The Paper's songwriters series, A Song is Born, this Saturday at 8 p.m. | Page 9

The Paper's songwriters series, A Song is Born, this Saturday at 8 p.m.

County Legislator Candidates Discuss Differences on Sales Tax, Butterfield, and Snake Hill Road

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Often agreeing about the seriousness of the issues but not necessarily on ways to address them, Putnam County Legislature District 1 candidates Barbara Scuccimarra and Steve Rosario debated sales-tax sharing, the Butterfield redevelopment, and Snake Hill Road conditions at a forum Monday night (Oct. 15).

Questions about “fracking,” or hydraulic fracturing, a controversial method of extracting fuel from underground rocks, and tree-cutting also came up as the audience entered the discussion, held in the Haldane School music room and sponsored by Philipstown.info, whose publisher, Gordon Stewart, moderated. The approximately 80-minute event drew about 60 attendees.

In the Nov. 6 election, Scuccimarra, a Republican, and Rosario, a Democrat, are vying to succeed Vincent Tamagna as the representative in Carmel for District 1, which covers Philipstown and part of Putnam Valley. Both have served on the Philipstown Town Board, Rosario from 1994-1998 and Scuccimarra from 2008 to January 2012.

Reasons for running

The candidates began by explaining their reasons and qualifications for running. Going first, Scuccimarra described herself as someone “with a quiet strength” who gets along “with all sides,” citing her role on the Democrat-dominated Town Board in helping achieve consensus. Despite political party differences, all Town Board members cooperated “to find solutions,” she said. “We must all work together. I realize it should always be people before politics.” And because of her background and extensive involvement in Philipstown affairs, “I understand the issues. I’m in a position to hit the ground running,” she said. Originally from Putnam Valley, Scuccimarra moved to Garrison, raising a family there and working on Main Street in Cold Spring as a florist and entrepreneur.

Rosario, an attorney and senior northern regional director for the American Chemistry Council, a trade association, earlier served in the administration of New York City Mayor Ed Koch. “I do know the ins and outs of government,” although “I’m not a career politician,” he said. “I can bring my skills” to the legislative office. A member of the Garrison Volunteer Fire Company, he noted that 25 years ago he and his wife moved to Philipstown, the “place we wanted to set our roots.” He, too, endorsed bipartisan approaches. As a Democrat, a minority in county government, “I’ll have to do what is best for Philipstown, Putnam Valley, and Putnam County,” he said. He promised to strive “to raise the level of recognition” of western Putnam County at Carmel, the county seat, and to “be a voice that has not existed for years. One person and one voice can make a difference.”

Sales-tax sharing

Contrasts between the candidates quickly appeared in regard to Putnam County’s refusal to share revenue from sales tax with the villages and towns in which it is collected. “The sales taxes and property taxes should come back in some form to the various towns, especially the sales tax,” Rosario said. “The county takes the money and does not want to share it. There is absolutely no reason why Putnam County cannot do it” when nearly every other county in the state gives back a portion of locally-collected sales tax, he said.

“Yes,” the problems associated with sales tax are real, Scuccimarra agreed. But she proposed that the solution lies not in repatriating some sales-tax revenue to municipalities but in cutting consumer taxes, like that on gasoline. “When you share sales tax, who are you sharing it with?” she asked.

Philipstown Anticipates 2 Percent Budget Increase for 2013

Town Board begins work on spending and taxes

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

A preliminary outline for the 2013 Town of Philipstown budget calls for a 2 percent increase in spending, up from the $8,835,276 total town appropriation of the fiscal year 2012 to $8,997,052 for the new fiscal year, which begins Jan. 1. The amount to be raised by taxes would go from the $6,954,192 of fiscal 2012 to $7,158,532 in fiscal 2013.

Based on individual budgets submitted by the town’s various departments, including local fire companies that serve Philipstown residents, the budget still awaits considerable further honing and likely pairing in some areas. As Supervisor Richard Shea and Town Board members worked through the initial data at a workshop Wednesday night (Oct. 16), they made clear that projected increases in spending in some accounts, including some salary hikes, were unlikely to survive.

The pay of the supervisor and his fellow Town Board members would remain the same as in the present, fiscal 2012 year — $28,000 for Shea and $18,000 apiece for Councilors Nancy Montgomery, Betty Budney, Dave Merandy, and John Van Tassel. Nonetheless, the pay for some town employees would go up — but only if the departments involved get their way. For instance, the Justice Court office proposes increases of 4 to 6 percent for personal and clerical services, the Town Clerk’s office proposes a 10 percent increase — $1,000 — for a grant administrator position; and the pay for the highway superintendent, an elected official, would go from
Sandwich Redemption

By Celia Barbour

N ormally, I love paging through cookbooks. The great ones fill me with the kind of complicated, achy yearning that comes from reading about something I wish I were doing. There are certain recipes I experience with my taste buds, nose and hands the way you might go through a thrill-er with your adrenaline surging and heart pounding. By the time I’m halfway through a good cookbook, I’ve inevitably decided to quit my job and take to the kitchen full-time, with only the occasion-al break to go grocery shopping.

But last week at work, I had to peruse more than 85 of them, all recently or soon-to-be published, and the cumula-tive effect was as if grit had been tossed into the little mechanism in my brain where my own cooking and writing are generated. I seized up.

Not that I became completely cataton-ic. I organized my closet, dug holes in the garden and put things in them, matched socks, called our accountant. I avoided the kitchen, however, as if rattlesnakes had taken up residence in my pots.

But here’s the thing about food: At some point you just get hungry. And while you can certainly grab a bag of whatever from the cabinet and have at it, while you can certainly grab a bag of chips, I find myself much more likely to make something I’ve made before. For one thing, I can imagine how it is going to taste — everyone had to have one, too. So he made a sandwich for Henry, a sandwich for Dosi (sans meat and pickle) and gave a nice bite to his dad.

He fed his family! And fed my soul, too. Sometimes I am so grateful for the simple, incontrovertible things — like sandwiches, deadlines, and kids with cravings — that always seem to turn up out of a funk and pitch me back into the delicious flow of life.

He sliced the cheese, buttered the bread, fired up the burner beside mine. He called out to his brother and sister to see if they wanted their own. They de-clined. But when George sat down with his sandwich — beautiful golden on the outside, melting and compressed within — everyone had to have one, too. So he

Yogurt sauce
Adapted from Saltie

2 cups plain yogurt, preferably organic and whole milk 5 scallions, sliced or minced ¼ cup chopped fresh dill

Combine all ingredients in a bowl. Taste, and adjust seasoning if desired.

Hummus
Adapted from Saltie

1 ½ teaspoons coriander seeds 1 ½ teaspoons cumin seeds 3 garlic cloves, smashed 2 cans chickpeas, drained and rinsed 1/3 cup tahini 1 tablespoon red miso 1/3 cup fresh lemon juice 1 ½ cups plain yogurt, preferably organic and whole milk

Grind the seeds with a spice grinder or mortar and pestle. Transfer spices to a food processor along with all the other ingredients, and blend well. Serve on warm pita or naan, topped with yogurt sauce.

Angelina’s

Authentic Korean Homestyle Food

One Year Anniversary Special Menu

All Natural Ingredients Homemade Kimchi

Lunch and Dinner

Hours: 11:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.

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845.765.8596

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it diately, on a short-term basis, and then move the ad hoc offices to Butterfield if the project goes ahead, he said. "I’m convinced that could be done. We should be having that discussion" and adopt "a can-do attitude," he said.

Snake Hill Road

Continuing problems with Snake Hill Road after the 2011 hurricane likewise claimed the candidates’ attention. Rosario said that a 1996 storm caused damage too and that better efforts then to rebuild would have reduced the scope and expenses involved now. "This is where forward thinking comes in," he said. In terms of the current mess, “I don’t think the county was pounding it enough.” FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency) hard enough” to get the essential funding, he said. “I’ve been very frustrated because I use Snake Hill on a regular basis and as a firefighter also understand the hazards posed by the lack of repairs. Moreover, if the road looks bad now, “wait until winter sets in,” he predicted.

Succimarra said she recently spent an hour reviewing the Snake Hill Road situation with Philipstown Highway Superintendent Roger Chirico and his county counterpart. “They just received the federal funds for this, FEMA funds,” she said. “It has taken a terribly long time to do that and they understand that, but they finally have the funds.” However, she went on, environmental concerns come into play, too. “Philip Brook runs right near there and it’s a trout-spawn- ing stream. So you can’t work in it from October to April,” she said. That means that the road “is going to have to remain like it is until this spring.”

Fracking and tree-cutting

The issue of fracking surfaced both in regard to Rosario’s job and in terms of water pollution. When an audience member asked if Rosario lobbies for the fracking industry, he emphatically answered “No!” As a certified association member asked if Rosario lobbies for the fracking industry, he emphatically answered “No!” As a certified association member asked if Rosario lobbies for the fracking industry, he emphatically answered “No!” As a certified association member asked if Rosario lobbies for the fracking industry, he emphatically answered “No!” As a certified association member asked if Rosario lobbies for the fracking industry, he emphatically answered “No!” As a certified association member asked if Rosario lobbies for the fracking industry, he emphatically answered “No!”

The candidate failed to intervene. However, “your perspective of what was going on and mine are different.” She said the crew, with legal permission to work on the utility-right-of-way, merely tried to do its job. “They’re trimming the trees so our power does not go out,” she said. Last summer, she was involved in a similar altercation but avoided arrest. “I’m sorry” about the incident, Succimarra told Blum. However, “your perception of what was going on and mine are different.”

The town council last week voted down a resolution that would require about the candidates’ views on tree-trimming, revealing that she had been arrested earlier that day when challenging a chain-saw crew “slicing trees to the bottom of the ground.” (Last summer, she was involved in a similar altercation but avoided arrest.)

Rosario likewise described use of fracking brine on roads as unsuitable and said “I fear for our aquifers.”

Local tree-activist Joyce Blum inquired about the candidates’ views on tree-trimming, revealing that she had been arrested earlier that day when challenging a chain-saw crew “slicing trees to the bottom of the ground.” (Last summer, she was involved in a similar altercation but avoided arrest.)

She claimed the attempt to safeguard a tree on Succimarra’s land and that the candidate failed to intervene. “I’m sorry” about the incident, Succimarra told Blum. However, “your perception of what was going on and mine are different.”

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Haldane Fields Project Turf Deemed Safe

Dear Editor:

As you may already know, the Haldane Central School District BOE passed a resolution to move forward with the capital project regarding athletic field upgrades, locker room renovations and auditorium upgrades. This resolution is being put up for public vote on Nov. 13 and is a tax-neutral proposal. Tax neutral simply means we are using current capital project reserves in the amount of $900,000, a proposed land sale valued at $442,000 to $525,000, and fundraising by the PLAY Haldane Group for $200,000. All this information and a lot more detail can be found on our school website, haldaneschool.org.

Recently on Facebook and in conversations around town, there have been some concerns about environmental impacts, toxic materials, increased injuries and bacterial infections from athletic turf. I have looked into both sides regarding these issues and have been given information about both sides. The Haldane BOE has already looked into this and has read and reverts back to a few New York state studies on this, which can be found on our website. Here are a few clips from the NYSDOH of Health:

- Heat Stress — “At present time, NYSDOH is unaware of any studies that have examined the role of synthetic turf contributing to heat stress.”
- Injuries — Please read the article in American Journal of Sports Medicine Oct. 2004, 32, 1626-1638. Also NYSDOH stated: “Although the ability of the studies to detect differences in the injury rates was limited by the small number of injuries reported, the studies concluded that there were no major differences in overall injury rates between natural and in-filled synthetic turf. Although each study found some differences in specific injury types, there was no consistent pattern across the studies.”

Chemical Exposure — Studies have been conducted by the California EPA Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment and the Norwegian Institute of Public Health. “Both studies concluded that health risks to children resulting from the ingestion of crumb rubber are low.” Furthermore, the Norwegian study went on to say, “The researchers concluded that adverse health effects resulting in dermal exposures to crumb rubber or from inhalation exposures to organic chemicals released from the fields are unlikely. Some kinds of artificial turf have been found to contain elevated levels of lead. The high levels of lead were only found in turf fibers (bulk samples) composed of nylon or a blend of nylon and polyethylene. Degradation of those fibers forms a ‘dust’ that contains lead. NONE OF THE FIELDS WITH HIGH LEVELS OF LEAD CONTAINED INFILL MATERIALS (e.g., crumb rubber). Artificial turf fields with these high levels of lead appear to be older fields installed five or more years ago.”

Storm water — “A risk assessment for aquatic life protection was performed and found that crumb rubber derived entirely from tire tires may have an impact on aquatic life based on the impacts that zinc may have on aquatic life pathway. For the crumb rubber made from mined tires, the potential impacts are insignificant.”

Michael Junjulas
Haldane School Board of Education

Haldane Project is Budget-Neutral

Dear Editor:

Nov. 6 is a big day for campaigns and elections for regional, state and national concerns. On a super-local level, Nov. 13 is, in my opinion, equally important. Haldane District voters have a decision to make about the future of the fields/auditorium/locker room project, and the outcome of this vote will have a dramatic and lasting effect on the school and community.

I will state at the outset that I hope we will approve the referendum on Nov. 13. Voter support also means that the project will receive more state aid reimbursement. I have heard concerns “on the street” about how much this is all going to cost taxpayers. For the past few years at budget time, I have written letters to the editor to share with voters my opinion about the project increase to their property tax with the new budget.

This project is different: it is designed so that it won’t increase our property tax at all. How can a $2 million dollar capital project be budget-neutral?

The funding will come from several sources:
- Endowment fund: $300K (This fund has been identified as one for use on capital projects.)
- Capital reserve fund: $600K (In 2008 voters approved establishing this savings reserve, the account has been growing over the years since then, and the money can only be used to pay for capital projects.)
- State aid: approximately $600K
- Sale of vacant land: estimated at $400K-525K

For more information, please go to www.philipstown.info/ads or email the Haldane School Board Office at BOE@haldaneschool.org.

Sincerely,
Julia Famularo
North Highlands

Open Studios Coverage

Dear Editor:

Thank you very much for your coverage in advance of the Cold Spring Arts Open Studios weekend. A number of people who visited did so with your paper in hand. The Cold Spring Art Center is located at 50 Water Street. Free admission is $5-10.

Dear Reader:

Five new members were welcomed into the First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown this week. Shown in photo are Andy and Laura Reid of Cold Spring, with daughters Claire and Molly; Andy and Sandra Larivee of Putnam Valley; and Gardener Mott of Cold Spring; and the Rev. Leslie Mott, pastor of the church. Visitors are always warmly welcomed at this Saturday’s (Oct. 20) Jazz Vespers, Saturday at 5:30 p.m. or Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m.

Sincerely,
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Dunkin' Donuts Decision Could Be Soon

Although they allowed their attorney to do most of the talking, Kenny and Fran Elmes nevertheless offered full-throated criticism of the Planning Board's pro-
cress, declaring it to be unnecessarily
long and overly expensive. At one point
Fran Elmes claimed the board had cost
the pair $125,000. A clearly embittered
Kenny Elmes accused the board of delib-
erately throwing up new roadblocks to
proceeding the process and discourage
him from continuing with his plans.

Traffic the big issue

The board's request that an independ-
ent traffic engineer review the study
done by Elmesco consultant, Tim Miller
Associates, drew the most objection from
the Elmes side and resulted in the most
discussion. “It’s late in the day to be
reviewing the traffic study,” said Van Tuyl.
Citing her client's expense and long
wait, she renewed her call for a decision
on the project asserting that if new state
regulations, not yet promulgated, were
in place, the application would not even
necessitate a traffic study. She further ac-
cussed the board of “grabbing at straws.”

Barbaro and other board members
iterated that they had made the traffic
impact of the change-of-use application
central to their concerns since the begin-
ning of the proceedings and that they
and the board's consulting engineer, Rob
Cameron of Putnam Engineering, had
raised many questions about the traffic
study all along.

Traffic the big issue

By Jeanne Tao

A

t the Nelsonville Village Board
meeting on Monday, Oct. 15, busi-
ness went quickly as usual and
without much ado until the end, when
resident Chet Warren requested that the
village repair a drain system that was
af-
fecting his property. The board pointed
out that the drain was not village prop-
erty, but Warren disagreed.

During the meeting, Michael Savasta-
no, president of the Nelsonville Fish and
Fur Club, along with Warren, who is vice
president, came to ask about the club's
lease of the cottage. The five-year
renewal through the Open Space Institute expired September this year, so Savastano asked
for a renewal. Nelsonville Mayor Tom
Corless indicated that it should not be a
problem and would speak to Open Space,
and Trustee Ande Merante recommend-
ed that attorney Robert Lusardi look at
the new lease before committing to it.

Merante reported that he is still wait-
ing on a quote from Philipstown Tree
Service for tree trimming in the village
and will contact them again.

Corless mentioned that he has asked
Steve Pidala to work on some potholes
on Healy Road as well as the dry hydrant
drawing water from Foundry Creek on
Peekskill Road, which would be under-
way weather permitting.

Corless wanted to follow up with Cold
Spring Village about the water-main re-
lining project along Route 301, as the
remaining service pipes are located near
most of the catch basins, which then
easily become blocked with leaves.

Traffic the big issue

Still more concerns

The other issues the board wants reso-
lution of included greater clarity about
an easement attached to the compul-
sion property allowing egress through
the rear of the property. Barbaro said
that while documentation had been pro-
vised, the board was still uncertain as

(continued on page 1)

to the practical enforcement of the ease-
ment and how it would affect the traffic
flow on the proposed new site plan.

The board also has determined that
the State Environmental Quality Re-
view (SEQR) procedure requires great-
er documentation from the applicant,
which involves the filing of a longer
environmental assessment form (EAF).
The Elmes' lawyer took sharp objection
to this request, arguing that the board
was misinterpreting SEQR regulations.

Gaba responded he concurred with
the board's determination and that
the board had signaled the need for the lon-
ger EAF much earlier in the process.

He said further that he did not believe
the board intended to raise new issues and
that the board would likely approach a
“negative declaration” as to environmen-

tal threats. Gaba's main concern was not
to be “tripped up” by SEQR issues “down
the road.” Van Tuyl declined to commit
to be providing it. “We'll take it under
advisement,” she said.

While Planning Board members dif-
fered somewhat in issues or perspective
on the application, there was unanimity
on the review of the traffic study and af-
firmed that traffic had been a concern
from the outset. It seems clear that a fi-
inal decision will hinge almost exclusive-
y on whether a majority of the five-mem-
ber board is satisfied that the new use of
the property will not negatively impact
the existing traffic flow or increase safety
costs in the 9D commercial corridor
including when considering the likely
development of the Butterfield property
and the expansion of the Foodtown su-
permarket.

Repairs the Focus of Nelsonville Village Board Meeting

Fish and Fur Club seeks to
renew cottage lease

By Jeanne Tao

To

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Corless wanted to follow up with Cold
Spring Village about the water-main re-
lining project along Route 301, as the
remaining service pipes are located near
most of the catch basins, which then
easily become blocked with leaves. He
suggested putting in wooden wedges to
allow better drainage. There was also
some discussion about what would hap-
pen with the 1-inch temporary lines run-
ing from houses to the service mains in
case of freezing temperatures. One resi-
dent in the audience said some people
had received notices to keep faucets run-
ning.

Local law would have to be amended
to comply with FEMA directives in con-
nection with new flood maps. The board
would direct Lusardi to work on draw-
ing the law to be in compliance, which
would then go through a public hearing.

An audit of payroll and cash disburse-
ment was conducted, concluding that
Trisha Junjulas, who works as part-time
clerk in the village office, should be on
the payroll and of the remaining plan
benefits instead of being paid through
vouchers as a subcontractor.


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www.philipstown.info
Haldane Trustees Talk Money
Audit report, budget, and capital improvements dominate meeting
By Michael Turton

School Board trustees with the Haldane Central School District had money on their minds at their meeting Tuesday, Oct. 16. The mood varied greatly, from a glowing auditor’s report, to a daunting first discussion of next year’s budget, to optimistic hopes for a proposed capital improvement project.

Haldane gets an ‘A’ from audit report
Scott Preusser, CPA with Claverock, NY-based Raymond G. Preusser Certified Public Accountants, reviewed the independent audit that his firm conducted of the district’s financial practices for the year ending June 12, an undertaking that the district is required to complete annually. Auditors’ formal reports are not known for describing their findings in layman’s terms. Preusser’s comment that the audit found “no significant deficiencies” is about as close as they ever get saying, “You’re doing a great job.” But in the less formal discussion with trustees, that point came out numerous times. “This is not a couple of days’ process,” Preusser said. “It began in March, and visits started in May.” In describing Haldane’s overall approach to its finances, Preusser said, “You’re always looking ahead to discuss budget issues, including capital improvements.”

Tough budget talks ahead
Trustees will likely need those words of encouragement as they begin to think about crafting next year’s budget. They took the first tentative step in that direction when Superintendent of Schools Mark Villanti reviewed a short presentation laying out some of the fundamental facts. The biggest challenge on the revenue side of the equation is the continuing decline in state aid. In recent years that aid has been cut by $500,000 a year — a significant amount in a budget of approximately $2 million. And it may get worse. Asked what he expects the reduction in state aid to be for the upcoming year, Villanti replied that it might be closer to $600,000. “Functionally, we’re at a point where we’re going to have to make cuts,” he said. One area where the district can save money is through the retirement of veteran teachers at the top of the pay scale. They can be replaced by younger teachers who earn less. Villanti said that by December he should know which teachers will be retiring.

Wages are definitely on trustees’ minds as they think about the next budget. “We’ve been nibbling around the edges for places to cut that won’t have a significant impact,” Trustee Peter Henderson said. “I really think the only area (for cuts) is payroll.” Henderson repeated an idea that he floated as part of his election campaign last spring — that if the budget picture does not improve, he will call for a voluntary wage freeze from the district’s two unions — teachers and support staff. The district does have an $800,000 fund balance, but trustees and Villanti both favor not touching it unless they absolutely have to. “It’s like a family’s savings,” Villanti said. “It’s not advisable to chew into that. It’s only for use in a worst-case scenario.”

“Things are going to be an ongoing conversation,” Junjulas said. Trustees hope that part of that conversation will include New York State Assemblywoman Sandy Galef and State Senator Stephenian Vaklan. Villanti intends to invite them to a meeting to discuss budget issues, including unfunded state mandates. “We’re not looking to rake anyone over the coals,” he said. “On a grand scale they may understand. But district to district, I don’t think they do.”

Video promotes capital improvements
Haldane has produced a 32-minute video supporting the $2 million capital improvement project to which voters will say either “yes” or “no” in a referendum on Nov. 13. If approved, major improvements will be undertaken to the main sports field on campus, including installation of artificial turf and the development of a practice and walking track around the edge of the field. In addition, improvements to the auditorium would be carried out along with replacement of aging lockers, some of which date back to the 1960s. The video features testimonials from numerous students, teachers, administrators and others extolling the virtues of the proposed project.

It is proposed that the project would be funded 34 percent from state aid, $600,000 from the district’s existing capital reserves, $300,000 from the district’s endowment fund, $200,000 from the PLAY Haldane community fund-raising effort, and from the sale of the 10-acre James Pond property, valued at between $425,000 and $500,000. The sale of those lands must be approved as part of the referendum. Trustees have pledged from the outset that the project will not result in any increase in taxes.

Bullying leads to human tragedy
At the outset of the meeting Junjulas read a chilling account of the suicide death of Amanda Todd, a 15-year-old high school student in Port Coquitlam, British Columbia. Todd took her own life, in her family home, a month after posting a video on YouTube describing how she fell into depression after years of online bullying, blackmail, and being physically assaulted at school. When he finished reading the story, Junjulas said, “Bullying is a very real subject. It is not a joke. If you see bullying on Facebook, please report it.”

Join The Paper’s Autumn photofest
Contribute your best shots of the town in all its seasonal splendor
Over the next few weeks The Paper will collect high-resolution, color pictures from local photographers of local autumnal scenes and themes. We would prefer pictures taken this year. The best of the photos (in our opinion) will be featured in The Paper on its color pages. Send your photos (or questions) to editor@philipstown.info.

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Heckert and McKee Return in Song to the Chapel Restoration

By Alison Rooney

The Chapel Restoration features artists from around the world, but on Oct. 21 it features two from just around the riverbend as soprano Julianne Heckert and baritone Michael McKee, both from Garrison, return for their second tandem performance there, accompanied by Paul Heckert on piano.

Whereas last year’s program included classical works, this year the pair’s selections are further ranging: from Yip Harburg to John Prine, Barber, Menotti and Bernstein to duets by Schumann and Fauré. Paul Heckert will also locally premiere some songs he composed to poems by Lord Byron.

McKee did have prior vocal experience. He majored in theater, took voice lessons, and performed in musicals during his undergraduate years at the University of Washington, “but I didn’t take it seriously then. Now I’m applying myself to learning the art and craft of it.” After graduating, McKee worked as a professional actor in Seattle and shifted to New York, where he did what actors do: showcases, commercials, tending bar. “It got tiresome, and I started feeling as if success as an actor wouldn’t overlap with success as an artist anyway.” Reflecting on what would be more satisfying, McKee went back to school to study psychology and eventually receiving his Ph.D. in the field. Clinical psychology has been his “second” career for over 20 years now.

A few years ago, at Heckert’s urging, McKee returned to acting, playing Helen Keller’s father in The Miracle Worker at the Depot Theatre, followed by a challenging musical role there, Mr. Peachum in Weill’s Threepenny Opera. Also fulfilling has been singing at St. Philip’s. “I’ve had a great opportunity to do solos in oratorio as well as many duets with Julie, so our artistic collaboration has evolved.”

Heckert also studied theater in college, earning a B.A. from Skidmore. She grew up in Garrison and spent her early days at a place where she spends a lot of time now: the Depot Theatre, where she is the house manager, frequently found staff- ing the box of -

McKee concurred. “Taking the risk of getting up in front of people, wanting to give the audience something good, makes us get ready, bear down, seriously.”

This year, with more shared singing experience, they decided to spend more time with duets. McKee said: “Julie and I have worked together on music of all kinds over several years now, so we’re tuned in to each other, as it were, and have an appreciation of each other’s approach to the work. This is our second recital with Paul Heckert, and of course he and Julie have made music together for as long as they’ve known each other, so that chemistry works into the mix very well.”

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A few years ago, at Heckert’s urging, McKee returned to acting, playing...
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, OCTOBER 19

Kids & Community

Country Bumpkins Embroidery Workshops
9 A.M. - 4 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
147 Main St., Beacon 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org

Preschool on the Farm
10 A.M. & 1:30 P.M. COMMON GROUND FARM
79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls
845-239-4442 | commongroundfarm.org
Cost: $10 per session

Children’s Concert
3:30 - 5 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison 845-424-9200
desmondfishlibrary.org

Art & Design

Collaborative Concepts Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit
Dawn To Dusk, Saunders Farm
853 Old Albany Post Rd., Garrison
845-528-1797 | collaborativeconcepts.org

Recreations Reunited: Hudson River Images Revisited
9:30 A.M. - 5 P.M. BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Manhasset Tour
11 A.M. RUSSEL WRIGHT DESIGN CENTER
5840 Route 9D, Garrison
Cost: $15 per person; $13 seniors; $5 children under 12. Register online at brownpapertickets.com

Cold Spring Designers Trunk Show
7 - 9 P.M., SIMPLY ELEGANT SALON
90 Main St., Cold Spring | 914-621-1560

Theater & Film

Pinkalicious – A Musical
7 P.M. BEACON THEATER
445 Main St., Beacon | 845-226-8099
thebeacontheatre.org | Tickets: $15

Searching for Sugar Man
7:30 P.M., DOWNING FILM CENTER
19 Front St., Newburgh
845-561-3686 | downingfilmcenter.com

Music

David Bromberg Big Band
8 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org
Cost: $15

Meetings & Lectures

Free Computer Help
2 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-404-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

NHFD District Workshop Meeting
5:30 P.M. NORTH HIGHLANDS FIRE HOUSE
504 Fairview Rd, Cold Spring | 845-265-9595
nhfd21.org | Phone ahead for take-out.

Investigative Ghost Tour
6 P.M., BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org
Cost: $15

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Haldane vs. Putnam Valley Modified Volleyball
4:15 P.M. HALDANE SCHOOL
15 Crossides Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Haldane vs. Arlington Boys’ Soccer
4:30 P.M. ST. BASIL ACADEMY
79 St. Basil Rd, Garrison
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Nature Program: Woolly Bear Caterpillars
9 - 10 a.M., SIMPLY ELEGANT SALON
90 Main St., Cold Spring
845-541-1560 | downingfilmcenter.com

Art & Design

Collaborative Concepts Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit
Dawn To Dusk, Saunders Farm
853 Old Albany Post Rd., Garrison
845-528-1797 | collaborativeconcepts.org

The Gift Hut

October Special

20% off what you need! Now through October 31

Step in to see our great selection!

6 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY
Open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays
10am-6pm

The Country Goose

115 Main St. | Cold Spring NY
845-265-2122 | www.countrygoose.com

Saturday, October 20

Kids & Community

Cold Spring Farmers’ Market
8:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison | csfarmmarket.org

Country Bumpkins Embroidery Workshops
9 A.M. - 4 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
See details under Friday.

Food Pantry

9 - 10 A.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PHILIPSTOWN
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-424-3020 | presbychurchatspring.org

Kessman Farms Pumpkin Patch
10 A.M. - 5 P.M. 383 COLD SPRING HILL ROAD, PATTerson | 845-978-7542

Nature Program: Woolly Bear Caterpillars
10 A.M. OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER
100 Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 | nhfd21.org

Garrison School Fall Festival
NOON - 3 P.M. GARRISON SCHOOL
1100 Route 9G, Garrison
845-424-3869 | gburghspa.org

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

Free Admission to Children’s Museum
5 - 8 P.M. MID-HUDSON CHILDREN’S MUSEUM
75 N. Water St., Poughkeepsie
845-471-0589 | nhcm.org

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Philipsburg Manor Carriage House Clubhouse Opening
8 - 10 A.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison

Please drive carefully and slowly near workers.

Pilates for Pink for Breast Cancer Research
9:30 - 11 A.M. YOGA AT THE ROUNDHOUSE
2 East Main St., Beacon | 845-440-3327 x309
roundhousebeacon.com | Suggested donation: $10

Religious Services

Shabbat Dinner Service
7 P.M. ST. MARY’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring | 845-265-6011
philipstownreformsynagogue.org

Service at Beacon Hebrew Alliance
7:30 P.M. 331 VERPLANCK, BEACON
845-832-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

Service at Reform Temple of Putnam Valley
8 P.M. 362 CHURCH, PUTNAM VALLEY
845-528-4774 | ny069.urj.net
Bannerman Island Tour 1:30 P.M. BEACON LANDING 800-978-3370 prideoffthudson.com Cost: $130 adults, $25 for children 11 and under

Meet the Animals 2:30 - 3:30 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER 25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson 845-534-7751 | hrsfoundation.org Admission: $3; Members are free.

Art & Design
Collaborative Concepts Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit DAWN TO DUSK, SAUNDERS FARM See details under Friday.

Free Admission Saturday 9:30 A.M - 5 P.M. BOSCOBEL 1605 Route 9D, Garrison 845-265-3638 | boscoobel.org

Reflections Renewed: Hudson River Images Revealed! 9:30 A.M - 5 P.M. BOSCOBEL See details under Friday.

Great Swap Art Exhibit and Celebration 11 A.M - 5 P.M. CHRIST CHURCH, Pawling 845-878-9248 | fogb-ny.org

Manitoga Tour 11 A.M - 1:30 P.M. RUSSEL WRIGHT DESIGN CENTER | See details under Friday.

Dia:Beacon Events 1 P.M. Dia:Beacon Tour NOON & 2 P.M. The Pure Awareness of the Absolute (Discussion) 3 Beekman St., Beacon 845-440-0100 | dia-beacon.org

Cold Spring Designers Trunk Show 1 - 5 P.M. SIMPLY ELEGANT SALON See details under Friday.

Melissa Meyer Exhibit Opening Reception 6 - 8 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER 23 Garrison’s Landing, Garrison 845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Warehouse Reflections (Installation) 7 - 9 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART | 100 N. Water St., Peekskill 914-798-0100 | hercug.org

Theater & Film
Searching for Sugar Man 3 P.M. & 5:15 P.M., DOWNING FILM CENTER See details under Friday.

Halloween with Edgar Allan Poe 7 P.M. BOSCOBEL 1604 Route 9D, Garrison 845-265-3638 | boscoobel.org | Tickets: $40

Pinkalicious – A Musical 7 P.M. BEACON THEATRE See details under Friday.


Rocky Horror Picture Show 11:30 A.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL 13 Main St., Tarrytown | 914-633-3390 Ext. 100 tarrytownmusichall.org | Tickets: $12

Music
Donizetti’s Elise d’Amore @ The Met: Live in HD 1 P.M. BARBAVAN THEATER 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie 845-473-2072 | bardavon.org Tickets: Adults $26, children $19

Peter Yarrow in Concert 8 A.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER 477 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-4968 | howlandculturalcenter.org | Tickets: $15

Open Book, A Song is Born (Concert) 8 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN.INFO 69 Main St., Cold Spring 845-809-5544 | philipstown.info Free admission, donations appreciated

Broadway Box 8 P.M., EISENHOWER HALL THEATRE 655 Raper Road, West Point 845-938-4159 | kehelm.com

Catharsis on Broadway 8 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL 13 Main St., Tarrytown | 914-633-3390 Ext. 100 tarrytownmusichall.org | Tickets from $35

Meet the Animals 2:30 - 3:30 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER 1350 Route 9, Garrison | 914-622-9044

Hauntings of the Hudson River Valley 5 P.M. PUTNAM HISTORY MUSEUM 63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring 845-265-4001 | putnamhistorymuseum.org | Cost: $5. Free to members.

Lantern Tour of Fort Montgomery 6:30 P.M. & 7:30 P.M., FORT MONTGOMERY 690 Route 9N, Fort Montgomery 845-446-2134 | Reservations required. Cost: $3

Religious Services
Reconciliation at Our Lady of Loreto 4:30 P.M. 24 FAIR ST., COLD SPRING 845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

Jazz Vespers 5:30 P.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 10 Academy, Cold Spring 845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Saturday Vigil at Our Lady of Loreto 5:30 P.M. 24 FAIR ST., COLD SPRING 845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21
Kids & Community
Pioneer Living Series 2 P.M. COMMON GROUND FARM 79 Farmstead Lane, Wappingers Falls 845-235-4404 | commongroundfarm.org

Transfer and Stencil Techniques for Kids 2 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART 1701 Main St., Peekskill 914-788-0100 | hercug.org Space is limited. RSVP to jerodi@hvc.org

Friends of Butterfield Reception 4:30 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring | 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org | Tickets: $45

Reflections Renewed: Hudson River Images Revealed 9:30 A.M - 5 P.M. BOSCOBEL See details under Friday.

Manitoga Tour 11 A.M - 1:30 P.M. RUSSEL WRIGHT DESIGN CENTER | See details under Friday.

Great Gatsby House Tour 2 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY 472 Route 403, Garrison 845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org Registration required; space limited to 25 people.

Russell Wright: The Nature of Design 2 P.M. SAMUEL DORSKY MUSEUM OF ART State University of New York, New Paltz 845-424-3812 | russelwrightcenter.org

Warehouse Reflections (Installation) 7 - 9 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART See details under Saturday.

Theater & Film
Chimpanzees NOON, JACOB BURNS CENTER 364 Marble Ave, Pleasantville | 914-747-5555 burnsfilmcenter.org | Part of Focus on Nature series sponsored by Scenic Hudson, Rated G

Pinkalicious – A Musical 3 P.M. BEACON THEATRE See details under Friday.

Searching for Sugar Man 3 P.M. & 5:15 P.M., DOWNING FILM CENTER See details under Friday.

Halloween with Edgar Allan Poe 7 P.M. BOSCOBEL See details under Saturday.

(Continued on page 10)
Phlipstontown Nails Grand Opening

Manicure/Pedicure Waxing/Facial Massage

Special Grand Opening Offer: Join our free membership and receive 1/2 off on every other visit.

We are conveniently located in Phlipstontown, off Route 9 in Phlipstontown, near the intersection of Route 9 and Fishkill Road.

Questions? Call 845-809-5285

Large pie and large order of wings and 2-liter Pepsi $19.95 plus tax with this coupon (Not valid with other offers)

2 Large cheese pies 1 large house salad 2-liter soda $24.95 plus tax with this coupon (Topings extra. Not valid with other offers. Not valid Fridays & Saturdays.)

Philipstown Nails    Grand Opening

Philipstown, near the intersection of Route 9 and Fishkill Road.

Questions? Call 845-809-5285

Large pie and large order of wings and 2-liter Pepsi

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The Calendar (from page 10)

Art & Design

Collaborative Concepts Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit
DANW TO DUSK, SAUNDERS FARM
See details under Friday.

Reflections Revealed: Hudson River Images Revisited
9:30 A.M. – 5 P.M. BOSCobel
See details under Friday.

Theater & Film

Andrew Young: Nature Cinematographer
7:30 P.M. JACOB BURNS CENTER
364 Mainville Road, Pleasantville
845-424-3689 | jacobburnscenter.org
Meetings & Lectures

Beacon40A Drama Meeting
6:30 P.M. BEAHE BeyONcE
295 Main St., Beacon
845-675-1890 | beahebeacon.org
Church on the Hill Events
6:30 P.M. Hill Top Visionaries (Young/Adult)
7 P.M. Bible Study | 245 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2022 | coldspringny.gov

Town Board Workshop
7:30 P.M. JACOB BURNS CENTER
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org
Religious Services
Morning Minyan
8:30 A.M. BEACON HERALD ALLiANCE
331 Verplanck Ave., Beacon
845-837-9812 | beaconheraldalliance.org
Kids & Community

National Strollers
10 A.M. OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER
100 Music Drive (across from 174 Aigialus, Cornwall) | 845-534-5506
hsturner@nycapmail.com | Cost: members free, non-members $10

Bouncing Babies
10:30 A.M. BUTTERFLY LIBRARY
30 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterflylibrary.org
Brownies
3:30 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org
Garrison Middle School Poetry Slam
7:30 P.M. GARRISON SCHOOL | 1100 ROUTE 9D, Garrison | 845-424-3689 | garrisonschool.org

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Prenatal and Postpartum Discussion Group
5:30 P.M. DEMPSEY HOUSE
1992 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
845-736-7007 | hackettcenter.com/events
Health, Sports & Outdoors

Reflections Revealed: Hudson River Images Revisited
9:30 A.M. – 5 P.M. BOSCobel
See details under Friday.

Cocktails & Canvas
7 P.M. BEAHE BeyONcE | 295 Main St., Beacon
845-675-1890 | eat-paint-love.com Cost: $30

Theater & Film

Searching for Sugar Man
7:30 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov
Heckert and McKee Return in Song to Chapel Restoration (from page 7)

Music

SenS of the Never WronG
7:30 P.M. HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org
MetArt: Impressions of the Hudson River
7:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN recreation CENTER
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Meetings & Lectures

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

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

Christopher Buck making his opening remarks
(Photo by A. Rooney)

Heckert is excited about this year’s concert. “It’s a lovely program, devised from music we just wanted to sing. The whole point of the exercise, for me, seems to come down to sharing those compositions that just won’t leave my brain or voicebox until they’ve been shared. The challenge is to find the most honest, relaxed place for the song to come from. That might be most easily done with songs that are old friends, but some 350-old loads of poetry can be done here each week. … There will be no more dead possums found in costume corners!” O’Brien called Winter Hill “an extraordinary environment for us to fit into: one administrator, three entities, and open, shared space.” Closing out the remarks, Chris Buck alluded to “two final thoughts: Imagine my good fortune to be in a position to do something like this which can help to fulfill the community’s missions.” With that he urged those in attendance to enjoy the day, which must appear to be done for hours afterwards on the sunstruck bluestone terrace and inside.

Heckert and McKee in Song to Chapel Restoration (from page 7)

Each and are very much involved in community life in Philipstown. Heckert is excited about this year’s concert. “It’s a lovely program, devised from music we just wanted to sing. The whole point of the exercise, for me, seems to come down to sharing those compositions that just won’t leave my brain or voicebox until they’ve been shared. The challenge is to find the most honest, relaxed place for the song to come from. That might be most easily done with songs that are old friends, but some 350-old loads of poetry can be done here each week. … There will be no more dead possums found in costume corners!” O’Brien called Winter Hill “an extraordinary environment for us to fit into: one administrator, three entities, and open, shared space.” Closing out the remarks, Chris Buck alluded to “two final thoughts: Imagine my good fortune to be in a position to do something like this which can help to fulfill the community’s missions.” With that he urged those in attendance to enjoy the day, which must appear to be done for hours afterwards on the sunstruck bluestone terrace and inside.

A Sparkling Autumn Opening for Winter Hill (from page 7)

revised, revitalized structure is an example. And a great building needs great tenants; three greats are here – acorner of gardens, open space and culture. This overlay forms the foundation of this community, making it a place where people want to be – residents and visitors alike. Buck then ran down an abudant list of people, quite a few local, who contributed to Winter Hill’s successful resurrection. Noting that “in an old building like this there are plenty of surprises, changes and challenges,” Buck singled out his architect, Francisco Ramirez of BSKS architects, saying “he instilled confidence in all of us, where there were ideosyncrasies, he adapted.” Buck said his general contractor, Walter Heitmann of Heritage (of Heitmann & Heitmann, HopeWell Junc tion), “constantly made decisions based on quality and integrity.” Buck added kind words for his “owner’s representa tive,” Sam Haupta.

Praising many others, including Heit man, Marking “Chris and Deborah trucnted carpenters Yuri Koukhta and John Sotiry; Andrew Pidala of Pidala Electrics, Pete Gachinta, also of Pidala Electrics (for lightness and smartness);” the re lighting of James Hartford; the stonework of John Benjamint; stained glass restoration from Ray LaRanJen, Nikolai’s landscape design, the plantings of Rita Jo Riehle; media and IT installation by Pete Hayjosh; plastering from Frank Cat amo; painting and heating by Bill Haugt man; painting by Eric Heitmann; and Tino Yannitelli, “who designed and welded and told my fire escape.” Buck reserved special praise for his wife, designer Deborah Buck, describing how “the rest of us struggled for days on the exterior color.” She knew intrinsically what the color should be... “It’s a perfect combination of modern flair and respect for the period. Thanks, Deborah — no body does it better.”

Representatives of each of the three nonprofit tenants also spoke to the crowd, HHLT Executive Director Andy Chmar thanking “Chris and Deborah for creating this structure, taking your vision and making it so spectacular.” O’Brien attended to “take in the architectural detail and design elements, see the level of craftsmanship that has gone into this.” He said the HHLT “now has a home for the organization that respects the mission by being a part of that
Maria Lago Studio Presents Exodus

Maria Lago's new series, Exodus, will be on exhibit at Maria Lago Studio 502 in Beacon throughout the month of October. These paintings are a continuation of Lago's traditional expressionist style that combines works of strong color, brush and texture with messages of spiritual and social matters. Lago has been mining this vein for the last 25 years in New York, exhibiting throughout the metro region and in her native homeland of Spain. Maria Lago Studio 502 in Beacon has been her working studio and exhibit space since the spring of 2011. The new works are concerned with the experience of higher awareness and spiritual revelation that results from the movement of peoples throughout the world. The paintings show groups of seemingly displaced and anonymous peoples moving through landscapes that are familiar and yet foreign at the same time. The landscapes seem to be moving and changing along with the journey the assembled groups or tribes of people seem to be undertaking. Although the urban, rural, and lunar geographies change, the paintings imply that the collective immigrant and migratory experience leads to a better place. As the title of the paintings Exodus refers to the biblical reference, the works portray an age-old story reemerging itself throughout the millennium and still happening today. “These works deal with persecution and human rights violations that create refugees in underdeveloped countries, as well as legal and illegal immigrants moving in search of work, food and shelter in developed countries,” explains Lago. An immigrant herself, the works provide insight into the personal story of an established artist who is very much enjoying the journey.

Maria Lago Studio 502 is located at 502 Main St. in Beacon. For more information, call 845-765-8421 or visit marialagostudio502.wordpress.com.

Desmond-Fish Library Sponsors Great Gatsby House Tours

On Sunday, Oct. 21, the Desmond-Fish Library will present a guided tour of Castle Rock and Cat Rock, fabulous mansions where Great Gatsby-like parties would have taken place. Visitors are encouraged to come in costume and present a part of the story of a painting and its characters. The tour includes a guided visit to both mansions, a presentation on the history of the Gatsby family and the 1920s, and a historical tour of the surrounding area. Tickets are $10 for students, $12 for non-students, and reservations are required. For more information, call 845-878-7020 x153 or visit www.desmondfishlibrary.org.

Cold Spring’s 5K Turkey Trot Benefits Spirit Award

On Nov. 22, the Third Annual Cold Spring 5K Turkey Trot run/walk will be held to raise funds for the Kristen and Fred Faust Spirit Award, which is given annually to two Haldane graduating seniors who show the most school/team spirit in the classroom or on the court or field. The award started in 2005 to remember and honor Fred Faust, who attended Haldane and graduated in 1993 as a member of the basketball state champions. Kristen was a social worker and had been working her dream job, helping students at Binghamton University. The first 50 people to register for the trot by Nov. 15 will receive a t-shirt. Advance registrations are $15; registration on the day of the race will be $20. Register via email at mjcotter@gmail.com or call 845-297-9243; payment can be reserved by calling 845-297-9243 or on the Chamber Music Center’s website www.howlandmusic.org where further information on this and other presentations by HCMC can be found.

Jason Kow Hwang Performs With His Quartet at Chapel

EDGE, consisting of Taylor Ho Bynum, Jason Kow Hwang, Ken Filiano, and Andrew Drury, will perform at Chapel Restoration on Oct. 27. Photo by Jean Baptiste-Gallivan.

Tired of Ridiculous Utility Bills?

Which Money-Saving Energy Solution Is Right For You?

Pumpkins Will Glow at Desmond-Fish Library

The Friends of the Desmond-Fish Library will sponsor their third annual Pumpkin Glow event on Sunday, Oct. 28 at 6:00 p.m. (rain or shine). Participants are invited to bring carved pumpkins (with candles) to the Pumpkin Glow event on Sunday, Oct. 28 at 6:00 p.m. (rain or shine). Participants are invited to bring carved pumpkins (with candles) to the event. The admission is $15, or $10 for non-residents. Registration is required by calling 845-424-4618.

Scenic Hudson Calls for Photos for Exhibition

To celebrate its 50th anniversary year in 2013, Scenic Hudson is creating a major, curated exhibition of photographs to tell the inspiring story of the Hudson Valley’s people and communities. The exhibition will travel to approximately six significant public spaces throughout the Hudson Valley during 2013. Professional and serious amateur photographers are invited to submit photographs that speak to the valley’s magic and complexities as well as the enduring love so many feel for the region.

The exhibition is curated by Kate Monceneri, former program director with the Center for Photography at Woodstock, with feedback from the Hudson Cole National Historic Site. She holds a master’s degree from the Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College. Advisors on the project include photographer Annette Leibovitz, Metropolitan Museum of Art Senior Curator of Photographs Coleman Daniel, independent museum consultant William Burback (of Garrison), photographer and Scenic Hudson Board Member Dawn Watson, and photographer Robert Rodriguez, Jr.

Entries must be received by Friday, Nov. 16, 2012, and should strictly follow complete guidelines available at scenichudson.org/exhibitions. Images selected to part of the traveling exhibition will be announced on or before Friday, Jan. 4, 2013.

Scenic Hudson would appreciate early submission of photographs. The categories are detailed below:

• Inspiring Places to Experience Nature
• Family Farms Bring Bounty to Our Tables
• Preservation and Transformation Along the Hudson
• The Hudson as a Haven for Wildlife
• Facing the Future

Scenic Hudson works to protect and enhance the Hudson Valley’s natural heritage and to create a sustainable environment where people and the natural world live in harmony. The Hudson Valley’s people and communities cherish its scenic, historic, and cultural resources. The Hudson is the region’s symbol and a vital resource for residents and visitors alike.

Philpport Rees’s Winter Course Catalog Online

The Philpport Recreation Department Winter Book is now available at philpportrecreation.com. Registration for residents opens on Monday, Oct. 22 at 8:30 a.m. and for non-residents on Oct. 29. You can register by calling 845-424-4618.

There are a variety of new classes coming this winter. Girls’ Indoor Lacrosse for grades 3-6 will start on Jan. 12. The Recreation Department will host its First Annual Family Night at the Community Center on Dec. 14. Activities will include sports tournaments, karaoke, family trivia, ping pong, golf, and more. There will also be a Family Magic Show with Marco Frezza on Nov. 10.

Visit www.philpportinfo.com for news updates and latest information.

Pumpkins Will Glow at Desmond-Fish Library

The Friends of the Desmond-Fish Library will sponsor their third annual Pumpkin Glow event on Sunday, Oct. 28 at 6:00 p.m. (rain or shine). Participants are invited to bring carved pumpkins (with candles) to the Pumpkin Glow event on Sunday, Oct. 28 at 6:00 p.m. (rain or shine). Participants are invited to bring carved pumpkins (with candles) to the event. The admission is $15, or $10 for non-residents. Registration is required by calling 845-424-4618.

Scenic Hudson Calls for Photos for Exhibition

To celebrate its 50th anniversary year in 2013, Scenic Hudson is creating a major, curated exhibition of photographs to tell the inspiring story of the Hudson Valley’s people and communities. The exhibition will travel to approximately six significant public spaces throughout the Hudson Valley during 2013. Professional and serious amateur photographers are invited to submit photographs that speak to the valley’s magic and complexities as well as the enduring love so many feel for the region.

The exhibition is curated by Kate Monceneri, former program director with the Center for Photography at Woodstock, with feedback from the Hudson Cole National Historic Site. She holds a master’s degree from the Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College. Advisors on the project include photographer Annette Leibovitz, Metropolitan Museum of Art Senior Curator of Photographs Coleman Daniel, independent museum consultant William Burback (of Garrison), photographer and Scenic Hudson Board Member Dawn Watson, and photographer Robert Rodriguez, Jr.

Entries must be received by Friday, Nov. 16, 2012, and should strictly follow complete guidelines available at scenichudson.org/exhibitions. Images selected to part of the traveling exhibition will be announced on or before Friday, Jan. 4, 2013.

Scenic Hudson would appreciate early submission of photographs. The categories are detailed below:

• Inspiring Places to Experience Nature
• Family Farms Bring Bounty to Our Tables
• Preservation and Transformation Along the Hudson
• The Hudson as a Haven for Wildlife
• Facing the Future

Scenic Hudson works to protect and enhance the Hudson Valley’s natural heritage and to create a sustainable environment where people and the natural world live in harmony. The Hudson Valley’s people and communities cherish its scenic, historic, and cultural resources. The Hudson is the region’s symbol and a vital resource for residents and visitors alike.

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The Learning Center at Philipstown Recreation Disguises Learning in Fun

By Alison Rooney

Providing its youngest citizens with a safe, nurturing preschool program has always been a component of Philipstown Recreation’s mandate to serve the community. For years now, its nursery school, formally known as The Learning Center (TLC) at Philipstown Recreation, has opened its doors to the children of local residents. In the fall of 2003 the program moved from premises in Continental Village to the current large, bright, welcoming space located within the Claudio Marzollo Community Center right near Rec’s administrative office.

Sally Brady, a Cold Spring resident with two older children of her own, has been the director of the center for over six years. She is assisted by two other staff members, Kendall Hillock, now nearing her 10th year there, and Kate-lynn Merandy, an “almost eight years” veteran. Brady calls them “wonderful. We all have the same vision, and I couldn’t ask for better people.”

All three are there throughout the center’s opening hours, which are Monday through Friday from 9 to 11:45 a.m., September through June. There used to be an afternoon program, but that no longer exists. Children, ages 3 to 5, may attend on a Monday/Wednesday/Friday basis or Tuesday/Thursday, or all five days.

Currently the center, which has had bad years with waiting lists and has a 20 child maximum, has just a few openings for the Tuesday/Thursday slots only, which is atypical, according to Brady. Children are expected to attend for the full school year and must be potty-trained in order to enroll. Attracting a mix of Cold Spring and Garrison families, the program is also open to non-Philipstown residents, but at a higher fee. This year’s group has a younger median age than most, as there were a record 18 graduates last year.

Brady has defined goals for their program, the definitive one being for each child to develop a positive attitude toward school. “If they come in excited, we are doing our job,” she says. “We want them to be happy about learning, and also to be able to be themselves; we want to see them grow. And they do. The difference between behavior from September to June is tremendous: they learn to clean up, to sit and listen longer to stories and just develop more patience overall.”

Brady and her staff seek to make The Learning Center a comfortable, safe environment where learning can take place in a way not always obvious to the child. Brady describes it as gentle solutions, for example “words are important — not hurting feelings. We’ll address a problem by asking a child ‘What are your choices? What can you do instead?’”

All of the children’s activities take place within one very large room, and while there isn’t specific age division and 3- and 4-year-olds mix, the staff modifies what each child is doing by what level they’re able to do, assisting on a more-or-less basis, allowing each child to accomplish an activity either aided or not. Brady cites a letter-learning exercise: “The whole group gets asked whether they want to learn the letter ‘A.’ The older kids come over and we’ll work with them on the writing skill. In the meantime we’ve hidden letter ‘A’ around the room, and the little ones can search and learn to recognize it, so all needs are met.”

The day is structured, with center time generally starting the day off, followed by art, story time, snack, and then a show and tell for all. The day usually concludes with 20 minutes to a half hour of physical activity time, either in the outdoor play area attached to the center, or in the full-size gym just down the corridor, where games are sometimes structured and sometimes hula hooping leads the way. At other times it’s as simple as dancing in the classroom. The morning concludes with an end-of-the-day meeting in which everyone expresses themselves. “We sneak in things like waiting in which everyone expresses them- selves. ‘We sneak in things like waiting for example, Grandma or Grandpa is all-hour, where games are sometimes struc- tured and sometimes hula hooping leads the way. At other times it’s as simple as dancing in the classroom. 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Putnam Cycling Classic Takes Over Main Street in Cold Spring

Close to 200 cyclists take on Putnam County's hills

By Michael Turton

The Putnam Cycling Classic made its debut on Sunday, Oct. 14, starting and finishing on Cold Spring’s Main Street. The 187 cyclists who registered made it a very exciting start as riders sped up the hill from the start-finish line near High Street, then made the sharp right hand turn, at speed, onto Chestnut, before dashing south along Route 9D. The event, formerly called the Tour de Putnam, is technically not a race, but it certainly had the feel of one. Going all out seemed to be strategy adopted by the majority of riders, most of whom wore colorful cycling garb, many as part of a team. A few cyclists at the back of the pack started out at a leisurely pace, but they were definitely in the minority.

The Classic is considered a recreational event, using a format known as Cyclosportif or Gran Fondo. While recreational, it is no less challenging as riders completed either a 100-kilometer or 50-kilometer course through Putnam County’s hilly landscape.

Even very youthful riders found the course to be a challenge. Seventeen-year-old Alex Gaidis of Wappingers Falls, who trained for the event by riding up the hill on Route 301 through Fahnestock State Park, described the 50-kilometer course as “awesome.” And the hills! “It was definitely hilly — I’d say about a 7 out of 10,” he said, grading the circuit’s degree of difficulty. “But it was really nice fall weather, a great ride.”

For 49-year-old cyclist George Suter of New York City, his most vivid memory may not be the hills or even his excellent finish — he had the fastest time in his age class — but rather the spill that he took. “I was leaning forward a (through the 100-kilometer circuit) and I was coming through a turn about halfway through the 100-kilometer circuit, and I was taking it kind of fast,” he said. “I stepped off the side of my bike, and I was leaning forward a little more than I wanted to, and I went right over the hood of a car. That poor woman in the car?” Police had stopped traffic to allow the cyclists to pass. Suter said that as he flew over the hood, he remembered his wife’s words when he left home earlier that morning. “She told me just to be sure I didn’t break anything.”

Last year Suter broke his pelvis in four places in a race in Belgium, and still finished. He was also thinking about the trip that he and his wife will take to Russia just a few days after the Putnam Classic, where they are adopting a 4-year-old girl. Suter managed to come out of the fall uninjured. “I would have been in big trouble if I’d been hurt,” he said.

In addition to the satisfaction of having met a physically challenging ride through Putnam County, cyclists were treated to beverages and a hearty pasta lunch at Cathryn’s Tuscan Grill.

Putnam County Director of Tourism Libby Pataki was very pleased with the renamed and revamped event. “I’m so excited we were able to bring together the beauty of the entire county for a spectacular ride. I didn’t hear a complaint about a single thing,” she said. “I’m looking forward to an even better race next year.”

Main Street businesses differed regarding how much the event benefited them. Asked if the Putnam Classic brought many customers to Whistling Willie’s, waiter Zach Merante said succinctly, “We got slammed.”

Hilary Hayes, co-owner of Hudson Hill’s restaurant, had mixed feelings about the event. “It is such a busy time of year, I wondered if it wouldn’t be better held at a time when people aren’t asking how they could get into Whistling Willie’s, said Haye’s.

Leonora Burton, owner of The Country Goose right next to Goodrich’s shop, agreed. “I didn’t make my first sale until 12:40 — all day candy. And I had five calls from people asking how they could get into town,” she said. “Closing Main Street was an ill-conceived idea, to put it politely.”

And they’re off!! While technically not a race, there was plenty of competition as cyclists challenged each other for the 50-km or 100-km circuit through Putnam County.

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Finding the Past at Stony Point Battlefield State Historic Site

Historic site features extensive scenic trails

By Mary Ann Ebner

A visit to Stony Point Battlefield State Historic Site may not take you far from Philipstown, but you’ll find the past close to home. Walk scenic trails or join a guided tour of the grounds of this preserve along the Hudson that also boasts a museum and the Lighthouse at Stony Point, the Hudson River’s oldest lighthouse, which overlooks the river on a bluff at the historic site. Built in 1826, the lighthouse remained lit for 99 years before its decommissioning in 1925. The historic structure was restored in 1995.

A half hour from Cold Spring in Rockland County, the site marks the location of the significant battlefield where Continental light infantry forces conducted a successful midnight assault on British forces in July of 1779.

Historic Site Manager Julia Warger said the significance of the mission remains a keystone element of the site’s history. Without ammunition in their muskets but with bayonets fixed, the Revolutionary forces commanded by Brig. Gen. Anthony Wayne relied on hand-to-hand combat to carry out the attack.

“The battle was a bayonet attack, and the symbol for the battlefield has always been five bayonets,” Warger said.

The museum collection includes bayonets, tools, and other Revolutionary-period artifacts, while site programs feature reenactments of 18th-century military camp life, cannon and musket demonstrations, and children’s activities. Historic-site interpreter Michael Sheehan has worked at the facility for five years and enjoys taking visitors back in time to learn about local heritage. He not only looks at the past when he dons his traditional Scottish bonnet and British regimental coat, but he shares enthusiasm bolstered with historical knowledge.

“We go to the various spots along the battlefield for tours,” Sheehan said. “I share stories, maybe of how someone escaped, and I like people to ask questions during the tours. When I first started working here, I got so interested in the subject that I started reading about 18th-century artillery.”

A history major at Ramapo College of New Jersey, the 22-year-old spends most of his waking hours studying the period, participating in reenactments, and sharing stories with visitors to the battlefield. Sheehan conducted an extensive search to gather various uniforms and costumes that he uses during guided tours and demonstrations.

“You can’t go in and just buy this stuff off the shelves,” Sheehan said. “I’ve lived in Stony Point my whole life, and this is a great way to teach people,” Sheehan said.

In addition to the museum, the site offers a chance for visitors to see Stony Point Battlefield’s resident blacksmiths at work. Their schedules vary, but they can often be found in the Soldier’s Camp Wednesday through Sunday. Visit the forge for a discussion of military smithing and see how new items and repairs are made for the camp.

Stony Point Battlefield State Historic Site is located at 44 Battlefield Road, Stony Point. A $5 vehicle parking fee is in effect on weekends. Reenactments and demonstrations take place on Saturdays and Sundays: Guided one-hour tours begin at 2 p.m. from the museum patio, and artillery demonstrations at 3 p.m., weather permitting. Lighthouse tours can be arranged by advanced reservation Wednesday through Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For more information, browse the website of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation at nysparks.com or call 845-786-2521.

Schedule
- Through Oct. 31
  - Noon - 4:30 p.m. Wednesday - Saturday
  - Guided tours at 2 p.m.
  - After Oct. 31, grounds remain accessible 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday - Friday.
- Museum closed Nov. 1 - mid April.

Trip Tips
- Pick up a self-guided walking tour brochure at site entrance.
- Golf-cart transportation from parking lot to main site available upon request on weekends. Inquire for special assistance at parking booth.
- Museum wheelchair accessible.
- Lighthouse tours available by appointment.
- Path to lighthouse not completely paved.
- No photographs allowed inside museum.
- Cold picnic welcome, no grills.
- No trash cans on site. Carry-in/carry-out facility.