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Haldane Trustees Begin Tough 2013-14 Budget Talks

Meetings with unions will be part of the process

By Michael Turton

It was a financial discussion that involved many more words than numbers. At their Tuesday, Nov. 20 meeting, trustees for the Haldane School Board began talking about the challenges they face in crafting the 2013-14 budget. While the presentation of the “rollover budget” presented by Business



Business Manager Anne Dinio presented the rollover budget.

Photo by M. Turton

Manager Anne Dinio was the first formal step in what will undoubtedly be an arduous process, this is a budget that has been on the minds of trustees and administration for many months — due mainly to the anticipated continuation of reduced state aid. The rollover budget takes into account all expenditures that are already known for next year — items such as previously negotiated labor contracts, health and pension costs. Expenditures that cannot be calculated yet, such as the cost of fuel, are left at current budget levels, or a zero percent increase. Using those figures, the 2013-14 rollover budget expenditures total \$23,008,970 — an increase of 4.93 percent or \$1,081,404 more than in 2012-13.

Superintendent of Schools Mark Vilanti was quick to say, “People look at the increase in the rollover budget and ask if that is what their tax increase will be. It won’t be.” He said that last year the rollover budget came in at about 4 percent, but the final budget still came within the required state tax cap. “It’s a starting point. It’s a reasonable rollover budget,” Dinio said. “There will be lots of ups and downs.” She said that once teacher retirements are known along with fuel and electric rates and other costs, a first draft budget will be presented. An indication of how seriously the school board is taking this year’s budget preparation is that the process has begun two months sooner than in previous years. “It’s early, but we need to get the ball rolling,” (Continued on page 11)



Bear Mountain Bridge/see Autumn Photofest on page 16

Photo by Sharon Grandstaff

Thanksgiving 2012: Beyond the Turkey and Stuffing

Local residents weigh in on what makes it special

By Michael Turton

It appears that Thanksgiving lives up to its name. At least three out of every four respondents to an informal survey from *The Paper* said they give conscious thought to what they are thankful for as part of their holiday celebration.

Often, each person gathered around the Thanksgiving dinner table expresses that gratitude. One woman said she tries to make a point of jotting down five things she is grateful for. Another said he appreciates that this is the only holiday dedicated “just to thankfulness” and that it pulls families together in a way that is not distracted by patriotism, religion or other factors — elements that he said are “good but not purely focused on family gathering.” And giving thanks is not limited to just the holiday itself. As one person commented, “The feeling of gratitude hits me a few days before Thanksgiving.” Not without some irony, more than one respondent said that they don’t take time out to think about what they are grateful for at Thanksgiving, but that they do at other times of the year.

Not everyone thinks that verbalizing what we are thankful for works very well. This response came from someone who has often had Thanksgiving dinner at her sister’s house: “My sister has sometimes had us all try to say in turn something each is thankful for. This generally draws boos, and the project is abandoned after a couple of lame attempts and a lot of laughter and groans.”

Holiday power rankings

Thanksgiving fares very well in the hearts of Philipstown residents

when compared to other holidays. A clear majority of respondents ranked it as their favorite holiday, often accompanied by comments such as “by far.” Most other respondents ranked it as their second favorite holiday, usually close on the heels of Christmas. One person called it a dead heat between those two holidays. But it also seems that “bah humbug” is not a term limited only to the yuletide season. A lone respondent referred to Thanksgiving as “the bottom of the barrel” and went on to say, “It is my least favorite holiday of all time due to a great dislike for the festive foods and habits surrounding them. I’d be most thankful to not be obligated to eat so much turkey — or any for that matter!” Ouch! But the comment that seemed to best capture the spirit of most residents was this one: “Thanksgiving is far and away my favorite. The family gathers and really talks. Touch football and the NFL game are part of it, as is a great meal. But, I love it best since there is no commercialism as with Christmas. It is an extended dinner party with family. What could be better?”

Giving thanks: the details

If the American family is an institution that is in trouble, as sometimes portrayed in the media, that assessment is not supported (Continued on page 3)



Ruth Eisenhower of Grey Printing attends to customer James Knox, who agrees with her sentiment that she would be more thankful if people were as outraged by war as they are by sex scandals.

Photo by Jeanne Tao

Village Board Gets 2 Architects’ Ideas for New Firehouse

Board also agrees to hire 2nd lawyer for HDRB

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Cold Spring Village Board Tuesday night (Nov. 20) heard ideas for a new village firehouse from two local architects, who after their respective presentations agreed to collaborate. Long talked about, the proposed new firehouse, estimated to cost \$2-\$2.5 million, would replace the aging and inadequate structure at Church and Main



River Architects displayed its version of a new firehouse.

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

Streets, home to Cold Spring Fire Company No. 1.

In introducing the presentations, Trustee Ralph Falloon, a CSFC member and former chief, said “this is all about some ideas that can obviously be changed. We don’t know where this is going” so far and “in terms of the money and actual design things will come up that will have to be discussed. We still have a long way to go but we’re finally getting to drawings and numbers we can actually look at, to move forward.”

The architects, James Hartford of River Architects in Cold Spring, and Jamie Copeland of Hudson Design in Garrison, lent their expertise to date pro bono and have provided volunteer professional assistance to the fire company in various ways.

Hartford led the presentations Tuesday, showing images on the meeting hall wall of his concept. Unlike the main door of the current building, its entrance would be on Church Street. His firehouse would sport a traditional station tower with cupola, second-floor outdoor balcony, and look reminiscent of the current village hall, a former firehouse. The building likewise would resemble the 19th-century buildings immediately around it, though constructed of modern, efficient materials, with a brick covering. “I wanted to get out there the idea of making the architecture fit the village,” Hartford said. He did not provide a cost estimate.

Like Hartford, Copeland proposed demolition of the existing firehouse. “Retrofitting never pays. It’s always more cost-effective to (Continued on page 3)

Mouths to Feed

A Leftover Journey

By Celia Barbour

If there is one thing I do not want to think about the day after Thanksgiving, it is food: not cooking it, not eating it, not hunting for it in my leftover-crammed refrigerator. And yet my body seems to have a different agenda. No matter how many extra calories I managed to double-park on my midsection during the feast (estimates place the average American’s total intake at between 2,500 and 3,000 for the one meal), I dis-

it actually is delicious — surprisingly better than the sum of its parts. Indeed, my husband, Peter, is such a fan that he suggested I dedicate this whole column to the glories of Mush. I demurred, but included the two preceding paragraphs as a concession to him. Marriage is all about such things, isn’t it?

Additional leftover inspiration came from Jamie Oliver, via his cookbook, *Jamie’s Great Britain*. In it, I found a recipe that reminded me of something I’d learned at YMCA camp decades ago: that



Photo by C. Barbour

cover, not long after I wake up the next morning, that I am once again feeling — can it be? — peckish.

Worse still, by lunchtime I find myself inexorably drawn to the exact same foods that left me catatonic the day before. It makes no sense, but there you have it. We must eat leftovers, even though we are expected to fit into our civilian clothes by the time Monday morning rolls around.

When I was a kid, my mother transformed Thanksgiving leftovers into something wonderful that did not have a name, only a texture; we dubbed it Mush. To make it, she chopped the turkey into bite-size pieces, combined it with some stuffing, stock and gravy, heated it all together on the stove, and served it over white rice; cranberry optional. Later, after I moved away from home, I decided that nostalgia must be tampering with the accuracy of my memory because Mush (so obvious, so dull) couldn’t possibly taste great — not in any grown-up sense of the word, anyway.

For many years, I avoided it. But lassitude wears you down after you have kids, and I cooked it up one holiday weekend several years back, and discovered that

day-old mashed potatoes can be made into fried potato cakes. (Oliver calls them “Glasgow Scones,” which sounds so much nicer than “YMCA Patties”) Mix the mashed potatoes with about one part flour to every four parts potato,

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Tomato-plum jam

Photo by C. Barbour

a pinch or two of baking powder, and some minced chive or scallion, then form them into flattened little cakes, dust the outsides in flour, and fry them in a skillet in some butter or oil for 10 minutes or so, turning them often, until the outsides are crusty and golden. You can top them with scrambled eggs and smoked salmon, as he suggests, or with Brussels sprouts, if you have no choice.

Recently, I made a new leftover discovery: A plain, roasted sweet potato can be substituted for the tahini in hummus — one cup of the former for two tablespoons of the latter in the hummus recipe I published here on Oct. 23 works well, with a little extra cumin and coriander thrown in for fun.

But the thing I crave most right after Thanksgiving is a turkey sandwich. It seems to satisfy some unresolved crav-

ing awakened by the feast. One reason for this is obvious: The ingredient most lacking from roast turkey is mayonnaise. (Perhaps next year I will work out a way to inject mayonnaise via hypodermic into my bird’s breast just before serving; it would solve so many problems!) Plus, the clear, bright flavors of a sandwich are a welcome contrast to the muddled, gravy-soaked ones of the big feast. Yet by day 3, mayonnaise alone isn’t enough to justify another sandwich. Which is why, last year, I revisited a recipe I’d come across long before in Marcus Samuelsson’s *The Soul of a New Cuisine*, for tomato-date jam. It’s a North-African-inflected recipe; a bit like ketchup, but not really. You can spread it thick on your sandwich, cover it with mint leaves, layer on winter greens or soft, Bibb lettuce, and send your remaining turkey off on the gustatory version of junior year abroad, to mingle with compelling new flavors.

Tomato-date jam

The long ingredient list might make this recipe appear complicated, but it’s actually super easy: After the nuts are toasted, you throw almost everything in the pot and leave it to cook itself.

¼ cup pine nuts

2 tablespoons olive oil

1 large shallot, chopped

3 cloves garlic, chopped

1 15-ounce can whole peeled tomatoes

5 pitted dates, chopped

1 tablespoon brown sugar

2 sprigs thyme

½ teaspoon chili powder

¼ teaspoon coriander

pinch cayenne, or to taste salt

¼ cup mint leaves (from about 4 sprigs)

lemon juice (optional)

Heat a medium saucepan over low heat. Add the pine nuts and toast, shaking the pan occasionally, until golden and fragrant, about 10 minutes. Add the next 10 ingredients (through the cayenne), stir to combine, and leave to simmer about 40 minutes, stirring occasionally, until thick and deep-red. Puree in a blender or the small bowl of a food processor. Add salt and lemon juice to taste. Allow to cool, then mince the mint leaves and mix them into the jam.

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Thanksgiving 2012: Beyond the Turkey and Stuffing *(from page 1)*

by Philipstown residents when it comes to their views on Thanksgiving. When asked what they are thankful for in 2012, the most frequent answer by an overwhelming margin was “my family.” People said it in different ways, but with the same, consistent message. Here is a sampling.

Michael Junjulas, a U.S. government worker at Stewart International Airport and president of the Haldane School Board: “I’m thankful that the Lord gave me such a wonderful family that is healthy.”

Tom Endres, retired army pilot and sustainable farmer: “I am thankful for family, health, spiritual awareness ... and I do love turkey.”

John Pavlik, a professor at Rutgers University: “Many things, but family at top of list.”

Dave McCarthy, general manager of Tightrope Interactive: “I’m thankful for the health of my family! The most important thing in the world.”

Dan Hughes, millwork manager: “This year I am especially thankful for my family.”

Mary Jo Mullin, a consultant in philanthropy: “I am thankful ... to have landed here (in Cold Spring) and ... to have had wonderful parents who made some mistakes but who were loving all along the way.”

Mike Finnegan, organic farmer and reserve army officer, commented on what for many is a much anticipated part of Thanksgiving — kids coming home for college. “As I’ve become a father of college-age kids, I have really enjoyed the ‘bones’ they have brought home from school at Thanksgiving. I love their enthusiasm and youthful idealism.”

Landscape architect Brian Higley was very succinct: “I am thankful for my beautiful miracle of a daughter.”

Ruth Eisenhower, who works at Grey Printing, said she was always grateful



Nicole Graf working at Grey Printing in Cold Spring *Photo by J. Tao*

when her kids came home for Thanksgiving, but she put an apolitical twist on her thankfulness, a sentiment that may be shared by at least a few others. “I am so grateful the elections are over, and the advertisements have stopped, and we can go back to talking about weather,” she said.

If family was the clear winner, good health was a close second. Many people referred to it either separately or as part of the comments about their family. Kathy Marino, clerk for the Haldane Central School District and a former School Board trustee, put it this way: “I am a cancer survivor, so I consider every Thanksgiving a gift. Every year I reflect on what I have in my life and I also reflect on the country I live in,” she said. “In 2012, I am grateful for getting a second part-time job, my good health and that of my family.”

Many mentioned being thankful for having good friends in the same sentence in which they detailed their appreciation of family.

Pushing the thankfulness envelope

When asked how they would complete the sentence, “I’d be even more thankful

if _____, some, such as graphic designer Nicole Graf and one anonymous contributor, were philosophical. “I’d be even more thankful if we could learn to dance with change; to be more aware of ourselves and our surroundings and learn to satisfy what we need with what we have,” Graf said. The anonymous comment was similar. “Thankfulness and gratitude come from inside. Having more doesn’t necessarily make you more thankful and grateful.

Most, though, reflected beyond themselves and their family to the larger community and the national and even global stage, often focusing on political issues and leadership. Andy Chmar, executive director of the Hudson Highlands Land Trust, said he would be more thankful “... if we can solve our country’s economic and employment problems, without acrimony and with fairness, and find peaceful resolution in the troubled regions of the world.”

Dave McCarthy said, “I’d be more thankful if there were leaders promoting peaceful solutions and resolving differences through compromise, leaders who could get together with adversaries and agree on a more important and shared common goal.”

Dan Hughes continued that theme, saying, “I would be more thankful if the adults that we elect to govern us would act like mature, reasonable and caring adults.”

Bartender Allison McIntyre said, “I’d be really thankful if they balanced the (federal) budget. There is so much fear, so much angst, it is disgusting.”

And Ruth Eisenhower said, “I know this has been going around, but it’s true ... I will be more grateful when war engages us as much as sex scandals.”

Some simply thought of bettering the plight of others. “I’d be even more thankful if everyone had a family to celebrate with this Thanksgiving instead of being

alone,” said Michael Junjulas.

Kathy Marino said she would be more thankful “if fewer people suffered as a result of the hurricane, wars, poverty and addiction.”

A number of people mentioned being thankful that they didn’t suffer as a result of Hurricane Sandy and expressed empathy for those who have.

Two people, Brian Higley and Mike Finnegan, took an eclectic, shotgun approach in stretching their thankfulness envelope. “I would be more thankful if there were no cancers; if the time changes from daylight savings were halted forever — or at least before I die; if clean energy could be extracted from the air; and if even the fancy beer bottles had twist-off caps,” Higley said. Finnegan’s thoughts were just as wide-ranging, saying he would be more thankful “if Guinan’s were reopened as a place where everyone in the community could gather as in years past; if someone could articulate a definition of what ‘winning’ is in Afghanistan; why Americans have a tax law that is over 7,500 pages long and so incomprehensible that I don’t know a single person who does their own taxes; and why we still don’t know where our food is from and whether or not it contains genetically modified organisms (GMOs).”

There was also a touch of humor. MaryJo Mullin said she’d be even more thankful “if Daniel Craig snapped out of it and realized I am his ideal Bond girl.”

Dave McCarthy may or may not have been more realistic, stating, “I would be very thankful if the Jets didn’t stink as badly as they do.”

How do you spell ‘thankful’?

What are you especially thankful for in 2012? And how would you complete that sentence, “I’d be even more thankful if _____.” Send us your comments, and have a great Thanksgiving.

Village Board Gets 2 Architects’ Ideas for New Firehouse *(from page 1)*

take it down,” he said. He presented blueprint-style renderings, similar to those he provided for a meeting in September, and said his concept uses a masonry-clad, steel-frame structure, probably with old-style brick exterior. “Cold Spring has some great examples of brickwork we could look at for reference,” he said. His building would have two stories, elevators, a roof deck, kitchen and other features, as well as space for fire trucks and equipment and other necessities. Moreover, he said, “I like the idea of a tower,” as suggested in Hartford’s drawings, adding that it could provide space for a staircase and “be a place you could locate the siren.”

Copeland pegged the costs of his building at \$2.5 million. “Is there \$500,000 worth of stuff we could take out of there?” Falloon wondered.

The expense could conceivably be shouldered entirely by Cold Spring, or split between the village and Nelsonville and Philipstown. Nelsonville uses the CSFC for fire protection, and so does Philipstown, to provide coverage to some parts of the town. Mayor Seth Gallagher said Cold Spring would have to talk to Nelsonville and Philipstown leaders and also probably hold a local referendum and put the proposal before the residents. If it goes ahead, the cost “does amount to a pretty

substantial increase” in taxes for property owners, he said.

A memo prepared by Village Accountant Ellen Mageean outlined a scenario in which the firehouse would cost \$2 million, funded through 20-year bonds with an interest rate of 3.5 percent and finance charges to the village of \$140,000 each of the 20 years. “The average taxable value of a house in Cold Spring is \$156,887.66,” she wrote. “The new firehouse would increase the taxes on the average house by \$134.92. If Nelsonville and Philipstown were to share in the cost, then the increase in taxes for the average house in Cold Spring would be \$75.31.”

Falloon said the next steps include conferring with the fire company members to get their thoughts on the designs and other aspects of the project. Meanwhile, it appears the architects will be collaborating as well.

“Why don’t we work on this together?” Copeland asked Hartford, as the presentations wound down. “I’ve been doing this for too long to want to have a turf battle. I like what you do and I think there’s a lot more to be gained by the village if you and I [team up].”

“Sure,” Hartford agreed. “And I think there’s strength in being from the community.”



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Happy Thanksgiving!

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Waterwheel Arc Returns to West Point Foundry

Scenic Hudson installs 7.5-ton replica

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

More than 100 years after the West Point Foundry shut, a massive waterwheel arc this week returned to the site where the original wheel once powered the machinery of an innovative, 19th-century industrial giant. Employed by Scenic Hudson, owner of the 87-acre West Point Foundry Preserve, crews worked in early afternoon sunshine on Tuesday, Nov. 20 to install a massive spoked arc, reminiscent of a section of the foundry's wheel. They expected to complete the operation by the end of the day, but other efforts to improve the property will continue until winter calls a halt, with resumption of construction next spring. Currently closed to the public, the preserve is scheduled to reopen in autumn 2013, when the renovation underway since last June finishes. However, the news media got a sneak preview of the waterwheel, one of several interpretive structures and displays planned by Scenic Hudson. The organization is over-

hauling the preserve to create a historical park, which it describes as "an education-heritage attraction that will reveal stories of the foundry's contributions to the Industrial Revolution, its role in the Civil War (including an 1862 visit by President Abraham Lincoln) and the land's remarkable ecological renewal." The foundry ruins, subject of archaeological research projects several years ago, stand in a valley at the south end of Cold Spring, bordering Foundry Cove and marsh. The new park "will retain the natural beauty and tranquility" of its setting, Scenic Hudson promises. Stretches of woods now cover the ground once occupied by the teeming factory complex — and later used by local residents as an unofficial junk disposal yard. In its heyday, the foundry produced not only the cannons credited with helping the Union win the Civil War but steam engines, pipes, farm equipment, household items, and more and transformed a tiny hamlet into the thriving village of Cold Spring. "It's exciting — we're really excited," Scenic Hudson Parks Director Rita Shaheen said as work proceeded not only on the waterwheel but on a washroom facil-

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

ity and restoration of old foundry walls. Manufactured in Poughkeepsie by Hatfield Metal Fabrication, from a design by Mathews Nielsen Landscape Architects and C&G Partners, the new wheel section is in shiny metal, unlike its wooden predecessor. Shaheen said that Scenic Hudson chose metal to make the wheel piece more durable and also to better depict "what's old, and what's new," with the new wheel rising from the factory ruins around it. Chris Meyer, president of Meyer Contracting Corp. of Pleasant Valley, the general contractor, said that the project is on schedule so far and that in total about six months of work remains — not including the break for winter.

Putnam History Museum Honors Richard Saunders

By Jeanne Tao

On Sunday, Nov. 18, the Putnam History Museum held its 54th Annual Thanksgiving Candlelight

Richard Saunders, recipient of the Putnam History Museum's 2012 Elizabeth Todd Healy Volunteer Service Award, expresses his gratitude.

Photo by Liz Armstrong

Service at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring, which was free and open to the public. Following the service, a Thanksgiving dinner to raise funds for the museum was held at Highlands Country Club in Garrison, where Richard Saunders was awarded the *Elizabeth Todd Healy Volunteer Service Award*. The nondenominational service, which started as the sun set across the Hudson and was lit by real candles in the chapel's chandelier, was introduced by Chapel Restoration Board President Michael Armstrong, with an invocation and benediction from Father Francis Geer from St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Garrison. Throughout the service, members of the community — Grey Zeien, Elise La Rocco, Christy Guzzeta and Elizabeth Edelson — read from presidential proclamations by Abraham Lincoln, Ronald Reagan, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Barack Obama. Interspersed among the readings were hymns sung by all in attendance and accompanied by Elizabeth Ailes, publisher of the Putnam County News and Recorder, on the chapel organ,

and musical numbers performed by Cold Spring songwriter Aurora Straus, who is in the eighth grade at Hackley School. At the dinner that followed, Elizabeth Todd Healy and the Putnam History Museum awarded Richard Saunders the award for exceptional volunteer service, named after Elizabeth Todd Healy. Saunders, owner of the frame and rare-print shop Hudson Rogue Co. in Nelsonville, has served the museum on the collection committee and presented his own collection of images of women with the American flag for museum and related traveling exhibitions.

Roger Ailes, chairman of Fox News, and Putnam County Sheriff Donald Smith attended the Putnam History Museum's Thanksgiving Candlelight Service at the Chapel Restoration on Nov. 18.

Photo by J. Tao

Nelsonville to Adopt New FEMA Flood Maps

Bagged leaf pickup, snow ordinance begin Dec. 1

By Jeanne Tao

At 7 p.m. on Monday evening, Nov. 19, the Nelsonville Village Board held a public hearing on revising the local law on flood damage prevention, to remain in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). They also issued some reminders for residents: bagged leaf pickup will occur on Dec. 1, and the snow ordinance banning overnight parking during snowstorms begins Dec. 1 and ends March 31.

New FEMA flood maps

Robert Lusardi, village attorney, had drafted a new local law to adopt FEMA's new Flood Insurance Study and Flood Insurance Rate Maps. The draft law will be sent on to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) before the Dec. 4 deadline for their review. Once approved by the DEC, the law will be sent on for approval by FEMA before their deadline of Feb. 1. Without these changes, the village would be in danger of suspension from the NFIP on the map's effective date of March 4.

Mayor Tom Corless explained that the new flood maps are more detailed but have not changed substantially from last year, showing flood areas surrounding Foundry Creek. As of Monday evening, the village office only had one copy of the maps in their possession for viewing, but Village Clerk Pauline Minners said she would order more. The hearing closed without much public comment.

Snow ordinance

Minners read the snow ordinance that bans overnight parking on village streets 12 - 6 a.m. from Dec. 1 through March 31. Residents must call 845-265-2500 after 5 p.m. to find out whether the ban has been suspended for that night. A limited amount of winter parking is available on North Pearl Street where indicated. All vehicles in winter parking should be removed by 9 a.m. so that the lot can be cleared.

Corless reminded residents that if there is no power and the phone service cannot be contacted, there is absolutely no overnight parking on public streets unless the village suspends it.

The mayor also requested that anyone leaving the village on a day on which it snows or is predicted to snow, to please move cars off the street onto driveways before leaving (and not waiting until midnight when the ordinance begins) so that the streets can be cleared properly throughout the day. He emphasized that doing so would help residents themselves, in that they would not have to shovel their driveways either.

The village is currently looking to appoint a village resident as parking enforcement officer.

In addition, snow must not be thrown into the roadways, in order to keep them clear. Property owners and/or occupants must also keep their sidewalks clear of snow and ice within a reasonable period of time after snowfall.

Kudos to Central Hudson, Mainlining

During the regular board meeting, Corless and Trustee Ande Merante both commended Central Hudson's tree trimming prior to both storms that hit the



Thomas and Valerie Robertson view FEMA flood maps as Mayor Tom Corless and Trustee Ande Merante look on.

Photo by J. Tao

area in the last month, which they believe helped the power stay on in much of Nelsonville, despite some residents' complaints about the way in which they had trimmed the trees. Corless added that only the very top section of Healy Road had lost power during Hurricane Sandy when a small tree came down on some wires, which was repaired in a timely manner by Central Hudson.

Trustee William Duncan mentioned that with the stoppage of work on the water-main relining project for the winter, residents should continue to clear leaves and debris from catchbasins that are covered by pipes outside their homes, to make sure that water drains properly. Corless also said that Mainlining Services Inc. did a good job on the relining project, mentioning that he had seen part of

an old pipe they had cut out that was so clogged, water was flowing through an opening only as wide as a quarter.

Other business

Corless reported that Pidala Construction has patched many potholes around the village, especially around Healy Road, but could not finish all work due to inclement weather. They will be finishing up the job soon.

The board voted to adopt new municipal accounting software from Williamson Law Book Co., which was demonstrated in the office about three weeks ago. Minners said it was the least complicated program she has used, pointing out that it would correct flaws pointed out by the audit last month. The total cost for the software, maintenance fee, and two days of training for Minners was \$5,858.

Farmers' Market Moves Indoors Nov. 24

The Cold Spring Farmers' Market will move to its indoor location at the Philipstown Community Center at 107 Glenclyffe Dr. in Garrison (off Route 9D, south of Route 403).

Some new growers will be at the market this Saturday, including the Amazing Live Food Co., bringing in firm and spreadable cow's milk cheeses, ice cream and a full line of Ronnybrook Farm Dairy. Continental Organics (the aquaponics operation previously featured in *Philipstown.info* and *The Paper*) joins Madura Farm, providing two farms with winter-grown vegetables. Full Moon Farm will now be in weekly with meats, and Seatuck Fish Co. in weekly with seafood.

For the holiday season, Shawangunk Growers will be taking wreath orders.

Building Bridges Rowers Compete in Boston Open-Water Rowing Championship



Photo by Damian McDonald

A contingent of teenage rowers from Philipstown's Building Bridges Building Boats organization participated in the Boston-area Hull Lifesaving Museum's (HLM) "Icebreaker" Northeast Regional Youth Open-Water Rowing Championships this past Saturday, Nov. 17, competing against 25 boats and 35 crews from five states.

According to the HLM, "The Icebreaker draws 200 of the region's best youth open-water rowers — from Boston Harbor, Lake Champlain, Martha's Vineyard, Maine's

North Haven, Rockland, Vinalhaven, New Haven, Avery Point, New York City, Plymouth, and Scituate — compete for the coveted 'Key to the Harbor.'" The young people, from middle school through high school, race throughout the day in a series of round-robin-style heats, culminating in a huge nautical-mile race across the bay.

In their first such event, a "first" and "second" team of fours took to the water, with the first four finishing third in their group and the second four finishing fifth.

To Our Friends and Neighbors:

Thank you to all our volunteers, committee members and candidates for their incredible efforts over the past many months on behalf of the Democratic Party.

We are proud of our victories as well as our hard-fought campaigns. Your efforts have contributed to a stronger Philipstown and a brighter future.

Together we demonstrated the power of a strong, positive message and deep involvement.

As always, we believe this community's best days are ahead.

Congratulations! You've earned it.



The Philipstown Democratic Committee

Keep in touch with us at philipstowndemocrats.com and facebook.com/philipstowndemocrats

Paid for by Philipstown Democrats

Taking Music Classes One Step Further: Stacy’s House

Stacy Labriola’s home-based care center brings the indoors out

By Alison Rooney

Along with the traditional independent preschools and day care centers in Philipstown, there is another option, New York state-licensed home-based care centers. Technically labeled day care, they are not schools per se, but, according to Loretto Padilla, who runs one such facility, the Wondrous Years, “we do all a preschool does.”

Stacy Labriola, who used to conduct twice-weekly music classes at the Wondrous Years and, with the encouragement of Padilla, branched out and started her own entity, Stacy’s House, agrees. By the description of both women, much nurturing, homespun care is provided alongside the preschool versions of ABCs and math play. This week’s feature takes a look at Stacy’s House, with the Wondrous Years covered in a story yet to come.



Music is a part of each and every day at Stacy’s House.

Photo by A. Rooney

Stacy’s House is currently in its second year of operation. Labriola, well-known to many in Philipstown in her various

musical incarnations, including “Music and Me” teacher, one-third of the MotherLode vocal trio, private guitar instructor, and other variations on that theme — as well as from her many volunteer contributions to the community — runs the program out of her Garrison home. The idea germinated as she decided to “take the music classes one step further — Loretto suggested it,” she says. The journey from idea to obtaining the necessary New York state license took some time, but the program has been a success since opening its doors in Labriola’s expansive home and backyard.

A total of 20 children, ages 2 to 5, pass through Labriola’s welcoming door each Monday through Friday, though not all at the same time, as children may attend in any combination of two to five days each week from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Stacy’s House runs from September through the end of June, following the Garrison School calendar, and extending one week beyond, in June. Snacks and lunches are provided every day.

Children ages 2 to 5 participate in some activities together and then separate off into age-specific endeavors, using different books and levels of games. Field trips are tailored to the different ages too.

Mornings begin with individual free play and transition into a host of more organized activities including art projects — a recent one involved creating Eric Carle-like collages and making books — sorting games, and a reading corner. Themes are based around letters and are expansive and all-encompassing; for instance, the letter “F” led to face-painting, flags, freeze dancing and feelings, where, Labriola notes, “We talked about how sometimes it’s good to pull into your shell like a turtle and take three deep breaths when something is bothering you.”



Outdoor gardening activities are part of the curriculum.

Photo by A. Rooney

Afternoons feature lots of music-related activities, with Labriola’s trusty guitar always on hand. On Wednesdays there is complete Spanish immersion, with programs conducted by Yrma Avellaneda, whom Labriola calls “so popular here; parents with kids here and older kids at Haldane and Garrison School have hired her to run the after-school Spanish enrichment program classes. We are lucky to have her here.” In addition to Avellaneda, Labriola’s right hand has been teacher Jennifer Young. “I have the best help ever — they are fantastic,” says Labriola.

There is no playground per se at Stacy’s House, but rather the large backyard serves that purpose. “We like to bring what’s working inside outside,” observes Labriola, adding that this includes hula hoops, Spanish games, visits to the “ogre’s house” (a nearby structure, and not a reflection on any neighbors!), digging for treasure, and “the greatest bugs

— we don’t need a jungle gym.” Older children can play parachute games. A large, decorative shed, designed and constructed by artist Simon Draper, serves many purposes; it just happens to be perfectly sized for puppet shows.

Asked what she herself had learned through the course of the first one-plus years of her new venture, Labriola replied, “I have more energy than I thought, and I have learned that you can actually love someone else’s child.”

Most families find Stacy’s House through word-of-mouth. Although currently full, that can change easily and frequently, according to Labriola, so if interested, it is a good idea to get in touch regardless, by emailing Stacy Labriola at musicwithstacy@me.com.

This article is part of a series on Philipstown’s nursery and Pre-K schools and care centers. To read about others in the series visit Philipstown.info.



www.coldspringdepot.com

Depot Tavern Happy Hour

Served 4-7 in the Tavern only

All Drinks 2/4/1

845 265-5000

P L U S

Special Tapas Small Plate Menu

Served in the Tavern only

Seared Scallops on Polenta Cakes 7.99	Spicy Asian BBQ Chicken Wings 4.99
<i>with: sweet pea & roasted corn sauces</i>	<i>Sweet and spicy</i>
Pan Seared Shrimp Alfredo 7.99	Red Wine Poached Pear \$5.99
<i>w/pancetta & sun dried tomato sauce</i>	<i>honey glaze and horseradish/chive fontina</i>
Lobster Mac 'n Cheese 8.99	Beef Short Rib & Mushrooms Sliders 6.99



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Dear Governor Cuomo ...

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The Desmond-Fish Library

Holiday Boutique

Grand Opening Weekend

Saturday ♦ November 24 ♦ 10-5pm

Sunday ♦ November 25 ♦ 1-5pm

Our boutique features gently used books & the finest hand crafted items from the Hudson Valley:

Holiday wreaths, quilts, hand made sweaters, hand painted silk scarves, pottery, jewelry, artistic photos, Grandma Phena's Ginger Cookies, all natural bath and body products and much, much more.

The sale will also be open during library hours

Thursday thru Sunday November 29 - December 2 and Thursday thru Sunday December 6-9

The Friends of the Library

Upscale Bake Sale ♦ Dec 8 & 9

372 Route 9D Garrison, NY 10524

845-424-3020 desmondfishlibrary.org

The Calendar



Cast members Isabella Convertino, left, Gareth Gore and Simon Close in rehearsal

Photo by Maggie Benmour

HVSF's *A Christmas Carol* at Boscobel

"It's at times funny, frightening, sad and inspiring, but always rich and full." ~ actor Katie Hartke

By Alison Rooney

Boscobel is going Dickensian again, as the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival (HVSF) brings *A Christmas Carol* to life in a far grander place than Dickens' cramped counting house: the grand hall in the Federalist mansion. After each of the nine performances, audience members will be able to repair to the gallery space to meet the actors and share reactions to the piece.

Now in its fourth season, this *Christmas Carol* started with HVSF Artistic Director Terry O'Brien's wish to adapt the holiday perennial in the manner of the company's summer work. "It stemmed from my reaction to seeing over-produced, over-sentimentalized versions," he said. "Boscobel (the home of the HVSF's summer Shakespeare season) suggested the idea, and, for the first season, we decided to do just a piece of it. We called it *The Fezziwigs*, and it ran about 30 minutes. People really liked it but wanted more. The second year, we added the Ghost of Christmas Past section and had the actors read holding books. By the third year, we did a condensed adaptation, which had a beginning, middle and end. This year, we have had more of an opportunity to rehearse, and the actors will be able to keep their noses out of the books."

All of the text comes directly from Dickens. The actors — Eleanor Handley, Katie Hartke, Jason O'Connell (replacing Richard Ercole, who had a schedule conflict) and Stephen Paul Johnson — jump in and out alternating between narrating the story and assuming characterizations. "It seems to propel it and makes it more moving, for some reason," says O'Brien. "It takes me by surprise each time. This really simple version allows the audience to do the imaginative work — we just tell the story."

This marks Hartke's fourth year participating in the *Christmas Carol* performances. She said: "It's been a blast each time. We started very simply, just focusing on the section involving the Ghost of Christmas Past, adding on each year until we presented an abridged version of the entire (*Continued on page 14*)"

Katie Hartke at Boscobel during last season's *A Christmas Carol* run

Photo by William Marsh

This Mouse Has Moxie: A Little Country That Could

Haldane Drama presents *The Mouse That Roared*

By Alison Rooney

There's a nation where the economy has slumped. Revenues from their main export have been undercut by cheaply-made imitations from abroad. Their entreaties to the government of this foreign land go unheeded, and the once-proud country is slipping into destitution.

No, the Haldane Drama department is not doing a slice-of-life play about Greece or Spain or any number of present-day countries (the U.S. included), but instead enacting the very topical — and very funny — tale of *The Mouse That Roared*.

It first came to life in 1955 in the form of a six-part *Saturday Evening Post* serialized novel written by Leonard Wibberley, then became a popular book derived from the articles, and was followed by a film version, released in 1959 and starring Peter Sellers in multiple roles, and finally, this play, adapted by Christopher Sergel, first produced in 1963.

Director Martha Mechalakos, who read the book and saw the film in preparation for working on the production, said that each version differs from the others slightly, with a more traditional romantic subplot added, naturally, for the movie. She urged her cast to read the book as well, feeling that "whenever a play is based on a literary source, you should go back and read it. It adds to your knowledge of the characters — you can incorporate it subconsciously."

Ultimately, the somewhat zany story remains the same: A tiny (fictionalized)

European duchy, Grand Fenwick, is so nestled in both the past and the Alps that its main weapon is still the longbow. Its economy wholly dependent on Pinot Grand Fenwick wine, chaos ensues when, in big, bad old California, a vintner puts out a cheaply manufactured copy of the wine, causing Grand Fenwick's sales to plummet and placing the tiny nation on the brink of bankruptcy, with nary a Euro on hand to save them.

After protests to the U.S. are repeatedly ignored, the powers that be in Grand Fenwick decide that the best course of action would be to declare war on the U.S. Secure in their knowledge that they would not have a chance at winning this war, their covert plan is to lose and then benefit from U.S. sympathy and already demonstrated reparations, rebuilding with help from their former enemy, as Germany did following World War II.

Comic mayhem ensues when the duchy appoints a field marshal, who is unaware of the plan beneath the attack. The tiny army armed with mere bows and arrows arrives in New York City and finds it deserted because of a citywide disaster drill. The "band of archers," under the leadership of their still-in-the-dark field marshal, stumble upon a secret U.S. government lab after getting mixed up with a phalanx of anti-Q-bomb protestors who see the Fenwick-ians dressed in centuries-old armor and presume them to be men from Mars.

After unintentionally capturing a Q-bomb — a potentially world-destroying "mother of all nuclear weapons" device — and the professor who invented it, the — spoiler alert — archers win the battle. They return with both to Grand Fenwick, only to find out that they weren't

supposed to win the war.

The U.S. Secretary of Defense suddenly realizes that the U.S. and Grand Fenwick have been at war for two months and that no one in the U.S. was aware of it. Grand Fenwick now finds itself as a tiny superpower, with ability to control the destiny of the world. Handily it turns out to be a peace-loving duchy with a wise young female leader, and a safer world prevails.

One of the reasons Mechalakos chose *The Mouse That Roared* was its continued relevance today, in a cat-and-mouse world, where questions as to who has the capability to manufacture weapons of mass destruction still mean that a handful of countries hold all the power while others are at their mercy. Mechalakos said that holding rehearsals during the months before a presidential election made the process all the more interesting and was part of her decision to do a politically themed play this year.

Of course, the other big reason she chose it is that it is, above all, a comedic satire, with rich roles for many young performers. Aping Sellers' turn in the movie, senior Matt Marino performs more than one role, in his case the gung-ho field marshal and also the U.S. president.

The challenge has been fun for him: "I spent the summer working as house staff at the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, where I watched them put on *The 39 Steps*, a madcap comedy featuring 100 characters played by five actors. Seeing this, I knew I had to try to emulate it, at least

(Continued on page 14)

SITTING on
the BENCH
❖ by Tara ❖



Still they come, a constant flow of congratulations on my abilities as a columnist. The latest is from a sagacious lady, Merry Sanders, who doesn't even live in Philipstown now but has *The Paper* sent to her by Cecile Lindstedt. Ms. Sanders recalls my days as a puppy, applauds my writing skills and adds that she enjoys my sense of humor. This is a trifle puzzling because, fully aware of my serious responsibilities as the author of the only regular weekly column published in Philipstown, I aim to inform and provoke, not to amuse.

Another admirer suggests that I should run for public office because any breed would be superior to what we now have. At first, the notion intrigued me but then I thought about the state of politics in America. I can remember a time when local candidates ran on the basis of their competence, not their party. Could they collect the garbage, repair pot holes and most important, not talk much? Happy days. Still, if elected, I could perhaps "make a difference." whatever that means.



For instance, I noted that on the day our President was re-elected, political sages on TV discussed who might be candidates for the White House in four years. They pontificated without any sign of shame. Is there no end to it? Perhaps there is. In office I could promote the idea that no politician may campaign for more than two months before an election. The Supreme Court of course would object on the grounds of freedom of speech. Okay, but what about freedom FROM speech?

There would be other items on my platform. Prominent among them would be the introduction of a regulation that all young squirrels must be taught good manners. That would mean that, if chased up a tree, they would never laugh at their pursuer. Another would be the honoring of Steve Lindstedt for hanging on his building a cutout of a house painter (removed temporarily for Sandy) which increases the public mirth no end.

There's also plenty of laughter at the Country Goose where mouth-watering items are in the latest shipment. They include delicious English mince pies, Christmas puddings, Brandy Snaps, Cadbury Chocolate Advent Calendars from the U.K. and Black Magic chocolates.



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

The Calendar

Looking for things to do in and around Philipstown? Grab The Calendar and go. For more details and ongoing events, visit philipstown.info. Send event listings to calendar@philipstown.info. See you around town!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Kids & Community

Indoor Tot Park

9 - 11 A.M. & NOON - 2 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com
\$1 per session. Check for schedule changes.

School Break Mini-Camp (K-3)

9:30 - 11:30 A.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845-534-7781 | hnnaturemuseum.org

Preschool on the Farm

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

Holiday Pottery and Gift Sale

1 - 5 P.M. MEMBER PREVIEW
5 - 7 P.M. OPENING RECEPTION
GARRISON ART CENTER
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Wine Tasting

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

Wine & Cheese

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

Twilight Tours

6 P.M. & 6:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Art & Design

Reflections Renewed: Hudson River Images Revisited ~ Free Admission for Veterans
9:30 A.M. - 4 P.M. BOSCOBEL
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Summer Afternoon: Fashion and Leisure in the Hudson Highlands 1850-1950

11 A.M. - 5 P.M. PUTNAM HISTORY MUSEUM
63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-4010 | putnamhistorymuseum.org

Music

Set to Stun

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

Michael Feinstein: A Gershwin Holiday

8 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL
13 Main St., Tarrytown
914-631-3390 Ext. 100 | tarrytownmusichall.org

Theater & Film

Dear Governor Cuomo (Documentary)

7 P.M. BEACON THEATER
445 Main St., Beacon
845-453-2978 | thebeacontheatre.org

Meetings & Lectures

Beginner AA Meeting

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

Religious Services

Service at Beacon Hebrew Alliance

7:30 P.M. 331 VERPLANCK, BEACON
847-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

Services at Reform Temple of Putnam Valley

8 P.M. REGULAR SERVICE
362 Church, Putnam Valley
845-528-4774 | ny069.urj.net

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Kids & Community

Cold Spring Farmers' Market

8:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Dr, Garrison | csfarmmarket.org

Food Pantry

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

Desmond-Fish Holiday Boutique

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

Fishkill Historical Society Craft Boutique

10 A.M. - 4 P.M. VAN WYCK HOMESTEAD MUSEUM
504 Route 9, Fishkill
845-896-6003 | fishkillhistoricalsociety.org

Holiday Pottery and Gift Sale

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

Meet the Animals

2:30 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845-534-7781 | hnnaturemuseum.org

Festival of First Peoples Gala

3 - 6 P.M. .HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Wine Tasting

3 - 6 P.M. ARTISAN WINE SHOP
See details under Friday.

Twilight Tours

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

Haldane Alumni Basketball Game

5:30 P.M. HALDANE SCHOOL
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Art & Design

Reflections Renewed: Hudson River Images Revisited ~ Free Admission Saturday

9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Boscobel
See details under Friday.

Summer Afternoon: Fashion and Leisure in the Hudson Highlands 1850-1950

11 A.M. - 5 P.M. PUTNAM HISTORY MUSEUM
See details under Friday.

Dia:Beacon Tour

1 P.M. 3 BEEKMAN ST., BEACON
845-440-0100 | diabeacon.org
Free with admission.

Blue Collar Blues: Celebrating the Struggle and Satisfaction of Labor

1 - 5 P.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
50 Liberty St., Beacon
845-831-5322 | beaconpresbychurch.com

Theater & Film

Dear Governor Cuomo (Documentary)

7 P.M. BEACON THEATER
See details under Friday.

Art Garden: Harvest

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

Music

Fred Gillen

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

Graham Parker & The Rumour

8 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL
13 Main St., Tarrytown
914-631-3390 Ext. 100
tarrytownmusichall.org

Meetings & Lectures

Free Computer Help

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

Religious Services

Services at Our Lady of Loretto

4:30 P.M. RECONCILIATION
5:30 P.M. SATURDAY VIGIL
24 Fair St., Cold Spring
845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com



Dancing Dialogue Suzi Tortora's Baby Cues Baby Moves

Parent & Child Dance & Learn Classes Ages 3 months - 7 years old

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Enhance your child's mind/body/self through dance

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- ♦ natural curiosity and creativity
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- ♦ love of learning and discovery
- ♦ physical, mental, emotional, social growth

For more information:

www.dancingdialogue.com
suzitortora@mac.com; 845-265-1085
8 Marion Ave Suite 1 Cold Spring, NY

WINTER CLASSES BEGIN in JANUARY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Kids & Community

Desmond-Fish Holiday Boutique

1 - 5 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
See details under Saturday.

Holiday Pottery and Gift Sale

10 A.M. - 5 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
See details under Saturday.

Fishkill Historical Society Craft Boutique

10 A.M. - 4 P.M. VAN WYCK HOMESTEAD MUSEUM
See details under Saturday.

Meet the Animals

2:30 - 3:30 P.M. WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER
See details under Saturday.

Twilight Tours

5 P.M. & 5:30 P.M. BOSCOBEL
See details under Saturday.

Art & Design

Reflections Renewed: Hudson River Images
Revisited ~ Free Admission for Veterans

9:30 A.M. - 4 P.M. BOSCOBEL
See details under Friday.

Summer Afternoon: Fashion and Leisure in the
Hudson Highlands 1850-1950

11 A.M. - 5 P.M. PUTNAM HISTORY MUSEUM
See details under Friday.

Blue Collar Blues: Celebrating the Struggle and
Satisfaction of Labor

1 - 5 P.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BEACON
See details under Saturday.

Family Tour

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

Cocktails & Canvas

2 - 4:30 P.M. CHILL WINE BAR
173 Main St., Beacon
eat-paint-love.com

Music

Celtic Notes

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

Religious Services

Our Lady of Loretto

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

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

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

St. Philip's Episcopal Church

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

Grace United Methodist

8:15 A.M. & 10 A.M. 337 PEEKSKILL HOLLOW
ROAD, PUTNAM VALLEY | 845-526-3788

St. Basil's Academy Greek Orthodox Chapel

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

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

9 A.M. 65 OSCAWANA LAKE RD., PUTNAM VALLEY
845-528-8858 | stlukesputnamvalley.org

Buddhist Meditation

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

South Highland Methodist Church

9:30 A.M. 19 SNAKE HILL ROAD, GARRISON
845-265-3365

Quaker Friends Worship

10 A.M. WHYATT HOME
845-424-3525 | Call for directions.

St. Joseph's Chapel

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

Church on the Hill

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

First Presbyterian Church

9 A.M. ADULT BIBLE STUDY
10:30 A.M. SERVICES
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

United Methodist Church

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Kids & Community

Bridge Club

9 A.M. - NOON, HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Little Bookworms (2 1/2 to 5 years)

1:30 P.M. BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Indoor Tot Park

NOON - 2 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
See details under Friday.

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Youth Basketball Skills/Drills (Grades 6-8)

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

Men's Basketball

7:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com
Cost: \$3. Philipstown residents only.

Art & Design

Reflections Renewed: Hudson River Images
Revisited ~ Free Admission for Veterans

9:30 A.M. - 4 P.M. BOSCOBEL
See details under Friday.

Theater & Film

Dear Governor Cuomo (Documentary)

7:30 P.M. DOWNING FILM CENTER
19 Front Street, Newburgh
800-974-8592 | downingfilmcenter.com

Music

Community Chorus

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

Jazz Open Jam Session

8 P.M. TURNING POINT MUSIC CAFE
468 Piermont Ave., Piermont
845-359-1089 | turningpointcafe.com

Meetings & Lectures

Butterfield Book Group

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

Chapel Restoration Annual Meeting

7 P.M. CHAPEL RESTORATION
45 Market St., Cold Spring
845-265-5537 | chapelrestoration.org

Cold Spring Boat Club Member Meeting

7 P.M. COLD SPRING BOAT CLUB, COLD SPRING
845-265-2465 | coldspringboatclub.com

Religious Services

Eucharistic Adoration

7 P.M. OUR LADY OF LORETTO
24 Fair St., Cold Spring
845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Kids & Community

Holiday Pottery and Gift Sale

10 A.M. - 5 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
See details under Saturday.

Highland Knitters

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

Indoor Tot Park

NOON - 2 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
See details under Friday.

Highland Garden Club Meeting

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

Furry Friends Reading Buddies

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

Kids Craft Hour

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

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Weight-Loss Surgery Seminar

5:30 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY HOSPITAL CENTER
WAGNER CANCER PAVILION
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
914-734-3794 | stopobesityforlife.com

Breast Cancer Support Group

7 P.M. SUPPORT CONNECTION
40 Triangle Center, Suite 100, Yorktown Heights
914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

Theater & Film

The Atomic States of America (Documentary)

7:30 P.M. JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER
364 Manville Road, Pleasantville
914-747-5555 | burnsfilmcenter.org

Menopause: The Musical

8 P.M. BARDAVON THEATER
35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Music

Derek Dempsey

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

Meetings & Lectures

Beacon Historical Society Meeting

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

Board of Trustees Workshop

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

Women's AA Meeting

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

Religious Services

Bible Study

7 P.M. OUR LADY OF LORETTO
24 Fair St., Cold Spring
845-265-3718 | ourladyoflorettocs.com

(Continued on page 10)

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Mark Ruffalo appears in *Dear Governor Cuomo*, showing at the Beacon Theatre Nov. 23-24 and at the Downing Film Center Nov. 26. *Photo courtesy of HVPG*

Dear Governor Cuomo at Beacon Theatre

The Beacon Theatre will screen the new anti-fracking documentary *Dear Governor Cuomo* at 7 p.m. this Friday, Nov. 23 and Saturday, Nov. 24. The film, directed by Jon Bowermaster, takes a look at the anti-fracking movement in New York and documents the May 15 rally and concert to ban fracking in Albany. It features Mark Ruffalo, Melissa Leo, Natalie Merchant, Joan Osborne, the Felice Brothers, Medeski Martin and Wood, Sandra Steingraber and many more musicians and anti-fracking organizers in the state. A Q&A session with Bowermaster and a guest artist (possibly Pete Seeger or Natalie Merchant) will follow. Tickets are \$12 per person. Visit the Beacon Theatre's website, thebeacontheatre.org, for more information regarding the film and to purchase tickets. This screening is sponsored by the Hudson Valley Programmers Group and in association with The Woodstock Film Festival. *Dear Governor Cuomo* will also be shown at the Downing Film Center in Newburgh at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 26.

The Calendar *(from page 9)*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Kids & Community

Indoor Tot Park
9 - 11 A.M. & NOON - 2 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER | See details under Friday.

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

Holiday Pottery and Gift Sale
10 A.M. - 5 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
See details under Saturday.

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

Senior Holiday Luncheon
NOON. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Army Women's Basketball vs. Columbia
7 P.M. CHRISTI ARENA, WEST POINT
845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

Art & Design

Reflections Renewed: Hudson River Images Revisited ~ Free Admission for Veterans
9:30 A.M. - 4 P.M. BOSCOBEL
See details under Friday.

Summer Afternoon: Fashion and Leisure in the Hudson Highlands 1850-1950
11 A.M. - 5 P.M. PUTNAM HISTORY MUSEUM
See details under Friday.

Visual Art Book Club
7:30 P.M. HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART
1701 Main St., Peekskill
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

Theater & Film

Menopause: The Musical
8 P.M. BARDAVON THEATER
See details under Tuesday.

Music

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

Meetings & Lectures

Victory Celebration for Barbara Scuccimarra
6:30 P.M. CATHRYN'S TUSCAN GRILL
91 Main St., Cold Spring
845-424-3261. Cost: \$75 per person

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

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

Men's Group
6:30 P.M. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PHILIPSTOWN
10 Academy St., Cold Spring
845-265-3220 | presbychurchcoldspring.org

Garrison School Board
7:30 P.M. GARRISON SCHOOL
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3689 | gufs.org

Religious Services

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

Morning Minyan
8:30 A.M. BEACON HEBREW ALLIANCE
331 Verplanck Ave., Beacon
847-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

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

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Kids & Community

Holiday Pottery and Gift Sale
10 A.M. - 5 P.M. GARRISON ART CENTER
See details under Saturday.

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

Indoor Tot Park
NOON - 2 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
See details under Friday.

Desmond-Fish Holiday Boutique
2 - 9 P.M. DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
See details under Saturday.

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

Health, Sports & Outdoors

Prenatal and Early Postpartum Discussion Group
5:30 P.M. DEMPSEY HOUSE
1992 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor
914-736-7700 | hvhc.org/events

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

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

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball
7:30 P.M. PHILIPSTOWN RECREATION CENTER
107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com
Cost: \$3 per night. Philipstown residents only.

Art & Design

Reflections Renewed: Hudson River Images Revisited ~ Free Admission for Veterans
9:30 A.M. - 4 P.M. BOSCOBEL
See details under Friday.

Summer Afternoon: Fashion and Leisure in the Hudson Highlands 1850-1950
11 A.M. - 5 P.M. PUTNAM HISTORY MUSEUM
See details under Friday.

Theater & Film

Menopause: The Musical
8 P.M. BARDAVON THEATER | Details under Tuesday

Music

Herman's Hermits starring Peter Noone
8 P.M. TARRYTOWN MUSIC HALL
13 Main St., Tarrytown
914-631-3390 Ext. 100 | tarrytownmusichall.org

Meetings & Lectures

Sharon Salzberg and Sylvia Boorstein: The Four Boundless States (Retreat)
3 P.M. THE GARRISON INSTITUTE
14 Mary's Way, Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-4800 | garrisoninstitute.org
Retreat lasts through Dec. 2.
Register and pay online.

Religious Services

Hill Top Visionaries (Young Adults)
6:30 P.M. CHURCH ON THE HILL
245 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-2022 | coldspringchurchonthehill.org

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Comhaltas in the Hudson Valley Keeping the Tradition Alive

Irish sessions draw aficionados to various locales in Philipstown

By Jeanne Tao

Every first Thursday of the month, musicians gather at the North Highlands Firehouse to play traditional Irish tunes in a slow session (so that beginners to the instruments and/or genre can participate) starting at 8 p.m., followed by a fast session. The music usually lasts until about 10 p.m., everyone sitting around in a large circle, playing or listening to tunes started or called out by individuals.

Before these sessions, as well as on the third Thursday of the month throughout this fall, there has been a series of Irish music classes, beginning at 6 p.m. Various groups of children and adults have been meeting for 30- or 45-minute lessons for beginning or intermediate tin whistle, fiddle, or bodhrán (pronounced BOW-ran) — an Irish frame drum. Local fiddler Andy Kuntz teaches the fiddle classes, Alice Olwell the bodhrán classes, and Philipstown resident Ann Dillon heads the whistle classes.

sic, song, dance, language and culture of Ireland. With more than 400 branches in Ireland and the Irish diaspora, it now has a branch in the Hudson Valley, started in November of 2011.

Dillon, Hudson Valley Comhaltas chair and delegate, said the first branch started in her hometown of Mullingar, County Westmeath, Ireland. There's one in every town in Ireland, she said. "The tradition was passed from generation to generation."

Having lived in New York for the past 25 years, and in Philipstown for the past 15, she has been involved with Irish music groups in the area for about seven years. As an adult, she picked up the concertina and also plays the accordion and whistle. She participates in Irish sessions in New York City as well as in Cold Spring, meeting once a month with other musicians at Whistling Willie's, the Depot Restaurant, and the Silver Spoon. Dillon also recently started a monthly session at Sheeran's, whose owner is from Ireland, in Tomkins Cove, Rockland County.

While at Whistling Willie's the group appears more formally under the name of the Celtic Notes, they play in a traditional session format. "We still sit in a circle," Dillon noted. Such seating encourages



Mairead O'Hara, left, Mairead Fee, Catriona Fee, Angela Fee, Maggie Mulvihill and Rita O'Neill at a firehouse session

Photo by J. Tao

That's the kind of atmosphere and tradition that she wants to perpetuate at all the Irish sessions. The musicians aren't just playing for an audience but "playing for one another" as well, Dillon said.

There are many families of Irish descent in the Hudson Valley who are "keeping the tradition alive," said Dillon. For example, the Fee triplets, who attend Haldane School, play at the North Highlands Firehouse sessions. (They have an uncle on their father's side who plays accordion and an aunt on their mother's side who plays the fiddle.) Catriona plays the concertina, Mairead the flute, and Angela the fiddle. All three are also learning traditional Irish dance along with Mairead O'Hara, who is in the beginning fiddle class this fall.

At the October firehouse session, the group was treated with a surprise visit from Dylan Foley, originally from Poughkeepsie, who won second place in the over-18 fiddle competition of the All-Ireland Fleadh (known as the All-Ireland), the annual Irish traditional music competition run by Comhaltas and started in Mullingar in 1951. Foley's fiddle expertise joined the fiddles, whistles, flutes, bodhráns, concertinas, accordions and guitars that were already there.

Students in the music classes and musicians come from all over the area, from as far as New Jersey, Poughkeepsie, and across the Hudson. Not all participants are of Irish descent, however. Anyone interested in Irish music and culture is encouraged to sign up for classes or attend the sessions.

The next series of classes will start in January 2013, but Hudson Valley Comhaltas may opt to take a break from some or all of the music classes during the winter and offer Gaelic (Irish language) classes

as a way to promote Irish culture. Because they do not hold dancing classes at the firehouse, they are looking into other spaces to start Irish dancing in the future.

Having just started in the past year, Hudson Valley Comhaltas is still looking for people interested in Irish culture to get involved. The committee consists of Dillon, president and delegate; Rita O'Neill, vice president; Maggie Mulvihill, treasurer and delegate; Susie Parks, secretary; Noreen Fee, auditor; and Kathleen Parks, youth delegate.

The Comhaltas session takes place at the North Highlands Firehouse, 504 Fishkill Road, every first Thursday of the month from 8 - 10 p.m., and all are welcome. Parking and entrance are in the rear of the firehouse. Tea and coffee, and sometimes baked goods, are available. The last firehouse session of the year will take place on Thursday, Dec. 6.

Individual membership is \$35 per year, and family membership is \$45 per year. Class prices vary according to duration and level but are discounted for members. For more information about membership, sessions and classes, visit the Hudson Valley Comhaltas Facebook page or the Mid-Atlantic Region Comhaltas website, midatlanticce.wordpress.com, or contact them at hudsonvalleyce@gmail.com.

Many of the same musicians also play other sessions in Cold Spring: on the last Sunday of the month at Whistling Willie's (Nov. 25 at 5 p.m.), the first Friday of the month at the Silver Spoon (Dec. 7 at 8 p.m.), and the first Wednesday of/after the full moon at the Depot Restaurant (Nov. 28 at 7 p.m.). The Sheeran's session in Tomkins Cove takes place on the third Sunday of the month (Dec. 16 at 6 p.m.).



Susie Parks and Denis Dillon with bodhráns and Pat Lyons with accordion at a firehouse session

Photo by J. Tao

The classes and sessions are offered through an organization called Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann (pronounced co-WAL-tis col-TO-ry AIR-in), which means "gathering of Irish musicians." Founded in Ireland in 1951 by a group of musicians who wanted to revive Irish musical traditions, Comhaltas promotes the mu-

everyone to join in. At a recent Sheeran's session, Dillon noticed a man sitting in the back of the restaurant tapping his foot along with the music, and she asked him if he wanted to sing. She said the audience was amazed when his voice filled the restaurant for a couple of songs.

Haldane Trustees Begin Tough 2013-14 Begins Budget Talks *(from page 1)*



Peter Henderson, left, said, "What's playing out here is exactly the doomsday scenario we anticipated."

Photo by M. Turton

Haldane School Board President Michael Junjulas said.

In all likelihood, the revenue side of the budget will be a major hurdle. Dinio

and Villanti estimate that state aid will be \$523,000 less than in years prior to the state's financial crisis. The state budget, including education grants, will like-

ly be known in mid January.

"What's playing out here is exactly the doomsday scenario we anticipated — the need to find more than half a million dollars in cuts in order to come in below the state tax cap," Trustee Peter Henderson said. "In a small school district that is an enormous challenge."

Villanti said that he plans to convene meetings in December, January and February with Haldane's bargaining units, the unions that represent teaching and support staff, to discuss the budget situation. When he was elected trustee, Henderson said that if cuts in state aid continued at the same rate in 2013-14, he would ask for a voluntary wage freeze from staff. "There's no secrets," Villanti said. "We need open, transparent discussions and shared solutions. Consensus is not likely. I firmly believe that if we work hard enough and smart enough, when students

walk into school, they won't see the cuts."

"Open dialogue is the key for us to emerge intact," Henderson said. "What we've got going here is great. ... It gets better every year ... and we want to keep jobs. People must be free to offer (budget) ideas without fear of being put down. One stupid idea can lead to a creative idea in someone else's mind."

New York State Assemblywoman Representative Sandy Galef will attend a Jan. 15 workshop at Haldane to discuss state aid and related budget issues.

"It's not going to be a 'gotcha' session," Villanti said, "But there is a budget crisis." He said that in a recent survey, several superintendents across the state indicated that their school districts are headed towards insolvency. "Something is not right when we lose \$500,000 in aid, and get \$10,000 in new aid."

(Continued on page 14)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

bau Is on the Move

After nine years at its current location, bau Gallery is moving to a new and larger space and expanding its programming and art community outreach to 506 Main St. in Beacon beginning Dec. 8. The new location is across the street from Electric Windows near The Roundhouse on the east end of Main Street.



Gary Duehr, *Fire Rain* Image courtesy of bau

For its first exhibition at the new space, the gallery will explore *Apocalypse*, a national open call. They asked artists to respond to the theme of apocalypse in light of the 5,000-year-old Mayan calendar ending on Dec. 21, 2012. Selected artists’ visions will be on display, with an opening reception Dec. 8 from 6 to 9 p.m. The exhibit will run through Jan. 6, 2013. The new gallery hours are Friday 3 - 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 12 - 6 p.m.

bau, Beacon Artist Union, was started in a little pie-shaped gallery space on the west end of Beacon in January of 2004 by six local artists. bau is the longest running fine-art-oriented gallery in Beacon and has hosted nearly 100 exhibitions in its nine years in that space. bau aims to foster the growth of the region as a place where serious contemporary art is both made and shown. bau is a place for

artists to experiment and present new bodies of work. In addition to exhibiting painting, photography, sculpture, mixed media and installation, bau has hosted a multitude of collaborative curatorial projects, events of related disciplines, live performances, talks, film and music. For more information, contact Carla Goldberg, gallery director, at 845-222-0177 or visit the website, baugallery.com.

Boscobel Has Sweets and Treats With Santa

Mr. and Mrs. Clause appear two afternoons only

That much-loved holiday couple, Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus, will be hosting two yuletide gatherings at the Boscobel



Photo courtesy of Boscobel

mansion in December. Children 5 to 12 years old accompanied by an adult are invited to spend the afternoon by celebrating together in Boscobel’s early 19th-century setting. Seated in the mansion’s gallery, young visitors can enjoy one-on-one time with Santa, finger sandwiches, sweets and confections, and their choice of cold milk or hot chocolate. Mrs. Claus will enter-

tain with seasonal readings and stories. You-know-who is scheduled to make his appearance, and children will get the chance to whisper their wish lists and pose for photos with the Jolly Old Soul. Children will leave with a small token from Santa. Bocobel’s Sweets and Treats with Mrs. and Mrs. Santa Claus takes place 2:30 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 9 and Sunday, Dec. 16. Tickets are \$25 per person. Advance ticket purchase required. Purchase tickets by calling 845-265-3638 or online at Boscobel.org.

Blow Your Own Ornament at Hudson Beach Glass

The Hudson Beach Glass studio in Beacon offers customers, age 6 or older, a chance to blow their own glass ornaments. They may choose from a multitude of colors and textures and then add their breaths to create an heirloom memory. Master glassblowers John Gilvey and Kathleen Andersen will help ornament-makers any day until Jan. 6, 2013. Walk-ins are welcome, but they recommend calling ahead to secure a time slot at 845-440-0068. Each ornament is \$30 and takes only 15 minutes to make. Please note that the ornament will have to cool slowly overnight. It may be picked it up the next day or shipped. For more information, visit their website, hudsonbeachglass.com.

Children’s Book Launch Benefits Cat Shelter

When native New Yorker Helene Sola, a registered nurse, clinical nursing instructor, and animal lover, adopted her cat, REXXAROO, from a shelter, she was struck by how loving he was. Over time, the idea came to Sola that using her own cat’s experience for a children’s book would be a wonderful tribute to shelter cats. *Loo Loo and the Fabulous Marvelous REXXAROO*, Sola’s first children’s book, will launch on Dec. 6 from 7 - 9:30 p.m. at The Living Room, 103 Main St. in Cold Spring. The event will be held in conjunction with Mid Hudson Animal Aid, a cat sanctuary in Beacon — and the shelter where REXXAROO lived prior to his adoption by Sola. “My book was inspired by my love of animals and children,” said Sola. “I feel that caring for children and animals and teaching the next generation are some of the most rewarding experiences one can have.”

A percentage of the proceeds from the book launch event, including all monies earned from raffles of local restaurant gift certificates, gift baskets and other items, will be donated to MHAA. REXXAROO got his start at the cat sanctuary, and Sola would like to share this event and the success of *Loo Loo and the Fabulous Marvelous REXXAROO* with that shelter. Donald J. Petruncola, president of the MHAA Board of Directors, added: “We are thankful to be a part of this endeavor. MHAA is a no-kill, free-range cat sanctuary that runs solely on private donations. With the economy, we are in dire need of financial support. We hope that this book and REXXAROO will bring more exposure to MHAA to help our felines.”

Sola will be signing the books, which will be sold at the launch at a special discounted price of \$16. The books would make great holiday gifts for children. Additional information regarding this event can be found at midhudsonanimalaid.org or by calling 845-831-4321.

Fahnestock Cross-Country Ski Swap Rescheduled

Fahnestock Winter Park has rescheduled their cross-country ski swap to take place at the Outdoor Education Center (TOEC) on Sunday, Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Those looking for a good deal on new and used cross-country skis, boots, poles, bindings and accessories should stop by. Those with gear in the basement or garage that has been gathering dust should consider selling their unused equipment at the swap. TOEC will help tag and price items for sale. Call 845-265-3773 or email paul.kuznia@parks.ny.gov to make arrangements to drop items off before the event weekend. If that is not possible, they will be accepting consignment gear on Saturday, Dec. 1, 1 - 6 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 2, 8 - 9 a.m. A consignment sale form will need to be completed. To fill it out before arriving, send a request via email for the form.

To help cover the cost of running the event, a suggested donation of \$1 for each item dropped off is requested. If sold, 20 percent of the sale price is retained by the Friends of Fahnestock and Hudson Highlands to be used for sales tax and improving Fahnestock Winter Park.


Local Yoga Masters Host Yogathon



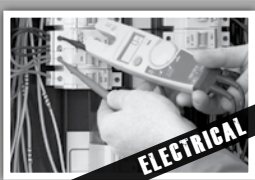
Raises money for Make-A-Wish Hudson Valley Three prominent yoga masters will host the second annual Yoga For Wishes benefit at The Garrison on Sunday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. All proceeds help benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of the Hudson Valley.

The class will be taught by a team of teachers from the Hudson Valley: Liz Schulman, Whitney Chapman and Neva Goldstein. The class is appropriate for all levels of students with a combination of resting, restorative and moderately active poses, including a mid-session break. An award will be presented for most funds raised. Last year more than 50 people participated in the benefit and helped raise over \$20,000. For more information about Yoga For Wishes or to register, please visit 2012yogaforwishes.kintera.org. Make-A-Wish® grants wishes to children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. Since its inception in 1986, the chapter has granted wishes to over 2,000 children in the communities it serves. A primary objective is to make sure that every child eligible for a wish receives a wish. The wish experience is a combined community effort involving volunteers, staff, donors and medical professionals to make each wish come true. The chapter serves Delaware, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties. For more information about the Hudson Valley Chapter, visit hudson.wish.org.

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

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

St. Mary's Hosts Holiday Fair and History Display

Crafts, ice-carving, whiskey and more on Dec. 1

St. Mary's Episcopal Church opens its doors Saturday, Dec. 1, for its annual Holiday Fair, with crafts for sale in the Parish Hall and rarely seen historic documents exhibited in the church. The festivities, held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., coincide with the Cold Spring by Candlelight tours (which begin at noon).



Wares for sale at last year's Holiday Fair

Photo courtesy of St. Mary's

The Holiday Fair features crafts, hand-knit and crocheted winter accessories; gifts; cards and photos; decorated Christmas wreaths and trees in several sizes; homemade pastries and other baked goods; soup, stew and a range of food specialties; and unique gift baskets ready to present to family and friends. Some of the finest baskets, a major draw in the past, are raffled off at the end of the day to lucky winners.

Fair sales can be brisk, so St. Mary's advises shoppers to arrive early. Also in the hall, visitors can warm up with coffee, tea, or hot chocolate; listen to caroling; or join in a whiskey-tasting. Outside, ice carving will be demonstrated on the church's great lawn. The rectory is a stop on the Candlelight Tour.

Made available at no charge, the history display allows glimpses of history made real, with numerous 19th-century documents, pictures and similar items relating to the parish, West Point Foundry, Cold Spring, and the Hudson Valley. Many show the close links between the foundry and St. Mary's, since the same individuals guided both through some of the most tumultuous events of the mid-1800s. Copies of *Around Cold Spring*, a pictorial history of the village and Philipstown, and *The Hudson River Valley Review* will be offered for sale.

St. Mary's is located in Cold Spring at 1 Chestnut St., by the traffic light — the intersection of Route 9D (Chestnut Street-Morris Avenue) and Route 301 (Main Street).

Nominations Accepted for Martha Washington Woman of History Award

Each March, Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site recognizes a woman who has distinguished herself in the field of Hudson Valley history by bestowing upon her the Martha Washington Woman of History Award. Appropriately, the award emanates from where Martha Washington resided with her husband, Gen. George Washington, during the last months of the Revolutionary War. That the ceremony takes place in March, during Women's History Month, is indeed fitting.

The Woman of History award acknowledges Martha Washington's important place in history as a devoted patriot in support of the American Revolution and the ensuing new nation. This is the 11th year the award has been given, continuing the site's mission to educate the public about the history of the state and national heritage. Previous recipients are:

- 2003 Janet Dempsey - author/historian
- 2004 Carol Ash - former commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
- 2005 Patricia Favata - author/historian
- 2006 Barbara Bedell - *Times-Herald Record* columnist
- 2007 Mary McTamaney - City of Newburgh historian
- 2008 Mary Mangione - former Hudson River Valley Greenway director
- 2009 Elizabeth McKean - City of Newburgh Records management director
- 2010 Mary Ann Fish - environmental historian
- 2011 Mara Farrell - community activist
- 2012 Stella Bailey - historian/preservationist

Many women are dedicated to sharing and preserving our history — including those who share their love of history with children by taking them to historic places, those who research the Hudson Valley and share their findings to encourage others to do the same, and those who use their private time or resources to preserve a landmark of historic significance. These are just a few examples of what could qualify a woman to be a recipient of the award. The nomination field is open to any woman who has cultivated

interest and awareness of Hudson Valley history, either locally or nationally.

Nominations may be completed and submitted by Jan. 4, 2013.

To receive a nomination form, please visit palisadesparkscservancy.org or nyspark.com, or call 845-562-1195.

Garrison Students Focus on Helping Others

This November, the Garrison School PTA sponsored Giving with Thanks, an initiative developed to teach students about empathy and being responsive to the needs of others.

On Thursday, Nov. 8, the Garrison School started this program with A Gratitude Attitude, the K-3 Fall Concert. The next morning, Garrison School students, faculty, staff, parents and community members expressed their gratitude to local veterans in a special ceremony honoring their service and dedication to our nation.

During the week of Nov. 13-16, the Garrison School gathered much-needed goods for the Philipstown Food Pantry.

On Thursday, Nov. 15, students from kindergarten through third grade made cookie dough for the local food pantry with parent volunteers Andrea Rouxel and Danielle Martinelli.

The week culminated with a special Giving with Thanks assembly for students and parents. At the event, members from the Philipstown Food Pantry spoke to students and played a short video about homeless children. After the assembly, student representatives from each grade took turns presenting the food donations they had collected. Over the weekend, Garrison School middle-school students delivered the donated food to the Philipstown Food Pantry.

"The Garrison School supports an environment where students are encouraged to think about others all year round," said Principal Stephanie Impellittere. "Students learned what it means to be supportive members of the community. It was moving to see how the children embraced the concept of giving thanks and acted upon it. I am very proud of all our students."



A Garrison School student brings food the school collected into the Philipstown Food Pantry in Cold Spring.

Photo courtesy of GUS

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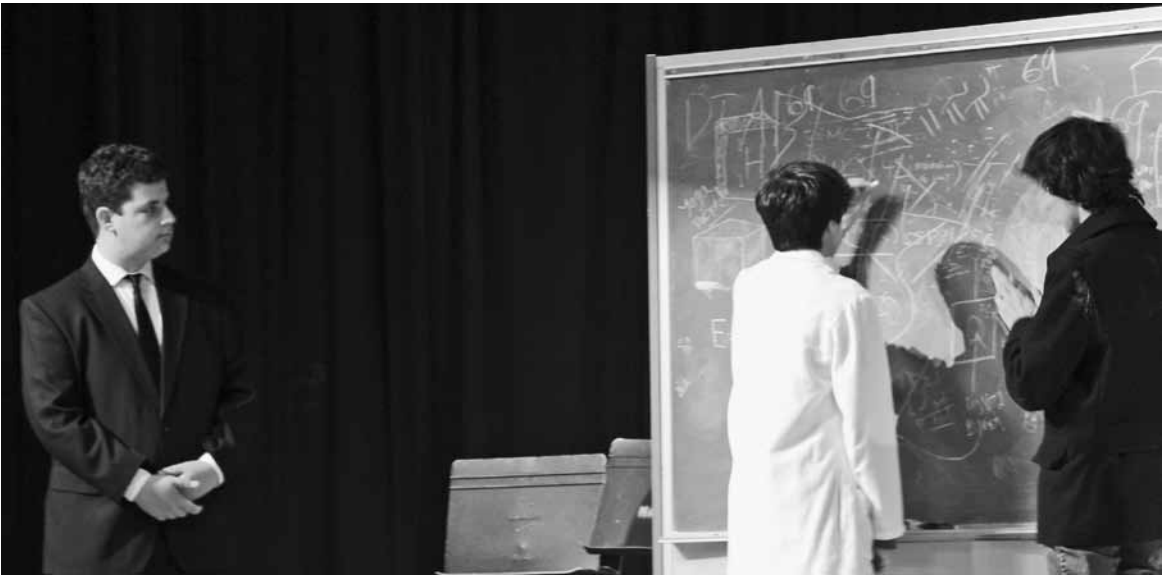
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This Mouse Has Moxie: A Little Country That Could (from page 7)



Cast members Tyler Mell, left, Kiran Kalantri, Matt Marino in rehearsal Photo by Maggie Benmour

slightly, so I talked to Mrs. Mechalakos about maybe trying something like that. When I found I was playing two characters, I was excited, but a little nervous. There’s a certain challenge in creating a

character that has many layers in their own right, but doing it with two characters is a completely different experience. It’s been a lot of work, but I know it will have been worth it.”

The cast includes Matt Marino, Isabella Convertino, Simon Close, Gareth Gore, Kiran Kalantri, Aidan Gallagher, Kady Neill, Emma Kimmel, Tyler Mell, Alison Duncan, Tess Foster, Alisen Casey, Rebecca Yodice, McKenzie Flagler, Clayton Smith, Remi Smith, Luke Cleary, Alec Lane, Corey Zouzias, Dante Nastasi, Jack Revkin, Chris Bohl, Ashley Cooper, Michael Bentkowski, Gianna Galazzo, Elena LaBreche, Sophia Yechnyak, Catherine Drotar and Freya Gallagher, with some roles mysteriously unfilled as of this writing, though previous Haldane dra-

ma productions indicate there might be a teacher or administrator waiting in the wings for theatrical glory. Eric Rizzi is stage manager, heading a crew consisting of Mary Callaghan, Maya Curto, Kelin Petkus, Leandra Rice and Aaron Seymour. Sound, video and light technicians are Wylie McDonald, Liam MacNamara, Andy Mechalakos and Jason Kane-Seitz. The technical director is Frank Cacetta; sound by Damian McDonald; video by Jim Mechalakos; lighting by Tyler Mell. Lisa Sheffer is handling the programs and advertising; Seamus Carroll the properties; and Joel Goss serves as theatrical consultant. *The Mouse That Roared* will be performed at 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 30 and Saturday, Dec. 1. Tickets are \$10 general admission and \$5 for students and seniors. Reservations can be made by phoning Haldane at 845-265-9254, Ext. 111.

Hudson Valley Shakespeare’s A Christmas Carol Returns to Boscobel (from page 7)

story last year. We might even be adding some small costume elements this year as well, which should be fun. It’s been a great adventure expanding the show each year, and I love being a part of that creative process. One of the things I like most about working on this project is the audience reaction. During the ‘festive feast’ afterwards, we [the actors] are able to chat with the audience, and so many people have expressed how this performance puts them in the holiday spirit, or reminds them of childhood celebrations, or has even become a new family tradition for them. It’s such a beautiful, joyful, hope-filled story, you can’t help but feel positive about life after being a part of it, either from the performance side or audience perspective. We all feel that, and it’s really special.”

Asked if the recent summer productions of *Around the World in 80 Days* and *The 39 Steps*, with their small casts weaving in and out of multiple characters and complex plotlines, have influenced the way the company is presenting *A Christmas Carol*, O’Brien said, “It goes both ways. Those plays involve people jumping back and forth between characters or narrators, faster than the scenery can be moved. Audiences are exhilarated — they see the theatricality of it: How does the actor tell the story?” Hartke expanded on the process: “Three of the four actors play multiple

roles — roughly 10 different characters — which is great fun. Stephen Paul Johnson stays Scrooge throughout, but we all take on the various functions of narrating. All the characters are delightful to explore,

“It’s such a beautiful, joyful, hope-filled story, you can’t help but feel positive about life after being a part of it, either from the performance side or audience perspective. We all feel that, and it’s really special.”

but I think my favorite sections are the narrative ones. Unlike most stage adaptations of *A Christmas Carol*, which focus mainly on dialogue, some of which Dickens wrote and some of which was created by various adapters, our text is drawn directly from Dickens’ novel. We get to bring to life all of his fantastic imagery and play it out for the audience. His descriptive language is so vivid and evocative that we don’t need a set or huge cast to create this magical world; his words paired with our actions are enough. It’s at times funny, frightening, sad and inspiring, but always rich and full.” Another appealing aspect of the pro-

duction for Hartke is the ability to portray a few characters that she would “probably, or certainly, never be cast as elsewhere, which is one of the wonderful perks of doing a small-cast project. The ‘portly gentleman’ who asks Scrooge to make a donation to the poor would certainly not be type casting for me, but it’s so fun to put on a deep voice and an extra imaginary 150 pounds. And young Fan, Scrooge’s little sister, who squeals with delight at being reunited with her brother for Christmas, is an absolute joy, but I can admit that I’ve reached an age where playing a preteen girl is perhaps no longer in my wheelhouse. So yes, it’s an absolute joy to be able to play with such a wide, and unusual, range of characters. I hope it’s just as much fun for the audience to watch.”

Adams feels it’s a great way to start the holiday season off — especially this year, with all its recent hurricane-related travails. She said, “The message is so important, and it’s a great way to deliver it without all the fussiness — just being able to focus on what’s important.” The afternoon performances will be followed by a serving of cookies and hot mulled cider, and cost \$40 (or \$50 with an optional tour of the house at 2:30 p.m.). The evening shows are capped by a feast in the 19th-century British tradition, replete with Beef Wellington and a Yule Log. These performances cost \$80



Clockwise, from top left: Katie Hartke, Stephen Paul Johnson, Eleanor Handley and Jason O’Connell. Image courtesy of Hudson Valley Shakespeare Company

for the reading and the feast. Shows take place at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings, Nov. 30, Dec. 1, Dec. 7, Dec. 8, Dec. 14 and Dec. 15. Afternoon shows are performed at 4 p.m. on Saturdays: Dec. 1, 8 and 15. *A Christmas Carol* will also be performed on different December dates at the Katonah Museum, the Herbert Alumni Center at West Point and at the Hudson River Museum in Yonkers. Tickets for all can be purchased at hvshakespeare.org.

Haldane Trustees Begin Tough 2013-14 Begins Budget Talks (from page 11)

BOCES project moves forward

Villanti reported that all 18 school districts involved have now approved the \$16.9 million project to repair leaking roofs, replace heating, venting and air conditioning (HVAC) units and make other capital repairs at the BOCES campus in Yorktown Heights. The project stalled when three districts voted against it several months ago, but they have since reversed their position. A unanimous vote is required. Haldane’s share of the project is \$250,198, spread over three years. A proposal for funding that share will be presented in December. Villanti supported the project despite the tough budget year. “We would have spent more money if it had been done hodge-podge,” he said. “What’s better — fixing a roof before it’s decimated or after?”

Principals’ reports

Elementary and Middle School Principal Brent Herrington presented an outline of “Second Step,” a character-education

program for students in grades K-8. The program aims to increase students’ success at school while decreasing problem behaviors such as bullying. It promotes social and emotional competence along with self-regulation. Students develop such traits and skills as empathy, managing emotions, problem solving, communications, bullying prevention, and avoiding substance abuse. Harrington said that research clearly shows that students who can self-regulate and show empathy — independent of adult supervision — enjoy greater academic success. High School Principal Brian Alm outlined Haldane’s College and Career Readiness Program and included both hard and soft data in discussing areas of success and remaining challenges. He pointed to an increase in Tech Center enrollment and an equal decrease in college enrollment as evidence of better guidance in directing students to programs that match their skills. At the same time, participation in Advanced Placement

(AP) exams has more than doubled since 2008. Alm said that research shows that even students who achieve the lowest AP score of 1 perform better academically in college than students who have taken no AP exams. He stressed “21st-century skills” such as adaptability, critical thinking, grit, innovation and creativity as being the real measures of college readiness. “Our job is to find out how to measure” those attributes. Both presentations will be posted on the Haldane website.

Nov. 13 vote officially accepted

In their post-referendum celebration over voter approval of the \$2 million capital project to upgrade the auditorium, locker rooms and main playing field, trustees and administration forgot one important legal requirement — to officially accept the results. They did so in a resolution at the Nov. 20 meeting. “We’re grateful to the community for supporting the project, and for the great voter

turnout,” Villanti said. “You’ve entrusted us to make it work. We take that trust very seriously.” He also clarified an issue regarding funds to replace the artificial turf eight to 12 years down the road, saying that fees will be charged for use of the new field and that those revenues would go into the replacement fund. He said that someone had interpreted that to mean that user fees for the new field would pay the entire cost of turf replacement, and Villanti said that was clearly not the case. **Audit committee seeks new members** Trustees accepted resignations from two long-serving audit committee members, Michael LaRocco and Airinhos Seradas. Residents who want to serve on the committee and who have knowledge of finance and auditing principles should submit a letter of interest to District Clerk Kathy Marino.



The Paper’s
Autumn
Photofest
(from page 16)


Left: Photo by Jeanne Tao
Above: Photo by Kate Vikstrom



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Photo by Anzelika Lipska

The Paper's Autumn Photofest

This fall, The Paper collected color photos of autumnal scenes around Philipstown from local photographers. More photos can be seen on our website.

Thank you to all who participated!



Photo by Christine Bockelmann Norris



Photo by Ross Corsair



Photo by Ross Corsair

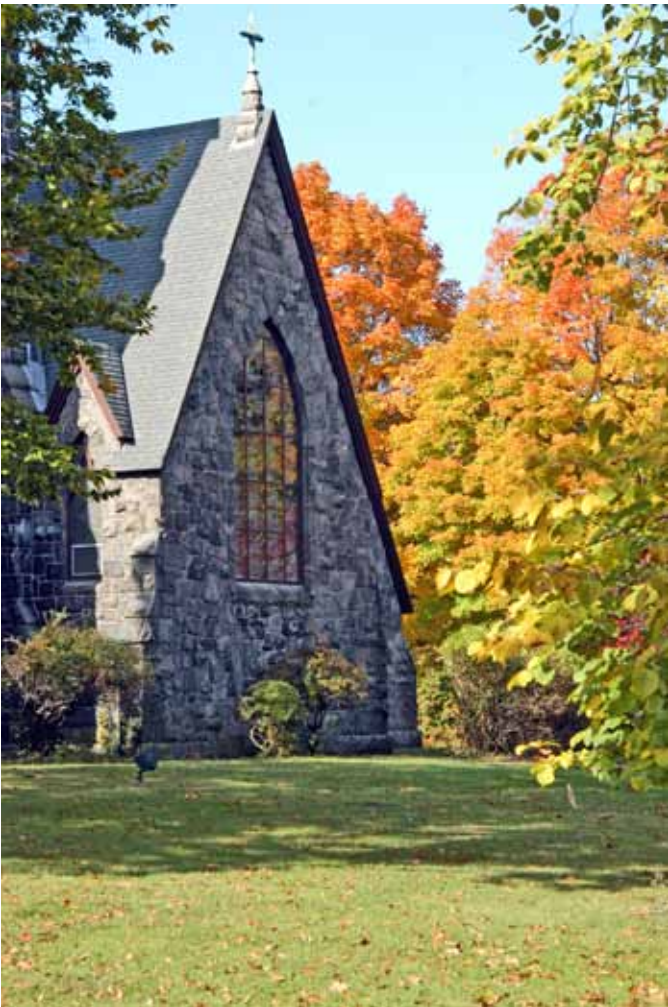


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