor,” including Little Stony Point. She said that and other issues such as parking, garbage and bathrooms will be addressed as part of the Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed trail; work on it will begin this fall and take about two years to complete. The state parks office is acting as lead agency in that process.

A spring barn-raising

The Little Stony Point Citizens Association acts as the park’s steward on a budget of a few thousand dollars annually raised through donations and fundraisers. An admission fee has been suggested

to fund maintenance, but Hartford feels “that would really detract from the community feel of the park.”

Even with its limited funds, the association plans to build a barn in the spring at the park to serve as a base of operations. “The need has become more acute now that we’ve lost the caretaker’s house,” he explained. “We have concept approval from the state, and we’ve been working on a grant application.” In addition, Hartford said that a number of local contractors have pledged in-kind contributions.

Hartford hopes the association will be able to expand both its membership and

its role at the park. “We’ve been around for 31 years,” he said. “It would be great for us to be more of a caretaker of natural resources, a real stewardship role instead of just managing litter,” he said. That role could include building trails, eliminating invasive species and creating a larger reserve of native plants.

Anyone interested in volunteering at Little Stony Point can email Hartford at jamesphartford@gmail.com. Tax-deductible donations may be sent to Little Stony Point Citizens Association, 3011 Route 9D, Cold Spring, NY 10516, or visit the website, littlestonypoint.org for further information.

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PUBLISHER

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FOUNDER

Gordon Stewart

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MANAGING EDITOR

Kevin E. Foley

ARTS/FEATURE EDITOR

Alison Rooney

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

SENIOR CORRESPONDENT

Michael Turton

LAYOUT EDITOR

Kate Vikstrom

CALENDAR EDITOR

Chip Rowe

calendar@philipstown.info

REPORTERS

Pamela Doan

Peter Farrell

Brian PJ Cronin

PHOTOGRAPHER

Maggie Benmour

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Michele Gedney

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In support of Robert Flaherty

I am writing in support of my son, Robert Flaherty. Bob has been serving on the Town Board these past several months and will be running for this position in the coming election. He is well known in the community, honest, trustworthy, intelligent and conscientious. Bob has always been active in community activities: as a young boy Little League and Pop Warner Football; as a teenager, in many Haldane activities and sports; and as an adult, in the Knights of Columbus, North Highlands Fire Department and numerous other undertakings. Bob is an exceptional son. He is committed, loyal, ambitious, and thorough in completing what he begins. He is always there to help his family, neighbors, his friends and ours and will do the same for our community as a Philipstown counselor.

William Flaherty
Former Putnam County Legislator

I am writing this letter on behalf of Bob Flaherty, who is running for Philipstown town counselor. I have known Bob and the entire Flaherty family for many years. Having served as a public official for the Town of Philipstown as supervisor and counselor, I know it takes hard work, dedication, good decision-making and understanding of the current issues. Bob Flaherty has these qualities and has demonstrated his ability to serve as counselor since his appointment to the board in May. He has been involved with the issues in this community and will continue to work hard for the residents of Philipstown.

Bob has earned my trust as a public official and I will be voting for him on Nov. 3 so he can continue to serve the residents of the Town of Philipstown.

Terry Lahey, *Cold Spring*

In support of Tina Merando

As a registered Democrat, I generally support the candidate of the party, but in this year's race for Philipstown town clerk, I proudly and enthusiastically give my vote to Tina Merando. Competent, responsible, hardworking, creative, cost-conscious, Tina has performed exceptionally well the multiple tasks of town clerk for the last 12 years and as deputy town clerk for the previous 10 years. (I hope she serves another 12 years if she wants.) In all my dealings with the town clerk's office, I always come away with a smile, totally satisfied with a job well done. Thank you, Tina, for making that happen each and every time I visit.

Two-and-one-half years ago, my spouse and I were married at Town Hall. Tina performed the ceremony. Despite our hav-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ing been together for 46 years, we were very nervous on this, our wedding day. With her calm, caring, and professional demeanor, Tina helped to put us at ease and made our wedding come off without a hitch. Thank you again, Tina. How could I not support such a generous woman!

Bill Hicks, *Garrison*

Supporting Town Board incumbents and Barbara Scuccimara

As a 70-something senior caring for a husband with severe dementia, I have become intensely interested in local services for our older citizens. The upcoming election involves a number of local issues, but I would like to share my perspectives on issues related to seniors.

Many may not be aware that the current Town Board has been extremely receptive to the needs of Philipstown seniors. Two years ago they asked the Recreation Department to offer exercise classes for seniors, free of charge. Those classes have been so popular that they have increased the number offered.

Last year the board approved the Recreation Department's request for a new staff member whose primary responsibility would be working with seniors. Ms. Cecily Hall has been a responsive addition to their staff, and has helped organize monthly senior trips available at low cost. I strongly support the re-election of the current town board based on their active interest in seniors.

Another person who has demonstrated her commitment to senior issues is our county legislator, Barbara Scuccimara. She is a pro-active legislator who actively solicits ideas from seniors, making monthly reports to the town board and to the Philipstown Seniors Club. She deserves re-election.

There are still many areas in which services for seniors can be improved, but we are now making progress.

Lynda Ann Ewen, *Cold Spring*

In support of Carl Frisenda

I am writing this letter to support my father, Carl Frisenda, as the next Town of Philipstown highway superintendent. Carl has been an outstanding role model for me in all aspects of life, especially in regards to my career. He has an unparalleled work ethic and has taught me to always do the best job I can do no matter what.

He is a blue-collar family man, always willing to work hard and help others whenever he can. He cares about the quality of his work and maintaining high standards. He has always taught my brother and me the value of a hard day's work.

After having worked at the Philip-

stown Highway Department myself for 6 years I can say that a change is definitely needed. With over 30 years of experience at Putnam County Highway Department, Carl will make an excellent highway superintendent for the Town of Philipstown and I fully support him.

Matthew C. Frisenda,
Hopewell Junction

I was extremely pleased when I learned that Carl Frisenda had entered the race for Philipstown highway superintendent, both because of his ideal resume based on decades of work (including managerial positions) with the [Putnam County Highway] department, but also because I have known Carl for years and consider him a very reliable and effective professional. And it is notable that his work for the county included successful assignments in Philipstown, so he knows our roads and our problems well. It's time for a new face and renewed vigor for this vital local function.

Stan Lovenworth, *Cold Spring*

In support of Adam Levy

District Attorney Adam Levy has implemented effective and sweeping change in how the justice system in Putnam County operates, which has a huge impact on how effective it is. Crime rates dropped more than twice the state average, making Putnam the safest county in New York for the last four years.

He put a strong focus on violent, repeat offenders, closing the revolving door that so frequently allowed bad people to commit crimes again. Drug Treatment Court and Mental Health Court have allowed many nonviolent offenders to avoid incarceration by seeking treatment, staying sober and performing community service.

Levy's initiatives have also made Putnam a safer place to police and protect, and not just because of his zero-tolerance policy on assaults of police officers. After the life of an undercover officer was threatened by a uniformed police officer who had no idea he was dealing with another cop, Levy went to great lengths to ensure every single agency in Putnam was an active member of SafetyNet. Levy and his staff have worked hard to foster a more cooperative and therefore effective atmosphere among every law enforcement agency.

There's one way to keep Putnam the safest county in New York: by re-electing a prosecutor who enforces the law and supports the police professionals who enforce it. Please vote for Adam Levy on Nov. 3.

Kevin McConville, *Cold Spring*

Village Board Notes

From the Oct. 14 meeting

By Michael Turton

- **Mandatory water-use restrictions** remain in effect. Superintendent of Water and Sewer Greg Phillips reported that the 3.63 inches of rain in September maintained the status quo at village reservoirs, and they remain at 58 percent capacity. He also reported that **construction has begun** on a new building at the sewage treatment plant. The project, which includes electrical upgrades and new aeration equipment, should be completed by early December.
- **Winter parking regulations** will be in effect from Sunday, Nov. 15 through Friday, April 15. Residents can call 845-747-SNOW daily after 5 p.m. to learn if street parking is prohibited due to a snow emergency, during which vehicles can be towed at the owner's expense. **Alternate parking** is available on Kemble Avenue south of The Boulevard, on the south side of The Boulevard and in the municipal lot on Fair Street.
- Street parking regulations have been suspended for the

dead-end portion of Marion Avenue through Friday, April 15.

- Cold Spring resident Jeff Vidavich has been hired as a **part-time clerk in the Code Enforcement Office** to assist Building Inspector Bill Bujarski. Vidavich will work 10 hours a week.
- The **Main Street parade season** has arrived. The Haldane homecoming parade will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 17. The Cold Spring Lions' Strut Your Pup marches down Main at 1 p.m. The always-popular Halloween parade begins at Main and Chestnut Street on Saturday, Oct. 24, at 5:30 p.m.
- The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, the lead agency in the development of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, has issued a "Positive Declaration" for the proposed nine-mile route between Cold Spring and Beacon, meaning the project may have **significant environmental impact**. As a result, an Environmental Impact Statement must be prepared.
- The board chose not to endorse the design and location of **Fjord Trail signage** within the village, choosing to wait until after the state environmental review.

Santos Family Ready to Rebuild (from Page 1)

personal and traumatic, and routines are upset, memories lost. Getting the family back in is important to do, and luckily we found a cross-section of people committed to just that idea.”

Santos urges everyone to examine their homeowner’s insurance policies carefully; she now understands much more about depreciation. The insurance adjuster goes “through every single thing,” values it, then depreciates. “It’s been frustrating having been a paying on time customer for 25 years and then having to wait so long for them to send us a check,” she says.

Although everyone in the family, including their dog, Pancho, walked away from the fire unscathed, the family has been visited by other traumas, with Melissa having battled cancer for a number of years. (She describes her current situation as “not in remission, but under control.”) In addition, Darrin’s mother, Helen, was killed and his father, Miguel (Michael), badly injured in a 2014 collision in which the other driver was charged with vehicular manslaughter.

When asked what the family’s current needs were, Melissa Santos answered quickly, “Prayers.” Santos says she will forever be grateful to her friend Kristen Van Tassel, a volunteer firefighter, for having the presence of mind to go into the house after the fire was brought under control and remove framed photos, photo albums and other irreplaceable items.

The family received many clothing donations and gift cards. A Go Fund Me page, set up at the time of the fire, is still operational at gofundme.com/uy58h4v. Alternatively, checks, made out to Melissa and Darrin Santos may be mailed to the family at 26 Bank St., Cold Spring. Good used, winter clothing would be appreciated: long-sleeved shirts and sweatpants in adult size mediums. (no sweatshirts please — they have an abundance, and the family would prefer to go shopping for winter coats.) Items can be dropped off at 26 Bank St.

Jamie Copeland sees the upside to all that the family has been through. “They’ll get through this,” he said. “Their family is intact and they’ve all weathered this together. They’ll move in and new memories will be created. Good will come out of it.”

When the family finally moves into their new home, Melissa Santos says she would like to throw a community thank-you block party. “Everything that everyone did, whether it was fighting the fire, comforting my daughter when she was crying, the big donation we got from the lacrosse team,” she says. “There were so many things — I’m worried about for-

getting some of them — a smile, a hug a ‘How’re you doing?’, the church, the prayers, the food donations, we appreciate everything and everybody, for what they’ve done.”

“They’ll get through this. Their family is intact and they’ve all weathered this together. They’ll move in and new memories will be created. Good will come out of it.”

As for Halloween, the family plans to be on Parrott Street as usual, handing out candy, although they’re not sure if they’ll stand in front of their burned house or join friends and neighbors, the Leiters. But they’re not about to miss it and promise that next Halloween they will be back at their old spot with a new house, ready to scare everyone again.



Real Simple Finds Community in Cold Spring

The Santos family will be subject of story by neighbor

Last May, Maria Ricapito was sitting in her living room on Parrott Street, working on her computer, when suddenly a neighbor flung open the front door, yelling that there was a fire.

Ricapito heard sirens and stepped onto her porch, where she was stunned at what she saw. Directly across the street, the Santos family home was in flames. “There were flames coming out the window,” she said. “I corralled my cats and sat and watched and then came out and sat with other neighbors.... It was surreal.”

Ricapito had worked as an editor at *Real Simple* years ago and occasionally writes for them as a freelancer. In the months following the fire, Ricapito was struck at how the community had come together in support of the family. She also had taken note of how the family was rebounding.

“I thought about it and this seemed like a story *Real Simple* might like,” she said. “It’s heartwarming in many ways, and leads to the question of ‘How can you help in your community?’ wherever that community is.” Her story will appear in the November issue, which will be on newsstands next week. A \$5 version for the iPad will be released for download at backissues.realsimple.com.

“We hear so much about divisiveness, but this was the opposite,” Ricapito said. “I saw it — local people pitching in, hosing down the outside of the house, bringing meals, dropping off donations; neighbors helping carry things out of the home; store owners starting collection jars; Girl Scouts bringing pizza; lacrosse players helping out; the Food Pantry reaching out to the family, [inviting] them to come and get supplies; a steady stream of people coming to help.”

Over the summer, *Real Simple* asked Ricapito to put the word out and many of those who had helped gathered together in front of the house, along with the Santos family, for a group photograph, which will run with the story.

“They say [in journalism] there are stories all around you,” Ricapito notes, “Well, this one was right here.”

The opening of Maria Ricapito's story in the November issue of *Real Simple*. *Photo courtesy of Real Simple*

Notice to Bidders Town of Philipstown Highway Department

Sealed proposals will be received by the undersigned Town Clerk of the Town of Philipstown at her office in the Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York 10516, until 2 p.m., on **October 21, 2015**, when the same will be publicly opened and read aloud for the sale to the Town of Philipstown of:

- Bituminous concrete – Furnished, delivered & laid in place
- Bituminous concrete – FOB
- Calcium Chloride – Delivered
- Envirobrine – Delivered
- Washed sand – Delivered & FOB
- #2 Fuel oil – Delivered
- Diesel fuel – Delivered
- Bank run, fill, crushed tailing – Delivered & FOB
- Installation of guide rail and furnishing of guide rail material
- Washed crushed stone – Delivered & FOB
- Manufactured crushed Item 4 – Delivered & FOB
- Stone fillings – Delivered & FOB
- Sand for snow and ice control – Delivered & FOB
- Curb mix with RAP
- Stone screenings – Delivered & FOB
- Smooth bore corrugated polyethylene solid pipe – Delivered
- Tree felling, trimming, removal & stump grinding

Meeting the specifications of the Town of Philipstown Highway Department. Copies of the specifications may be obtained from the office of said Town Clerk at the above address. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids. All purchase contracts awarded pursuant to this notice shall be subject to the provisions of Section 103-A, 103-B and 103-D of the General Municipal Law.

DATED: October 7, 2015
Tina Merando, Town Clerk
Town of Philipstown

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The Calendar

Jesus Christ Superstar Opens Four-Week Run at Depot

Making it be from the soul rather than just singing

By Alison Rooney

Asher Pacht has had a year of living biblically. For the better part of 2015, he has counted himself among the denizens of Nazareth and points beyond, first taking on the mindset of Peter, and, more recently, that of Jesus himself.

Pacht is now in rehearsals for *Jesus Christ Superstar* for the second time this year. By day he is director of development for the Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries; by night, he's been a fisherman-turned-disciple and now the savior himself, making for an interesting journey, far beyond the usual acting gig.

After playing Peter in a County Players production in Wappingers Falls earlier this year, Pacht steps into the lead role on Friday, Oct. 23, in the Depot Theatre's production of the Andrew Lloyd Webber/Tim Rice rock opera, which made its debut in 1971. The Depot's version will take the form of a staged concert, and it brings together a large cast, many drawn from local talent pools, under the direction of Linda Speziale.

Although there will be some movement, the presentation as sung feels right to Pacht. "There's still a lot of acting that goes on," he says. "The way it's written, it can be presented in a concert format easily — the songs don't need a lot of action. My songs are about expressing the arc Jesus goes through, from losing control over his movement to giving himself up to the justice system."

As for the seemingly daunting challenge of portraying Jesus, Pacht gives a considered reply. "His experience is so unique and in order to access it you have to find something in your own life to filter it through," he says. "The crux of it for me is the sense of something slipping through your fingers. Waking up, realizing something has gone wrong and you don't realize how bad it is until it has happened. "In his first song," he continues, "he

already has a feeling things are coming apart. I think of times in my life when I was working on something for a long time and it fell apart. The idea of embodying a figure like Jesus is almost too much to take on — he's almost a cypher, reflecting people's qualities back to them.

"He also questions people about why they are doing things. I'm always trying



Asher Pacht as Jesus during a rehearsal for *Jesus Christ Superstar*

to ask myself that — that's how I get into his progression. Even as he's condemned, he's trying to get people to see the truth beyond their own actions. I've been living this play for a year now, and the story this production tries to tell is about his effect on other people, including

Pilate, and the mob that turns on him."

Speziale says her focus has been "the passion behind the text — bringing it out, making it be from the soul rather than just singing. We want an emotional impact so that it's not at all like just listening to a CD." She believes presenting the show as a concert worked well for this production.

"You can't do a rock opera without some movement and dance, and we do have some," she said. "But we're doing this with no set, no real costumes, per se, and [a band with] five really good musicians — and with 24 people on a small stage. The way it is being emoted is more to pull the audience to feel they are a part of it, rather than watching it unfold."

In fact, not having to concentrate on blocking has provided Pacht, a relative newcomer to acting (he caught the bug two years ago, doing *Spamalot* at County Players), with more "confidence on how to embody the moments. Our band gives the show that rumbling rhythm and groove it needs to have. Once the

(Continued on Page 10)



Jesus Christ Superstar's director, Linda Speziale, with her son, Will, who plays Peter.

Photos courtesy of Depot Theatre

A World of Art

Beacon event has artists from around the globe

By Alison Rooney

Group residencies that allow artists to live and work together for a short time are far more common in Europe than in the U.S., says Basha Maryanska, a Polish artist and curator and resident of Beacon who has organized the city's first International Artist Residency. It opened Oct. 12 and continues through Oct. 26 at Scenic Hudson's Red Barn River Center at Long Dock Park in Beacon, with a reception scheduled for 3 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 17.

The participants include Mervyn Beamish (Australia), Catherine Gerasimov (France), Rella Gronovitz (Israel/Sweden), Irina Korotkov (Australia), Iwona Kulagowska (Poland), Dorota

Michaluk (France), Hanna Oren-Huppert (Holland), Neela Pushparaj (India/USA) and Mira Sartyan, (USA/Poland). The U.S. artists are Virginia Donovan, Mary Ann Glass, Kathryn Hart, Galina Krasskova and Rafael Quirindongo.

Their artwork is on display daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and their public work spaces are open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Besides creating and displaying their work, the artists will present talks and take part in workshops and other arts-related activities. They will also tour Dia:Beacon, Olana, Storm King, Locust Grove, the Morse estate, the Thomas Cole Museum and, in Manhattan, the new Whitney Museum and galleries in Chelsea.

The works on display include acrylic, oil and watercolor paintings, collages, photography, sculpture and mixed media. In some instances, notably panels of landscapes made by Mervyn



Scenic Hudson's Red Barn River Center

Photo courtesy of Scenic Hudson

Beamish with a specific topography from Australia, the artist's nationality is well-represented in the work, while that of many others is more abstract.

The exhibit will be a fluid one, with Maryanska continuously curating and updating the work. The public is invited to view the pieces and talk to the artists while they work. Most non-local artists are paired with Beacon-based peers.

The organizers describe the concept of an artist residency as an "opportunity for a group of artists to work in an environment that encourages innovation, support and growth. Having two weeks to focus on their work, artists find this a chance to create while meeting new artists and being exposed to different forms of art."

Although (Continued on Page 10)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

Pizza Night and Ice Cream Social

4 – 8 p.m. North Highlands Firehouse
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring
Call 845-265-9595 for takeout

Haldane vs. Pawling (Football)

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

Open-Mic Night

7:30 p.m. Sign-ups | 8 p.m. Performances
Howland Cultural Center | 477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Yesterday (Beatles Tribute Band)

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

Birdseed Sale and Pick-up

9 a.m. – Noon. Taconic Outdoor Education Center
75 Mountain Laurel Lane, Cold Spring
845-265-3773 | putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

NYS Sheep & Wool Family Festival

9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Dutchess County Fairgrounds
6550 Spring Brook Avenue, Rhinebeck
sheepandwool.com | Continues on Sunday.

Family Music Hootenanny

10 a.m. Beacon Music Factory
629 Route 52, Beacon
845-765-0472 | beaconmusicfactory.com

Screecher Feature with Carl Heitmuller

10 a.m. Beacon Institute
199 Main St., Beacon | 845-838-1600 | bire.org

Tag Sale

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. St. Mary’s Church
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

Haldane Sports

10 a.m. Homecoming parade (Main St.)
11 a.m. Girls’ soccer vs. Putnam Valley
2 p.m. Boys’ soccer vs. Pawling | Details under Friday

Army vs. Bucknell (Football)

Noon. Michie Stadium, West Point
845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

Calendar Highlights

For upcoming events visit philipstown.info.
Send event listings to calendar@philipstown.info.

Strut Your Pup (Benefit)

1 p.m. 9D and Main, Cold Spring
coldspringlions.com

Sanctuary Tour with Stephen Talasnik

1:30 p.m. Manitoga | 584 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3812 | visitmanitoga.org

Free Admission

5 – 8 p.m. Mid-Hudson Children’s Museum
75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie
845-471-0589 | mhcm.org

Fall Festival Benefit

5 p.m. Horse Show | 7 p.m. Auction
8 p.m. Comfort Foods / Square Dancing
Therapeutic Equestrian Center
115 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring
845-165-3409 | myfeettakewings.org

Jazz Vespers

5:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

C’mon Beacon, Let’s Dance (Costume Party)

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

Hudson Valley Philharmonic: This Land

8 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

The HisPANiCk (Comedy)

8 p.m. Embark | 925 South St., Peekskill
917-671-7772 | facebook.com/embarkpeekskill

Chris O’Leary Blues Band

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier Café | 379 Main St., Beacon | 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

Castle to River Hike (Difficult)

10 a.m. Garrison Station shuttle to Castle Rock
845-424-3358 x7 | hhlt.org

Beacon Sloop Club Pumpkin Festival

Noon – 5 p.m. Seeger Park
1 Flynn Drive, Beacon
845-463-4660 | beaconsloopclub.org

The HisPANiCk (Comedy)

3 p.m. Embark | See details under Saturday.

Songs of Fire and Ice (Argentina and Iceland)

4 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St., Cold Spring
845-265-5537 | chapelrestoration.org

Depot Theatre Annual Benefit

4 p.m. Private home, Cold Spring
philipstowndepottheatre.org
Featuring A Different Spin (Fire Jugglers)

National Theater: Beaux Strategem

6:30 p.m. Downing Film Center
19 Front St., Newburgh
845-561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.com

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

Yoga for Kids and Parents (First Sessions)

10:45 a.m. Toddler & Me (ages 1-2)
11:45 a.m. Baby & Me (ages 3-12 mos.)
Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

National Theater: Beaux Strategem

1:30 p.m. Downing Film Center
See details under Sunday.

Haldane vs. Pleasantville (Boys’ Soccer)

4:15 p.m. Haldane School
See details under Friday.

Cold Spring Parking Committee

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

Nelsonville Village Board

7:30 p.m. Village Hall
258 Main St., Nelsonville
845-265-2500 | villageofnelsonville.org.

Philipstown.info/The Paper Candidates’ Forum

7:30 p.m. Haldane School (Music Room)
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring | philipstown.info

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Portrait Drawing (First Session)

10 a.m. Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art
1701 Main St., Peekskill
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

Howland Public Library

2:30 p.m. Gold Diggers of 1933 (1933)
6:30 p.m. The Well-Armored Child (Talk)
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Box Lacrosse (First Sessions)

6:30 p.m. Grades 3-6 | 7:30 p.m. Grades 7-12
Philipstown Community Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Haldane School Board Workshop

7 p.m. Haldane School (Music Room)
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Town Board Budget Workshop (Highway)

7 p.m. Philipstown Town Hall
238 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3329 | philipstown.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

Senior Bus Trip to Fishkill

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

Philipstown Communities That Care Coalition

3 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
putnamncadd.org/ctc

Town Board Budget Workshops

7 p.m. Continental Village F.D.
7:30 p.m. Recreation Department
See details under Tuesday.

Garrison School Board

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

Medicare Workshop

6 p.m. Howland Public Library
See details under Tuesday.

Figure Drawing (First Session)

6:15 p.m. HVCCA
See details under Tuesday.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

Paintings by Mary Flaherty (Opening)

6 – 8 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Haunted House

7 – 10 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Developing Your Intuition with Leslie Mott

7 p.m. Living Yoga Studios
3182 Route 9, Cold Spring
845-809-5900 | livingyogastudios.com

International Film Night: My Old Lady (UK, 2014)

7 p.m. Howland Public Library
See details under Tuesday.

Hudson Valley Fort vs. Brooklyn Bolts (Football)

7:05 p.m. Dutchess Stadium
1500 Route 9D, Wappingers Falls | gofxfl.com

Jesus Christ Superstar

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

Gino Vannelli

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
See details under Oct. 16

The Fire Festival of Cuba (Documentary)

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


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★ Ann McGrath-Gallagher

★ Carl Frisenda

★ Lithgow Osborne

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Autumn
Photofest

The Paper is collecting high-resolution color images from local photographers of local autumn scenes and themes. We prefer pictures taken this year. The best photos (in our opinion) will be featured in *The Paper* on its color pages.

Limit: three photos weekly per person. Please retitle the image with your name and photo location (for example: JohnDoe-ColdSpringDock.jpg). Send photos to: photofest@philipstown.info.



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Tina M. Merando
Town Clerk



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Richard Shea for Town Supervisor

- Supervisor since 2009 with positive results for Town.
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- Saved taxpayers over \$1 million through negotiating union contracts to cut spending, instituting tighter controls on spending & conducting a comprehensive insurance review.
- Brought together diverse groups in an inclusive & respectful manner to pass comprehensive zoning revision to preserve & protect our beautiful community.
- Leadership and diligence helped Town get over \$900,000 in FEMA funding to repair roads & infrastructure damaged during Hurricane Irene.
- Increased quality of life programs for seniors & all residents.
- Lifelong resident of Philipstown; family tradition of service to Philipstown.



Nancy Montgomery for Town Council

- Served two terms as Town Councilwoman, Deputy Supervisor since 2009.
- Track record of listening to residents’ concerns, taking action, & getting results.
- Initiated new programs for seniors; long volunteer experience with Philipstown Recreation.
- Consistently advocated for County resources to be located in Philipstown.
- Took the lead in planning for the sustainability of our Emergency Services.
- Tackled tough community issues like train safety & the heroin epidemic.
- Lifelong resident of Philipstown; family tradition of service to Philipstown.



Robert Flaherty for Town Council

- Appointed as Town Councilman in March 2015.
- Brings solid business skills & experience to the Town Board.
- Currently working on Town Hall renovations & elevator project.
- Liaison to the Philipstown Planning Board.
- Degree in Business Administration & Economics, currently Senior Project Manager at New York’s ePlus Technology.
- Strong track record of volunteerism in Philipstown, including the North Highlands Fire Department, the Knights of Columbus, & both Philipstown Little League & Pop Warner Football.
- Lifelong resident of Philipstown; family tradition of service to Philipstown.



Ann McGrath-Gallagher for Town Clerk

- Secretary to the Town Planning Board since 1997, extensive experience with Town Hall operations.
- Over 30 years of administrative experience in banking, corporate, legal & educational organizations.
- Over a decade as a parent volunteer at Haldane.
- Seeks to improve communication & online services, including provisions for residents to transact business at their convenience, outside of regular office hours.
- Will bring a fresh & friendly approach to make Town Hall accessible for all residents.
- Lifelong Philipstown resident; family tradition of service to Philipstown.



Carl Frisenda for Highway Superintendent

- 34-year veteran of the Putnam County Highway Department as Crew Chief, Construction Crew Chief, & Construction Equipment Operator.
- Hands-on operations & supervisory experience & comprehensive knowledge/experience with road maintenance.
- Knows Philipstown Highway Department from the inside, often working on loan to Philipstown from the Putnam County Highway Department.
- Volunteer track record as coach for Pop Warner, vice president of the Pop Warner league chapter in Philipstown, & parent volunteer for Philipstown Little League.
- Additional experience with emergency response as Certified Rescue Diver.
- Lifelong Philipstown resident; family tradition of service to Philipstown.



Lithgow Osborne for County Legislator

- Extensive business & real estate background includes 15 years experience as business owner, & work as a researcher & analyst on local commercial real estate.
- Track record of volunteerism including fundraising efforts at Manitoga for over a decade.
- Board member of The Osborne Association, working with incarcerated & formerly incarcerated people for over 25 years.
- Determined to lower County taxes & stop wasteful spending at the County level; time for Philipstown to get a fair share from the County Legislature.
- Seeks to bring new, high quality, much needed businesses to our Town, expanding the tax base & local employment opportunities.
- Lifelong resident of New York State; family tradition of public service.



Jesus Christ Superstar Opens Four-Week Run (from Page 7)



Christine Bokhour, who plays Judas, in rehearsal. Photo courtesy of Depot Theatre

drums kick in, the whole chorus responds and you can hear the whole gospel choir take hold. I’m practicing singing it up to the top rows.”

Calling the music “very difficult, with extreme ranges,” Speziale is “so grateful for the people we have to sing it; and everyone is so devoted to it, and it shows.”

The cast is rounded out by Chris Dickerson as Caiaphas, Christine Bokhour as Judas

and Jenn Lee as Mary. The supporting cast is Laura Bach, Nancy Carlson, Laura Danilov, Lee Robin Gebhart, Athena Glorius, Christiana Glorius, David Jones, Liz Keifer, John Lane, Harper Levy, Dave Llewellyn, Tyler Mell, Gregory Porter Miller, Kyra Moscovitz, Rodman Neuman, Nat Prentice, William Speziale, Sterling Swann and Chris Whipple.

The band is Ezra LaFleur (keyboards), Mike LaRocco (drums), Dean DiMarzo (guitar), Dassi Rosenkrantz-Cabo (bass) and Anthony Speziale

(trombone).

The creative staff is Amy Dul (choreography, set construction), Tess Dul (choreography, stage manager), Michael Mell (lighting), Damien McDona-

ald (sound), Charlotte Palmer-Lane (costumes), Hudson Heckert (lighting technician) and Donald Kimmel, Linda Speziale, Will Speziale, Nancy Swann, Jeff Toland and Terry Turner (set con-

struction).

Jesus Christ Superstar will be performed for four weekends, Oct. 23 through Nov. 15. The show begins at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. (with the exception of Saturday, Oct. 31, when it begins at 2 p.m.) and at 2 p.m. on Sundays.

Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$18 for students and seniors and can be ordered at brownpapertickets.com/e/2298590 or by calling the Depot Theatre, located at Garrison’s Landing, at 845-424-3900.

“The passion behind the text — bringing it out, making it be from the soul rather than just singing. We want an emotional impact so that it’s not at all like just listening to a CD.”

A World of Art (from Page 7)



Artists participating in the International Residency at work on their first day in the studio (left to right): Virginia Donovan, Katia Gerasimov, curator Basha Maryanska, and Neela Pushparaj. Photo by A. Rooney

much of the art will be created indoors, the setting and spectacular time of year is an inducement to head outdoors as well, and set ups will be available for those who wish to work outside.

Maryanska, who for the past 13 years has been a curator at Manhattan’s New

Century Artists’ Gallery, meets many artists during her frequent travels here and abroad. “I have met such wonderful artists and developed great friendships through art, worldwide,” she said. “This is the perfect way to share ideas, problems, (Continued on next page)

VOTE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD . 6AM - 9PM

260 Boardman Road, Poughkeepsie, NY

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

The Paper to Host Candidate Forum

Oct. 19 at Haldane School, 7:30 p.m.

The Paper / Philipstown.info will host a candidates’ forum for Philipstown and Putnam County offices at the Haldane School music room on Monday, Oct. 19, in advance of the Nov. 3 general election. The school is located at 15 Craigside Drive in Cold Spring. The event, which begins at 7:30 p.m., is free and open to the public.

Unfortunately the candidates for county legislator will not be participating. A video of the event will be posted at philipstown.info.

Haunted House Opens Oct. 23

Teen players assemble house of horrors

The Foot in Mouth Players will present their annual “horror” house for two weekends beginning at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23 at the Philipstown Community Center in Garrison.

The attraction will be open from 7 to 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday through Saturday, Oct. 31. It also will be open from 5 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 25. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$4 for seniors and children under 12. The community center is located on Route 9D in Garrison.

Seniors Invited to Halloween Jamboree

Transportation reservations must be made by Oct. 20

The Putnam County Office for Senior Resources will host a Halloween Jamboree at the Putnam County Golf

Course from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 27. Lunch and entertainment will be provided, and costumes are encouraged.

Reservations are required and tickets must be picked up at the Cold Spring Nutrition Center at the American Legion on Cedar Street. Transportation is available but reservations must be made by Oct. 20 by calling 845-808-1700 ext. 47130.

A donation of \$3 per person is requested. The golf course is located at 187 Mill St., in Mahopac. Call 845-808-1838 for more information.

Songs of Argentina, Iceland and Ukraine at Chapel Restoration

Program scheduled for Oct. 18

Mezzo soprano Christine Antenbring, pianist Mikhail Hallak and violist Rachel Evans will present a medley of beautiful songs from Argentina, Iceland and Ukraine, along with several by Brahms, at The Chapel Restoration at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 18. Admission is free, although donations are welcome.

Antenbring has won the Grand Prize at the Bellini International Voice Competition, First Prize at the Joy in Singing Competition and was a finalist in the Met National Council Auditions. She has performed in Europe, most recently as a champion of Icelandic Art Song in Reykjavik, and has appeared at the U.S. at the Caramoor, Marlboro and Ravinia music festivals.



Christine Antenbring

Photo provided

Hallak, a native of Belgium, studied at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels, where he received the Premier Prix de Piano and Premier Prix de Musique de Chambre and was both a Fulbright and a Rotary scholar. In 2001, he joined the Metropolitan Opera Lindemann Young Artist Development Program after an extensive schedule as a recital and orchestral soloist.

Evans has played with some of the country’s top Baroque ensembles, as well as at the Boston and Berkeley early music festivals and with the Santa Fe Opera. A graduate of The Julliard School of Music, she has also performed jazz and contemporary music in a variety of ensembles and is a recipient of the Coleman Chamber Music Award.

The Chapel Restoration is at 45 Market St., Cold Spring, across from the Metro-North station, where free parking is available on weekends. This concert is made possible, in part, through grants from the Putnam Arts Council and the New York State Council on the Arts.

Hiking Down from Castle Rock

Land Trust sponsors trek to river

The Hudson Highlands Land Trust has organized a challenging three-hour hike to Castle Rock on Sunday, Oct. 18, as a fundraiser for its Take-a-Hike! program. Castle Rock caretaker Chip Marks will share the secrets of the landmark home built by railroad magnate William H. Osborn in 1880, then lead the group in the footsteps of the Continental Army as it hiked to the river.

The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Par-

ticipants should meet at the Garrison Metro-North train station at 10 a.m.; a shuttle will be provided to Castle Rock. Registration is required; call 845-424-3358, ext. 6, or email info@hhlt.org.

Therapeutic Equestrian Center Hosts Fall Festival

Benefit includes horse show, auction and square dancing

The Therapeutic Equestrian Center will host its annual Fall Festival fundraiser on Saturday, Oct. 17. The evening includes riding demonstrations and a horse show at 5 p.m., a benefit auction at 7 p.m. and comfort foods and square dancing in the ring at 8 p.m. Cowboy chic attire is encouraged.

The cost is \$100 per person. Visit myfeettakewings.org/events.html to purchase tickets or call 845-265-3409 for more information. The equestrian center offers Therapeutic Riding, Equine Assisted Psychotherapy, Equine Assisted Learning, Music Therapy and Art Therapy to adults and children with disabilities.

Walk to End Alzheimer’s Set for Oct. 18

Begins at Office for Senior Resources in Carmel

The local chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association will host a 3-mile fundraising walk on Sunday, Oct. 18 at the Putnam Office for Senior Resources in Carmel to raise money for research into the debilitating disease. Walkers can form, join, or support a team with a donation by visiting hudsonvalleywalks.org.

Registration begins at 9 a.m., followed by an opening ceremony at 10 a.m. and the walk at 10:15 a.m. As of Oct. 12, there

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

were 34 area teams with 190 walkers and \$32,890 raised toward a goal of \$49,449. The local chapter, based in Poughkeepsie, serves the Hudson Valley and Rockland and Westchester counties.

The Putnam Office for Senior Resources is located at 110 Old Route 6. For more information, call Terry Kean at 914-253-6860 or email tkean@alz.org.

Apple Pickin’ Time

Local farms offer hands-on harvesting

New York state has more than 700 apple growers and some 10 million apple trees. Dutchess Tourism (dutchess-tourism.com) compiled a list of area farms offering apple and pumpkin picking.

Fishkill Farms at 9 Fishkill Farm Road in Hopewell Junction offers 17 varieties of apples plus fruits, vegetables and pasture-raised eggs. On weekends, enter on East Hook Road. Open daily 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is free but there is a \$5 per car charge on weekends and holidays. Call 845-897-4377 or visit fishkillfarms.com.

Meadowbrook Farm at 29 Old Myers Corners Road in Wappinger Falls, a three-generation family farm and market, has apple-cider donuts, cider, sweet corn, tomatoes, salsa, homemade pies and baked goods, eggs, honey, maple syrup, jams and jellies. Open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Pick your own on weekends only. Call 845-297-3002 or visit meadowbrookfarmmarket.com.

In addition, Adams Fairacre Farms on Route 9 in Wappinger will host its annual Harvest Fest on Sunday, Oct. 18, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with pony rides, a petting zoo and face painting for children. Call 845-454-4330 or visit adamsfarms.com.



Detail from a Mary Flaherty painting



The MotherLode Trio Photo provided

1101 Route 9D in Garrison. The popular local trio, which consists of Patti Pelican, Terry Platz and Stacy Labriola, performs what it calls “sophisticated folk music with a touch of motherhood.”

Get Fit Hudson Valley Launches

Six-week challenge includes prizes

Get Fit Hudson Valley, which continues through Nov. 7, encourages participants to walk, bike, run, skate or stretch for at least 30 minutes daily at Walkway Over the Hudson in Poughkeepsie or the 12-mile Putnam County Trailway, which begins at the Westchester border at Baldwin Place and ends at Brewster.

Participants can post photographs to Instagram or Twitter (hashtag #hqhealthyselfie) taken during their activity for a chance to win prizes such as a Nutribullet RX, a Fitbit Flex, gift cards to Dick’s Sporting Goods, subscriptions to NatureBox Healthy Snacks and Get Fit Hudson Valley T-shirts.

Other ways to log activities include the free Health Quest U app (available at iTunes and Google Play), submitting online via getfithv.com or mailing in a form. The challenge is sponsored by Health Quest, Walkway Over the Hudson, Putnam County Trailway and Putnam County Tourism.

Boo at the Zoo

Trailside hosts annual family event

Trailside Museums and Zoo at Bear Mountain State Park will host “Boo at the Zoo” on Saturday, Oct. 24. Meet at the Bear Den at 10:30 to make snacks for the black bears; at 11 a.m. watch the zookeepers share the treats with the bears in their decorated habitat.

Family activities, including pumpkin decorating, matching games and face painting, will continue until 3 p.m. Parking is \$8 per vehicle and the zoo asks for a donation of \$1 per person. Allow 20 minutes to walk from the parking lot to the zoo. For more information, visit trailside-zoo.org. The rain date is Sunday, Oct. 25.

Beacon

Protecting Children from Abuse

Author will detail strategies for parents

Joelle Casteix will share age-specific strategies from her newly published book, *The Well-Armored Child: A Parent’s Guide to Preventing Sexual Abuse*, when she speaks at the Howland Public Library in Beacon at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 20. Casteix, herself a survivor of abuse,

is the volunteer western regional director for the Survivors Network of Those Abused by Priests and conducts training sessions for families, churches and community groups on how to protect children from predators. Her previous books include *The Compassionate Response: How to Help Empower the Adult Victim of Child Sexual Abuse*. For more information, visit casteix.com. The Howland Library is located at 313 Main St.

Howland Center to Screen La Fiesta del Fuego

Documentary captures Cuba’s annual Fire Festival

The Howland Cultural Center will screen the documentary *La Fiesta del Fuego* (The Fire Festival) at 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23. The film documents the nine-day festival, which has been celebrated in Santiago, Cuba, annually since 1980 and features rhythmic drumming, dancing and singing of the mystical Santeros, Rastafarians, Native Indians and other Caribbean cultures.

La Fiesta culminates with a spectacular devil effigy-burning. “The fire symbolizes ridding the world of all bad influences and evil,” said Susanne Moss, who produced and directed the 49-minute film after attending the festival in July.

Moss’s other documentaries are *Ras Cuba: Interviews with Cuban Rastafarians* (2003) and *Rastas at Home and Abroad* (2011). Her photos of Rastafarian cultures have been displayed at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.

A Q&A with Moss, Cuban cultural expert Frank Quintero and editor Jim Bifle will follow the screening. Admission is \$8. The cultural center is located at 477 Main St. in Beacon. To view a trailer for the documentary, visit selahphoto.com/documentaries.



Image from La Fiesta del Fuego

Howland Library Offers Yoga for Babies (and Parents)

Classes start Oct. 19 for children from 3 to 24 months

Bekah Starr will lead yoga classes for parents and their babies and toddlers beginning Monday, Oct. 19, at the How-

land Public Library in Beacon. The class for toddlers ages 1 to 2 begins at 10:45 a.m. and for infants ages 3 to 12 months at 11:45 a.m.

Each class includes yoga postures and breathing techniques, with child-focused segments to strengthen and tone abdominals, legs and tush while learning to relax overworked neck and shoulders. Songs and playtime for toddler along with some gentle massage techniques round out the class.

Space is limited, so registration is recommended. Call 845-831-1134, ext. 103 or email youth@beaconlibrary.org. Bring a yoga mat or towel for yourself and a blanket and toy for your child. The Howland Library is located 313 Main Street.

Owls to Descend on Beacon Institute

Screecher program set for Oct. 17

As part of its Wow! Series for Kids, the Beacon Institute has invited Carl



The Beacon Institute will host a presentation on owls on Oct. 17 Photo provided

(To Page 14)



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Owls to Descend on Beacon Institute (from Page 13)

Heitmuller of the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum to share his knowledge of owls, such as the owl that makes a sound like a horse whinny and another that can eat a skunk.

“Screecher Feature” takes place at 10



Raku-fired clay Spirit Houses

Photo provided

a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 17 at the Institute gallery at 199 Main St. in Beacon. Heitmuller will bring along a live Eastern screech owl and discuss other owls that live nearby. Registration is available at [bire.org/events](http://bire.org/events).

Workshop Uses Art to Help with Grieving

Artist will lead participants in writing to the departed

Letters to the Dead: Beyond Words, a two-hour workshop by Jennie Chien, in which those who are grieving write a letter to a loved one who has passed, will be held at RiverWinds Gallery, 172 Main St., Beacon at 10 a.m. on Satur-

day, Oct. 24. The workshop, which costs \$40, provides an overview of the project, guidance in writing and materials.

“The letters to departed ones will be collected, shredded and cast into paper spirit houses, which will be the vessels that hold your words,” explained Chien, whose work is on display at the gallery through Nov. 8.

The shreds from the letters will be used in a raku firing of a clay spirit house on Nov. 1 at the Rockland Center for the Arts in Nyack. The burning paper infuses the clay spirit house with the spirit of the written words, Chien explained. Participants will receive both the paper cast and raku-fired spirit house.

“Grieving is a primal emotion that can

be uncontrollable,” said Chien, who lives in Nyack. “The physical act of writing to someone who has died engages the higher process of the brain and memory, which helps to control the grief. It doesn’t eliminate the grief, but having processed it, the grief becomes a part of you rather than controlling you.”

She added: “My father died 25 years ago and I could never talk about him without tears in my eyes. After sending him a letter and infusing the words in a spirit house, I felt more at peace with his memory.”

Chien’s project was made possible with funds from the Arts Council of Rockland and the New York State Council on the Arts. For information, call 845-838-2880 or visit [riverwindsgallery.com](http://riverwindsgallery.com).



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Sports

Tennis, Everyone?

Community Day spotlights courts and Haldane team

By Alison Rooney

The Community Play Day fundraiser held on Sunday (Oct. 11) at the Route 9 courts by the Haldane athletic booster club for surface improvements and preseason training combined demonstrations and “mini-matches” by players with invitations to visitors to participate. That mix of school and the community represents how the courts function. They are part of the Haldane campus on Route 9D (Morris Avenue) but open to the public. The school’s maintenance staff handles up-keep, putting up the nets in the spring and removing them, usually, in mid-November. The Community Play Day was co-sponsored by Taconic Sport and Racquet in Hopewell Junction, and its general manager, Simon Gale, was on hand to help run the event and hand out prizes, including

two tickets to next year’s U.S. Open. During the tennis season, the girls’ varsity team uses the courts every week-day after school, and on some Saturdays. But at all other times they are available on a first-come, first-serve (literally!) basis. With no other public courts in Philipstown (there is a thriving tennis program at the Highlands Country Club in Garrison), the courts have seen a resurgence of players since a 2011 renovation. The two courts are dedicated to now-retired Haldane teacher Ray Champlin, who steered the program over three decades during his tenure at the school. They require periodic repairs. In 1979, after Haldane voters rejected funding to fix the cracked surfaces, Hubert Harwood, of the Cold Spring-based Nycrest Corp., donated the money. More recently, in 2012, the school received two state grants for patching and painting; as the school’s booster club reported, the courts “are now the right color ... Haldane Blue.”



Rosemarie Sterling speaks at Community Day, joined by members of the Haldane varsity tennis team: Alii Sharpley, Olivia Sterling, Ashley Haines, Lucinda Strol, Molly Altucher, Olivia Olsen and Hali Traina.

Photo by A. Rooney

Joe Curto, the former Haldane School Board president, helped with the application for those grants and also has shared his expertise as owner of the Yonkers Tennis Club. He replaces the nets and donates equipment when needed and assisted with the installation last summer of a blue windscreen along the fence closest to Route 9D. The screen was purchased through fundraisers by the team and the booster club under the direction of parent Rosemarie Sterling. Curto would like to see Philipstown launch a Community Tennis Association sanctioned by the U.S. Tennis Association (USTA) and organize youth programs with the Philipstown Recreation Department and local tennis clubs. “Tennis is a life-long sport and something every person should experience,” he said. “It’s one of the few high school sports you can do after age 25 on a regular basis.” Curto and Sterling also both would like to see a co-ed spring tennis club at Haldane. Simon Dudar, a Haldane teacher and the tennis coach, calls the condition of the courts “decent” but notes that cracks have again started to appear. Curto says that “to make the two courts perfect” would

require demolition and new asphalt and coating at a cost of about \$70,000. There has also been discussion of adding a third court across the street or by repositioning the current courts but neither option has gone anywhere because of concerns about logistics and costs. A more realistic goal, Curto says, is to keep the courts in the best possible shape, add a second windscreen and someday provide benches for spectators. Dudar and Curto and other boosters would also like to give the players an intensive, week-long pre-season training program. Dudar, who was appointed as coach six seasons ago, says credit for revitalizing the program belongs to Molly Prins, a former Haldane student who attends and plays for the United States Military Academy at West Point. “As a sophomore Molly single-handedly recruited girls for the team, taught many of the girls — and me — how to play, organized lessons at West Point and gave free lessons to younger girls in the community,” Dudar said. “Not to mention she also went undefeated the entire season, not even losing a single game, and won the conference championship.”

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Sports



Top left: Taylor Farrell (1138, center), Ruby McEwen (1137, right) and Wylie Thornquist (1139, right rear) at the start of the Bobcat Run at Byram Hills High School on Oct. 10

Left: medal winners with Coach Tom Locascio, at Byram Hill High School Oct. 10. Left to right: Taylor Farrell, Locascio, Nolan Shea, Eric Rizzi, Nick Farrell, Ellis Osterfeld, Adam Silhavy and Ruby McEwen



Corbett Francis attacks the Croton defense during the Blue Devils 3-0 home loss on Oct. 13. *Photos by Peter Farrell*



Meghan Ferri (1135) and Wylie Thornquist (1139) sprint toward the finish line during the Bobcat Run.

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